

MODERN BLUEBEARD KILLS WOMEN JUST FOR FUN

Los Angeles Officials Amazed at Confession of Stranger Who Tried to Slay Self. Tale Far More Gruesome than Story of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, as Told by Stevenson.

Los Angeles, Calif., April 30.—At least two of the numerous woman Jas. R. Huirt is alleged to have married in various parts of the country, were murdered by him, two others met "accidental" deaths while with him, and he "might have murdered more," according to J. Morgan Marmaduke, his attorney, and county officials.

Huirt said he "could not remember" what happened to some of the women because of his still weakened condition resulting from two attempts to commit suicide, the reputed confession said. He lay on a cot at the county hospital as he talked.

Huirt has been held here several days while officers investigated reports of numerous marriages.

He married "twelve or fifteen women, probably more," Huirt was quoted as saying. A desire to kill obsessed him four years ago, Huirt was alleged to have said, and women were his especial victims, there being no direct motive for their deaths, and no desire to kill men, children or animals.

Nina Lee Deloney, killed with a hammer at Long Beach, Calif., and Elizabeth Prior, whose head was crushed with a sledge hammer near Plum, Wash., were the "wives" whose murders the officers said Huirt confessed.

The partial "confession," said the officers, related to the deaths of Bertha Goodrich and Alice Ludvigson. Miss Goodrich was tipped out of a boat in Lake Washington, near Seattle, and Miss Ludvigson was drowned in a river in Idaho, they said.

A party immediately left for the place near San Diego, where Huirt said he buried Miss Deloney's body.

More than 25 marriages have been attributed by the officers to Huirt. Eleven women are listed as missing. They include, besides the four named in the alleged confession, Mrs. Gertrude Wilson, Seattle; Beatrice M. Andrews, of Canada and England; and Agnes Wilson, Alberta, Canada.

The first to die, according to the alleged confession, was Miss Ludvigson. Huirt was quoted as saying he was in a boat with her, fishing in a river in Idaho. His memory was weak as to the exact time and location. The

boat, he said, jammed against logs which were lashed to the bank of the river and he and Miss Ludvigson tried with their arms to free the raft. When he broke away, he narrated, the woman lost her balance and fell into the river and was drowned.

He said Miss Goodrich died when she fell into Lake Washington while trying to go from the stern to the center. Later on officers said, Huirt himself referred to the death as "a murder."

In prior cases, the officers said, he asserted the woman attacked him with a hat pin and he shoved her so violently that she fell and struck her head against a box. He believed she was dead, he has said to have declared, but to make certain, struck her with a hammer.

Miss Deloney, he was quoted as saying, he killed at a camp near Signal Hill, at the edge of Long Beach, Calif., January 26, last, after they quarreled about letters he had received from other women.

The officers said Huirt told them he did not know his right name but admitted having used many aliases.

He said he knew nothing of his parents, but did know he was born somewhere in the South. He said he had little education.

He admitted, the officers said, that he had no direct motive in killing his victims, some of the slayings following violent quarrels.

He said, they decided, he had killed some women who "had no money." "Something just told me to do it," he was quoted.

He told them he obtained a certain satisfaction in the very act of murder, the officers said, and experienced a sense of relief that the woman in each case was dead.

Attorney Marmaduke, representing Huirt, stated that the alleged confession had been given to the district attorney "in the best interests of his client."

TWO FATAL ACCIDENTS.

Henry J. Brown and Miss Josephine Craig Killed.

Charleston, May 1.—Two accidents here resulted in the deaths of Henry J. Brown, formerly of Savannah, who was fatally injured when an engine struck him, and of Miss Josephine Craig, a trained nurse, who was hit by an automobile. Both died at a hospital a short time after being injured. Mr. Brown was a yard crew foreman for the Atlantic Coast Line railroad.

COLBY DEFENDS WOODROW WILSON

Great Issues of War Still Undetermined. Press Club Address.

New York, May 1.—Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby, addressing the Press club tonight, made a defense of President Wilson. He declared that the great issues of the war are still undetermined so far as we are concerned, and that "it is hardly an exaggeration to say that there is not an aspect of the post-war situation that is not approached, discussed and treated primarily in its bearing upon somebody's candidacy."

Mr. Colby continued: "Of one thing, evidence abounds on every side and that is the utter failure of the envenomed and impassioned attack upon the president. For months this attack has been pursued with every device known to malice and with all the resources of scurrility and hatred. Long, sad and dreary months they have been to the great and lonely man in the White House, who has been struggling back to health and the service of his people from beneath the weight of a grievous affliction. No word of protest has come from him; no sign that he winced or that he suffered. His envious detractors, like ravenous wolves, have hounded him incessantly by day and by night, but they have done nothing else. They have not affected the American people and they have not cowed or bent the valiant spirit of the American president."

Mr. Colby said this country believes in a league of nations, and that it has so declared in unmistakable terms over and over again. "It insists," he said, "that there shall be some effort made, even if it be only an experiment, to inaugurate a system in the world which shall preclude a recurrence of the devastating war from which we have just emerged."

"The United States is vitally concerned in controversies that may arise between other nations," said Mr. Colby "and it is fatuity to pretend that we are not interested in such controversies so long as they may issue in a conflagration that can swiftly envelop this country."

Former Ambassador Gerard, called upon to speak, said: "I had a candidate and his name commences with H" Mr. Gerard was looking directly at a table at which sat Herbert Hoover. The remark was greeted with applause and when it had subsided Mr. Gerard continued:

"I am glad you like him. He ran out from us and went and herded himself with Republicans. Before he is through he will feel more comfortable if he were seated up here between Secretary Colby and Secretary Daniels and near myself."

Governor Edwards of New Jersey, declared he was conscious he was a guest, because the members of the club wished to see "what manner of man the governor of New Jersey is."

"The fact may seem strange to you," he added, "as it is to me, that merely standing for the declaration of independence and the constitution of the United States may have made a man a political curiosity."

KENTUCKY MAN FACES CHARGE OF MURDER

Son of Wealthy Farmer and Stock Raiser Held for Tallahassee Officials.

Bowling Green, Ky., May 1.—Charged with the murder of Ralph Rushing, a taxicab driver, near Tallahassee, Fla., April 22, Bernice H. Larmon, 18, son of John H. Larmon, a wealthy farmer and stock raiser of Alvatton, in this county, was arrested by local police tonight at the request of Tallahassee officials.

Larmon has consented to return to Tallahassee without requisition papers and will be taken there Sunday.

The body of Rushing was found three or four days after he was missed from home, according to information from there to the local chief of police.

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with a bullet hole through his body. Larmon admits, according to the police chief, that he was with Rushing at the time of his death, but claims that the driver was accidentally shot while Larmon and his wife were playing with a pistol on the seat. He told the chief he was afraid to give himself up in Tallahassee.

Larmon and his wife continued their trip to Detroit, the police chief stated,

and her father went there for them on the chief's request, returning here tonight.

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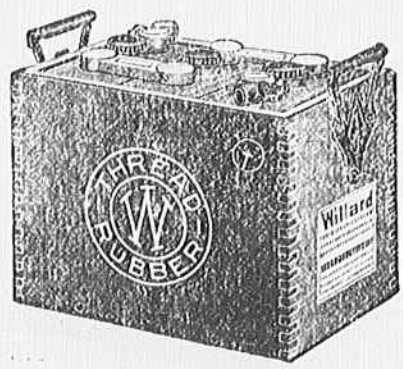
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