

Bob Haired Bandit Steps Into Stellar Role When Takes Stand Own Behalf

Expected Provide the Dramatics in Trial Growing Out Robbery Blind Merchant Mary Is "There"

TWO PLEAD GUILTY

So Only Mary and One of Her Male Companions on Trial for Attempted Robbery of Blind Merchant

By RALPH POOL.
Hertford, Nov. 5.—With the testimony of Mary Howard, or Viola Harrington, North-eastern Carolina's first feminine defendant on a banditry charge before the jury this morning and with argument by Solicitor Small and counsel for defense this afternoon, the case in which this young woman is co-defendant with Ernest Wade, Harris H. Lewis Powell and Sara Lougee, as a result of an attempt to rob the home of a blind Proprietors County merchant, appears likely to go to the jury late this afternoon and a verdict may be forthcoming by nightfall. Evidence was concluded this morning at 12:15.

Formerly on the stand, according to her own statement, and rather looking the part, Mary Howard was expected to provide the dramatics of the trial, and she did not disappoint the audience that packed every nook and cranny of the Proprietors County court room. At one point in her testimony she gave way to tears, and for ten minutes Judge, jury, counsel and audience waited patiently for the witness to regain her composure.

The witness' breakdown came when Solicitor Small asked her if she had a son. When she had dried her tears she admitted that she had, though never married.

"I left the child at a lady's home in Norfolk," she testified, "and I paid his board until I got in this mess."

Mary Expected Go Free
Actually, only Mary Howard and Ernest Wade Hartsell, driver of the Hudson speedster, which figured in the sensational episode in the Piney Grove section on that memorable night of July 29, were on trial. Sara Lougee and Lewis Powell, their companions that night, pleaded guilty at the opening of the case yesterday afternoon, and thus, in a way, stepped quietly out of the limelight.

Second degree burglary carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment. Due to the youth of the defendants, however, and certain other extenuating circumstances, it is believed here that none of the defendants will receive long terms. Acquittal for the woman and Hartsell was freely predicted this afternoon.

Three young women, all undeniably pretty, were within the bar yesterday afternoon, for the jury to gaze upon and remember later when they went out to decide the case. They were Hartsell's wife, his sister, Miss Mera Frances Hartsell, and the girl with whom he left Norfolk on the afternoon preceding the alleged robbery of Townsend Chappell's home. Mary Howard, before the bar as his co-defendant. There are also Hartsell's little son, Wade Junior, a bright youngster of five summers, and Hartsell's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Grady. All came from their home in Durham to be present at the trial. Hartsell's parents are deaf mutes.

Two Young Acquaintances
Nobody was present to comfort and reassure the two youths upon whom the brunt of the State's retortion for the Chappell robbery must fall, nor were any of Mary Howard's kin in attendance. Mary was powdered and rouged and had her abundant black bobbed tresses carefully curled when she came into Chappell's home. She watched proceedings and listened to the testimony with tense interest. Powell and Lougee, obvious young eastaways on life's turbulent stream, looked on with apparent unconcern.

From the opening of the case taking of testimony proceeded steadily. At adjournment, Judge Thomas H. Covert announced there would be a night session opening at 7:30, and held to his decision despite strenuous objection on the part of Solicitor Small. The night session continued until 10:20 o'clock, and at its close the State had concluded its case and the defense had only Sara Lougee, Lewis Powell and Mary Howard still to present the stand. Mary Howard's testimony today was expected to provide the dramatics of the trial.

Solicitor Small is unopposed in the prosecution. Attorneys for the defense are Carl Weiland of Durham and P. W. McMullan of Elizabeth City. In the main, Mr. McMullan conducted the examinations and cross examinations for his side.

SPEAKS ON ENOCH WALKING WITH GOD

Rev. J. C. Griffin Is Evangelist at Free Will Baptist Church

The revival service at the Free Will Baptist Church was well attended Wednesday night and there is a growing interest in the spirituality of the meeting. Services are being held each night at 7:30 and afternoon at 3 o'clock. Also a short service will be held each day at 12:30 at one of the mills in that part of the city.

Rev. J. C. Griffin, the evangelist, preached last night on "Walking With God." He said in part: "Enoch walked with God because he had faith, unflinching and that would take no denial. He had to submit unto God and his will had to be adjusted with the will of God. Two cannot walk together unless they are agreed. God took Enoch. This was a type of those who will be changed in a moment. To walk with God means that one has not only been reformed but transformed and; not only belonging to the organic body—but the organism. If you ask me about my Savior I am not afraid to be ashamed to tell you. If you walk with God it will give you invincible joy because He will lead you by the still water and you will be as pleasant on Monday as you are on Sunday. It will make one shout. Shouting is alright, if it shouts itself, but if you have to twist it out you had better cork it up. Walking with God tells what kind of a husband you are; it makes real husbands and real wives. There are many homes in this city without the actual necessities of life because the father or mother or both walk with sin and Satan."

FRENCH FRANC AT A NEW LOW LEVEL

Paris, Nov. 5.—The French political situation caused heavy selling of the franc this morning and the rate which has been gradually sliding during the last few days touched a new low record to a pound sterling today.

NAMED HIS DONKEY FOR M. HERRIOT

Paris, Nov. 5.—A donkey whose owner christened him "Herriot" is the central figure of a trial at Blois, where the owner has been summoned before a local court on the charge of defamation.

The peasant owner pleads that he meant no harm, that his donkey is a good beast and a willing worker, and that he and his four-legged friend have the greatest respect for the former premier and present president of the chamber of deputies. But the Blois authorities, loyal radical-socialists for the most part, see in this christening a facetious dig at the leader of their party.

All the excitement over the case naturally is causing great glee in conservative camps. One member has even gone so far as to express the opinion that "giving the name of the negotiator of the London agreements of 1924 to an inoffensive quadruped certainly entitles the donkey to sue his master for libel."

PLAYS IN ENGLISH POPULAR IN BERLIN

Berlin, Nov. 5.—A second season of plays in the English language has been started in Berlin. Encouraged by the success of last year's experiments, the "English theater," an aggregation composed mostly of German actors who know English, has started the Autumn season with Alfred Sutra's comedy, "The Laughing Lady," under the stage direction of Dr. Philip Manning.

The audiences at these performances is made up largely of members of the English and American colonies in Berlin, of students of the English seminary or the University of Berlin and of men and women interested in foreign affairs and trade.

CHILE HAS ACCEPTED PERSHING'S MOTION

Santiago, Nov. 5.—An official communication issued at the foreign office says Chile accepted the motion by General John Pershing regarding guarantees for holding a plebiscite on President Coolidge's Tacnarrica Award. The object of the guarantee is to insure a fair plebiscite.

COURT MARTIAL LONG SUFFERING ABOUT COLONEL

Army and Navy Officers Amazed at Way Precedent Has Been Thrown to the Winds

SHAKES TRADITION

True or False Army and Navy in the Past Have Not Brooked the Slightest Disrespect

By ROBERT T. SMALL.
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Washington, Nov. 5.—Army and Navy officers stationed in Washington have been amazed at the liberality and tolerance of the court martial which is trying Colonel William Mitchell, of the air service. They say the court is setting extraordinary precedents for the future conduct of military cases.

Ordinarily in military law there would be no inquiry whatsoever into the truth or falsity of the statements made by Colonel Mitchell. The only question would have been as to whether or not his conduct and attitude were insubordinate and his language disrespectful to higher officers and officials of the Government. That the court should permit the defense at this time to go far afield and virtually to "try" the War and Navy Departments, as well as the Department of Agriculture and the postal service, has shaken military tradition in the capital to the very foundations.

True or false, the Army and Navy in the past have brooked neither disrespectful conduct nor language. That a military court now should permit an accused officer to go at great length into the question as to whether or not the United States Government has been in "treasonable" hands is pronounced by higher officers of the Army as against all stated military practice. The Mitchell court they say is leaning so far back that it may yet fall on the "nape" of its neck.

There is no question but that the Mitchell court has been long suffering, and General "Bob" Howze, the president, has stated it is prepared to stand still more.

Representative Frank Reid, civilian counsel for Colonel Mitchell, has taken liberties with the court which have caused old military men in the ramshackle courtroom to stiffen in their places, ready for the flare-back. But the court has not retaliated in kind. Mr. Reid has made statement after statement which in language and in tone have conveyed his contempt for the entire proceedings. In the past courts martial have been quick to resent even the suggestion of a slur upon its dignity.

Of course the proceedings are being held in the shadow of the dome of the capitol and Mr. Reid is a member of Congress. Military officers have been so roughly handled at times by Congressional committees that perhaps they have come to expect that sort of thing even when a member of the national legislature merely is acting as attorney for an accused officer.

No word of resentment has come from the court over the obstructive tactics which already have prolonged the trial and which promise to carry it well into the winter.

At the War Department today it was said that the effort to create a "sensation" out of the fact that President Coolidge has been held up as both accuser and final judge in the Mitchell case must fall of its own weight because normally the President in all court martial cases and also the reviewing authority in every case involving punishment or lack of punishment; Presidents repeatedly have chided courts martial for returning verdicts of not guilty when it has seemed to them a case was truly made against the defendant.

Historic Church and Rector



To the right is shown a likeness of Rev. Geo. F. Hill, rector of Christ Church, while below is shown a reproduction of a photograph of his historic church edifice, standing since 1856 and now undergoing extensive repairs. In addition to remodeling its interior for worship, Christ Church, under Mr. Hill's leadership, is carrying out a building program involving an expenditure of \$50,000.

Copy Of Today's Issue Daily Advance Sealed In Wall Christ Church

And Question of How Elizabeth City's Associated Press Newspaper Will Look to Eyes of Another Generation Leads to Retrospect and Speculation

What will a copy of The Daily Advance of today look like on November 5, 1962?

That question is suggested by the recent discovery in the east wall of Christ Church of a well-moulted bottle imbedded in the masonry containing the copies of two Elizabeth City newspapers of 1856, the Democratic Pioneer and the Carolina Native Sentinel. Judged by these two newspapers, politics was the grand passion of 55 years ago as business is today.

What will be engaging the chief attention of the leaders in Elizabeth City of 1926?

Space in The Advance today is sold by the column inch, and the rate charged is 35 cents an inch. There is no discount for subsequent insertions. But in 1856 space in the Democratic Pioneer was sold by the "square" of 16 lines, and the price of the first insertion was \$1.00 as compared with 25 cents a square for subsequent insertions.

McMullan Burial Rites Are Simple

Music Omitted, but Friends Many, and Flowers in Profusion

A simple burial service without music and with a great concourse of people expressing their grief and sympathy by their presence and by a profusion of floral tributes that covered the grave and trails a border of flowers about it marked the interment in Holywood Thursday morning of the body of Mrs. T. S. McMullan, Jr., who died at the home of her parents, 212 West Main street, Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The service was conducted by Dr. Samuel H. Templeman, pastor of the First Baptist Church, assisted by the Rev. Geo. F. Hill, rector of Christ Church. Pall bearers were T. S. McMullan, Jr., William Meekins, of Hendersonville, Charles Meekins of Washington, N. C., Joseph Tucker of Hertford, Vernon A. Wood of Rocky Mount, Joseph Patton and William McMullan of this city.

Members of the family from out of the city here for the service included Mrs. Mary J. McMullan, Mrs. J. M. Meekins, Washington, N. C., Mrs. and Mr. William C. Meekins, Hendersonville, N. C., and Mrs. Wheeler Martin, Washington, and Mr. C. J. Sawyer of Wadswor, J. C. Meekins of Norfolk, Mrs. R. C. Barnes and Miss Elsie Young of Hertford.

Friends of all parts of the country telegrams and letters of sympathy and condolence have been reaching the McKean home, while a continual stream of visitors have passed through the doors of the McKean residence to express their sympathy in person.

Attending the funeral also were two of the family servants, Lucinda Patten and Webster Jones. Besides her parents, Judge and Mrs. M. Meekins, Mrs. McMullan is survived by her husband, T. S. McMullan, Jr., a baby daughter, seven weeks old, her brother, William C. Meekins, of Hendersonville, and two sisters, Misses Isabel and Mary Meekins of this city.

BOYS' BAND ATTENDS SERVICE IN A BODY

On Wednesday night the Boys' Band attended the revival at the First Methodist Church in a body, and the evangelist, Miss Daisy Dwyer, preached an especially fine and solemn service to the young people of the church, straight, courteous, cheerful and brave.

"A change of place," she said, "is not essential to happiness, but it is necessary that one have the mastering of one's life right."

DUTCH ANDERSON MYSTERY IS TOLD

Rocky Hill, N. Y., Nov. 5.—The old mystery that has surrounded the real identity of "Dutch" Anderson, a robber and bank robber desperado whose career was ended by a bullet from a gun in Muskegon, Michigan, last Sunday, was solved today.

In a copyrighted story the Rochester Journal and Post Express relates his life history as given by William J. Baker, attorney at law.

TENTATIVE LIMIT FOR TAX REDUCTION

Washington, Nov. 5.—A tentative limit of \$200,000,000 as the total amount for the coming tax reduction was determined on today by the House ways and means committee. This is the figure set by Secretary Mellon.

TORONTO AND CLIMATE HELP ATTAIN AGE OF 100

Enoch, Cal., Nov. 5.—Pill chroniclers taken and California climate were given as the explanation of healthy old age by "Aunt Fanny," a Hoopa, Indiana, 106 years old. "Aunt Fanny" has chewed tobacco for a century and found it an aid to digestion.

OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK BY BELGIAN MINISTER

Brussels, Nov. 5.—An optimistic view of the Belgian financial situation is taken by M. Janssens, Minister of Finance. In an interview he declared that, far from being in danger of devaluation, the franc is bound slowly but surely to improve its position.

Is Perfecting Plans For Liberal Response to Red Cross Roll Call Nov. 11

Chairman John Hall Busy Effecting Organization to Secure Prompt Presentation of Cause in County

NO DRIVE FOR MONEY

NEGRO TO DIE ON THIRTEENTH

Alvin Mansel's Trial for Assault Ends and Preston Neeley's Begins

Adelphi, Nov. 5.—Alvin Mansel, 17-year-old negro, was found guilty of criminal attack on a white woman by a jury of Superior Court this morning and sentenced by Judge A. M. Stack to be electrocuted at the State prison at Raleigh, January 13, 1926.

"I hope to meet you all in heaven," said the negro when asked by the court if he had anything to say before the sentence was pronounced. "If the jury have said I am guilty I have nothing more to say."

The verdict was read in open court at 9:40 this morning. The case was given to the jury last night. Upon completing his charge Judge Stack said he did not want to receive the verdict before morning as he deemed it more expeditious not to take the verdict of night.

The local guard troop was reinforced at court today by a detachment from Morriston. The motion for a new trial was overruled by Judge Stack, and notice of an appeal to Supreme Court was given.

Preston Neeley, second negro arrested for alleged criminal attack on a white woman, went to trial this morning.

Thirty-two men are expected to go on trial here next week, charged with participation in a riot and mob violence.

The charges grew out of the storming of the Buncombe County jail by a mob on September 19. The jail was stormed in an effort to secure Alvin Mansel. The officers spirited the prisoner away, eluding the members of the mob.

In addition to the 32 who will go on trial next week, true bills have been returned against others not yet apprehended. Because these additional persons have not yet been arrested, their names have not been made public. Most of the matters participating in the disorder, however, have been apprehended, Solicitor J. E. Swain states.

BUREAU AERONAUTICS IS RECOMMENDED

Washington, Nov. 5.—Creation of a bureau of civil aeronautics, Department of Commerce, with powers to regulate and promote all civil and commercial flying in the United States forms the central recommendation of the committee on civil aviation appointed by the Department and the American Engineering Council last June to make an exhaustive study of the question.

NEW ZEALAND VOTES TO REMAIN WET

Wellington, Nov. 5.—New Zealand has decided to remain wet, according to incomplete returns from the election.

PLANNED DEATH OF PREMIER MUSSOLINI

Rome, Nov. 5.—It was scientifically announced here today that former Socialist Deputy Zanolini is under arrest, charged with preparing to attempt to kill Premier Mussolini.

INSTANTLY KILLED BY SOUTHERN TRAIN

Gastonia, Nov. 5.—Mrs. Dave Watts of Besenmer City was instantly killed near her home this morning when struck by a passenger train while she was attempting to cross the Southern Railway tracks.

WHEELER SEEKING DISMISS CHARGES

Washington, Nov. 5.—Senator Burton Wheeler, Democrat, of Montana, prosecutor of the Senate Daugherty investigation, today asked the District of Columbia Supreme Court to dismiss the indictment charging him with conspiracy to defraud the Federal Government in connection with oil prospecting permits in his home state.

IS ELECTROCUTED

Nashville, Nov. 5.—Robert Tate, alleged murderer of A. W. Conradswich, was electrocuted this morning at the state prison here.