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DR. M'KOIN FLAYS GOVERNOR PARKER

Former Mayor of Mer Rouge Arrested in Baltimore

CHARGED WITH MURDER

Louisiana Executive Is Defender of Bootleggers, Is Claim

Baltimore, Dec. 26.—Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge, La., who is wanted there in connection with the Morehouse Parish kidnappings and the finding of two mutilated bodies in Lake La Fourche, was arrested here today at the Johns Hopkins University—Brady Institute—where he is taking a post-graduate course. The arrest followed receipt of a telegram from Governor John M. Parker of Louisiana requesting the local police to arrest McKoin on a charge of murder.

After questioning by police officials Dr. McKoin was locked up to await further action by Louisiana authorities.

Other than requesting the local authorities to arrest McKoin there was nothing contained in Governor Parker's telegram. It read: "Important. Arrest Dr. McKoin for murder. Hold him for Louisiana authorities."

Dr. McKoin denied knowledge of the killing of the two men. "All I know," he declared, "is that both me killed were on the bad side—the side of bootleggers, gunmen and men who associated with negro women."

Purely by Surprise

The discovery of Dr. McKoin here and his subsequent arrest came about purely by accident. Word was received here several days ago that Dr. McKoin was a student at Johns Hopkins and Department of Justice agents sought to question him. However, university officials denied McKoin was registered as a post-graduate, and stated several letters had been received there, but unable to locate him, the letters were turned over to the postoffice department as "unknown."

Early today a policeman was found on the water front unconscious. He was removed to a hospital. When the hospital report reached police headquarters it was signed by Dr. McKoin. It was then that local newspapersmen rushed to the hospital and interviewed him. Up to that time the telegram from Governor Parker asking for his arrest had not been received. Dr. McKoin spoke freely and insisted he was not a fugitive from justice, and that he had made no attempt to conceal his identity.

He stated he has been in Baltimore since October 1, and had left Mer Rouge after an attempt had been made to assassinate him.

Not Member of Klan

Dr. McKoin insisted he was not a member of the Ku Klux Klan: He praised the organization, however, saying the members "did much to hold down bootlegging and immorality, while I was mayor of Mer Rouge." He also stated that lawlessness is a common occurrence at Mer Rouge and that he was among those who started to clean up the place. The result, he said, was a hard battle with bootleggers, moonshiners and men of bad repute.

"Just before I left Mer Rouge a boy of a good family was shot in the back. What did the sheriff and Governor do? The case was dismissed after a jury filled with bootleggers and the vicious element declared the alleged murderer innocent."

"Now, however, when a bootlegger and some one else is killed, the Governor joins in the investigation. This affair, in my opinion, will decide whether the decent and good element of the town will control."

Dr. McKoin stated he had received threatening letters a long time before he left Mer Rouge and asked the sheriff to investigate without success. "Just as I left the mayorship and the successful candidate went into office," he continued, "gangs that paraded the streets fired shots around my house. I asked the sheriff to take matters in hand, but nothing was done."

HEARD ON ISLAND OF MAUN

Honolulu, Dec. 26.—Musical selections, broadcast by station WSB, of Atlanta, Ga., December 15 and 16, were heard distinctly at Wailuku, Island of Maun, according to advices just received here. A. F. Losta, postmaster at Wailuku, operated the amateur set that picked up the signals.

SEVERAL PERSONS SHOT

Darlington, Dec. 26.—One negro man was shot to death, another negro had his finger chopped off by an axe, a small negro girl was accidentally shot, when a shot gun fell from a wagon and another negro man was accidentally shot in the leg by one of his friends during the holidays just passed.

AUTOMOBILE IS BLAMED

Chicago, Dec. 26.—The automobile caused a higher number of sudden and violent deaths in Chicago and Cook county during the past year than any other agency, according to a report of the coroner's office made public today.

WILL WE TRY FOR ONE OF THESE FARMS?

Gable, S. C., Dec. 6th, 1922.

Mr. Harvie Jordan, Secty.
Cotton Growers Association,
St. Matthews, S. C.

Dear Sir:

I noticed a report of your speech in Charlotte, N. C. about two weeks ago, in which you said: "It is only a question of time when the boll weevil will eventually destroy the cotton crop, unless systematic, concerted action is taken by the farmers to prevent it, even if they have to be forced into it by law."

I also noticed an article in last Sunday's State, from which it appears that the Agriculture Department in Bulletin No. 1111 advises community organization in gin units.

In today's paper a report of the Memphis meeting in which Mr. Hunter said: "An individual farmer who does not follow proper methods may breed enough weevils to nullify the efforts of his neighbors. It therefore appears that some system of enforcing community action by law is desirable."

I thought about a year ago that I saw the same thing Mr. Hunter says, as quoted above, and ran a page advertisement in the Manning Times, calling for a meeting of the farmers in our community May 13th. We are enclosing circular distributed at that time, also copy of a report of the meeting.

As we were rather late in getting started last year, we did not accomplish as much as we hoped to.

If after reading this circular you are enough interested to attend a revival meeting of this organization and will advise about when it would suit you to come, we will arrange for a meeting. The farmers at Summertown were called together last week for the purpose of forming a similar organization, and those present at the first meeting appointed a committee to arrange for the second meeting, at which time the Association will probably be formed.

I have talked with quite a number of farmers in the neighborhood of Bishopville, and they are ready for a similar organization. One of the Lee County farmers remarked to me a few days ago, that he did not dread the wintered over weevil any more, he could take care of him, but the migratory weevil is what he dreads.

An organization of this kind would go a long way toward solving the problem of community planting one kind of seed, planting at a given time, all picking at the same time, and all destroying the stalks at the same time.

Will you help us?

Very truly yours,
C. C. Christal.

Mr. C. C. Christal,
Gable, S. C.

Dear Mr. Christal:

After an absence in New York and New England covering a period of some two weeks, I find upon my return your valued communication of the 6th instant, which I have read with much interest.

It will afford me great pleasure to comply with your very cordial invitation to meet with a gathering of your farmers at sometime during the months of January and February, and discuss with them the latest and most approved methods of boll weevil control.

The American Association is preparing to inaugurate a system of county demonstration farms in 400 counties east of the Mississippi river next year. It will be a great aid to the farmers of your county to have such a demonstration farm in your county, to be planted, cultivated, fertilized and poisoned under specific directions for getting the best possible results.

If you will write to me about the first of January, stating what time during that month or February you would prefer to have your county meeting in regard to these matters, I will make my arrangements to comply with your invitation and be with you on that occasion. It is our purpose to do everything possible during the coming season to render every valuable aid to the farmers in the South Atlantic and Middle Gulf States to enable them to overcome the weevil and prevent the migratory flight of the insect which destroys the crop each season in heavily infested sections.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I am,

Very truly yours,
(signed) Harvie Jordan,
Secretary,
American Cotton Association.

Gable, S. C., Dec. 23, 1922.

Mr. Shope,

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing copy of letter just received.

It appears probable that we can get one of these 400 Demonstration farms for Clarendon County, if we try.

Will you assist in forming a County organization for the purpose of combating the weevil and trying to bring Clarendon back to pre-boll weevil conditions—48,000 bales?

Would you like to have Mr. Harvie Jordan, Secretary of the American Cotton Association with us at the organization meeting?

Where should the meeting be held and when? I favor meeting at the Court House, Saturday, January 13th

