

### KELLY CONFESSES TO AX MURDERS

#### Itinerant Minister Admits to Attorney General Havner That He Committed Horrible Villisca Crimes.

(Continued from Page One.)

\$500. But no trace of the man was then found and police booked the murder as a "mystery."

**Kelly and the Case.**  
The night of the murder of the members of the Moore family, it is said that Kelly spent at least a portion of time at the home of the Presbyterian preacher in Villisca and the next morning left on an early train for Macedonia, having been assigned to preach there, at Arlington and Pilot Grove, small towns near by.

It is also said that it was late in the evening when Kelly arrived at the home of the Presbyterian minister. However, prior to this he had attended a children's day exercises in the church.

In the morning, when the minister arose, it is said that he discovered that Kelly had gone, but it was supposed that he had left for Macedonia on an early train.

It has been related that in Macedonia, between 8:30 and 9 o'clock of the morning after the murder of the Moores, and before the news of their having been killed had reached there, Kelly said that he had been unable to sleep well during the night and that at about 1 o'clock in the morning he arose, went out onto the porch and that while there he heard the thud of the ax that killed the Moores and that he was one of the first men in the Moore house after the murders were discovered.

Letters in the hands of the Iowa authorities show that Kelly wrote to the Presbyterian minister at Villisca and to a brother of Moore, asking permission to work on the case.

**News at Red Oak.**  
Red Oak, Ia., Aug. 31.—(Special.)—The Montgomery county grand jury is in session here. Leaks from the jury room indicate that the jurors are investigating the alleged irregularities of Attorney General Havner in bringing a murder indictment against Rev. Lyn George J. Kelly in connection with the Villisca ax murders that shocked the entire state five years ago.

The Omaha meeting of Montgomery county citizens, who were compelled to gather in another state to exercise the privilege of free speech, has, apparently, forced this inquisition.

**Important Witnesses.**  
Among the witnesses who have been summoned this week are Rose Moore, Joe Stillinger, Mrs. Minnie Bolt, Alice Willard, J. W. Hoel, John Montgomery, H. W. Brandt, Clarence Miller, Ray Mann, Attorney Clyde Genung of Glenwood, who was employed by the county board of supervisors, is here assisting in the work of presenting the evidence to the grand jury.

Sheriff K. A. Dunn has been busy during the week summoning the jurymen for the opening of court on Tuesday of next week, when the trial of Rev. Kelly is set to begin. The special venire of seventy-five jurymen ordered by Judge E. B. Woodruff at the time the date for the trial was set has not yet been drawn, and it is understood that the drawing will not take place until just before the jurymen are to be subpoenaed. The thirty-six jurymen drawn for the May term of court are now being summoned.

**How Charges Grew.**  
The charges against Attorney General Havner of Iowa grew out of the investigation made by Detective Wilkerson on the case of the ax murder of several years ago in which the entire Joe Moore family and the two Stillinger girls were cut to pieces in their beds in the Moore home in Villisca, Ia.

When Attorney General Havner and local authorities in Montgomery county sought to fix the guilt some months ago upon an itinerant preacher, Rev. L. G. J. Kelly, Detective Wilkerson said openly that Kelly could not possibly be guilty and declared just as boldly that a prominent politician and business man of Villisca was guilty of having hired an ax man to do the murder.

He alleged that when he submitted his evidence to the grand jury the jury was fixed by those influential and friendly to the man whom Wilkerson thinks guilty. Wilkerson says that the grand jury investigation at that time was a farce and he proposed to have the case reopened and the evidence against the Villisca politician considered.

**Meet in Omaha.**  
The detective called a public meeting in Red Oak to tell the people at large what evidence he has against the Villisca man, but an injunction was clamped down upon him just as he was beginning to speak, restraining him from talking about the case in Iowa.

He immediately came to Omaha, rented the Boyd theater for a day and brought the Iowa multitude here in trains to hear him. That was over two months ago. It was hinted then that the grand jury would probably be assembled sooner or later to consider the evidence.

### LARDNER ATTENDS OPERA IN RARE AND SEES QUEER THINGS

#### Saves Franc on Usherette Who Wants Tip; One Scene Not Suggestive, Just Frank

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**MUSIC AND DRAMA AT AMBASSADEURS.**  
Paris, Aug. 31.—When you enter the lobby a man with mustache flashes you a map of the auditorium. You select the three seats you want and he gives you three other ones.

Your tickets are of a nice handy shape and size, like a newspaper. A lady usher leads you to your seats and expects to be tipped for it. Fortunately I knew nothing of her expectations and saved a franc.

Saving a franc is going some in Paris. The show was "La Grande Revue des Ambassadeurs," in two acts and twenty-nine tableaux. The French have a generous way of numbering the tableaux or scenes. Whenever a new character appears on the stage they call it another scene.

The program, which costs money, said the music was arranged by M. Cayrol, but to me it sounded just the same as when Irving Berlin, Jerome Kern and Egbert Vana. Styne first turned it out.

The dances were both English and French and were planned, it is said, by Stillson, and the dancers, both male and female, danced as if they had stayed in Stillson's a bit too long. (Stillson's cafe in West Madison street, Chicago.)

**FISHERMAIDS AND WOMAN REPORTER.**  
The premier of the tableau brought on an octet of girls with fishpots and in fishing costumes consisting of red tights. French fishing trip might be interesting even if you didn't have a nibble.

The second tableau introduced a lady playing the part of a male newspaper reporter. She was dressed in immaculate white flannels and carried a notebook and pencil, a most realistic makeup. Also there was a dancer named Mlle. Walser, who tried to do graceful things to one. She was evidently a born Walser.

I missed the third scene, being more interested in an argument right behind us between one of the ushers and a British private who with his two companions had arrived late. The usher wanted her tip. The argument ended with the words, "Allez go to hell," spoken in cockney.

Scene four was called "L'Inspecteur des Economies," and it wasn't what you would call suggestive. It was absolutely frank.

In scene five Mlle. Hoala Rivers sang "The Broken Doll" in English and the British privates and I helped her out. We liked this so well that we made her repeat.

**STILL AFTER THAT SHILLING.**  
The feature of the next four tableaux was a man who whistled in imitation of birds. He had everyone deceived but the audience and the birds. The tenth scene was a Japanese pantomime, which wound up with the hero committing hari-kari. Today is not meatless and he may be lamb chops.

Mlle. Chloce sang "Underneath the Stars," and one of my British neighbors asked what it was.

"Something English," said another. "I think it is from the 'Mikado.'" We had enough, and prepared to leave. Our usher appeared from nowhere and showed both of her teeth and held out her hand. I shook it.

"No, no, no, no," she said, and held it out again. I comprehended. "Madame," I said, "we are trois hard boiled oafs," and we left her snarling.

party last spring, saying the controversy was over a gate leading into their grounds.

After a consultation with Sheriff Clark and police, Deputy County Attorney Piatti did not press Mr. Nethaway for the name of the party.

Herdman, the operator, testified as to what he saw of Mr. Nethaway, his wife and other parties the day of the murder. His testimony in the main corroborated what he told the police on the day of the commission of the crime.

**Tells of Seeing Negro.**  
He told of seeing a negro stop at the Nethaway house about 4 o'clock, then get a drink at the pump near the operator's shanty and walk north up the railroad track, the opposite direction from where the body was found.

The Herdmans have lived near the Nethaway home about a year. Both Herdman and his wife told of their acquaintance with the Nethaways, but said they knew of no domestic troubles.

Both testified they had heard loud talking in the Nethaway home, but added they did not know whether they were quarreling or not. Mrs. Herdman, who corroborated her husband's testimony, told of seeing a negro stop and get a drink of water.

Dr. McClenehan, coroner's physician, testified that a microscopic examination showed Mrs. Nethaway had not been assaulted. He described the following wounds on her body:

**Wounds Are Described.**  
Knife wound across throat from ear to ear, severed jugular vein, knife jabs on point of right jaw, knife jabs on left side of face, bruises over right eyebrow, abrasion on left forehead, cut on left ear, discoloration on left thigh, contusion on left knee, scratches and fingernail prints on left thigh and abrasions on left shinbone.

The sheriff's men, who are being assisted by the police in an attempt to clear up the mystery, are said to be preparing to spring some sensational clues that will incriminate persons other than the negro.

The coroner's jury is expected to be ready to return a verdict of "met her death by the hand of person or persons unknown" this afternoon.

**Contradicts Smith.**  
Charles Smith, suspected murderer of Mrs. C. L. Nethaway and Mrs. Christine Anderson, has again been entangled in his own testimony.

A. L. Connoyer, Fifty-sixth and Nicholas streets, has identified Smith as the man whom he saw loitering at Fifty-first and California streets at 4 a. m. Thursday. Connoyer also observed Smith hanging around his own farm early Saturday morning and says that he is positive in his identification.

The fact that Smith was seen in Omaha Thursday contradicts his statement that he was in Le Mars, Ia., on that day. He asserts that he was with Robinson's circus until 7:30 Friday evening, when he quit and caught a train to Omaha.

**Police Think Smith Guilty.**  
Police are slowly breaking down his defense and say that in a few days sufficient evidence will be gathered to convict him.

Connoyer thinks that Smith built a fire in the bed of a dried-up creek near his farm. Conditions of the ground thereabout clearly indicate that somebody made that spot a resting place for at least one day and that Smith was seen in that vicinity he assumes that it was him.

Connoyer's statement completely substantiates that of Mrs. Fred Bascomb, who was threatened by Smith Saturday morning at about 7:30 o'clock at her home at Fifty-sixth and Hamilton streets. Hamilton is two blocks north of Nicholas.

**Kennedy Speaks at Public Fete for Soldiers at Nelson**  
Nelson, Neb., Aug. 31.—(Special.)—The citizens of Nuckolls county gave a farewell reception here today to the soldier boys of this county that are to leave next week for service in the great struggle for freedom. Fully 1,000 people gathered at the park to bid the boys goodbye. The Hon. John L. Kennedy of Omaha was the speaker and delivered a strong and patriotic address, pledging the boys the heartiest support and loyalty of those who are left at home. He said this was not a battle between parties or people, but one for right against might.

"The business of the nation now," he said, "is to do away with autocracy."

The Citizens' band of this city entertained the audience, as did also the drum corps composed of a veteran of the civil war and two of his sons.

A feature of the day was the big parade in the morning when the crowds, gathering from every direction, were led to the park by the band and Uncle Sam in uniform.

**Two Americans Finally Released from Belgium**  
Washington, Aug. 31.—Persistent efforts of the State department to secure the release from Belgium of two Americans, C. C. Clayton of the West-ern Electric company, and Whipple of the Bell Telephone company, have been successful, according to a report to the department today from The Hague.

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## The Thompson Belden Store

### The First Day of September Finds Us Ready for the Fall Season



**Neck Fixings--Newer Styles--Await Viewing**  
Organdie and Georgette Collars and Collars with Cuffs, 50c to \$2.75.  
Pique Collars with Cuffs, \$1 to \$1.75.  
Organdie Vests, \$1 to \$2.50.  
Stock Collars, \$1.25 to \$1.75.

**New Fall Styles in Women's Underwear**  
Ribbed Cotton Union Suits, low neck, no sleeves, ankle length, \$1.50.  
Wool Vests, Dutch neck, elbow sleeves or high neck, long sleeves; pants to match, \$1.35. Extra size, \$1.50.  
Italian Silk Vests, \$2.95. In white and pink with embroidered tops. A fine quality of silk.

**Such Diversity in Fall Hats**  
Have you a tender spot in your heart for a chic little Bonnet with a bit of ribbon trimming, or do you lean toward a large, picturesque Sailor or a dainty Poke? It matters not what your taste may be, you will find your ideal in all of its richest interpretation awaiting you in the Millinery Section.

**\$5, \$10, \$15**  
Second Floor.

**The Loveliest Fabrics of the New Season**  
Rich Novelty Silks, in plaids and striped Satin and Taffeta Weaves, \$1.50 to \$3.50.  
Fall Coatings, stylish woolsens in plain weaves and Novelties. Velours, Broadcloths, Tricotines and Serges. We advise an early selection, as present prices are really low.

**The New Fabrics First**

**The Blouse Store**  
Blouses, the new ones, appeal as never before to the women who like the styles that are always different. For the coming Autumn Thompson-Belden Georgette Blouses, \$6.50 to \$35.

**The Fur Shop**  
Wherein one buys with confidence, safe in the knowledge that in more than thirty years no piece has ever been misrepresented. Taupe Foxes are favored this season, and are priced: Scarfs, \$40 to \$75. Muffs, \$40 to \$75.

Second Floor.

**Serosis Footwear**  
New Autumn Fashions  
Stocks are now large and singularly complete in offerings of the newest type for the coming season. Serosis Quality is known for its goodness at all times.

Both low and high heeled Shoes in gray, brown, ivory, black and white kid.

The style illustrated  
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**Children's Parasols Saturday, 50c**  
Sold up to \$2 and going at this new low price in order that we may entirely clear our stocks. To the left as you enter.

**Cash's Woven Names For Marking Apparel**  
For school and college misses and young men, mark their clothing with these unfadable names woven on white tapes. Orders taken at the Notion Section. Prices quite small.

**Aren't You Glad "Safe Tea First"**  
You can still buy such refreshing and delicious tea as

**Ridgways Tea**

Full satisfaction or your money refunded.

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Perfect accomodation means perfect store service, that comprises willing and obliging, attentive and helpful attendants. Our prescription department, one of the units of our store, is doing day by day the work which is before it; doing all of it well; doing much of it best. Our constant endeavor is to merit your daily patronage.

**DRUGS AND SUNDRIES**

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| 25c Nature's Remedy.....  | 17c    |
| 35c Castoria.....   | 24c    |
| 30c Sloan's Liniment.....   | 17c    |
| 25c Carter's Pills.....   | 14c    |
| 50c Milk Emulsion.....  | 39c    |
| \$1.00 Hostetters Bitters.....  | 79c    |
| 75c Ideal Hair Brushes.....   | 39c    |
| 20c Wash Cloths.....  | 10c    |
| 50c Box Madam Isebell's Powder.....   | 39c    |
| 50c Box Nadine Powder.....  | 39c    |
| 50c Box Nadinola Cream.....   | 34c    |
| 25c Bar Woodbury's Soap.....  | 20c    |
| 25c Jar Mentholatum.....  | 16c    |
| 50c Jar of Soul Kiss Face Cream with a purchase of the Soul Kiss Face Powder, at..... | 50c    |
| \$2.25 LeGrande Combination Fountain Syringe and Bottle, at.....                      | \$1.40 |
| \$1.50 LeGrande Syringe.....  | 98c    |
| 50c Orasin Tooth Paste, at.....   | 34c    |
| 50c Syrup of Figs and Senna.....  | 29c    |
| 25c 1/4 lb. Peroxide Hydrogen.....  | 10c    |
| 15c Remmer's Velvetone Soap, at.....  | 12c    |

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25c Acid Hypo, 1 lb..... 17c  
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50c Resinol..... 39c  
15c Remmer's Peroxide Soap, at..... 12c  
35c Box Stationery..... 19c  
25c Wilbert Talcum..... 11c  
25c Mennen's Talcum Powder, at..... 12c  
25c Colgate's Talcum Powder, 15c  
\$1.00 Finand's Lilas..... 65c  
Radiote Midget Wrist Watch. Tells time in the dark--Special for soldiers, at..... \$4.25

**MAIL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION**  
**BEATON DRUG CO.**  
15th and FARNAM

**FRENCH OFFICER PRAISES TROOPS OF UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page One.)

"They are taking the experience of all the rest of the allies," he said. "I have seen their new helmet, and can say that the American steel helmet is going to be the best of all. They have taken the best points of the German, the French and the British helmets and have made a new and better type."

The other members of the French high commission, headed by M. Debilly, will arrive in Omaha at 7:30 Saturday morning. They will be the guests of the Commercial club at noon, of the Alliance Francaise at 6 o'clock at the Hotel Fontenelle, and will speak at a public meeting in the Fontenelle ball room at 8. The commission is here merely to get information as to the situation in America, the progress of war preparations, and to confer with American officials on war matters of interest to both nations.