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HANDY SEATED IN DEATH CHAIR GAVE ORDER GO AHEAD

Onslow, N. Y., Jan. 26.—The body of Gordon Fawcett Handy, notorious murderer and bandit, who was electrocuted in Sing Sing prison late last night for the murder of two officials of a Brooklyn Savings Bank in December 1918, will be buried in a local cemetery today. No one claimed the body and the mystery surrounding his parentage which he had studiously guarded, remained unsolved. An autopsy disclosed that the brain of the youthful criminal was "normal" and well developed. Handy maintained his composure to the last, smiling as he was strapped to the chair and making a brief oral statement to the warden and witnesses just before life was snuffed out.

As he left the death house he called out to his companions: "Good bye fellows. I always liked to try everything once."

The murderer gave three letters to the warden, asked him to mail them and keep the addresses secret.

After he had seated himself he turned to Warden Laws and asked permission to make a statement. In a clear voice which betrayed not the slightest symptoms of emotion he said:

"I want to say that any one who had the misfortune, for indeed it was a misfortune, to come in front of Jay B. Allen's gun and had a chance and a good chance. That's all, go ahead boys."

From the time of his trial Handy had insisted that his right name was Jay B. Allen.

Handy spent his last day in the death house writing letters in his cell, reading newspapers and "talking" with the warden board. He expressed relief when he learned that an eleventh hour effort to get Gov. Smith to give him a reprieve had failed.

When asked what he wanted for supper Handy ordered lobster salad of which he ate heartily. He then proceeded to enjoy some of the cigars and candy which his companions in the death house had furnished him.

Father Wm. E. Cahin, the Roman Catholic chaplain, spent a half hour with the condemned man this afternoon, who did not actually refuse spiritual consolation, but requested the priest and Rev. A. N. Fyore, the Protestant chaplain, not to accompany him in his walk to the chair. When asked by Father Cahin if he had any message for the youth of the country, Handy said:

"I don't wish to appear in the light of a moralist but you can tell them for me never to start doing wrong. When you get started in crime you can never stop."

Story of His Career

Onslow, N. Y., Jan. 27.—Gordon Fawcett Handy, the bandit who today expiated his crime in the death chair, was arrested in Tacoma, Wash., last June under the name of "Jay B. Allen," after killing a man there in a revolver fight. He was later identified as one of the two robbers who, on December 21, 1918, held up the East Brooklyn Savings Bank and, after killing two of its employees, escaped in an automobile with \$15,000.

Extradited to New York and tried for this crime, Handy stood revealed as a self-confessed participant in the robbery of thirteen banks and two trains, and many killings. He steadily refused to tell anything about his family. He said he preferred to be known as "Allen," and that he was born in 1893 in Alberta, Canada. He declared his parents were dead and that he had two brothers whom he had not seen for five years. He said he was a college graduate and had specialized in psychology.

After Handy's conviction here, his attorney, against the prisoner's wishes, appealed his case. He obtained the appointment of a commission to determine the bandit's sanity, but the higher court affirmed the verdict and he was also found to be "normal." He freely admitted his crimes and said he was wanted in Chicago, San Francisco and other places. After the Brooklyn robbery, Handy said he met a girl in New York and they went successively to Boston, Phila-

PRICE OF GASOLINE AND J. D. ROCKEFELLOW

A news dispatch sent from Roanoke, Va., to the newspapers contains the information that the price of gasoline has been increased a cent a gallon in Roanoke, the price now being 27 1/2 cents. If gasoline could be bought at 27 1/2 cents a gallon in Statesville, those who have to buy it would esteem themselves fortunate. The price here dropped last summer from 30 to 28 cents and recently it went back to 30. The wholesale price having been advanced a cent a gallon the retailers jumped 2 cents, adding an extra cent for tax.

It is of interest to note that immediately following Mr. John D. Rockefeller's gift (7) of a hundred million dollars to educational and charitable enterprises, the wholesale price of gasoline and kerosene oil jumped a cent a gallon. The unregenerate may intimate that Mr. Rockefeller is by this method collecting in from the people the millions he is applauded for giving away. But for he it from us to intimate that the pious John D. would do that. Moreover, the general public is more concerned about the price of meat and bread and clothes and such like necessities than it is about gasoline; and Mr. Rockefeller can go on making the gasoline sports pay the price.—Statesville Lardmark.

PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, PITTSBURGH, CHICAGO, CALIFORNIA AND TAMPA.

"I was surprised the California police did not get me," he said, shortly after being brought out. "Then in Tacoma I got in that political row with 'Bob' Davis and killed him. 'Bob' was a game fellow and I'm sorry I shot him, but I was afraid he was going to get me. After that I was ready to beat it to Shanghai, China, and now here I am."

"I expected to get \$50,000 out of the Brooklyn 'job,'" he concluded, "and I was greatly disappointed at the little we did get. This was because my partner did not carry out my instructions. I had ordered him to jump over the rail the minute we entered the place but he was an amateur and wasted too much time. It took him about four minutes to pick up what money we did get when it should not have taken more than a minute."

"Who was your partner in the Brooklyn robbery?" he was asked.

"I don't care to say. I don't want to implicate him. He is married and I think by this time has left the country. I met him first in Norfolk, Va., a short time before the Brooklyn 'job.'"

Handy said he had never had any women accomplices in any of his robberies "because they talk too much. The day he was brought to Sing Sing the prisoner was asked what interest he had in life. He lighted a cigarette and watched the match burn itself down and go out before he replied:

"The only interest I have is to see that I spend the time from now until I go to the electric chair in smoking, reading and making myself comfortable. I know there is no possible chance of acquittal. I am guilty and that is all there is to it."

At another time he said: "Nothing ever bothers me at all. The sooner the end comes the better it's immaterial to me. I'd sooner have it all over with than have this fuss. This place is nice. Everything here is very nice. There isn't anything I want that I haven't got here."

Judge Fawcett, of Brooklyn, who sentenced Handy, said he was the "swart" criminal of 6,000 who had come before him in his entire career on the bench. Handy's "philosophy of life" was embodied in the following statement he made just before being sentenced to die:

"It is nothing for me to die because I am coming back. It may take a few years or it may take several thousand years, of course, but time does not count. Being brought into this world is like being placed in a class of small children, with each trying to compete with the other. Some of us are successful and some are not. As for myself I have 'bunked.'"

PRESIDENT POINCAIRE SEES FRENCH RECONSTRUCTION



President Poincaré and party entering a church newly erected in the town of Osmont, in the Lorraine region. The simple dwelling of plank is a popular type of building in the areas recovering from the effects of war.

WHISKEY CASE IS HEARD AT MT. AIRY

Mt. Airy, Jan. 29.—What undoubtedly was the most prominent case in court in this city for years came to a sudden end Thursday morning by a mistrial after an all night session of the jury. On trial was Sam A. Hennis, one of the most prominent and influential men of this entire community, a pillar of the church and owner of one of the largest wholesale produce warehouses of this city, on the double charges of keeping on hand large quantities of intoxicating liquors for the supply of retailers, and "bootleggers," and also for selling illicit whiskey. The trial began on Monday and lasted until Thursday, every inch of the ground being contested by four of the best lawyers in this section.

On account of the prominence of the accused the state was represented by three prosecuting attorneys, while John H. Feigley represented the defendant at the bar. Hennis had been indicted on testimony given by Lindsay Taylor, a chauffeur, who had been caught retailing blocks of liquor in the recent wholesale presentations, and who later turned state's evidence, implicating his employer, Sam A. Hennis, as having furnished him the whiskey to sell. While on the witness stand again this week Taylor told the jury that he had been acting as a go-between for Hennis for several months. He related in detail how the blocks of liquor would be smuggled into the Hennis produce warehouses by farmers bringing in their country produce, the whiskey being taken into the basement and hidden under sacks or in convenient bins, under piles of feed.

Taylor at the trial swore that the whiskey came there in half-gallon fruit jars, five and ten-gallon containers and the contents were then, on the Hennis premises, transferred to small containers, suitable for quick and safe distribution.

John Davis testified that the accused had suggested to him that he sell liquor for Hennis, saying he had been compelled to take in a big lot of whiskey in a trade in real estate, and wanted it disposed of.

Several other men testified to having purchased liquor from Hennis during the last several months.

The case went to the jury Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 and during the evening were recalled three times for further instructions.

Not being able to agree on a verdict after an eighteen-hour continuous deliberation, Judge Tilley ordered the jury discharged and a new trial to take place on February 10.

UNITED STATES TO FURNISH LIQUOR FOR "FLU"

Detroit, Mich., Jan. 29.—United States Marshal Henry B. Brendt was authorized this morning in a telegram from Washington to furnish free of charge to all reputable physicians whiskey to be used in the treatment of influenza cases.

TANKS PUZZLED ENEMY FORCING WITHDRAWALS

Washington, Jan. 31.—A graphic account of the exploit of a platoon of American soldiers with 5 tanks during the war in prowling at night along the front to such effect that two German divisions were withdrawn from the Argonne sector on the eve of the American attack there, is told in an account issued today by the tank corps.

The object of the expedition, to draw the enemy's attention from the real point of intended assault, was fully accomplished. The St. Mihiel salient had been cleared up and the first army was preparing to strike the first blow of the Meuse-Argonne drive when the tank corps commander, with General Pershing's approval, put in execution a new device to bewilder the enemy as to where the next blow would fall.

Under the command of Lieutenant Higgins, a platoon of the 34th tank battalion embarked on a narrow gauge line paralleling the front to the north west of the real future battle zone. They were to stop each night, make a reconnaissance in front of the positions and immediately load up and repeat the operation the following night further down the line.

On the 19th of September the five tanks and their crews were loaded and the exploitation started," the statement said. "That evening they stopped in the rear of a little wood, many kilometers west of St. Mihiel. About 11 o'clock all was ready and the initiative army started forward on its mission. Everything went off as was scheduled. The tanks rolled through our positions and into no man's land. They were operated back and forth for half an hour. After this they were quietly withdrawn, crawled back on their litigations, and started merrily on their way. They timed their work perfectly, and as they pulled out a terrific barrage hit the wood they had left.

The following evening the procedure was repeated. Again the barrage descended too late to hurt the enemy's line, and again the sound of bursting shells was greeted with jeers and shouts of derision as the rattling lumping little train carried them toward the next night's adventure.

For six successive nights the troops staged their one night stands, and the reports all along the sector showed that the Hun was up in the air. All day long the sky was full of planes searching for the army of tanks which the enemy was sure was concentrating on the front. All suspicious looking places were bombarded with the usual Hun thoroughness and intensity. All night long the darkness was dispelled by hundreds of flares and rockets.

"Best of all, just as the little band was preparing to entrain to get into the big show in the Argonne, there came a message from the intelligence section stating 'two German divisions withdrawn from Argonne front. Entraining for your sector.'"

GILMER BROTHERS WILL OPEN UP AT ASHVILLE

Asheville, Jan. 31.—Gilmer Brothers, with headquarters at Winston-Salem, among the largest department store owners in the south with places in several states, today closed a deal whereby they acquire the stock and lease of H. Redwood and company, the oldest mercantile firm in the city. Leases were also secured on the buildings now occupied by the Princess theater on Pack Square and N. I. Bloomberg dry goods store, corner Pack Square and College street, and all three buildings will be converted into one great store with 25,000 feet of floor space, with an arcade connecting the entrances on Patton avenue, Pack Square, College street, and Broadway. They will take possession of the new buildings within the next few weeks. The deal is the largest that has been made here in many years. The Gilmer Brothers company is the department store unit of the United Retail stores of which the United Cigar stores and United Candy stores are the others, the company also owning Montgomery Ward and company, Chicago.

In February, Mr. Gilmer, announces, his firm will be incorporated at Raleigh for \$60,000,000 and they have leased the entire top floor of the Wachovia bank and trust company building at Winston-Salem for their headquarters and offices which will be occupied soon.

The company owns stores at Winston-Salem, Greensboro, High Point, Durham, Roanoke, Lynchburg, Danville, Norfolk and Lexington.

BIG ARMY FOR UNITED STATES IF BILL IS PASSED

Washington, Jan. 30.—Mobilization of an organized field army of 2,000,000 men would be possible within five years after passage of the senate army reorganization bill, Chairman Wadsworth, of the senate military committee, said today in his report to the senate on the measure. The cost would not exceed \$300,000,000 annually, he said.

Including the permanent standing army of 238,000 and the citizens' army and national guard, as proposed, the measure, thru its compulsory military training plan, would permit the mobilization next year of an army of 1,198,000 men, the report continued. Youths trained would be passed into the citizens' reserve army and in 1926 the nation's available military strength would be 3,545,200 officers, while the cost per man would be reduced from \$509 in 1921 to \$176 in 1926.

"With the organized personnel shown in 1926," the report says, "it will be possible after providing for the foreign garrisons and the coast defenses to mobilize an organized field army of 2,000,000 men with ample surplus strength to supply replacements and to form new and unexpected organizations. This can be done even after a liberal allowance for exemptions on account of industrial requirements."

MUST TELL WHY THEY LANDED IN MEXICAN REALM

Laredo, Tex., Jan. 31.—Lieutenants E. F. Davis and G. E. Grimes, United States army aviators who made a forced landing near Guerrero, Mexico, Wednesday because of an exhausted supply of gasoline tonight are on their way to Monterey, Mexico, under military escort to be examined by Mexican military authorities "as to their reasons for landing on Mexican soil." They are due to reach Nuevo Laredo, opposite this city, at midnight and proceed to Monterey tomorrow, according to information received here.

Disruption of plans for the return of Lieut. Grimes and Davis to American soil came suddenly late today in orders from Governor Gonzalez, of the state of Nuevo, that they be removed from jurisdiction of local civil authorities, who had prepared to permit the aviators to return to the United States, and taken to Monterey immediately for "examination" by General Francisco Murguia.

Consul With Fliers

Randolph Robertson, American consul at Nuevo Laredo, who sent word of Gonzalez' action in a telephone message from Guerrero, said he was accompanying the officers to Nuevo Laredo. The party is traveling tonight by automobile on the Mexican side of the border under escort of a number of Carranza officers, he said. Consul Robertson who is negotiating for the return of the aviators, has no further details concerning Governor Gonzalez' order. Lieut. Davis and Grimes while on a flight Wednesday morning in Zapata county, Texas, became confused in a fog and instead of proceeding along the Rio Grande, followed the river Solado 30 miles within Mexican territory. Here they were forced to land because their fuel was exhausted. Since Wednesday they had been stopping at a hotel at Guerrero under surveillance of civil authorities awaiting the arrival of expected gasoline for their airplane.

Action Is Unexpected

Brownsville, Tex., Jan. 31.—The action of Maj. Gen. Francisco Murguia, commander of Mexican military forces in northern Sonora in taking out of the hands of Gen. Fortunato Zuazua, military commander in Tamaulipas, the situation relative to Lieutenants E. F. Davis and G. E. Grimes, at Guerrero, Mexico and in ordering them taken to Monterey for military examination came as a surprise to United States army officers here who considered the return of the officers to American soil all but accomplished. Gen. Murguia, according to information here, was at Piedras Negras opposite Eagle Pass, Texas, and it was from there, it is assumed, that he ordered Davis and Grimes taken to Monterey.

The only information received at Fort Brown here today was from Gen. Zuazua and Maj. Flores, of Matamoros, who went to Guerrero, opposite Zapata yesterday morning, presumably to facilitate the departure of the two Americans. Gen. Zuazua's message was to the effect that all arrangements were satisfactory and that the return of the men was imminent, indicating he knew nothing of the orders of Murguia. Flores, in a message earlier in the day, expressed belief that the return would be accomplished soon, although he said final instructions were awaited from Gen. Murguia. This was the first intimation that the matter had gone to Murguia. No direct word has been received from the two aviators since their first message late Wednesday, reporting their landing south of Guerrero.

U. S. NAVY MUST BE PEER OF ANY OTHER POWER

New York, Jan. 31.—The United States must have a navy equal to that of any other power and it may cost a billion dollars a year to maintain it, said Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy at a meeting of the Brooklyn chamber of com-

EUROPE CAN AND MUST TAKE CARE OF HERSELF

Washington, Jan. 30.—Europe in so far as the United States is concerned, must rely upon her own resources in retrieving financial equilibrium.

This is the interpretation here generally of the letter Secretary of the Treasury Glass has sent to a committee of the chamber of commerce of the United States, which sought a government expression on the proposed international conference of financiers and commercial leaders to discuss reconstruction problems.

In a blunt statement of the facts as he sees them, Mr. Glass declared "the American government has done all that is believed advisable and practicable to aid Europe." The conference, he added, would serve "to cause confusion and revive hopes, doomed to disappointment of further government loans."

The treasury department does not offer objection, Mr. Glass said, if the chamber of commerce of the United States, which has charge of the details of the conference, wishes to name delegates to an informal conference, "provided the scope and character and limitations of such a conference, as well as the impossibility of United States government action, are clearly understood."

"If the people and governments of Europe," Mr. Glass declared, "live within their incomes, increase their production as much as possible, and limit their imports to actual necessities, foreign credits to cover adverse balances would most probably be supplied by private investors and the demand to restore to such impracticable methods as government loans and bank credits would cease."

"The American people should not, in my opinion, be called upon to finance, and would, not, in my opinion, respond to a demand that they finance, the requirements of Europe in so far as they result from the failure to take necessary steps for the rehabilitation of credit."

"There is no more logical or practical step toward solving their own reconstruction problems than for the allies to give value to their indemnity claims against Germany by reducing these claims to a determinate amount which Germany may reasonably be expected to pay. The maintenance of claims which cannot be paid causes apprehensions and serves no useful purpose."

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 31.—Seven persons are known to have been burned to death early today when fire, fanned by a high wind, destroyed 15 temporary residences, occupied by employees of the Carnegie Steel Company's plant at Clairton, on the Monongahela river, 15 miles from Pittsburg. An office building also was consumed.

"To maintain the navy," he said, now requires \$500,000,000 to \$600,000,000 a year but to maintain our protection we will have to spend \$1,000,000,000 a year. We must have a navy equal to any other nation. This is made necessary by our geographical position and our large coast lines. Unlike an army, which can be trained within a year, the principal ships of war cannot be made ready after the war has started unless it lasts from three to four years.

"It is the hope of some people that competitive naval building will come to an end as a result of the war. If we go on, however, with competitive building we must consider any other nation as a potential enemy and we must have a big navy." Referring to the controversy over naval decorations, Mr. Roosevelt caused laughter by saying that during his seven year's service in Washington he had not been offered a medal nor declined one.

"We will find out from the second writing of the war in Washington what the navy has done," he added. "Undoubtedly many mistakes were made but the navy got away with it pretty well."