

EXPLOSION

L.A. - P.M. Friday Feb. 18, 1949.

There are some weird stories in tonight's news - such as that ~~explosion~~ explosion story from Hollywood ~~gives~~

with its sequel of events more ingenious than any dramatist would be likely to invent - for startling stage effect. The blast at Beverly Hills blew out the entire front of the ~~ja~~ home of one of the leading figures of Hollywood -- H. D. Hover, owner of ~~Ciro's~~ ~~night club~~ swanky ha~~u~~nt of the movie elite. Hover himself, ~~was~~ in another room, was uninjured -- in a blow-up ~~maxxxxxx~~ so violent that it jarred Hollywood and Los Angeles for miles. At once the question flashed like a mystery -- why this bombing of the ~~the~~ home of the owner of ~~Ciro's~~?

A few minutes before the explosion, the police had picked up a driver of a small ~~xxxx~~ truck. He was acting in a peculiar way, and they found a truck loaded with dynamite. They took him to the station ~~house~~ for investigation and while he was being questioned, out roared the blast, with thundering violence. Whereupon, the truck driver fainted, ~~fell~~ fell into a coma, and was taken to a hospital

unconscious. ^RA quick inquiry disclosed the fact that he ~~was~~ a workman who at one time had been denied a claim for state aid, industrial accident compensation. His claim had been rejected on the authority of two physicians, and one of these, ~~is~~ Dr. Daniel Weller, ~~who~~ turns out to be a brother-in-law of the owner of Ciro's, and he resides in the mansion that was blown up. Moreover, the truck driver with the dynamite, when the police picked him up, was in front of the house of Dr. Frederick Ilfeld, the ~~other~~ physician who had figured in the rejection of the compensation claim.

The inference ~~was~~ clear. The explosion was meant for the Doctor brother-in-law of the ~~xxx~~ proprietor of Ciro's, -- grudge revenge because of the compensation case -- a time bomb of dynamite planted to blow up the place. The other doctor ~~was~~ was also marked for a blast -- interrupted by the police. And on the truck driver was found a list indicating that he planned to bomb half a dozen homes in Beverly Hills.

BURGLAR

At New Rochelle, New York, the police today were questioning -- the "million dollar bandit".

~~They were getting reams of information about many robberies committed by a crook whom they describe~~

They call him: -

~~can-~~ *^* "undoubtedly one of the greatest burglars who ever operated".

He is Gerard Graham Dennis, originally from Canada, twenty-nine years old -- so well groomed and good looking that he often posed as "the handsome movie actor." Other ~~times~~ *times* he assumed the role of a millionaire playboy ~~ix~~ *ix* out for a golden good time. He commuted by air ~~from one swanky neighborhood to another~~ *to* Florida, California, the East Coast - Palm Beach, Beverly Hills, Newport.

TP All the while, he was getting away with a series of high society jewel robberies that had the police in a ~~aze~~ *aze* ~~transmitted~~ *transmitted* a two ~~hundred~~ *hundred* and eighty-five ~~dollar~~ *thousand* burglary in the California winter home of socially prominent Dick Winans of Newport. A thirty-thousand dollar theft in the

Palm Springs bungalow of oil magnate William Doheny.

Thirty-seven thousand dollars from a socialite Mrs.

Norman Winston of New York. ~~his burglaries in~~

~~Westchester, County, New York alone come to Two~~

~~hundred thousand dollars, and the police estimate~~

~~that his total jewel robberies are well over the~~

~~million dollar mark.~~ The police have a notebook of

his in which are listed future victims, with

information about them -- data for burglary. These

future

~~future~~ victims include movie magnate, Louis B.

a whole list of motion picture stars,
Mayer, Mrs. Henry Kaiser Jr. of the automobile

Kaisers, Lady Thelma Furness of England, ~~movie~~

~~actor~~ *and* Mrs. Philip Wrigley of the

chewing gum Wrigleys of Chicago.

~~This million dollar super version of Raffles,~~

~~was~~ ~~and~~ so expert at the trade of burglary that

he didn't have to go to the underworld fence to

dispose of his loot and get reduced prices for it.

in many cases he posed as a jewelry salesman, and

sold stolen articles to legitimate jewelry stores,

top ranking firms. He also dragged women, of highly reputable sort into helping him cash in on his loot. He was in fact, the great ladies man -- and that eventually brought about his down-fall. He

He maintained two love nests, one in New York, the other in Beverly Hills, California. The police raided his millionaire New York apartment, and *found a lot of loot and a* ~~narrowly missed catching him.~~ In the sumptuous place they found a beautiful young woman. -- ~~now held as a witness.~~ Today the police at Beverly Hills were searching his apartment out there, in which they ~~and have~~ found One Hundred and twenty thousand dollars worth of ~~loot~~ *plunder* -- also a beautiful brunette.

~~The trail of the super bandit was a long one, the police getting their first clues in~~

She Nineteen Forty-seven, ~~when~~ Burglar Gerard Graham Dennis *met* ~~tripped up in dealings with a beautiful~~ New York fashion model, *at* ~~he met her in~~ a cocktail bar, and told her he was a wealthy Canadian, She was completely fooled, and ~~fell~~ *fell* into the trap -- when

~~he decided to use her as a means of selling some~~

~~and said he was~~
~~stolen jewelry. He told her a tale of being~~

caught suddenly in need of funds, and asked her to

sell a pair of expensive diamond ear rings. She

tried but the diamond ear rings were quickly

recognized as ~~plunder, taken in a robbery.~~ ^{stolen goods.} ~~The~~

beautiful ~~famous~~ fashion model told all she knew,

and Gerard Graham Dennis was nearly captured --

but he got away. I had made one mistake, however.

~~he~~ had given the fashion model a photograph of

himself -- and ~~for the first time,~~ ^{she gave it to} the police ^{whom} had

^{their first} picture of this greatest of jewel thieves. ^{RP} They

sent out circulars with the picture - man wanted

by the police. ^{This} finally took effect in Cleveland.

Where ^{a man with whom} Gerard Graham Dennis was cultivating a

citizen of good standing with whom ~~he~~ had gone on

fishing trips. ~~So now this friend~~ happened to see

that police ~~in~~ circular, ^{He} and recognized it as ^{his}

~~that~~ swagger, swanky fishing companion.

The arrest followed, and today Gerard

Graham Dennis was telling it to the police of

Westchester County. Confessing freely -- but he couldn't remember all of his robberies or even half of them. The detectives had to jog his memory by reminding him of the facts of big-time jewel thefts they had on their books.

FOLLOW BURGLAR

The police of Los Angeles announce -- a champion forger. This expert of bogus checks has what the cops call - "the finest sense of scratch in the forgery racket". Who is this wonder of the fraudulent signature? A fifty-five year old grandmother, distinguished looking matron -- who was arrested today. They say that grandma has forged more than seven hundred checks, using more than fifty different names, forged signatures. She has been at it for years, operating so cleverly that the police have been unable to catch her -- until now.

LEOPOLD

From Springfield, Illinois a news dispatch that will bring a vivid recollection to people ~~with~~ with long memories. It is announced that hearings for a parole have been granted to Nathan Leopold. Remember that Leopold-Loeb case, back in Nineteen ^{Twenty} ~~Twenty~~ ~~four~~-four, just ~~in~~ twenty-five years ~~ago~~ ago. It was one of the biggest of crime sensations -- a thrill murder of a fourteen year old boy committed by Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb sons of ^{wealthy} ~~wealthy~~ ~~rich~~ ~~families~~ families. They were given life sentences in prison. Loeb was killed by a fellow convict in Nineteen Thirty-six, and now Leopold may be given his freedom under parole proceedings.

This comes about after an episode of war-time heroism, when a number of prisoners in the Illinois penitentiary offered themselves as human guinea pigs for medical experiment. The scientists were testing a new drug for the cure of malaria, and the convicts voluntarily contracted malaria, were injected with virulent forms of that disease -- to try out the drug. One of these, was Nathan

Leopold -- of the Leopold-Loeb murder. He went through the experiments as a human guinea pig, and the attack of malaria left him with a dangerous internal ailment, a kidney infection. He recovered -- and since then has been working as a prison ex-ray technician.

Other prisoners who played the part of human guinea pigs in the malaria research have been paroled and now Nathan Leopold is asking this reward for himself ^{L - parol. TP} He is serving two terms ~~for~~ for that ~~trium~~ thrill crime of a quarter of a century ago. A life term for murder and ninety-nine years for kidnapping.

SUB LEAD WEATHER

A cold wave has relieved the danger of wide-spread floods in the Pacific Northwest -- a quick freeze of the melting snows. But it has been warm and sunshiny here in Salt Lake, which sets the theme of weather for most of the western mountain area. Warm spring-like weather -- with a threat of flood and avalanche.

WEATHER

It has been warm and sun-shiny here in Salt Lake today, and that sets the general theme for the West-- warm, spring-like weather - with a threat of flood and avalanche. The prayer of the West is that the warm thaw will continue -- but will be interrupted by a freeze every so often -- to slow down the water^o pouring from the great snows and check the wild hurtling peril of the avalanche.

In these western mountains, the accent is on avalanche. Right now -- at this very hour -- snow slides are roaring down a thousand mountains, crashing into canyons. There have been a number of casualties so far, and there are likely to be more. A man was killed by an avalanche in the Jackson Hole country of Wyoming this week. Three more to the north of Ogden, Utah recently, in the Bear River Canyon. On Mt. Rose in Nevada, just a few minutes

after several of ~~xxxxxx~~ us had chatted with him, Coach Jerry Wetzel and members of the Nevada Ski Team were caught by an avalanche. Wetzel is in the Reno ~~xxxxxx~~ hospital.

~~During the past few days, I've been out in champion avalanche country -- in the Wasatch Mountains. Here the peril of the snow slide is so great that right at this moment,~~ The leading avalanche expert of the world has been brought over from Europe Andre Koch, from the historic Alps.)

λ In Switzerland they have an important government organization called - the Swiss Avalanche Institute. All-important among people who have lived for centuries with the avalanche hazard hanging over them like the sword of Damocles. Andre Koch has come over as a guest of the National Ski Patrol, through C. Minot Dole, head of that organization, and is making studies in the Colorado Rockies, the Sierras, the fabulous Mineral King country, and here in the Wasatch Mountains.

And, here in the Wasatch, they have made the only comprehensive body of avalanche ~~and~~ records in this country -- compiled by the supervisor of the Wasatch National Forest, K. C. Koz~~off~~^{id,} and his colleague, M. M. Atwater, Utah ranger. It covers a period of ten years, and has not yet been published.

I've been looking over that record, The picture it presents ~~is~~ is one long fantasy of ~~gliding~~^{crashing} snow.

Little Cottonwood
In ~~the~~ canyon of the Wasatch, the records go back to Eighteen Seventy-five. ~~The~~ At that time, Alta was a silver mining camp with a population of five thousand. During the mining period, some thirty five years, the number of lives lost came to sixty-five. Three separate avalanches took ten lives each. That was back in the days when the Little Emma mine was world famous, the mine which promoters ~~unloaded~~^{— then Prince of Wales —} on King Edward the Seventh and his British colleagues.

Since then, the terror of the avalanche in that particular canyon has been largely overcome.

During the past ten years, while Forestry Supervisor Kozel and his colleagues have been keeping their eye on the snow, there has been only one casualty.

And, during the winter months, more than a hundred thousand people ^{now} visit the ghost mining camp of Alta.

I've been traveling in that
"Well, ~~just for a climax of travel in the~~
and for a climax
avalanche country, I had to tangle with one, myself.

Not a giant avalanche, or I might not be here to tell the story. Luckily, I happened to be with snow slide expert, K. C. Kozel, - which helped no end.

"We were travelling through big Cottonwood Canyon in the Wasatch. The road to Brighton, Utah had been cut off for sometime -- by many avalanches.

But yesterday ~~the~~ morning, ^a powerful rotor snowplows cut ~~that~~ ^{its} way through -- just wide enough for one car. ~~to make it~~ ^{and} our automobile ~~went through,~~ ^{made it --}

occasionally touching the high sheer white walls on either side.

Then, ~~at~~ at noon, we started back down the canyon, and had six or seven miles to go ~~at~~ when we

found that another avalanche had come down and trapped us, a minor slide. It was interesting to watch expert Kozdol go into action. First he looked the situation over to make sure a second ^{one} ~~avalanche~~ would not come down on top of the first one. Then he got out two shovels that he always carried. Several other cars were behind us, and avalanche expert Kozdol put us all to work shoveling that heavy compressed snow which buried about thirty yards of the road. It was our only chance to get out to Salt Lake City so that I could get through to the studio at K.S.L.

My companions were stalwart mountaineers of Utah, and they pitched in. So did I, shoveling more snow than I've handled in a score of years. We made it by an eye-lash, while a herd of a hundred or more elk, and several hundred deer looked on, probably laughing at us, as we got out of Cottonwood Canyon.

GREECE

From Greece the announcement -- that Lieutenant Colonel Selden Edner of San Jose, California was murdered by Greek Red-guerrillas. Colonel Edner, an air hero of the Second World War, was flying in a Greek Army plane - as an American observer. He disappeared together with the Greek pilot. This was on January twenty-fourth and now the bodies of both have been found and identified. Their plane was forced down in territory of the Communists, and U.S. Army headquarters in Greece announce that they were brutally killed by the Red guerrillas.

HUNGARY

In Hungary, the Reds have arrested a papal courier, a messenger bearing a letter from Pope Pius the Twelfth to the Bishops of Hungary. - This courier from the Vatican was taken into custody, after the arrest of Cardinal Mindszenty -- and is said to have borne instructions from the Pope, bidding the Hungarian Bishops not to yield, not to make an agreement with the Red regime - keep on resisting Communism.

JAPAN

In Japan they have cross word puzzles -- how good I don't know. In Japan they also have some of our western gagged gadgets, and how good they are would seem to be indicated by a cross word puzzle published in Tokyo today. One word was defined as -- "a modern instrument which often does not work." It was a nine letter word and the answer was -- "telephone".

And now not by telephone, but by radio, to you Ken Miles.