

CORRUPTION TRAIL TO HIGH PLACES IN HALL CASE HINTED

Bribery Inquiry to Reveal
More Scandal Than
Murder Probe

BIG U. S. POLITICIAN
IS UNDER SUSPICION

New Jersey Checks Up Story
That County Officials
Aided Defence

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Oct. 8.—With the trial of Mrs. Francis Stevens Hall, Henry Stevens and "Willie" Stevens for the murder of the Rev. Dr. Edward Wheeler Hall and Mrs. Eleanor R. Mills only a month away, the state is now bending every effort to uncover corruption reported "to extend to very high places."

It was learned today that a politician of national reputation might be questioned in connection with the fruitless investigation four years ago. Inspector John J. Underwood professed surprise when the man's name was mentioned.

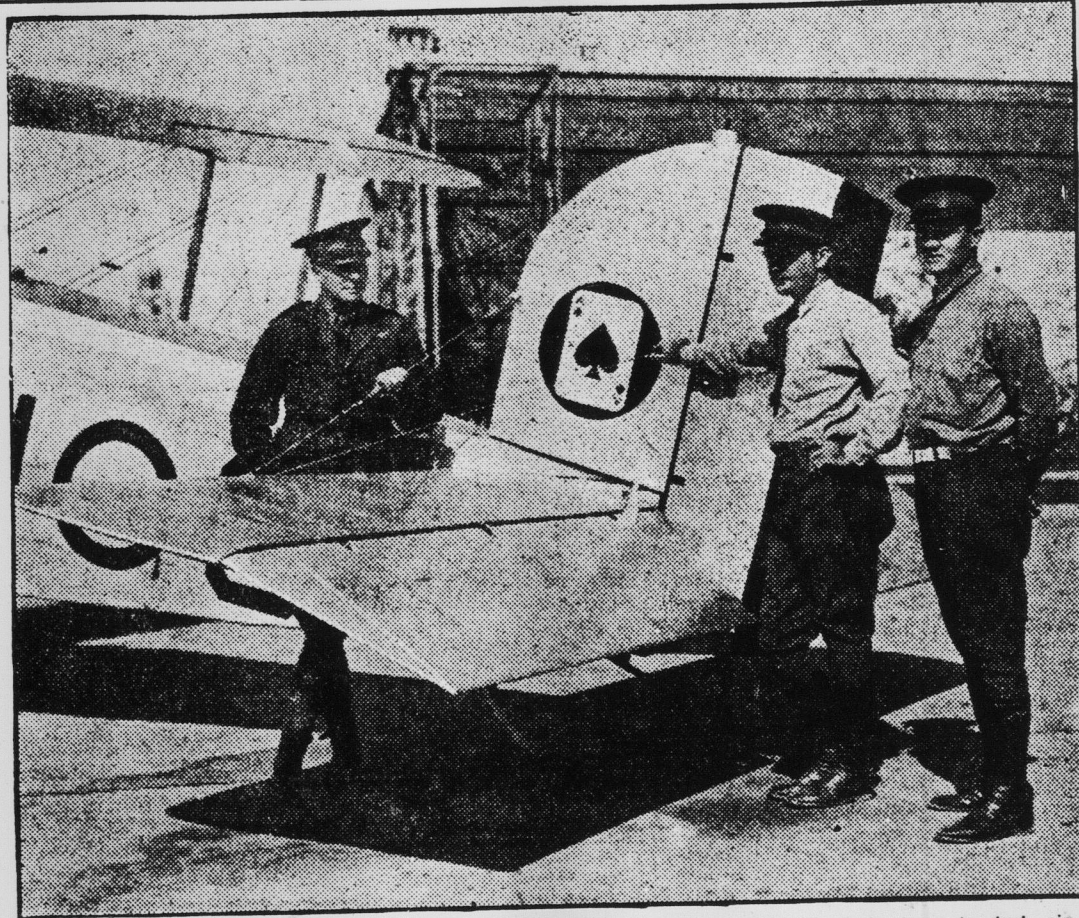
"I have reason to think," he commented, "that we shall find more scandal in this phase of the investigation than has been uncovered about the murders. I can admit this much: that there is no doubt the corruption extended into very high places."

Inspector Underwood intimated that the murder case is now in such shape that Alexander Simpson, Assistant Attorney General, feels he can present his evidence before any kind of a jury. Four indictments for accessories after the fact will be sought from the grand jury convening here on Thursday—three for men, one for a woman. The names of Ralph V. Gorsline, Felix di Martini and Mrs. Minna Clarke have been prominently mentioned in this connection. Di Martini already has been arrested on this charge and is free on \$10,000 bail pending extradition proceedings.

REVERSES AT ALBANY.

An adverse ruling for the state was handed down today in Albany by Attorney General Albert Ottinger, who found that a witness in New York State could not be compelled to appear and testify in a criminal action in New Jersey unless New Jersey has

Marine Fliers Ready To Seek New Dawn-Dusk Record



Major Ross Rowell, with a group of other Marine officers are nearly ready for their dawn to dusk air race against time in an effort to better the time made by Russell Maughan in the first dawn to dusk flight from New York to San Francisco. The Marines will hop off from Quantico, Va., naval base with San Diego, Cal., as their goal, with stops for fuel at St. Louis, Mo.; Lawton, Okla.; and El Paso, Tex. The flight is expected to demonstrate the feasibility of establishing a daylight trans-continental air mail service along the southern airway. The fliers are, left to right, Major Rowell, Lieut. W. J. Wallace and Lieut. C. C. Jerome.

a reciprocal law. So far as the Attorney General could learn, it has not.

This ruling was made in connection with the inquiry Senator Simpson addressed to State Comptroller Vincent Murphy as to the status of Di Martini and Walter Burnley, the detective who says he was employed by Dr. Hall to protect him shortly before the murder. Both of them claim privilege, since they are licensed detectives of New York State.

With the murder inquiry virtually closed the remaining weeks will be devoted to following up the leads furnished by Henry L. Dickman, former state trooper, who swore in an affidavit that he had taken a bribe to disappear after making important discoveries in the case.

Captain Harry J. Walsh, one of the chief investigators for the state, gave additional details today of Dickman's admissions. He had just returned from a check-up on some of them and reported that he had found them to be absolutely true. He found that within an hour after he accepted the alleged

bribe Dickman was out of Somerville and on his way to New York.

After that he lived lavishly for a time, registering under his own name at the best hotels wherever he went. He squandered his money in Canada, New York and the South, according to Captain Walsh. Dickman said in his affidavit he had literally been hounded until he accepted the bribe.

COUNTY AIDED DEFENSE.

The state investigators are now checking up reports in their possession that Somerset county authorities assisted the defense four years ago in bringing to an end the original investigation. County Detective Joseph Hanlon has reported that on February 7, 1923, three months after the grand jury failed to indict, Mrs. Hall sailed for Italy, returning seven months later. On February 22 the late Alexander Beckman, then prosecutor of Somerset county, departed for Bermuda. A year later Mrs. Hall again went to Italy. Within a week after she had sailed Beckman sailed for Bermuda.

Hanlon was instructed to get these dates, but no indication was given of their bearing on the investigation. Senator Simpson today personally questioned the late Mr. Beckman's stenographer and a lawyer who worked in his office four years ago. He came here with a Hudson county stenographer and, in addition to questioning these two, saw Judge Frank L. Cleary about the indictments he will seek on Thursday.

Miss Charlotte Southwick worked for Mr. Beckman from August, 1922, to March, 1923. She was asked if she

knew Henry Carpenter by sight. She said she did not, but that she had since seen many photographs of him. She could not recall that she had ever seen him in Mr. Beckman's office.

Miss Southwick told Senator Simpson that several state troopers dropped in and out during the investigation. She recalled that on one occasion a man who looked like a tramp waited for an hour and a half to see the prosecutor. He was dressed in shabby old clothes. He flashed a badge, however, which looked to her like a trooper's badge. She understood at the time that he was working on some angle of the Hall-Mills case. She said that Mr. Beckman frequently remained in his office after she had gone home at 5 o'clock.

Inspector Underwood reported that the girl's testimony and that of the young lawyer were immaterial. The trend of the questioning was based on Dickman's assertion that the bribe had been passed to him in the prosecutor's office.

Miss Sally Peters, the close friend and confidante of Mrs. Hall, is again engaging the attention of the authorities. She has refused time and again to appear before the investigators for questioning. She is living at Cragsmoor, N. Y. Sergeant Richard Burke saw her there and she agreed to come here and answer questions but later she changed her mind and has not yet undergone interrogation.

SHUNS NEW BRUNSWICK.

Four years ago Miss Peters, Timothy N. Pfeiffer and Felix di Martini constituted themselves an unofficial bodyguard for Mrs. Hall. No one was al-

lowed to approach her. Miss Peters kept reporters away. Like di Martini, she lived in the Hall home. Mr. Pfeiffer was constantly back and forth. Miss Peters was Mrs. Hall's bridesmaid and an old school friend.

Since this investigation opened, two months ago, she has not been seen in New Brunswick. In an interview the other day Mrs. Hall warded off questions about Miss Peters, merely remarking that she had seen her recently. The authorities are anxious to question her about her knowledge of the movements of Pfeiffer and di Martini.

Inspector Underwood revealed that Joseph H. Porter, president of a New Brunswick bank, was questioned two weeks ago and denied having been in Dr. Russey's Lane on the night of the murder. Mr. Porter announced he would file suits for damages against a morning tabloid and an afternoon newspaper.

Dr. Pettit was drawn into the case when Gorsline and Miss Catherine Rastall were being questioned. He was

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extremely active while his two parishioners were undergoing examination. He was seen by Inspector Underwood in a car with Miss Rastall and two of the defence lawyers immediately before the girl went to state troopers' headquarters for questioning.

While Gorsline was being grilled, Pettit went up stairs and asked to be allowed to talk to him. Senator Simpson later criticized his interference in the affairs of the state.

GERMANS HAIL END OF HAMBURG RUN

BERLIN, Oct. 8.—The report from New York that the White Star and American Lines were going to discontinue their New York-Hamburg service was hailed here as a great triumph for German shipping.

The action of the British shipping companies, it is pointed out here, following that of the United American Lines last winter in removing nearly all of its ships from the Hamburg service.

Without a word of these big English companies from the Hamburg run shows how quickly Germany is regaining its old place in the shipping world, is the joyful comment made in this city.

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Captain and 3 Men
Freed At Sydney

SYDNEY, N. S., Oct. 8.—Captain Maxwell Vatcher and three members of the crew of the schooner Green were acquitted in a court of North Sydney yesterday of charges of attempting to ram and sink a United States customs patrol boat 30 miles off New York on May 26.

Captain Edward Hahn of the United States patrol vessel 2064 testified as to the alleged attempt to ram his ship, while Capt. Vatcher and his men swore that they were not on board the Green at all at the time. Dismissal for lack of sufficient evidence followed. The charges were laid by North Sydney customs officials on instructions from Ottawa, following a formal complaint from the United States government.

CABINET CAN'T GET
COAL FOR ONTARIO

TORONTO, Oct. 8.—The Dominion Government could do nothing toward getting a supply of Alberta coal for the railways at present, because the railways are congested with grain and the report of the commission investigating freight rates has not yet been furnished, Mayor Foster states he was informed by Dr. Charles Cammell, Dominion Deputy Minister of Mines. Mayor Foster conferred with Dr. Cammell here today on the subject, the Deputy Minister having come in response to the Mayor's query to Hon. Charles Stewart, Minister of Mines.

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DARLING REFERS TO VIEWS OF DEAN

Says Inge's Words Deserve
More Heed Than Lady
Astor's Optimism

QUEBEC, Oct. 8.—That the "Gloomy" Dean Inge should not be taken any more seriously here than in England, was the advice given by Lord Darling, prominent English jurist, in the course of a short address in reply to an official welcome extended to him by members of the Bar and Bench in the local court house today.

Lady Astor, said His Lordship, had been commenting upon the remarks made recently by the Dean, she had criticized him for his pessimism, but Lord Darling thought the Dean's words deserved more attention than the optimism of Lady Astor.

Dean Inge might be extreme in his views of the future of the British Empire, but he was undoubtedly sincere. There was no reason to be unduly depressed on account of what the "Gloomy Dean" wrote or said. His warnings might, perhaps, be taken seriously, but it was the duty of all people of the Empire to try and frustrate his doleful prophecies by the necessary means to prevent them from ever coming true.

MONDAY FOR TRIAL OF MCGILLICUDDY

FREDRICKTON, Oct. 8.—Subpoenas in connection with the preliminary examination of James McGillicuddy, of Cork Station, driver of the automobile which struck and killed Rose Miller, 12-year-old daughter of Vincent Miller, of McAdam, whose carelessness, combined with that of the accident victim, was held responsible for her death by the coroner's jury, were served yesterday by Sheriff J. B. Hawthorne, upon 10 witnesses to attend Monday morning in police court.



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