

FEAR OF KLAN CAUSED WOMAN TO SPEND RAINY NIGHT IN WOODS

She and Children Found by Sheriff With Clothing in Shreds and Flesh Scratches—Woman is Probably Mentally Unbalanced

Miss Washington Homeyer stepped hesitatingly from a New York train to the platform of the Campbell Hall station Monday afternoon. She cautiously swept the faces of those gathered about the depot and turning to her two children, who clung tightly to her, whispered:

"The Ku Klux Klan They're after me. The children looked in amazement at their mother. They gazed about but saw nothing except curious persons staring at them. The mother said nothing. She continued silently to view those about her.

Suddenly tightening her grasp upon the hands of her children, she hurried them through the gathering of interested spectators and disappeared into the denseness of a thick woods nearby.

Tuesday morning after a two-hour search in a downpour of rain, Sheriff J. D. Tweed and deputies found them, huddled closely together in the midst of a forest thicket. The mother's clothing had been almost torn from her body. The clothing of the children hung in shreds about them. Scratches covered the faces and hands of the three, evidence of a guileless tramp through briars and thistles.

The sheriff and his deputies had started the search in response to a call from Campbell Hall. The mother protested their assistance, mumbling something about the Ku Klux Klan.

Mrs. Homeyer reluctantly accompanied the officers to the Goshen court house. There they were given dry clothing by Mrs. Tweed, who cared for their injuries. The mother appeared to be of a refined character but refused to talk. She kept repeating her fear of the Klan.

Henry, her eight year old boy, talked willingly. He told of a night of suffering spent in a drenching downpour in the midst of a woods thickly populated with sharp pointed bushes, briars that pricked and thistles that brought scratches to the flesh. They had walked aimlessly. They had stood listlessly. They had even attempted to sleep on a water soaked ground with the rain pouring torrents in their faces.

Henry told of the trip which he, his mother and 11 year old sister had made from their home at 321 East 52 street, New York. It was to be a pleasure trip, a period of recreation and rest from a busy summer in the city.

Before leaving home, his mother had drawn about \$500 from a bank. For days they had planned a quiet trip to the country. Their ticket was to have taken them to Warwarsing, where accommodations had been engaged at the boarding house of H. Felsen.

"Mother hadn't been feeling well," Henry said, "and papa thought it would be good for her to get away from the city. She had been so nervous. It worried us all, and then papa had intended moving our home while we were away so that we might return to new surroundings."

Mamma has always been afraid of the Ku Klux Klan the boy told the officials. She used to talk about it day after day, and then the newspapers published so much about the Klan, too. Mother saw all that and it worried her.

Before approaching Campbell Hall Mrs. Homeyer became restless. She felt that the Klan was chasing her, the boy continued.

Arriving at the station, Mrs. Homeyer took her children by the hand and hastened them to the platform. There she stopped trembling and gazing in fear about her.

She told them she was afraid to go farther. She bought return tickets to New York. The last train had left for the day. They wandered about and then sought the protection of the woods.

Once in the night, his mother had lost her pocketbook, the boy said. Retracing their steps, it was found. Mrs. Homeyer had the pocketbook when found by the officers. It contained nearly \$500.

At the court house Mrs. Homeyer remained fearful. She refuses to eat. She refuses to talk.

Henry said something about his mother's fear for the Klan. She has thought about it so much, he said, that she thinks Klansmen are always searching her.

The boy said his father is a machinist. He is 44 years of age. His mother is 32.

Mrs. Homeyer's fear of the Klan is (Continued to page eight)

PRICE OF GAS IS LOWEST NOW IN TEN YEARS

Standard Starts With Drop of Cent and Others Follow

A general reduction in the wholesale and retail prices of gasoline throughout the New England and Middle Atlantic States was announced yesterday by the leading companies operating in these sections. The cuts were immediately met by the smaller independent companies, and as a result gasoline is now selling at the lowest level recorded in this city in ten years.

The reductions made by the Gulf Refining Company, the largest independent oil company operating in the country, amounted to four cents a gallon in Massachusetts and three cents in other Eastern States in which the company operates. The reduction made by the two Standard Oil companies most active in the Eastern States was only one cent a gallon. It was said in local trade circles that the Standard will be forced to make further reduction to meet the competition.

Early yesterday the Gulf Refining Company announced a reduction of three cents a gallon in Massachusetts and other New England states, and two cents a gallon in New York, and New Jersey. Before the day ended, however, the company made another of a cent, making a reduction of four cents a gallon for New England and three cents for New York and New Jersey. Under its new schedule the company is quoting gasoline wholesale at 13 cents a gallon in the New England states, 14 cents in New York state and 13 1/2 cents in New Jersey. The retail prices in all cases varies according to the attitude of the retail dealer.

The first drop in price was made by the Standard Oil company of New Jersey. This action was followed by the Standard Oil company of New York. The former cut the wholesale price from 16 1/2 to 15 1/2 cents a gallon. The latter company then announced a cut from 17 to 16 cents, wholesale. The Texas Company, and the Sinclair Refining Company, which rank next to the Gulf Refining Company as the largest independent organizations operating in the East, followed with a reduction of a cent.

The approach of the end of the motor-touring season, when curtailment of gasoline appears evident and the fact that heavy surplus stocks are being carried by many companies, were given as reasons for the reductions. It was pointed out in the trade that some of the larger companies were successful in reducing their stock to a point near a normal level in the last few months of record-breaking demand from motorists. Other companies however, it was explained, were less fortunate, and as a result of this situation competition in the sale of gasoline is now keener than at any time since last Autumn.

Oil men pointed out that if the wholesale price of 14 cents quoted by the Gulf Refining Company may be accepted as a standard, gasoline is selling in New York City at the lowest price recorded since the early years of the World War, when it dropped to 12 cents a gallon wholesale. The current price of 16 cents wholesale quoted by the Standard Oil company New York is still half a cent a gallon above the low price last year, quoted in December.

EVEN MONEY BETS ON WORLD SERIES

New York, Sept. 29—Even money generally prevailed on the world's series today, with one or two bets reported in which the Washington Senators were slight favorites. In one instance \$2,800 to \$1,500 was offered and quickly covered that Harris' team would win. Betting commissions believe Walter Johnson will pitch the first game for the Senators and Washington will be a 3 to 2 favorite to take the initial contest.

HEAVY RAINFALL CAUSES RIVERS TO RISE; IMPROVEMENT IN WATER SUPPLY, PUMPING STOPPED

FIRST PHOTO OF CHRISTIAN WHOSE \$1,500,000 THEFTS WRECKED WALL ST. FIRM



Above is the first photograph obtained of George R. Christian, the missing broker whose defalcations of at least a million and a half dollars forced into bankruptcy the firm of Day & Heaton. He has been missing since August 14, although his thefts did not become known until a few days ago. Harry V. Day says this photo, the first the police have been able to obtain, is apt to be misleading in that it makes Christian's hair appear dark, whereas it is a decided blonde. The picture also shows Christian's hair quite full, whereas he is actually quite bald above the forehead.

AUTO BELONGED TO JERSEY MAN WHO CLAIMED IT

But Boys Whose Actions Excited Suspicion Make Good Their Escape

Chief of Police Moorehead received word late Tuesday afternoon that the Chevrolet coupe, which was stalled while being driven by two boys at Greenville, N. Y., and which Mr. George Balmos of Greenville is holding was stolen from William Beck of Englewood, N. J., on Monday afternoon. The story of the suspicious actions of the boys and of their escape from a Mr. Carson, who was bringing them to the local police station was published Tuesday's Gazette. After the machine was deserted, Mr. Balmos made a search of the machine and found the owner's card in one of the pockets. He located the owner and notified him where he could find his machine. Mr. Beck arrived in Greenville this afternoon and claimed his property.

A son, John Robert, weighing 7 3/4 pounds, was born to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Grady, on Sunday, September 28, at the Bergen private sanitarium, Jersey City. Mrs. Grady was formerly Miss Katherine Murphy, of 74 Ball street, this city. Mother and child are doing nicely.

The heavy rainfall of over five inches during Monday and Tuesday caused much concern to the residents of this city and vicinity and further up the Delaware valley. Both the Delaware and Neversink rivers began raising Tuesday morning and continued to rise until about 8:30 o'clock this morning.

At that time the Delaware had risen 14 feet six inches above low water mark. The Neversink rose about the same height. At 8:30 it began to recede and at 9:30 o'clock had lowered about four inches. The total amount of rain fall for the two days was 5.35 inches, of which four and thirty-three one hundredths inches fell on Tuesday. The total rainfall for the month of September was seven and forty-two one hundredths inches.

At this time, the Neversink lacked only about one foot of going over the top of the stone wall at the bridge. The water was at the edge of the Montague road, (over the sidewalk) opposite the Tristates Milk. The rear yards of Harry Corwin and other residents in that locality were flooded to a considerable depth. Portions of the amusements, at Joyland Park such as the large raft and diving boards were washed down stream. Large trees, logs, lumber, row boats and canoes were seen floating over the Delaware during yesterday afternoon and today.

The water was to the base of the highway along the Montague road along the farms of Silas Cuddeback and Harry Knight.

Bill Marvin the hermit of the Delaware (Storms Island) lacked but little of being flooded out entirely. He had but little space to keep his feet dry. When a representative of the Gazette looked Bill over this morning, he had a dry foot that would barely make a good sized room in a house. One of his shanties was well filled with water.

While both rivers are receding they are still high. White caps on top of the muddy water were visible the greater part of the day.

The fall of rain was slightly heavier west of here. About one mile east of Gulf Summit the west bound track of the Erie main line was washed out for a considerable distance. The east bound track was somewhat loosened but not washed out. This track was repaired in about one hour's time and was then used as a one way track over which trains running in both directions were run. Three work trains were sent to the scene together with 75 cars of material for filling. It is expected that the west track will be open for traffic about three o'clock this afternoon. There was no detention of trains to speak of during the time of repairs.

A report from Middletown this noon stated that only a little over three inches of rain fell there during the storm. No damages are reported.

The water company was somewhat benefited by the rain. Pumping from the Neversink river was stopped at noon yesterday. Number one reservoir was benefited by one foot and 8 inches of water. Secretary Graebner of the Water Works Company announced that number one reservoir was about full, number 2 practically empty and number three has but a little better than six feet of water. The company is hopeful however, that the supplying streams to the reservoirs will add enough water in the (Continued to page eight)

STROUDSBURG BUTCHER CONVICTED OF ASSAULTING SCHOOL TEACHER

His Victim Expresses Pleasure at Jury's Verdict—Attorney Will Move for a New Trial

REPUBLICAN CLUB GIVES UP RADIO TO SMITH

Governor's Speech of Acceptance Will Be Broadcast Saturday Night

Albany, Sept. 30.—A Schenectady Republican organization known as the Lincoln Republican Club made it possible for Governor Smith to broadcast his speech of acceptance from Schenectady's radio station, WGY, on Saturday evening.

It had been intended to have the notification speech Friday evening at one of the theatres in Schenectady, and it was planned to broadcast the address. However, Lieut. Gov. George R. Lunn found that it would be impossible because of a urevious arrangement which would not make the WGY station available.

The Lieutenant Governor then invited members of the Lincoln Republican Club to give up their plan of broadcasting an address on the commission form of government and Governor Smith was notified this afternoon that at 8:30 o'clock Saturday night he will be formally notified of his nomination at the Barclay Theatre.

Albany Democrats are planning the greatest political demonstration ever staged in Albany as a welcome to John W. Davis when he comes here Monday night. He is to speak in Harmanus Bleeker Hall. Fifteen thousand Democrats, with red fire and bombs and all the bands in the city, will march to the hall escorting the candidate from his hotel.

Watervelt, Cohoes, Green Island and the smaller communities of the county will also send big delegations to Albany. Troy is to send 500 Marchers. Women will also march, it is announced today by Mrs. E. V. Colbert, Vice Chairman of the Albany County Democratic Committee. She will lead at least 1,000 women.

If it can be arranged the Davis speech will be broadcast, and microphones on the stage, coupled to loudspeakers outside the building, will carry the message of the candidate to those unable to get inside.

Fines Amount to \$60

The city treasury was reimbursed to the amount of \$60 this morning when six defendants paid fines ranging from \$5 to \$15 for public intoxication, disorderly conduct and assault. Two prisoners were released on suspended sentences because of public intoxication and another on a charge of assault demanded a hearing which was set for tomorrow morning. The arrests were made by Officers Stephen Campbell, Walter Holzer, J. C. Kelly and Chris Mulvaney.

Stroudsburg, Sept. 30.—Following his conviction on Saturday afternoon for an assault upon Margaret Gombar a former Normal school student, Clinton Diehl, butcher of East Stroudsburg, is in the county jail today while relatives and friends are trying to obtain his release on bail.

Diehl's counsel announced today that a motion will be presented to Judge Shull before the close of the present term of court for a new trial. This was indicated following the verdict returned by the jury Saturday when Diehl's lawyer asked that bail be fixed for him.

The bail for Diehl's appearance for sentence was fixed by Judge Shull at \$14,000, twice the amount of his bail for appearance at the September term of court. He has also filed a bond for his appearance at the December term of court to answer the charges growing out of his alleged attack upon Marie Grady at Mount Pocono, in the amount of \$7,000. If Diehl is released from jail, his total bail will amount to \$21,000.

Diehl will not be called for sentence until his motion for a new trial is presented, argued by counsel and disposed of by the court.

Clinton Diehl, East Stroudsburg butcher, was found guilty of an assault upon Miss Margaret Gombar, a pretty school teacher, by the jury on Saturday afternoon.

Never has a crime attracted more attention in Monroe county than did the Diehl case and never did a jury return a verdict that met with more popular favor than did the one that found him guilty of five counts: rape, assault with intent to ravish, aggravated assault and battery, assault and battery and adultery.

The jurymen had their minds made up that Diehl was guilty before they left the box, and as one of them said, "We were all eager to reach our verdict as soon as one of the members asked for a vote, moving we find him guilty on all counts, every one arose. We did not take more than twenty minutes to come to our decision."

"We realized what a serious case we were trying and did not want to return to the court room without giving Diehl every chance so after our vote we started an informal discussion of the case. No one had any argument to try and change our first vote in any way, so after talking a few minutes, and eating the dinner which had been sent in for us, we returned to the court room and rendered our verdict."

The juror then discussed the case with some friends and said that the jurors were most impressed with the story of Miss Gombar and the physicians who testified of her condition. He said that this testimony alone was, in his mind, enough to convict Diehl. He commented upon Miss Gombar's attitude on the stand and said that all were convinced that she was an innocent girl who had been harmed and assaulted by Diehl.

"You know," said this man, who is a farmer, "that we would not subject our cattle to the treatment and abuse that Miss Gombar was subjected to. When we thought of the terrible abuse Diehl had subjected her, it seemed that we could not reach our verdict quickly enough."

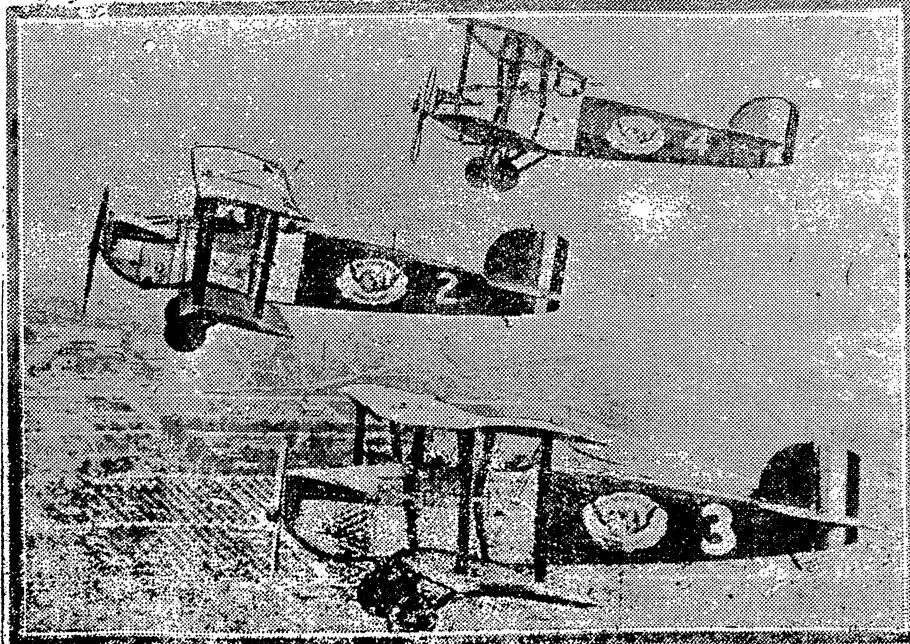
Miss Gombar, who was sitting in the court room with her friends, Miss Jean Sheridan, who was with her and Diehl and Fullerton on several occasions, and Miss Marie Grady, the girl whom Diehl is accused of assaulting six days before he assaulted Miss Gombar, was elated when it was read.

Miss Gombar said: "I'm so glad the jury found him (Diehl) guilty, but I knew they would. Of course, I feel very sorry for his wife and children, but he should be punished. No one can possibly realize what I went through and suffered, what I'm still suffering and the stigma I must carry although perfectly innocent of any wrong doing."

"Mr. Burnett attacked Miss Sheridan and my characters, but we did nothing different than all the girls of today are doing. We were wrong in going out with Diehl and Fullerton, but after talking so long with him the first evening about my girl friend, I felt as if I knew him, and when he and Fullerton coaxed us to go for a ride we did not feel we were doing anything wrong in accepting."

"We felt that we were going out with men who were perfectly safe until the men disclosed their true characters when they attacked me. Both Diehl and Fullerton must be punished so that no other girls shall suffer as I did at their hands."

UNITED STATES ARMY FLYERS BACK IN CALIFORNIA AFTER EPOCH MAKING FLIGHT AROUND THE WORLD



This fine photograph was made as the globe-girdling airman were circling over Los Angeles. The plane of Lieut. Smith, flight commander, is in the center, that of Lieut. Nelson in the foreground, and Lieut. Wade's is on top.