

Prisoner Fits Self For Career

Man Serving in Nebraska Prison for Complicity in Murder Spends Time in Learning Profession.

Hopes for Vindication

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 26.—Four years in prison have not had a depressing effect upon the life of R. G. Lukins, 34, serving life for complicity in a double murder at Surot, Neb. Always hopeful that he would be vindicated and paroled, Lukins on entering the penitentiary sat out to fit himself for a business career.

He has completed correspondence courses in modern business, advertising and expert letter writing, and has hopes of some being released that he may demonstrate his ability.

In a limited way Lukins' ability has been tested and has not been found wanting. Prison welfare workers have made it possible for him to write advertising and business letters during his spare time at the prison. He is writing newspaper and outside advertising "copy" for several Lincoln business houses.

Lukins is not only a writer of unusual ability but is an artist and photographer as well. He draws all his own sketches for his advertising "layouts."

Lukins is released, he has at least two executive positions waiting for him. A local furniture store has promised him \$200 a month to take charge of its advertising, and an insurance company of Kansas has offered him \$200 a month and complete missions to come to Hutchinson to write advertising and take charge of its sales force.

Lukins' story is unusual. G. E. McFadden, a prison welfare worker, is authority for the statement that Lukins' forefathers were among the best known early settlers of Pennsylvania. A monument was recently erected at Germantown, Pa., in honor of the original 13 families to settle that famous old town.

On leaving school at the age of 19, Lukins, who says he completed one year in college, decided to go to sea for his health. He planned first to make two trips to Cuba and then settle down in business with relatives. The sea so attracted him that he did not give it up until he had completed two trips around the world. When he did settle down it

Many Firms Ask Power Permits Applications for Development of More Than Twelve Million Horsepower Filed.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Applications for permits looking toward development of more than twelve million horsepower, sufficient to supply 20 cities the size of Chicago, had been filed under the federal waterpower act with the federal power commission up to December 18, the commission announced.

Completion of the contemplated plans, the commission estimates, will advance waterpower development by more than 40 per cent and will involve an investment of \$1,200,000,000. The projects range from a small 10-horsepower plant for a colony of summer cottages in Wyoming, to the storage of the waters of the upper Colorado and its tributaries in a huge reservoir and the development of more than 3,000,000 horsepower by the utilization of the water in the drop of 2,600 feet.

Twenty-seven states in addition to Alaska and the District of Columbia are reported in the 129 applications. California leads in the number of permits with 35, New York is second with 13, Washington third with 12. Alaska and Montana are represented with 10 permits each, while from Idaho there were 7 and from Arizona 6.

Diaz Is Contemplating Revolution in Mexico

Mexico City, Dec. 26.—Felix Diaz, onetime revolutionary leader, who, after his capture in the state of Vera Cruz, was deported to Cuba, has arrived in Guatemala and is said to be contemplating aggression against the Mexican government, according to reports last night.

Program to Be Given for Children of Elk Members

A program to which all Elk lodge members are invited to bring their children will be given in the lodge hall of the Elks' building Saturday night, January 1.

Turkey Gobbler Paid Penalty Of Harding's Boyhood

"Fib" Told by President-Elect 45 Years Ago Still Rests Heavily on His Conscience—Flat Stone Proves Too Big Temptation for Lad on Christmas Morning Nearly Half Century Ago.

Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Marion, O., Dec. 26.—The first president couldn't tell a lie—the man who will be the 29th president not only could but did. That was 45 years ago, but it still rests heavily upon his conscience. Perhaps the truth was only about a cherry tree, the truth would have been easy, but when it was about the prize gander of his grandfather's flock, and when the most loudly turkey gobbler in three counties was made the innocent victim when Grandfather Dickerson was known as an inflexible believer in the stern method of raising children, the truth would have been folly.

Ever since Dr. George Tryon Harding had married into the Dickerson family, it was the custom for both families to gather for Christmas dinner at Grandfather Dickerson's farm a few miles from Bloomington. But before the packages dangling from the tree could be opened the Dickerson cows had to be brought in from the pasture. To a 10-year-old grandson this was an aggravation and young Warren Gamaliel left unwillingly for the cow pasture.

Flat Stone His Undoing. A flock of geese was strutting in the barnyard. In the cowpath lay a flat stone of the custom for that area of water for scores of feet. There was no water, but there were the noisy, boasting geese. With one other motive than to silence the silly creatures, young Warren cast the "sailer" struck grandfather's prize gander just above the neck. He gave one squawk, circled the flock and

then flopped dead, his feet in the air. Young Warren remembered that he had a previous engagement and ran to the pasture. Returning behind the cows, he found the whole Harding and Dickerson families surrounding Grandfather and the dead gander.

In accordance with prudent farm custom the feathers already had been plucked. Grandfather Dickerson was not saying much, but he was looking at a turkey gobbler that, thinking he was being admired, had spread his tail feathers. Only Grandfather Dickerson wasn't admiring the bird and his fingers twitched.

Man of His Word. "I hate to do it," he said at last, rolling up his sleeves, "but I always said if that turkey touched another one of my geese, I'd wring his neck, and I'm a man of my word." It is not known just how much stock young Warren Gamaliel put in the story of the cherry tree. Neither is it known how much Father Washington believed in the stern method of raising children. As for Grandfather Dickerson, his creed already had been put into practice more than once.

Young Warren Gamaliel tried to compromise—he's been more successful at this method since. He pleaded for the life of the turkey gobbler. Without casting suspicion elsewhere, he intimated that the turkey was innocent, but the turkey gobbler died, not by the axe, but with his neck twisted between firm fingers. Christmas season that year was spoiled for Warren. During the dinner that followed he assisted in the digestion of both gander and gobbler, but his heart was not in his work.

Church Council Irrigation of Western Land Raises Value

Prices Increase From \$5 to \$500 an Acre—Farms Formerly Barren Now Produce Valuable Crops.

Lincoln, Dec. 26.—(Special)—Irrigation in Scotts Bluff and Morrill counties has increased the value of land 10,000 per cent, according to a late report of R. H. Willis, chief of the bureau of irrigation to the State department of public works. Land that formerly was a drug on the market at \$2 to \$5 an acre is now valued at \$200 to \$500 per acre.

Before the irrigation system was constructed, there was little production in the district. Mr. Willis says the land "produced only a little grass, which if cut would not amount to more than five tons to the quarter section." The same land now produces 12 to 60 tons of sugar beets to the acre; two to four tons of alfalfa; 300 to 500 bushels of potatoes, and 60 to 80 bushels of oats to the acre. Mr. Willis says the land equals that of any in the state in production.

50,000 Acres Cultivated. There are 65,000 acres in the tri-state canal district. Of this number 63,000 acres are irrigable and approximately 50,000 acres are under a high state of cultivation. The irrigation system is valued at \$2,500,000, and is maintained and operated by the levying of special tax assessments. For operation and maintenance, there is a 100-mill levy and an additional 40-mill levy for interest and construction bonds. These levies are made on the assessed value of the land, which runs from \$20 to \$60 an acre.

Sugar Beets On Increase. The increased production of sugar beets in the district prompted the erection of three large sugar factories in the district. They are located at Mitchell, Scotts Bluff and Bayard. Two other factories are to be built during the coming year at Minatare, and are expected to be completed for the 1921 crop.

War Orphans Entertained By Senator McCormick

Berlin, Dec. 26.—United States Senator Merrill McCormick entertained several hundred war orphans at an old-fashioned Christmas dinner and presented the children with candy, toys and warm clothing. The entertainment was arranged by the Quakers, whom Senator McCormick asked to gather together as many of the children as possible and permit him to show them a good time.

Man Outdoes Famous Composition, "Nude Descending Staircase"

New York, Dec. 26.—The widely famed futurist composition "Nude Descending a Staircase" was outdone in Brooklyn yesterday. Frederick Boettling didn't even bother with the staircase. He stepped on a cake of soap upon emerging from his bath, slipped across the room, and out through a second window down to the sidewalk. Although he is 61, Mr. Boettling lives to tell the story, the surgeons at St. Lukes hospital finding nothing more serious than lacerated shoulders as a result of his slide.

Deal of Profit Tax Probable

Rejection of Sales Revenues and Increased Burden on Net Earnings of Corporations Contemplated.

No Refunding Act Likely

By ARTHUR SEARS HENNING, Chicago Tribune-Omaha Bee Leased Wire. Washington, Dec. 26.—Sentiment in the ways and means committee of the house following the hearings of the last fortnight indicates the following line of action on tax revision in the next congress: 1. Repeal of the excess profits taxes. 2. Rejection of a sales tax because of its unpopularity with consumers. 3. Increase in present 10 per cent tax on corporation net earnings and a moderate, possibly graduated, tax on undistributed earnings. 4. No increase in normal tax on individual incomes, but a reduction of the house following the hearings of the last fortnight indicates the following line of action on tax revision in the next congress:

No Refunding Operations. There will be no refunding operations during the coming year. Congress will make evident its determination that the burden of the war debt shall be passed along to future generations and that the floating debt shall not be retired from the proceeds of taxation as rapidly as contemplated by the Treasury department, simply by keeping the revenue down to so low a point that no funds will be available for this purpose.

Extensive refunding operations will be undertaken in 1923, when the Victory notes mature, the republican program being to extend the payment of the war debt over a period of from 40 to 60 years instead of paying it up in 25 years as contemplated by the secretary of the Treasury department. The belief that the substitute for the excess profits tax will be a flat tax on net earnings of corporations, plus a moderate tax on undistributed earnings is gaining strength among a number of influential members of the committee.

Two Taxes Likely. It has been estimated by the Treasury department that a 16 per cent flat tax on net earnings of corporations would produce as much revenue as the present normal tax of 10 per cent plus the present excess profits tax.

In order, however, that the undistributed earnings may not escape taxation entirely, the probable outcome is that there will be both a flat tax on net earnings and a moderate tax on undistributed earnings. A tax of 20 per cent on the distributable earnings has been under discussion. There is not the slightest chance of any increase in the normal tax on incomes of individuals, apparently. Action of this sort would not be resisted by the general public and the political effect would be injurious to the republican party. There is considerable sentiment for an increase in the present exemptions of \$1,000 for single persons and \$2,000 for those who are married.

Three Asphyxiated by Gas From Soft Coal

St. Paul, Dec. 26.—Three persons were asphyxiated by coal gas in their homes here shortly after they had finished their Christmas dinner. Their bodies were discovered by a relative who had come to extend Christmas greetings. The dead were: Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Highberger, each 66 years old, and Miss Oette Armstrong, 68, sister of Mrs. Highberger. The condition of the dining room indicated that they had just completed dinner when overcome by gas.

She Admits Samuel Is Good Tailor, But Refuses to Be Bird in Gilded Cage

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Gertrude Rosner stood at the corner of Madison and Wells streets and appraised the world that she positively would not be a bird in a gilded cage for Samuel Markin. "I admit Samuel's a classy tailor," she said to all and sundry who cared to listen, "but my feeling for him is merely friendship. I told him I could never love him. He can take back his gold, for gold will never buy me."

Girls Cause Arrest of Man Accused of Flirting

J. S. Sweedlin, 840 South Nineteenth street, was arrested on complaint of Hazel and Francis Dickinson, 520 South Thirteenth street, who told police Sweedlin tried to flirt with them at Sixteenth and Leavenworth streets. Sweedlin is charged with drunkenness and is held for investigation.

Dies While Praying

Clinton, Ia. Dec. 26.—When the congregation at midnight mass in St. Irenaeus church arose to leave, William Curran, an aged parishioner, was found dead, still kneeling as if in prayer.

The Guest of Honor!



First Clash on Tariff Bill Due in Senate Today

Republicans Plan Effort to Refer Measure to Finance Committee—Prospects of Land Opposition.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Congress will reassemble tomorrow after a brief weekend, but the holiday spirit promises to prevail with little important business planned until the new year. Many members will not return until next week, and by unwritten agreement, several hearings and other affairs will go over.

The opening clash in the senate on the emergency tariff bill, which passed the house last week, is expected tomorrow. Blocked by the democrats last week, republicans plan another effort to refer the measure to the finance committee. Notices accompanied Christmas greetings to all republican members from Senator Curtis of Kansas, republican whip, urging a solid republican plank tomorrow to vote the tariff measure into committee.

Prospects are that there will be a much more solid democratic lineup against tariff legislation in the senate than in the house, and republican leaders accordingly plan to forego final hearings before the committee and hasten action in other ways. The majority leaders concede because of the reconstruction debate in the senate is in prospect.

Secretary Houston of the Treasury department will resume his statement regarding national finances tomorrow before the finance committee. Further hearings in the coal industry will be held this week, but this investigation, with others suspended by the holidays, may go over until next week.

The house tomorrow will consider minor bills and during the week expects to begin consideration of its second regular appropriation bill, the sundry civil budget. All important house committee work is suspended until next week.

New York Criminals On Holiday Vacation

New York, Dec. 26.—New York's coterie of criminals-at-large, with one exception, spent Christmas at home, police reports indicated tonight. Police officials claimed the apparent cessation of outlawry bore out the prediction of Commissioner Enright that the recent bustling activity of the lawless was nothing more than a Christmas drive for "their wives and kiddies."

Police Say Prohibition Agent Committed Suicide

Bayonne, N. J., Dec. 26.—J. F. McGuinness, whose body was found in Newark bay with a hole through his head, committed suicide, police here stated tonight. The family of the dead man, who was a prohibition enforcement officer, believe that he was murdered.

Retired Farmer Dies

John Rudolph Faith, 75, 2787 Davout street, retired farmer, died at his home yesterday. Mr. Faith was born in Germany, coming to this country as a boy. Funeral services will be held at Duffy and Johnston's chapel this afternoon at 3. The body will be taken to Easta, Neb., for burial.

Regulars Advance on D'Annunzio

Fiume Expected to Fall Within Next 24 Hours—Government Troops Closing in Gradually.

Aviation Field Captured

By The Associated Press. Trieste, Dec. 26.—Italian regulars have reached the factories on the edge of Fiume and are closing in gradually on the D'Annunzio strongholds. It is expected Fiume will be taken this evening or tomorrow.

Troops Advance. Udine, Italy, Dec. 26.—General Caviglia's regular Italian forces advanced two kilometers today without firing a shot, in a combined land and naval movement to close in on Gabriele D'Annunzio, Fiume insurgent leader, whose men retired. The Fiume triangle now is cut off and the poet's aviation field captured.

The plan of General Caviglia is gradually to tighten his grip on Fiume until D'Annunzio is helpless. His men advanced today from the north, cutting off the top of the triangle of which Fiume is formed and occupied Grobnico, Santa Croce and San Mattia. The aviation field captured is at Grobnico. The D'Annunzio troops evacuated these points without offering resistance.

Movement General. At points from the shore northward the D'Annunzio line gave way and the regulars advanced half a kilometer. It was a simultaneous movement.

The movement from Udine was effected by an overwhelming body of troops which advanced on the thinly-held line of D'Annunzio's legionaries. The advance was accomplished principally by Alpini who occupied the high land covering the rugged territory back of Fiume, including two ranges of hills. Toward the sea, the regulars' line is held by royal guards and carabinieri.

While the troops advanced on the hilly ground overlooking the sea, the Italian fleet kept silent guard in Fiume bay. It is reported orders to the Italian regulars are not to fire unless provoked. D'Annunzio's spokesman says he has ordered his officers not to fire until he so orders.

Better Business Conditions Near

Industry Has Weathered 1920 Storm, Federal Reserve Bank Statement Says.

Cleveland, Dec. 26.—The fourth federal reserve bank, in its monthly summary of business conditions, says business has weathered the storm of 1920, and that an era of stabilized business conditions is in sight. "We are still sailing the sea of readjustment," the statement says, "but what students of business conditions had expected. "A substantial liquidation has taken place and the damage done as compared with the good accomplished, has been surprisingly small," it says.

American Army Flyer Wins Free-For-All for Albert Hays Trophy

Long Beach, Cal., Dec. 26.—Flying at a speed of 146.8 miles an hour, Lieut. E. E. Bratten, U. S. A. aviator, won the 106-mile free-for-all race for the Albert Hays challenge trophy. The opening event of the three-day national winter air tournament at Daugherty field here. Thirteen fliers started, 12 being army men. Eleven finished.

Lieut. Bratten's time for the 106 miles, flown over a triangular course, was 40 minutes 52 seconds. The order in which the other leaders finished and their time were: Capt. L. H. Smith, 41 minutes 37 seconds; Lieut. Harold Brand, 42 minutes 24 seconds; Lieut. Y. A. Pitts, 42 minutes 49 seconds; Lieut. Milo N. Clark, 42 minutes 49 seconds.

Vice President-Elect and Family Spend Quiet Day

Northampton, Mass., Dec. 26.—The vice president-elect, Governor Coolidge, had a quiet family observance of Christmas at his home in this city. With Mrs. Coolidge, the governor came from Boston last night to spend Christmas eve with his two sons, who are in school here, and today they were joined by his father, Col. J. C. Coolidge of Plymouth, Vt.

Man Suspected of Orpheum Theater Robbery Arrested

Elmer Cavanaugh, who told police that he is an actor at the Palm theater, was arrested, suspected of being the man who entered a dressing-room of the Orpheum last Wednesday night and stole a violin, two boxes, a box of strings and a package of makeup powder. Cavanaugh was "camping" near the stage door last night, according to the attendant who called the police. He is being held for investigation, but asserts his innocence.

The Weather

Forecast. Nebraska—Continued cold. Hourly Temperatures.