

# Boys' Junior 'Black Legion' Copies Tortures of Elders

Youths' Actions Clear Exemplification of Real Viciousness of This Type of Mob Violence, Says Rabbi Israel

By RABBI EDWARD L. ISRAEL

**I**NTERMINGLED with the various news items concerning the infamous "Black Legion" was one which interested me enormously. It told of a group of adolescent boys who organized a Junior "Black Legion." They proceeded, in emulation of their elders, to hand out rough treatment to those who had the ill-fortune to incur their wrath. The chief object of

their persecution was a youngster who was tortured almost to death "because he made too good marks in school."

Here, in the actions of the Junior "Black Legion" we have a clear exemplification of the real viciousness of this type of mob violence. Perhaps it is but another instance of truth becoming apparent thru fools and children. At any rate, it brings the secret psychological explanation into the open. Ku Klux Klans and Black Legions represent the resentment of mediocrity against anything or anyone who dares to stand out above the level of the mob. If the Junior Black Legion vents its wrath upon the boy who makes a good scholastic record, it is only perpetrating a counterpart of the elders' opposition to individuals or minorities who have the courage to be different.



Rabbi Israel

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### CURIOUS PARADOX

The curious paradox of mob reactions is the greatest menace to the success of democracy. The crowd is subject to the conflicting emotions of admiration and envy. It loves to extol the leader and then to tear him down. Something in it glories in the admiration of exceptional qualities, but, unable to maintain the high standard required by spontaneous appreciation of excellence, it must show its resentment by destroying the very person or thing it has elected to appreciate. Witness how in New York City no reform administration has ever been re-elected to public office. And the same thing is true in smaller communities.

The Black Legion represents this destructive protection by the mob of its own low mediocrity.

The mob hates minorities like Jews and Catholics in America, not because of whatever faults characterize Jews and Catholics, but because their individuality represents a certain strength of character which the mob can tolerate no more than the Junior Black Legion could tolerate the boy who made good marks in school. The later arguments which grow up concerning the faults of minorities are in reality only rationalizations by which the mob tries to build a moral defense for its immoral conduct. It is the finer side of mob psychology rising to plague the "Black Legion" side.

### ONE REDEEMING QUALITY

And yet, that very attempt to rationalize in justification of its viciousness is the mob's one redeeming quality. It is the one hope on which democracy can build. If Ku Klux Klans and their kind merely attacked Jews and Catholics with no effort at justification for their viciousness, we could begin to sound the death knell of what little civilization men have toiled to build. But when these mobs try to defend their barbarism by accusations of "Jewish mercenariness" or "Catholic plots at domination," their very

ridiculous allegations show that somewhere a conscience is at work, urging viciousness to set up a seeming moral defense.

When a conscience is present at all, even in a distorted form, there is hope that sooner or later it will triumph over the hypocrisy which it curiously reveals. There is enough evidence in the record of man's long and tedious story to warrant some faith in this assumption. Let's hope it's true for America—and that this truth will become evident before Fascism makes the mob's contrition impossible.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Joseph
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm

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JUN 11 1936

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| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Miss Gandy   | ..... |

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### INVESTIGATION NEEDED

Although the most overt activities of the Black Legion, an outgrowth of the Ku Klux Klan, seem to have been confined to Michigan, it probably has agents in several other states. Certainly its criminal exploitation of racial and religious animosities has implications which are of national concern. Judge Ralph W. Liddy summarized the situation in his statement holding thirteen members of the Black Legion for the kidnaping and murder of a WPA worker. He said: "This is a very sinister spectacle of an organized group attempting to usurp the function of government for what it considered an offense."

The efforts of the Michigan authorities to expose the secrets of the Black Legion and to bring the murderers of young Charles A. Poole to justice have so far been commendably aggressive. But every such local inquiry is bound to be hampered by pressure to suppress some of the facts. There are indications that several Michigan officeholders have not been above using the Legion for political purposes. They cannot be expected to aid in the exposure of it.

Beyond the murder of the Poole youth, which Michigan will apparently attend to with appropriate vigor, there is the larger question of the extent of organized and commercialized bigotry in the United States. This can be discovered only by a national agency. Congress should adopt the Benson resolution for a thorough-going probe of the Black Legion.

*Benson Resolution*

*11/10/36*

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*70*

C O P Y

WCNS 79

Add Black Legion, Pontiac

Judge Hartrick speculated upon the possibility that the black legion contemplated, nation-wide revolution for the 16th of this month.

Indictments two weeks ago charged that Brigadier-General Virgil F. Effinger, reputed national commander, had conspired with the others to take over government buildings and arsenals on that date.

"Was there to be a rebellion against the government, or was that the date of a contemplated communist revolution in America which the Black Legion would be mobilized to combat?"

The court offered no proof to strengthen this speculation.

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| Mr. Hendon     |  |
| Mr. Pennington |  |
| Mr. Quinn      |  |
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| Miss Gandy     |  |

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C O P Y

WCNS 39

Pontiac, Mich.--Sixty-four high officials of city, county and state government have been or are members of the vigilante Black Legion in Oakland county, the one man grand jury investigating the subversive organization reported today.

Included in the list made public by circuit Judge George B. Hartrick, were Oakland county prosecutor David C. Pence, State Representative Joseph A. Long and Police Chief Alfred L. Reynolds of Royal Oak, the city in which Father Coughlin's Shrine of the Little Flower is located.

WCNS 43- ADD BLACK LEGION

The lengthy report climaxing Judge Hartrick's three months investigation of the night riding order, recommended no criminal action against any of those named.

"By virtue of the belief that the public is entitled to know who are its county and city officials and whom it employes with its tax moneys, these names are divulged," the report said. "Whatever disposition is made of them is a matter for responsible officials and the electorate to decide.

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| Miss Gandy     |  |

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# Black Legion Murders Are Cases for Federal Action

WORKERS MUST INSIST ON NO END TO INQUIRY UNTIL BACKERS OF THE TERROR

BANDS ARE EXPOSED WITH THEIR KILLERS

**S**SLIMY Black Legion terrorists honeycomb Michigan's public officialdom.

Sixty-four state, county and local officials have been unearthed as participants in this sadistic fascist conspiracy.

Sixty-four—from the Pontiac section alone. Sixty-four—including a State Representative, the sheriff's force, chiefs of police and the prosecuting attorney of the Pontiac region. Sixty-four men, in public positions "for the enforcement of the law," swearing secretly to join in the murder of Jews, Catholics, Negroes, Communists and labor organizers, their reputed "enemies."

*From what county do these revolting revelations come? From Oakland County, controlled in an iron grip by the Morgan-duPont-General Motors Corporation. In that county public officials have certainly needed the blessing of the Morgan-duPont combine if they meant to continue in office.*

It is from that county also that the pro-fascist Father Coughlin broadcasts his radio addresses—but not against the Black Legion. Catholics are attacked, but he pays no heed. Significantly, on the other hand, he allies himself with Gerald L. K. Smith, who has openly announced the same program as the Black Legion has attempted to put into effect. That is a program against the Catholic masses as well as against Communists. Coughlin shouts for a war with Mexico, in the name of the Catholics; but he joins hands with those who are plotting attacks on Catholics here and now, in our own country.

What has the capitalist press to say to these Michigan revelations? That press has become strangely silent. The Black Legion reports have faded into the back pages. No editorials appear, demanding a rooting out of this widespread terroristic gang. No surprise is denced and no anger expressed at the astounding

*Daily Worker*

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that the entire "law enforcement" agencies of Michigan are so corroded and rotten.

What a contrast would there be were this the kidnaping of one rich man! The front pages would blaze with the story. The G-men would be shouted at to act. The entire Federal man-hunting machinery, under pressure of the press, would set itself into action.

The capitalist press remains silent. But the workers and the mass of the American people cannot let it go at that. There can be no letting up on this Black Legion fight, until this gang is wiped out in its entirety. There can be no cessation of activity, until the higher-ups—the backers and inciters of this foul conspiracy—are brought to light.

What can the workers and the liberty-loving people of America do, to stamp out this outfit organized for murder and for arson?

*They can insist that the Department of Justice hunt out these murderers.* It is a real reflection on the entire

negligence of the Federal government, that the chief man-killer, V. F. Ettinger of Lima, Ohio, has been allowed to disappear. Indicted in Michigan, he has simply faded from the scene.

*If the Department of Justice will not do the job that it should do, then let the LaFollette Committee act.* From the American people there should come a torrent of letters, wires and resolutions pressing such a move upon the LaFollette Committee. It has been formed to investigate violations of industrial civil liberty. Here is a startling example of precisely such a violation: flagrant, challenging, vicious.

In one sentence: **THIS ORGANIZED DEGENERACY—THE BLACK LEGION—HAS CARRIED MURDER AND ARSON ACROSS STATE LINES. IT HAS CONDUCTED A NATIONAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST LABOR AND MINORITY GROUPS. LET THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROCEED TO ACT AGAINST THIS EVIL, NATIONALLY.**

*Charley Barker*  
*9-4-36*

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# WOMAN HELPS TRAP EXTORT PLOT SUSPECT

A note written in Hungarian and signed "The Black Legion," demanding \$500 from Mrs. Margaret Clark, writer, of 319 W. 95th st., and threatening the kidnaping of Mrs. Clark's daughter, 7, was held by police today as evidence against an unemployed baker.

Steve Audressy, 22, was locked up today, accused of attempted extortion, following his arrest at 77th st. and York ave., the heart of New York's "Little Hungary," where he is alleged to have made a rendezvous with Mrs. Clark.

## RECEIVES LETTER.

The letter was received by Mrs. Clark, whose husband, Gilbert Clark, represents several Canadian newspapers in this country, early yesterday, when it was slipped under the door of her apartment on the ground floor.

Mrs. Clark, who has traveled considerably, understands Hungarian and was enabled to read the note which directed that she collect the money in \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills and take it in the cab of a designated company to the rendezvous at 10 p. m.

## IN POLICE CAB.

The note directed the money be given to a man who used the word "Suzy" as a password. By arrangement with the cab company, a policeman in cab uniform, Detective James Connor, drove Mrs. Clark to the place of meeting.

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| Mr. Schilder | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... |
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NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL

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- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

**The Black Legion Convictions.**

Conviction of seven members of the Black Legion for first-degree murder and four others for second-degree murder in the sensational trial that has just concluded in Detroit should go a long way toward smashing this notorious secret terrorist society. Fifteen cases against other members, involving floggings, arson, murder conspiracies and plots to seize public buildings, are still pending.

There is no place for such a group in any State in which law and order are supposed to prevail, and above all in a democracy. Yet the Black Legion's rapid growth and apparent success, for a time—reminiscent on a small scale of the huge power seized by its spiritual predecessor, the Ku-Klux Klan—are an indication of the large number of people who can be organized into such bands to attempt to carry out fanatical programs. Prompt and unrelenting enforcement of our criminal laws is the most certain means in the hands of the people to stamp out such groups whose leaders are aiming to be unofficial dictators in their communities.

*me*

*R*

BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE

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### Doom for the Black Legion

Eleven men who took part in the murder in Michigan of Charles A. Poole, falsely accused of beating his wife, were found guilty of murder in the United States Circuit Court in Detroit on Tuesday. Seven, convicted in the first degree, face mandatory sentences of life imprisonment; four others are subject to varying terms as second-degree murderers. Thus, it may well be believed, collapses the last remnant of that incredible association of the criminal and the dull-witted which at one time was supposed to have a membership of 135,000.

Many public officials were carried on its books, and police officials, deputy sheriffs and other law-enforcement agents were found to be allied with practitioners of murder, flogging, kidnaping, arson and other furtive and cowardly crimes. The Black Legion inspired such terror, by reason of its apparent immunity, that in many communities there was reluctance to prosecute those who were known to be active agents. It was not until the particularly callous killing of Poole aroused public indignation that witnesses found the courage to come forward and tell what they knew.

The Black Legion was organized for the purpose of intimidating and oppressing Catholics, Jews and Negroes. As usual with such degraded conspiracies, private malice also directed its activities against persons not included in any of those categories. At one time fifty-seven persons, in Michigan alone, were arrested in connection with unsolved crimes of varying atrocity. Seemingly there was no depth to which the legion was not willing to descend. A chemist employed by the City of Detroit was asked if he would be willing to supply typhoid germs to be placed in milk sold to individuals who were obnoxious to the hooded assassins. He refused to assist in the murder plot, but seemingly did not report the proposal to his superiors. When it became known he was dismissed.

A witness testified that "Colonel" Davis, ring-leader in the murder, one of those convicted, in the first degree, at one time caused the shooting of an unoffending Negro to amuse himself. A succession of similar, and even worse offenses which came to light as it became evident that the legion's power was gone stirred public indignation. It was determined to destroy the criminal conspiracy which had become so widespread that it included plots to overthrow the Federal government. Prosecutions were begun and energetically pressed. Witnesses who had feared to tell what they knew were eager to make terms with the authorities, and soon no one who had held a place of power in the legion was safe from denunciation. The end of a strange and particularly evil manifestation of the mob spirit plainly has arrived.

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| Mr. Harbo      |  |
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| Mr. Jones      |  |
| Mr. Quinn      |  |
| Mr. Nease      |  |
| Miss Gandy     |  |

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
W.P.  
J.P.  
K.P.

N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE  
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~~You don't have to be an Anarchist~~  
or a Communist to oppose a vicious  
oath like this.

Brutal killings have been charged  
to this pernicious organization.

Bombings are said to have been  
carried on by it.

Other anti-social activities directed  
against groups imagined to be op-  
posed to Black Legion principles were  
executed without regard for human  
life.

It must be apparent enough to  
Sergt. Dear himself, on the basis of  
such evidence, that he is unfit to hold  
any position in the Police Division.  
Perhaps, as Chief Allen suggests, a  
mental disorder has been partly re-  
sponsible. But that does not alter  
materially the facts of the case.

Dismissal should be immediate.

# TOLEDO COPS FACE BLACK KLAN PROBE

## Officer Admits Membership in Legion of America—Three Other Inquiries On

TOLEDO, Oct. 7 (AP).—John A. Carey, vice mayor, today said that legislation authorizing an investigation into possible connections of city employees with the Black Legion will be introduced in City Council Monday.

The legislation will ask authorization to subpoena witnesses and records.

Carey, who asked the city clerk's office to draft the bill, said the move was prompted by the admission of Lyman Dear, sergeant in charge of the police arsenal, that he had been a brigadier general in the Legion of America.

The Lucas County prosecutor's office already has begun a probe and Michigan authorities are conducting a private investigation.

### LaFollette Aides at Work

The LaFollette Senate investigating committee has three representatives here checking recent bombings of Communist meetings.

Investigators of the Michigan Attorney General's office and the Wayne County (Detroit) sheriff's office, conferred with Inspector Joseph Fruchey of the Toledo police.

The Michigan officials said they are interested in learning whether Virgil Effinger of Lima, Ohio, wanted in Detroit in connection with the Legion inquiry there, was ever active in Toledo.

Francis Murphy, secretary of the American League Against War and Fascism, in an affidavit filed with City Council, charged members of the police department with Black Legion connections. The inquiry is to determine if the Legion of America and the Black Legion are related.

*Lally H.M.*  
Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E.A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Carson ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Gurnea ✓  
Mr. Hendon ✓  
Mr. Pennington ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓  
*Swain*

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News-Bee  
Toledo, Ohio

DATE OCT 7 - 1936

### THE BULLET FRATERNITY

RESPONSIBILITY for investigation into Toledo activities of the Black Legion cannot end with a police chief's admonition to one of his men, found to have been a Black Legionnaire, to "go home and forget your troubles."

The police and the prosecutor's office, with the wedge they already have, must get the answer to the question:

"How far has Black Legion membership extended in Toledo, who are its other leaders and what have been its activities?"

Eleven men stand convicted in Detroit for the Black Legion murder of a man. So far as is known there have been no deaths or pogroms of torture in the Toledo area. But the mere existence of such a vicious organization is cause for concern, we believe, and it is the duty of public officials to do an efficient job of smoking out the membership here.

Yesterday a City Street Department employe told a hearing in ~~Ser-~~ Police Director Schoonmaker's office:

"I will say this: I know a great many people who belong to it; in fact, I know a great many of their chiefs."

So what?

Is someone going to find out who the "great many people" are?

Did Police Chief Allen get from Sergt. Lyman Dear, who admitted he was a Black Legion member, the names of any others? Certainly he should have, or should have tried.

Today Chief Allen has gone to a police convention in Columbus. Certainly Ray Allen ought to know better than that. He ought to stay here and follow through at once on rooting this terrorist gang out of the Police Department, and out of Toledo.

Let's not forget this is the same organization which plotted a Detroit killing in which 11 men were convicted, an organization against which bombings, torturings and other crimes have been charged. And let's not have anything that looks at all like a "cover-up."

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# POLICEMAN TELLS OF LEADING CULT

*[Handwritten notes and signatures in the right margin, including "M. J. Smith" and other illegible scribbles.]*

## 'Buck' Dear Admits Being 'General'; Denies Giving Guns to Black Legion Members

Sergt. Lyman G. (Buck) Dear, custodian of the Police Department arsenal, admitted today that he formerly was brigadier general in the Black Legion.

His admission came as he was questioned by Police Chief Ray E. Allen and Detective Inspector Joseph Fruchey on charges made to City Council yesterday afternoon that Dear had supplied pistols to Toledo members of the Legion.

Under questioning by Chief Allen, Dear said:

**ONE:** That he was active as a brigadier-general in the legion until December, 1935.

**TWO:** That last March he was "suspended and demoted" for non-activity following a difference with the Black Legion high command over policies.

**THREE:** That he never had sold any pistols to members of his section of the legion.

**"Don't Trust Me With Gun."**

While the hearing was going on, Dear babbled at length about not being able to "trust myself with a pistol" and pleaded with the chief to "take the pistol I have that belongs to the Police Department so that if anything happens no department gun will be involved."

Chief Allen heard Dear's entire story and then sent him home on sick leave.

He advised Dear to "go home and forget your troubles" and told him that if he later desires to seek retirement on pension, he would have the chief's full support. Chief

Allen said after the hearing that he believes Dear will retire.

The chief excused Dear's conduct by saying that he is "a man easily led" and that he has not been right mentally since he was seriously injured Sept. 13, 1929, when a police car he was driving crashed into a train at Manhattan Boulevard and the Ann Arbor Railroad tracks.

He is convinced, Chief Allen said, that no other member of the Police Department other than Dear has been a member of the Black Legion.

In addition to the accusations against Dear, the charges presented to Council included the following:

**ONE:** That Vic Roe, 1943 Superior Street, employe of the City Street Department, was a ring-leader in the Black Legion.

**TWO:** That a "violence committee" has been formed in Toledo and meets every Monday night in the Richardson Building, the membership already having reached 500.

Roe is to appear for questioning at 4 p. m. today before Service Director George N. Schoonmaker, his superior.

Developments resulting from these charges, in addition to the

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of the Black Legion. Mr. Edy said Mr. Roe admitted his membership in the organization.

Mr. Edy said that in fairness to all the city employes who have, or may be called to his office, the mere fact they are summoned should not be interpreted that they are members of the Black Legion.

"We are calling everyone whom we believe may give us some leads in the matter," he said. Mr. Edy said at least three more city employes, not members of the police department, will be questioned today.

Mr. Brown, reputed commander of the Black Legion here, was brought to Mr. Edy's office shortly before 5 p. m. and was questioned until after 6:30 p. m. Mr. Rhinefort said he admitted his connection with the organization.

**Details Secret**

The assistant prosecutor declined to reveal details of the information from Mr. Brown and the others but indicated it would be used, along with other information he has obtained, as the basis for a complete investigation of the organization by the grand jury.

City Manager Edy said he would continue today his questioning of city employes, whose names are linked with the organization, and will render a decision shortly about Mr. Roe and any other employes who may be implicated.

Mr. Edy said he is desirous of finding out the exact objectives of the local organization, and whether they were the same as the Black Legion in Michigan.

The meeting in Mr. Edy's office, called shortly after he returned yesterday from a shortened vacation trip, was attended by Mr. Rhinefort, Mayor Roy C. Start, Vice Mayor John Q. Carey, Councilman Edward DeAngelo, Service Director George N. Schoonmaker and Detective Inspector Joseph Fruchey.

**Joined At Trilby**

Patrolman Bokan was the first person summoned, Mr. Gilbert was second. He was followed by Pat Lavender, Mr. Roe and Mr. Brown. Patrolman Bokan told reporters he had informed the city officials he never had been a member of the Black Legion.

Mr. Gilbert made a declaration and said he was called because he is Mr. Roe's boss in the street department. Mr. Lavender declined to make any comment. Mr. Roe talked freely of his connection with the organization and revealed he had been initiated at a meeting in the Trilby fire engine house in 1934.

Mr. Roe said he decided to admit

his affiliation with the organization on advice of his wife, after first telling his superior, Service Director Schoonmaker, he had not been a member.

Following his questioning, Mr. Roe left for his home and returned later with letters, dealing with Black Legion activities, which he gave to the assistant prosecutor. Mr. Roe said he was first advanced to a colonel, and later named brigadier general. He was removed some time ago as brigadier general by Virgil Efflinger, of Lima, leader of the state organization, he said, because of "lack of activity."

**Examination Disclosed**

City Manager Edy said he may ask a local brain specialist to examine Police Sergt. Lyman (Buck) Dear, who admitted last Tuesday he had been a brigadier general in the Black Legion, and who is confined to his home.

A letter from Dr. Max Peet, brain specialist at the university hospital, Ann Arbor, stating Sergeant Dear is mentally unsound was received yesterday at the office of Police Chief Allen. Dr. Peet examined Sergeant Dear at Ann Arbor, Wednesday. He said he first examined Sergeant Dear 16 months ago and that he is suffering from a brain disease, resulting from an accident.

Deputy sheriffs yesterday reported they were unable to locate Bert Rickard, 832 Oakwood avenue, wanted for questioning, and inquiries at his home revealed he was on a hunting trip in Michigan.

**Dean Names Toledoans**

Local authorities are considerably interested in the story related in Detroit yesterday by Dean, confessed trigger man for the Black Legion there, about his knowledge of the Toledo set-up, and his identification of six Toledoans, including two policemen, as individuals who had attended Black Legion meetings in Toledo at which he was present.

Dean yesterday received life sentence for murder from a circuit judge in Detroit who called Dean's victim, a WPA worker, "a martyr to the cause of civil and religious liberties." Dean had pleaded guilty to shooting Charles A. Poole, a young WPA worker, on order of a Black Legion superior officer.

Seven other Black Legion members who were convicted of the Poole killing will receive mandatory life sentences today in Detroit. Four convicted of second degree murder will be sentenced tomorrow.

**Given Dismissal**

Francis Murphy, secretary of the Toledo chapter of the League Against War and Fascism, whose presentation to city council last Monday of an affidavit naming Sergeant Dear as a member of the Black Legion, resulted in the present investigation, yesterday was dismissed as a WPA recreation project worker.

His dismissal, along with three other officers of Local 463, American Federation of Teachers, from the WPA, brought an immediate protest from organized labor leaders. The others removed are Calhoun Cartwright, president of the union; Samuel Pollock, executive secretary, and Arthur Preis, legislative agent. Mr. Pollock and Mr. Preis have been active in demanding a grand jury investigation of recent tear gas bombings here and the possible connection of the Black Legion with the bombings.

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# 5,000 AT ONE LEGION RALLY

## 3 Elected Officers Belonged, Former Member Says

The Black Legion had five regiments in the Toledo district last fall and the members pledged allegiance in the presence of guns.

This was revealed last night by Charles Hill, of 730 Kipling drive, a self-admitted former adjutant, after he had been questioned by Joel Rhinefort, assistant county prosecutor. The regiments were in Point Place, Maumee and the south, west and east sections of the city, he said.

Mr. Hill was questioned in Mr. Rhinefort's private office in the Edison building, where he was brought by a police officer. Mr. Hill also said that at one time three elected officials were members of the organization, and that 5,000 persons attended one meeting on a farm outside the city.

Mr. Hill refused to give the names of any members, saying he had to observe his oath of silence. He also declined to say whether the elected officers, to whom he referred, still were holding office.

### Effinger at Toledo Meetings

As adjutant, Mr. Hill said he had exchanged several letters with Virgil Effinger, of Lima, leader of the Black Legion in Ohio. He also stated Mr. Effinger has been in Toledo several times.

Mr. Hill said the organization was anti-alien, anti-Jewish, anti-Catholic and anti-Communist. He said he and Police Sergt. Lyman (Buck) Dear quit the order at the same time, because of differences with leaders over reorganization matters.

After questioning Mr. Hill, Mr. Rhinefort last night conferred with a representative of the attorney general of Michigan.

Several additional Toledoans, including three city employes, will be questioned today about their connections with Black Legion activities here as a result of information obtained by city and county officials during the questioning of five men in the office of City Manager John N. Edy yesterday.

This announcement was made late yesterday by Mr. Rhinefort after he completed questioning of Clarence G. Brown, 1810 Mansfield road, whom he identified as "head man" of the Black Legion in the Toledo district.

### May Question Dean

Mr. Rhinefort said he also may go to Detroit today to question Dayton Dean, talkative two-gun killer, whose lurid disclosures of Black Legion terrorism resulted in the conviction of 11 Michigan members on murder charges, and who yesterday indicated he had considerable knowledge of the Black Legion affairs in Toledo.

In addition to Mr. Brown, these men were questioned in Mr. Edy's office yesterday:

Victor Roe, a street department worker, who admitted he had been a brigadier general in the Black Legion.

Steve Gilbert, foreman of the street department.

Patrolman Joseph Bokan, turnkey at the Safety building.

Pat Lavender, foreman of the street department shops.

Assistant Prosecutor Rhinefort said Walter Leiter, 1835 Oakwood avenue, who was brought to the manager offices by Detective Harry Manson at the same time as Mr. Brown, would be questioned in the prosecutor's office today. Mr. Leiter said he is a WPA worker, but knew nothing of the activities of the Black Legion, and could not understand why they desired to question him.

### Three Deny Membership

City Manager Edy said Gilbert, Lavender and Patrolman Bokan denied they are or had been members.

61-7398 sub 4

TOLEDO TIMES  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
OCT 10 1936  
FBI - TOLEDO  
Mr. Edy  
Mr. Rhinefort  
Mr. Brown  
Mr. Hill  
Mr. Effinger  
Mr. Roe  
Mr. Gilbert  
Mr. Bokan  
Mr. Lavender  
Mr. Leiter  
Mr. Manson  
Mr. Dear  
Mr. Lyman  
Mr. Edy  
Mr. Rhinefort  
Mr. Brown  
Mr. Hill  
Mr. Effinger  
Mr. Roe  
Mr. Gilbert  
Mr. Bokan  
Mr. Lavender  
Mr. Leiter  
Mr. Manson  
Mr. Dear  
Mr. Lyman

PLEASE RETURN TO  
DIVISION OF  
PRESS INTELLIGENCE  
2067 Commerce Bldg.

11/20/36

NO.

SYMBOL

News-Bee  
Toledo, Ohio

DATE OCT-8-1936

OCT 10 1936

To the Editor

THE Black Legion is the latest "stiff neck" to hit our community. It is difficult for the thinking man to properly appraise its importance, its extent, or danger. Beyond question, the



character of the organization and its moronic personnel, is offensive both to the sense of smell and to our American institutions. Cloaking itself with the pretense of preserving the very institutions it flouts, the organization appears to have made great strides.

Ordinarily we could safely ignore its importance as a mere anti-climax of the infamous Ku Klux Klan for the reason that as long as the majority of our people are well advised and possessed of an intelligence beyond that of a spoiled child, we have very little to fear from "nut houses" and "nut organizations."

However, what does cause great and grave concern is the fact that day by day new revelations of associations involving men in public office and in the law enforcement branches with this "cracked-brain" outfit is being called to our attention. When it is considered that the great mass of law-abiding citizenry repose in peaceful slumber in complete and total reliance that our duly elected and appointed officials and guardians of the peace will protect us, it becomes a matter of serious consequence that these same guardians of our safety are stalking us and waiting to betray their trust.

It is unfortunate that members of our Police Department should be involved for the reason that it casts reflection and suspicions upon the entire force - but we must consider that we exact very little from applicants for police duty except a strong back.

Let us not become too excited or panicky about the matter, but at the same time let us not hesitate to fully investigate the situation. It might also be a good idea to alter our system of selecting policemen. Offer better pay to attract well-educated men, then train them to gather the proper kind of evidence. Why not patrol in local departments after the Department of Justice in Washington? For Honest and Better Protection.

61-7390-A

# FERRORIST OUTFIT FOUND IN STREET

## Los Angeles Police Hunt Black Legion Member.

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 14 (A. P.).—Discovery of a black hooded gown with a skull and cross bones on the left chest, in a suitcase on Wilshire Boulevard, spurred police search today for Black Legionnaires believed operating in southern California.

Capt. William Hynes of the police anti-Radical Squad disclosed that activities of the hooded order had been reported here for the last four months, increasing recently.

"The Black Legion will not be tolerated," he said.

Found with the gown by two cruising radio patrolmen were a series of notes to "brothers" and clippings from Detroit papers on the trial of cult leaders there.

All the notes were mimeographed on white paper of a standard size. They gave notice of meetings, advised "arms" and warned against talking too much.

A final one said:

"Everything off until further notice. Do not communicate with brothers. Detroit affair very bad. Will notify when coast is clear."

A label on other clothing in the suitcase bore a Los Angeles store's name. The gown itself showed signs of use, and had been patched in several places.

While admitting the possibility the bag may have been lost or abandoned by a Detroit Black Legion official, here to escape the Michigan inquiry, detectives were inclined to believe it belonged to a Los Angeles cultist.

All cleaning and laundry numbers had been torn off.

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| Mr. Nathan   | ..... |
| Mr. Tolson   | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg    | ..... |
| Mr. Coffey   | ..... |
| Mr. Dewey    | ..... |
| Mr. Egan     | ..... |
| Mr. Foxworth | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin   | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo    | ..... |
| Mr. Joseph   | ..... |
| Mr. Lester   | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols  | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn    | ..... |
| Mr. Schilder | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Miss Gandy   | ..... |

*M. M. S.*

*100*

NEW YORK SUN  
Recorded by New York Office  
OCT 14 1936

61-7399-201 A

87

EXCERPT FROM THE DETROIT NEWS OCTOBER 14, 1936

Mr. Nathan  
 Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Glavin  
 Mr. Ladd  
 Mr. Nichols  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tracy  
 Mr. Carson  
 Mr. Egan  
 Mr. Gurnea  
 Mr. Hendon  
 Mr. Pennington  
 Mr. Quinn  
 Mr. Nease  
 Mr. Gandy

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*

# West-Traces Black Legion

## Robes and Notes Found in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 14.—(U.P.)—Los Angeles police opened an investigation of "Black Legion" activities in Southern California today following accidental discovery of an abandoned suitcase containing what were described as robes of the secret organization.

The paraphernalia of the "legion" was discovered by two radio patrolmen as they were cruising in their automobile through the exclusive Wilshire district near a hotel frequented by motion picture celebrities.

The officers, R. F. McGarry and W. A. Ellenson, found in the suitcase an outfit of robes and messages advising "brothers" of a new meeting place and warning them to come armed.

The evidence was turned over to Police Capt. William Hynes who reported the robes were replicas of those seized in Detroit during the last year.

The robes were of black satin and had a white skull and crossbones over the heart. The black hoods had eyeholes cut through. A suit of clothes with a Los Angeles clothier's label in it was also in the suitcase, police said.

### TRACES LEGION

Capt. Hynes reported his special investigators had discovered some evidence pointing towards "Black Legion" activities here during the last few months.

"Our investigation discloses that the legion is in existence in this area, the membership is confined to not more than 100 persons who have managed to keep their meetings and activities secret," he said.

Three notes were in the suitcase. One read:

"Dear brother, 17 houses north same side of the street as old meeting place, Friday meeting important, arms and robes. Acknowledge."

A second message advised members to halt activities until public indignation over the "Detroit affair" died down. It read:

"Dear brother, everything off until further notice. Do not communicate with brothers. Detroit affair very bad. Will notify when coast is clear."

### SIGNED BY GAY

The third note read:

"Dear brother, matter handled at last meeting safe but do not talk to inquiring visitors. No meeting until further notice."

Each of the messages was signed "Gay." The notes were typewritten on white mimeograph paper.

Two clippings from Detroit newspapers were in the suit case, both dealing with the investigation there of the Black Legion following the death of Charles Poole, WPA worker slain by members of the legion.

61-7398-1017

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EXCERPT FROM THE DETROIT TIMES OCTOBER 14, 1936

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Miss Gandy

*Handwritten signatures and initials:*  
 J  
 M  
 R  
 W  
 S  
 L  
 H

## Handbag Tip To Cultists On Coast

International News Service Wire

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 14.—  
 Police were seeking a Black Legion headquarters here today after a ceremonial robe, bearing a skull and crossbones, literature and a letter instructing a "brother" to "come armed" were found in an apparently misplaced handbag in front of a fashionable hotel.

61 7370 14 89



## Black Legion Note Found in Slaying

San Luis Obispo, Calif., Oct. 20 (U.P.)—Possibility of a Black Legion slaying was investigated by police today in the shotgun death of Milton Edward Zylicz, 28, school janitor.

The janitor's body, his head nearly blown off, was found in his office at the Fremont School, where he had been employed 14 years.

Police found a note which in part read: "Hope you get this shot. Think you know too much." It was signed "The Black Legion."

Police said the janitor had been receiving threatening notes for several years.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. W.C. Sullivan
- Mr. Gandy

*McIntire*  
*DD*

61-7396 sub 6A  
OCT 21 1935

91

# KIDNAPED BOY FORCED TO ROB

TOLEDO, Ohio, Oct. 22 (U.S.).  
A 15-year-old boy late today declared that he had been kidnaped recently by members of the terrorist Black Legion, flogged and forced to join a "junior order" of the night-riding cult known as the "Red Circle."

The story was unfolded to Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Joel Rhinefort who is seeking information as to the extent of Black Legion activities in Ohio. A city council investigating committee headed by Mayor John A. Carey is conducting a separate probe.

Rhinefort and the mayor's committee conferred to "compare notes" and consider presentation of facts at hand to a special grand jury. Ohio links in the chain of the cult were partly disclosed during the trial of 12 men convicted in Detroit of the Black Legion murder of Ernest Poole, Works Progress Administration employe.

The boy, whose identity was not disclosed, told Rhinefort that late last year he and a companion were kidnaped and taken to a South Michigan city. There they were strapped to a board and beaten until they agreed to join the "Red Circle."

When the two joined at its hide-out in the Michigan city, 80 other youths were there, the boy said.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Dawsey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Joseph
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tamm

*Egan*  
*McIntire*  
*Surber*

61-7390-A

WASH. HERALD

OCT 23 1936

R. E. JOSEPH

92

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. McGinn   | ..... |
| Mr. Tolson   | ..... |
| Mr. Baughman | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg    | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin   | ..... |
| Mr. Ladd     | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols  | ..... |
| Mr. Rosen    | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Mr. Carson   | ..... |
| Mr. Egan     | ..... |
| Mr. Gurnea   | ..... |
| Mr. Hendon   | ..... |
| Mr. Jones    | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn    | ..... |
| Mr. Nease    | ..... |
| Mr. Gandy    | ..... |

# POLICE HEADS BIG SHOTS IN BLACK LEGION

## Administer Bloody Oaths To New Police Recruits

TOLEDO—"In the name of God and the Devil, I promise never to betray secrets of the Black Legion, to carry out orders unto bitter death and to strike with an avenging arm so long as breath remains."

This is part of the bloody and murderous oath administered to new police recruits, paid by tax funds to uphold law and order, at initiations frequently held during lunch hour in the police arsenal.

# BLACK LEGION KILLS IN ODISPO

SAN LUIS ODISPO. — The Black Legion was reported behind the slaying of Milton Edward Zylicz, a school janitor here. Police announced definite possibility of the murderous fascist organization's connection with the killing.

The janitor's head was nearly blown off by discharge of a shotgun. His body was found in his office at the Fremont School.

A note found by police read: "Hope you get this shot. Think you know too much. Black Le-  
---"

61-73982-6A

93

## Police Probing Threat Against Stanley Field

Chicago—(AP)—Identity of the person who made a threatening telephone call to the suburban home of Stanley Field, president of the Field Museum, was sought today by Lake Bluff police.

"I'm a member of the Black Legion,"

the caller was quoted as saying. "You think you're pretty smart, but we're coming up to bomb your place. If you think I'm bluffing, I'll tell you where the house keys are hanging."

The caller then told where the keys could be found, the police were informed. The call was made Sunday.

Field said he knew no reason for the threat.

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|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Nathan   | ✓     |
| Mr. Tolson   | ..... |
| Mr. Daughman | ..... |
| Chief Clerk  | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg    | ..... |
| Mr. Coffey   | ..... |
| Mr. Edwards  | ..... |
| Mr. Egan     | ..... |
| Mr. Foxworth | ✓     |
| Mr. Harbo    | ..... |
| Mr. Joseph   | ..... |
| Mr. Keith    | ..... |
| Mr. Lester   | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn    | ..... |
| Mr. Schilder | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Miss Gandy   | ..... |

The Hartford Times  
June 9, 1936  
Forwarded by New York office

61-7398-A

Black Legion As Bad As Gangster  
In Youth As The Gangster

A representative of the Department of Justice, addressing the members of the State Bar Association at the annual meeting in Detroit, said that the shift in youthful ability from gangster to common law changed age levels of crime in the last five years, and that 19 was no longer the criminal age.

This may be true, but there are other influences which are as bad as youthful idolatry of the gangster in the influencing of youth, as was indicated on Friday when police broke into a barn in Detroit and rescued two boys who, they said, were about to be hanged by three other boys for having good school records. One of the young lynching party, only nine years of age, told the police "We were going to do like the Black Legion does."

When the police arrived they found that a rope had been tied around the neck of one of the youngsters and that he was about to be pushed from a second story window of the barn. Another youngster, nine years of age, was tied hand and foot, ready to be hanged next.

It is well that the machinations of the Black Legion, with its reputed hundreds of thousands of members and with a record of a score or more of murders and hundreds of beatings, have come into the limelight and that the Michigan authorities are determined to punish those guilty of these crimes and break up the organization, for outside of the crimes of which they have been guilty they have undoubtedly been an evil influence on the youth of the state when youngsters in their early teens begin to emulate their crimes.

America has no place for organizations which go outside of the law to accomplish their ends and spread a reign of terror among the people. We have had a number of them in the past, but apparently the Black Legion represents a combination of the worst qualities of all of them.

The Michigan authorities have the power to deal with the crimes of that organization within the state limits, but if it is found that its influence has spread beyond state lines, and, as one of the members of the Black Legion has stated, has become a nation-wide organization, it is time that the Federal government, through the Department of Justice and its agents, take a hand in wiping it out and punishing those found to have had a hand in its criminal activities.

Handwritten notes and signatures, including a large signature that appears to be "Ernest" and other illegible scribbles.

NEW JERSEY  
PRESS CLIPPING  
BUREAU  
11 HILL ST. NEWARK

MORNING CALL  
Paterson, N. J.  
JUN 8 1936  
EDITORIAL

61-7270-A  
JOSEPH  
45



*Handwritten initials/signature*

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*Handwritten signatures and initials over the routing slip*

## Lansing Extortion-Bombers Admit Firing at Man in Door

LANSING, Mich., June 8.—(AP)—Police Chief Alfred Seymour searched today for Black Legion implications in an extortion plot, bombing, holdup and shooting that he and his officers marked "solved" on their books.

The chief said he had obtained statements from Steve Goulding, 25 years old, and Fred Chapman, 18, admitting that it was they who fired a fusillade of pistol bullets that narrowly missed Marion O'Connors of Eagle, as he stood in a restaurant doorway here two months ago. Seymour was not satisfied with their explanation, however, that the bullets were intended to frighten the restaurant proprietor rather than to injure anybody in particular.

Added to this was the fact that O'Connor told police he knew who shot at him but that "I'll take care of this in my own way."

Seymour contended this and other misdeeds with which the men are accused all "conceivably might have something to do with Black Legion activity, although the men deny it."

Prosecutor Dan D. McCullough planned to prepare warrants today accusing the two of a plot to extort \$5,000 from Max A. Kramer, of Lansing, and with having bombed his auto parts plant here to prove to Kramer that they "meant business." No money was paid.

Both Goulding and Chapman are accused, also, of implication in the \$324 robbery of Tony Tremont in his residence here last Friday. A third man, Eddie Belbeck, 26, is held on a charge of suspicion of robbery armed as their accomplice in that robbery. Police Capt. Frank J. O'Brien said Chapman and Goulding accused him of assisting in the holdup, but absolved him of implication in the other crimes.

*61-7398*

*A*

## Cardinal Forecasts Black Legion's Fall

Vatican City, June 6 (AP).—The "Black Legion" was condemned here today by Dennis Cardinal Dougherty, of Philadelphia, and he prophesied its early death.

"It will fall to pieces as soon as it is dragged out into the sun," he remarked following a half-hour visit with Pope Pius.

Cardinal Dougherty said he read about the Legion's discovery in Detroit upon his arrival in Europe and said it "seemed incredible."

"The organization seems to be a revival of the Ku Klux Klan," he said, "embracing the same kind of people and thoroughly un-American."

He discussed ecclesiastical affairs with the Pope and presented his nephew, the Rev. J. Carroll McCormick, vice chancellor of the Archdiocese, to him.

He found Pope Pius "looking remarkably strong and well and unchanged from when I saw him two years ago," he said. "His mind, as formerly, is most active, clear and keen."

The Cardinal, who will remain in Rome for the forthcoming consistories, also visited Cardinal Pacelli, papal secretary of State. He plans to leave June 25.

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| Mr. New     | ..... |
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| Mr. Glavin  | ..... |
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| Mr. Rosen   | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy   | ..... |
| Mr. Egan    | ..... |
| Mr. Gurnea  | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo   | ..... |
| Mr. Hendon  | ..... |
| Mr. Jones   | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn   | ..... |
| Mr. Nease   | ..... |
| Miss Gandy  | ..... |

*Most for  
Ed*

*Edward  
g/e*

61-7398-A

JUN 7

98

**ESCAPED DEATH**  
*Black Legion Inspired Boys to Attempt Their Lynching*



**JOSEPH IGNAGNI AND ALBERT VALENTI** International News Photo  
*Rescued From Hanging Planned By Young Hooded Mob in Detroit*

WASHER HERALD  
JUN 7 1936

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# Today

(Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.)

**More Worry In Paris.  
Two Hangings Thwarted.  
30,000 Leave Their Money.  
What About China?  
By Arthur Brisbane**

Interesting news from Detroit where police found three boys, from nine to 14, holding as prisoners, in a barn, two other boys, nine and 11, preparing to hang them, in imitation of the "Black Legion." Police called by passers-by heard the screams of the boys. The three boys were going to hang the two youngsters because they were "too high up in their classes."

|                |  |
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| Mr. Tolson     |  |
| Mr. Boardman   |  |
| Mr. Clegg      |  |
| Mr. Glavin     |  |
| Mr. Ladd       |  |
| Mr. Nichols    |  |
| Mr. Rosen      |  |
| Mr. Tracy      |  |
| Mr. Carson     |  |
| Mr. Egan       |  |
| Mr. Gurnea     |  |
| Mr. Hendon     |  |
| Mr. Pennington |  |
| Mr. Quinn      |  |
| Mr. Nease      |  |
| Miss Gandy     |  |

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*Emmett  
RU*

61-7395-A

JUN 7 1935

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*add*

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| Mr. Clegg    | ..... |
| Mr. Coffey   | ..... |
| Mr. Edwards  | ..... |
| Mr. Egan     | ..... |
| Mr. Foxworth | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo    | ..... |
| Mr. Joseph   | ..... |
| Mr. Lester   | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn    | ..... |
| Mr. Schilder | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Mr. Gandy    | ..... |

*most*

*Ernst*

*Ernst*  
*PK*

## Boys, Aping Clan, Try to Hang Companion

DETROIT, June 6 (I.N.S.).  
"Aw, we wouldn't have dropped  
him. We ain't that dumb."

Three frightened boys thus protested to police today after a "Junior Black Legion" lynching party was broken up just as the boys allegedly prepared to hang Albert Valenti, 11.

The three boys, playing "hookey" from school, according to police, saw Valenti and another boy, Joseph Ignagni, 9, go by in a coaster wagon.

The trio, Amando Serali, 14; Raymond Buccellati, 11, and Joseph Angelo, 10, swooped on Valenti and Ignagni and forced them into a barn, officers declared.

After keeping their victims "prisoners" for four hours, the trio, Police Inspector Wendell Lockbiler said, tied Ignagni to a post and then bound and gagged Valenti, placed a rope around his neck and started leading him toward the big window of the abandoned barn.

Walter Kaltenberg, a gardener, rushed into the barn and stopped them. Valenti was hysterical.

*61-7398-A*

WASH. TIMES

JUN 6 1936

JUN 6 1936  
101

*Handwritten notes:*  
2  
Mr. Nathan ✓  
Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Baughman ✓  
Chief Clerk ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Edwards ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Foxworth ✓  
Mr. Harbo ✓  
Mr. Joseph ✓  
Mr. Keith ✓  
Mr. Lester ✓  
Mr. Quinn ✓  
Mr. Schilder ✓  
Mr. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓  
*Emmitt*

The attorney general of the United States is a savvy Connecticut Yankee. He knows he's got a good thing in the G-men. But he has been long in politics and he realizes it would take very little extra zeal on his part in the use of those same G-men to bring some very vocal senators or congressmen bounding into the arena with cries that he is setting up a Cheka, OGPU, or what have you.



Atty. Gen. Cummings

Hence his unwillingness to inject his men into the Black Legion situation until he is dead certain specific federal laws are being violated.

CAPITAL STUFF

CHICAGO DAILY TIMES

BY: Doris Flesson

June 5th, 1936

61-7398-7



The "Chaplain" of the Black Legion charges new members during initiation:

**"Remember that our purpose is to tear down, lay waste, despoil and kill our enemies."**

Then they swear, "standing under the black arch of Heaven's avenging symbol," the Black Oath:

**"In the name of God and the devil... to devote my life to the obedience of my superiors..."**

And "in the obedience of my superiors," Dayton Dean murdered Charles Poole, riddled him with bullets, left him to die in a ditch. The cartoon above, like photographs, shows Dayton Dean to be a typical heavy-jawed thug, incapable of independent thought. Calmly, defiantly, he told in court how he murdered the unfortunate Poole, whom gossips had accused, unjustly, of beating his wife.

While the other defendants glared at him, Dayton Dean told how he fired eight shots into the kneeling form of Charles A. Poole, **"because you do what you are told to do in the Black Legion."**

Dean had had a taste of Black Legion "discipline." Detective Sergeant Harvill disclosed that Dean had told him "that he was taken to a field west of the city about eighteen months ago, tied to a tree and whipped because he was lax in getting members to meetings."

Dean's divorced wife, in a series of articles in the New York Evening Journal, tells how her husband became leader of the "Death Squad":

"One dawn he came home and told me he was in charge of the Death Squad. He said he was picked because he had the courage to do the job and he was a good shot. Nothing could stop him after that. He was wild with power and importance and wouldn't listen to anything I said. He was 'going to the top,' he said."

Murdering Charles A. Poole was part of "going to the top" for Dean. The American public wants to know **who is already at the top of this murderous Black Legion.**

All law-abiding Americans are interested in the existence of such a murder-gang as this Black Legion, particularly in the encouragement to lawlessness, which makes the organization of such a gang possible.

Prosecutor Duncan C. McCrea, Presiding Judge Ralph W. Liddy, the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan have a grave responsibility in tracking the Black Legion to its roots, and to its **TOPS.**



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J. Edgar Hoover  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Joseph
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

# Detroit Experiencing Black Legion Scare

## Said to Have Large Membership Throughout Country

Lima, Ohio.—Detroit, Michigan is experiencing a Black Legion scare almost a year after a former city employee had a case of Blind Jitters or something that is said to have caused him to see pink elephants doing a circle dance on the ceiling.

From now on the police of various cities will have an excuse for believing every crime they cannot solve was committed by this particular group.

The unfair enforcement of law by some of the constituted officers are the real reason for organizations of

this kind to come into being.

Rumor has it that this particular group have already formed county organizations in 79 of the 88 counties of Ohio.

It is also said that this organization will be a factor in the Fall election, already having enough power in the way of ballots to swing an election in the state.

Unlike the old Klan group, this new group are said to have been building a machine of members for the last six years until at the present time they have a machine of tremendous voting power.

W-9397-A

The State Indicator

Troy, Ohio

6-1-36

REG

**Dayton Men**

**In**

**Black Legion**

*The State Indicator*

*Troy, Ohio*

*6-4-36*

*R&D*

# Political Bosses Who Were Unaware of Existence of Secret Organization of this Size Now are at Loss to Know Who to Trust or Not to Trust.

## Brower Said to be the Man Most Alarmed Due to Nickel Grabbing By Himself and Other Members

Dayton, Ohio.—With the uncovering in Detroit, Michigan, of a new organization, said to be on the order of the K. K. K. namely the Black Legion, a branch of which is said to be located in Dayton, numbering about 21,000 for Montgomery county, is said to have the political wise boys guessing.

Any organization with a membership of this size could very easily control the trend of politics in the Fall campaign.

Some years ago Li'l Daniel Brower of Gold Brick fame was able to control the vote of the old Klan through deals made with unscrupulous officers of that organization.

But it is said that with this new political factor, the political shyster of the type who trades favors is said to be on the outside looking in.

This new organization which has sprung into prominence over night seems to have used an altogether different method of organizing without the fan-fare of the old Klan they ~~seem to have~~ built their group quiet-

ly until they reached a voting strength sufficient to control an election before getting into the spot light.

According to information, a number of city officials and county employees belong to this new group.

A Klan membership is said to be one of the requirements to become a member.

Like the investigations some years ago when the old Klan was investigated time after time and all of the crimes of the calendar were charged to them, this fan-fare from Detroit may be another one of those cases where some political highbinder may have had a case of the jitters and imagined a lot about murder and suicide.

Anyway, if it is true that 21,000 members of the black legion are on the loose in Montgomery County they don't seem to have killed or beat up many around Dayton.

But if the reports are true as to their membership strength, a few political funerals may be the order of the day when election time rolls around next November.

*The State Indicator*  
*Tray - Ohio*  
*6-4-36*

*REF*

RUBBER RIFF

SPURS SCHRO

City Hall Boys Spend Night  
of Idle "Waiting"

Tap The Wires Like They Did  
NOT Do In Karpis or Dillinger  
Cases.

*The State Indicator*

*Tray - Ohio*

*6-4-36*

*R.G.J.*

Alton, Ohio.—Mayor Lee Schroy, incensed at the recent flareup in labor troubles at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company was reported last week to be taking an active, very active interest in the situation and from a source real close to the mayor came the information that the head of the city was launching on a determined effort to "clean out the anarchist agitators" from whence came the majority of labor disputes.

While city detectives were busy Friday night combing the city for two men, against whom warrants had been issued following the assault upon two non-union workers at the No. 2 plant Friday, city officials were preparing for any emergencies that might arise. Police Prosecutor James Alpeter refrained from going to bed until well after midnight Friday, staying at his post downtown to be ready to give any legal assistance needed in case of not unexpected trouble at the change of shifts at midnight or shortly thereafter.

From the Portage Hotel, immediately after the Republican central committee met to select executive committeemen, telephone calls were being made to officials of the city and the rubber factory, telling of the determination of the titular head of the administration to "make a cleanup".

"Mayor Schroy wants to clean out that Anarchist agitation", one source said in a conversation with a supposed rubber company man, after first talking with the legal department of the city.

"If you need legal advice or assistance, then Alpeter will be there all night. If you just need police assistance then call direct to the police department", a voice over the phone was reported saying.

A special detachment of officers was detained in anticipation of trouble at the change of shifts and were ready to report at the factory at a moments notice.

Saturday morning Schroy got tune time rolled around.

busy to see what could be done to settle the difficulties between officials of the rubber factory and the employees. After deliberating with both sides Schroy announced that he thought the trouble would be settled in a peaceable manner reporting both sides agreeable to a round table discussion to iron out the difficulties. He said they were both desirous of doing everything possible to avoid trouble.

Unlike former mayor half-Nelson Sparks, Schroy is playing squarely with both sides. Sparks played with both sides, but not squarely. Schroy is a friend of the laborers, not just a pretended friend. He is taking an active interest in labor difficulties to clear up the situation with the least amount of trouble. Sparks made the laborers think he was their friend while at the same time dealing with the rubber barons to double-cross the workers when the oppor-

*The State Indicator*

*Tray, Ohio*

*6-4-36*

*R.G.F.*

# BLACK LEGION UNDER EYE OF U. S. A YEAR

WASHINGTON, June 4.—Atty. Gen. Homer S. Cummings declared today he had known of the existence of the Black Legion for about a year.

He said, however, he had received as yet no evidence of violation, by Black Legionnaires of a federal statute.

"I have known of the existence of the Black Legion for about a year," Cummings declared.

### SIELDS INFORMER

He refused to reveal who had informed him of the existence of the cult.

"The justice department can only enter a case," Cummings emphasized, "in event a federal law has been violated. We do not hesitate to act, however, if a federal law has been violated."

Cummings said he had not heard from Duncan C. McCrea, Wayne County prosecutor, who last week wired him he had evidence which he believed constituted violation of federal laws.

Cummings wired McCrea to submit any evidence he might have to the justice department for examination. The department, in this case, would decide whether there had been any violation of federal statutes.

"Thus far," Cummings said, "I have heard nothing further from McCrea."

### NO U. S. VIOLATION

"I might say when I first heard of the existence of the Black Legion in Michigan, nothing was presented to me which would warrant justice department intervention.

"The same situation exists now. I have not received from McCrea or anybody else any information which would warrant the department in taking action."

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, Cummings said, discussed with him recently the activities of the Black Legion.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. ... ..
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
 "Mo" (written vertically)  
 "Mo" (written across the list)  
 "Emmitt" (written at the bottom)

61-7398-A

INDEXED-99

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| Mr. Nease      | — |
| Miss Gandy     | — |

# Ohio's Chief Black Legion Figure Dies

Virgil H. (Bert) Effinger of Lima, Ohio, once leader in that state of the Black Legion, died Saturday in a state hospital at Toledo. The Black Legion, an organization which intended to overthrow the government, figured in the news nearly two decades ago. Seven of its members now are in Southern Michigan prison, serving terms imposed on murder charges growing out of its activities. Effinger, who was 82 at the time of his death, never was returned to Michigan for trial for his part in the legion's affairs. Originally arrested in August, 1936, on charges of criminal syndicalism, he vanished during an extradition hearing at Columbus.

In December, 1938, he reappeared at his Lima home, surrendered and posted bond for his appearance at another hearing. The case dragged on for months and finally was dropped.

An electrical contractor at the time of his arrest, Effinger was described as the "major general" of the Black Legion. He was one of 22 persons indicted at Detroit. According to evidence, he and the others advocated seizure of the government by a coup on Sept. 16, 1936, when arsenals and federal buildings were to be taken over by the organization.

Imprisoned here are Dayton Dean, Irwin Lipp, Lowell Rushing, Irving Lee, Edward Baldwin and Charles Ross.

RAUMGARDNER

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NOV 10 1954

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# WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

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- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

MAR 16 11 19 33

DETROIT.--VIRGIL EFFINGER, REPUTED FORMER HEAD OF THE BLACK LEGION, WAS CLEARED OF A CHARGE OF POSSESSION OF BOMBS, IN CONNECTION WITH ACTIVITIES OF THE CULT. JUDGE JOSEPH GILLIS DISMISSED THE CHARGE AGAINST EFFINGER WHEN THE CASE WAS CALLED FOR TRIAL IN COMMON PLEAS COURT AND THE PROSECUTION ANNOUNCED IT WAS NOT READY TO PROCEED. EFFINGER STILL FACES A CHARGE OF CRIMINAL SYNDICALISM.  
3/16--R1052A J

# BLACK LEGION GANG BOMBS BLOOR RALLY

## Toledo Investigation Is Demanded by C. P., American League

(Special to the Daily Worker)

TOLEDO, O., March 16.—Two tear gas bombs were hurled from a speeding automobile believed to be carrying Black Legionnaires here Tuesday night at the second story windows of a hall where Mother Ella Reeve Bloor, veteran Communist leader, was addressing a mass rally.

The incident brought forth an immediate demand by the Communist Party, represented by Kenneth Eggers, and the American League for Peace and Democracy, through its spokesman Francis J. Murphy, for reopening the Grand Jury investigation of the Black Legion and similar terrorist organizations.

The bombing took place at the Red Davis Building where Mother Bloor was speaking at the time. No one was hurt.

Steps will also be taken, it was reported, to dislodge Vic Roe, former Brigadier-General of the Black Legion now serving on the Lucas County Grand Jury. Trade union and civil groups are pressing for his dismissal. A recent conference with City Manager Edy brought assurance that serious efforts will be made to end a renewed campaign of violence against the left-wing movements, which had ceased for more than a year, only to begin again with the atrocious bombing Tuesday night, and a similar bombing of the home of John C. Taylor, Socialist Board of Education member, two weeks ago.

DAILY  
MARCH 17 1938

# Black Legion Called Echo of Union League

Prof. Akers Thinks Band  
May Have Reflected Ideas  
of Michigan Financiers

*By a Staff Correspondent*

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 29.—The Union League of Michigan, led by forty-two of Detroit's dominant financial and industrial figures, unwittingly fostered the development of the Black Legion. Professor, Elmer Akers, of the department of sociology at the University of Michigan, said in an address made today before the American Sociological Society meeting at the Hotel Claridge.

"Nothing has yet been discovered which can be taken as conclusive evidence of direct sponsorship of the Black Legion by the Union League of Michigan, or by any members of the class it represents," Professor Akers said. "The relationship seems to have been one in which a group of highly prejudiced rank-and-file American citizens carried out in their own way their interpretation of the example and point of view expressed by the dominant attitude and policy forming groups in the community, of which the Union League of Michigan was the leader."

## Traces Legion Origin

Professor Akers traced the origin of the Black Legion to widespread "Red hunting" which, in 1932, he said, began to assume national proportions. "It was generally known in the city (Detroit)," he said, "that some Communists and radical sympathizers were active in the Auto Workers' Union. The newspapers, certain fundamentalist Baptist ministers, the Liberty League and kindred agencies were the standard bearers in the anti-Communist campaign."

"It is possible, if not probable, that certain promulgations on this matter by the Union League of Michigan—because of its high position in the social and industrial life of the metropolis—provided the impulse which set in motion the anti-radical movement in Detroit—a movement in which the Black Legion was destined to play, by its own unique methods, a striking part."

## Law Legion Backed Hit It

Ironically, he said, one of the league's resolutions, unanimously adopted at the time, called for strict observation of Michigan's laws regarding criminal syndicalism. That, Professor Akers said, "was the very law under which, a little more than five years later, the Black Legion members apprehended were tried, convicted and sentenced to prison."

Ellsworth Farris, of the University of Chicago, delivering the presidential address at the annual dinner of the American Sociological Society, said tonight that members of his organization did not seek for certainty but only for "a greater measure of security." He added: "The triumphs of the age of physical science give us confidence in the power of the human reason."

Clipping from  
NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE

DATE 12/29/37

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# BLACK KLAN CHIEF GIVES HIMSELF UP

Surrenders in Ohio Home—  
Will Fight Extradition to  
Michigan

LIMA, Ohio, Dec. 4 (AP).—Virgil H. (Bert) Effinger, accused commander of the Black Legion who walked out of an extradition hearing at Columbus and was unheard of for fifteen months, was back home today, ready to battle in court his return to Michigan to face charges of criminal syndicalism and possession of explosives.

The portly one-time electrical contractor surrendered at his home suddenly and dramatically yesterday, as the climax to a lengthy search that extended through several States.

An hour after his arrest, Effinger was freed under \$1,000 bond by Common Pleas Judge E. E. Everett, who set hearing of a habeas corpus writ for next Friday.

Judge Everett also granted an injunction restraining law enforcement officers from arresting Effinger on charges similar to those contained in the warrant upon which he was held today.

The hearing will offer, Effinger's attorney, Clarence C. Miller, told the Court, the first test of a new Ohio statute under which the legality of an extradition warrant may be examined.

The "major general" of the Black Legion, an organization designed to overthrow the Government at a given date, was one of twenty-two persons indicted in Detroit. According to evidence, Effinger and others advocated seizure of the Government by a coup on September 16, 1936, by taking over Government buildings and arsenals at given points.

CLIPPING FROM  
NEW YORK POST

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## No Toledo Action On Black Legion

TOLEDO, Ohio, Sept. 12 (I.N.S.).—The year-old grand jury investigation of Black Legion activities in Lucas county was at an end today, without return of a single indictment. No mention of the investigation of the night riders was made by the jury in its final report.

# G. M. to Arm New Black Legion, Ku Klux Klan Vigilante Outfit

New 'Law and Order League' Headed by Man Who  
Gained Political Office Through Support of  
General Motors-Republican Gang

By DeWITT GILPIN

(This is the second of a series of three articles)

FLINT, Mich., Aug. 2.—When I interviewed Raymond French, head of General Motors' 1937 model vigilante band, he declared that he would arm his members in case of labor trouble, "after they have been deputized."

When I interviewed Police Chief Wills, anti-labor specialist, now back in office through

the power of the "Law and Order League," he told me he wouldn't comment on the vigilantes.

"But," I protested, "Raymond French says that his men will be deputized in case of labor trouble. You will have to do that won't you?"

"Maybe," snapped the man whose anti-labor record stretches from the copper strike of 1920 to the shooting of the GM strikers at Fisher No. 2 last winter, "but maybe the sheriff will do it. I'll cross that bridge when I come to it."

L. W. Thomas, Klansman and secretary of Protestant Action Association, unified Black Legionaire-Klan group, was just as touchy on the subject of the vigilantes. "I don't know anything about them," he insisted.

## BLACK LEGION HELPS

"But your president and other members of Klan and Legion are helping organize them," I informed him.

Thomas, despite the fact that he had issued a statement to the press previously that his organization was coordinating the two disreputable groups, shouted a denial that his members were Klansmen and Legionaires.

"But you said so in the Detroit News," I reminded him.

"A pack of lies," he roared.

"But at your first meeting of the Association," I persisted, "didn't you have James A. Colescott, grand dragon of the northwestern states, speak to you about the Klan's program?"

"Well," said Thomas, a little weakly, "he was there alright."

So, as I explained in the previous article, was George Boysen, ex-head of the Flint Alliance and other vigilantes now resurrecting Boysen's old organization under a new name. In reality the Action Association first tried to form a vigilante organization on its own but gave up this idea when the "Law and Order League" was agreed upon. Before this took place, Thomas, when questioned by a

news reporter as to the effect the exposure of the Black Legion in Detroit had on its members in Flint, declared, "Why should it hurt the Legionaires out here? They are all good Americans!"

## REPRESENTATIVE TRIO

Raymond French, American Legionaire, James Wills, anti-labor police chief who refused to let the Flint unions distribute a handbill attacking the Black Legion, L. W. Thomas, Klansman and Black Legion defender—here is a representative trio of the "Law and Order League of Flint," organized "to protect the right to work" and backed by GM.

"I'm not connected with General Motors and I don't intend to be," French told me in his office over vigilante headquarters in the Dryden Building.

Knowing the ill-repute that all organizations fall into here once they are tainted with the stamp of the motor corporation, French and his associates are trying desperately to avoid exposure.

Unfortunately for him, French's own record makes him out a liar. For years he has been a part of the political machine that has been General Motors company union in the city hall. A legionaire and a former commander, he was elected to office as city commissioner several years ago with the full support of the Republican-G.M. machine. At that time his opponent for office, another Republican, attacked him in a pamphlet which charged that he had made arrangements with all the collection agencies to garnishee the wages of auto workers delinquent in their accounts. It earned for him a title that stuck, "the garnishee lawyer."

## BROKE STRIKE

French also gained notoriety during the 1934 A. F. of L. auto strikes here that were broken by state militia. At that time he busied himself giving pep talks to the troops and extolling them to "protect property" and keep order.

As a veteran politician, French fit nicely into the plan entered into by

General Motors executives and Republican politicians to use the newly formed vigilante organization to oust the pro-labor representatives in the city government. The details of this political coup, which has already resulted in union sound cars being banned from the streets, involved officials of the G.M. plant and will be described in the next article of this series.

DAILY WORKER

AUG 3 1937

Yon

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## Black Legion Head Reported in N. Y.; Tip Proves False

New York, July 27 (AP).—A report that Virgil F. Bert Effinger, reputed head of the Black Legion and fugitive from justice, was working here caused a flurry of excitement in the police department today.

Assistant Chief Inspector John Lyons said requests for Effinger arrest had come from Detroit, Mich., and Columbus, Ohio, after tips Effinger was employed by a local contractor.

The man, reported to be Effinger, was investigated but his identity was established quickly.

Effinger, identified at trials in Detroit as commander of the Black Legion, has been sought since last August 25.

WASHINGTON POST

JUL 28 1937

Law

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**BLACK LEGION HEAD  
HUNTED IN NEW YORK**

**"Major General" Effinger, Who Fleed  
Ohio Inquiry, Reported  
Seen in City.**

Virgil F. (Bert) Effinger, described as a "Major General" of the Black Legion, was being sought in New York today on a report from Columbus, Ohio, and Detroit that a man resembling him was seen here recently. Assistant Chief Inspector John A. Lyons said police had been requested to arrest him on a warrant charging him with being a fugitive and possessing firearms.

Effinger, a Lima (Ohio) electrical contractor, walked out of an investigation at Columbus last August into the activities of the Black Legion, a terrorist organization with a background of violence and murder. He is credited with the observation that "America is cursed with too much liberty."

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| Mr. Tolson     |  |
| Mr. Clegg      |  |
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| Mr. Pennington |  |
| Mr. Quinn      |  |
| Mr. Nease      |  |
| Miss Gandy     |  |

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DATE: JUL 27 1937

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Evening Sun  
Baltimore, Md.

DATE 11 27 1937

## FUGITIVE HEAD OF BLACK LEGION SOUGHT IN N. Y.

Detroit And Columbus,  
Ohio, Ask Arrest Of  
Virgil Effinger

PROBE DEFENDANT  
MISSING FOR YEAR

Vanished Last August  
From Hearing On  
Extradition

[By the Associated Press]

New York, July 27—Assistant Chief Inspector John A. Lyons, in charge of New York detectives, announced receipt today of requests from Columbus, Ohio, and Detroit, Mich., for the arrest of Virgil F. Effinger, alleged to be commander of the Black Legion.

Lyons said the request from Columbus was for Effinger's arrest on a fugitive warrant. Effinger walked out of an extradition hearing in Columbus last August on charges growing out of the Black Legion investigation.

The Detroit request, Lyons said, was for Effinger's arrest, on a charge of illegal possession of weapons.

### Police Working On Report

Police were working on a report a man resembling Effinger was seen recently in metropolitan New York. Effinger, identified at trials in Detroit as a national commander of the Black Legion, was among twenty-two persons charged with violation of the State criminal syndicalism statute and conspiracy to overthrow the Government in a blanket warrant issued by Circuit Judge James E. Chenot, of Detroit.

Judge Chenot sat as a one-man grand jury to investigate the secret society of hooded night riders.

### Faces Bomb Charge Also

Effinger also faces another warrant, obtained by Prosecutor Duncan C. McCrea of Wayne (Detroit) county, who charged that Effinger transported bombs and explosives to a Black Legion meeting here two years ago.

Both charges are contained in an extradition warrant signed by Gov. Martin L. Davey of Ohio on August 28, three days following a hearing before Charles Leasure, his executive assistant.

Effinger, who was attending the hearing, failed to appear after a noon recess. Leasure recommended that Effinger be returned to Michigan.

### Based On Dean's Statement

The indictments naming Effinger and twenty-one others were based on affidavits of Dayton Dean, confessed Black Legion "executioner," and other members.

Dean alleged that Effinger and others advocated the overthrow of the Federal Government and planned a coup on September 16, 1936, to seize Government buildings and arsenals.

Dean, one of eight men sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Charles A. Poole, testified that there was a national call word, "Lixto," as the signal for the coup.

McCrea's warrant charged that Effinger displayed six hand grenades at the Detroit home of Arthur F. Lupp, Sr., alleged State commander of the Black Legion.

### Lupp Serving Prison Term

Lupp is serving a prison term for conspiracy to kill a newspaper publisher of Highland Park.

Effinger was named also as a sponsor of the Black Legion in a grand jury report issued by Circuit Judge George B. Hartick, of Pontiac, Mich. The report added the Black Legion was formed in Ohio, probably in 1931, by "rebellious members" of the Ku Klux Klan.

The order's oath classed Catholics, Jews and Negroes as "enemies."

There have been close to fifty convictions in Michigan for murder, arson, conspiracy to kill and other crimes since Poole's death.

### Shot Dead In Ditch

Poole, a WPA worker, was "taken for a ride" and shot to death in a roadside ditch.

Dean said there had been false gossip that Poole beat his wife, but that some Black Legion leaders thought he "knew too much."

Five men were given life terms for the "target practice" murder of Silas Coleman, Negro war veteran. Dean said they shot him without warning because Harvey Davis, one defendant, "wanted to see what it felt like to kill a Negro."

Two Black Legion men were convicted of a plot to kill William W. Voisine, president of the village of Ecorse.

61-2398-11

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SYMBOL

Mirror  
New York City

DATE JUN 20 1937

# Ward Torture Bites of the Black Legion Boy Gung



**BRANDED BY FIRE!**  
See Those Two Marks on Each Boy's  
Wrists? (Above and to the Left). They  
Represent the Secret Brand Every Boy  
Black-Legionite Had to Endure.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Fox
- Miss Gandy

R

# When Grown Men Do Silly Things, the Kids Will Imitate Them— And It Almost Came to Tragedy in a Pennsylvania Town

ONE of the wooden doors hung slantwise. It had only one good hinge. But the gang could fix that up, George Wagner decided. George was fourteen, and pretty smart, a bit bigger than the other members of his gang, and this was HIS idea.

He talked it over with about eleven other boys, as they met in this abandoned wooden garage way down the end of Lane Alley, in Turtle Creek, Pennsylvania. They all listened pretty well, for George said he was going to be Chief and the boss.

It developed weirdly, as you'll see.

The gang, particularly Bill, who was eleven, and Hank, who was twelve, and Jim Mason, ten, were pretty sore at the bigger fellows up the hill near the railroad station. Every time any of the Lane Alley kids would go up that way, they'd meet about half a dozen older guys (some of them as old as sixteen) and there'd be fist fights and rock throwings and things like that.

Jim Mason, for example, even though he was only ten, said he wasn't scared of any of those big palookas, even if he'd got a black eye only that week. Three of the big guys had jumped on him, he said, when his mother sent him to Adam's grocery store up the hill.

Yes, agreed George Wagner, that's why he'd picked this secret meeting place in the old wooden garage. They'd form a gang, and get a lot of the other fellows in it, and then they'd go to work on the big bullies up the hill near the railroad station.

Well, they talked it over pretty well that afternoon, and decided four things. Dues would be five cents a week. They would meet each night for at least ten minutes (so as not to miss any good movie in town) and every man would be pledged to secrecy. They would call themselves "The Crusaders"—just like some grown folks.

EVERYTHING went swell for a while. Except that the gang dropped "The Crusaders" and became the "Black Legion." That sounded better, anyway—more mysterious and up-to-date. Almost fifty were in the gang by now. And they had some good meetings. No one could get into that garage without a password, a secret knock and the approval of the outer guard—a Belgian police dog named "Marks."

"Marks" knew his business. Many a night he'd sit there, outside those wooden doors, peering down the alley or up in the air at the flag with the big red cross (hand painted) stuck up on the roof of the headquarters. Every

member had a sword or knife, and a shield (wooden, of course) and all decorated with red crosses. If "Marks" didn't know you, you didn't get in.

They tried to get robes like the real Black Legion, but there was no money.

It took quite a while for some of the younger members of the gang to get the secret code down pat, so that they could write each other secret notes while in school. George Wagner and one of his trusty lieutenants devised the code. It went like this:

A is a cross.

B is C.

C is an upside-down T.

E is a double circle.

F is V.

G is V upside down.

The Chief Wagner and Sylvester "Tut" Barnes had a grand idea; it was mostly "Tut's" idea, but Chief Wagner told the meeting that night that HE had thought it up while reading a book he found on Pop's table at home. They'd

have a torture chamber, an initiation chamber and a punishment chamber!

The torture chamber would be the best and most important, and Chief Wagner said in a stern voice that as soon as they got the torture machines fixed up that "Tut" Barnes would be "The Tester."

"And," said Chief Wagner, "I'm going to appoint Skinny Wilson my bodyguard and assistant torturer. First thing we're going to do, when I get my instruments together tomorrow night, is to brand every man in this gang."

With many a hushed groan and shiver, the branding started the next night.

Wooden clothespins were dipped into

a fire. The points of the smouldering clothespin were pressed into flesh, just above the wrist, on each hand. It hurt, of course, but no one cried out loud. The brands stayed there, too.

THE torture machines were swell. They were home-made, of course, but they worked fine.

"The Stretcher" was a wooden door. Victims were roped up over this door. They hung there for a while and then they got so many strokes on the bare back with rubber hoses.

The "Paddle Machine" was a rude stepladder, about three feet high, across which victims were stretched and tied, while either Chief Wagner or his bodyguard applied a leather strap.

The "Hang-up Machine" was a rope suspended from the roof of the Secret Headquarters, by which members were drawn into the air to remain suspended like chain gang convicts until they saw the error of their ways.

Everything was fine now and Chief Wagner decided that the time was ripe to go after those big guys up the hill near the railroad track. Up they went, just before supper time one night. The Black Legion was almost fifty strong, all well armed.

They quickly fought off that gang of bigger boys, seven in all, and retired to their own business for a while.

Then an undercover scout of the "Black Legion" reported to his chief:

SIX OF THAT BIG GANG  
(one had quit after the fight)  
HAD FORMED THEIR OWN  
SECRET CLUB! IT WAS  
CALLED "THE SYCAMORE  
SIX!"

And, boy, did that require initiations and punishments!

Why, the "Sycamore Six" were taking fellows and hanging them, by their wrists, to big tree limbs for as long as half an hour.

And while they were hanging 'em there they would jab their feet with sharp thorns and hit 'em with gnarled bushes, with the leaves off!

The Black Legion was in a turmoil. They were being outdone. To a man, they agreed to stamp out "The Sycamore Six" and run its members off the face of the earth.

They laid their plans carefully.

But something went wrong.

The Chief of Police, William J. Whalen, met Chief Wagner, head of the Black Legion, down on Main Street.

The Chief of Police was pretty stern. One of the Black Legion members had almost got blood poisoning in his wrist from a brand mark. Parents had kicked.

Chief of Police Whalen had a good idea. Disband the Black Legion and form a G-Men Gang! Boy Chief Wagner thought it over. It might be a swell idea at that—his G-Men could abolish "The Sycamore Six!"

He agreed to have his men become G-Men and said, unhappily:

"Maybe it's just as well. We ain't collected hardly any dues. They was five cents a week and we only collected a dime from the whole gang. Two Greek kids paid up one week."



**THE SECRET TERROR-RITE**  
 Above, If You Look Closely, You'll See  
 "Black Legion" Chief Wagner Branding  
 a New Gang Member.



**FLOGGING—JUST LIKE MEN**  
 When Any Boy Broke the Street  
 Gang Rules, He Was Put on the  
 Stretcher," as Shown Above, and Laced  
 by His Fellows.



**TORTURE A LA MODE**  
 "The Paddle Machine" (Above in Circle)  
 Was Another Home-Made Apparatus  
 Used to Punish Boy Legionnaires.

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Dwyer .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*Ed*

**Black Legion Probed**

The Senate Civil Liberties Committee has begun a secret investigation of the notorious Black Legion which terrorized Michigan and other states during the late years of the depression, it was learned today. Committee investigators are in Detroit. Their findings may be revealed in public hearings here.

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61-7398-A

WASH. NEWS

MAY 6 - 1937

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Boardman.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Dawsey.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Joseph.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*[Handwritten signature]*

## BLACK LEGION PROBE

### *Senate Looks Into Cult's Deeds*

The Senate Civil Liberties Committee has begun a secret investigation of the notorious Black Legion which terrorized Michigan and other States during the late years of the depression, it was learned last night.

Committee investigators are in Detroit probing activities of the hooded organization which originated in Michigan and spread to California, New York, Indiana, Ohio and other areas.

The committee, headed by Senator Robert M. La Follette (P.), of Wisconsin, became interested in the legion because of its alleged anti-union activities.

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WASH. HERALD

MAY 6 1937

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E. Z. JOSEPH



**EX-SERGEANT IS JAILED  
IN BLACK KLAN ARSON**

PONTIAC, Mich., May 4 (AP).—Walter A. Pierce, former Pontiac police sergeant, was sentenced in Circuit Court today to three to seven months in jail for arson. He pleaded guilty to participating in a raid during which Black Legion members set fire to the Workers' Educational Camp in 1933. Prosecutors said Pierce was a colonel in the secret society.

**NEW YORK POST**

Forwarded by New York Office

**MAY 4 1937**

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Lawney .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*M. J. [Signature]*

*1502*

*123*

# Asthe Crow Flies

The Committee of 1,000,000 Seems to Be the Nucleus of a New Klan

By ERNEST L. MEYER

LAST week in Detroit nine more men were added to the score convicted of Black Legion terrorism which was climaxed by the murder of a WPA worker.

These latest convictions pretty well smashed the leadership of the underground terroristic secret society. But the organization was not crushed until great damage had been done, and there are doubtless many cases of Black Legion thuggery which never have come to light.

The wise thing to do is to nip such a fungus in the first stages of its exorcence. The Black Legion is beaten, but organizations as sinister may take its place.

There is one already in the process of formation. It is called the Committee of 1,000,000 and its national leader is the Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith, who seeks to inherit the mantle of the late Huey Long. One can dismiss the Rev. Mr. Smith as a babbling blowhard yowping about "baby-havin' folks and 'tater growers." Once we dismissed Huey Long with the same easy sneer, but Huey's march to dictatorship might conceivably have been crowned with victory had he not been mowed down by a victim of his own viciousness.

## For God and Country

THE Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith denies he is a Fascist. His sole aim, he says, is to treat Communism not as a political party but as a crime. He vows that his committee will work within the law.

Now it is quite possible that this windbag will get nowhere. It is also quite possible that he may attract to his banners the nucleus of a new brand of Ku Klux Klan with potential power to do untold damage to the Bill of Rights and racial and political minority groups.

There is something hauntingly Klannish in the literature sent out by the Committee of 1,000,000 from its New York headquarters at 65 West Fifty-fourth Street.

"The Committee of 1,000,000," says the leaflet, "is a militant, aggressive, nonsectarian, nonpolitical organization of men and women imbued with the spirit of true Americanism. It has dedicated itself, under the leadership of Gerald L. K. Smith, to the solemn purpose of crushing Communism and other insidious and perverse influences that have undermined the sanctity of our churches, the integrity of our schools and colleges and the solidarity of our accepted family institutions and to the rebuilding of a new spirit of American national character."

## Seven Pillars of Smith

THE spirit of the Committee of 1,000,000 is defined in seven principles of action, covering the entire sphere of our national, religious and economic life:

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Nathan   | ..... |
| Mr. Tolson   | ..... |
| Mr. Laughman | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg    | ..... |
| Mr. Coffey   | ..... |
| Mr. Dawsey   | ..... |
| Mr. Egan     | ..... |
| Mr. Foxworth | ..... |
| Mr. Glavin   | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo    | ..... |
| Mr. Joseph   | ..... |
| Mr. Lester   | ..... |
| Mr. Nichols  | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn    | ..... |
| Mr. Schilder | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Miss Gandy   | ..... |

NEW YORK POST  
Forwarded by New York Office  
MAR 10 1937

61-7398 π 129

"(1) To rebuild the Spirit of America.  
"(2) To wipe out to the last vestige Communism and Marxism in all its forms.

"(3) To redefine the American National Character.

"(4) To instill a new spirit of American Youth dedicated intellectually and physically to the maintenance of American Institutions.

"(5) To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known to be an international plot to make them part of world revolution.

"(6) To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar.

"(7) To secure the maintenance of a well-defined standard of living."

These are the seven pillars of wisdom of the redoubtable Mr. Smith. In joining his organization for an initial fee of \$1 you receive a long questionnaire, entitled "Application for Action Committeeman." Besides the usual questions of name, address, place of birth, religion, etc., the application blank states this:

"Do you realize that in joining the Committee of 1,000,000 you may be required under oath to express your willingness to participate in activities that shall transcend all political party lines that at times may be beyond the concepts of other organizations to which you might belong? Are you willing to do this?"

And the application adds significantly: "Have you ever been in the military or naval service? If so, give duration of service, regiment and date of discharge."

### **Rising in the Ranks**

AH, BUT that is not all. You can also sign an application blank for "Action Group Leader." This application blank asks your bank account, whether you have ever been employed on a Government relief job, whether you "could be available at all hours of the day and night for duty" and "can you receive confidential messages without interference whatsoever from any source, even your family?"

Moreover, you can rise one step higher in the hierarchy of the Rev. Mr. Smith. You can sign a blue application blank for "Unit Leader." In this blank added questions are asked: "Are you willing to answer all calls for meetings without any delay whatsoever?" "Are you available for confidential duties and assignments in your community?" "Is your family in sympathy with the general principles of the Committee?" "Do you own an automobile?" "Have you life insurance?" "What church do you attend?"

Don't be afraid to join in the Rev. Mr. Smith's red-baiting legions. You won't be found out. In the statement of principles there is one paragraph captioned "Confidential Membership." It says:

"No membership list of the Committee is ever published and no member is made susceptible to the influence of undue publicity...."

It is my belief that undue publicity is precisely what the Rev. Mr. Smith and his visionary committee needs. It is my belief that the organization and its objectives and its plan for attaining those objectives are a fit subject for scrutiny by La Follette's Senate Committee on Civil Liberties.

Then perhaps we might discover precisely what the members of the Committee of 1,000,000 enrolled in secret have to do when they are "required under oath to participate in activities that shall transcend all political party lines."

It may be that these duties transcend, also, all the lines of decency and the law of the land.

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| Mr. Nathan | ..... |
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| Mr. Coffey | ..... |
| Mr. Egan   | ..... |
| Mr. Gurnea | ..... |
| Mr. Hendon | ..... |
| Mr. Jones  | ..... |
| Mr. Lester | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn  | ..... |
| Mr. Nease  | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm   | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy  | ..... |
| Miss Gandy | ..... |

### JUSTICE BLUSHES

All the comforts of home and Mac West's "come up and see me" dramas can take a fade out. The old saw that truth is stranger than fiction will have to be revised. Truth is stranger than the movies.

Dayton Dean, triggerman in Michigan's Black Legion killing, is held temporarily in a skyscraper jail in Detroit. He's going to prison on a life sentence, but in his present abode he has a room which 17-year-old Lucille Turner describes as "nice." It has a private bath, a radio and other comforts of home.

Lucille climbed into Dean's nice room for a three-hour dinner party with the convicted killer. It was all staged with money furnished by the taxpayers of Michigan and it had more action and "glamour" than anything Hollywood ever produced. When the lady came out from behind the curtain of a shower bath in the convict's cell even blind justice must have blushed.

61-7398

*[Handwritten signature]*

3-2-37

**Romance Behind the Bars:**

# Cell Tryst Balks Slayer's Escape

**'Sure I Visited Dean; We'd  
Been Flirting,' Says Girl, 17,  
Found by Policeman**

**DETROIT, Feb. 22 (US).**—A three-hour tryst with a pretty girl in a jail cell balked the escape plans of Dayton Dean, callous "executioner" for the Black Legion murder cult, police disclosed today.

Lucille Turner, 17-year-old runaway from Asheville, N. C., admitted without abashment:

"Sure, I visited Dean in his cell; we'd been flirting for over a week."

But the furor caused by the girl's disappearance from the jail sewing room on the eighth floor, directly below Dean's cell, caused a thorough search of the jail and a disclosure of Dean's preparations for escape.

## Under Life Sentence for Cult Slaying

Dean, under life sentence for the cult slaying of Charles A. Poole, young Works Progress Administration employee, had twisted a bolt from the grillwork bars of his cell and the nut on the bolt was missing, police said.

Search of his cell revealed the wrench with which he had done this. Investigators said it would have taken only a few more nights for Dean to have dismantled the grillwork completely.

The Turner girl said their "affair" started more than a week ago when she was singing and playing the piano in the sewing room. Dean, she related, houted to her out the window:

"Why don't you come up and see me some time?"

And then last Saturday:

"Ain't you coming up?"

## Calls to Him That She's Coming Up

This time, she said, she called back:

"Sure, I'm coming up."

She told conflicting stories of how she had reached Dean's cell. First she said she was taken up in an elevator and later that she climbed up to his cell on the inside of the grillwork that extends past the windows on both the eighth and ninth floors.

An investigation was ordered to determine whether Dean was getting special favors and whether the girl had been slipped into his cell by a jail attache.

Lucille was dazzled by Dean's cell, with its private bath and radio. She went on:

"As we became better acquainted, he kissed me passionately. Afterward, we ate dinner together. He had some food in his room and we made a dinner from that."

But, in the meantime, Lucille's disappearance from the sewing room was discovered and the alarm spread through the jail. She said she tried to

return to the eighth floor by way of the grillwork, but found the window to the sewing room locked and had to go back to Dean's cell for lack of any other place to hide.

Occasionally a policeman would look into Dean's cell. Lucille said:

"Whenever a policeman came through the cell block, I ducked into Dean's shower bath and hid behind three suits of clothes he had hanging there.

"Dean would just gaze out the window as if he didn't have a thing on his mind when the guard passed, but I held my breath every time. Dean always could tell when the guard was coming because he heard the click of the key in the big steel door leading into the cell block.

## Found by Policeman

"Finally, we heard the door lock click again and I ducked back into the shower. But this time the policeman looked into the shower room and found me."

Dean was equally frank about

the affair. With his accustomed braggadocio, he said:

"Yeah, I had a date with her. I got to know several girls down there by calling down to them. We swapped notes, too, using a string."

Police Commissioner Heinrich A. Pickert declared:

"We are investigating to see whether other women have been visiting other men prisoners in similar fashion."

Replying to intimations that favoritism might have been shown Dean, Detective Sergeant Jack Havril said:

"He has been treated like any other prisoner. He is being held here to testify in the cases of other Black Legion members accused of crime. When his testimony is finished he will be sent to prison."

Dean is said to have been tipped off by a previous occupant of his de luxe cell that if he were able to get a transfer to that particular cell he would have no difficulty in becoming friendly with the women quartered on the floor below.

Lucille, who has the status of a "lodger" rather than a prisoner, hitchhiked to Detroit with a man Feb. 3 from Asheville where her mother, Mrs. Gussie Turner, lives, police records show. She is being held in the jail until transportation is furnished for her return home. She has been allowed to come and go as much as she pleased.

She was arrested her first night in Detroit when a soldier told police she had accosted him in a beer garden.

Handwritten notes and signatures, including a large signature that appears to be "HNS" and the number "32" at the bottom right.

Invited to 'Come Up' and  
See Him 'Some Time,' She  
Climbs Through Windows  
of Jail Into His Cell



LUCILLE TURNER

*Nonchalantly Puffing on Cigarette, She Admits 'Flirting  
for Over a Week' with Black Legion's Triggerman*

133



**DELUXE CELL IN WHICH DAYTON DEAN MADE LOVE TO GIRL, UNBEKNOWN TO GUARDS**  
*Commodious Detention Quarters, with Radio and Private Bath, in Detroit Jail Dazzled His Pretty, 17-Year-Old Secret Visitor*

International News

134

# Girl Bares 'Romance' In Legion Killer's Cell

(Special to The News)

Detroit, Feb. 22.—Lucille Turner, slim, 17-year-old runaway from Asheville, N. C., told of her "life" in the prison "suite" of Dayton Dean, convicted killer and trigger man of the Black Legion, today as police faces glowed brick red.

Lucille, arrested three weeks ago as a frequenter of beer taverns and placed in the women's detention quarters on the eighth floor



Lucille Turner  
Dayton Dean's cellmate.

of Police Headquarters, was found late Saturday night in the show room of Dean's apartment—living room and private bath—on the eighth floor.

## Climbs Up Grille.

She had climbed up an iron grille outside the prison walls, she said, to climax a week-long romance.

"Oh, sure, I kissed him many times," she told Eleanor Hutzel, head of the Woman's Division of the Police Department, tonight. "Our affair started a week ago. As we became better acquainted, he hugged and kissed me passionately."

The blue-eyed girl explained that the sewing room of women's quarters was directly under the rooms Dean occupied until today, when he was transferred to a real cell.

## Piano Prelude to Affair.

"There's a piano in the sewing room," Lucille said, "and a week ago I was playing and singing to myself when Dean yelled out of his window and I answered him."

"Why don't you come and see me sometime?" he asked.

She was playing again Saturday the girl went on, when the hooded legion's executioner again called her.

"Ain't you coming up?" she said he asked.

"I opened the window and

climbed up the grille to his room and climbed in, she said. "We talked for a while and afterward we ate together. He had some food in his room."

## Found After Search.

She was found only when a search of the building was made after her absence, on the floor below was discovered.

Police Commissioner H. A. Pickert, asked why a convicted killer was so comfortably housed, replied:

"We couldn't send him to the county jail because the other Black Legion men are there. They would do him bodily harm."

Dean, sentenced to life imprisonment, is being held here as a State witness in the approaching trial of other members of the order.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Forwarded by New York Office

FEB 23 1937

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# Girl's Jail Tryst With Killer Told

**FOLLOWING** is an account of Lucille Turner's three-hour tryst with Dayton Dean, infamous Black Legion killer, in a jail cell in Detroit. The visit is now the subject of an extensive police probe.

By LUCILLE TURNER.

(As told to Elenore Hutzel, head of the Women's Division of the Detroit Police Department.)

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DETROIT, Feb. 22 (INS).—Sure I visited Dayton Dean in his jail cell.

Sure, I kissed him. And we had dinner together, too. Our affair started about a week ago.

You see, I've been kept in the sewing room on the eighth floor at Police Headquarters, which is directly under Dean's cell. There's a piano in there and I like to play it and sing sometimes.

A week ago I was playing and singing to myself, when I heard voices. Dean was yelling out the window and I answered him.

We had quite a conversation but I don't remember now what was said, except one thing. Dean yelled:

"Why don't you come up and see me some time?"

Last Saturday I was again playing the piano, playing some

old Southern songs (Miss Turner is from Asheville, N. C.) and guess Dean recognized the songs.

He yelled:

"Ain't you coming up?"

I yelled:

"Sure, I'm coming right up."

I opened the window and climbed up the grill outside the window to his room and climbed in.

I know I told you at first I went up the elevator, but that wasn't true.

*Editor's Note—Police are still investigating the report she was taken up in an elevator to Dean's cell.*

We said hello when I climbed in, in regular friendly fashion. I have never seen him before and I was interested in him, having heard so much about him.

He certainly had a nice room. We talked for a while.

As we became better acquainted, he kissed me passionately.

Afterward, we ate dinner together. He had some food in his room and we made a dinner from that.



DAYTON DEAN.

NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR

Forwarded by New York Office

FEB 23 1937

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Dawsey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

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# CELL YIELDS WRENCH TO SEARCHING POLICE

Girl Tells of 3-Hour  
Party With Black  
Cult Killer.

DETROIT, Feb. 22 (I.N.S.). Dayton Dean, Black Legion executioner, gave up possible escape from prison for a three-hour tryst with a girl in his jail cell, police revealed today.

Discovery of a wrench in Dean's cell after his romantic interlude with 17-year-old Lucille Turner was announced by police this morning.

One bolt had been twisted from the grillwork bars of his cell on the ninth floor of police headquarters and the nut on the bolt was missing.

Police said he would have needed only a few more nights to completely dismantle the grill work.

### Search Reveals Wrench

His cell was searched, however, and the wrench was discovered today after Miss Turner was found in the bathroom of his cell Saturday night.

Miss Turner admitted spending three hours with Dean after she escaped from the eight-floor sewing room of the women's division of the jail, directly below Dean's cell.

During their three-hour visit Dean also served her with dinner from food which he had been allowed to keep in his cell, she said.

Saturday night Miss Turner, held as a runaway from her home, was reported missing, and a three-hour search of the jail finally led to her discovery behind a shower curtain in the bathroom of Dean's cell.

Questioned by Policewoman  
Elenore Hutzel, Miss Turner herself  
claimed to be a member of  
the Black Legion. Police Com-  
missioner Pickert said the girl  
was merely boasting.

Pickert said Dean's cell regu-  
larly was used for witnesses, but  
that Dean was placed there be-  
cause of fears other members of  
the Black Legion in jail would kill  
him after Dean turned State's  
evidence.

Dean's cell was equipped with  
radio and private bath.

The Black Legion triggerman,  
being held here while awaiting  
transfer to prison to serve a life-  
term for the night ride murder of  
Charles A. Poole, confessed, police  
said, that he had been exchanging  
notes with women in the jail for  
some time by lowering them from  
the window with a string and  
safety pin.

He also said he managed to  
talk to several of the girls, using  
a ventilator pipe as an improvised  
telephone. In that way, he said,  
he managed to learn the names  
of several of the women.

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
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| Mr. Tolson   | ✓ |
| Mr. Baughman |   |
| Mr. Clegg    |   |
| Mr. Coffey   |   |
| Mr. Dawsey   |   |
| Mr. Egan     |   |
| Mr. Foxworth |   |
| Mr. Glavin   |   |
| Mr. Harbo    |   |
| Mr. Joseph   |   |
| Mr. Lester   | ✓ |
| Mr. Nichols  | ✓ |
| Mr. Quinn    |   |
| Mr. Schilder |   |
| Mr. Tamm     |   |
| Mr. Tracy    | ✓ |
| Miss Gandy   |   |
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WASHINGTON TIMES  
FEBRUARY 22, 1937

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