



Efforts of Prominent Society Women, Including Duchess, Fail to Save Boy's Life.

Montreal, Quebec, July 11 .- Walter vate signal and played a joke on you. Muir, 21-year-old New York youth, he declared. was hanged at \$:35 this morning at tive that he hadn't imagined that the little jail at Valley Field for the whistle. "I heard it," said he, "jus murder of Henry La Viollete, whom as plainly as ever I have heard it. he shot during a quarrel last Sep-don't know of any boy around here tember.

Muir went to the gallows courageously a few hours after he had said a pathetic farewell to his mother, Mrs. May Muir, a widowed dressmaker who came to Valley Field from New York to see him just before he died.

She had tried desperately but ineffectually to obtain executive clem on Farmer Brown's face. "Is this the ency for her son.

Blood Red Scaffold.

The boy student was hanged on blood red scaffold in the courtyard of the little Valley Field jail. He died smiling, his face lit up with

an ethereal light. "Jesus have mercy," he said in a voice that, although low, reached "I thought I heard you whistle to me the very ends of the courtyard. He walked to the scaffold with firm

step. On the scaffold, the handsome youth's blonde head was raised to Brown's catch the morning sun and the black you heard, for I was at the village. hood.

The prayer was on his lips when that I heard a whistle yesterday. the hood was adjusted. "Yes, son," replied Farmer Brown There was a grating sound. Then "I believe you heard a whistle jus

a swift, downward rush-and all was as you said you did. If I refused to The trap was sprung at 8:35. Ten heard that whistle myself this morn

minutes later, the jail physicians de- ing, and I know that I did hear it clared Muir dead. It was our own private signal whis-

Claims Trial Unfair. Before he died. Muir addressed a let-

ter to the sheriff of the distict, de-claring he di not have a fair trial. on us. Who it can he I have no idea at all." "I did not intend to kill any onethere was no premeditation. I forgive house they couldn't tell exactly where

Muir's case attracted wide interes and no little sympathy. The Duchess De Richelieu and other prominent New York women interested themselves in his behalf and the case even went so far as to be put up to State department at Washington for interto put an end to it by finding out

Laviolette was killed during a drunken brawl. Both men, according to testimony, were drinking. Muir contended he was trying to protect a cripple. Because of apparent lack of deliberate intent and Muir's youth, the Duchess De Richelieu and others interested themselves in the case.

The Rev. Father Aumais, who administered the last rites to the boy, refused to go to the gallows with him, declaring that boy "is not a criminal." "I am not opposed to capital

punishment." Father Aumais said, "but it ought to be resorted to only in the case of criminals.

Letter to Mother. A farewell letter, writeen before

Stories By THORNTON W. BURGESS. Be sure you do not laugh too soon; Four laughter may prove out of tune. Farmer Brown

The Mysterious Whistle. How Farmer Brown did laugh whe e came home and heard about the mysterious whistle, which had called his boy up from the cornfield. "Either you must have imagined that whistle or else some boy has learned our pri

But Farmer Brown's Boy was pos who would play a trick like that Somebody whistled, and I mean to find out who it was.

The next morning Farmer Brown's Boy went to town on an errand, and was gone until noon. He did not re the face of Farmer Brown's Boy

turn until after Farmer Brown had wore. He had felt sure that he would come up from the cornfield where he had been working that morning. barn. find some one hiding behind that Farmer Brown saw him come into Farmer Brown's Boy looked everythe yard and there was a funny look

where. He went all through that He didn't miss a single place barn. first time you have been back since big enough for a boy to hide in. He you started out early this morning?"

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he demanded. "Yes, sir," replied Farmer Brown's but he didn't find the whistler. he was hunting he heard the whistle, Boy. "Why do you ask?" "Because," replied Farmer Brown' The next story: "The Whistler I Boy. "Why do you ask?" Discovered.'

"Because," replied Farmer Brown twice during the middle of the Cass County Disabled morning.

Veterans to Organize "Well, I didn't." replied Farmer Atlantic, Ia., July 11 .- Disabled vet Boy. "It wasn't my whistle erans of the world war in Cass county have called a meeting at the Atlantic Now I guess you really do believe municipal auditorium Sunday for the

purpose of forming a branch of the Disabled War Veterans association.

believe it I couldn't believe that

tled just as we always whistle it. Some one certainly is playing a jok

Right at that very minute both heard that whistle. Being in the

came from, out both heard it Farmer Brown's Boy jumped up from the dinner table. "I'm going to find that fellow," he declared. "I'm going to look through every hiding place. Whoever is doing that whistling is having a lot of fun. But I'm going

> who it is.' Just as Farmer Brown's Be

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Fed Johnson, 22, and Earl Williams,

28, both of Omaha, Neb., are held

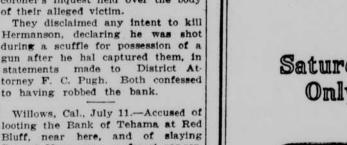
stepped out of the house he heard Omahans Held of the barn. He was sure of it. Re turning quickly but noiselessly over in Bank Slaving to the barn he crept along the side of it and very carefully peeped around the corner. No one was to be seen. Such a funny expression a liams Accused of Killing Forest Ranger in Flight From Robbery. By International News Service. Red Bluff, Cal., July 11 .- Returned o the Tehama county jail today from Willos, where they had been rushed yesterday, following threats of lynching, Earl Williams and Fred John son of Omaha, accused bank robbers and slayers of Samuel Harmanson, forest ranger, today attended the coroner's inquest held over the body

The next morning Farmer Brown's of their alleged victim. Boy went to town on an errand.

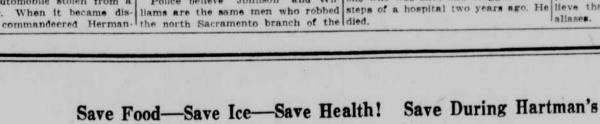
during a scuffle for possession of a gun after he hal captured them, in statements made to District Attorney F. C. Pugh. Both confessed to having robbed the bank.

Willows, Cal., July 11 .- Accused of looting the Bank of Tehama at Red

looked in the pig pen. Twice while Bluff, near here, and of slaying Samuel Hermanson, a forest ranger



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son's car and later, shot him to death California National bank on June 9.





THE OMAHA BEE: SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1924.

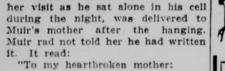
The bandits, after cooly holding up of several hundred persons who this morning. The only Earl Wil- able to identify the men when they Attend Inquest The bandits, after cooly holding up of several hundred persons the Red Bluff bank, securing \$2,000, gathered in front of the jail. fled in an automobile stolen from a Police believe Johnson and Wil one who was shot and dragged to the prints, but they are inclined to be jitney driver. When it became dis- liams are the same men who robbed steps of a hospital two years ago. He lieve that the names given were Fred Johnson and Earl Wil- abled, they commandeered Herman- the north Sacramento branch of the died.

when he tried to stop them. The and the California Trust and Savings Johnsons and the 10 Earl Williames in the city directory failed to reveal by the local authorities, after having thugs were arrested at Lyman bank in the same city on July 1. been hurriedly rushed here from Red Springs by three citizens and were No record of an Earl Williams or any who are now in California or Bluff when a mob threatened lynch- returned to Red Bluff where threats Fred Johnson who might have figured nearby states. of lynching were hard from a crowd in the affair could be found in Omaha Omaha police say that they may be

A search through the

liams on the police docket was the get further particulars and finger aliases.

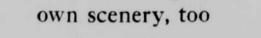
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"My poor mother, how you must be suffering since my death. But you must be brave and remember I died a good Christian and in a state of grace. Always think of me as I will be watching and praying over you until you join me in Heaven. It was the will of God that I should leave this earth at this time. I am dying a very happy boy. I love you, mother, with all my heart and will pray to God always for you. Goodby, Mother dear. May God bless you. "Your loving son, "WALTER."

Not since the famous Shorts murder case in 1899 has such a wave of public feeling swept over this section of Canada. The entire town turned out to see the prisoner en route to the gallows.





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