

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1390693-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 4  
Page 136 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 152 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 176 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 181 ~ Duplicate;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X Deleted Page(s) X  
X No Duplication Fee X  
X For this Page X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box #812

Chicago, Illinois

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. Scheidt	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

August 6th, 1935

Personal and  
~~Confidential~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my letter of August 3rd, 1935, I desire to advise that I have now been informed that Mr. M. H. Purvis and "King" Levinsky, the boxer, are to appear as guests on Rudy Vallee's radio program Thursday night, August 8th, 1935.

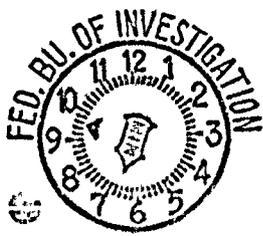
On August 5th, 1935, Mr. Butterfield of the Western Union Telegraph Company, while talking with the writer stated that he had received word from their New York Office indicating that Mr. M. H. Purvis was seeking a connection apparently with the Western Union Telegraph and Mr. Butterfield stated that it seemed peculiar to him that Mr. Purvis had to discuss his arrangements with the New York Office when he could have discussed it with the Chicago Office of the Western Union Telegraph.

Mr. Butterfield stated that indications were that Mr. Purvis might secure a connection in New York or with a law firm in Chicago which was associated with and represented by Western Union Telegraph Company in Chicago. At the first available opportunity I will attempt to secure more information concerning this matter from Mr. Butterfield, who indicated that this connection was not anticipated until such time as Mr. Purvis had completed his "writing".

Mr. Julius Frankenberg, who, you recall, recently visited Washington and transcribed the speech of the Attorney General on a new recording device which he has perfected, and who, it is recalled, anticipates a return visit to Washington in the near

XEROX  
JAN 16 1984

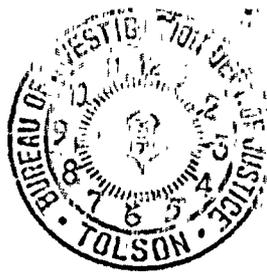
67-7484-400  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 14 1935  
TOLSON  
CLEGG  
THREE FOUR  
TAMM



U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

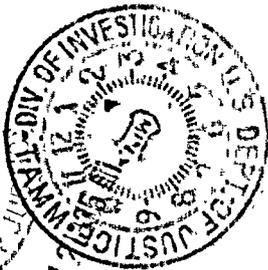
AUG 18 1935 AM

DIRECTOR



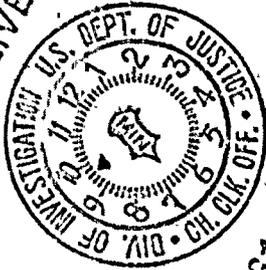
AUG 18 1935 PM

RECEIVED



AUG 12 1935 PM

RECEIVED



AUG 16 1935 AM

RECEIVED



AUG 12 1935 PM

AUG 13 1935 PM



AUG 18 1935 AM

future in connection with a demonstration of this same device, has informed Mrs. Mankin of this Office that Mr. Purvis intends to associate with him in the production and sale of this instrument. I shall make it my business to discreetly discuss this matter with Mr. Frankenberg at the earliest possible moment and inform you thereof.

Very truly yours,



D. M. LADD

Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM

XEROX  
JAN 19 1964

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St., N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Hollywood Reporter, issue of July 30, 1935, which carries an item on the front page indicating that Melvin Purvis, former Special Agent in this service, is being offered to the motion picture industry as a writer and technical advisor on so-called "G-men pictures". The article indicates that Selznick and Joyce represent Purvis.

I have heard nothing concerning this matter from my various contacts in the picture industry, and do not know whether the report appearing in the publication enclosed is authentic. I know nothing concerning the reputation of the Selznick-Joyce Agency.

Should you deem it advisable so to do, I will be very glad to make discreet inquiries for the purpose of verifying this report and also will be glad to make appropriate inquiries for the purpose of determining whether or not any of the major studios are displaying any interest in the matter.

I also suggest, for your consideration, the thought that it might be desirable for the Bureau to officially designate and publicly announce that an Agent or Bureau executive is available to the industry for the purpose of cooperation and technical advice to all branches of the industry on problems possessing mutual interest.

Very truly yours,

AUG 23 1935

J. E. P. DUNN  
Special Agent in Charge

JEPD:AB

Enc.  
AIR MAIL

OT:MAN

August 6, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Whitley telephoned from New York on August 1st, to advise that Mr. Mooney was proceeding to Washington in the near future to see the Director, and to establish himself near Washington for approximately three weeks, during which time he proposes to write a book dealing with crime matters.

Mr. Mooney advised Mr. Whitley that Mr. Purvis' Chicago representative is Daniel Frey, of the Frey Advertising Company, and that this company is publishing Mr. Purvis' book. Mr. Mooney further advised Mr. Whitley that he now understands that the book is to be used in serial form in the Red Book magazine.

Respectfully,

Clyde Tolson.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

67-7489-402	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
AUG 15 1935	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	FILE

TOLSON

Mr. Tolson

Ex

Mr. [unclear]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

August 8, 1935.

ct:mc

*Handwritten initials and marks:*  
JEB  
W  
✓  
✓

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Whitley telephoned on Wednesday afternoon, stating that Martin Mooney has now signed contracts for two books with the McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, and will be in Washington Friday morning. He stated that Mooney was having luncheon on Wednesday with Dr. Robert Scully, physician at Sing Sing Prison, from whom Mooney hopes to obtain a great deal of valuable data for use in his book on the parole system.

Mr. Mooney advised Mr. Whitley that the Red Book organization has rejected the first three chapters of Mr. Purvis' forthcoming book. The publishers advised Mr. Purvis that these chapters would have to be rewritten and they told Mr. Mooney that the earliest date the articles could now be published would be beginning on January 7. Mr. Mooney also advised Mr. Whitley that the first three chapters contained a vicious attack against the Bureau and cited as an instance that Purvis had criticised the Bureau for taking credit from the police in certain cases.

Mr. Mooney did not disclose the source of his information, but advised Mr. Whitley that he had secured the information at the offices of the Red Book publishers in New York City.

Respectfully,

Clyde Tolson

*Handwritten:* XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

67-9489-403

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 16 1935  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FOUR  
TAMM

CT:ACS

August 15, 1935.

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:-**

Re: S. S. BENTLEY, Special Agent.

Special Agent S. S. Bentley of the Nashville Office whose resignation has been requested because of lack of interest and failure to develop, was recommended for appointment by former Agent in Charge Purvis.)

Respectfully,

Clyde Tolson.

67-46140-46

1935  
AUG 15 1935

2

C O P Y

EAT:CSH:CDW

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Washington, D. C.

August 2, 1935.

Time - 8 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Re: John Dillinger.

Special Agent in Charge Blake telephoned me from the Dallas Office advising that Special Agent C. O. Hurt had just returned to the Dallas Office, where Mr. Blake had questioned him, as per my request, concerning the instructions issued by Mr. Cowley and Mr. Purvis on the afternoon preceding the fatal shooting of John Dillinger in Chicago. Mr. Hurt advises that the instructions, issued jointly by Mr. Cowley and Mr. Purvis, were to the effect that Dillinger was to be seized if possible; that he, Hurt, was one of those delegated to seize Dillinger. Mr. Hurt advised further that both Mr. Cowley and Mr. Purvis were in accord on the instructions and agreed on them.

I instructed Mr. Blake to have Mr. Hurt prepare and submit to the Director at once a statement in detail as to the instructions issued concerning this matter, and by whom the instructions were issued, and to forward the statement to Washington by air mail and special delivery today.

Respectfully,

(S) E. A. TAMM

E. A. TAMM

67-5163-170

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

August 19, 1935.

Time - 2:45 P. M.

MEMORANDUM

Re: Articles by Melvin Purvis

In a telephonic conversation with Mr. Keith who was in New York City he stated he had seen Melvin Purvis who had indicated that his articles would begin appearing in the November issue of "Redbook"; and that he further indicated the articles would be of a critical nature.

J. E. H.

*CEH*

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Backus	.....
Mr. Baughman	..
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
.....	.....

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

67-7484-404

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
August 22, 1935.

Time - 3:04 P. M.

MEMORANDUM

Re: Articles written for Redbook by  
Melvin Purvis.

①

Mr. Whitley telephoned from New York city and stated Martin Mooney called on him and told him his book agent George Bye, is very close to the Redbook people and is keeping Mooney informed about Purvis' articles, Bye's interest being that Mooney can regulate the tenor of his book. Mr. Whitley stated Mr. Mooney said that recently after Redbook had turned down the first three articles submitted by Purvis and had set January 1936 as the time for the first article to appear, that they heard about Mooney's book and then called Purvis to New York, gave him a staff writer who is now rushing a re-write of those first three articles and that they plan to get them into Redbook as soon as possible, perhaps by November; that Purvis will publish about eight articles and will receive about \$200 per article. Mr. Whitley further stated that in reply to his inquiry Mr. Mooney stated he knew the general tenor of Purvis' articles which have been submitted, is to give the local police credit for things the Bureau has been doing; that Mr. Mooney said this, coming from Purvis, amounts to direct criticism of the Bureau. Mr. Whitley stated that in view of this, Purvis could still state he was not criticizing the Bureau and I agreed, stating it was merely a question of interpretation; that Mr. Mooney said this is the reason Redbook is buying the articles as they are insisting the element of playing up the local police be present.

J. E. H.

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. Schmidt	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

AUG 27 1935

67-7489-405	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
AUG 26 1935 A. M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
NATHAN	TOLSON
	FILE

DIRECTOR



b6  
b7C

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

TDQ:A

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

August 21, 1935.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

- 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. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

In compliance with your request, a search of the Bureau files has been made as far back as January, 1934, and they reflect the following information with regard to invitations tendered former Special Agent in Charge Purvis to appear and speak before various conventions:

On May 8, 1935 Mr. J. J. McDermott, Chairman Convention Committee, Iowa State Policemen's Association, Davenport, Iowa, addressed a communication to the Director requesting that Mr. Purvis be permitted to attend the convention and talk before one of the sessions.

A reply to this communication went forth to Mr. McDermott under date of May 14, 1935 expressing the Director's regret that other commitments would make it impossible for Mr. Purvis to attend, suggesting, however, that in the event they desired another representative of the Bureau to speak before the convention he would gladly give the request further consideration, stating that he would be pleased to designate one of the administrative officials of the Bureau in Washington to act as a speaker. A reply was received from this letter dated May 18, and under date of May 27, 1935 Special Agent in Charge Dowd was designated to speak before the convention to be held at Davenport.

See Bureau File 62-20750 serials 57 and 58.

JAN 19 1984

AUG 29 1935

67-7489-406

Under date of February 4, 1935 Senator Byrnes addressed a communication to the Attorney General stating that Mr. Alva Lumpkin, President of the State Bar Association of South Carolina, advised that the Executive Committee of that Association was exceedingly anxious to have Mr. MELVIN PURVIS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 27 1935  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NATHAN  
TOLSON  
SLEGG  
SCHEIDT

3 Encl. (A)

8-21-35

attend the meeting of the South Carolina Bar Association on March 7th in recognition of the splendid work he had rendered as an employee of the Department of Justice, the Senator stating that he would appreciate it if the Attorney General would have the proper official of the Department authorize Mr. Purvis to attend. Under date of March 1, 1935 a letter was received by the Director signed by Special Agent in Charge Stapleton of the Charlotte Office advising he was in receipt of a letter from Assistant United States Attorney E. P. Riley dated February 27, informing him of the meeting of the South Carolina State Bar Association at Columbia, South Carolina, on March 7th and 8th, and advising that according to the program sent out in advance former Special Agent in Charge Purvis was scheduled to make an address. Special Agent in Charge Stapleton was advised under date of March 2nd that Mr. Purvis was attending a special course of instruction and would be unable to appear and speak before the South Carolina Bar Association.

Under date of March 2, 1935 a letter was sent to Mr. Purvis requesting him to advise the Bureau whether he had accepted any invitation from the South Carolina Bar Association to address that meeting on March 7th or 8th. Under date of March 5th a letter was received from Mr. Purvis stating that "as I recall, I received an invitation from the President of the South Carolina Bar Association sometime during the latter part of last year. At that time I replied to the invitation, informing him that in view of the pressure of work or previous commitments I would not be able to accept. I forwarded from Chicago to the Bureau in Washington a copy of the letter from the President of the Bar Association, together with a copy of my reply. I did not accept the invitation."

The file concerning this matter fails to reflect the data Mr. Purvis states he forwarded to the Bureau.

See Bureau file 62-34676 - serials 1, 2 & 3.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

8-21-35

Under date of January 31, 1935 a letter was directed to the Bureau by Mr. William A. Rogers, Director of the Juvenile Police Schools of America, Chicago, Illinois, requesting fingerprint cards to be used for a class of instruction in that school, and in his letter dated March 6th requested the designation of a speaker from the Bureau to appear before the school on April 23, 1935. On March 20th a letter was addressed to Special Agent in Charge Ladd designating him to cover this assignment. Under date of April 24th Mr. Ladd addressed a letter to the Director stating that a copy of this communication was being placed in the Chicago Bureau file in view of the fact that he, Ladd, was returning to St. Paul and suggested that in the event the Bureau desired Special Agent in Charge Purvis to deliver this talk that he be notified direct, and a copy forwarded to Mr. Ladd at St. Paul. On April 27th a telegram was prepared in the Bureau advising Mr. Ladd to return from St. Paul on the designated date to speak before the Juvenile Police Schools of America in view of his previous designation.

See Bureau file 62-34697 - serials 1, 2 and 6.

On April 26, 1935 former Special Agent in Charge Purvis addressed a letter to the Director attaching a copy of a letter which he had received from Mr. Lyle L. George of the Racine Police Department requesting him to address the Wisconsin Policemen's Protective Association at their annual convention to be held at Kenosha, Wisconsin, on May 20th and 21st and requesting advice as to what action he should take in this connection. Under date of May 2nd a reply was prepared advising Mr. Purvis that in view of the fact that steps were being taken to establish a field office in Wisconsin it was believed undesirable for the Agent in Charge of another field office district to speak before the police officials in the Wisconsin district. On May 19th a telegram was received from Mr. C. M. Zeff of the Kenosha Evening News reading as follows: "Melvin Purvis was to have occupied top spot in Convention program of Wisconsin Policemen's Protective Association, organization of 800 policemen, in Kenosha Tuesday 11 A.M. Central time, but is down with cold forced to cancel. Had arranged joint meeting of City Service Clubs for luncheon same day with 150 business men for second appearance. Purvis suggests taking plea directly to you in hope of filling engagement by

XEROX

JUL 19 1984

8-21-35

Department of Investigation. Realize this is short notice but place yourself in position of poor program Chairman frantic to the point of hysteria. How about coming yourself? Please wire so we can sleep tonight."

On the same date a telegraphic response went forward stating that Mr. Purvis advised the Director that he declined the invitation some time ago and regretted in view of shortness of time that it would be impossible to designate a representative of the Bureau to attend.

A memorandum dated May 21, 1935 was prepared by Mr. Tolson to the Director stating that he called Mr. Purvis on Sunday (May 19th) concerning the telegraphic invitation from the Peace Officers' group at Kenosha, Wisconsin, for a speaker to substitute for Mr. Purvis; that Mr. Purvis indicated that he had never accepted the invitation and, in fact, had written two letters to officials in Kenosha declining it. He stated that he was contacted by telephone on Sunday afternoon and advised that Governor LaFollette had been substituted for him at the meeting on May 21st; that Governor LaFollette had found it impossible to attend and they wondered whether Mr. Purvis could make the address. He stated that he had indicated again by telephone that he could not accept. Among other things he indicated he was ill with a cold and would not be able to attend under any circumstances. Mr. Purvis stated that he was consistently declining invitations, and would advise the Bureau of the receipt of any invitations.

See Bureau file 62-35556 - Serials 1, 2 and 3.

- - - -

Mr. Purvis on July 8, 1935 addressed a communication to the Director stating that on July 5th Mr. S. R. Hassen of the Federal Housing Administration in Chicago called at the Chicago Office on behalf of Mr. Max Siegel, Director of the ABC and Deborah boys' clubs of Chicago. Mr. Purvis stated that he informed Mr. Hassen that he would not be able to comply with his request to speak before these groups; that the matter would have to be submitted to the Director in view of the fact that the Bureau might desire to designate someone else to make the talks requested. In a memorandum prepared by Mr. Quinn dated July 13, 1935, he states that he telephonically communicated with SAC Ladd of the Chicago

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

8-21-35

Office and requested him to appear and represent the Bureau in view of the fact that Mr. Purvis' resignation was effective as of the night of the eleventh.

See Bureau file 62-36582 - serial 1.

- - -

On May 6, 1935, Mr. Purvis addressed a letter to the Director attaching a copy of a special delivery letter received by him from Mr. G. A. Harder, President of the Massachusetts Camp, Society of the Fifth Division, United States Army - Veterans of the World War, Boston, Massachusetts, inviting him to speak at the Annual Spring Reunion and Dinner to be held at the Hotel Bradford in Boston on May 25th. He, also, attached a copy of his reply informing Mr. Harder of his, Mr. Purvis', inability to accept the invitation.

A letter addressed to the Director dated May 7, 1935 was received from Mr. George A. Harder extending an invitation to the Director to attend as a guest of honor the above meeting and was advised that on account of the unusually heavy volume of investigative matters which required the Director's personal supervision it would be impossible for him to attend.

See Bureau file 62-35692 - serials 1 and 2.

- - - -

Under date of January 31, 1935 a letter was addressed to the Director by Special Agent in Charge MacFarland, then assigned to the Buffalo Office, enclosing a communication received from Lieutenant Alfred J. Sendker, Troop "A" of the Buffalo Mounted Police, requesting the presence of the Director or Mr. Purvis to address a gathering of that organization at Buffalo on February 26. Under date of February 4th a letter was addressed to SAC MacFarland advising him that it would be impossible for Mr. Purvis or the Director to attend, but that the Director would be pleased to designate Assistant Director H. H. Clegg if Lieutenant Sendker should so desire. Under date of February 12th SAC MacFarland of the Buffalo Office advised that the information had been transmitted to Mr. Sendker, who stated that he would be very pleased to have Assistant Director Clegg address the meeting to be held on February 26th.

See Bureau file 62-34480 - serials 1 and 2.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1937

8-21-35

Under date of October 27, 1934, a letter was received from former SAC Purvis stating that on October 26th Mr. Ray C. Hill of Plymouth, Wisconsin, communicated telephonically with the Chicago Office and requested him to deliver a speech before the Law and Order League of Wisconsin. He stated that he advised Mr. Hill that due to the pressure of business it would not be possible for him to be there and suggested to him that he communicate with the Bureau.

On October 27th a telegram was received from Mr. Joseph H. Peters, Executive Secretary of the Sheboygan County Law and Order League, as follows: "Have been in touch with Melvin Purvis for purpose of having him address our group stop. Purvis will come but says we must have your permission stop. Community threatened with breakdown of law enforcement agencies stop Purvis appearance here would be powerful deterrent stop Desire a nonpolitical speech on law and order stop Most earnestly urge your consent for earliest possible date as condition serious".

A letter under date of October 30th signed by the Director was addressed to Mr. Peters informing him that the Director had been advised by Mr. Purvis that he had definitely advised Mr. Hill that due to the pressure of official duties requiring his services at Chicago it would not be possible for him to accept this invitation. A copy of this letter was forwarded to Mr. Purvis under the same date.

Under date of October 27, 1934, during a telephonic conversation held between the Director and Mr. Purvis the substance of the telegram from Mr. Peters was mentioned and he was informed as to the substance of the reply which is set forth in the Director's letter to Mr. Purvis dated October 30th.

See Bureau file 62-33284 - serials 2, 3 and 4.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1934

On August 6, 1934, former Special Agent in Charge Purvis telephonically communicated with the Director and stated that he had been requested to speak at a luncheon on that date before the Junior Chamber of Commerce. It was called to his attention by the Director the fact that the Attorney General had ordered that such speeches be submitted for approval before being delivered, and told him that he should have carried out such instructions. Mr. Purvis stated that

8-21-35

he had not had time to attend to this and that he was becoming tired of making such speeches. The Director informed him that he felt it to be to the Bureau's advantage to have such speeches made but that we should follow out instructions as to obtaining approval. He was authorized to make the speech on that date and instructed thereafter to submit at least a summary of his speeches.

On March 15, 1935 Special Agent in Charge Purvis sent a letter to the Director stating that Mr. Leonard Keeler of the Northwestern University Crime Detection Laboratories telephoned him on behalf of the Junior Association of Commerce and requested that either the Director or Mr. Purvis address a joint meeting of the Junior Chambers of Commerce for the States of Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana, in Chicago on March 30, 1935. Mr. Purvis stated that he informed Mr. Keeler he was sure the Director would be pleased to address this convention in the event it was possible for him to leave Washington; that in any event the writer was sure the Director would be glad to designate one of the officials of the Bureau to attend this conference and make the address.

Mr. Keeler telephonically communicated with the Bureau on March 15, 1935, conferring with Mr. Tolson, and requested that the Director appear and speak before the assembly. He was informed the Director would not be able to leave the city, whereupon Mr. Keeler asked whether it would be possible to have Mr. Purvis make the address and was advised that unfortunately Mr. Purvis would not be available either. Mr. Tolson suggested to Mr. Keeler that he felt certain the Director would be pleased to designate Assistant Director Clegg to make the talk if the officials of the organizations desired his attendance. Mr. Keeler stated he would find out about this and telegraph the Bureau. He, also, stated that there would be several hundred young men from Illinois, Iowa and Indiana present and he thought it would be a good opportunity for a speaker to discuss the functions of the Bureau. No further word was received from Mr. Keeler in this regard.

See Bureau file 62-32512 - serials 2, 3 and 4.

RECORDED  
JAN 19 1935

Under date of November 5, 1934, a letter was received for the Director from Mr. Samuel N. Stevens of the Northwestern

8-21-35

University stating that he regretted exceedingly that it was not possible for the Director to take part in the University College Series, and requested that in view of the Director's inability to attend that he delegate Mr. Purvis as the Director's official representative.

Mr. Tolson telephonically communicated with Mr. Purvis under date of November 9, 1934 concerning the letter from Mr. Stevens relative to the meeting to be held on December 6th and Mr. Purvis stated that he had heard nothing about this affair and he did not want to attend the meeting unless the Director specifically advised him to do so. He was advised by Mr. Tolson that Mr. Stevens would be informed that due to previous commitments it would not be possible for him to attend the meeting. A letter embodying this information was forwarded to Mr. Stevens under date of November 9th.

See Bureau file 62-14849 - Section 2, Serial 146.

LIST OF SPEECHES DELIVERED BY MR.  
PURVIS RELATIVE TO THE WORK AND FUNCTIONS  
OF THE BUREAU.

---

On July 10, 1934 Mr. Purvis telephonically communicated with the Director and stated that he had received a telephone call from Sheriff Miller at St. Joseph, Michigan, inviting him to address a meeting of about 100 officers at St. Joseph on Thursday night, consisting of the Southwest Michigan Peace Officers and Sheriffs Association. Mr. Purvis stated that if he accepted this invitation he would not have time to prepare a speech and send it to Washington for approval and was advised by the Director that he could send in that day over the teletype a brief summary of what he would cover in his address. Teletype message was received from Mr. Purvis on July 10th advising that he would follow the statements previously made before the Michigan Association of County Prosecutors, which was approved by teletype under date of July 11, 1934.

See Bureau file 62-32251 - Serials 1 and 2.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

8-21-35

Under date of May 12, 1934 Mr. Purvis addressed a letter to the Director stating he had received a call that morning from Dr. Stockey of the Uptown Lions Club requesting him to deliver an address at their meeting on May 24th and had advised Dr. Stockey that he would be glad to appear, further stating that unless otherwise instructed he would deliver the address requested under the date mentioned.

See Bureau file 62-31705 - serial 1.

On May 25, 1934 Mr. Purvis transmitted three copies of the speech delivered before the Uptown Chicago Lions Club.

See Bureau file 62-31751 - serial 1.

Under date of July 24, 1934, in a telephonic conversation held between the Director and Mr. Purvis, Mr. Purvis advised that he had been invited to speak before the Chamber of Commerce the following Monday and before the Advertising Post of the American Legion the following Monday and that he would send in an outline of his addresses to the Bureau. The file fails to reflect that copies of these addresses were ever received.

See Bureau file 62-32442 - serial 1.

Under date of August 28, 1934 a letter was received by the Director from Mr. Purvis attaching a copy of a letter received by him from Mr. John P. Sanger of the U. S. Gypsum Company, Chairman of the Program Committee of the Purchasing Agents Association of Chicago, requesting him to deliver a talk before the Association on September 13th. He advised Mr. Sanger that he would accept the invitation and if it was at all possible would appear. He stated further that he would like to talk extemporaneously and would furnish at a later date an outline of his contemplated talk. Under date of August 31st he was authorized to accept the invitation and was advised that the Bureau desired to receive a copy of his contemplated extemporaneous remarks in order that Departmental approval might be secured prior to their delivery. The file fails to reflect a copy of this talk was ever forwarded. XEROX

See Bureau file 62-32743 - serial 1.

JAN 10 1984

Under date of August 21, 1934 Mr. Purvis addressed a letter to the Director stating that he had received a request from Mr. William McDonnell, United States Marshal at Chicago, to speak before the Englewood Business Men's Association luncheon to be held on September 20th, stating that he would speak extemporaneously of the Bureau's work. Under date of August 25th he was authorized to accept the invitation but that the Bureau should receive at least an outline of his remarks in order that Departmental approval might be secured. The file fails to reflect that a copy of this talk was ever forwarded.

See Bureau file 62-32638 - serial 1.

Under date of August 24, 1934 Mr. Purvis addressed a letter to the Director attaching a copy of a letter dated August 20, 1934 received from Mr. Ira A. Moore, President of the Rotary Club, Grand Rapids, Michigan, inviting him to address that club on some Thursday during the month of October. He requested advice as to whether he should accept the invitation and stated that in the event it was accepted he planned on giving to the members a general outline of the work of the Bureau and requested permission to speak extemporaneously. Under date of August 30, 1934 a letter was forwarded to Mr. Purvis authorizing him to accept the invitation, but requested him to forward to the Bureau an outline of his contemplated extemporaneous remarks in order that Departmental authority might be obtained prior to their delivery. The records fail to reflect that a copy of his remarks were ever received.

See Bureau file 62-32662 - serial 1.

Under date of June 19, 1934 Mr. Purvis addressed a letter to the Director stating that a letter had been received from Mrs. Norbert J. Klein, program Chairman of the White Fish Bay Women's Club, Milwaukee, requesting him to give a talk before that Association. Mr. Purvis requested advice as to whether he should accept the invitation. Under date of June 22, 1934 in a Bureau communication he was authorized to accept the invitation but that triplicate copies of his address should be forwarded to the Bureau in order that Departmental authority might be obtained prior to its delivery. The Bureau file fails to indicate that copies of the remarks were ever received.

See Bureau file 62-32066 - serial 1.

JAN 19 1934

8-21-35

Under date of January 2, 1934 in a communication directed to the Director Mr. Purvis advised of the receipt of a letter from Mr. Mathew J. Murphy, Chairman, Distinguished Guests Committee, American Legion Chicago Police Post inviting him to be a guest at the Speakers' table at a dinner in honor of the National Commander, Edward A. Hayes on January 22, at the Hotel Sherman. He stated that he would arrange to attend this banquet. It could not be decided from the file whether Mr. Purvis made an address on this occasion.

See Bureau file 62-30424 - serial 1.

- - - -

Under date of October 8, 1934 a letter was received from Mr. Purvis concerning an invitation received by him to address a convention of the Illinois Telephone Association at Peoria, Illinois, on October 18, 1934. He requested permission to speak extemporaneously, furnishing an outline of the talk he intended to give. In a Bureau communication dated October 11th he was authorized to deliver this address and the outline submitted was approved by the Department.

See Bureau file 62-33129 - serial 1.

(Under date of October 17, 1934 in a teletype message received from Acting Special Agent in Charge Zimmer he requested advice as to whether, in view of the absence of Mr. Purvis from that district, he should deliver this address and was authorized to do so in teletype message dated October 17). See Bureau file 663129 - serial 2.

- - -

In a letter received from Mr. Purvis dated September 17, 1934 he stated that he had received a request from Mr. Rottmayer of the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers to address a convention of that Society on October 8, 1934, and had declined the invitation.

- - -

A copy of a memorandum prepared by Mr. Purvis for the file dated November 6, 1934 reflects that Mr. Fred A. Preston, Vice President, Poor and Company, called at the Chicago

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

Memo. for Mr. Tolson

-12-

8-21-35

Office, stating that he was Chairman of the Community Fund and desired Mr. Purvis to speak at one of their luncheons. The memorandum indicated that when Mr. Preston called again Mr. Purvis would inform him he would be unable to speak in accordance with his desire.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "T. D. Quinn", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the page.

T. D. QUINN

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

August 8, 1935.

*7:00  
8/28*

National Broadcasting Company Network - 7:00 P.M.  
Rudy Valle's Variety Hour

Valle: Melvin Purvis is young - younger than I am - light in stature, soft-spoken, quiet, but after a few minutes in his company you realize he would be a good man to have on your side in case of trouble. I consider it an honor to know and to introduce to you gangland's greatest enemy.....

(Sound of machine guns)

Valle: This was a 21 Thompson gun salute from the studio's sound equipment.

Purvis: I am a very nervous man.

RECORDED

Valle: Where were you born, Mr. Purvis?

Purvis: In South Carolina - Timmonsville, South Carolina.

Valle: Your age?

AUG 29 1935

Purvis: Thirty-one.

Valle: Married or single?

Purvis: Single.

67-7489-407	
AUG 28, 1935 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	FILE

In answer to further interrogation, Mr. Purvis stated that he had wanted to be a business man; that he attended the University of South Carolina; that he belonged to Kappa Alpha Fraternity; that he practiced law about a year and a half in Florence, South Carolina, but that they didn't seem to need a lawyer there very much, and he was tired of living on his father's money, so he went to Washington and secured a position in the Department of Justice.

Mr. Valle inquired as to his first assignment. Purvis stated that he was sent to Dallas, Texas; that for his first assignment he was given information relative to one Mike, who was wanted for car theft; that he went through the file thoroughly for information; that in his investigation he found five or six phone numbers written up on the side of a phone booth, and upon calling the third number he found it to be Mike's number. His wife answered and stated Mike was out. Mr. Purvis stated he knew that Mike had been a cement mixer at one time, and made an appointment to see him. When Mike kept the appointment, he drove up in the stolen car, and the car was taken.

JAN 19 1964

Valle: How long was it between the time you caught Mike and the finish of Dillinger?

Purvis: I object. You weren't going to mention Dillinger.

Valle: So I was - objection sustained.

Valle: Do you believe organized crime can be completely eradicated?

Purvis: Ladies and gentlemen, my answer to that question is yes. It's your problem. The gangster steals property - it might be your property. He kidnaps a child - it might be your child. He kills a man - it might be your husband..... Since the time I first entered the Department of Justice I have had one ambition - to make every human realize his own responsibility in the abolition of crime. What can you do? You can have the courage to refuse to be victimized. You can teach your child the truth about gangs and gangsters.....The hardened gangster of today was in many instances the brightest youngster in the neighborhood. Tell your children that the criminal is not a Robin Hood; that he is a rat and deserves the fate of vermin extermination.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Room 1103  
370 Lexington Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

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. Scheidt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

RW:PS

August 22, 1935.

~~PERSONAL AND~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St., N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Reference is made to our telephone conversation of even date.

Martin Mooney informed me today that the source of his information, concerning the articles which former Agent in Charge Purvis is reported to be writing for publication in the RED BOOK, is his (Mooney's) literary agent, Mr. George Bye, of New York City; that Bye is one of the best known and best qualified agents in the country; that after he got started on his literary activities, Purvis wanted to have Bye represent him, but he had already signed up with Daniel Frye Agency in Chicago. Mooney advised that yesterday Bye sold a series of four articles to Colliers for Huey Long; that the title of the series is "My First Days in the White House"; that Bye is very close to the publishers of the RED BOOK magazine and keeps him, Mooney, fully advised concerning their negotiations with Purvis.

Mooney states that after the RED BOOK recently rejected the first three articles submitted by Purvis and informed him that the earliest date on which the first of the revised articles could possibly appear was January of next year, they learned of the book "CRIME, INCORPORATED" which Mooney is writing; that this changed their previous plans; that they called Purvis into New York; that they had him get rid of his Chicago ghost writer; that they assigned one of their own staff writers to work with him; that this writer is rushing the preparation of the first articles in order that they might appear in the earliest possible issue of the RED BOOK, which will probably be November.

Mooney states that the present plan is for the RED BOOK to publish eight articles and that Purvis will receive approximately \$200 per article.

67-7489-408

AUG 29 1935

TOLSON

NATHAN

SCHEIDT

XEROX

JUL 19 1984

AUG 30 1935

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D. C.

August 22, 1935.

I again inquired of Mooney concerning the nature of the articles, and he stated that they were an attack on the Bureau. He said that he was positive of this from the information which he had received from Bye. I informed Mooney that I had heard through some source that Purvis had denied that his articles attacked the Bureau. Mooney then stated that he has definite information that the general tenor of the three articles previously submitted is to discount the Bureau's activities and give the credit for the Bureau's accomplishments to local law enforcement officials; that articles of this type, coming from Purvis, in his (Mooney's) opinion amount to a direct attack or criticism of the Bureau. Mooney states that it is his understanding that it is this feature of the articles which has interested the RED BOOK magazine and that they are insisting upon it as a prerequisite to their purchase of the articles.

During my conversation with Mooney he advised that he has eight chapters of his book "CRIME, INCORPORATED" completed; that the finished book will have about twenty chapters; that the eight chapters have already been submitted to the publishers; that they have indicated that they are extremely well pleased and that they believe the book will arouse widespread public interest and will have a large sales distribution. Mooney states that he has also finished two chapters of his book "PAROLE BOARD".

Mooney stated that he has recently talked to the head physician at Sing Sing Prison several times; that the doctor has gradually "opened up" and is now telling him "plenty" about Warden Lawes and his operation of the prison. Martin states that the doctor has lambasted Lawes and his policy in an extremely vigorous manner and has offered to take Mooney into the prison for the purpose of putting him in contact with possible sources of interesting information.

Mooney informed me that your recent address at Atlantic City, which caused the outburst from Warden Lawes, created widespread and intense interest among the prisoners at Sing Sing; that when Wagner was arrested, immediately following Lawes' outburst, the prisoners were elated, and that a regular carnival spirit prevailed in the institution; that the prisoners were shouting back and forth and that for a brief period, at least, bedlam prevailed. The doctor stated that typical of the attitude of the prisoners was the one who used his hands for a megaphone and shouted across the cells, "The warden led with his chin and Hoover swung up from the floor, and now the warden is on the rosin." Mooney states that the doctor informed him that as a result of the demonstration, several of the leaders of the outburst were put into solitary confinement, and that no newspapers containing information regarding Lawes and the Wagner incident were permitted in the prison for several days.

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

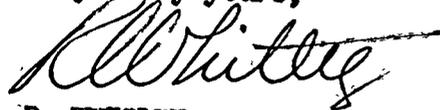
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D. C.

August 22, 1935.

Martin is buried up in the woods in a cabin upstate, near Woodstock, New York, where he is preparing his own meals and devoting his entire time to writing his books without any interruptions. He apparently is turning out his material very rapidly and he seems confident that he will have both books completed at a very early date.

Following my telephone conversation with you today, a party who identified himself as Mr. McNeil, phoned and advised that he was the manager of the Byrd Expedition; that the company which makes Kellogg's Corn Flakes and other cereals plans to dedicate a radio program to "the police"; that the program will probably be put on next Saturday, and that the sponsors of the program are anxious to secure the services of Purvis in connection with a broadcast. McNeil seemed to be in a terrible hurry and inquired whether I knew where he could get in touch with Purvis. I informed him that it was my understanding that Purvis was stopping at the Wadorf-Astoria Hotel. He inquired whether I thought Purvis would be interested in a proposition in connection with the proposed program, and I informed him that I of course had no idea whether he would be interested. McNeil indicated that he would try to contact Purvis immediately.

Very truly yours,



R. WHITLEY  
Special Agent in Charge

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box #812

Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*JL*

✓

*[Handwritten scribbles and checkmarks over routing table]*

Personal and Confidential

August 26th, 1935

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that on August 26th, 1935, the writer received a telephone call from Mr. Hallberg of the Chicago Herald and Examiner, who was formerly with the United Press at St. Paul, Minnesota.

He advised that he had received word that Mr. M. H. Purvis had been offered a position of Chief of Police at St. Paul, Minnesota, by Commissioner of Police Warren and that Mr. Warren at St. Paul had indicated that Mr. Purvis was considering this position.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

67-7489-409

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AUG 29 1935 A. M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NATHAN  
TOLSON  
EAMM  
FOUR  
FILE

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Room 1403  
370 Lexington Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

*Am*  
✓

JHH:PS

September 9, 1935

PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

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. Scheidt	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St., N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

For your information, Mr. Melvin H. Purvis called at the New York Office today and, in the absence of Mr. Whitley, he called on me. Purvis said that he was stopping in just to say "hello" and that he was returning to Chicago this afternoon. He mentioned that he has written a series of articles for the Red Book Magazine, the nature of which will be the inside workings used in apprehending some of the notorious criminals.

He also volunteered that he understood there had been some concern as to whether he would reveal "who shot who", as he explained it. He stated that his articles would not indicate who had killed any of the people about whom he might write, nor would the articles reveal any workings of the Bureau that might aid criminals or people harboring them.

Purvis also mentioned that he is still undecided as to any of his future plans. He indicated that he is considering several offers to make business connections but that he had also been offered the opportunity to make some ready money and he felt as though he should do that. According to Purvis, the book publishers are anxious that he write a book on his experiences. He also said that the moving picture industry has offered him an opportunity to go into the pictures but that his sense of dignity does not allow him to accept either the offer of the book publishers or the moving picture industry.

JAN 19 1984

I might also mention that Purvis seemed to be very friendly and indicated no antagonism towards the Bureau, any of its staff or its employees. He remarked that he was really enjoying life now, being very free, but that he was still interested in the work of the Bureau, which work he enjoyed very much, and that it was only after very much thought that he could make up his mind to leave his position in the Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

*J. H. Hanson*  
J. H. HANSON, Assistant  
Special Agent in Charge

67-7489-410

W. H. HANSON  
1935

COPY

EAT:AEK

August 29, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I met former Agent H. C. Connaughton at the Raleigh Hotel today and he informed me that he was merely in town on business. He stated he was glad to see that the Bureau "got rid of that 'pain in the neck' Purvis" stating that the situation in Chicago had become unbearable because of the antagonism which the newspaper men felt towards Purvis. He advised that he spent half of his time defending the Bureau against criticism voiced at it by newspaper men who disliked Purvis personally.

I informed Mr. Connaughton, in a jocular mood, that I had difficulty in picturing him in the armor of a knight defending the Bureau, since I was rather of the impression that he, personally, didn't ever lose an opportunity to "harpoon us". Connaughton stated he was always friendly for and with the Bureau.

Mr. Connaughton advised that he was proceeding to New York this afternoon.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

XEROE  
AUG 29 1935

67-16080-111

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box #812

Chicago, Illinois

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. Scheidt	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*WKA*  
*SEP 14 1935*  
*ED*

September 6th, 1935

~~Personal and Confidential~~

Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 United States Department of Justice  
 Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

During a conversation at this Office with Mr. A. L. Mahoney, a reporter for the Chicago Daily News, on September 5th, 1935, he informed the writer that he knew of the resignation of Mr. Purvis about one month prior to the resignation being submitted and that Mr. Purvis had promised to give him the first release concerning this resignation, but that at the last minute he had been "double-crossed" and that Mr. Purvis had not notified him.

He stated that he had a counsel with Mr. Purvis concerning his resignation and had informed him that in the event he timed it properly he could get suitable publicity therefrom. He stated that in obtaining publicity of that nature it is advisable to consider the day of the week and the hour of the day in which the release is made public in order that it will receive most widespread publicity.

He further stated that from his contacts with Mr. Purvis it was apparent to him that Mr. Purvis had become money mad and was anxious to secure a lot of money and live a life of ease and luxury. He stated that in connection therewith he had introduced Mr. Purvis on various occasions to a number of socially prominent individuals in Chicago and he had observed that Purvis appeared to be very much impressed with the life as led by these wealthy, socially prominent individuals in Chicago.

Very truly yours,

*D.M. Ladd*  
 D. M. LADD  
 Special Agent in Charge

67-7489-4111  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 SEP. 14 1935 A.M.  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 NATHAN  
 TOLSON  
 CLEGG  
 THREE  
 FOUR  
 TANDM

DML:IJM

SEP 16 1935

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

4:20 P.M.

EAT:TAM

September 12, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Frank Waldrop just called and stated that the New York Journal was trying to find Melvin Purvis, it being rumored that Melvin was in Washington at the present time. I told Mr. Waldrop that I had no knowledge of Mr. Purvis' whereabouts and hadn't heard anything of him since the night he broadcast with Rudy Valle in Chicago.

Respectfully,



E. A. Tamm

- 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. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

SEP 17 1935

67-7489-412

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 16 1935

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON

Division of Investigation  
 U. S. Department of Justice  
 Post Office Box #812  
 Chicago, Illinois

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. Scheidt	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

August 29th, 1935

Personal and  
~~Confidential~~

Director  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 United States Department of Justice  
 Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that Mr. Hansen, a reporter for the Chicago Herald and Examiner, informed the writer that he had just learned that Mr. M. H. Purvis was contemplating going to Hollywood, California, as a technical adviser for one of the motion picture companies in preparation of one of the releases of G-Men pictures.

I desire to further advise that Special Agent Mullen of this Office advised the writer confidentially that he had received information from a friend of his to the effect that Mr. Charles Daniel Frey, an advertising manager with offices at 333 North Michigan Avenue, was sponsoring Mr. Purvis, and that he was sponsoring a nation-wide radio program on which Mr. Purvis was to be featured, which program was to begin at an early date.

For your information, I desire to advise that the book "Who's Who in Chicago" reflects the following information concerning Charles Daniel Frey:

"FREY, Charles Daniel, advertising; b. Denver, Colo., Oct. 9, 1886; s. Daniel and Augusta Eleanor (Stone) Frey; ed. pub. schs., Denver; m. Mary Ross Burch, of Chicago, Oct. 17, 1908; children--Charles Daniel, Mary Elizabeth, Barbera Ross. Began as lithographic artist with Denver Lithographing Co., 1900; in editorial and art depts., Chicago Examiner, 1904-05, Chicago Evening Post, 1905-09; organizer, 1910, since pres. Charles Daniel Frey Co., advertising agts., Chicago. Served as capt. Mil. Intelligence Div., World War; nat. dir. Am. Protective League and organizer

XEROX  
 JAN 16 1984

RECORDED  
 SEP 21 1935

67-7489-413  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 NATHAN TOLSON  
 CLEGG SEP 17 1935  
 THREE  
 Tamm FOUR

Chicago div. of same. Trustee Chicago Latin Sch.,  
Girls Latin Sch. of Chicago. Decorated Medaille  
de la Reconnaissance Francaise (French). Repub-  
lican. Presbyn. Mason. Clubs: Chicago, Chicago  
Athletic Association, Racquet, Arts, Tavern,  
Casino, White Paper, Forty, Glenview Country  
(Chicago); Detroit Athletic Recess (Detroit). Home:  
1435 N. State Parkway. Office: 333 N. Michigan Av."

Very truly yours,



D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM

           XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

DECODE COPY

WT 2 68/63 GOVT COLLECT

GA SAN FRANCISCO CALIF SEPT 15 1935 1220P

DIRECTOR FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASH DC

PURVIS IN CITY PAST SEVERAL DAYS NEWS ARTICLE STATES ARRIVED  
BY PLANE ON BUSINESS PARTY NAMED ANGEL STANDARD OIL COMPANY CALLED OFFICE  
SAID HE WAS FORCED STOP ANGEL IN CHARGE ASPHALT DEPARTMENT STANDARD OIL  
COMPANY SAN FRANCISCO WHITLEY TRIED TO REACH PURVIS LAST NIGHT AT MARK  
HOPKINS HOTEL PURVIS OUT WORD LEFT FOR HIM TO CALL WHITLEY SO FAR HE HAS NOT  
CALLED WILL ADVISE ANY DEVELOPMENTS

EAGAN

COPY

REC'D

SEP 19 1935

67-7489-414

Handwritten initials and scribbles, including a large 'H' and 'T'.

The reply postal card was not  
detached because it has been stamped  
with the time stamp.

wha

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

-415

WRG:WHA

67-74

415

September 20, 1935.

Mr. R. M. Berger,  
193 Central Avenue,  
Newark, Ohio.

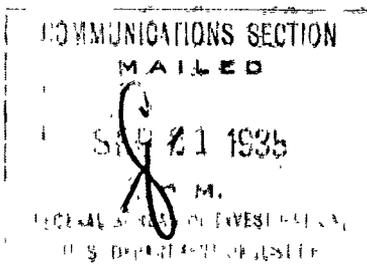
Dear Sir:

In reply to your communication dated September 14, 1935, relative to the present address of Mr. Melvin H. Purvis, you are advised that a survey of the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, indicates the last known forwarding address of Mr. Purvis as being 11 East Scott Street, Second floor East, Chicago, Illinois.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



Newark  
193 Central Ave  
R.M. Berger



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS  
REPLY CARD

Letter received  
9-20-35  
W.C.

Newark 0 Sept 14 - 1935

Bureau of Investigation

Dear Sirs:

REPOX  
JAN 19 1984

Will you kindly  
give me the present address  
of Mr. Melvin Purvis and greatly  
oblige

R.M. Berger  
193 Central Ave  
Newark 0

SEP 25 1935

67-7489-415

RECEIVED

SEP 23 1935

DEF. CLK.

Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Baughman  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Coffey  
 Mr. Edwards  
 Mr. Egan  
 Mr. Foxworth  
 Mr. Glavin  
 Mr. Ladd  
 Mr. Nichols  
 Mr. Rosen  
 Mr. Tracy  
 Mr. Gandy

*Handwritten initials and scribbles are present over this routing slip.*

NEW YORK VARIETY

NEW YORK CITY

Wednesday, Aug. 14, 1935

ANOTHER RADIO FIRST

Melvin H. Purvis, ex-head of the G-men in the Chicago district, guested on the Fleischmann program last Thursday night (8) and set something of a precedent for radio.

He let loose the first belch to go over a national hookup.

(Page 31)

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

EAT:CDW

September 21, 1935.

Time - 10:00 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Anna Sage.

Mr. Butler in the Criminal Division of the Department telephoned me relative to the deportation proceedings pending against the above named woman, involved in the DILLINGER CASE. Mr. Butler said he has just had a long talk with Assistant Commissioner of Immigration Brown about this woman at which time the possible interest of this Bureau in Anna Sage had come up. Mr. Butler reminded that some time ago, they started to deport this woman, at which time the Bureau was asked if this Bureau had any further interest in her; that a memorandum was received stating that this Bureau had absolutely no further interest in this woman at all.

In this connection, Mr. Butler said that the Immigration authorities were instructed by the Department of Labor to deport this woman on or before September 28, 1935. However, some time ago, Anna Sage called in person at the Department of Labor and said that she didn't want to be put on one of the deportation ships with the other persons to be deported, and asked permission to pay her own way out of the country. On August 9, 1935, the Department of Labor promised to let her do this.

However, a few days ago, an attorney named Thomas J. Johnson of Chicago, came into the local office in Chicago of the Immigration authorities stating that if they insisted upon deporting this woman, he was going to cause a lot of unfavorable publicity for the Department of Labor and the Department of Justice. This attorney says that MR. PURVIS promised this woman that if she would disclose what she knew about Dillinger, he would see that she was not deported. Mr. Butler said that another attorney by the name of Weisbrock is also making similar threats of unfavorable publicity. Mr. Brown, the Assistant Commissioner of Immigration, however, says if the Federal Bureau of Investigation has no further interest in this woman, he will wire the Chicago Office of the Department of Labor to the effect that if this woman does not get out of the country in accordance with her promise, she is to be arrested and deported.

I reiterated to Mr. Butler previous Bureau statements to the effect that we have absolutely no further interest in this woman at all.

Respectfully,

OCT 1 - 1935

E. A. TAMM.

67-7489-416  
W.P.  
MAY 1934

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

EAT:CDW

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

September 27, 1935.

- 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. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

Time -12:20 P.M.

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Melvin Purvis.

During a telephonic conversation which I had with Special Agent in Charge J. E. P. Dunn at the Los Angeles Office, I told him that in talking with you, you had stated you were somewhat concerned over the inability of the Los Angeles Office to get any information concerning the activities of Melvin Purvis. I told him that you are in possession of rather definite information to the effect that Purvis is at this time under contract with a motion picture company out there and the compensation involved is \$25,000. Mr. Dunn said that he has not heard of this, but assured me that he would try his best to find out something about it today.

Mr. Dunn then asked if any rumor has reached Washington to the effect that Purvis has been doing some reorganization work with the San Francisco Police Department, to which I replied in the negative. Mr. Dunn said that during a conversation which he had with a newspaper man the other day, this came up. Mr. Dunn said that while he did not want to appear too eager for information, he did ask the reporter the source of his information. It was learned that there is no definite information about this, the same being more or less of a rumor which is going around, and which has been picked up by the press.

I told Mr. Dunn that the Director had expressed the opinion that it was rather peculiar that he could go to New York and get information relative to the motion picture industry and Melvin Purvis' possible connections with that industry when the Los Angeles Office could not get the same information right in the immediate vicinity. Mr. Dunn said that one reason for this is the fact that practically every one of the motion picture companies maintain their home offices in New York City, from where most of the important information and news emanates. He said that most of the financing of motion picture matters is carried on in New York, and very frequently, important developments in the industry break in New York rather than in Hollywood.

Respectfully

E. A. TAMM

67-7489-417  
 F. B. I. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 SEP 30 1935 P.M.  
 TOLSON  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FILE

✓

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CT:MAM

✓

September 23, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

The address of Mr. Melvin Purvis,  
former Special Agent, is 11 East Scott  
Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Respectfully,

✓  
Clyde Tolson.

RECORDED  
OCT 1 - 1935

67-7489-418

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

✓

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box 536  
Los Angeles, California.  
September 21st,  
1935.

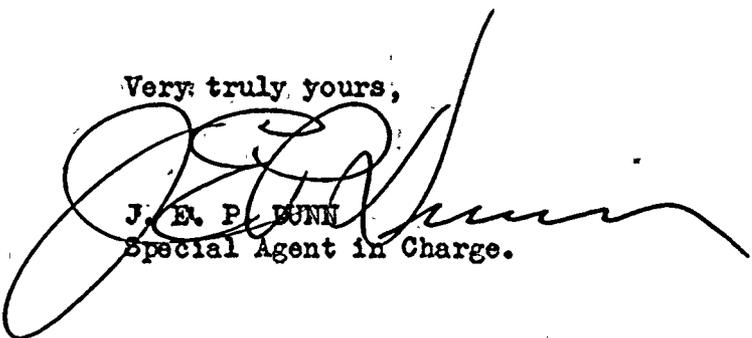
*file  
9/28*

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

There is inclosed herewith for your attention a photograph of Melvin H. Purvis and a press item appearing in the Burbank Review, Burbank, California, September 19, 1935.

Very truly yours,



J. E. P. DUNN  
Special Agent in Charge.

JEPD:HG  
incl

RECORDED

67-7489-419

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

*"G-Man" Visits  
Pacific Coast*



Melvin H. Purvis

Melvin H. Purvis, former Department of Justice agent and slayer of John Dillinger, is pictured on his recent arrival in San Francisco. He said he was visiting the Pacific Coast on business, but declined to state why. Purvis emphatically denied that he is now an ace "undercover" man.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

"BURBANK REVIEW"  
Burbank, California, Sept. 19, 1935.

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box 536  
Los Angeles, California.  
Sept. 21, 1935.

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. Scheidt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Some days ago Inspector Egan telephoned me from San Francisco and advised me that Mr. Melvin Purvis was then in that city, and suggested it appeared probable that he would later visit this community.

Since that time I have been constantly on the alert to be informed when Mr. Purvis should arrive in Los Angeles, and I have taken steps to confidentially gain knowledge as to his activities if and when he comes here.

To date Mr. Purvis has not shown in Los Angeles and discreet inquiry develops that there is no general knowledge of the fact that he is in California, or that he contemplates visiting Los Angeles, although such would appear to be a natural development in view of the fact that he is represented by the firm of Selznick and Joyce, motion picture agents.

I took occasion yesterday to visit with Mr. Jack Gain, a very close personal friend of mine and who is studio manager of Fox-Twentieth Century Studios, and in the course of my visit with him, prompted him to make inquiries through certain channels for the purpose of developing information concerning Purvis.

As result of the discreet inquiries made through motion picture channels, Mr. Gain was able to advise that it was rumored that Mr. Purvis is presently in San Francisco, but nothing definite was established in that connection. Mr. Gain further developed that the firm of Selznick and Joyce have thus far made no commitments for Mr. Purvis' services. In this connection Mr. Gain put in a telephone call to a member of the firm of Selznick and Joyce concerning the availability of Purvis, and as above noted, was advised that they had been unable thus far to make any engagements for him. Mr. Gain was advised in this connection that the Agency had received one or two offers,

7-7489-420  
XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Mr. Hoover  
9-21-35

Page 2.

but they were small and unattractive. The Agency tried rather energetically to "sell" Mr. Purvis to the Fox organization, but was advised by Mr. Gain that they had no stories in prospect in connection with which they could make any effective use of Mr. Purvis' services.

I will continue to give very careful personal attention to this matter and I can assure you that through my various contacts and personal connections among studio executives and also through the local representatives of the Hays' organization, I will be able to gain, confidentially, first-hand knowledge concerning the activities of Mr. Purvis if and when he arrives in this community.

Since my telephone conversation with Mr. Tolson some weeks ago concerning the arrangement which you had effected with the New York representative of the Hays' organization, subsequently confirmed by your letter, I have kept in very close contact with the larger units within the motion picture industry and likewise with Mr. Joseph Breen, the principal representative of Mr. Will Hays in Hollywood, and have repeatedly advised them of your desire and instruction that this office cooperate to the fullest possible extent with any responsible unit in the motion picture industry which might desire advice of a technical nature in connection with productions which dealt in any way with the activities or methods of this organization, and in any other situation wherein it appeared that this office could be of assistance. It was carefully explained to them it was your desire that the industry feel perfectly free to call upon me at any time and that it was your desire that such activity on the part of this office be not publicized or referred to in the sales promotion of any picture wherein this office had rendered assistance.

I have since that time been consulted on several occasions by the Research Departments of various studios, particularly the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount and Fox-Twentieth Century Organizations. These inquiries have been rather routine in nature and the information or advice which was requested was promptly furnished. In addition, I was called a few days ago to confer with Mr. Edgar Allen Wolf and Mrs. Florence Ryerson, writers for the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Organization, and Mr. Chester Franklin, director of the same studio. This conference was very general and was sought by the indicated parties for the purpose of a preliminary and very general discussion concerning the investigative routine of the investigating agencies and no specific problems or questions were presented. Messrs. Franklin and Wolf and Mrs. Ryerson stated that when their story had been developed and was available in script form they would like to have me review same, and they would at that time, no doubt, have some specific problems in connection with which

JAH:lh  
1034

Mr. Hoover  
9-21-35

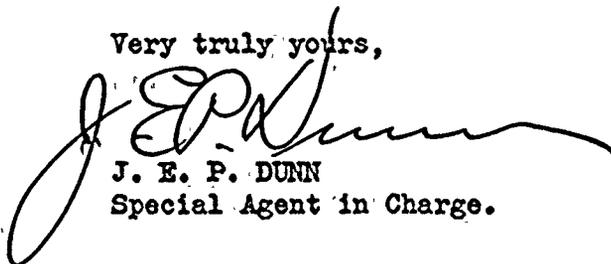
Page 3.

this office could be of assistance. They were advised of my willingness to be of assistance to them whenever they might make a request.

I have also been contacted by phone on several occasions by Mr. Walter Wanger, an independent producer who releases through the Paramount Organization, and also by the Fox-Twentieth Century Studio for routine comment or advice in connection with the pictures which those organizations are currently shooting - the Wanger picture being, "Mary Burns - Fugitive", written by Gene Towne and Graham Baker; and the Fox-Twentieth Century picture being entitled, "Snatched", written by Kubec Glassman.

I feel that the larger and more responsible units in the picture industry are quite definitely on notice of your desire to cooperate with them at all times. I will continue to encourage them to make full use of the service which you have tendered to them.

Very truly yours,



J. E. P. DUNN  
Special Agent in Charge.

JEPD:HG

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Lett. to Walter Winchell from Redbook inviting  
him to a luncheon in honor of Mr. Purvis.

emk

XERO  
JAN 19 1984

- 421

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. Scheidt  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

# Redbook MAGAZINE

THE McCALL COMPANY - 230 PARK AVENUE - NEW YORK

EDITORIAL ROOMS

September 27, 1935

Mr. Walter Winchell,  
The Daily Mirror,  
235 East 45th St.,  
New York, N. Y.

*To J. Edgar Hoover,  
Special Delivery*

Dear Mr. Winchell:

Redbook is giving a luncheon for Melvin Purvis, the ace of G-men, next Thursday, October 3rd, at 12:30, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. We would like very much to have the pleasure of your company at this luncheon.

This sounds like a rather short notice; but until the very last moment Mr. Purvis, who is at present occupied on the Pacific Coast, was not able to decide whether he could attend. He promises to deliver at the luncheon a talk that will be "strictly off-the-record", which possibly would make it interesting for you.

Yours sincerely,

*J. Edgar Hoover*

Associate Editor

~~RECORDED~~

OCT 3 - 1935

67-7489-421
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 2 1935
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON

The Washington Herald  
October 1, 1935.

# WALTER WINCHELL

This Town of Ours

Recommended to You, You and You: Stanley Walker's "The Robber Barons" piece in the next Stage, and James Cannon's essay on Gordon and Revel in Collier's . . . Louie Armstrong's crew, Eleanor Powell, Milton Berle, Joe Humphries, the beloved announcer, and Niela Goodelle, a new and delightful robin on the Win-Shell Oil show next Saturday night. . . Wallace Beery will be that show's m. c. the following week . . . The H. Richman-Hazel Forbes matter isn't any gag . . . The Dude Klees are threeing . . . Romance in the Dep't of Justice: Genevieve McDonough and Clement E. Mayhall of the G-Men staff will wed this morning. . . Melvin Purvis will talk in the "strictly-off-the-record" manner at a party for him thrown by Red Book at the Waldorf Thursday next at noon. . . It's a Blessed Event over at the Rudolf Friml, Jr's.

The legend is that Edith Roark will fly to Chi to marry the lad Dorothy Appleby just settled matters out of court with, for oodles . . . The Jack La-Rocques, according to chums, won't reconcile . . . Things That Make a Guy Oof'ly Sick: Using

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. Scheidt  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

ALROX  
OCT 1 1935

JEH:AS

September 30, 1935

Time: 4:57 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

RE: Speech to be made by  
Melvin Purvis.

In the course of a telephone conversation with Mr. Whitley at Albany, New York, he stated that the luncheon at which Mr. Purvis was to speak would be held this Thursday, October 3, 1935. I informed Mr. Whitley that a friend of mine would attend the luncheon and would be able to inform me of any developments. Mr. Whitley stated that Mr. Winchell is not attending.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

*JEP*

- 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. Scheidt
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
OCT - 1 1935  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

67-7934-422  
SEP 30 1935

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

TDQ:A

October 3, 1935

3 PM

*Melvin Purvis*

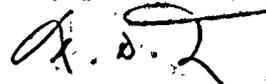
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Mr. Porter of New York telephoned and stated that he attended the luncheon in New York today; that the speaker only spoke in the highest terms of the Department; that everything was quite happy and harmonious; that he did nothing but boost the Department; that as a matter of fact he said it was under-paid; that they should receive higher salaries and have larger expense accounts. He pointed out that the Department should receive the credit and no particular person; that it was a happy speech and nothing was said that would not help the Department.

I thanked Mr. Porter on behalf of the Director and Mr. Tolson.

In closing, Mr. Porter stated that Mr. Cooper left for the coast late yesterday afternoon.

Respectfully,



T. D. QUINN.

XEROX  
JAN 13 1984

OCT 8 - 1935

67-7489-423	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 7 1935 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	FILE

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Record of Telephone Call or Visit of

Oct. 4 1935.

Time 10:17

Name Mr. Whitley tele. from N.Y.

Referred to Mr. Quinn

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	.....

Details:

Stated he would talk with Mr. Quinn and was accordingly referred there.

Mr. Quinn advises that Mr. Whitley stated that the N.Y. papers are carrying accounts of Mr. Purvis' talk last evening; that the only thing which is critical of the Bureau is a statement made by Mr. Purvis that the agents should receive credit in cases, rather than one individual all the time.

cek  
The N.Y. Papers have been sent for.

JAN 15 1984

67-7489-424	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 7 1935 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

October 4, 1935

TDQ:A

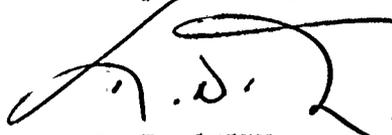
10:20 AM

*run* ✓

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Special Agent in Charge Whitley telephoned and stated that all of the New York papers carried a write-up this morning on Mr. Purvis' talk last evening at the Waldorf-Astoria. Mr. Whitley had before him a copy of the Herald Tribune which carried a full column. He stated that Purvis more or less reviewed the Little Bohemia incident, the killing of Dillinger, and Pretty Boy Floyd. The only critical statement was an implication to the effect that he would like to see every Agent and all Agents receive the credit deserved and not just one.

Respectfully,



T. D. QUINN.

P.S. All of the New York papers were obtained and carefully reviewed but the only reference located was in the Herald-Tribune, which is attached hereto.

JAN 13 1964

67-7489-425	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT. 7 1935 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	JOSEPH
	FILE

*pending*

## 'Scared as Hell' Of Dillinger, Purvis Admits

Genial Ex-U. S. Nemesis  
of Public Enemies Tells  
New York of His Thrills

Says He Was Just a Cog

Wishes Each Man on a Case  
Would Get Full Credit

Melvin H. Purvis, the jockey-sized, amiable former Department of Justice chieftain at Chicago, who, with his men, sent John Dillinger and Charles ("Pretty Face") Floyd to their deaths by gunfire, appeared at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel yesterday in the role of a magazine writer and told 300 executives of the McCall Company, publishers of the "Red-book Magazine," and their guests that, hero or no hero, he used to be "scared as hell" when he engaged gangsters in battle.

Mr. Purvis, who resigned as head of the Chicago office of the Division of Investigation in July, had his audience listening intently as he told of the Little Bohemia episode wherein Dillinger escaped from Federal agents in July, 1934; the subsequent execution of Dillinger in the alley of a Chicago Alvin theater; and the end of "Pretty Boy" Floyd in an Ohio cornfield with innumerable police bullets in his body.

Sorry Innocent Man Was Slain

He was regretful because an innocent man was killed in the Little Bohemia raid. A car in which the man was riding went through the agents' blockade at a high speed when commanded to halt.

"I'm sorry it was an innocent man," Mr. Purvis said unemotionally, "but he used Dillinger tactics."

"When I lit the cigar outside of the Biograph Theater," Mr. Purvis said in telling how Dillinger was slain in Chicago, "giving the signal to close in on Dillinger, who had just walked past me, my hand bobbed up and down. In fact, I was scared as hell; Dillinger did have a gun; I was the one who took it out of his hand. Of course, we wanted to take him alive, contrary to what many people think, because many of the most hardened criminals have talked."

Mr. Purvis swung a hard blow in the direction of the credit system existent in most police departments, whereby one man or another receives credit for a capture although the feat may be the result of the combined work of many.

"There has been a strong tendency to give credit to one certain man rather than to all concerned," he said. "The entire thing is ridiculous and brings to mind a cartoon showing one policeman grasping a gun from the hand of another, while camera men are poised for the shot of a criminal's captor. The cartoon is entitled 'The chief said it's my turn today. I don't care who catches the criminal or how he is caught; the fact should remain that he was caught.' An individual front will never keep crime down; what is needed is a co-operative front."

U. S. Won't Work Underhandedly

Mr. Purvis said emphatically that the Division of Investigation would not compound a felony in order to capture a criminal.

"Such methods are unnecessary to capture criminals," he said. "Ethical and scientific methods, plus horse-sense and good judgment, are essential in the battle against crime. That is the best way to keep crime, which will never be eradicated, down to a minimum."

The salaries of special agents in the Division of Investigation are not commensurate with the importance of their duties, according to one who should know.

"Agents receive \$5 a day as expense money, with which to pay their hotel bills and the like," Mr. Purvis said, "but Houdini couldn't do the work on that amount of money. We who were in the bureau know that agents have on too many occasions paid from their own pockets to get information."

In an interview after the luncheon, Mr. Purvis said again that he had done everything possible to save Mrs. Anna Sage, the "woman in red," who gave agents the information which led to Dillinger's death, from deportation. He said that, in keeping with his promise to her, he had placed the case before the proper authorities and recommended that she be allowed to remain in the United States.

The frequently posed question as to why he had resigned from the Federal service he answered thus:

"I resigned because I wanted to."

He ridiculed the story that he had quit because his face had become too familiar to criminals for comfort.

As a parting word Mr. Purvis called the problem of the alliance of gangsters and lawyers an abominable one, with the suppression of this type of lawyer a difficult one because of the Constitution and the time honored rule of law making a communication between a lawyer and client a privileged one.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

EAT:CDW

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

October 5, 1935.

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	
Miss Gandy	

Time - 11:46 A.M.

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Melvin Purvis.

I telephoned Special Agent in Charge J. E. P. Dunn at the Los Angeles Office, and informed him that I had discussed with you the contents of his previous telephonic conversation with me this morning, particularly the phase thereof which related to the capacity in which Mr. Purvis was employed while in the service of this Bureau. I told Mr. Dunn you had suggested that he, Dunn, might adroitly and discreetly make some statement to the press in some manner which would not appear deliberate as to the true status of Mr. Purvis while he was in the service of the Bureau; that is, that he was Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office of the Bureau.

Mr. Dunn said that through certain connections with the papers out there, he believed that he can do just this.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1936

67-7489-426  
OCT 8 - 1935

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

TDQ:RCL

October 3, 1935.

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

Colonel Gates called at this office this morning and stated that the Associated Press had called him and stated that one of its subscribers wanted him to ascertain the salary of former Special Agent in Charge Purvis at the time he tendered his resignation to the Bureau.

The Colonel was of the opinion that this information would have to be furnished in view of the fact that it was a public office, but I informed him that Mr. Purvis no longer held a public office in view of the fact that he had resigned and that the information desired was of such a nature that no one but the Director, who was absent from the city, could furnish it.

Respectfully,

T. D. Quinn.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

RECORDED  
OCT 9 - 1935  
OCT 2 - 1935

67-7489-427	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 18 1935 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	FILE

EAT:GDW

October 9, 1935.

Time - 11:45 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: THOMAS HENRY ROBINSON, Jr., et al;  
Alice Speed Stoll - Victim;  
Kidnaping.

O  
M. H. Purvis

Mr. Nathan telephoned me from Louisville relative to the trial of Robinson, Sr., down there, to report that about 15 minutes ago, the defense in open court requested that Melvin Purvis be called as a witness for the defense, to which the court consented. This came, according to Mr. Nathan, just after the testimony of Mr. Reinecke, particularly as regarding what happened when the car containing Mrs. Stoll, Mrs. Robinson and the others, was stopped by the Bureau automobiles out of Indianapolis. The point of controversy hinges around the fact that Mrs. Robinson was taken out of the car, and then returned to the original car in which Mrs. Stoll was sitting, the defense endeavoring to prove that Mrs. Stoll said she wouldn't go a feet further unless Mrs. Robinson was returned to the car, whereupon, after the cars had proceeded a short distance, Mrs. Robinson was returned to the car with the other women; that at this time, Purvis had gotten into the car with the women, and was the only man present at this time. Reinecke testified that while Mrs. Robinson was returned to the original car, he did not know anything about any demands which Mrs. Stoll might have made relative to Mrs. Robinson's being returned to the car.

However, be that as it may, Mr. Nathan said that Mr. Purvis has been subpoenaed as a witness for the defense, and will probably be in court tomorrow morning.

Incidentally, Mr. Nathan mentioned that they will probably use Mr. Pickering sometime today, and Douglas is returning to Washington this afternoon.

Time - 12:30 P.M.

OCT 16 1935 67-7489-428

I contacted Mr. Nathan in Louisville again with reference to our conversation about Melvin Purvis and his appearance as a witness in this matter, and told Mr. Nathan that you wanted to be sure that the Agents down there were very circumspect in their dealings and contacts with Purvis. Mr. Nathan mentioned that he has this in mind.

KPM

10/9/35

Mr. Nathan said that another thing has developed since he returned to the court room. The United States Attorney's office feels that if Purvis will testify along the lines to which the other Agents have testified, it would be much better for the case if the Government subpoenaed him. Mr. Nathan said he intimated that finding out how Purvis would testify and wanting to find out are two entirely different things. Mr. Nathan pointed out that if Purvis is brought down by the Government under Government subpoena, we will, of course, to some extent be bought by what he says. On the other hand, if the defense brings him down, it will appear that he has a sort of a halo around his head for the contentions of the defense.

I discussed this matter with you while Mr. Nathan held the phone, and then informed Mr. Nathan of your opinion that if we interview Purvis to see to what he will testify in this matter, we would probably be accused of tampering with a witness, and further, that the facts are the facts regardless of whether Purvis is subpoenaed as a Government witness or a defense witness; that since the United States Attorney does have the facts, the United States Attorney should have a pretty good idea to what he would testify.

Mr. Nathan said that since the defense has requested in open court the judge to issue a subpoena for Purvis for the defense, it is his opinion the Government might as well subpoena him as a former employee. Of course, Mr. Nathan said that the United States Attorney will do the final deciding.

Time -- 2:50 P.M.

I contacted Mr. Nathan again, and told him that subsequent to my prior conversation with him, I had had occasion to discuss this matter with you personally. I told him that you feel if Purvis during his testimony tries to make any untrue statements, or otherwise indicates that he is attempting to help the defense, the United States Attorney might undermine his testimony a great deal by bringing out from Purvis his testimony concerning the fact that the woman got away from him when he was trying to keep her under surveillance on the night she proceeded from Nashville to Indianapolis. Mr. Nathan said that he recalls this situation, and there would appear to be only trouble with this particular matter, and that is the fact that he, in order to protect our Agents and our interests, has indicated to the United States Attorney that his instructions were that she was to be shadowed, of course, but not to such an extent as to let her know she was being shadowed, and in the event she showed any signs of suspecting that she was being shadowed, the shadowing should be dropped. Mr. Nathan said that obviously he did not want anybody to know that we had flunked on the matter or had double-crossed anyone. I pointed out, however, to Mr. Nathan that if it can be brought out that the great No. 1 G-Man, Melvin Purvis, had flunked on this kind of an assignment, it would probably serve as a basis upon which the jury could form their opinion as to what kind of a G-Man he really was.

Memo for the Director

10/9/35

I told Mr. Nathan that you did not think the Bureau should take the initiative and take a shot at Melvin Purvis on a situation like this unless it appears obvious that he is trying to help the defense. Mr. Nathan said that in the event this latter situation appears, he can at once arrange things to bring out the matter which is the subject of the instant conversation.

Mr. Nathan then said that a subpoena has been issued by the Government calling for the appearance of Purvis at Louisville in this case. Mr. Nathan said that the United States Marshal has been contacted by telephone at Chicago; that the Marshal has telephoned the Bureau's Chicago Office asking for the telephone number of Purvis, which was furnished to him; that, however, the Marshal has been unable to get in touch with Purvis. This is the situation at the present moment.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California

October 9, 1935

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	.....

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting newspaper articles appearing in local papers concerning former Special Agent in Charge Melvin Purvis, as follows:

1. September 26, 1935, Los Angeles Herald & Express, Winchell's Column;
2. October 1, 1935, Los Angeles Herald & Express, entitled "Allege Ace G-Man Quit in Huff Over 'Woman in Red'";
3. October 1, 1935, Los Angeles Herald & Express, entitled "Claim Purvis Quit in Huff Over Dillinger Case Woman";
4. October 1, 1935, Los Angeles Times, entitled "Purvis Says Mrs. Sage's Story True";
5. October 2, 1935, Los Angeles Herald & Express, Winchell's Column;
6. October 5, 1935, Los Angeles Times, entitled "Fitts Bids for Purvis".

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Very truly yours,

OCT 16 1935

J. E. P. DUNN  
Special Agent in Charge

67-7489-429

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
OCT 14 1935  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON TAMM FOUR JOSEPH

JEPD:AB

Encs. 6. W

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baugh	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

## Offered Post



Melvin Purvis, former head of Justice Department agents in war on outlaws, sought by Fitts for staff appointment.

## FITTS BIDS FOR PURVIS

Ex-Leader of Outlaw Drive Sought After Resignation of Blayney Matthews

Confronted with the impending loss of his chief special investigator, Dist. Atty. Fitts has been making efforts to engage Melvin Purvis, who until recently was head of the Department of Justice agents in the field, it was learned from reliable sources last night.

The disclosure followed announcement that Blayney Matthews, veteran chief special investigator of Fitts' staff, has tendered his resignation to become effective November 1. Matthews has accepted an important post at Warner Brothers' studio.

### NEGOTIATIONS OPENED

On receipt of Matthews's resignation, it was learned, Fitts opened negotiations looking toward the installation of Purvis as his successor. The two are understood to have discussed the matter at considerable length Thursday over the telephone, but spokesmen for Fitts last night declined to say whether the offer was accepted. Fitts is out of the city and his statement was unavailable.

Purvis, slight of build and mild of manner, for several years, until his own resignation recently, was the outstanding nemesis of gangsters in America and was largely instrumental in tracking down and either killing or bringing to justice a number of so-called public enemies. It was he who set the trap

## FITTS SEEKING PURVIS AS AIDE

(Continued from First Page)

that snared John Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd and others.

By making overtures to Purvis, generally acknowledged peer of his profession, Fitts, it was pointed out last night, has demonstrated that he still holds Matthews in high esteem—the caliber of investigator he seeks as a successor being a direct compliment to Matthews's record.

"I consider Matthews the best investigator in California," Fitts has been quoted as saying of his chief detective, "and I hate to see him go."

Matthews, graduate of Northwestern University and of the University of Southern California law school, joined the District Attorney's staff in December, 1928, as head of the bureau of investigation. He later was named by Fitts to head a special squad confined almost exclusively to extortion and kidnaping plots.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1963

Recommended to You, You and You; Stanley Walker's "The Robber, Barons" piece in the next Stage, and James Cannon's essay on Gordon & Revel in Collier's.... Louie Armstrong's crew, Eleanor Powell, Milton Berle, Joe Humphries, the beloved announcer, and Niela Goodelle, a new and delightful robin on the Win-Shell Oil show next Saturday night.... Wallace Beery will be that show's m. c. the following week.... The H. Richman-Hazel Forbes matter isn't any gag.... Melvin Purvis will talk in the "strictly-off-the-record" manner at a party for him thrown by Red Book at the Waldorf Thursday next at noon.... It's a Blessed Event over at the Rudolf Friml, Jr.'s.

708907  
OCT 19 1935

LOS ANGELES "HERALD EXPRESS"  
OCTOBER 2, 1935.

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 .....

## PURVIS SAYS MRS. SAGE'S STORY TRUE

*Admits She Gave Clew to  
 Dillinger, but Denies He  
 Pledged Her Immunity*

CHICAGO, Sept. 30. (AP)—Melvin Purvis, former chief of the Department of Justice in Chicago, admitted in a statement today that Mrs. Anna Sage, the woman in red, furnished the information which led to the killing of John Dillinger.

Purvis denied he had promised Mrs. Sage he would obtain immunity from deportation for her in return for putting the desperado on the spot. He said, however, he had promised to bring the matter to the attention of "appropriate officials" in Washington and would recommend that some step be taken to prevent her deportation, if possible.

Mrs. Sage has been ordered deported to Rumania as a result of two convictions of operating disorderly houses. A hearing on a habeas corpus petition to prevent her deportation has been set for Thursday.

JAN 1 1935

# Allege Ace G-Man Quit in Huff Over 'Woman in Red'

CHICAGO, Oct. 1.—The mystery concerning Melvin Purvis' resignation as head of the Chicago office of the bureau of investigation of the department of justice deepened today.

Attorneys for the "woman in red" charged the little, meek-appearing man whose very name struck terror in the murderous hearts of the nation's most hardened killers, quit the service in a huff because the government reneged on its promise to cancel the deportation order against the "woman in red," Mrs. Anna Sage, in return for her in-



MELVIN PURVIS Resigned in a Huff Over 'Broken Promises' Charge

formation which led to the killing of John Dillinger, the late public enemy No. 1.

The former ace "G-man" refused to comment on his resignation, but acknowledged Mrs. Sage's part in the ambush of the outlaw and admitted he had promised to aid her in her fight against deportation to Rumania.

### ADMITS PROMISE

"She did furnish the information which led to Dillinger's capture," Purvis said, "and I for one, am not ungrateful."

"I sincerely think that some step should be taken to stop her deportation."

"Had she not furnished the information it is entirely possible many other brave officers and even private citizens, employees of banks and others, might have been killed before Dillinger could have been apprehended."

"I informed her that I would bring to the attention of the appropriate officials in Washington her actions in aiding the government and that I would recommend that some step be taken to prevent her deportation."

### TRAP SPRUNG

"I have done that."  
Dillinger was shot to death July 22, 1934, in front of the Biograph theater, a neighborhood movie on Chicago's north side.

With the outlaw as he stepped from the theater lobby onto the



FOLLY HAMILTON Went to Last Show With Dillinger

street and into the trap, was Mrs. Sage, clad in a flaming red dress to aid the federal men in their identification.

She was but a few steps away when the shots rang out that ended the bloody crime career of the bandit.

The "woman in red," thrice convicted of keeping disorderly resorts in Indiana, was about to be taken east with a band of deportees last Saturday when her attorneys obtained a writ of habeas corpus. A

hearing on the facts will be held Oct. 2.

Giann Stretch, East Chicago detective, came to the aid of the "woman in red" today.

The two men, who were in charge of the department of justice at Chicago (Purvis and Samuel F. Cowley, later killed in a gun battle with Baby Face Nelson), promised her twice that they would drop the case when she delivered up Dillinger. Our officers heard these promises and will come to court to testify to them, he said.

Then Stretch for the first time told the "inside" story of the death of Dillinger.

Stretch, two other detectives, Zarkovich and Capt. Tim O'Neil of the East Chicago police, came to Purvis' office here the day of July 22, 1934.

"We were walking there," he said, "when Mrs. Sage telephoned and said she was going with Folly Hamilton and Dillinger to the Biograph theater that night."

"Purvis rounded up 22 agents and we surrounded the theater."

### DESPERADO SLAIN

"Purvis sat in his car at the curb, commanding a view of the entire theater lobby, and was to light a cigar as soon as he saw Dillinger step into the lobby. Then we were to close in."

"Purvis gave the signal."

"And the next moment we were face to face with Dillinger as he strolled out of the lobby, Mrs. Sage on one arm, Folly Hamilton on the other."

"Folly noticed the plant."

"She whispered in Dillinger's ear."

"Everybody said Dillinger didn't carry a gun. But he did."

"Dillinger reached into his right



MRS. ANNA SAGE Lady in Red's Deal With G-Men Told at Hearing

pocket and drew the gun, a .38 automatic.

"He looked over his shoulder once, then started running, his gun in his hand."

"Before he had run 15 steps O'Neil shot him. The two federal men with us shot at the same instant and both of them hit Dillinger. Any one of those first three bullets would have killed him."

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	.....

XEROX  
JAN 19 1934

FILES "HERALD EXPRESS"  
R-1, 1935.

- 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 .....

# Claim Purvis Quit in Huff Over Dillinger Case Woman

CHICAGO, Oct. 1.—The mystery concerning Melvin Purvis' resignation as head of the Chicago office of the bureau of investigation of the department of justice deepened today.

Attorneys for the "woman in red" charged the little, meek-appearing man whose very name struck terror in the hearts of the nation's most hardened killers quit the service in a huff because the government reneged on its promise to cancel the deportation order against the "woman in red," Mrs. Anna Sage, in return for her in-

formation which led to the killing of John Dillinger, the late public enemy No. 1.

The former ace "G-man" refused to comment on his resignation, but acknowledged Mrs. Sage's part in the ambush of the outlaw and admitted he had promised to aid her in her fight against deportation to Rumania.

"She did furnish the information which led to Dillinger's capture," Purvis said, "and I, for one, am not ungrateful."

"I sincerely think that some step should be taken to stop her deportation."

"Had she not furnished the information it is entirely possible many other brave officers and even private citizens, employees of banks and others, might have been killed before Dillinger could have been apprehended."

"I informed her that I would bring to the attention of the appropriate officials in Washington her actions in aiding the government and that I would recommend that some step be taken to prevent her deportation."

"I have done that."

Dillinger was shot to death July 22, 1934, in front of the Biograph theater, a neighborhood movie on Chicago's north side.

With the outlaw as he stepped from the theater lobby onto the street and into the trap, was Mrs. Sage, clad in a flaming red dress to aid the federal men in their identification.

She was but a few steps away when the shots rang out that ended the bloody crime career of the bandit.

The "woman in red," thrice convicted of keeping disorderly resorts in Indiana, was about to be taken east with a band of deportees last Saturday when her attorneys ob-



MELVIN PURVIS  
Resigned in a Huff Over Broken Promise, Charge

tain a writ of habeas corpus. A hearing on the facts will be held Oct. 2.

Glenn Stretch, East Chicago detective, came to the aid of the "woman in red" today.

"The two men who were in charge of the department of justice at Chicago (Purvis and Samuel P. Cowley, later killed in a gun battle with "Baby Face" Nelson), promised her twice that they would drop the case when she delivered up Dillinger. Our officers heard these promises and will come to court to testify to them," he said.

Then Stretch for the first time told the "inside" story of the death of Dillinger.

Stretch, two other detectives, Zarkovich and Capt. Tim O'Neil of the East Chicago police, came to Purvis' office here the day of July 22, 1934.

"We were waiting there," he said, "when Mrs. Sage telephoned and said she was going with Folly Hamilton and Dillinger to the Biograph theater that night."

"Purvis rounded up 23 agents and we surrounded the theater."

DESPERADO SLAIN

"Purvis sat in his car at the curb, commanding a view of the entire theater lobby, and was to light a cigar as soon as he saw Dillinger step into the lobby. Then we were to close in."

"Purvis gave the signal."

"And the next moment we were face to face with Dillinger as he stroled out of the lobby, Mrs. Sage on one arm, Folly Hamilton on the other."

"Folly noticed the 'plant'."

"She whispered in Dillinger's ear."

"Everybody said Dillinger didn't carry a gun. But he did."

"Dillinger reached into his right



MRS. ANNA SAGE  
Lady in Red's Deal With G-Man Told at Hearing

pocket and drew the gun, a .38 automatic.

"He looked over his shoulder once, then started running, his gun in his hand."

"Before he had run 15 steps O'Neil shot him. The two federal men with us shot at the same instant and both of them hit Dillinger. Any one of those first three bullets would have killed him."



FOLLY HAMILTON  
Went to Last Show With Dillinger

street and into the trap, was Mrs. Sage, clad in a flaming red dress to aid the federal men in their identification.

She was but a few steps away when the shots rang out that ended the bloody crime career of the bandit.

The "woman in red," thrice convicted of keeping disorderly resorts in Indiana, was about to be taken east with a band of deportees last Saturday when her attorneys ob-

XPFOI  
JAN 19 1964

"HERALD EXPRESS"  
935..

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

# Winchell's DAILY TATTLE

By WALTER WINCHELL

*The Private Papers of a  
Cub Reporter*

Whenever a flicker studio pinches the pay envelope of a money-maker the star's following bombards the movie bosses with letters until they have to sweeten the actor's wages. . . . A notable example of this fan loyalty won Jimmy Cagney better pay, which he doubtless deserved. . . . Cagney played the title role in "G Men," you know, and it is a coincidence, maybe, that nobody rallied to the comfort of Melvin Purvis, who had to get out of the U. S. service because of the short salary. . . . Purvis only did the things that Cagney pretended to do in the picture. . . . The only reason we recall the incident is that John H. McEvers, who helped put Capone in jail is resigning as Ass't Att'y General in order to make a living practicing law. . . . The movies show a better appreciation of talent than Uncle Sam.

KEROB  
JAN 19 1935

Post Office Box #812

Chicago, Illinois

October 8th, 1935

67-7481-430

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

OCT 16 1935

I am transmitting herewith photostatic copy of the Government's answer to the petition and the amended petition for a writ of habeas corpus filed by Mrs. Anna Sage.

In connection with this answer particular attention is directed to Exhibit 4, and particularly to the place marked therein concerning a telephone conversation had by Mr. Brown of the Department of Labor on September 21st, 1935, with Mr. E. A. Tamm of the Bureau. It is noted therein that Mr. Tamm informed Mr. Brown that explicit instructions were outstanding to all Field Offices of the Bureau of Investigation that they were, under no circumstances, to make any promise of immunity to any person as the promise would not be binding and of no effect.

At the time this answer was received by the writer from Mr. Austin Hall, Assistant United States Attorney, he stated that when this petition had been filed by the Government in Federal Court he had specifically pointed out that particular portion of the answer to the newspaper men.

During the discussion with Assistant United States Attorney Hall concerning this matter, he stated that it was his intention to avoid using Mr. Purvis as a witness in this hearing; that he does not desire to give Purvis any publicity and that he feels that Purvis' only interest in this matter is the publicity which he can gain therefrom. Mr. Hall further remarked that it was his opinion that Mr. Purvis was not friendly to the Bureau anyway.

In connection with the answer as filed I desire to call attention to the fact that same is filed by the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization of the Department of Labor and not by the United States Attorney's office.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Mr. Tamm handled this matter accurately & properly*

This matter will be followed when it is called for hearing on October 16th, 1955, and in the event there are any developments prior to that time the Bureau will be promptly informed thereof.

Very truly yours,

DML:LJM  
enc.

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

26-5688

XEROX  
JAN 12 1956

JEH:AS

October 11, 1935

Time: 5:30 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

RE: Melvin H. Purvis.

In the course of a telephone conversation with Mr. Frank Waldrop he expressed regret at Mr. Purvis' actions since he had left the Bureau. Mr. Waldrop stated that his apparent endeavor to achieve the utmost publicity and the present trend of his activities would in his opinion soon become distasteful to the public and a reaction would set in against Mr. Purvis. I stated that the actions of Mr. Purvis and also his secretary who is now publishing a series of articles were particularly regrettable as the public might in the future be reluctant to entrust confidential information to the Bureau when they become aware that someone might at a later date sell the story for publication. I stated that of course there was no law which prevented this sort of thing. Mr. Waldrop expressed the opinion that the F.B.I. men ought to adopt the attitude of the average Army officer who keeps his silence. I agreed with Mr. Waldrop.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

67-1489-431	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 14 1935 .M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

Post Office Box #812

Chicago, Illinois

October 5th, 1935

Personal and  
Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my letter of September 9th, 1935, concerning a news article which Mrs. Doris Rogers Lockerman indicated she might write. My previous letter referred to an offer which she received from Collier's magazine for this article.

Confirming my telephonic conversation with Assistant Director C. A. Tolson on the morning of October 5th, 1935, I desire to advise that the Chicago Daily Tribune for October 5th carries a half page advertisement indicating that a series of articles written by Doris Lockerman will be run in the Chicago Tribune beginning Monday morning, October 7th, 1935. I am transmitting herewith a copy of this advertisement obtained from the Chicago Daily Tribune. The Bureau will be kept promptly advised of further developments in connection with this matter. Copies of all articles will, of course, be forwarded to the Bureau.

In connection with the above matter I desire to advise that Mrs. I. Mankin, a stenographer in the Chicago Bureau Office, has informed me that she learned from Mrs. Lockerman recently that she had written an article and had received an offer for the publication of this article; that shortly after the resignation of Mr. Purvis she, Mrs. Lockerman, communicated with him and showed him the article which she had written and at that time Mr. Purvis requested that she not publish this article inasmuch as it would interfere with the sale of his articles, which he was at that time negotiating.

Mrs. Lockerman further informed Mrs. Mankin that Mr. Purvis suggested to her, Mrs. Lockerman, at that time that he would get in touch with her at a later date and that he was desirous of her assistance in

REC'D  
JAN 19 1936

67-25716-54

writing a book. However, Mrs. Lockerman informed Mrs. Mankin that she had never heard any further word from Mr. Purvis concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

DML:JM  
enc.

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

AIR MAIL -  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

XEROX  
19 1964

EAT:CDW

October 10, 1935.

Time - 3:07 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Thomas Henry Robinson, Jr.,  
Alice Speed Stoll - Victim;  
Kidnaping.

Mr. Nathan called me from Louisville to report that MELVIN PURVIS has been down there and has testified for the Government in connection with the trial of the above matter. Mr. Nathan said that his testimony was very conservative, and did not hurt the case at all. Generally speaking, Purvis testified that the car containing the victim, the Robinson woman and the two Clays, was stopped at a point in Indiana; that the Robinson woman was first taken out of the car; that all of the women were hysterical, and the Stoll woman requested that the Robinson woman be put back in the car, which was done. With regard to the money, he testified that it was passed to the victim by the Robinson woman, and that if he or anyone else had it, it was just for a very few minutes. They wanted to prove that the money was out of the car, and in this regard Purvis testified that he never knew the money was out of the car, and further that he did not know of any Agent having possession of the money.

Mr. Nathan said that the defense is now on the stand, the Government having rested, and it is the opinion of Mr. Nathan that they will finish taking the testimony sometime tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Nathan said that Mr. Reinecke is going back to his headquarters this afternoon. The rest of the Agents are remaining, and it is the opinion of Mr. Nathan that they might be able to get out of there tomorrow night, but he is not sure of that.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

67-7489-432

October 1, 1935.

Time-1:20 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMMRE: Mrs. Anna Sage, "The Woman  
in Red".

Mr. Brien McMahon telephoned and stated that he had received a telephone call from Mr. Igoe, the United States Attorney of the Northern District of Illinois, who reported that the Chicago newspapers were playing this matter up. Mr. McMahon said that Mr. Igoe's idea was to stall the thing along as long as possible and then come to Washington and talk the matter over. Mr. McMahon also stated that Mr. Purvis had come in and requested to be subpoenaed and then when the subpoena was issued Mr. Purvis would not talk, but after leaving the building proceeded to hold a press conference. I stated that the actions of Mr. Purvis in this matter appeared to be entirely motivated by a desire for publicity. I added that Mr. Purvis' articles in the Red Book were soon to be published and he was also making so-called "off-the-record" speeches at luncheons.

I suggested to Mr. McMahon that in my opinion the best policy for the United States Attorney to pursue would be to bring the deportation proceedings to a close as soon as possible and get the whole thing over with; that with the case pending, it only provided Mrs. Sage's attorney and certain other parties an opportunity to capitalize on the publicity.

I further stated to Mr. McMahon that I had noticed in the press that Purvis did not say that he had promised Mrs. Sage immunity from deportation, but that he had stated that he would recommend that she be not deported, adding that he did not have nor did I have the authority. I stated I did not know just what Mr. Purvis did tell her, but Mr. Cowley, who was handling the matter, did take up with me the matter of securing for Mrs. Sage a three months delay in the deportation proceedings; that the question of the delay was in turn taken up by me with the Attorney General and we did secure through the Labor Department a delay in the deportation proceedings. I stated that in addition when we paid Mrs. Sage the \$5,000 I secured from her a signed release while she was in California, releasing us from all promises, contracts, obligations and commitments.

Mr. McMahon brought up the question of the damage that would be brought about if the idea was widely publicized that we give our word and then fail to keep it. I stated that I felt such unfavorable

67-7489-

433

XEROX  
JAN 16 1984

October 1, 1934.

publicity would not last long if Mr. Purvis would make an outright statement of the truth and if the proceedings were brought to a conclusion as soon as possible.

Mr. McMahon stated that Mr. Igoe had mailed communications to the Attorney General, Mr. Keenan, to me, and to the Chicago, Bureau Office. I stated that up to the present time I had received no word from the United States Attorney.

In connection with any statements to be made by the Bureau I stated that I thought we should make no further statement until the case had been decided at which time it was my opinion that a dignified statement of facts should be released. The release of such a statement would of course depend on the attitude of the Department. In the event such a statement is to be released I informed Mr. McMahon that I could be reached by telephone as I was about to leave for the Middle West.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director.

COPY

XEROX  
JAN 18 1934

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California  
October 12, 1935

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th St. N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

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	.....

*Purvis*

Dear Sir:

In view of the fact that I am leaving Los Angeles tomorrow en route to Chicago, I today contacted Mr. Joseph I. Breen of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Inc., (Hays organization) for the purpose of developing the latest available information concerning the progress made by one of our former associates to obtain employment in the motion picture industry.

You will recall that some days ago, I advised Mr. Tolson by telephone that at that time Mr. Breen had assured me that he believed no credence should be placed in the story which was then in circulation in New York to the effect that a \$25,000.00 contract had been made.

Mr. Breen today informed me that he has kept a careful check on the situation during the recent past, and has made many discreet inquiries concerning the matter, and he is morally certain that no connection has been made. He stated that through the agency with which the young man is identified, a very earnest effort has been made to secure a position as technical adviser, and that certain representations in this respect have been made to the Hays organization.

In this connection, Mr. Breen informs me that he has on several occasions advised producers in the industry that there was no requirement that they hire a technical adviser for the reason that this organization and this office were available at all times for such service, and that you had repeatedly given assurance of your extreme willingness to cooperate in this regard.

In speaking generally on the subject of technical adviser on "Special Agent" pictures, Mr. Breen referred specifically to Don Wilkey, who has heretofore, to some extent, assisted in this field, and informed me that he, Breen, had taken steps to eliminate Wilkey from future employment of this character.

RECORDED  
OCT 18 1935

67-7449-434

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

OCT 17 1935 P.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NATHAN TOLSON  
TAMM

Director

-2-

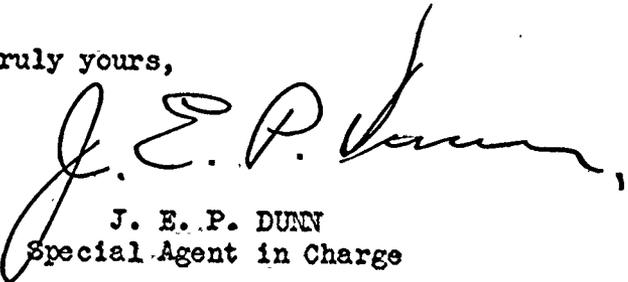
10-12-35

Mr. Breen spoke in a most complimentary manner of you, and referred particularly to the remarks which you made in a recent speech at New York; I believe before some advertising club of the picture industry. He stated that he regarded your remarks as having been very helpful, indeed, to his organization. Mr. Breen also referred to the fact that Attorney General Cummings recently in Europe made a speech which he regarded as being very complimentary and helpful to his organization. He expressed great appreciation of both these instances.

I assured Mr. Breen of your continued interest to cooperate to the fullest possible extent with his organization and with the motion picture industry generally. I have advised Mr. Breen of my contemplated absence from the city for a short time, and suggested that Special Agent Billings would be pleased to cooperate with him during my absence, and urged him to call upon the office in the event we could render any assistance to him.

I have explained to Mr. Billings the nature and extent of cooperation that it is your desire be furnished to the motion picture industry with respect to technical advice on "Special Agent" pictures.

Very truly yours,

  
J. E. P. DUNN  
Special Agent in Charge

JEPD:AB

AIR MAIL

XEROX  
JAN 15 1936

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Bauchman	
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	

*no answer  
required  
10717*

WM1 10

OCT 18 1935

TDHE PORT WASHINGTON NY OCT 16 741A

J EDGAR HOOVER

DEPT OF INVESTIGATION WASHDC

WHERE CAN I REACH MELVIN PERVIS FORMERLY OF YOUR DEPARTMENT

JOHN L KNIGHT.

813AM..

JAN 19 1964

R1 BI

RECORDED

OCT 18 1935

435

Mr. McIntire in summary memo re news item written by Doris Lockerman in Chicago Tribune, 10-14-35, advises that Agent who Mrs. Lockerman alleges failed to identify Dillinger in car in which Evelyn Frechette was driven, is obviously Agent R.G.Gillespie, who is now in a sanitarium; that report states that Agents Gillespie and R.D.Brown saw person in car and were of opinion that it was not Dillinger; that reports do not sustain Mrs. Lockerman's allegation that the same Agent, (Agt. Gillespie) was found shivering behind a rock at Saulte Ste Marie, Mich., as Agent Gillespie did not accompany agents on raid to this place and there is nothing in report to indicate any of agents were in this condition.

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

KRM:CJ:ER  
62-29777

October 14, 1935.

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	.....

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Reference is made to a special news item appearing in the Chicago Daily Tribune dated October 14, 1935, which was written by Doris Lockerman. In said article Mrs. Lockerman alleges that on the night on which Evelyn Frechette was apprehended she was observed to have been driven to the place of her arrest by an unknown individual; that the person in charge of the Agents at that point ordered a young Agent to "take a stroll around the block" and "see what that fellow looks like". She alleges that Mr. M. H. Purvis was not among those present at this time. The Agent referred to is obviously R. G. Gillespie, who is now on leave of absence, confined in a sanitarium.

This will advise you that the report of former Special Agent J. J. Waters, dated at Chicago, Illinois April 18, 1934, in the Dillinger case, discloses that Evelyn Frechette was apprehended by Special Agents on the night of April 9, 1934 at a saloon known as "Tumble Inn", also known as "The Austin Street Tavern", located at the intersection of State and Austin Streets, Chicago, Illinois. The report discloses that the following persons were present on said raid:

- Former Special Agent in Charge M. H. Purvis
- Former Special Agent J. J. Waters
- " " " J. J. Metcalfe
- " " " L. D. Nichols
- Special Agent R. G. Gillespie
- " " R. D. Brown

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Evelyn Frechette was taken into custody by Messrs. Purvis and Waters and other Agents. Inquiry was then made as to the manner in which Evelyn Frechette had reached the saloon and it was reported that she had been brought there in an automobile. Agent Gillespie and former Agent Metcalfe were then requested to detain, if possible, the person who brought her to the saloon, but they returned a few minutes later stating that this party had left. "In connection with the person who brought Evelyn Frechette to the saloon, Agent R. D. Brown stated that when he received the signal to enter the cafe, he passed the automobile and observed a person in it and he is of the opinion that it was not Dillinger. Agent Gillespie also saw the person in the car and is of the same opinion".

OCT 24 1935

67-7489-436

Former Agent Metcalfe reported that he observed Evelyn Frechette arrive near the saloon in a black coach or sedan automobile, that the car was driven by a man who remained at the wheel while she went into the saloon. Former Agent Metcalfe, following some distance behind the Frechette woman, passed this car but did not have an opportunity to observe the man in the car.

NATHAN TOLSON

TAMM

FILE

10/14/35

due to the fact that the car stood beside a curb of unusual height so that it would have been necessary to stoop very low, in order to look into the car from the sidewalk. Former Agent Metcalfe noted that the car was in its same position when he entered the tavern but was gone when he came out of the tavern after the arrest of the Frechette woman.

Agent Gillespie stated that he also passed this car, made a record of the license number (Illinois 1934 license No. 338-557), peered into the car and while he was unable to observe the man in the car very clearly in the dark he was satisfied that he was not Dillinger. When the Agents came out of the tavern, after arresting the Frechette woman, the said car was gone and could not be located.

In this connection it is interesting to note that, as shown by the report of Special Agent in Charge H. H. Reinecke, dated at Chicago, Illinois, April 20, 1934, Evelyn Frechette admitted to Special Agent K. K. Deadrick that Dillinger drove her up to within two or three car lengths of this drinking parlor and parked behind another car. It is my recollection that, although the Agents did not positively identify Dillinger as being in the car that brought Evelyn Frechette to the said tavern, they felt confident that there was a strong possibility of the party being identical with Dillinger.

I recall that numerous comments were made by Agents of the Chicago office to the effect that the raid had been "bungled" by Mr. Purvis because he had not seen to it that the person who brought Evelyn Frechette to the drinking parlor was apprehended. I recall discussing this matter with Agent Gillespie after Evelyn Frechette had been captured and while he was not definitely able to state that the person at whom he looked in the car was Dillinger, he felt at that time that the person should have been taken into custody and that arrangements should have been made by Mr. Purvis, who was in charge of this raid, to have a sufficient number of Agents present to meet any emergency of this nature.

It is also my recollection that the Agents of the Chicago office discussed this matter on several occasions, at which times they stated that proper arrangements should have been made for the taking into custody of any person who might have accompanied Evelyn Frechette at the time she was apprehended.

Reference is now made to that part of the newspaper item of Doris Lockerman to the effect that one of the Agents who assisted in raiding the home of Mrs. Isaac Steve, a sister of John Hamilton, at Saulte Ste. Marie, Michigan, was found after the raid shivering behind a rock and that this Agent

Memo for the Director

- 2 -

10/14/35

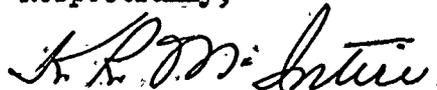
is identical with the one who failed to identify John Dillinger on the night that Evelyn Frechette was captured; further that this Agent is now fighting for his life in a sanatorium. This will advise you that the reports in this matter do not substantiate the allegation.

The report of Special Agent in Charge V. W. Peterson, dated at Chicago, Illinois, April 25, 1934 in the Dillinger case, discloses that those Agents who proceeded to Saulte Ste. Marie on April 19, 1934 were as follows:

Special Agent in Charge H. H. Reinecke  
Special Agent R. D. Brown  
" " J. H. Rice  
" " M. C. Falkner  
Former Special Agent A. E. Lockerman.

There is nothing to show that Agent R. G. Gillespie accompanied the aforementioned Agents on this raid nor is there anything in the reports to indicate that any one of the Agents on this raid was found in the condition alleged by Doris Lockerman.

Respectfully,



K. R. McIntire.

XFRO2

JAN 19 1984

TDQ:BBCL

1:30 P.M.

October 31, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

Mr. Dunn of Los Angeles called and stated that Harry Brand of the Fox 20th Century Picture Company, called Mr. Dunn this morning and inquired relative to Mr. Purvis. Mr. Dunn endeavored to ascertain the reason for the interest and was informed that shortly a film would be released entitled "Show Them No Mercy" which is another gangster picture. The story was written by a man named Hubuc Glasmon, and the preview was shown the other night. It appears that Brand has the idea that he could get Purvis to allow the use of his name for publicity purposes for the payment of approximately \$5,000.

Mr. Dunn wanted to know if the Director wanted him personally to see what he could do to quiet this down. Mr. Dunn is under orders to leave Los Angeles this evening for Washington. I advised him that the Bureau would call him letting him know.

Respectfully,

T. D. Quinn.

67-7489-437

XEROX

NOV 19 1935

CT:MC

November 4, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Dunn at Los Angeles called at 3.30 p.m. today, concerning Mr. Tamm's inquiry of him with regard to the recent publicity to the effect that Mr. Purvis had been offered a position to head a squad to afford protection to motion picture actors in Los Angeles.

He stated that he had been in communication with representatives of the Hays organization and other officials in the industry, who advised him that they have offered Mr. Purvis nothing and that no one is considering any offer of this kind to him. Dunn stated that the issue of Variety which appeared in Hollywood this morning contains an editorial criticising the LaRue story as an out and out publicity scheme, and that the editorial points out that the motion picture industry is closely cooperating with Federal, state, and local authorities and that the problem of protection for members of the motion picture colony can be satisfactorily handled in this manner. Dunn stated that from the stories he has heard at Los Angeles, he is convinced that LaRue could not raise any money whatever to pay for anything of this kind. He stated that so far as he is able to ascertain Purvis has no connection with LaRue. According to Mr. Dunn, a Los Angeles paper is carrying a story today which indicates that some Associated Press correspondents contacted Purvis at Chicago on Saturday concerning the story and that Purvis' reply was that he had had no details on the matter and that he had heard of it only through the newspapers.

Mr. Dunn has been assured by the Hays organization that they will stop any such silly ideas and that he may consider it merely a "publicity blurb" on the part of LaRue and Samuel Goldwyn.

Mr. Dunn also advised that he has talked with Louis Mayer and David Selnick concerning the threatening letters which have been received from the sister of Selnick's mother, who is in Pittsburgh. He stated that they had given him some letters and had promised to secure more by Tuesday, after which Mr. Dunn will write the Bureau in detail concerning the matter and it can then be

7-7487-438

Memo. for Director

- 2 -

11-6-35

determined what action can be taken in connection with contacting the woman in Pittsburgh. Dunn advised that Myron Selnick, brother of David Selnick, is head of a publicity agency which is supposed to be representing Purvis in Los Angeles, and he feels that the cooperation and assistance of the Bureau in connection with the threats to David Selnick and his wife will place us in a very excellent position with the Myron Selnick firm.

Respectfully,

Clyde Tolson.

EX-107  
JAN 18 1984

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 5, 1935

Time: 12:15

- 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 .....

MEMORANDUM

RE: Melvin H. Purvis.

In the course of a telephone conversation with Mr. Whitley at New York, Mr. Whitley stated that a reporter from the World Telegram had told him that word had been received that Purvis was coming to New York and the reporter had inquired if Mr. Whitley could tell him where Mr. Purvis could be reached in New York. Mr. Whitley stated that he did not know and that Mr. Purvis did not contact his office when in New York. I stated that recently a newspaper story had appeared indicating that Purvis had been chosen to head a detective agency in Hollywood to protect the movie stars; that in a press interview in Chicago Purvis had stated that he was "considering" the offer and that he was about to leave for New York on private business; that Mr. Dunn had informed me that there was nothing to the story and that it was merely a publicity stunt as the second instalment of the articles in the Red Book was about to be released.

JAN 19 1984

NOV 12 1935

67-7489-439

J. E. H.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 10 1936

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR  
EAT:CDW

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

November 3, 1935.

- 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 .....

Time - 12:15 P.M.

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Melvin Purvis.

I telephoned Special Agent in Charge J. E. P. Dunn and informed him that the newspapers here in Washington last night and this morning are carrying a big article about Melvin Purvis being offered a position to organize a private agency for the purpose of protecting the movie stars from extortionists. I asked Mr. Dunn if he had heard anything about this.

He said that last night about ten o'clock, one of his friends there in Los Angeles called this to his attention, informing that this story appears in one of the papers out there. However, the article which was called to Mr. Dunn's attention quotes Jack LaRue, one of the actors out there, in saying that Purvis had been offered this position. Mr. Dunn said that LaRue is nothing more than a publicity seeker; that a short time ago he started a story about some kind of a kidnaping or extortion threat, which was used as a basis to get a little publicity through the district attorney's office out there. The Bureau, according to Mr. Dunn, was advised by telegram of this situation at the time it occurred. With reference to the instant matter, Mr. Dunn said he is satisfied it is nothing but "a big piece of hoey" thought up by Jack LaRue for the purpose of publicity, and is more or less of a follow-up to the prior publicity gotten by LaRue.

I inquired of Mr. Dunn if he knew whether or not Purvis had been contacted relative to this proposition. He said that while he does not know for sure, he is reasonably sure that Purvis has not been contacted. I then asked if he had any sources through which he could check this definitely. He said that he believed he could have it checked and could advise the Bureau in the premises by noon tomorrow, their time. Mr. Dunn added that during the course of business yesterday, he was in touch with quite a number of the various officials of the industry out there, none of whom mentioned anything about the instant situation.

Mr. Dunn said that he would check up on this the very first thing in the morning, and would advise the Bureau just as soon as possible.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

TERRON  
NOV 13 1935

67-7489-440

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
NOV. 12 1935 P.M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON	TAMM
FILE	

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice

Melvin Purvis now in

THE FAMILY CIRCLE

st.

(enclosing copy of the FAMILY CIRCLE magazine November 8, 1935)

Original in 80-84

441

JUN 19 1936

EAT:CDW

November 11, 1935.

Time - 5:00 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I telephoned Mr. Connelley and told him you wanted him to know very confidentially that you have very positive and reliable information that Special Agents John L. Madala and M. J. Cassidy are tied up and are very friendly with Melvin Purvis; that, therefore, you were a little afraid of having them working on the Bremer Case with that connection. With this in mind, I told Mr. Connelley it was your desire that he take steps at once to work them off the Bremer Case just as soon as possible, confidentially advising the Bureau when both of them have severed their connections with the case so that they might be transferred.

Mr. Connelley said that Cassidy is entirely off the case at this time; that he has just been used occasionally to supplement certain work in the matter. Madala will be cut loose from the case as soon as possible, and the Bureau advised accordingly.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM.

COPY

TDQ:ACS

67-7089-442

December 3, 1935.

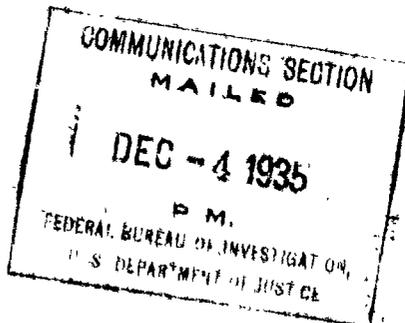
Mr. Louis W. Gold,  
6807 North Broad Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:-

I desire to acknowledge the receipt of your postal card postmarked at Philadelphia on November 29th requesting information as to the present address of Mr. Melvin Purvis. In this respect, kindly be advised that Mr. Purvis has not furnished this Bureau with his most recent address and I am, therefore, unable to comply with your request.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



Dear Sir:

I am very much interested in getting in touch with Mr. Melvin Purvis, of Chicago.

If you happen to know his address, could you please send it to me.

Thanking you for your trouble  
I am,

AWG  
1/11/56

Louis W. Gold  
6807 N. Broad St.  
Philadelphia, Pa.

67-7489-442

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 4, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

While at the Omaha Bureau office on October 13, 1935, Special Agent in Charge Dowd informed me that he had recently written the Director asking for an increase in salary and that he had received a reply which in effect stated that due to the fact that the Omaha office was rather small, an increase in salary was not warranted at the present time. Mr. Dowd observed that it was the first time in his many years of service that he has asked for an increase in salary; that he did so after considerable deliberation and after having noted that Special Agent in Charge Vetterli was increased to \$5400 while in charge of the Salt Lake City Office, and that Special Agent in Charge Hammi was drawing \$5400 while he was in charge of the Omaha Office. He further observed that the Aberdeen office, now under Mr. Hammi, certainly is not as large as the Omaha office and that there are other offices whose territory is not as large in which the Special Agent in Charge is drawing a larger salary than he, Mr. Dowd.

It was my impression that Mr. Dowd felt he might have been overlooked in connection with increases and compensation to Special Agents in Charge, and that the answer of the Bureau to his request was in fact, not answer.

During the conversation, Mr. Dowd made rather disparaging remarks concerning Mr. Purvis and his resignation from the Bureau. He was particularly incensed at the time at the series of articles written by Mrs. Boris Lockerman, formerly of the Chicago office, and stated that in his opinion there must be a definite connection between Mrs. Lockerman and Mr. Purvis. He stated that he considered Mr. Purvis somewhat of a fool and that he was certainly following in the footsteps of former employees, among whom he named Mr. Darling, Cullen, and former Inspector Corcoran, all of whom in Mr. Dowd's opinion turned out to be enemies of the Bureau.

I have been impressed by Mr. Dowd on numerous occasions, both by working under his direction in Salt Lake City and at subsequent times that I have talked with him, with his loyalty to the Bureau and the Director. While he is undoubtedly meticulous and inclined to be excitable, and at times does not use the best of judgment, I feel that he has

67-1617-~~17~~ 18  
 XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

Memo for Director.

11/4/35

- 2 -

the interest of the Bureau at heart at all times and it is recommended that further consideration be given to the possibility of increasing Mr. Dowd's compensation in consideration of his twenty-one years of service.

Upon inquiring of Mr. Dowd as to how he liked the Omaha territory, he stated that he was satisfied wherever the Bureau saw fit to send him; that, however, Mrs. Dowd suffered from hay fever and found the summer climate in Omaha, Nebraska to be unbearable and that next summer he would be forced to send her to some other part of the country. I inquired as to what Mr. Dowd's office of preference was and was informed that he would like to be assigned to the Boston office inasmuch as his home is in New England.

Respectfully,

S. J. Tracy.

RECORDED  
MAY 19 1934

Chicago, Illinois.  
November 13, 1935.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
c/o Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On the evening of November 12, 1935, about 11:15 P. M. while out for a walk with S. A. C. Ladd and S. A. Gensu we met at the Spa Bar, Michigan and Jackson Blyds., Agent S. J. Abbaticchio who was in the city to appear as a witness and who is attached to the Bureau and he was in the company of former Agent T. J. Connor. The latter from my observation while in the service at Chicago, was very close to former Agent H. A. Purvis. From the conversation of Connor it was indicated that he was at Chicago attached to the H. O. L. C. and that former agent George Wolf is also here with him attached to the H. O. L. C.; that on the previous night Mr. Purvis had been with George Wolf at the Morrison Hotel. I do not recall that Wolf and Purvis were friendly while in the service although they may have worked together without my knowledge at some time. I believe that you are thoroughly familiar with the past activity of Mr. Wolf.

I did not note anything to attach any particular significance to the association of Mr. Connor and Mr. Abbaticchio as they were apparently friendly in the past while both were in the service and nothing is said to indicate that Mr. Abbaticchio had been in association with Mr. Purvis while in the city.

It was believed that you would be interested in knowing of the general association in case anything might arise in the future which would be the result of this association.

S. A. C. Ladd is familiar with the fact that I had in mind to write as to this and he will not therefore communicate with you as to this.

Sincerely

E. J. Connelley.

67-2494-23  
SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
NOV 19 1935

Post Office Box 812  
Chicago, Illinois

November 15th, 1935

Personal and  
Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For your information I desire to advise that a letter was received at this office, addressed to Mr. Melvin Purvis, with a return address as follows: "Hugh G. Garber, 419 North Broadway, Madison, Indiana", which letter was postmarked Madison, Indiana, November 11th, 1935. This letter was forwarded to Mr. Purvis.

It will be recalled that Mr. Garber was formerly an Agent in this Bureau and I believe you are familiar with his activities.

Subsequent to the transmittal of the above letter I had obtained information indicating that Mr. Garber had written to Mr. Purvis making application for a position with him in the event he organized an investigative force as the newspapers have indicated he had plans of doing. This undoubtedly refers to the newspaper stories concerning a police protection force to be organized in Hollywood, California. It is also my understanding that Mr. Garber is presently employed with the Madison, Indiana Courier newspaper.

Sincerely yours,

D. M. LADD.

44-329-31

TDC:MAM

443

December 12, 1935

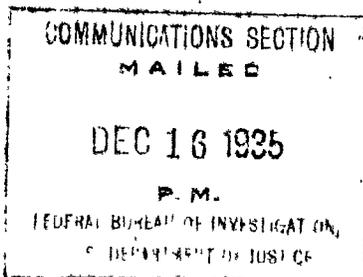
Mr. Durt MacBride,  
Associate Editor,  
Cosmopolitan,  
Hearst Magazine Building,  
37th Street at 8th Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your communication of December 9, 1935, re-  
questing to be advised of the present address of Mr. Melvin Purvis,  
I regret to inform you that we are not in possession of Mr. Purvis'  
latest address.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



Harry Payne Burton  
Editor

Hearst's International  
combined with  
Cosmopolitan

HEARST MAGAZINE BUILDING  
FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET AT EIGHTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

*TR*

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

December 9, 1935

Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

Will you kindly let us know Mr. Melvin Purvis'  
present address?

*Burt MacBride*

BM:EL

Associate Editor

*We do not know it.*

RECORDED  
DEC 17 1935

67-7489-443

DEC 17 1935

APR 12/12/35

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

LCS:AMP.

December 14, 1935.

Mr. D. M. Ladd,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box #812,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Ladd:

I have been advised by Mr. Schilder of the fact that you did not attend the Fifteenth Annual Banquet of the Chicago Railway Special Agents and Police Association, held on November 21, 1935, because of the fact that former Special Agent in Charge M. H. Purvis also was to occupy a position at the speakers' table there.

I hope you will understand that it is my desire that you should not avoid attendance or participation in any gatherings merely because any former Bureau official or employee is to be present. You are the representative of the Bureau in the Chicago district and certainly former employees cannot claim that title and the prestige which attends the position.

It is my desire, therefore, that you participate freely in any future events of this sort, regardless of the attendance or non-attendance of former Bureau representatives.

Sincerely yours,

105 15 - 200

XEROX  
JAN 18 1936

Post Office Box 812

Chicago, Illinois

Personal and  
Confidential

November 19th, 1935

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I desire to advise that Mrs. Genevieve Hollis today informed me that she had learned that Mrs. Doris Rogers Lockerman was soon to have an article in the Chicago Tribune, which, according to her informant, would "blow everything up." Mrs. Hollis was asked what she meant by "blow everything up" and just what would be in this article. She stated that the only thing she had heard which might be included in such an article would be information concerning some woman in Chicago who had, after the last election, been used by Mr. Purvis and Mr. McSwain for the purpose of writing letters to Congressmen and Senators. Mrs. Hollis was not able to furnish the name of this woman or any further information about these alleged letters but stated that the information as she had obtained it indicated that Purvis and McSwain had promised to pay this woman for having written these letters and that this woman had apparently not as yet received payment therefor.

Miss Helen Dunkel, Chief Clerk in this Office, informed me that Mrs. Hollis' informant was former Special Agent H. P. Scanlon, who is friendly to Mrs. Hollis. She further stated that Scanlon had informed Mrs. Hollis that Mrs. Lockerman had not written this article sooner in view of the absence from Chicago of her husband, former Special Agent A. E. Lockerman, and that she desired to ascertain from him whether he would have any objections to her writing such an article and Mr. Lockerman is alleged to have informed her that the only trouble with her other articles was that they were not strong enough.

Mrs. Lockerman is also supposed to have stated that the Director maintains a black list of individuals with whom the employees of this Bureau are not to have any contact and that included on this black

RECORDED  
JAN 10 1936

67-25116-73

list are supposed to be the names of former Special Agent in Charge Joe Bayliss, Agent Lockerman and Mrs. Lockerman.

I will endeavor to obtain further information concerning this matter and will endeavor to keep the Bureau fully advised concerning this subject matter.

Very truly yours,

DML:LJM

D. M. LAIRD  
Special Agent in Charge

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 12, 1935.

✓  
Mr. Quinn:

Mr. Hoover states he does not feel we should ever make a statement as appearing in the last paragraph, and suggests a statement along the following lines:

"In reply to your communication of December 9, 1935, requesting to be advised of the present address of Mr. Melvin Purvis, I regret to inform you that we are not in possession of Mr. Purvis' latest address."

hwg

DEC 18 1935

67-7489-444

DEC 17 1935 A.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 19 1936

RECORDED

INDEXED

4884

WRG:LEJ

67-7-89-445

November 20, 1935.

Mr. Gustave A. Wilson,  
2405 Second Avenue,  
New York, New York,

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication dated November 19, 1935, to which you attached a letter addressed to Mr. Melvin H. Purvis. As requested by you, Mr. Purvis' correct address has been inserted on the above mentioned letter and same forwarded to him.

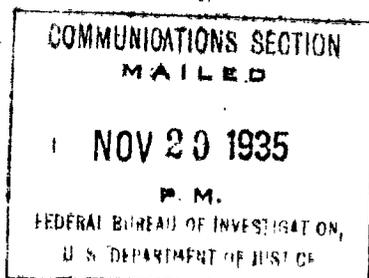
The postage stamps which you enclosed with your letter are being returned herewith.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure #869528



RECORDED  
JAN 15 1936  
✓

6

2405 Second Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.,  
Nov. 19, 1935.

Bureau of Investigation,  
Dept. of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

To whom it may concern;

Would you be so kind as to forward the enclosed letter to Mr. Melvin Purvis, formerly with the Chicago Office.

Thanking you in advance.

Obligingly yours,

*Gustave J. Wilson*

*Letter forwarded  
to Mr. Purvis  
11-19-35*

*Letter to Wilson  
11-20-35 - stamps (24)  
returned. wry*

DEC 18 1935

67-7487-445

DEC 18 1935

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

WHDL:BG

December 10, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Public's reaction to actions of former SAC M. H. Purvis.

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	.....

507

1007  
4

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

I have noted recently in various talks given by me in all sections of the country that, in the open forum discussions which I hold, the audience practically always makes some inquiry concerning former SAC M. H. Purvis.

Upon every occasion, I answer inquiries by informing them that it is my personal understanding that he is attempting to enter the movies and has published a series of articles dealing with the Bureau's work.

Upon inquiry which invariably follows these statements, I point out that Inspector Samuel Cowley was actually responsible for and in charge of most of the investigations on which former SAC Purvis is "trading".

I also tactfully inform the audiences during the open forum discussion that you and other officials of the Bureau, including myself, have turned down several lucrative offers to do such work because we feel it would be unethical and I also point out the large sums of money which you have refused in this connection, totaling many times your annual salary.

I have observed that, without exception, the audience's reaction to Purvis' actions in this connection is one of disgust and, in many instances, individual members of the audience give vent to such opinions.

Respectfully,

*W. H. D. Lester*  
W. H. D. Lester

67-7489-446

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

DEC 20 1935

DEC 23 1935

SCHULDER

FILE

WRG:WHA  
67-7489-447

December 28, 1935.

Miss Mildred McRae,  
General Delivery,  
Center Sandwich, New Hampshire.

Dear Madam:

In reply to your communication dated December 19, 1935, in which you enclosed a letter addressed to former Agent Purvis, you are advised that Mr. Purvis' present address is unknown to this Bureau.

Your enclosure is therefore being returned to you herewith.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure #627083

8-

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JAN 1 1936
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED  
JAN 3 1936

-447

Center Sandwich, N.H.  
Dec 19/35

U.S. Dept of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:—

Will you kindly address  
the enclosed <sup>stamped</sup> letter to the  
last known address  
of Melvin L. Purvis.

He was a very dear  
friend of mine, in  
Los Angeles, California  
and I would like to  
get in touch with him  
as soon as possible.

JAN 6 1936

67-7489-447

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEC 26 1935 A.M.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

DEC 26 1935

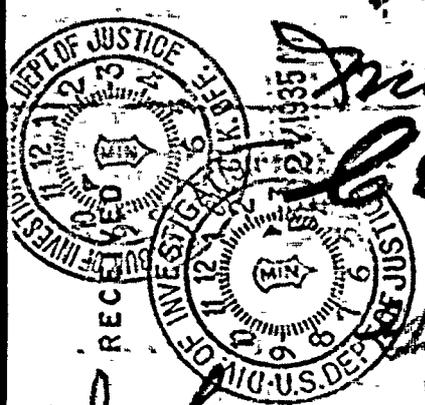
"Please," make my Jimmie  
a happy one, by doing  
me this little favor,  
as I need his help  
so much. Thanking  
you, I remain,

Very truly yours

Mildred Lee Rae

Center Sandwich  
New Hampshire  
Mr. Del.

I know his first name  
is Melvin, but he always  
had me call him  
Harold. I know he has  
resigned from the service, but  
thought you would know his address



DEC 26 9 55 AM 1935

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5538

1935.

*1/27*

- To:  Director
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Baughman
- Miss Gandy
- Mr. Renneberger
- Mr. Coffey
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Donegan
- Mr. Douglas
- Mr. L. H. Richmond
- Mr. Joseph
- Mr. Swenson
- Mr. Tracy
- Personnel Files
- Files

See Me

Send File

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

*ack + letter returned  
12-28-35  
WKS*

**XEROX**  
T. D. Quinn.  
JAN 10 1984

3877A	L11621131A	L11652876A	L11672410A
66638A	L11621968A	L11653012A	L11673075A
0722A	L11635367A	L11653325A	L11673644A
0747A	L11635733A	L11653584A	L11673738A
1726A	L11636194A	L11653820A	L11673857A
2812A	L11636328A	L11653857A	L11674209A
5866A	L11636334A	L11654206A	L11674277A
6540A	L11636363A	L11654319A	L11674480A
8011A	L11636641A	L11654918A	L11675060A
8036A	L11636709A	L11654984A	L11675252A
8896A	L11636834A	L11655220A	L11675603A
9576A	L11636947A	L11655541A	L11676798A
9976A	L11637005A	L11655784A	L11678023A
0721A	L11637740A	L11655939A	L11678497A
2697A	L11637795A	L11655944A	L11680733A
3360A	L11638861A	L11659277A	L11684047A
6797A	L11640624A	L11659834A	L11684104A
7416A	L11640699A	L11660613A	L11684208A
9561A	L11640719A	L11660854A	L11684318A
20278A	L11640903A	L11660973A	L11684842A
22416A	L11641086A	L11661136A	L11686018A
22857A	L11641169A	L11661245A	L11687303A
23439A	L11641267A	L11661994A	L11688048A
24325A	L11641560A	L11662103A	L11688371A
24391A	L11641576A	L11662146A	L11688507A
24396A	L11641952A	L11662176A	L11688665A
24821A	L11642084A	L11662505A	L11688795A
24822A	L11643041A	L11662653A	L11689138A
24825A	L11643100A	L11663260A	L11689266A
24834A	L11643610A	L11663273A	L11689270A
24871A	L11645566A	L11663603A	L11689596A
24900A	L11646645A	L11663642A	L11689555A
25261A	L11646870A	L11663657A	L11689670A
25288A	L11647461A	L11666312A	L11689989A
25348A	L11648388A	L11666432A	L11689991A
26108A	L11648393A	L11666816A	L11690354A
26424A	L11648540A	L11667295A	L11690403A
27062A	L11648630A	L11667533A	L11690664A
27420A	L11648957A	L11667639A	L11690744A
27853A	L11649127A	L11668141A	L11690965A
27958A	L11649948A	L11668431A	L11691268A
28718A	L11650141A	L11668509A	L11692109A

WRG:WHA

1-7489-448  
December 23, 1935.

Miss Florence M. Sedar,  
c/o Community Chests & Councils, Inc.,  
155 East 44th Street,  
New York, New York.

Dear Madam:

In reply to your communication dated December 12,  
1935, relative to Mr. Melvin Purvis, I regret to advise you  
that Mr. Purvis' present address is unknown to this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

8

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 23 1935	
FBI - NEW YORK	

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

✓

6

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Donegan \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Edwards \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Joseph \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Keith \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mrs. Kelley \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Kleinkauf \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Schilder \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Miss White \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Files Section \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Personnel Files \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

- For Your Information \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- File \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Remarks: His address is unknown.

st

*letter prepared  
12-22-35  
WES*

XEROX  
1934

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson ..... ✓  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk ..... ✓  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Forworth .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Joseph .....  
Mr. Keith *pkj* .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....  
.....  
.....

# COMMUNITY CHESTS & COUNCILS, INC.

155 EAST 44TH STREET . NEW YORK, N. Y.

*WRC*  
DIV. OF IRV

MURRAY HILL 6-2923

31st FLOOR, COMMERCE BUILDING

**Presidents**  
STILLMAN F. WESTBROOK Hartford, Conn.  
**Honorary Presidents**  
NEWTON D. BAKER Cleveland, Ohio  
**Vice-Presidents**  
JOHN STEWART BRYAN Richmond, Va.  
GEORGE E. VINCENT Greenwich, Conn.  
**Treasurer**  
MENDON CRUBE The Oranges, N. J.  
**Secretary**  
PERCIVAL DODGE Detroit, Mich.

**Staff**  
**Executive Vice-Presidents**  
ALLEN T. BURNS  
RALPH BLANCHARD  
BRADLEY BUELL  
**Administrative Director**  
**Field Director**  
**Directors**  
S. M. BOND Beverly Hills, Calif.  
C. M. BOOKMAN Cincinnati, Ohio  
HENRY G. BOWDEN Fort Worth, Texas  
ALLSTON BURE Boston, Mass.  
J. HERBERT CASE New York, N. Y.  
MRS. IRENE F. CONRAD Santa Fe, N. M.  
E. G. CORWIN Dayton, Ohio  
C. PHELPS DODGE Washington, D. C.  
J. HOWARD T. FALK Vancouver, B. C., Canada

ARTHUR A. GUILD Richmond, Virginia  
FRANK M. HARDT Philadelphia, Pa.  
MRS. T. D. HEWITT Greenwich, Conn.  
DAVID C. LIGGETT Minneapolis, Minn.  
ROBERT F. MADDOX Atlanta, Ga.  
WILBUR F. MAXWELL Pittsburgh, Pa.  
HARRY MONSKY Omaha, Nebraska  
GEORGE W. MORGAN St. Paul, Minn.  
EDWARD L. RYERSON, JR. Chicago, Ill.  
FREDERIC W. SMITH Newark, N. J.  
RAY W. SMITH San Francisco, Calif.  
EMIL G. STEGER St. Louis, Missouri  
FRED STEPHENSON Springfield, Mass.  
KENNETH STURGES Cleveland, Ohio  
HARRY P. WARREN Rochester, N. Y.

December 12, 1935

Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We should greatly appreciate your help on the following matter.

We understand that when Melvin Purvis, well-known G-Man, retired from the Department of Justice he appeared in a newsreel in which he declared forcefully that the only possible solution to our crime problems was adequate character training.

It has been suggested that if we could secure such a definite statement from him, it would be helpful to many community chests throughout the country in securing funds for the youth agencies and character building organizations which they finance. Can you assist us in getting in touch with Mr. Purvis?

Even more useful, perhaps, in a general way would be any recently published statements of a similar nature to which you could refer us, preferably by persons who have a high official position in the field of crime prevention and punishment.

As we represent more than four hundred of the larger cities throughout the United States, any material of this kind is likely to be widely used.

Gratefully yours,

*Florence M. Seder*  
Florence M. Seder

XEROX  
JAN 10 1984

FMS:P

*Letter prepared - ack.  
12-23-35  
WRC*

RECORDED  
DEC 27 1935  
67-7489-448  
DEC 26 1935  
TOLSON  
CH. CLK.  
JOSEPH  
RBY

WRG

67-7488-449

January 3, 1936.

Mr. Lee Brown,  
1815 West Charles Street,  
Muncie, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your communication dated  
December 26, 1935, relative to Mr. Melvin Purvis,  
you are advised that a survey of the records of  
this Bureau fails to reveal a forwarding address  
for Mr. Purvis.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAIL ROOM  
JAN 4 1936  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED  
INDEXED

*[Handwritten signature]*

1815 W. Charles St.  
Muncie, Indiana  
Dec. 26, 1935

Dear Sir:

I am writing you to see if you  
can give me any references to get in  
correspondence with Melvin Purvis  
formerly of the Department of Justice  
Is he traveling throughout this  
country giving talks and must  
be let secured through booking  
agency? Please give me all  
references possible, and write  
me as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Lee Brown

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

1815 W. Charles  
Muncie, Indiana

RECORDED

JAN 6 1936

67-7489-449	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
DEC 30 1935 A.M.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	OFF. OF
WAB	FILE

ack-  
1-3-36  
WAB

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744 113 1935.

- To:  Director
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Douglas
- Miss Gandy
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Renneberger
- Mr. Joseph
- Personnel Files Section
- Files Section
- Communications Section
- Miss Sheaffer

- 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 .....

See Me For Appropriate Action

Send File Note and Return

---



---



---



---



---

XEROX  
JAN 13 1984

Clyde Tolson

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box #812

Chicago, Illinois

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	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

January 3rd, 1936

Personal and Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Ave. at 9th St., N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For your information, I desire to advise that Chief of Police William O. Freeman at Evanston, Illinois, today informed Special Agent T. F. Mullen of this Office that he had learned from Mr. M. H. Purvis that he expected to go to San Francisco, California, shortly after the first of this year to accept employment with a large steamship company in that town, this steamship company having had trouble with Communists and strikes, and that Mr. Purvis was reported to be going to accept appointment as head of an investigative force for this company. Mr. Freeman was not able to advise the name of the steamship line.

For your further information, I desire to quote the following telegram which was received at this Office on January 3rd, 1936, from H. P. Burton, Editor of the Cosmopolitan Magazine:

"SHOULD APPRECIATE GREATLY YOUR WIRING ME COLLECT WHERE I CAN TELEPHONE MELVIN PURVIS OR IF YOU CAN REACH HIM AND ASK HIM TO CALL ME REVERSING CHARGES I SHALL BE MUCH INDEBTED TO YOU"

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Mr. Burton was advised by letter that inquiries concerning the present whereabouts of Mr. Purvis should be directed to the Bureau in Washington.

Very truly yours,

JAN 7 1936

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

6-7489-450

Handwritten initials and scribbles at the bottom right of the page.

VERG:LEJ

451

January 8, 1936.

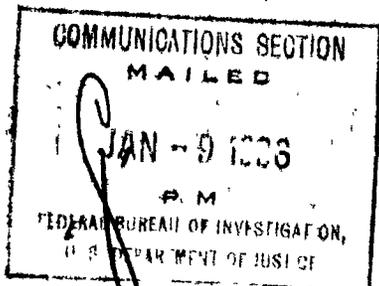
Mr. Alan B. Salkeld,  
74 East Philadelphia Street,  
Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your communication dated  
January 4, 1936, relative to Mr. Malvin Purvis,  
you are advised that a survey of the records of  
this Bureau fails to reveal a forwarding address  
for Mr. Purvis.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



# INDIANA RIFLE CLUB

INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

Affiliated with the  
National Rifle Association of America

74 East Philadelphia Street,  
Indiana, Penna.,  
January 4, 1936.

United States Department of Justice,  
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Hoover:

I would like to contact Mr. ~~William~~ Purvis who was formerly with your Department. So would you be so kind as to please let me have his mailing address.

Thanking you for this information, and if I can help you in any way do not fail to call on me as I am always glad to help your department.

Very truly yours,

*Alan B. Salkeld*  
Alan B. Salkeld, Secretary.

*address  
not known  
1/7*

*ack 1-8-36  
WPK*

RECORDED  
JAN 10 1936

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

67-7489-4511	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 10 1936	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
RECEIVED	FILE

*WPK*

CT:ACS  
7-94  
452

February 8, 1936.

Mr. J. Small,  
Secretary to Mr. Sidney Kingsley,  
170 East 78th Street,  
New York City.

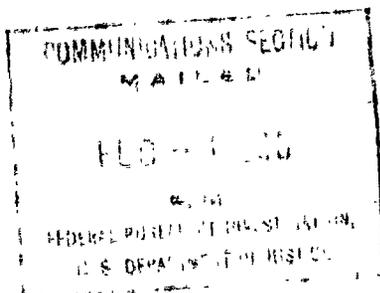
Dear Mr. Small:-

Replying to your letter of February 3,  
1936, please be advised that Mr. M. H. Purvis resigned from  
this Bureau on August 5, 1935.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.



JAN 10 1936

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744 77 1936.

To:

- Director
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Douglas
- Miss Gandy
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Renneberger
- Mr. Joseph
- Personnel Files Section
- Files Section
- Communications Section
- Miss Sheaffer

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
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

See Me For Appropriate Action

Send File Note and Return

*I know of no state-  
ment he made but it  
is OK to give date of  
resignation.*

Clyde Tolson

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

C O P Y

SIDNEY KINGSLEY  
170 East 78 Street

Mr. E. Hoover  
Department of Justice  
Washington D C

Dear Sir:

I am seeking information about a statement made by Melvin Pervis when he resigned from the Dept.

Could you furnish me with the date of his resignation?

Cordially

J Small  
Sec. to Mr. Kingsley

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

SIDNEY KINGSLEY  
170 EAST 78<sup>TH</sup> STREET

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

Feb. 3, 1936

Mr. E. Hoover  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am seeking information about  
a statement made by Melvin Perwis  
when he resigned from the dept.

Could you furnish me with  
the date of his resignation?

Cordially

Small.

cc to Mr. Kingsley  
67-7489-452

Handwritten initials

FEB 11 1936

JAN 13 1984

Post Office Box 812  
Chicago Illinois

February 5, 1936

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: BREKID

This will confirm my telephonic conversation with Mr. E. A. Tamm of the Bureau on February 4, 1936, concerning the Associated Press News Dispatch that a group of Federal Agents, heavily armed, left Chicago by airplane on the afternoon of February 4, 1936, for the purpose of proceeding to the State of North Carolina to apprehend Alvin Karpis. I have to advise that I instructed Special Agent R. C. Suran to make discreet inquiries concerning this matter for the purpose of determining whether officers of some other law enforcement agency had in fact proceeded to North Carolina for the purpose above indicated.

Special Agent R. C. Suran interviewed Miss Hacker, of the Bluebird Air Lines at Chicago, Illinois. Miss Hacker stated that to her knowledge only one chartered airplane left the Chicago Airport on February 4, 1936, and that this plane was chartered by Melvin H. Purvis for the purpose of flying to his home at Timmonsville, South Carolina, where his father is seriously ill. Miss Hacker stated that the officials of the TWA Air Line communicated with her by telephone on the morning of February 4, 1936, and inquired whether the Bluebird Air Lines would be interested in chartering a ship for the purpose of taking Mr. Purvis to South Carolina it being indicated by the official of the TWA Line that it was doubtful whether the commercial lines would make the trip to Washington, D. C. on this date, the planes making connections at Washington, D.C. for the State of South Carolina. Miss Hacker advised that it was agreed that the Bluebird Air Lines would charter the ship to Mr. Purvis, and that Mr. Purvis left Chicago, Illinois about 1 P.M. on that date with Pilot Joe Bailey.

67-9111-453  
FEB 11 1936

INDEX  
JAN 10 1936

Miss Hucker communicated by telephone with the other companies at the Chicago Airport, who have airplanes to charter, and she was advised that no other chartered planes left the Chicago Airport on the date indicated.

Miss Hucker indicated to Special Agent Suran that she knew that Mr. Purvis, through the TWA official, had made inquiries of their other airplanes in an effort to charter a plane for his proposed trip to South Carolina.

Very truly yours,

D. H. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

RCS:LM  
7-82

KERON  
JAN 19 1984

RCH:MSC

67-748-1-454

February 20, 1936.

Mr. Fred Smith,  
1578 South Detroit,  
Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 16, 1936, with which you enclosed a comic strip advertisement showing the endorsement of Post function by Mr. Melvin Purvis.

For your information, Mr. Purvis is no longer connected with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and, as a matter of fact, has not been connected with it since July, 1935. Consequently, I have no control over what Mr. Purvis does or says.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

CC SAC OKLAHOMA CITY

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED

FEB 21 1936

P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~PEROXI~~  
FEB 20 1936

*Handwritten initials and notes:*  
JCH  
M  
2-20-36  
2-20-36  
2-20-36

Have someone prepare a letter for the Director's signature to this man informing him that Mr. Purvis is no longer connected with the Bureau and as a matter of fact hasn't been connected with it since last July and consequently the Director has no control over what he does or what he says.

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 .....  
 Mr. C. G. ...

COPY

2-16-36

J. Edgar Hoover,  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Do such sales promotion campaigns, as the enclosed assist in increasing respect for the efforts of the Men of your department?

Eat ---and become a G-Man---a sorry basis for the requirements of your department and a sad comment on a man who would stoop to such a use of his name and published history.

Yours truly,

Fred Smith

1528 S. Detroit

Tulsa, Okla.

Writer encloses a comic strip which was an advertisement in the Tulsa World, of 2-16-36, and which featured former SAC Melvin Purvis recommending the eating of Post Toasties. Original letter and strip in file no. 80-84556

See 80-84-A

*Letter to  
 J. Edgar Hoover  
 President Hoover  
 2-20-36  
 R.H.H.  
 Reply  
 2-20-36  
 R.H.H.  
 J.H.H.*

MAR 2

1936-7-7489-454

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 19 1936

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*



The Inside Story of

# MELVIN PURVIS AMERICA'S NO. 1 G-MAN

## THE SCRAM CHART OR HOW AMERICA'S AGE G-MAN CAPTURED THE BARKUS GANG

MELVIN PURVIS, formerly the ace G-Man of the Department of Justice... who directed the capture of Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd, "Baby Face" Nelson, and scores of other public enemies. Mr. Purvis reveals the story and methods used in capturing dangerous criminals. For obvious reasons, the names of the characters involved have been changed. The methods of apprehending criminals, and the inside story of the capture of typical law-breakers, are herewith published as eliciting proof that CRIME DOES NOT PAY.

OH, MR. PURVIS, TELL US ABOUT THE TIME YOU CAPTURED THE BARKUS GANG!

WELL, THIS NOTORIOUS BARKUS GANG HAD JUST MADE A RAID ON A SMALL ILLINOIS BANK. WHEN MY G-MEN AND I ARRIVED, THERE WERE NO CLUES.

OH, YES, DO!

WE DON'T KNOW WHICH WAY THEY WENT!

MR. PURVIS, DOES THIS MEAN ANYTHING? IT BLEW OUT THE WINDOW OF THAT GANG'S CAR AS IT SPED PAST MY GROCERY!

THE SCRAM CHART THEY WERE USING FOR A GETAWAY! YOU BET IT MEANS SOMETHING!

HERE'S HOW A SCRAM CHART WORKS: SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE ROBBERY, THE BANDIT CAR DRIVES CAREFULLY OVER THE ROUTE PLANNED FOR THE GET-AWAY, SELECTING LITTLE USED ROADS. EXACT MILEAGES ARE NOTED ON THE CHART. WHEN THE BANDIT CAR DRIVES UP TO THE BANK, THE MILEAGE GAUGE IS SET AT ZERO. WHEN THE CAR ROARS AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF THE ROBBERY, A BANDIT CALLS OFF THE MILEAGES AT WHICH TURNS ARE TO BE MADE.... "500 YDS. OF A MILE, RIGHT TURN... 2-1/2 MILES, LEFT TURN," ETC.

G-BANK  
M-102 (RIGHT TURN)  
M-101  
M-100  
M-99 (BRIDGE)  
M-98 (ROAD BRIDGE)  
M-97

A/NO... RIGHT TURN

NOW WE KNOW EXACTLY WHICH WAY THEY'RE GOING!

MAYBE YOU FOLLOW THAT MAP—HAVE THE ROADS THEY'VE MARKED AHEAD WATCHED... I'LL PLAY A HUNCH!

MY HUNCH IS THAT WHEN THEY LOST THAT SCRAM CHART, THEY HAD TO CHANGE THEIR WHOLE PLAN OF GETAWAY. I THINK THEY'LL KEEP ON THE MAIN HIGHWAY TO THE BORDER—AND I'M GOING TO HEAD THEM OFF! I KNOW A SHORT CUT TO THE CROSSROADS... STEP ON IT AND WE'LL CATCH BARKUS YET!

AT THE CROSSROADS.

WHERE THEY GO, WE'RE TOO LATE TO STOP THEM!

YOU LATE, NOTHING! I'LL SHOOT OUT THEIR TIRES!

STUCK 'EM UP, JOE BARKUS! WE'VE GOT YOU AND YOUR GANG DEAD TO RIGHTS THIS TIME!

IT'S MELVIN PURVIS!

VA CAN'T GET AWAY FROM THE G-MEN!

YOU KNOW, PAUL AND JOAN, A G-MAN NEEDS A HEARTY, SATISFYING BREAKFAST... THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS EAT POST TOASTIES!

ME FOR A REAL G-MAN'S BREAKFAST, THEN I'M GOING TO HAVE POST TOASTIES EVERY DAY!

SOM'IF IT'S THE SWELLEST TASTING CEREAL EVER!

**Post Toasties**  
The Better  
**Corn Flakes**  
MICKY MOUSE TOYS ON BACK AND SIDES

**Try Crisp, Crunchy Post Toasties**  
—the finest breakfast treat ever!

COME on, everybody—Join Melvin Purvis and enjoy a delicious bowl of POST TOASTIES! Mmm! When you taste those crisp golden flakes, you'll agree it's the grandest breakfast treat a boy or girl ever had!

Post Toasties, you see, is made from the tender, sweet little hearts of the corn, where most of the fiber is. And each golden flake is toasted double crisp so it keeps its crunchy goodness longer in milk or cream. No wonder everyone calls Post Toasties "The Better Corn Flakes!"

Get your Post Toasties now in a Post Cereal and join the Junior G-Man Corps!

MADE BY GENERAL FOODS



**JOIN MY JUNIOR G-MEN!**

BOYS AND GIRLS... I'LL SEND YOU FREE THIS REGULATION SIZE JUNIOR G-MAN BADGE... ENROLL YOU ON THE SECRET ROLL OF MY JUNIOR G-MEN... AND SEND YOU A BIG EXCITING BOOK THAT TELLS YOU ALL ABOUT CLUES, SECRET CODES, INVISIBLE WRITING, SELF-DEFENSE... OTHER 'INSIDE' INFORMATION THAT ONLY G-MEN KNOW... READ BELOW HOW TO JOIN AND GET THESE AND MY OTHER FREE GIFTS!

HERE'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO TO JOIN: Just ask Mother to get 2 packages of Post Toasties. Send the box-tops, with the coupons at the right, to Melvin Purvis, c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich. He'll immediately enroll you as a member of his Junior G-Man Corps... send you his official Junior G-Man badge... and his big, thrilling book that tells all about how to become a Junior G-Man, and how to get OTHER GRAND FREE GIFTS! Send the coupon right now!

Melvin Purvis, P.O. Box 100, Battle Creek, Michigan

I want to join your Junior G-Man Corps. Please send me Official Badge, Instruction Manual, and catalog of FREE PRIZES. Here are my two Post Toasties box-tops. Check whether boy ( ) or girl ( ).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Offer expires Dec. 31, 1936, and is good only in U.S.A.

*Tulsa Ward  
2/16/36*

2/18/36

J. Edgar Hoover  
Washington D.C.

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. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gandy	.....

#12  
Dear Sir:

Do such safe  
promotion campaigns  
as the enclosed, assist  
in increasing respect  
for the efforts of the  
men of your department?

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

FEB 18 1936

Tab - - - and become  
a G-Man - - a parity basis  
for the requirements of your  
department and a  
comment in a man who  
would stoop to such a

FEB 29 1936

JOSEPH

12-11-36 [unclear] B



Excerpt

MEMORANDUM

36

Time 5:10 P.M.

Conversation of Mr. Tamm with the Director.

*W.H.*

*W.H.*

Mr. Tamm advised that a letter had been received from Agent Hartin stating that he had been informed by letter from Detective Lynch of the Chicago Police Department that Purvis is endeavoring to line up the dissatisfied men in the service, those who have left of their own volition and those who have been discharged, and through their political affiliations oppose the Director; that Purvis is promising the men certain jobs; that Hartin does not know if Purvis has contacted Kempster.

XERO

JAN 19 1934

67-7489-455

FEB 21 1934

EAT

HURS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
P. O. Box 1276  
Oklahoma City, Okla.  
February 27, 1936

JBL:MM

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
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. Egan	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

As of possible interest to the Bureau, there is trans-  
mitted herewith a Post Toasties advertisement appearing in the  
comic section of the Daily Oklahoman on February 16, 1936, cover-  
ing the exploits of "Melvin Purvis - America's No. 1 G-Man", in  
connection with the Junior G-Man Corps, sponsored by the manu-  
facturers of Post Toasties.

Yours very truly,

*Dwight Brantley*  
DWIGHT BRANTLEY,  
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl. *(initials)*  
MB

*See 80-84-A*

RECORDED  
MAR 3 1936

67-7487-456  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 2 1936 A.M.  
TOLSON  
JOSEPH  
FILE

*(Handwritten initials)*

# THE DEATH BATTERY OR HOW MELVIN PURVIS CAPTURED THE GARSON JAIL-BREAKERS



## AN INSIDE STORY OF MELVIN PURVIS AMERICA'S NUMBER-ONE G-MAN

MELVIN PURVIS, the young lawyer who became ace G-Man, who directed the capture of Dillinger, "Frenzy Boy" Floyd, "Baby Face" Nelson, and many other public enemies. Mr. Purvis reveals here the story and methods used in capturing desperate criminals. Names of places, and the characters involved have, of course, been changed. This inside story is herewith published as striking proof that CRIME DOES NOT PAY!



DO THE BANDITS EVER TRY TO GET REVENGE ON THE G-MEN, MR. PURVIS?

YOU BET THEY DO, JOAN—THOUGH MOST OF THEM ARE AFRAID TO SHOOT AT A G-MAN. THEY TRY OTHER MEANS—FOR EXAMPLE.

WE HAD SENT THE GARSON BROTHERS TO PRISON, AND 2 YEARS LATER THEY BROKE OUT OF JAIL. WE WERE HUNTING THEM THROUGH THE MONTANA FOOT HILLS, AND HAD STOPPED AT A SMALL TOWN...



JACK, YOU AND FRED WATCH THIS TOWN. I'LL GET IN THE CAR AND SCOUT THE ROADS AHEAD.

OKAY, CHIEF—BUT WATCH OUT! THOSE JAIL-BIRDS HAVE IT IN FOR YOU!



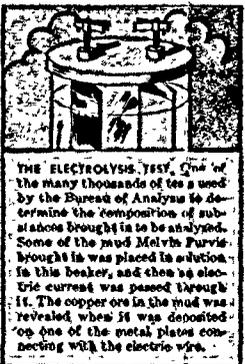
PURVIS KEEN EYE SPOTS SOMETHING.

MMM. NEVER SAW THAT WIRE BEFORE. MAYBE IT'S DISCONNECTED FROM SOMETHING.



AHA! A BATTERY BOMB! IF I'D TOUCHED THE STARTER OF THIS CAR—IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE END OF MELVIN PURVIS!

## AT THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF ANALYSIS LABORATORY



THE ELECTROLYSIS TEST, one of the many thousands of tests used by the Bureau of Analysis to determine the composition of substances brought in to be analyzed. Some of the mud Melvin Purvis brought in was placed in solution in this beaker, and then an electric current was passed through it. The copper ore in the mud was revealed when it was deposited on one of the metal plates connecting with the electric wire.



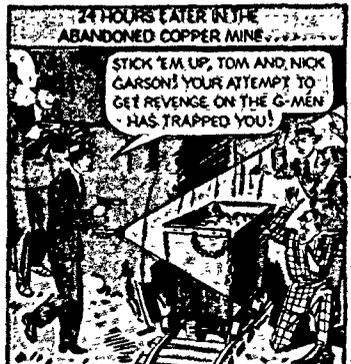
## A STRANGE CLUE!

WHAT'S THIS, MUD? DON'T RECALL SEEING THAT BEFORE? I'LL JUST BRUSH IT UP AND HAVE IT ANALYZED.



I'VE GIVEN THAT MUD THE ELECTROLYSIS TEST, MR. PURVIS. IT CONTAINS COPPER.

BY GEORGE! THERE'S AN ABANDONED COPPER MINE NOT FOUR MILES FROM THAT TOWN... THAT'S THE CLUE WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!



## 24 HOURS LATER IN THE ABANDONED COPPER MINE

STICK 'EM UP, TOM AND NICK GARSON! YOUR ATTEMPT TO GET REVENGE ON THE G-MEN HAS TRAPPED YOU!



GEE, I'M GLAD THAT BOMB DIDN'T GO OFF, MR. PURVIS!

SO AM I! WELL, PAUL AND JOAN, YOU SEEM TO HAVE EATEN UP ALL YOUR POST-TOASTIES BEFORE I FINISHED MY STORY. HAVE SOME MORE! THEY'RE JUST THE THING FOR A JUNIOR G-MAN'S BREAKFAST, YOU KNOW.

YOU BET! THEY SURE DO TASTE GOOD!



THIS IS THE NEW POST-TOASTIES PACKAGE. THERE ARE MICKY MOOSE TOYS ON EVERY BOX.



**BOYS and GIRLS I JOIN MY JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS!** I'LL SEND YOU FREE MY OFFICIAL JUNIOR G-MAN BADGE... PUT YOUR NAME ON THE SECRET ROLL... AND SEND YOU MY BIG EXCITING BOOK THAT TELLS ALL ABOUT CLUES, SECRET CODES, SELF DEFENSE, INVISIBLE WRITING... SECRETS EVERY JUNIOR G-MAN OUGHT TO KNOW... INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO BECOME A ROVING OPERATIVE AND EVEN CHIEF OPERATIVE! ALSO MY BIG CATALOG TELLING BOYS AND GIRLS HOW TO GET OTHER FREE PRIZES! SEND THE COUPON NOW!

## "Post Toasties—that's the clue to better breakfasts!" says MELVIN PURVIS

BOYS and GIRLS, take a tip from me—have a big bowl of crisp, crunchy Post Toasties with luscious, ripe fruits and berries!" says Melvin Purvis.

"I know you'll like them—every spoonful! Post Toasties, the better corn flakes, are made from the sweet, tender little hearts of the corn... where most of the flavor is stored. And, every golden-brown, flake is toasted double crisp, so it will keep its crunchy goodness longer in milk or cream."

You bet Melvin Purvis knows the secret of better breakfast! And John Cavanaugh, 24, of 55-54, Nicholas Terrace, New York City, is



JOHN CAVANAUGH

one of the thousands of youngsters who agree with him. He's a member of the Junior G-Man Corps and he says: "Every morning, I have Post Toasties for breakfast. Mom says they are good for me and I can have them any time of the day. I sometimes have them after I come home from school."

Tell Mother to get Post Toasties now... the price is low. And join Melvin Purvis' Junior G-Man Corps! A POST CEREAL—MADE BY GENERAL FOODS



## CLIP COUPON NOW!

MELVIN PURVIS, 1/2 Post Toasties, Betty Crocker, Mich. I enclose \_\_\_\_\_ Post Toasties package tops. Please send me the items checked below. Check whether boy ( ) or girl ( ).  
( ) Membership Badge (send 2 package tops)  
( ) Photo of Melvin Purvis (send 2 package tops)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Offer expires December 31, 1936. Good only in U.S.A.

**GET THESE OTHER SWELL PRIZES**  
(See Catalog for Details)

**AUTOGRAPHED PHOTO OF MELVIN PURVIS.** A grand, exciting suitable for framing. Ask your mom, by a Post Toasties package top.

**"THE G-MAN'S BOY" A grand, exciting story of a Federal Agent's son, by a well-known author of children's stories.**

**JUNIOR G-MAN WALLET.** Handsome, heavy-duty, simulated alligator skin. Contains some special identification cards, with four eye lenses. Member.

Boys' Badge (left), Girls' Division Badge (above). Both badges are of polished gold-brass design with an all-gold background, and are enameled in blue. Either one FREE for 2 Post Toasties package tops.

**TO JOIN:** Send two Post Toasties package tops with coupon to Melvin Purvis. He'll cast you as a member of his Junior G-Man Corps... send you his official Junior G-Man badge... his big exciting book that tells how to become a Junior G-Man, and a collection of OTHER SWELL FREE PRIZES!

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

March 2, 1936

Time: 6:45 P. M.

MEMORANDUM

RE: Melvin H. Purvis.

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	.....

In the course of a telephone conversation with Mr. Ladd at Chicago, he stated that he was forwarding to the Bureau information concerning Mr. Purvis' advertising of Post Toasties. Mr. Ladd stated that he had received an advance copy of the comic section of the Hearst papers for next Sunday, March 8, 1936, in which Mr. Purvis describes in a series of illustrated pictures how he captured the "Barkis" gang. Mr. Ladd stated that in the strip Mr. Purvis acknowledges Post Toasties as a food meeting the substantial requirements of a "G-Man" and also offers to send upon receipt of a coupon and two covers from a Post Toastie carton a badge known as "Melvin Purvis' Junior G-Man Badge". Mr. Ladd stated that the badge is similar in shape and style to the official Bureau badges.

*See 84-A  
memo - Dir  
3-9-36  
WHTP*

67-7489-457  
J. E. H. INVESTIGATION  
MAR 12 1936  
MAR 6 1936  
NATHAN FOLSON  
OLEGG  
BRYNER  
FOUR  
SCHILDER  
FILE

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812

Chicago, Illinois

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. Tamm	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

March 7th, 1936

Personal and Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith an advertisement which appeared in the Chicago American for the evening of March 5th, 1936, for Dodge automobiles. It is to be noted that this ad is sponsored by Melvin Purvis.

I thought that the Bureau would be interested in receiving a copy of this advertisement.

Very truly yours,

*D. M. Ladd*

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM  
enc. W

AIR MAIL -  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

67-7489-458

RECORDED

MAR 10 1936 P. M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON JOSEPH QUINN TAMM FILE

See 80-84-A

571

K

my

ms

*[Handwritten mark]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

# Famous G-Man Corners Dodge Economy

By MELVIN PURVIS,  
Former Ace of Federal Bureau of  
Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice



One of the most surprising discoveries I've made . . .



... is the way my new 1936 Dodge saves money!



It gives me 19 to 20 miles to the gallon of gas consistently in city driving . . .



... and as high as 22 miles out in the country.



At the same time, this Dodge certainly saves on oil. Excepting for regular changes, I've had to add no oil at all.

Thank you, Mr. Purvis! Thousands of Dodge owners in all parts of the country are talking about the amazing economy of this big Dodge "Beauty Winner." Many of them say that Dodge, because of its tremendous savings in gas, oil and upkeep, actually costs less to own than small, lowest-priced, competitive makes!

And that isn't all... Dodge gives you safety-steel bodies... genuine hydraulic brakes... safety-beam headlights... the famous Airglide-Ride... redistribution of weight evenly to all four wheels... Chair-Height seats, and many other features.

And don't forget, Dodge — at new, low prices — now costs only a few dollars more than lowest-priced cars!

## DODGE

NEW LOW FIRST COST

**\$ 640** and up.  
List Price at Factory, Detroit

And under the new Official Chrysler Motors Commercial Credit Company 6% Time Payment Plan, Dodge is now so easy to pay for!

**DODGE**  
Division of Chrysler Corporation

**WBBM** 8:45 Tues to Tonight 7:30  
Juring, HARRY RICHMAN

XEROX

THE CHICAGO-AMERICAN

3-5-36

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

WHDL:BG

March 9, 1936.

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Public's reaction to activities of  
Melvin H. Purvis.

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. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

### PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Reference is made to your memorandum attached concerning the message from Special Agent in Charge Ladd to the effect that former Special Agent in Charge Melvin H. Purvis is supposedly sponsoring a comic strip in connection with Post Toasties.

I thought you might be interested to know that, on my recent speaking trip, many people made inquiry concerning Purvis' activities and, without exception, their questions, in effect, boiled down to "Is it ethical for former Special Agent in Charge Purvis to sell confidential information as he purports to do?"

These inquiries usually were made during open forum discussions which I held, and I took occasion to point out that you, the writer, and other officials of the Bureau had turned down various offers similar to those accepted by Mr. Purvis. The general reaction of audiences to Mr. Purvis' activities seemed to be one of disgust and many individuals specifically suggested that there ought to be some manner of stopping these activities on his part.

At my speech in Detroit before the General Motors executives and about 45 members of the Southeastern Michigan Chiefs of Police Association, one of this last named group specifically mentioned the Post Toasties comic strip and the use of Purvis' name in connection therewith and stated emphatically that it was disgusting to him and that he thought such activities on Purvis' part were extremely unethical.

In this connection, it has always been my belief that the old adage, "Give a man enough rope and he will hang himself", will prove true in Purvis' case and that the public will soon become tired of his "trading upon his association with the Bureau".

*See 80-84-A*

Respectfully,

*W. H. D. Lester*

W. H. D. Lester

MAR 11 1936

67-7489-459

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 12 1936

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

NATHAN  
TOLSON  
EDWARDS  
THRES  
FOUR  
SCHILDER  
TAMM

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

HHC:DD

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

March 9, 1936.

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: MELVIN PURVIS

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. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Mrs. Frances G. Lee who is in the entourage of Dr. George Burgess Magrath who is lecturing before the training school this morning, informed me before the class began that she has recently been in Chicago for a visit with her daughter who lives there. She stated that she felt sure the Bureau would be interested to know the general comment with reference to the resignation of Mr. Purvis.

She stated it was the rather wide-spread consensus of opinion in the city of Chicago that Mr. Purvis had received so much favorable publicity as to become the victim of enmity on the part of Washington. I informed her that there was absolutely no truth to this as, in fact, Mr. Purvis had submitted his resignation and that so far as I was informed he did not disclose any reason for his resignation at the time, and that he had never disclosed any reason to me personally, but I knew what she had heard was not a correct statement.

She stated that her daughter had related an incident to her which Mrs. Lee thought might be the cause of Mr. Purvis' leaving the service. It seems that Mrs. Lee's daughter was a member of a dinner party some months ago to which Mr. Purvis was invited. The dinner was scheduled for seven o'clock. At 7:15 Mr. Purvis called and stated that he would be late and was just leaving for the dinner party; that for the remainder of the evening he called from every night club en route to the place where the dinner was held and, upon his arrival at about eleven o'clock it was obvious that he had not been engaged in official matters and she judged that this was the condition which led to his resignation. I told her I knew nothing about that whatsoever and she inquired if she might be permitted to tell her friends in Chicago that there was no basis for the remarks she had heard with reference to Mr. Purvis. I told her I felt sure she would be privileged to make this statement as I knew it was a true one.

Mrs. Lee has indicated that she again wants to make a tour of the Bureau in company with Dr. Magrath. She inquired if the Director was in his office, stating that she wanted to see him before she left the city.

Respectfully,

H. K. Clegg

67-7489-460

MAR 11 1936

NATHAN TOLSON

CLERK

APR 13 1936

FOUR

TAMME

*Sorry I cannot see her as I will not be here.*

*J. E. H.*

CT:MAM

67 7189-461

March 16, 1936

Mr. D. M. Ladd,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 812,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of March 11, 1936, concerning the request of Mr. W. A. McSwain for information relative to the salary of Mr. M. H. Purvis during 1935.

As Mr. Tolson indicated to you on the telephone, the Bureau certainly has too much work to do to compile such information for ex-employees. As a matter of fact, we have denied requests for such information from employees in the service.

The Bureau is very much surprised that you would even refer such a request to the Washington headquarters.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- 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 .....

RECEIVED  
MAR 19 1936  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JAN 19 1937

Mr. Ladd advises Mr. W. A. McSwain telephoned our Chi. Off. requesting to be furnished with exact amount of salary earned by Mr. Purvis in Bu last year, as Mr. McSwain had been requested by Mr. Purvis to prepare his income tax.

Mr. Tolson says: "Please note - I suggest filing".

enk

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744 3/13 1936.

To: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director	Mr. Nathan
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Nathan	Mr. Tolson
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Clegg	Mr. Baughman
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tamm	Chief Clerk
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Edwards	Mr. Clegg
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Egan	Mr. Coffey
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Quinn	Mr. Edwards
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Glavin	Mr. Egan
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Douglas	Mr. Glavin
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Gandy	Mr. Ladd
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tracy	Mr. Nichols
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Renneberger	Mr. Rosen
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Joseph	Mr. Tracy
<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel Files Section	Miss Gandy
<input type="checkbox"/> Files Section	
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications Section	
<input type="checkbox"/> Miss Sheaffer	

See Me For Appropriate Action

Send File Note and Return

Personal note -

I suggest filing

I agree. We certainly cannot have compiling such information. I suppose "admitting me" is too busy to figure it out himself.

J. C. H. Clyde Tolson

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812

Chicago, Illinois

March 11th, 1936

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Mr. W. A. McSwain telephoned this Office and requested that he be furnished with the exact amount of salary earned by Mr. M. H. Purvis from January 1st, 1935 up until the date of his resignation from the Bureau on July 12th, 1935.

Mr. McSwain stated that he had been requested by Mr. Purvis to prepare his income tax and this information is desired by him for this purpose.

It is suggested that this information, if available in the Bureau's files, be forwarded immediately by air mail, special delivery, in order that same will be available for Mr. McSwain prior to the end of this week.

Very truly yours,

  
D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

MAR 18 1936

67-7489-461

*ced*  
3/16

*WAGE*  
*578*  
*PC*

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812

Chicago, Illinois

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. Schneider	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

March 10th, 1936

Personal and Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On March 9th, 1936, Mr. Akney of the Credit Reference Bureau, Chicago, Illinois, called at this Office and at that time referred to the fact that he had an inquiry concerning Melvin Purvis. He referred to the cards in his possession and stated that this inquiry indicated that Purvis had stated he was practicing law in Chicago, Illinois at 11 East Scott Street and that he was also connected with the Saleway Stores in California.

The above information is being transmitted as of possible interest to you. His connection with the Saleway Stores was not known to Mr. Akney and nothing further is known concerning this Company in this district.

Very truly yours,

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IJM

67-7488-4624

MAR 14 1936

MAR 14 1936 A. M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON FOUR TALLEY FILE

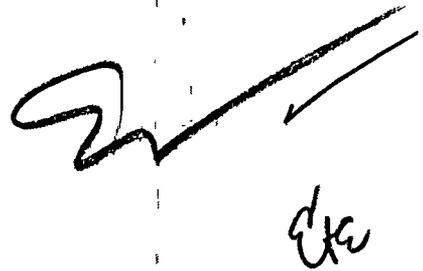
JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

CT:MAM

March 9, 1936



MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I discussed with Judge Holtzoff on Friday, March 6th, the announced reproduction of a badge in connection with the comic section entitled "The Inside Story of Melvin Purvis, America's No. 1 G-Man" which is to begin in the comic sections on Sunday, March 8th. Judge Holtzoff examined the phraseology in connection with the comic strip and also the statute pertaining to the reproduction of colorable imitations of Federal badges. He stated he did not believe the Department is in a position at the present time to object to the furnishing of these badges, but he thought it might be a good idea to secure a copy of the badge and then to reconsider the matter. I will arrange to secure one of the badges, and will take this matter up again with Judge Holtzoff at that time.

For purposes of record, there is attached hereto a copy of Section 76a and Section 76b, Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure, Title 18.

Respectfully,

  
Clyde Tolson.

~~Stamp~~  
MAR 16 1936

67-711-463  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
MAR 10 1936  
FBI - WASH. D. C.

TITLE 18 - CRIMINAL CODE AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Section 76a.

Illegal possession, etc., of official badge or other insignia.

The manufacture, sale, or possession of any badge, identification card, or other insignia, of the design prescribed by the head of any department or independent office of the United States for use by any officer or subordinate thereof, or of any colorable imitation thereof, is prohibited, except when and as authorized under such regulations as may be prescribed by the head of the department or independent office of which such insignia indicates the wearer is an officer or subordinate. (June 29, 1932, c. 306, Section 1, 47 Stat. 342.)

Section 76b.

Same; punishment.

Any person who offends against the provisions of section 76a of this title shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$250 or by imprisonment for not exceeding six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment. (June 29, 1932, c. 306, Section 2, 47 Stat. 342.)

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Division of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Post Office Box #812  
Chicago, Illinois

*JH*

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Bauchman	.....
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. Yanna	✓
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*RG*

March 2nd, 1936

Personal and Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith an advance copy of the comic section of the Chicago Herald and Examiner for Sunday, March 8th, 1936, in which it is noted there is a comic section entitled "The Inside Story of Melvin Purvis, America's No. 1 G-Man", advertising Post Toasties.



b7D

Attention is directed to the reproduction of the badge which appears therein, which, it would appear, is a colorable imitation of the Bureau's badge and as such might fall within the provisions of the recent Congressional statute prohibiting the reproduction of colorable imitations of any Federal badges.

I thought that the Bureau might be interested in the latest activities of Mr. Purvis.

Very truly yours,  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAR 15 1936 A.M.  
D. M. LADD, DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
Special Agent in Charge

MAR 16 1936

DML:IJM  
enc.

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

NATHAN  
TOLSON  
FOUR  
JAN 19 1984  
KEROX

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

FAT:RLG

March 3, 1936.

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	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Special Agent E. F. Ehrich, who was recently on leave in Cincinnati, Ohio, gave to me the attached newspaper, "Fleming's American Examiner", for July 20, 1935, in which there appears an article concerning an alleged escapade of Melvin Purvis in a Cincinnati drug store. I am advised that the editor of this paper has since been indicted and prosecuted for other matters.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm.

MAR 17 1936

67-7489-465

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

...tion,  
...Ohio,  
...35

# Purvis Gone; Pink Memories Still Linger On

**G-Man's Decision To Quit  
Service Brings Alligator  
Tears From Those In Know**

**WENT WILD IN CINCY DRUG STORE**

**Agent Who Grabbed All Glory In Getting  
Dillinger, After A Woman Put Johnny  
On The Spot, Who Got Another Gourd-  
Full Of Glory In "Pretty Boy" Floyd  
Killing After Police Did Preliminary  
Work, Now "At Ease"**

Cincinnati, O., July 17.—

Word was received in Cincinnati today that Melvin Purvis, resigned head of the Chicago Bureau of investigation of the Department of Justice, gave a statement in which he was quoted as saying that he is leaving the ranks of the 'G-men with "no regrets".

He further stated that he was glad to get out, and that he was quitting for entirely personal reasons. It's the bunk.

Several weeks ago Fleming's American Examiner, carried the story of how Purvis made a first class nuisance of himself, in a down town drug store in this city.

According to bystanders Purvis came into the store, drew a gun, and in typical Jesse James style announced to all within hearing that he was the "big G-Man Purvis," who was in on the killing of John Dillinger and "Pretty Boy" Floyd.

So that no one could be mistaken as to his identity, he three times attempted to get in touch with J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Bureau of Investigation at Washington, D. C., over the public telephone in the drug store.

After scaring the wits out of the store's customers present, and after causing the clerks to seek places of shelter behind the counter, the mighty Purvis staggered down Walnut street, giving his delusions of grand-uer full play.

At that time the press throughout the nation, were indulging in their usual methods of building up a very ordinary individual, into some sort of a giant killer, for the purposes of building a circulation.

This very ordinary young law student, from the southern mountain district, was pictured by the press as a Sherlock Holmes. Nick Carter, all in one, whereas, he merely headed a crew of police, state and federal men, who went out and shot a small town punk in the back, after he had been put "on the spot" by a woman, who sold out for a price.

In the case of "Pretty Boy" Floyd, he merely walked in, and with the prestige of the Federal government, took the case out of the hands of the police, after they had done the preliminary work and grabbed all the glory himself.

Purvis was formerly head of the department of investigation in Cincinnati, and at that time, it was rumored among Department of Justice men that he was a "great favorite" of J. Edgar Hoover, he was never popular among the other G-Men, and when he was transferred to Chicago, it was greatly to the relief of his subordinates in this city.

Purvis gave out a statement that he intends to sit on his front porch and smoke his pipe, where, through the smoke he can dream of the days when he shot a small town punk in the back, and got the credit for killing a modern Jesse James out of the hills of Oklahoma, when he wasn't even close to it.

LBN:MC

March 16, 1936.

Mr. R. L. Shivers,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Post Office Box 1525,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

7-7489-466

*Pittsburgh*

Dear Mr. Shivers:

Reference is made to your letter dated  
March 12, regarding the request of Dr. James M.  
Mallen, Bellevue, Pittsburgh, that you address a  
banquet meeting of the North Side Dental Society  
of Pittsburgh.

It is believed inadvisable for you to  
accept this invitation.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

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  
Miss Gandy

*K*

XEROX  
JAN 19 1936  
*My*

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

P. O. Box #1525  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

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	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

March 12, 1936

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL & ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Sir:

A few days ago Dr. James M. Mullen, Bellevue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, called me over the telephone and asked me if I knew how he could get in touch with Melvin Purvis. I informed him I did not know.

He then told me that the North Side Dental Society of Pittsburgh expected to have a banquet in honor of Dr. Walter E. Mendel who has been recently elected President of the Pennsylvania State Dental Society, and he was anxious to get in touch with Mr. Purvis to have him address the meeting. Dr. Mullen stated that the Society, of course, expected to pay Mr. Purvis for his services in addressing them if they could be procured, and asked me what the attitude of the Bureau would be in such a case. I informed Dr. Mullen that the Bureau had no attitude on the matter one way or the other, but that if it was desired by that organization to have someone address the meeting on the work and functions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation I was satisfied I could obtain a speaker either from Washington or fill the engagement myself.

Yesterday I received another call from Dr. Mullen, at which time he stated that the banquet was to be held for Dr. Mendel in either the Roosevelt or the William Penn Hotel on the evening of April 8, 1936.

If Purvis was attended invitation & declined we will not send anyone.

J. C. K.

67-7489-466

REC'D 5/16/36

MAY 19 1936

KEROX

TOLSON

JOHN

He asked me if I could arrange to address the meeting without requesting the Bureau to send a speaker from Washington. I told him that so far as I knew I had no engagement for April 8th. I then asked him if he had been unable to communicate with Mr. Purvis and he stated that his organization had communicated with Mr. Purvis but he had been unable to come to Pittsburgh to address their meeting.

In view of the above I am wondering if it is desired that I address this meeting.

*no*  
*3/12*  
Very truly yours,

*R. L. Shivers*  
R. L. SHIVERS  
Special Agent in Charge

RLS: IW

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

CT:MAM

467

March 17, 1936

**MEMORANDUM FOR MR. H. J. McCLURE  
GENERAL AGENT**

Receipt is acknowledged of your memorandum dated March 13, 1936, concerning a suspension from the February, 1935, expense account of former Special Agent Melvin H. Purvis.

In view of the fact that Mr. Purvis is not connected with this Bureau at the present time, it is suggested that you may desire to communicate with him direct. His address is 11 East Scott Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
MAR 20 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

✓

H. J. McCLURE  
GENERAL AGENT

# Department of Justice

Washington

March 13, 1936.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Harbo	1617
Mr. Joseph	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN EDGAR HOOVER,

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The General Accounting Office has made the following suspension from the February, 1935, expense account of former Special Agent Melvin H. Purvis:

Melvin H. Purvis, Special Agent in charge.

Claimed transportation as follows:

Jan. 31, 1935, T. R. J-433129, Chicago to Kans. City	\$13.78
Feb. 1, 1935, T. R. J-513671, Kans. City to Omaha	5.97
Feb. 2, 1935, T. R. J-513673, Omaha to Denver, Col.	16.12
Feb. 3, 1935, T. R. J-513675, Denver to Salt Lake City	17.70
Feb. 4, 1935, T. R. J-513677, Salt Lake to Butte, Mont.	13.03
Feb. 5, 1935, T. R. J-513679, Butte, Mont. to San Fran.	35.31
Feb. 7, 1935, T. R. J-507401, San Francisco to Los Ang.	14.20
Feb. 8, 1935, T. R. J-507403, Los Angeles to San Antonio	42.96
Feb. 11, 1935, T. R. J-507405, San Antonio to Dallas	8.75
Feb. 12, 1935, T. R. J-507407, Dallas to Oklah. City	7.10
Feb. 13, 1935, T. R. J-507409, Oklah. City to Chicago	<u>24.06</u>

198.98

Entitled to A. Y. T. round trip rate Chicago to San Francisco via route used \$115.00

Side trip Ogden - Butte and return 15.95

\$130.95."

In view of the above, you are kindly requested to furnish this office with an appropriate explanation, in duplicate, in order that it may be transmitted to the General Accounting Office.

Very truly yours,

MAR 23 1936

H. J. McClure,  
General Agent.

67-7489-467

MAR 21 1936

PEROX

JAN 19 1984

3/17

WRG:LEJ

468

April 1, 1936.

Miss Mary C. Malpin,  
Maxon, Incorporated,  
570 Lexington Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Dear Madam:

I have your communication dated March 26, 1936,  
relative to Mr. Marvin Purvis.

A search of the files of the Federal Bureau of  
Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, fails to reveal  
a record of a former employee by this name. It is believed,  
however, that you have reference to Mr. Melvin Purvis, who  
was formerly employed by this Bureau. In this connection,  
you are advised that the records do not disclose a forwarding  
address for Mr. Purvis.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clark .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
APR - 2 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

XEROX  
ED 116

W

MAXON  Inc.  
Advertising  
570 LEXINGTON AVENUE · NEW YORK CITY

March 26, 1936

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We are anxious to get in touch with Mr. Mervin <sup>0</sup> Purvis,  
who was formerly connected with your department.

Anything you can do to help us locate Mr. Purvis will  
be greatly appreciated as we are trying to secure his  
services in connection with some advertising publicity.

Very truly yours,

*Mary C. Halpin*  
MAXON Inc.

mh.

*We don't know  
where he is  
L of*

*Answered  
4-1-36  
WJG*

APR 3 1936

67-7489-468

*JFK*  
MAY 27 1936  
JUN 19 1936  
JUN 19 1936

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Beachman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

WHDL:BG

March 23, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: Public's reaction to activities of former  
Special Agent in Charge Melvin Purvis.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

I recently received a letter from my mother in which she comments upon the recent actions of Melvin Purvis, former Special Agent in Charge of this Bureau, in connection with certain advertisements. I believe that her reaction in this regard is, in general, typical of that of the good citizens of this country. She writes: "Do you see the numerous advertisements to which Melvin Purvis is selling his name? They range from breakfast food (with his Junior G-Men Club) to Dodge cars. I suppose he must make all he can out of it, as his lime-light will necessarily be brief. It seems very undignified, even piffling, to me."

While I am frank to confess that the word, "piffling", as used by my mother, is a new one on me, I am still inclined to agree with her that Purvis' actions are, at the best, rather "piffling".

For your confidential information, I suggest as a description for him: "The most expert blunderer the Federal Bureau of Investigation has ever had."

Respectfully,

*W. H. D. Lester*  
W. H. D. Lester.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

67-7489-469  
MAR 23 1936  
K

EAT:RLG

April 9, 1936.

67-1484-470  
Mr. Melvin Purvis,  
Hotel Mark Hopkins,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of April 7, 1936, transmitting an anonymous letter addressed to you from Terre Haute, Indiana, has been received in Mr. Hoover's absence and will be brought to his attention upon his return to the city.

Very truly yours,

Harold Nathan,  
Assistant Director.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

April 7, 1936

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E.A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U.S. Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The enclosed envelope which contains a magazine photograph of Alvin Karpis, and a notation in pencil of an address in Terre Haute, Indiana, has just been received by me.

It was forwarded to me from Chicago, and so I am sending it to you herewith by air mail. This is all of the information in my possession concerning this matter.

With kindest regards and good wishes, I remain

Sincerely,

(signed) Melvin Purvis

copy  
oh

67-9489-470

APR 14 1936

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

APR 15 1936

RECORDED

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

WHDL:BG

March 23, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

*William Purvis*

Re: Talk before the Business and Professional  
Women's Club of Clinton, Iowa, March 20, 1936.

I had dinner with and talked before the Business and Professional Women's Club of Clinton, Iowa, on the night of March 20, 1936. I talked for one hour and answered questions for an additional thirty minutes. There were approximately 250 persons present, including members of the club and many invited guests. My talk was given close attention and applauded very generously. I took occasion to meet many of the leading citizens and both they and the officers of the club asked me to thank you for making a speaker available for this occasion.

I took occasion to meet the Mayor of the city, Sheriff Cook and Chief of Police Duffy, all of whom were present at my talk. The Mayor, when called on to say a few words, stated that my talk was the finest which he had ever heard and added his belief that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was the best organization of its kind in the world. I thanked him on your behalf and informed him and the other officers mentioned above that you had instructed me to look them up and give them your best regards. All of them asked to be remembered to you. I also extended a cordial invitation on your behalf to those present to pay the Bureau a visit whenever any of them might happen to be in Washington.

I received several invitations to return to Clinton, including one from the Superintendent of Public Schools who stated that he would like to have me address the high schools and junior high schools of the city at that time. In every case I suggested to the person extending the invitation that he should communicate directly with you and that you would make some speaker available if at all possible.

I went to the home of the President of one of the local banks and met several leading bankers and business men, all of whom were high in their praise of you, the Bureau and the work of the Bureau and all of whom assured me that they were willing to cooperate with you in every way possible.

I also met former Special Agent Robert Latimer, at present auditor for the City National Bank. He has been ill and it struck me that he may die at any time. He was lavish in his praise of you and the Bureau but somehow

67 291-152  
JAN 19 1984

Memo. for Director.

-8-

5-23-36.

I was not altogether impressed by his sincerity and, of course, gave him no information concerning the Bureau and its workings at the present time, other than that embodied in my speech at which he was present.

He stated that he had been reading about Melvin Purvis in various advertisements and was very disgusted with Purvis' actions. He added that he had never trusted or thought much of Purvis' ability. I, of course, made no comment in this regard. He asked me to convey his best regards to you and I assured him that I would do so.

Respectfully,

W. H. D. Lester.

XEROX  
JUN 19 1984

fr "G" Man Man Manual  
of Instructions  
To Pickering 6/8/36

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

10

TRG:SW

April 23, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. H. J. McCLURE,  
GENERAL AGENT.

There are attached hereto copies of a letter written by you to Mr. Melvin Purvis, together with copies of his reply thereto, regarding a suspension made by the General Accounting Office in connection with the settlement of Mr. Purvis' expense account for the month of January, 1935.

This is to advise you that Mr. Purvis was directed by me to proceed to the points mentioned in the above referred to correspondence. At the time he departed from Chicago, Mr. Purvis did not know his exact itinerary and, in some instances, supplemental instructions were issued to him which further changed his course of travel. For this reason, it was impossible for him to purchase through fares as stated in the General Accounting Office's notice of exception.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Encl. #870695.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Chief Clerk
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*Handwritten:* No exp. ...

*Handwritten:* 61-7489-471

*Handwritten:* APR 23 1936

*Handwritten:* J

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

INDIANAPOLIS STAR  
 April 10, 1936

## FOUR FAMOUS BREAKFAST GRINS.



Here are four famous grins, familiar to readers of the comic section of The Star. They are (left to right) Melvin Purvis, former ace of the G-Men; Joe E. Brown, film star; the one and only Dizzy Dean of baseball fame, and Capt. Frank Hawks, holder of more than two hundred flying records. Each will be the hero of a series of comic strip advertisements sponsored by a leading food manufacturer. And, speaking of food, they seem to be enjoying their breakfast—can you guess why?

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. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

MAILBOX  
 JAN 19 1934

CT:ec

47-7487-472

April 22, 1936

Mr. Melvin H. Purvis,  
308 Lombard Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

In the absence of Director J. Edgar Hoover, receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated April 16, 1936, requesting a letter addressed to the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State of California concerning your service in the Federal Bureau of Investigation for use in connection with your application for permission to practice law in that State.

A letter is attached which it is believed will serve the purpose desired.

Very truly yours,  
For the Director,

Harold Nathan,  
Assistant Director.

Enclosure #308172

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Bachman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Berg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Nease .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
APR 25 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JAN 15 1936

Melvin Purvis requests (from San Fran.) letter from Dir. to the Committee of the Bar Examiners in Calif. stating that the work in which he engaged as S/A is legal work; also, requirements necessary to become Agent. He has been told it is believed this work should be counted as legal work equal to practice of law.

(It is my understanding that in the State of Calif. if the applicant for admission to the Bar has passed the bar in another state, and has had a certain number of years practice, he can be admitted by motion without being required to pass the Calif. Bar Examination).

emk

*Do so.*

*J. E. R.*

MELVIN H. PURVIS  
301 LOMBARO STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Fughman .....
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 .....
.....
.....

April 16, 1936

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am endeavoring to become admitted to the practice of law in the State of California, and the members of the Examining Committee with whom I have discussed the matter have indicated a belief that the work of a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation should be counted as legal work equal to the practice of law for the purpose of considering the number of years in which the applicant has engaged therein.

They have asked, however, that I secure a letter from you stating that the work in which I was engaged as Special Agent is legal work. They also desire that the letter state the requirements or qualifications necessary to become a Special Agent.

They have assured me and I in turn assure you that such a letter from you will be kept confidential.

If you will assist me by writing such a letter to the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California, and mail same to me at the address shown herein, I shall be indebted to you and I shall appreciate very much your courtesy in doing so.

With highest personal regards, I am

61-7489-472

APR 27 1936

Sincerely,

Melvin Purvis

MHP:TW  
Air Mail-Special Delivery

JAN 19 1984  
4-22-36  
An. 1 letter coming

April 22, 1936

Committee of Examiners,  
State Bar Association of California.

Gentlemen:

Mr. Melvin E. Purvis, 301 Lombard Street, San Francisco, California, has requested that a letter be prepared addressed to you concerning his services as a Special Agent in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice.

Please be advised that the records indicate Mr. Purvis was appointed as a Special Agent on February 4, 1927, and served as a Special Agent in the Federal Bureau of Investigation until August 5, 1935, at which time he resigned. During his tenure of service in this Bureau, Mr. Purvis performed investigative work similar to that handled by regularly appointed Special Agents in this Bureau. This work is investigative and legal in nature, and has heretofore been accepted as legal work by Bar Associations considering applications of persons so employed for permission to practice law.

To be eligible for appointment to the position of Special Agent an applicant is required to be between twenty-five and thirty-five years of age and to be a graduate of a recognized law school, or an expert accountant. The accountants are assigned to cases involving accounting types of work and the Special Agents are assigned to the investigation of Federal criminal statutes which come within the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Very truly yours,  
for the Director,

67-7457-473  
Harold Nathan,  
Assistant Director.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Laughlin .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- 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 .....

# THE "MISSOURI BLOW"

MILVIN BROWN

ADMINISTRATIVE

- 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

*Handwritten initials*

JAN 13 1984

1936

1980

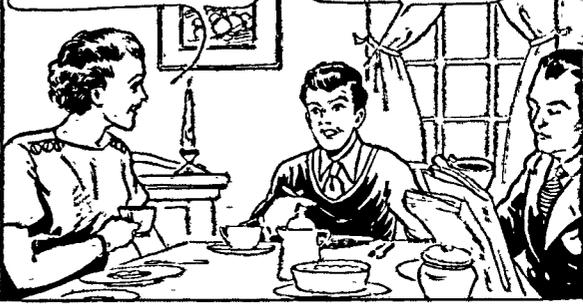
**WHY CAN'T MOTHER SEE**  
—a guy can't take Molly to a dance...



**- BUT SAM'S MOTHER DID SEE - AND GAVE MOLLY A HELPING HAND**

SAM - HAVE YOU ASKED MOLLY POST TO THE GRAY'S DANCE, YET? YOU KNOW LAST WEEK I TOLD YOU -

AW, MOTHER... WHY BRING THAT ALL UP AGAIN. MOLLY'S A NICE KID, BUT... WELL I JUST CAN'T TAKE HER TO A DANCE...



MOTHER DOESN'T UNDERSTAND HOW A FELLOW FEELS - YOU DON'T WANT TO DRAG AROUND A GIRL WITH PIMPLES ALL OVER HER FACE



I SHOULD SAY NOT

H-MM - SO THAT'S THE TROUBLE



OH, MRS. FOOTE - MOTHER'S JUST GONE OUT - SHE'LL BE SO SORRY TO MISS YOU!



WELL, I'LL COME IN AND HAVE A CHAT WITH YOU MOLLY



AND YOU HONESTLY THINK I CAN GET RID OF THEM? I'VE FELT SO LEFT OUT OF THINGS LATELY



I KNOW, DEAR - MY NAN HAD A BAD TIME WITH PIMPLES TOO - BUT FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST CLEARED THEM RIGHT UP!



LATER  
OH MOTHER - WASN'T MRS. FOOTE A DEAR TO TELL ME ABOUT FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST. I BET SAM WOULD NEVER HAVE ASKED ME IF I STILL HAD THOSE OLD PIMPLES!



GEE MOLLY - YOU SURE ARE EASY ON THE EYES - AND AM I A LUCKY GUY TO BE STEPPING OUT WITH YOU!



WELL - I THINK SOME OF THE LUCK'S ON MY SIDE, SAM!



**DON'T LET ADOLESCENT PIMPLES PUT YOU AT A DISADVANTAGE**

YOUNG people—during the years between 13 and 25, or even longer—are frequently humiliated by unsightly skin eruptions.

At this time, after the beginning of adolescence, the body is changing, maturing. Important glands develop, causing disturbances throughout the system. The skin, especially, becomes extra sensitive. Waste poisons in the blood irritate this sensitive skin—and pimples break out.

Thousands of boys and girls have found Fleischmann's Yeast helps to

get rid of adolescent pimples. It clears them up by clearing these skin irritants out of the blood. Then—the pimples disappear.

Eat 3 cakes of Fleischmann's Yeast daily—one about 1/2 hour before each meal—plain, or dissolved in a little water. Start today—and keep on eating it regularly until your skin is entirely clear.



*clears the skin*  
by clearing skin irritants out of the blood

WEG:EV

April 25, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. H. J. McCLURE,  
GENERAL AGENT.

There are attached hereto copies of a letter written by you to Mr. Melvin Purvis, together with copies of his reply thereto, regarding suspensions made by the General Accounting Office in connection with the settlement of Mr. Purvis' expense accounts for the months of January and February, 1935.

This is to advise you that Mr. Purvis was directed by me to proceed to the points mentioned in the above referred to correspondence. At the time he departed from Chicago, Mr. Purvis did not know his exact itinerary and, in some instances, supplemental instructions were issued to him which further changed his course of travel. For this reason, it was impossible for him to purchase through fares as stated in the General Accounting Office's notice of exception.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Encl. #870695.

67-7489 474

- 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
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
APR 25 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



APR 25 1936

61 148-47  
EFE:LL

April 24, 1936

Mrs. Austin,  
1621 Prairie Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Madam:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your  
letter dated April 17, 1936.

The contents of your communication have  
been carefully noted and same have been in-  
corporated in the files of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Copy 3

-475

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

April 17, 1936

J. E. Hoover:  
Bureau of Investigation - Department of Justice

Dear Old Friend:

I have been expecting this for some time. It is quite a piece in the Tribune this morning. I know where it comes from. It is from Doris Lacherman and Melvin intrigue. I told you last summer to cut it out. She is a southern girl and you can see for yourself. Never you mind, keep up courage. You are not the only one kicking, that is ready for the ax. They are going to start on the attorney general next. I advise you to see him and take it over to the U. S. President as soon as you get this. The old organization is at it again here in Chicago. You know who they are. Here while you are at it, take this Yellowly out of Illinois. He has been here too long. Too much crooked work and deals between the liquor business and it is his head man that is starting the propaganda against the Department of Justice chief. You know who he is.

I have been quite ill all winter. I am getting some better.

Always remaining,

Your truly,

Mrs. Austin  
1621 Prairie Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois.

Copy s

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
APR 29 1936  
FBI - CHICAGO

67-7489-475  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
APR 29 1936 A.M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WILSON  
BASS

General Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California

April 23, 1936

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	.....

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. J. E. Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Recently, I met former SAC J. E. P. Dunn on the street in Los Angeles, and he told me that he had just returned from San Francisco, where he apparently has been working for several weeks. He mentioned casually that he met Melvin Purvis in San Francisco, and that Purvis was stopping at the Mark Hopkins Hotel.

Mr. Dunn did not volunteer anything further about Purvis, and inasmuch as he was in a big hurry, I learned nothing more.

I had not heard that Purvis was in California, and thought that you might be interested in knowing about this.

Very truly yours,

*J. H. Hanson*  
J. H. HANSON  
Special Agent in Charge

JHH:AB

RECORDED

MAY 13 1936

67-7489-476  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAY 15 1936 A.M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Routed	.....	Indexed	.....
Searched	.....	Recorded	.....
Numbered	.....	Checked	.....
Serialized	.....	Filed	.....

TELEPHON FOUR TAMM FILE XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812

Chicago, Illinois

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	.....

May 6th, 1936

Personal and  
Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On May 6th, 1936, this Office received an inquiry from the Chicago Credit Bureau relative to Melvin Purvis. They desired to know whether he was still in Chicago or had made his home in San Francisco. The writer advised them that he was not acquainted with the present whereabouts of Mr. Purvis.

The Credit Bureau then advised that they had received an inquiry from San Francisco, which inquiry set forth that Mr. Purvis had advised that he was an attorney with offices in the Parker Building in San Francisco, California.

This information is being forwarded to you as of possible interest.

Very truly yours,

*D. M. Ladd*  
D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

MAY 14 1936

DML:IJM

67-7489-4-97  
JAN 16 1936  
XEROX  
JAN 16 1984

Indexed  
Recorded  
*[Handwritten initials]*

# Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

POST OFFICE BOX 812  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

May 6, 1936

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	.....

Mr. John Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Re: Former S.A.C. Melvin Purvis  
and talks by him for remun-  
eration.

While in St. Cloud, Minnesota filling several speaking engagements I learned from Mr. Alf F. Harbo, professor and music director of the State Teachers College, and brother of Mr. Rolf T. Harbo of the Bureau, that shortly before the invitation was extended you to make a Bureau speaker available to address the student body of the State Teachers College, the faculty members of the college had considered bringing Melvin Purvis, former Special Agent in Charge to St. Cloud for a series of addresses.

Professor Harbo informed me that he knew that Mr. Purvis was trying to "cash in" on his connection and work with the Bureau; and that he so informed the faculty members; and suggested that they write directly to you and that you would make a speaker available without any charges. Professor Harbo added that he also stated to the faculty that he believed Purvis' speeches for money to be very unethical, in view of the fact that he understood Purvis purported to reveal certain confidential information concerning the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I attempted to learn what speaking organization if any, was sponsoring Purvis' oratorical efforts for pay, but neither Professor Harbo nor President C. A. Selke could remember what organization or speaking agency if any was sponsoring Purvis. However, both stated that they had heard on several occasions that Purvis was available for such talks in return for a certain stipend and all expenses.

It is possible that you already have this information, but I was not aware that Purvis was offering to give talks on crime, and particularly concerning the Bureau's work, for pay. It may be possible.

67-7489-478  
JAN 19 1984

REC-81  
MAY 18 1936  
P  
R  
HF

to ascertain if this is true, and what speeches or addresses along this line he has already given, if any.

Sincerely,

*W. H. D. Lester*  
W. H. D. LESTER,

Inspector

WHDL:JMS

~~EX-101~~  
JAN 15 1984

WRG:MDM

May 13, 1936

Mr. Keero Kristoff,  
State Theatre Building,  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

*Malvin Purvis*

Dear Mr. Kristoff:

With reference to your communication dated May 4, 1936, you are advised that the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice does not possess the address of former Special Agent Malvin Purvis.

Your application on file for appointment to the position of Special Agent will receive consideration in the event it is possible to utilize your services at some future date. There are no vacancies at the present time and it is not contemplated that any additional appointments will be made for some time to come.

For your information, only regularly constituted law enforcement officials and agencies are furnished with the periodical publications issued by this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

COPY C

67-42270-5

JAN 19 1984

State Theatre Bldg.  
Harrisburg, Penna.  
May 4, 1936.

J. Edgar Hoover, Dir.  
Dept. of Justice,  
Bureau of Identification,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing you this letter in regards to a little information I would like to have pertaining to one of your former Federal Agents. His name is, Melvin Purvis, I would like to know where I could write so as I could reach him. There is no secret about this information, I could tell you if you are interested. I would like to contact Mr. Purvis, and ask for a little information in regards to some private detective work, and I am sure that if I can contact Mr. Purvis, he would help me all he can. Is it possible that the Dept. send me a monthly circular or bi-weekly circular for criminals at large and those wanted, I would appreciate it very much if you would do this for me. Please answer my letter as soon as possible. I remain.

Sincerely yours,

Keero Kristoff.

P.S. Please inform whether or not my application is still in force. Also if any action has been taken on it. I have gained weight since the time of application. I thank you.

COPY

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

CH:aw

479

May 28, 1936.

67-7489-47

Mr. B. H. Brown,  
104 Roosevelt Avenue,  
Livingston, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. Brown:

Your letter of recent date addressed to the Department of Justice concerning the endorsement by Mr. H. H. Purvis of Gillette razors has been called to my attention.

Please be advised that Mr. Purvis resigned from the Federal Bureau of Investigation on August 5, 1935, and that I have no control over his activities.

Trusting this will fully answer your inquiry, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

JAN 28 1936

- 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 .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
MAY 23 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

104 Roosevelt ave  
Livingston, N.J.

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. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

U.S. Dept of Justice:  
Washington, D.C.

REC'D. BY

Gentlemen:

I think the enclosed extracted from the Saturday Evening Post is a detriment to the government service, a service which is admired by millions of citizens but one which is apparently going the way of most government institutions; mercenary.

It is looked upon as an organization which is the utmost in interstate law enforcement with no strings attached nor entangled with the usual

"handouts" for "permission" to carry on various illegal enterprises why does a man of this character and

RECORDED  
67-7489-479  
MAY 25 1936  
POLSON OFF. OLK FILE

and federal reputation resort to so cheap and degrading means of appearing before the public and incidentally to make a few dollars? It is a decided insult to the organization from which he was a most vital participant.

It is with great disappointment that I read this article and write this letter.

If there is an explanation I would most certainly like to hear it.

I am in the business of serving the public and receive many letters of complaint and commendation but have never been moved to put down my thoughts on paper in regard to anything of this nature before.

yours Truly  
B. H. Brown



Melvin Purvis, former G-Man, employing the instrument used to determine the gun from which a bullet was fired.

XEROX  
JAN 12 1934

# Getting the Drop on Public Nuisance No. 1

By *Melvin Purvis*

Former G-Man and Nemesis of Gangdom - *alger?*

WHEN the rataplan of gunfire hushed, Public Enemy Number 1 lay sprawled on the street. This gangster's swift justice at the hands of law and order marked the beginning of the end for one of the most vicious gangs in the history of crime. And in this spectacular man hunt, as in most others, scientific skill and close attention to detail played leading parts.

These are the similarities between the manufacture of Gillette Blades and crime detection, although I didn't know this until my recent inspection trip through the Gillette factory. Previously I had taken razor blades for granted. I couldn't imagine the scientific skill, expert craftsmanship and tremendous care that is lavished on the Gillette Blade.

I saw things on my visit to the factory that are almost unbelievable. Yes, I saw wonders that a non-scientific mind simply cannot grasp. The automatic control mechanism on the electric hardening furnaces positively awed me. In these furnaces the world's finest steel is treated with more heat or less heat as required

for utmost uniformity with the correct standard. This system alone was evolved at a cost of many thousands of dollars and years of research and labor.

Familiar as I am with the microscope I was greatly impressed with Gillette's constant use of this scientific instrument to assure perfection in the finished product. I marvelled at a photo-electric device developed by Gillette which measures the sharpness of the blade edges, and guides the skilled technicians who keep the huge grinding machines in tune. These machines weigh four tons each and can be adjusted to a fineness of 1/10,000 of an inch.

Most impressive of all is the precision of every operation. A trip through the factory is a revelation to one who appreciates accuracy and meticulous attention to detail. More than that, a man leaves the Gillette plant with a feeling of gratitude to these experts who have the drop on Public Nuisance No. 1—these Gillette scientists who have made the removal of unsightly bristles so much easier and more comfortable for every man.

*With these important facts before you, why let anyone deprive you of shaving comfort by selling you a substitute! Ask for Gillette Blades and be sure to get them.*

**GILLETTE SAFETY RAZOR COMPANY, BOSTON, MASS.**

RECORDED  
10:14

RCH:PED

May 14, 1936.

Mr. W. B. Jarvis,  
Post Office Box 921,  
Marshfield, Oregon.

*Nelson Burton*

Dear Mr. Jarvis:

I have received your letter of May 8, 1936, and want to express my sincere appreciation for your thoughtfulness in writing to extend your congratulations on this Bureau's recent good fortune in apprehending major criminals.

It is indeed encouraging to receive such an expression of confidence and I hope that our work will continue to merit your approval.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

67-561-A-7842

*Handwritten initials*

Marshfield, Oregon  
May, 8, 1936.  
P. O. Box 921

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover-

Permit me to take the liberty of writing you concerning the splendid work which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has accomplished during the past ten days. In spite of a good deal of adverse criticism the department has carried on under your able guidance and the whole nation will realize the value of your work. My hearty congratulations are yours. Carry on.

Since Mr. Furdue resigned from the department I have been much disturbed at his thirst for publicity. It seems to me that it is unworthy to his intelligence and the good work that he has done in the past. I sincerely hope that others of the F.B.I. will not follow in his footsteps on that score.

Surely the success of the department in apprehending the violent element during the past year or two will prove a means of dampening the ardor of others who might have like ambitions. I look for the time to come when the name of the F.B.I. will strike terror to the hearts of criminals - far more so than Scotland Yard has ever done. I am much interested in the scientific phase of criminology and enjoy very much the thought that you have approached crime and criminals from that angle.

Wishing you the greatest success in your work.

Yours very truly,

Mr. W. B. Jarvis, Chemist.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

# Desperadoes Turn Over in Their Graves As Purvis, Retired G-Man, 'Goes Society'

## Ex-Ace Sleuth for Uncle Sam Drops His Grim Ways and Looks

The hand which directed the guns which cut down the nation's public enemies No. 1 as rapidly as new candidates for the doubtful honor arose is fingering the slim stems of cocktail glasses now.

The slim shoulders, which once supported holsters carrying deadly guns are draped today in formal black cutaways, in slinky tuxedos that are the perfection of the tailor's art.

The evidence is here, and it shows Melvin Purvis, the G-man No. 1 of the Dillinger-Pretty Boy Floyd-Baby Face Nelson era, has gone "society."

### What a Change!

It's enough to make Dillinger, the "tough guy" Purvis out-toughed, turn in his grave. Floyd and Nelson also might turn, too, for the grim "criminal investigator" who pursued them so relentlessly has laid aside the ways that are dark and secret and has taken up the bright lights of San Francisco's swank social whirl.

The Raymond Welches gave a "little cocktail party" the other day for the Count and Countess Marc De Tristan, shortly before their departure for New York to sail for the count's ancestral acres in France.

### Here to Practice Law

The Tobins were there. The De Guignes were represented. The Henrys and the Ameses and the Haynes, Cheever Cowdin Jr. and members of the Christensen and Eastland families. And with them, according to the society news, was one "Melvin Purvis."

Purvis came to San Francisco to



MELVIN HORACE PURVIS. His hands fit better around the cocktail glass than around the sub-machine guns he once fingered.

practice law. He brought an adequate social background—a member

## Hands That Used to Clutch a Pistol Now Finger Cocktail Glasses

of an old South Carolina family, a graduate of one of the finest schools of the old South—to gain entry into one of the tightest social groups in the country.

"He's so different from what we expected," say the debts who meet "Melvin Horace Purvis."

"We expected someone brawny, with hands like hams, and always scowling."

Purvis looks more the student than the man-hunter. Now, at 31, he weighs only 127. His face is distinctly pale. His hands fit better around the cocktail glass than around the sub-machine guns he once fingered.

### Finds Welcome Here

When he quit the G-men in 1935, Purvis said he was going to get a pipe and sit on someone's front porch.

Instead he came to San Francisco and found chairs waiting for him in front of dinner tables glittering with the wealth that the Comstock Lode, the Hawaiian pineapples, the Humboldt redwoods and the shipping of the seven seas have brought through the Golden Gate to Nob Hill and the Peninsula.

Handwritten notes and signatures in the right margin, including names like "Nelson", "Bughman", "Clegg", "Coffey", "Adwards", "Port", "Ego", "Jocoy", "Gibson", "Tatum", "Gandy".

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the page: "50-54-7", "meets!", "KEROX", "JAN 19 1984".



# SMITH & BURROWS COMPANY,

## SHEET METAL WORKERS

TIN, COPPER, AND GALVANIZED IRON WORK. BLOW PIPE AND  
JOB WORK A SPECIALTY. GUTTER AND SPOUTING  
OFFICE AND FACTORY: 13TH ST., NEAR 7TH ST.

AGENTS FOR  
**CAREY'S**  
BUILT-UP ROOFING

METAL SIGNS  
REPAIR WORK  
BLACK SHEETS  
MONEL METAL  
ROLL ROOFING  
CORNICE WORK  
STACKS - TANKS  
METAL GARAGES  
MACHINE GUARDS  
EXHAUST SYSTEMS  
GALVANIZED SHEETS  
CORRUGATED SHEETS  
WELDING AND CUTTING  
TIN AND SLATE ROOFING

FURNACES  
REGISTERS  
SKYLIGHTS  
MARQUISES  
BOAT PUMPS  
CONDUCTORS  
VENTILATORS  
STEAMTABLES  
EAVETROUGHES  
METAL CEILING  
HEATING SYSTEMS  
STEAMBOAT WORK  
VENTILATING SYSTEMS  
METAL ROOFING AND SIDING

PARKERSBURG, W. VA.

May 21, 1936.

Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The Parkersburg Lions Club is sponsoring the Annual Parkersburg Boy Scouts Circus on June 11th of this year, and in casting about for a stellar attraction for the forthcoming event, it occurred to us that Melvin H. Purvis who was formerly connected with your Department and made a splendid record while with it, might prove to be the man we want for this occasion. The Circus will be attended by many thousands of people, and especially by many young boys who are just in the character forming period of their lives, and it just occurred to the Promotion Committee that securing Mr. Purvis for the occasion would be an innovation, as the speakers and attractions we have had in the past years for this annual occasion have always been taken from other walks of life.

We thought we could secure Mr. Purvis' address by writing direct to the Department, and if you will be kind enough to forward same to us, we will communicate direct with him in an effort to have him here on June 11th.

Hoping this will cause you no serious inconvenience, we are

Very sincerely yours,  
SMITH AND BURROWS COMPANY,

*[Handwritten signature: J. I. Burrows]*  
BY *[Handwritten signature: J. I. Burrows]*

Routed ..... Indexed .....  
Searched .....  
V. el .....  
*ah*

JTB/ma v

*[Large handwritten signature: Melvin H. Purvis]*

29  
27  
ans. 5/25/36  
*ACK*

RECORDED  
67-7479-480  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAY 29 1936 P.M.  
TOLSON  
JOSEPH

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 .....

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984



Although Major Barker has been exceedingly cooperative with this office in the past on various routine matters, I informed him that I had no information concerning Mr. Purvis, and suggested that you were the proper person to contact in connection with such an inquiry.

I understand that Mr. Purvis is presently located in San Francisco, and possibly employed by the interests of Mr. William Randolph Hearst, or by a law firm which represents Mr. William Randolph Hearst.

Very truly yours,

*W. L. Listerman*  
W. L. LISTERMAN, *wll*  
Special Agent in Charge

WLL:MLA

7-20-34  
JUL 19 1934

(COPY)

- 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 .....

(COUPON)

Melvin Purvis  
 c/o Post Toasties  
 Battle Creek, Michigan

Mail this today!

I'm sending enclosed 2 Post Toasties box-tops, for which please send me my official Junior G-Man Corps badge, your Confidential Manual of Instructions, and the catalog telling all about the SWELL FREE GIFTS you have for members of the Corps!

Name John Henry Lucas (s) . . . . .  
 Address Lamar, S. C. . . . .

Here are the prizes you can win!

- Roving Operative's Badge and Official Certificate
- Chief Operative's Badge and Certificate
- G-Man Ring
- Autographed photo of Melvin Purvis
- Melvin Purvis Official Junior G-Man Fingerprint
- Invisible Writing Outfit and Cod-a-graph
- Junior G-Man's Official Whistle
- Pistol Flashlight
- Official Junior G-Man Key Ring
- Magnifying Glass

67-7489-482  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JUN 1936 A. M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 TOLSON JOSEPH ROUB

orig. A. [unclear] 6/5/36  
 R B A

JAN 20 1934

H

MELVIN PURVIS  
c/o POST TOASTIES  
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

MAIL THIS TODAY!

I'm sending enclosed 2 Post Toasties box-tops, for which please send me my official Junior G-Man Corps badge, your Confidential Manual of Instructions, and the catalog telling all about the SWELL FREE GIFTS you have for members of the Corps!

Name *Melvin Purvis*

Address *Battle Creek, Mich. (Linn)*

# HERE ARE THE PRIZES YOU CAN WIN!

Roving Operative's Badge and  
Official Certificate

Chief Operative's Badge and  
Certificate

G-Man Ring

Autographed photo of Melvin Purvis

Melvin Purvis Official Junior G-Man  
Fingerprint Set

Invisible Writing Outfit and  
Qad-a-graph

Junior G-Man's Official Whistle

Pistol Flashlight

Official Junior G-Man Key Ring

Magnifying Glass

Junior G-Man Watch Fob

Silent Alarm Pistol

G-Man Official Identification  
Wallet

"The G-Man's Son" (a swell book)

G-Man Squad Gen

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744

6/5

1936.

To:

- Director
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Edwards
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Douglas
- Miss Gandy
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Renneberger
- Mr. Joseph
- Personnel Files Section
- Files Section
- Communications Section
- Miss Sheaffer

Mr. Nathan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Baughman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chief Clerk	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Coffey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Edwards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Egan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Foxworth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Harbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Joseph	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Lester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Schilder	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

See Me

For Appropriate Action

Send File

Note and Return

*Please note*

Clyde Tolson

Junior G-Man Watch Fob

Siren Alarm Pistol

Junior G-Man Official Identification Wallet

"The G-Man's Son" (a swell book)

G-Man Squad Gun

7700X  
JAN 10 1984

COLUMBIAN BROWN CLASP NO. 60B  
PAT. 1,291,033  
THE UNITED STATES ENVELOPE CO. SPRINGFIELD, MASS.  
8 x 11

JR. "G" MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS

VERMONT  
JAN 19 1984

RETURN TO PERSONNEL



140

# OFFICIAL JUNIOR G-MAN EQUIPMENT



**No. 4—Roving Operative's Badge and Official Secret Passport.** Official emblem and identification for higher rank in the Junior G-Man Corps. Badge of polished gold bronze design and satin gold bronze background, etched and enameled in red and blue. The Official Secret Passport identifies you as an Operative of higher rank. After you comply

with Melvin Purvis' special instructions in the Official Manual, Roving Operative's Badge and Secret Passport will be sent *free for 3 Post Toastles box-tops.*

**No. 5—Chief Operative's Badge and Commission.** Official insignia of the highest rank in the Junior G-Man Corps. Badge of polished gold bronze design and satin gold bronze background, etched and enameled in red and blue. Official Commission from Melvin Purvis, appointing you to this high rank. To get the Badge and Commission, you must pass the examination contained in the Official Manual, after which Badge and Commission will be sent *free for 4 Post Toastles box-tops.*



**No. 6—G-Man Ring.** 24-carat gold finish, adjustable to any finger, with Official Junior G-Man Corps Insignia embossed in center. Boys and girls alike will want this ring, which identifies you as a member of the Corps. *Free for 4 Post Toastles box-tops.*

Pick out now the prizes you want most!



**No. 7—Autographed Photo of Melvin Purvis.** Own a picture of the greatest G-Man of them all! Picture is 8 x 10 inches, suitable for framing. Get one for your bureau. *Free for 2 Post Toastles box-tops.*

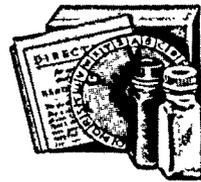


**No. 8—Melvin Purvis Official Junior G-Man Fingerprint Set.** Just what you need to help you in your Junior G-Man Practice Drills! A complete outfit with 16-page illustrated booklet, Fingerprint Record Forms, special fingerprinting ink-pad, white and black powder to dust over prints and bring them out. Get the facts about the famous Bertillon System of fingerprinting in use in the Department of Justice and all police bureaus! *Free for 9 Post Toastles box-tops.*

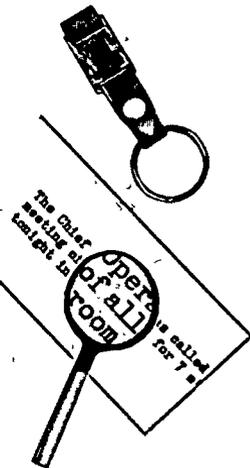
**No. 9—Invisible Writing Outfit and Cod-a-graph.** With this special set, no one can read the messages sent by one Junior G-Man to another! Invisible writing set includes two 1/2 oz. bottles, one with Invisible Writing Fluid, one with Special Developer. Complete instructions for use. Cod-a-graph enables you to make up your own secret codes that cannot be deciphered by one without the "key" you yourself select! *Free for 8 Post Toastles box-tops.*



**No. 10—Junior G-Man's Official Whistle.** Just the thing to call the squad together! Gives a shrill, sharp blast. Handsome nickel-silver finish, with ring attached so whistle can be fitted on chain or key ring. *Free for 6 Post Toastles box-tops.*



**No. 14—Junior G-Man Watch Fob.** Handsome tanned leather strap with Junior G-Man insignia attached. Every boy with a watch will want to own one of these grand fobs! Strap is 3 1/4 inches long, with silver-effect metal buckle. *Free for 6 Post Toastles box-tops.*



**No. 12—Official Junior G-Man Key Ring.** Holds 20 or more keys. Just what every boy or girl needs. Leather strap is 3 inches long, with snap to fit over belt. Slotted ring is 1 1/2 inches in diameter. *Free for 4 Post Toastles box-tops.*

**No. 13—Magnifying Glass.** Every Junior G-Man will want this Magnifying Glass to search for clues! Rim and handle finished in assorted colors. Glass has 2-power magnification. Will also give a startling effect when held at a distance—objects appear upside down! *Free for 6 Post Toastles box-tops.*



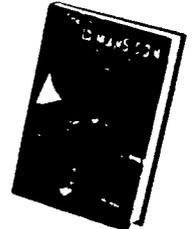
**No. 11—Pistol Flashlight.** A powerful 2-cell flashlight, fitted into a replica of the G-Man's automatic pistol. Casts a strong beam—just the thing for night duty, or for hunting for clues in dark corners. 5 1/4 inches long. Comes complete with cells and bulb. *Sent in exchange for 24 Post Toastles box-tops, or 11 Post Toastles box-tops and 20c in stamps or money order.*

**No. 16—Junior G-Man Official Identification Wallet.** Contains your special Identification Card, with your secret number. Made of handsome heavy-duty simulated alligator skin. Has 3 pockets, so you can carry bills, personal cards, notes, etc. Also made to fit Roving Operative's Secret Passport. Wallet is 7 1/4 inches long, 3 inches wide, with isinglass "window" on inside. *Free for 8 Post Toastles box-tops.*



**No. 15—Siren Alarm Pistol.** Sounds exactly like a G-Man Squad Car speeding to the scene of the crime! Press the trigger—the siren sounds. Styled like an official service revolver. 3 1/2 inches long, with red and blue enamel finish. *Sent in exchange for 22 Post Toastles box-tops, or 15 Post Toastles box-tops and 10c in stamps or money order.*

**No. 17—"The G-Man's Son."** A grand, exciting book by the well-known author of boys' stories, Edward O'Connor. Stanley Sandborn is the son of a Federal Agent, and all roads lead to crime detection in his eventful life! This story tells of the daring exploits of the G-Men, and Stanley's part in helping them round up notorious gangsters. *Sent in exchange for 20 Post Toastles box-tops, or 13 Post Toastles box-tops and 10c in stamps or money order.*



**No. 18—G-Man Squad Gun.** Looks and sounds like the Squad Guns used by Federal Agents—and flashes sparks when you fire it! Absolutely harmless. Strong spring winding, set to give a steady "burst of fire" by flint and steel sparking device. Makes the "rat-tat-tat-tat" sound of a machine gun. Squad gun is 23 inches long, with metal finished in yellow, red and black. Pine stock. *Sent in exchange for 69 Post Toastles box-tops, or 36 Post Toastles box-tops and 50c in stamps or money order.*





**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM Melvin Purvis**

I WANT every boy and girl in my Junior G-Man Corps to do as I do . . . Keep yourself physically fit. I want you to get plenty of sleep. To spend all the time you can out in the open air and sunshine. And to eat the food your mother tells you to eat. For the food you eat has a lot to do with your strength and mental keenness.

There's one thing in particular that I eat a lot of—and that's Post Toasties. One reason I eat them is because I like them—and I know you will too!

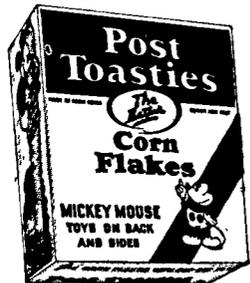
Post Toasties are *better* corn flakes made from the sweet little *hearts* of the corn, where the flavor is. Each golden flake is toasted double crisp so it keeps its crunchy goodness longer in milk or cream.

And here's another mighty important reason why I eat Post Toasties—and why you should, too: You'll need a big, satisfying breakfast to be as alert as a Junior G-Man should be. And believe me, Post Toasties hit the spot!

I want you to promise me that you'll eat Post Toasties often for breakfast. Ask your mother to get them for you.

And save the box-tops so you can send for all the wonderful free G-Man prizes waiting for you. Ask your friends, neighbors and relatives to buy Post Toasties and save the box-tops for you too!

*Melvin Purvis*



**THE BETTER CORN FLAKES**

2106—Printed in U. S. A.

LOOK INSIDE AND SEE ALL THE SWELL

**FREE PRIZES**

every member of my Junior G-MAN Corps can get!



*Melvin Purvis*  
Chief Special-Agent-in-Charge

**JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS**



**BOYS AND GIRLS! SEE HOW EASY IT IS TO GET THE REGULATION EQUIPMENT EVERY MEMBER OF MY JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS NEEDS... AND MANY OTHER THINGS YOU'LL WANT TO OWN!**

EVERY member of my Junior G-Man Corps—both boys and girls—should have his or her own equipment, in order to carry on really effective work as a member of my Junior G-Man Corps. So I have made arrangements with the makers of Post Toasties, whereby you can get the things you need without paying a cent! See these wonderful prizes on the next page.

**IMPORTANT READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE ORDERING!**

- 1 Send only tops from the 8-ounce or 13-ounce red-and-yellow Post Toasties packages. (We cannot accept tops from sample or 1-ounce restaurant size Post Toasties packages.)
- 2 Print plainly your name and the address to which premium is to be mailed.
- 3 Order premiums by name and number.
- 4 Make sure you send the correct number of package-tops required for each premium you order.
- 5 Send package-tops to Melvin Purvis, c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich.
- 6 Put correct postage on your letter. When sending box-tops by first class mail, you can send 2 package-tops for 3c, from 3 to 5 package-tops for 6c, 6 or 7 package-tops for 9c. When sending in a large number of package-tops you can save postage by sending them by

third class mail (in an unsealed package). Third-class mail travels slowly, so it will take longer to receive tops and fill orders. Be sure to put your name and address on outside of package. Do not enclose letter in package.

7 In order to speed up getting your premiums, ask your friends, neighbors and relatives to use Post Toasties and save the package-tops for you. Post Toasties are such a delicious breakfast treat that every one will thank you for suggesting them!

8 The offer of prizes in this catalogue expires December 31, 1936. Offer good only in U. S. A.

9 All the prizes in this catalogue can be obtained with Post Toasties package-tops and without sending in any money. **WE SHOULD GREATLY PREFER THAT YOU SECURE ALL YOUR PRIZES IN THIS WAY.** However, if you do not want to wait to collect all the package-tops needed for some prizes, you may send in the number of tops and the amount of money indicated for certain prizes.

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Appel \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Baughman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Edwards \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Joseph \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Keith \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Schilder \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

*Mr Nathan*  
*Mr Clegg*

- See Me \_\_\_\_\_
- Prepare Reply \_\_\_\_\_
- For Your Information \_\_\_\_\_
- Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_
- File \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks:

*[Handwritten scribbles and signatures]*

*Mr. Nathan*

*Mr. Clegg*

*Mr. Tolson*

*Mr. Egan*

*Mr. Glavin*

*Mr. Harbo*

*Mr. Joseph*

*Mr. Keith*

*Mr. Lester*

*Mr. Quinn*

*Mr. Schilder*

*Mr. Tamm*

*Mr. Tracy*

*Secretary*

*See Me*

*Prepare Reply*

*For Your Information*

*Note and Return*

*File*

*SW*

*6*

# How to become a CHIEF OPERATIVE

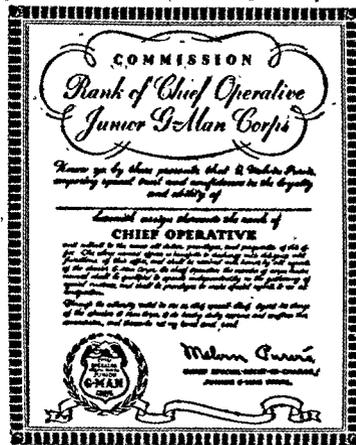


under special orders from *Melvin Purvis*

**A**FTER a member of the Corps has become a duly qualified Roving Operative, and received his Badge and Secret Passport, he may qualify for the rank of Chief Operative, my highest rank.

The position of Chief Operative is one of great honor in the Corps. It signifies that the possessor is extraordinarily keen and alert, and shall be called upon, whenever it is deemed necessary by the Special-Agent-in-Charge, for duties requiring skill and swift action.

It is necessary to pass an examination for Chief Operative and upon passing this examination you will receive your Chief Operative's Badge and Official Commission.



SEE NEXT PAGE FOR EXAMINATION

# EXAMINATION FOR ADVANCEMENT TO RANK OF CHIEF OPERATIVE

Fill in the answers and send this page, before Dec. 31, 1936,  
with 4 Post Toasties box-tops, to Melvin Purvis, Headquarters,  
Junior G-Man Corps, c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich.

Your name.....

Your street address.....

Your city and state.....

Your age.....

When did you join the Junior G-Man Corps (month and year)?  
.....

What is the first rule to be observed on reaching the scene of a  
crime?.....  
.....

Write the Junior G-Man pass words.....

Do two people ever have the same fingerprints?.....

If you had only two men available to watch a house, where would  
you place them?.....

Upon successfully passing this test you will receive  
your Chief Operative's Badge and Official Commission.



Don't forget: Mail this page, before the expiration date, Dec. 31, 1936, with  
your answers and 4 Post Toasties box-tops to MELVIN PURVIS, HEADQUAR-  
TERS, JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS, c/o POST TOASTIES, Battle Creek, Mich.

# OFFICIAL BULLETIN FROM MELVIN PURVIS

## TO ALL MEMBERS OF MY CORPS:

I want all of you to study carefully the wonderful prizes I have waiting for you in the Catalog which comes with this Instruction Manual. See how easy it is to get the Regulation Equipment every Junior G-Man needs—and many other things you'll want to own!



Every member of my Junior G-Man Corps—both boys and girls—should have his or her own equipment, in order to carry on really effective work as a member of my Junior G-Man Corps.

In order to make it easy for you to obtain this equipment, I have made arrangements with the makers of Post Toasties to supply this equipment to you *without your having to pay a cent!* All you have to do is save your Post Toasties box-tops, and send them in exchange for the equipment and prizes you want to own.

You will find all these grand free prizes listed in the Catalog. Look them over. Pick out the things you want most. Then start right now saving up those Post Toasties box-tops!

(Signed)

*Melvin Purvis*  
Chief Special Agent-in-Charge  
Junior G-Man Corps





# FOLLOW THIS RULE AT BREAKFAST TIME!



**I** MAKE it a rule to eat Post Toasties for breakfast *every morning*. I'd like you to follow the same rule. First, because a Junior G-Man needs a big, satisfying breakfast in order to be alert and on the job. And second—because Post Toasties are the greatest tasting breakfast cereal a fellow ever ate!

Post Toasties are *better* corn flakes, made from the tender, sweet little hearts of the corn, where most of the flavor is. And each golden flake is toasted double crisp so it keeps its crunchy goodness longer in milk or cream.

And here's another mighty important reason why you ought to have Post Toasties for breakfast every day:

You'll want to begin now to save Post Toasties box-tops so you can send them away for the Official Junior G-Man equipment and other special **FREE PRIZES** I have waiting for you. (You'll find them all in the big Junior G-Man Catalog that comes with this Manual.) Ask your friends, neighbors and relatives to buy Post Toasties and save the box-tops for you too!

(Signed)

*Melvin Purvis*

Chief Special-Agent-in-Charge

Junior G-Man Corps.

*Confidential*

from

**MELVIN PURVIS**

**CHIEF SPECIAL-AGENT-IN-CHARGE**



**MANUAL OF  
INSTRUCTIONS**

**TO ALL OPERATIVES**

**HEADQUARTERS, JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS  
BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN**

# HEADQUARTERS

OFFICE OF MELVIN PURVIS

CHIEF SPECIAL-AGENT-IN-CHARGE

## JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS

**BULLETIN No. X-43Y72Z**

**From: MELVIN PURVIS**

**To: ALL OPERATIVES**

**Subject: GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

**1** Your name has been placed upon headquarters records as an operative in my Junior G-Man Corps.

**2** Your Junior G-Man badge is herewith enclosed. Hereafter you will keep it on your person at all times.

**3** This Service Manual carries instructions intended solely for members of the Junior G-Man Corps, wherever operating. You are expected to guard the secrecy of this information closely. Memorize sections indicated.

**4** Headquarters welcomes you to the Junior G-Man Corps and trusts that you will guard its secrets; perform its duties with discretion, alertness and energy; keep physically fit; and maintain the ideals of the organization—obedience to authority and respect for law and order.

**5 SPECIAL ORDER No. 1**  
**from MELVIN PURVIS**

You are forbidden to play G-Man games with guns, pistols, revolvers,

knives, or any other weapon that may cause injury. Remember especially—you can never be sure whether or not a gun is loaded, and many serious accidents result from playing with guns that people think are empty. So don't ever disobey this rule. I, personally, never carried a gun in any investigation. I found it hampered instead of helped my operations in many cases.

**6** You are requested to help enlist other boys and girls in the Junior G-Man Corps: thereby helping to increase the power and efficiency of the organization. In asking your friends to join, however, you are again cautioned to reveal none of the secrets of the Junior G-Man Corps.

(Signed)

*Melvin Purvis*

Chief Special-Agent-in-Charge

# A SPECIAL GREETING TO ALL JUNIOR G-MEN

FROM

## MELVIN PURVIS



**A**S MOST of you boys and girls know, I was a G-Man for the United States Government for a good many years. Fighting crime and all disobedience of authority and law and order has been my job, and my responsibility—just as it is now *your* job and *your* responsibility as a member of my Junior G-Man Corps.

I want to extend to you—each one of you—my heartiest personal welcome into an organization of which you can be very proud. And I want to congratulate you for taking on the responsibility of aiding in the enforcement of your country's laws.

You will find in your work, just as I have in mine, that disobedience of the law never pays. When you have mastered the material in this Manual (which is the same sort of material that every G-Man uses in

fighting crime), you will begin to realize what tremendous chances the law-breaker takes. You will see how impossible it is for anyone to "get away" with crime for very long, even though he may seem to momentarily. The vigilance of the law is unceasing. Sooner or later the guilty are caught and punished.

And remember this: A good G-Man keeps himself fit. You can't be a good G-Man unless you watch your health and do the things that keep you alert. So I want every boy and girl in my Junior G-Man Corps to get plenty of sleep. Spend all the time you can out in the open air and sunshine. Eat the food your mother tells you to eat. (Signed)

*Melvin Purvis*

### PLEDGE FOR JUNIOR G-MEN

Every member must take the following pledge and do his utmost to obey it. The pledge is to be repeated by all members at the opening of all meetings.

*"I pledge myself to obey the laws of my country, my state, and my city, and to respect and cooperate with all those in authority. I further pledge myself to keep strong and fit for all duties of the Corps at all times.*

*"I take this solemn pledge as part of my service to the Corps, and to the ideals for which it stands."*



# SECRET CODES AND SIGNALS

You are ordered to memorize the following Junior G-Man Codes and Signals



**IDENTIFYING SIGNATURE OF A MEMBER OF THE JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS.** It is used in signing secret letters or whenever a member wants to give proof that he belongs to the Junior G-Man Corps. It may also be chalked on sidewalks, etc., by a Junior G-Man as proof to fellow-members of his squad that he has passed that way. Note that this code signature, which comprises the initials of Melvin Purvis, is made in one unbroken line.

**THE SECRET PASSWORDS.** The Official Secret Passwords are given whenever one G-Man wants to make sure that another person is also a G-Man. The first G-Man whispers the letters "J.G." Whereupon the other G-Man answers, "M.C." These, of course, are the initials of the Junior G-Man Corps. The passwords are never to be spoken above a whisper. They are also used when admitting people to Secret Meetings of G-Men.



**THE SECRET WHISTLE.** All Junior G-Men must practice until perfect this official secret whistle: One short whistle followed immediately by two long ones. When one G-Man is within calling distance of another, but out of sight, and wants to call the other member, he gives the Secret Whistle. The other members will immediately respond with the same whistle.

**THE "DANGER" CODE SIGN.** To be used only if a member is in danger and wants help. Place this sign on a piece of paper or upon anything else; send it to a fellow Junior G-Man or leave it where he can see it. It means: "Rush help as quickly as you can. I am in great danger." This sign is to be used only in cases of emergency, and any member of the Corps finding such a sign shall take immediate steps to answer the appeal for help.



**SPECIAL TRAIL SIGNS.** In addition to chalking the Identifying Signature on the sidewalk, there are many other methods of informing fellow members of the Corps that you have travelled in a certain direction. These signs are determined by the type of country in which you are operating. For example, in brush country, twigs bent in a certain direction inform those following which way you are going; in timber country, a small mark made on trees with a pocket-knife; in grass country, tufts of grass may be twisted together and bent in the direction taken; and on rocky ground, a small rock placed on top of a larger rock says as plainly as a signboard, "I have come this way."

Codes for detailed messages will be found further on in this Manual. You are under orders to guard the secrecy of all Codes and Signals.

# HOW TO ORGANIZE A LOCAL SQUAD OF JUNIOR G-MEN



*Presenting Operations Reports.* One of the important functions of a Junior G-Man is to present, in meeting, a report of his operations in line of duty since the previous meeting. This is not only essential for maintaining the records of the Squad, but is very valuable training to enable you to set down clearly and concisely an account of your activities in any line of work.

**ELECTIONS:** A full squad consists of eight members, just as a squad in the army does. But it may have fewer. After you and your friends have received your badges and manuals, you must vote for a Special-Agent-in-Charge. It is best to elect a Special-Agent-in-Charge each week to serve for one week at a time. In the Federal Bureau of Investigation I have often seen special agents rise from the ranks to positions of great responsibility, due to their training in administrative work.

**DUTIES OF SPECIAL-AGENT-IN-CHARGE:** The Special-Agent-in-Charge has charge of the calling of meetings, arranging for and directing of drills, and is responsible for the carrying out of all my general instructions. (See Page 2.)

The Special-Agent-in-Charge must arrange and direct the pursuit of the guilty parties by his Junior G-Man Squad, see to it that no clue is overlooked. When there are no trails, the Special-Agent-in-Charge may tell his men to bring in such-and-such a suspect for questioning.

**MEETINGS:** Meetings shall be held once each week, preferably on Saturday. General Headquarters may be set up in any convenient place—in an empty basement room in the home of one of the members, or in a vacant lot, or in someone's back yard. Sometimes in order to maintain secrecy, and to avoid being trailed and discovered, it is best to change the place of meeting each week. Meetings must always be absolutely secret. Only members of the Junior G-Man Corps are allowed to attend. They must give the Password before entering. Records should be kept of all meetings—attendance noted, reports made on all games and drills. Remember, all records must be kept secret.

**EMERGENCY CALLS:** Whenever the Special-Agent-in-Charge deems it advisable, he may send out an Emergency Call to meet at Headquarters. All who can attend must do so. Emergency Calls are sent out only when some special situation arises requiring swift action by several Junior G-Men together.

# G-MAN DRILL BY SQUADS

## GENERAL RULES

**W**HEN there are two squads of Junior G-Men in your neighborhood, this course is to be followed: the two squads are to take turns in drills, one squad being the G-Man and the other the Guilty. If there is only one squad, it is to be divided equally.

Drill procedure is as follows:

Select the spot where the Guilty Person will leave clues. The Guilty Squad shall first decide which of their number will be the Guilty Person. After that the Guilty Squad shall decide what clues to leave. The

Guilty Squad always *leaves some clues* for the G-Man Squad to follow.

### TWO KINDS OF CLUES

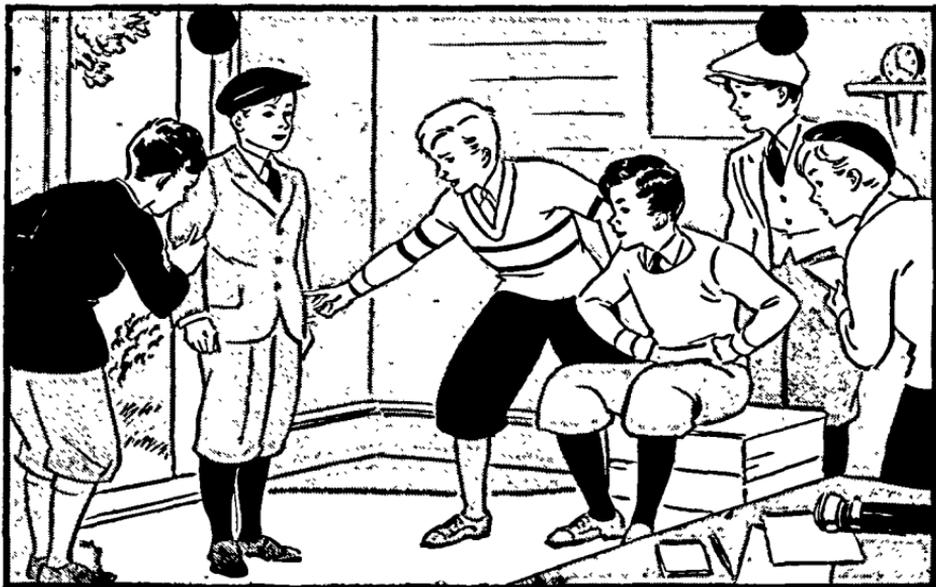
As all G-Men know, there are two kinds of clues. First, things left behind. Perhaps the Guilty Person may drop a marble, or a knife or something else from his pocket. If the selected scene happens to be out-of-doors and slightly muddy, the Guilty Person may walk through the mud, thus indicating that he has been at the scene of the crime. Certain clues must be left within ten steps of the place chosen.

The other kind of clues are those that are found on the Guilty Person. Perhaps he may have a twig broken from a nearby bush which had caught in his pants or in one of the buttons on his shirt. Or, if there are burrs or thistles at the scene of the crime, he may have several of these stuck on his clothing.

If the G-Man Squad cannot find any clues at the scene of the drill, they should examine the Suspects to see if the clues are on any one of them. Suspects brought in for questioning must always submit to arrest.

After the Guilty Squad has arranged the clues, the G-Man Squad must try to discover them, and from them decide who is the Guilty Person. They must not merely guess, but must tell why they believe this particular person is guilty. The G-Man Squad can name only one person and if they are wrong, they lose and the Guilty Squad wins. If they name the right person, the G-Man Squad wins.





*Examining a "Suspect" for Clues.* Always inspect the clothing of the suspect thoroughly; look over his shoes for traces of mud, grass-stains, etc., indicating that he might have been at the scene of the crime. Always take the fingerprints of the suspect, to see if they correspond to any fingerprints which might have been left at the scene of the crime. Suspects are also submitted to cross-examination by the Special-Agent-in-Charge.

If the Guilty Squad wins, they must then point out to the G-Man Squad the clues that were left.

A time limit should be set in advance during which the G-Man Squad must find the clues and decide which is the Guilty Person. If they cannot do it within that time, they lose.

### TRAINING FOR ADVANCEMENT

In our government service we had many practice drills like this and used them as definite training for advancement. We made as many clues as possible tie up with the material we learned in the course of our study. This is something you should do in your practice drills. You'll find your Examinations for Advancement to the grade of Roving Operative and Chief Operative further on in this manual—the Roving Operative examination on page 20; the Chief

Operative examination on page 22. I hope that all of you will soon become eligible for Roving Operative and Chief Operative badges.

### SPECIAL GIRLS' SQUAD

Some of the greatest government operatives in history have been women. I have often found it highly desirable to have a squad composed entirely of girls. That is why there is a special badge for the Girls' Division of our Corps. Girls' squads operate in exactly the same way as boys' squads.

Naturally, girls can be included and operate to good advantage in all practice drills with boys' squads. There are special cases in which only a woman operative can handle the situation—such as "covering" a tea-room, women's club, or women's clothing store.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR SOLVING CRIMES AND APPREHENDING CRIMINALS

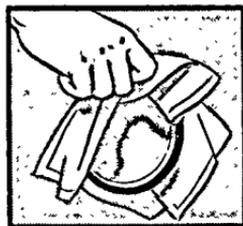
(Every Junior G-Man is to study this section most carefully)

**E**VERY Junior G-Man in my Corps must train himself to be observing. He must notice things that other people overlook. Such observation often reveals important "clues." It is through careful observation of small and apparently unimportant things that crimes are unraveled. I therefore charge every member of my Corps with the duty of developing his power of observation.

The first rule of all G-Men is:

*Do Not Touch Anything at the Scene of the Crime.*

Study every object you find, but do not touch it. If in the course of duty you must



pick up something, drop a handkerchief over the object before you pick it up. Otherwise you may destroy valuable fingerprints. If something is found lying in a certain

place, the exact place must be marked before the object is picked up.

## Important Clues Every Junior G-Man Must Watch For

**\*FINGERPRINTS:** Look closely at a smooth object that has been handled. You can usually see faint prints of fingers. *No two people have fingerprints just alike.* They can never be disguised. Examine all prints carefully; if they are on a dark surface, sprinkle them with flour or face powder; if they are on a light surface sprinkle

*\*The official Melvin Purvis fingerprint set for members of the Corps is shown in the catalog of prizes sent with your Manual.*

with soot or powdered pencil lead. Gently blow away the surplus powder. You will see the print sharp and clear. (More about fingerprints on page 18.)



**FOOTPRINTS:** Note their size; whether they were made by a man or woman. Measure the distance between the footprints. Then measure the distance between your own footprints. By comparison, a Junior G-Man will be able to tell about how tall the person was who made the prints. The taller the person, the farther apart the footprints.

Notice how deep the prints are. Heavy persons make deeper prints than light persons. If the prints are close together and deep, you can be sure the person was heavy or fat, or carrying some heavy object.

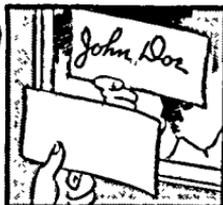
If the toes dig into the earth, the person was running. Look for impressions of rubber heels, etc. This will tell you what kind of shoes were worn.

**WRITTEN MESSAGES:** In working on a case, a Junior G-Man must search the scene carefully for scraps of paper on which a revealing message—or fragment of

*What peculiarity do you note here that might help you find the writer of the message?*

MEET ME TONIGHT by THE OLD PINE TREE

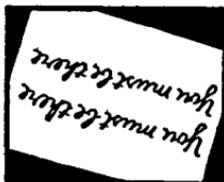
a message—may be written. Note the character of the writing or printing. If the message is typewritten, look for broken letters, etc., which will give you a clue as to typewriter used. *No two typewriters write exactly the same.*



**THINGS LEFT BEHIND:** Always examine the scene of a crime very carefully. Note any article, however unimportant it seems. Keep it for further examination.

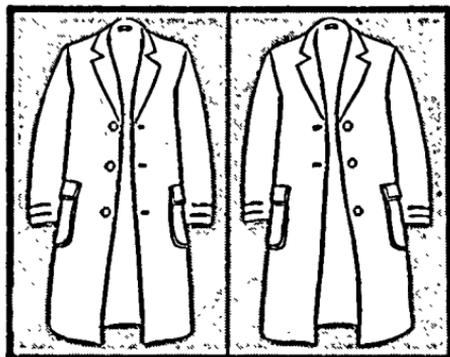
For example: buttons, or shreds of clothing are often caught on something and left behind. Look also for cigarette stubs, gum wrappers, bits of twine, hair, etc. I cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of Junior G-Men noticing *little things*.

**BLOTTERS:** Examine blotters by holding a mirror next to the blotter and reading the writing in the mirror. Writing on blotters is backwards. In the mirror it becomes perfectly readable.



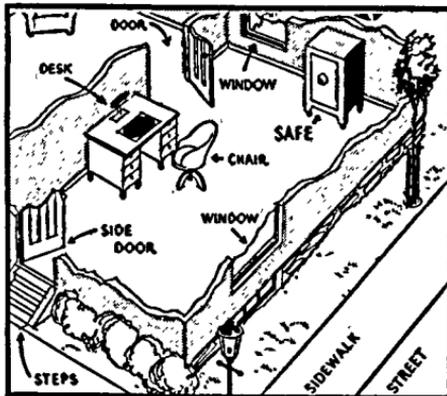
**FORGERIES:** Forgers write upside down when they make forgeries. Therefore, if a G-Man thinks a signature is forged, he compares it upside

down with the true signature. If it is exactly the same, he is sure it is a forgery, because nobody ever writes exactly the same.



Here is an instance of deduction that helped to solve a hard case. An escaping prisoner, disguised as a woman, was captured when a keen-eyed G-Man noticed that he was trying to button his coat on the right, as a man does, instead of on the left, as a woman does. This operative knew that a woman's (or girl's) coat-buttons are on the opposite side from a man's.

*Below is a map made of a room, by an observant G-Man before anything was touched. Make map like this on your own cases and make sure of missing no clues.*



## Observation Test for all Junior G-Men

Junior G-Men are required to *know more about the things around them* than average persons. Do you know how many buttons there are on your shirt? Do you know how many panes of glass there are in the windows of your home? You have looked at all of these things many times. But the chances are you have never really noticed them.

I want all my Junior G-Men to learn to notice every little detail. And the way to do



Look at this picture one minute. How many objects do you remember?

this is to *train yourself*. Study everything carefully. Walk past a shop window, look inside for a minute, then see how many things you can remember.

On this page (above) is a picture. It's the type of observation test used in training G-Men in Washington. Study it for one minute (as long as it takes you to count slowly to 60). Then cover up the picture and see how many of the objects you can remember.

If you can remember 8 of them you are very observing. If 5, you are just average. If less than 5, you will have to work hard to train your powers of observation. And you can, if you just keep trying.

This power of observation is important not only in finding clues and remembering people—I have found it especially valuable in *noticing when things are not as they should be*.

## Observation Test by Squads

Members of the Junior G-Man Corps are to practice this drill. It is highly valuable training. Take your squad at ordinary walking pace past a row of parked cars. Pick out any three to study. Each squad member makes a list of what he saw as he walked past. (Make of cars, license plates, nicked fenders, things left on seat,

etc.). Later on the Special-Agent-in-Charge checks up to see whose list is the largest and most correct. It is surprising to see what people *put in* the list, as well as what they leave out; often, a list will contain two or three objects that were never there at all! With practice, you can become very adept at observing at a glance things people without Junior G-Man training would overlook.





## About Disguises

Bear in mind this fact about disguise which I learned as a G-Man; it need not be very elaborate, with false whiskers, stage "make-up," etc. Some disguises do use such things; but we in government service found that usually such disguises are so freakish and unnatural they *attract attention* instead of averting it. The following ways are outlined for Junior G-Men to disguise themselves simply—yet not be recognized except by close observation.

Study yourself. You have certain characteristics, and you must remember that it is by these things that people recognize you. It is these characteristics you must attempt to change.

Suppose you are fairly tall, hold yourself straight, and take long, swift strides. When you do not wish to be recognized you should stoop a little, and walk with a slouch. You will find, too, that you have certain habits of dressing; by changing these only slightly, you will make a very effectual disguise. If you usually wear a cap, change to a hat before going out. If most of your neckties are tied in a bow-knot, switch to a four-in-hand.

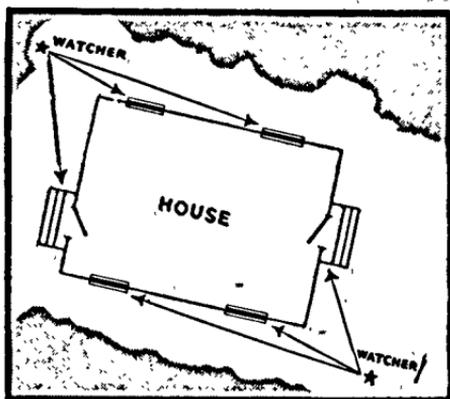
Another highly effective disguise for Junior G-Men is a change of caps. Suppose you are being followed. You are wearing a

cap which is dark brown. Now if you turn a corner quickly, show the dark brown cap into your pocket and put on another of an entirely different color, you have an excellent chance of making a leisurely getaway.

**REMEMBER:** these disguises are NOT supposed to enable the operator to pass undetected among people who know him and are watching for him. But the use of these methods WILL keep a Junior G-Man from being recognized at a passing glance.

## How to Surround a House in Which a Suspect is Hiding

It sometimes happens that a suspect will take refuge in a dwelling house, intending to make his escape through some other door or window. When the Special-Agent-in-Charge of the pursuers has enough of a force, it is easy to station a man at each door or window, with instructions to watch. But it is also possible to "surround" a house with only two men. Simply place yourself at one corner and the other Junior G-Man at the diagonally opposite corner, like this:



You can see that the two watchers have "covered" every exit, and a cry from one will bring the other at once.

## Instructions for Shadowing Suspects

Members of the Corps often find it necessary to follow, or "shadow" a suspect—as G-Men call it—without letting him know he is being followed. All members of the Junior G-Man Corps should follow these rules:

1. Keep as FAR from your man as possible without losing sight of him.
2. DO NOT try to hide if suspect turns around. That would make him suspicious. Keep on about your business.
3. If the suspect should succeed in getting on board a vehicle and leaving you behind, BE SURE to get the number of the taxi, or destination of bus or car.
4. If suspect goes into a building, take its number and location and report to headquarters. Another man may be sent to relieve you if the suspect makes a long stay; again, the address may be all the information that is needed.

### Using Special Talents of Squad Members

Junior G-Men will often find it difficult to "cover" a certain house or barn, or vacant lot, without arousing suspicion. In such cases a member of the squad shall be selected who can create a reasonable excuse for being in the vicinity. For instance, the squad member might own a bicycle. He could easily pretend to be pumping up a



tire and thus, *without creating suspicion*, be able to keep close tab on all activities in the suspicious neighborhood. Among our G-Men we numbered different vocations and special talents, such as musician, mechanic, singer, painter, etc. For almost any emergency we had someone who could cover the case without arousing suspicion. It is necessary for all G-Man Squads who want to operate most efficiently to keep a careful list of all special talents of its members.

### What To Do If You Are Followed

If a member of the Corps has reason to believe that someone is watching or following him, here is a quick, sure way of finding out. Immediately upon spotting the individual suspected, the Junior G-Man shall move in as many different directions in as quick succession as possible . . . turn sharply down streets, first in one direction and then in another. If he is followed in these random moves, he may be sure he is being "shadowed."

I want my Junior G-Men to use a similar method of training in this respect to that used in government service. One Junior G-Man will trail another without telling him about it—later checking back to see if he has been "spotted."



# SELF PROTECTION FOR JUNIOR G-MEN

All Members of The Corps are to Practice the Following Methods of Self Defense as Part of Their Regular Training.

**BREAKING THE WAIST HOLD.** If a person seizes a Junior G-Man around the waist, as shown in the picture, his captor may think he has him secure. Yet it is quite easy to get away.



Merely clasp the hands together and push up against and under captor's chin. The harder he holds on, the more his head is pushed back. He is compelled to let go.

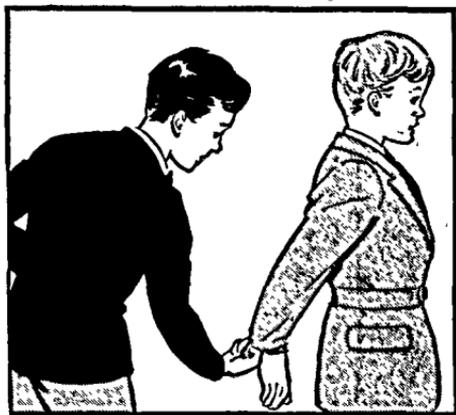
With a little practice all Junior G-Men will be able to execute this perfectly.



**THE COAT-LOCK.** This enables a Junior G-Man to tie up his opponent's arms in such a way that his arms are powerless. I have often used this trick in my encounters with criminals.

Stand facing your opponent, as shown in the picture below at left. Then suddenly seize with both hands his coat at the lapels.

Quickly flip the coat back over his shoulders and pull down. As you can see in the picture, his arms are snugly "tied" and he is powerless, either to grab or hit you.



**THE SLEEVE HOLD.** Usually used by detectives and police. It is one of the most secure holds known and very difficult from which to escape.

Insert your thumb under the sleeve, give it a sharp twist leaving your four fingers to grasp the sleeve from the outside. The coat sleeve is then twisted about your thumb and secured by the fingers so that it is not easy for the suspect to slip away.

# SECRET CODES

## SECRET CONVERSATION CODE

It is important that G-Men be able to communicate ideas when outsiders are around them, without letting anyone else know what they mean. In order to do this I have devised the following "conversation-code." It enables Junior G-Men to exchange important information while apparently making the most casual sort of conversation. The key lies in the fact that you make statements which sound like simple truths. You thus arouse no suspicion in the minds of listeners.

*All Junior G-Men should learn and practice the following code as soon as they receive badge and credentials.*

First, the code signal which means "I'm going to start using the conversation-code." It is: "We don't always mean what we say." This should be hidden in some casual sentence such as, "Say, I was reading in a magazine the other day about how everybody's at least partly crazy. But I guess we don't always mean what we say." Or, "Mary Smith told me she wouldn't speak to Joe Brown again as long as she lived. But we don't always mean what we say."

The reply to this, which means "I understand. Go ahead," is as follows—"Pretty nearly always," these three words, no more and no less, with nothing added either in front or after.

When you have stated that you are going to use the conversation-code, and have received the "I understand" code reply, you can make use of the following signs:



1. Any remark about the weather—"We are being watched."
2. Any remark about clothes—"Stay with me."
3. Any remark (not a question) about books—"Don't stay with me."
4. Any question about books—"Do you need help?"
5. Yes or no to this question—"Yes, I do," or "No."
6. Any question about school—"Are you on a case?"
7. Yes or no to this question—"Yes, I am," or "No, I'm not."

Let us suppose two Junior G-Men meet in a crowd. Neither is quite sure what the other is there for, and there may be enemies in the group. Junior G-Man A says "Hello, Jimmie!" and Junior G-Man B naturally replies "Hello! What are you doing here?" The conversation then goes like this:

A: "Oh, Billy Taylor promised to meet me here half an hour ago. I guess we don't always mean what we say."

B: "Pretty nearly always."

A: "Well; maybe you're right. Anyway he hasn't shown up yet. Well . . . Did you have trouble with the test in school last week?"

B: "Yes, I did."

A: "That's too bad. Have you read any new books lately?"

B: "No."

A: "H'm. Nice weather we're having, isn't it?"

B: "Certainly is. Well, it probably won't last. Speaking of weather, we have a book at our house that tells all about it."

A: "Is that so? Well, I'll have to borrow it some time. Well, so long."

B: "So long!"

That certainly sounds like idle talk to pass the time. But these two Junior G-Men have actually had the following conversation:

A: "I'm going to start using the conversation-code."

B: "I understand. Go ahead."

A: "Are you on a case?"

B: "Yes."

A: "Do you need any help?"

B: "No."

A: "We are being watched."

B: "Don't stay with me."

After which the two G-Men part without anyone's knowing that they have actually told each other everything they need to know.

You will be surprised how easily these seven signals work into conversation, and how useful they can be to a Junior G-Man on duty.

## SECRET WRITING CODE

Following is the official Secret Writing Code of the Junior G-Man Corps. The code is to be used between members whenever there is need for secrecy and a possibility that the message may fall into enemy hands. Be sure to keep this code absolutely

confidential. Here is how to use it:

1. Write the message with the words all run together. If you wanted to say, for instance, "Meet Me Tomorrow Evening," you would write it—

### MEETMETOMORROWEVENING

2. Write below each letter the letter that comes immediately AFTER it in the alphabet. You would code MEET, for instance, like this:

MEET  
NFFU

If you should have to write the letter Z, you would write under it the letter A.

3. Copy the lower line of letters—and there you are. "Meet me tomorrow evening" would look like this:

NFFUNFUPNPSSPXFWFOJQH

To decode a message received in this form of secret writing, you would simply copy the message as you received it, and write under each letter the letter that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet.

With a little practice you can code and decode such messages very rapidly; at the same time you can be sure that such a message, falling into unauthorized hands, will prove completely baffling.

---

## ALTERNATE LETTER CODE

To use this simple code, you send two messages instead of one. In the first message you include the first letter of the first word and then every other letter, alternately in order, in every word of your message. Your second message includes the letters you left out of the first message in corresponding order. The receiving Junior G-Man simply puts them together and thus decodes the message.

For instance, suppose you wanted to say, "I am at the old Haunted House." You would first write the message like this:

IAMINTHEOLDHAUNTEDHOUSE

Then starting with first letter of the first word and alternating as follows you have your first message with the numeral 1 at the beginning:

1IMNHODANEHUE

Then you would write the remaining letters in your second message, beginning with the numeral 2, as follows:

2AITE LHUTDOS

The receiver puts them together like this:

1IMNHODANEHUE  
2AITE LHUTDOS

And writes out the message as follows:

IAMINTHEOLDHAUNTEDHOUSE

Thus the message is quickly broken up into separate words and is easily readable.

**TELEPHONE CODE**  
Sometimes I have found it impossible to talk directly over the phone at all . . . for fear an enemy may be listening in. In such cases I use a special code, which I herewith transmit to all members of the Junior G-Man Corps. To use this code, simply tap with pencil or fingernail on the telephone. The Junior G-Man receiving the call will *pay no attention to the words he hears, but listen to the taps.*

Each squad is to devise its own code. Here are some suggestions:

"Hello, Tommy. Want to go to the movies?"

(2 taps—meaning "Danger.")

"Sure, how soon?"

(2 taps, pause 3 taps—meaning "I'll come at once.")

"Oh, in about an hour or so."

(3 taps—meaning "No. Stay where you are.")

"OK, I'll see you then, good-bye."

(2 taps, pause, 2 taps—meaning "Give warning to Headquarters.")





# HOW TO JUDGE

AND

# COMPARE FINGERPRINTS



**I** WANT to impress on every member of my Corps these two facts: 1. *No two persons have the same set of fingerprints.* 2. *A suspect can be positively identified by the prints he leaves.*

That is why G-Men place so much stress on the rule, "NEVER touch anything on the scene of the crime without using handkerchief, gloved hand or tweezers."

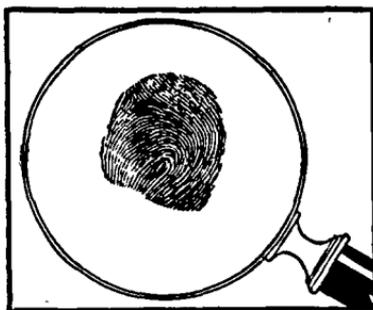
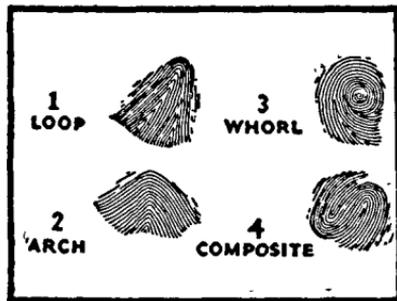
It is important that all G-Men should have at least a working knowledge of the different types of fingerprints.

You would think that all the millions of different fingerprints in the world would be impossible to classify; but it is a fact that EVERY fingerprint will fall under one of FOUR classes. These are:

have a good start toward the real science of fingerprint identification.

## Special Instructions For Obtaining Fingerprints

*Notice what smooth surfaces suspect touches with his fingers — such as a smooth table-top or a pane of glass. By keeping careful watch you are fairly certain of getting a specimen of his fingerprints. They are invisible until brought out*



by dusting with powder. (The official Melvin Purvis Fingerprint Set for members of the Corps is shown in the catalog of prizes sent with your Manual.)

If you can borrow some smooth article which the suspect carries you will be pretty sure to get a good set of prints.

If you learn these four types you will

(See additional information about fingerprints on Page 8)

## SECRET INVISIBLE WRITING

The Invisible Writing Method is to be used in connection with code-writing whenever unusual secrecy is necessary. There are two methods Junior G-Men may follow. First, the paper containing the message may appear to be perfectly blank; second, it may have a perfectly innocent message with the real message, which is invisible, *written between the lines*.

Best results are obtained by using the official Junior G-Man Mystery Writing Outfit shown in the prize catalog sent with your copy of this Manual.

However, until you get your official outfit, plain milk, or lemon juice, can be used for invisible writing. Whittle a wooden match stick to a point and use this as a pen.



The writing is done by dipping the pointed match stick into milk, then writing your message upon paper with the milk. When the milk has dried, no writing will be visible.

When using milk or lemon juice, the person receiving the secret message holds the paper over a hot stove, a candle, or wrapped around an electric light. Caution: paper must not be close enough to burn, yet close enough for the paper almost to scorch. As the paper becomes hot, the secret message

suddenly appears on the paper.

In sending messages with invisible writing, it is necessary to let the receiver know that the paper must be "treated" to bring out the real message. When message is mailed, this can easily be done by putting on the stamp upside down. Otherwise a small X in the lower left-hand corner of the paper may be used. When message is to be brought out by heat treatment, the word "Heat" should be included in the fake message. If this word is *not* included, the receiver will know that it is to be brought out by the Developer Fluid in the Official Mystery Writing Outfit.

*Important:* Junior G-Men should submit all messages, or pieces of blank paper that fall into their hands, to the Heat Test, then the Developer Treatment. Innocent-looking pieces of paper may sometimes contain a hidden message that will unravel a baffling mystery.

## HANDWRITING

Pay special attention to the handwriting of any notes or fragments of messages that fall into your hands in the course of your investigations. Even though the handwriting be disguised, it is often possible, by close study, to discover the author. This is because all people have certain peculiarities in the way they write, and no matter how they try to disguise them, hints of their special way of writing will creep into the formation of certain letters.

As training for this branch of Junior G-Man work, I suggest that you study closely your own and your friends' handwriting. How do you make the letter G—with a long, open loop below, or a shorter, slim one? Do you make the letter P with an open or a closed loop? How do you write K? Study these and all other things relating to handwriting closely. You never know when such study is going to come in mighty handy.

# PROMOTION TO HIGHER RANKS IN THE CORPS



## HOW YOU CAN BECOME ONE OF MY ROVING OPERATIVES



Roving Operative's  
Official Badge



Roving Operative's  
Secret Passport

**N**OW that you have received your Junior G-Man badge, and Manual, and have studied the Manual, you have begun to see how interesting and exciting G-Man operations really can be.

As your Chief Special-Agent-in-Charge, I want as many of you as possibly can to qualify for the next rank which is now waiting for you—that of ROVING OPERATIVE. It entitles you to wear the Roving Operative's Special Badge, and to receive your special Secret Passport, which is your evidence that you are now a full-fledged Roving Operative subject to orders from Headquarters at all times.

Here's all you have to do to become a Roving Operative:

*First*, the Corps requires a pledge from

you, that you have carefully studied the Official Manual.

*Second*, the Corps requires that you memorize the Junior G-Man pledge as given on Page 3 of the Manual . . . and as evidence thereof, that you write out the pledge *from memory*, in the blank space on the back of this page.

*Third*, you are to tear out this page and mail it, together with 3 Post Toasties box-tops, to Melvin Purvis, c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich.

It is easy to obtain the 3 Post Toasties box-tops. Of course, you eat Post Toasties. All members of my Junior G-Man Corps do. Also, ask your parents, relatives and friends to save the empty boxes for you and you'll soon have the required 3 tops.

(See next page.)





Melvin Purvis, former G-Man, employing the instrument used to determine the gun from which a bullet was fired.

- Mr. Nathan .....
  - Mr. Tolson .....
  - Mr. Baughman .....
  - Chief Clerk .....
  - Mr. Clegg .....
  - Mr. Glavin .....
  - Mr. Ladd .....
  - Mr. Nichols .....
  - Mr. Rosen .....
  - Mr. Tracy .....
  - Miss Gandy .....
- RH

# Getting the Drop on Public Nuisance No. 1

By Melvin Purvis

Former G-Man and Nemesis of Gangdom

WHEN the rataplan of gunfire hushed, Public Enemy Number 1 lay sprawled on the street. This gangster's swift justice at the hands of law and order marked the beginning of the end for one of the most vicious gangs in the history of crime. And in this spectacular man hunt, as in most others, scientific skill and close attention to detail played leading parts.

These are the similarities between the manufacture of Gillette Blades and crime detection, although I didn't know this until my recent inspection trip through the Gillette factory. Previously I had taken razor blades for granted. I couldn't imagine the scientific skill, expert craftsmanship and tremendous care that is lavished on the Gillette Blade.

I saw things on my visit to the factory that are almost unbelievable. Yes, I saw wonders that a non-scientific mind simply cannot grasp. The automatic control mechanism on the electric hardening furnaces positively awed me. In these furnaces the world's finest steel is treated with more heat or less heat as required

for utmost uniformity with the correct standard. This system alone was evolved at a cost of many thousands of dollars and years of research and labor.

Familiar as I am with the microscope I was greatly impressed with Gillette's constant use of this scientific instrument to assure perfection in the finished product. I marvelled at a photo-electric device developed by Gillette which measures the sharpness of the blade edges, and guides the skilled technicians who keep the huge grinding machines in tune. These machines weigh four tons each and can be adjusted to a fineness of 1/10,000 of an inch.

Most impressive of all is the precision of every operation. A trip through the factory is a revelation to one who appreciates accuracy and meticulous attention to detail. More than that, a man leaves the Gillette plant with a feeling of gratitude to these experts who have the drop on Public Nuisance No. 1—these Gillette scientists who have made the removal of unsightly bristles so much easier and more comfortable for every man.

With these important facts before you, why let anyone deprive you of shaving comfort by selling you a substitute? Ask for Gillette Blades and be sure to get them.

GILLETTE SAFETY RAZOR COMPANY, BOSTON, MASS.

The News Weekly (no date shown)

1000  
 JUN 20 1984  
 F.P.H.  
 R.E.P.

67-7489-483

WRG:WHA:RCL JUNE 11 1936

OSCAR A TRIPPET  
C/O WESTERN UNION  
LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA

PRESENT ADDRESS MELVIN H PURVIS UNKNOWN TO THIS BUREAU

HAROLD NATHAN  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

COLLECT

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
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	

WESTERN UNION  
750 P  
B

JAN 19 1984  
JAN 19 1984  
JAN 19 1984

WESTERN UNION

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...

*WCC*  
*OT*

WM1 17 NM

JUN 11 1936

LOSANGELES CALIF 10

SECRETARY TO J EDGAR HOOVER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

PLEASE WIRE COLLECT ADDRESS AT WHICH TELEGRAM SENT TO MR  
MELVIN PURVIS WILL BE DELIVERED TO HIM

OSCAR A TRIPPET.

*we dont know*  
*6/11*  
*T D S*  
*Wire prepared*  
*6-11-36*  
*WCC*

606AM

RECORDED

67-7489-483  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JUN 12 1936 A.M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 CHF. CLK. FOUR FILE

JUN 12 1936

JUN 12 1936 A.M.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Routed ..... Indexed .....  
 Searched ..... Recorded .....  
 Numbered ..... Checked .....  
 Serialized ..... Filed ✓

607 U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, N. Y.

RF:PS

June 9, 1936.

Personal and  
Confidential

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am transmitting herewith original and copy of memorandum dated June 8, 1936 prepared by Special Agent J. D. Milenky with reference to his recent conversation with Mr. JULIEN PROSKAUER, 413 Lafayette Street, New York City, during which Mr. Proskauer volunteered information regarding his efforts to secure copies of the Bureau's identification orders.

With reference to the last paragraph of the memorandum, I have never had any conversation with Mr. O'Neal of the Faurec Identification System regarding Proskauer. In fact, I had never heard of Proskauer or his activities prior to reading the attached memorandum.

Very truly yours,

R. WHITLEY  
Special Agent in Charge

(Copy)

*This man Proskauer is  
colossal liar*

*J. C. H.*

enc 2

JUN 18 1936

119-484

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

607 United States Court House,  
Foley Square,  
New York, New York.

JEM:SLB

June 8, 1936.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR SAC E. WHITLEY

On June 5, 1936, while conducting an investigation in connection with the case entitled CHARLES WILLIAM ROBINSON with aliases - FUGITIVE - I.O. 1349, New York file 76-219, which investigation consisted of determining the purpose one JULIUS PROSKAUER, who is an official of WILLIAM G. POPPER AND COMPANY, lithographers and printers, 118 Lafayette Street, New York, New York, had in writing the Southeastern Penitentiary at El Reno, Oklahoma, for a photograph of the fugitive, MR. PROSKAUER related the following statement of facts to the Agent submitting this memorandum:

Several months ago the Palmolive Company was conducting an advertising campaign during the course of which it broadcast various programs over the radio. PROSKAUER at that time conceived the idea of forming a "Junior G-Man Club" during the course of which it was PROSKAUER'S idea to put out a booklet on behalf of the Palmolive Company entitled "CRIME DOES NOT PAY". It was PROSKAUER'S desire to incorporate in this booklet the photographs of various wanted men and other criminals. Accordingly, he went to Washington, D. C., where he stated he had a conference with the Attorney General, who promised him that he would furnish any photographs which PROSKAUER desired. However, at a subsequent conference with the Director of the Bureau, according to PROSKAUER, the Director flatly refused to furnish the photographs because they were to be used for a commercial purpose and the Attorney General then informed him that despite the fact that he had promised to furnish the photographs if, in the Director's judgment, the Director felt that the photographs should not be put to such a use, he, the Attorney General, would abide by the Director's decision.

PROSKAUER stated that he entered in a heated argument with the Director although they parted amicably, at the conclusion of which he informed the Director that even if the Director refused the photographs, he, PROSKAUER, would obtain them from other sources, namely, by writing to the various police departments and penitentiaries in the United States.

JAN 10

Memorandum for SAC R. Whitley

June 8, 1936.

At this point PROSKAUER exhibited to the Agent numerous identification orders issued by this Bureau, as well as photographs of various criminals, which were forwarded to him by various police departments throughout the United States. He did not state specifically from what sources he obtained the photographs and identification orders, but said generally that he obtained them by writing to various police departments and penitentiaries. He said that the only refusal given him was at the Southwestern Penitentiary, El Reno, Oklahoma, from whom he requested a photograph of CHARLES WILLIAM BEMINGTON.

Since the receipt of the above-described photographs and identification orders, PROSKAUER informed that the original plans for issuing the booklet and forming the "Junior G-Man Club" were abandoned. He indicated that he might possibly put the photographs and identification orders to some other similar use sometime in the future.

During the course of interview with PROSKAUER he mentioned to the Agent submitting this memorandum that perhaps the reason why the Director had refused him the photographs and identification orders was because he struck the Director in a bad mood, PROSKAUER'S explanation being that at the time former Special Agent in Charge MELVIN PURVIS had come out with an advertising campaign on his own behalf during the course of which he formed a "Junior G-Man Club" under his own name, even going so far as to put out a "Junior G-Man" badge, which very closely resembled the Bureau badge. PROSKAUER said that the Director exhibited PURVIS' "Junior G-Man" badge to him and appeared to be very much incensed. PROSKAUER stated that the Director told him that PURVIS had "double-crossed the Department." He said that the Director was especially incensed over PURVIS' publicity with regard to his claiming that he was the one who had apprehended DILLINGER, when, according to the Director (quoting PROSKAUER) SAMUEL COWLEY was the one who did all the work.

It may be stated herein that the Agent submitting this memorandum during the interview with PROSKAUER remained noncommittal and informed PROSKAUER that he was not aware of any of the circumstances connected with any of the above.

KEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Memorandum to SAC R. Whitley

June 8, 1936.

For your information, it may be stated that PROSKAUER stated to Agent that at the time that he was collecting the photographs and identification orders he had a conversation with a man by the name of O'NEAL, who is now connected with the FAUCON IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM in some way, and whom he described as a former Bureau Agent, who informed him that you had told O'NEAL to tell PROSKAUER to desist from carrying out the plan to use the photographs and identification orders because PROSKAUER'S actions in doing so were making the Director very angry.

Respectfully submitted,

J. D. MILENKY,  
Special Agent.

JAN 15 1936

THE DIAMOND GRAB

MELVIN PURVIS

ADVERTISEMENT

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

PROX 1934

WASH. HERALD  
JUN 14 1934

*[Handwritten mark]*

WHAT PUT

# PATTY in the MOVIES?



SUMMER'S BEST BARGAIN.

**MOIRE VACATION KIT**  
 RUBBER LINED • GLIDER LOCK • CHOICE OF COLORS  
 AND 25¢ LISTERINE TOOTH PASTE  
 AND DENTAL SPECIAL TOOTH BRUSH  
 CHOICE OF TURTLED OR OVAL TYPE

**ALL 3 FOR 49¢**

I FIND THAT LISTERINE TOOTH PASTE IS THE BEST DENTIFRICE THAT I HAVE EVER USED. IT LEAVES THE TEETH SO BRIGHT AND LUMINOUS

ANITA COUNIHAN,  
 NEW YORK'S MOST POPULAR MODEL

3 Weeks Later at the Studio

THE BEST BARGAIN I'VE SEEN THIS SUMMER

At your druggist's while they last  
 This offer good in U.S.A. only

AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR POST TOASTIES

# THE DIAMOND GRAB

an inside story of

MELVIN PURVIS  
AMERICA'S NO. 1 G-MAN



MELVIN PURVIS, the young lawyer who became America's ace G-Man is who directed the capture of Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd, "Baby Face" Nelson, and many others. Mr. Purvis reveals here some of the methods used in capturing desperate criminals. Names of places and the characters involved have of course been changed. This inside story is herewith published as clinching proof of the fact that CRIME DOES NOT PAY.

ALL RIGHT, PASS ME THE POST TOASTIES AND I WILL NOT ALL ROBBERS WORK IN GANGS. THOUGH HERE'S "ONE MAN JOB" FRANK UP AGAINST...

TELL US ANOTHER STORY ABOUT THE GANGSTERS YOU'VE CAUGHT, MR. PURVIS!

A MAN NAMED LEO ORMAN, OWNER OF THE \$300,000 BOKHARA DIAMOND, REPORTED TO THE POLICE THAT IT HAD BEEN STOLEN. THE G-MEN DO NOT USUALLY CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH WHAT THE UNDERWORLD CALLS A "JEWEL GRAB" BUT WE WERE CALLED IN WHEN...

IT'S AN OUTRAGE! OF COURSE I'M INSURED... BUT THIS ROBBER HAS THE NERVE TO WRITE THAT BECAUSE HE CAN'T DISPOSE OF MY DIAMOND--HE'LL SELL IT BACK TO ME AT HALF PRICE---\$150,000!

WE'LL TAKE CHARGE, MR. ORMAN, WHEN THE MARS ARE USED, THE G-MEN STEP IN!

WE HAD THE LETTER MICRO-ANALYZED AT ONCE. EVERY TYPEWRITER PRINTS DIFFERENTLY, YOU KNOW, EVEN IF IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME MAKE----AND THE MICROSCOPE SHOWS THE DIFFERENCE.

FROM TWO TYPEWRITERS OF THE SAME MODEL... EXACTLY ALIKE TO THE NAKED EYE--BUT THE MICROSCOPE KNOWS THE DIFFERENCE.

JACK, I HATE TO ADMIT IT--BUT WE'RE STUMPED! WE'VE RUN DOWN EVERY CLUE FOR 500 MILES!

OH, HERE'S A LETTER FROM ORMAN--SAYS WE'RE NOT GETTING ANYWHERE AND WANTS THE INSURANCE COMPANY TO BUY BACK THE DIAMOND FROM THE ROBBER WHO GRABBED IT!

ONE MONTH LATER

WHAT'S THIS? THAT TYPE LOOKS FAMILIAR UNDER THE MAGNIFYING GLASS...

JUNIOR G-MAN MAGNIFYING GLASS  
SEE OFFER BELOW

YES, MR. PURVIS, THE SAME TYPEWRITER THAT WAS USED FOR THE ROBBER'S NOTE TO ORMAN--WAS USED FOR ORMAN'S LETTER TO YOU!

THAT'S EXACTLY... THIS CASE IS SOLVED RIGHT NOW!

WELL, ORMAN--THERE'S THE DIAMOND, RIGHT OUT OF YOUR OWN SAFE! YOUR LITTLE SCHEME TO COLLECT \$150,000 ON A FAKE JEWEL GRAB HAS FAILED!

WHY DID I EVER GET YOU G-MEN INTO THIS!

...AND THAT WAS THE END OF LEO ORMAN! SAY--- I'M GLAD TO SEE BOTH YOUR YOUNGSTERS PITCH INTO THOSE POST TOASTIES! IT'S JUST THE STUFF FOR MEMBERS OF MY JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS!

YES, AND POST TOASTIES-- SURE TASTE WONDERFUL TOO!

## WHY MELVIN PURVIS ADVISES EVERY BOY AND GIRL TO EAT POST TOASTIES!



Get your package of Post Toasties--The Better Corn Flakes--and join the Junior G-Man Corps



TO JOIN! Send five tops from Post Toasties packages with the coupon, to Melvin Purvis, c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich. He'll enroll you as a member of his Junior G-Man Corps... send you his official Junior G-Man badge... his big, shiny book that tells how to become a Junior G-Man and a catalog of OTHER SWELL FREE PRIZES! Send the coupon now!

BOYS AND GIRLS! JOIN MY JUNIOR G-MAN CORPS! I'LL SEND YOU FREE THE OFFICIAL JUNIOR G-MAN BADGE, PLACE YOUR NAME ON THE SECRET ROLL AT HEADQUARTERS, SEND YOU A BIG EXCITING BOOK THAT TELLS ALL ABOUT CLUES, SECRET CODES, INVISIBLE WRITING, FINGERPRINTS... ALL INSIDE INFORMATION THAT G-MEN KNOW!... ALSO A BIG CATALOG LISTING MANY SWELL FREE PRIZES EVERY BOY AND GIRL WILL WANT! CLIP THE COUPON NOW!

GET OTHER SWELL PRIZES LIKE THESE  
(See Official Catalog for details)

- OFFICIAL JUNIOR G-MAN WHISTLE. Gives a shrill, sharp blast. Nickel-plated finish. For 4 package tops.
- OFFICIAL JUNIOR G-MAN BIRD. 24-carat gold. Enamel sayings. Free for 6 package tops.
- MAGNIFYING GLASS. (Shown above.) Just the thing to search for clues! Free for 6 tops.
- SIREN ALARM. 100. Sounds like G-Man Siren. Cues Press triggers--siren sounds. 2 1/2 inches long.



MELVIN PURVIS  
c/o Post Toasties, Battle Creek, Mich.  
U.S.G. 6-14-36

I enclose Post Toasties package tops. Please send me the items checked below. Check whether boy ( ) or girl ( )

( ) Membership Badge (send 2 package tops)  
( ) Junior G-Man Ring (send 4 package tops)  
( ) Magnifying Glass (send 6 package tops)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

(Offer expires Dec. 31, 1936, and is good only in U.S.A.)

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 June 14, 1936.

Time - 8:05 P.M.

- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Edwards \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Joseph \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Keith \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. J. [unclear] \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*WKS  
500*

Routed _____ Searched _____ Numbered _____ Serialized _____	Indexed _____ Recorded _____ Checked _____
--	--

MEMORANDUM

Re: Melvin Purvis.

During a conversation with Mr. Egan at Portland, Oregon he stated that Drew, former Chief of Police at Oakland advised him that there is a story prevalent in San Francisco that the Bureau got rid of Purvis because he found out where Dillinger was and sprang the trap without taking the Director into his confidence. Mr. Egan stated he gave the true story and Drew stated he would reveal the story in its true light the next time he heard it mentioned.

J. E. H.

XEROX  
 JAN 13 1984

JUN 18 1936

67-7489-485

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JUN 1 1936

TOLSON  
 CLEGG  
 LESTER  
 FOUR  
 SCHILDEN  
 PALE



67-7461-487

Office

June 17, 1936

Mr. Will Shafroth,  
Secretary,  
The National Conference of  
Bar Examiners,  
1140 North Dearborn Street,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Shafroth:

I have received your communication dated June 12, 1936, concerning the application submitted by Mr. Melvin H. Purvis, a former Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for admission to practice law in the State of California.

Responsive to your inquiry, prior to the appointment of Mr. Purvis in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, a character and fitness investigation was instituted with respect to his qualifications and background, and nothing derogatory to Mr. Purvis was developed in this investigation. You are further advised that Mr. Purvis voluntarily resigned from his position as a Special Agent in this service.

Trusting the foregoing will fully answer your inquiry, I am

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
JUN 21 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Enclosure #808228  
(Returned self-addressed, stamped envelope)

~~RECORDED~~  
JAN 19 1984

# THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS

**OFFICERS**

**JOHN H. RIORDAN, Chairman**  
810 BALFOUR BUILDING  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

**WILL SHAFROTH, Secretary**  
1140 NORTH DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**CHARLES P. MEGAN, CHICAGO, ILL.**  
**STANLEY T. WALLBANK, DENVER, COLO.**  
**A. G. C. BIERER, JR., GUTHRIE, OKLA.**  
**WM. HAROLD HITCHCOCK, BOSTON, MASS.**  
**WALTER C. CLEPHANE, WASHINGTON, D. C.**

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Pughman	.....
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	.....

June 12, 1936

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Mr. Melvin Purvis has applied for admission to the bar in the state of California and, in accordance with their usual practice, the Committee of Bar Examiners of that state have sent us his name to furnish a report on his past record and character. In this connection I shall appreciate having a letter from you to submit to the California Board, giving your opinion of his record while serving the Department of Justice.

I have understood that you make a very careful investigation of the previous record and character of every person you engage in the Bureau of Investigation. Will you not also then state that before Mr. Purvis was employed by the Bureau, his previous record was carefully investigated and was found to be without blemish. Please also state whether Mr. Purvis left the government service voluntarily.

You understand, of course, that your letter will be regarded as confidential by myself and by the California Committee to which it will be submitted.

Yours sincerely,

7489-487  
*Will Shafroth*  
Secretary

WS MM

JUN 22 1936

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Ans. 6/17/36

*Handwritten initials and signatures:*  
LW  
W  
a

# THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF BAR EXAMINERS

## OFFICERS

JOHN H. RIORDAN, *Chairman*  
810 BALFOUR BUILDING  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

WILL SHAFROTH, *Secretary*  
1140 NORTH DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHARLES P. MEGAN, CHICAGO, ILL.  
STANLEY T. WALLBANK, DENVER, COLO.  
A. G. C. BIERER, JR., GUTHRIE, OKLA.  
WM. HAROLD HITCHCOCK, BOSTON, MASS.  
WALTER C. CLEPHANE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 23, 1936

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you for your letter of June 17th  
concerning Mr. Melvin H. Purvis. We appreciate  
your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

*Will Shafroth*  
Secretary

WS:CRJ

JUN 26 1936

67-7489-488

V

*880*

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

*R*  
*HT*

*p*



*Melvin Purvis*  
SAYS

"When I saw the expert craftsmanship at the Gillette factory, I understood why Gillette Blades shave so much easier."

**Gillette Blades**  
5 for 25¢ 10 for 49¢

Reputable merchants give you what you ask for. In stores where substitution is practised, insist on Gillette Blades.



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

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

489

67-746

July 10, 1936.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Mr. Melvin H. Purvis,  
301 Lombard Street,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Purvis:

I have received your letter of July 7, 1936, relative to my proposed visit to the Bohannon Grove in San Francisco. I had hoped to include a visit to the Grove in my plans during my stay in San Francisco, but unforeseen developments seem now to preclude my being able to avail myself of this pleasure.

I want to thank you for your interest in writing me as you did.

Cordially yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Dawsey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
JUL 10 1936  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

- Mr. Nathan ..
- Mr. Tolson ..
- Mr. Daughres ..
- 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..

Chicago, Illinois  
 July 7, 1936.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
 Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 U. S. Department of Justice  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Edgar:

I have recently learned that it is possible that you will visit the Bohemian Grove, which is a part of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco, and having recently been elected a member of that club, I am hoping to see you if you come out. If there is anything that I can do to make your visit there a pleasant one, I shall be more than pleased to do it. I am returning there tonight.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

*Melvin Bell*

*ack*  
*7-10-36*  
*Dus*

*Handwritten notes in bottom left corner*

*62-7489-401*

XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984

*Handwritten initials and marks at bottom right*



220 WEST 19th ST., NEW YORK  
Tel. CHelsea 3-8860

THIS CLIPPING FROM  
DALLAS, TEX.  
NEWS

JN 241936

## Ex-Ace of G-Men Lauds Chief Who Worked for Him

### Melvin Purvis Arrives to Address Grocers; Is Guest at Dinner

Affable, courteous and willing to talk about anything in the world except his own exploits, Melvin Purvis, former ace of G-men who laid the trap in which the notorious John Dillinger was killed, arrived in Dallas Tuesday night. He is to speak Wednesday morning at the National Association of Retail Grocers' convention at Canton and Henry.

He gave high praise to Police Chief Robert L. Jones, also a former G-man who took part in laying the Dillinger trap and who helped execute numerous other coups planned by Mr. Purvis in which public enemies were captured or slain.

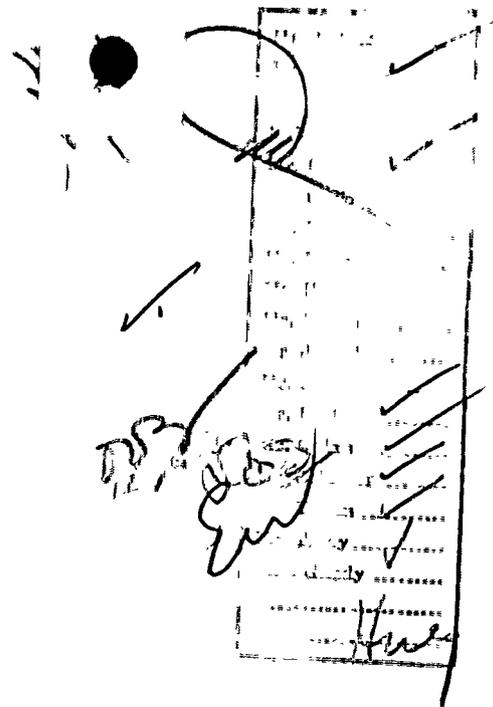
"I can't say too much about Bob Jones," Mr. Purvis said. "Dallas is and rightfully should be proud of their Chief of Police. He is untiring in his efforts and application to duty. He has aided and will continue to aid in bringing Dallas the reputation for law observance which it demands and rightfully deserves."

Mr. Purvis was in charge of the Chicago Department of Justice Bureau when Chief Jones worked there as an investigator.

He was the honor guest at night at an al fresco dinner given by Chief and Mrs. Jones at their home, 3001 Herschel.

Mr. Purvis laughed off questions about reports he had been offered a motion picture contract, and declared again that he does not feel he has any of the qualifications necessary to movie stars.

He is preparing to enter the practice of law at San Francisco, he said. He is a graduate of the law department of the University of South Carolina. He formerly lived at Timmonsville, S. C.



- 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 .....
- .....
- .....

At last it's not! I mean the Melvin Purvis, G-man hero, movie contract. We've hinted that he might do a picture, but today we were reliably informed that he actually is in negotiation with Nat Levine, head of Republic Pictures, for a 15-episode serial based on an adventure cartoon strip. If Purvis really wants to go into the movies he should sign soon, for the American public is notoriously fickle and a year from now he won't be a headliner. Today he is known in every corner of the country for his noteworthy exploit in eliminating public enemy No. 1.

*Duplicate*

80-84-A

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

16

Melvin Purvis

Post Toastie

Advertisement

"The Death Battery"

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 .....

✓

JAN 19 1984

WASH. STAR

JUL 5 1936

# Shakespeare's Town to View Hollywood 'Romeo and Juliet'

Purvis, Hero of G-Men Adventures, Plans  
To Star in Sleuthing Serial

By LOUELLA O. PARSONS  
Motion Picture Editor, Universal Service

LOS ANGELES, June 23.—If the immortal Shakespeare is hovering around the Memorial Theater on Stratford-on-Avon six weeks hence what a treat he'll have! He'll see Hollywood's 1936 idea of "Romeo and Juliet," and the lady who plays one of his most famous heroines—the lovesick Juliet, and the gentleman who brings Romeo to life.

All of which means that Norma Shearer and Irving Thalberg will visit Stratford-on-Avon for the world premiere of "Romeo and Juliet," where they will be joined by Leslie Howard. Naturally it was necessary to make arrangements with the Shakespeare Memorial to permit the



**NORMA SHEARER**  
Visits Stratford-on-Avon

preview in the classic theater during the festival season.

At last it's hot! I mean the Melvin Purvis, G-man hero, movie contract. We've hinted that he might do a picture, but today we were reliably informed that he actually is in negotiation with Nat Levine, head of Republic Pictures, for a 15-episode serial based on an adventure cartoon strip. If Purvis really wants to go into the movies he should sign soon, for the American public is notoriously fickle and a year from now he won't be a headliner. Today he is known in every corner of the country for his noteworthy exploit in eliminating public enemy No. 1.

- Mr. Conroy
- Mr. Fox
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Keith
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

17 25 P

~~8-1~~

-COPY-

Portland, Oregon  
June 17, 1936

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: DR. M. A. MATTHEWS

This morning when Dr. Matthews arrived I was introduced to him. I had previously met him in Seattle on two other occasions when he had made speeches before the Northwest Association of Sheriffs and Police. He told me that the only reason he came to Portland to make a speech at this convention was due to the fact that he thought you would be here. He stated he wanted to meet you and he had not had an opportunity in some time to go east.

He told me that the city of Seattle and citizens, as well, are reeking with graft in the police department and in other city, county and state offices; that he had in 1911 cleaned up Seattle and put a police chief in the penitentiary; that the people at the present time were appealing to him to again clean up the city and state. He stated he realized the enormous job it was but that his life had been dedicated to making the city and state safe for the citizens, and claimed that the racketeers were moving into Seattle and were levying their toll on all legitimate business.

He stated that just recently he has been trying to hire a couple private detectives in order to conduct an undercover investigation of vice and graft conditions. He stated that former Agent in Charge Joe Dunn called on him and informed him that he, Dunn, Atherton, a former agent, and former agent Melvin Purvis, had formed a detective agency, and that they would conduct the investigation at \$500.00 per month per man. He stated that he was willing to pay a reasonable salary but he could not be held up. He further stated that he could not hire any one of those three, informing me that just recently Special Agent in Charge Dunn had tried very hard to be the police chief in Seattle, but that he, Dr. Matthews, had blocked him because of his use of liquor and running around with women, and for the further reason that if he was good the Federal Bureau of Investigation would not have released him.

W. H. R. *W. H. R.*  
67-015-18 JAN 19 1936

-COPY-

Director

6-17-36

He stated that he could not use Melvin Purvis for the reason that he was of the opinion from his speeches that an investigator could not investigate cases by the use of newspapers. He stated further that Anterton's record, as he had it checked, was not clear as he had been doing considerable drinking.

He seems to be very well informed of all conditions in the Northwest and appears to be a power politically. He is a firm believer in you and he stated to me that he praises you, your work and your men at every opportunity. He did today in the meeting and he stands for all that you stand for with reference to pardon, parole, politicians, etc.

The net result of the conference was that he desired that I advise you that he is in the market for a couple of good detectives and he doesn't want to have anything whatever to do with any private detective agency. I told him that it would be almost impossible for you to suggest the names of any men who would fit in well in this part of the country, because all good men that you knew of you had in the service. Notwithstanding this he asked me to take the matter up with you and that you advise him either way.

I think we should keep very friendly with this gentleman; as stated before, he is a power in this part of the country.

Respectfully,

J. S. EGAN,  
Inspector.

JSE:FD

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Los Angeles, California  
July 10, 1936

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. J. E. Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

*M. C.*

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In the absence of Special Agent in Charge Hanson, the writer on July 6th personally called on Mr. Martin Mooney, presently employed by the United Artists Studio in Los Angeles, and delivered to him two photographs of the Karpis "cooling off" place at Potash Sulphur Springs, Arkansas, which photographs were enclosed in your letter to this office dated June 23, 1936.

The writer had luncheon with Mr. Mooney on this occasion, and during luncheon and afterwards entered into some conversation on various matters with Mr. Mooney. During the conversation Mr. Mooney stated on one occasion that he was presently writing a story or a scenario in which he was attempting to accurately, and in accord with what he thought were your ideas, depict the Bureau's training school for Special Agents. He mentioned that in numerous pictures and stories attempts had been made to depict the training school, but that in his estimation all these attempts had fallen far short of an accurate representation.

Mr. Mooney also stated that he, sometime in the future, intended to write a book, which he tentatively has decided to entitle "Parole Board", in which he will accurately narrate the workings of the various parole boards and parole systems as he knows them. He stated that he has in his possession the originals of seventeen letters written by inmates of the jail where he was incarcerated in New York City, which reveal the startling ramifications of the parole system, including graft and "fixing". Mr. Mooney stated, in regard to paroles, that you have an idea about paroles which he shares, namely, that paroles should be abolished. He stated that he thought it was ridiculous the manner in which, for instance, penalties are imposed under the laws of the State of California. For example, a Judge imposes a sentence of from one to fifty years. It is his idea that any Judge who has properly heard a case, and has taken the appropriate interest in seeing that justice is done, can most certainly impose a definite sentence of ~~either~~ **18** 1984 three or five or fifteen years, or whatever the case might justify, and that to impose a sentence such as the one mentioned above, from one to fifty years, is an open invitation to "fixing" and graft.

Mr. Mooney also gave the opinion that he could not understand the activities and conduct of Melvin Purvis, since the latter's leaving the

JUL 30 1936

490  
*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

Mr. Hoover

-2-

7-10-36

Bureau. In this respect, Mooney was of the opinion that practically everything Purvis has done has tended to rather cheapen him, in at least Mooney's regard. Along this line, Mooney stated that he has recently learned that Purvis has signed a contract with the Republic Studios in Los Angeles, California, whereby Purvis is to make, as well as probably write, a series of what Mooney considers cheap-type serials named after, for example, the escapades of the comic strip "Tom Tom" or "Secret Agent X9". Mooney intimated that Purvis would write the scenario for this serial, as well as take part in acting in the pictures himself.

Mr. Mooney expressed gratitude for the photographs of the Karpis "cooling off" place, and at all times during the conversation spoke about you in very complimentary and friendly terms.

Sincerely yours,

J. S. HUGAS  
Acting Special Agent in Charge

JSB:AB

THE DENVER ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS  
 Denver, Colorado  
 June 29, 1936

# Melvin Purvis Enters Police Graft Probes

Former G-Man Consults  
 With Frisco Officials on  
 Final Phases of Quiz

SAN FRANCISCO, June 28.—  
 (UP)—Melvin Purvis, former De-  
 partment of Justice agent, credited  
 with engineering the slaying of  
 John Dillinger, Sunday night, was  
 drawn into San Francisco's police  
 graft inquiry in an advisory capac-  
 ity as city officials mapped a com-  
 prehensive last-phase investigation  
 of talking and non-talking police  
 men.

Purvis, who plans to enter law  
 practice in San Francisco, con-  
 ferred with Edwin N. Atherton,  
 former G-Man and chief investiga-  
 tor, regarding selection of four  
 one-time federal agents to aid the  
 city in its "housecleaning" cam-  
 paign.

It was reported Purvis and  
 Atherton examined a list of pos-  
 sible candidates for investigators  
 positions and decided upon three.  
 The selections will be subject to  
 approval of the County Board of  
 Supervisors and contingent upon  
 allotment of an additional \$50,000  
 investigation fund.

Mayor Angelo Rossi will request  
 the allocation from the board of  
 supervisors. He was expected to  
 recommend that the grand jury  
 inquiry of asserted police graft be  
 carried on at all costs.

The former federal men will be  
 called upon, Atherton said, to aid  
 in studying bank accounts of test-  
 ifying policemen and in supervi-  
 sing details of the investigation not  
 within the scope of official city  
 inquirers.

- Mr. Nathan .....
  - Mr. Tolson .....
  - Mr. Tamm .....
  - 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 initials and marks:*  
 HA  
 JJE  
 M  
 E  
 L  
 B  
 W  
 P  
 Bureau

XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

*Handwritten initials:* AW

C O P Y

RCH:EAM

August 12, 1936.

67-14451-491  
Mr. Peter Koegel,  
35 Hawthorne Street,  
Williston Park,  
Long Island, New York.

Dear Peter:

I received your letter on August 7, 1936,  
in which you request the autograph of Mr. Melvin  
Purvis.

Please be advised that Mr. Purvis is no  
longer connected with the Federal Bureau of Investi-  
gation and it is impossible for me to furnish you  
his autograph.

Sincerely,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

\_\_\_\_\_ KEROX  
JAN 18 1984

C O P Y

35 Hawthorne Street  
Williston Park, Long Island

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am 14 years and I am an autograph collector.

I received your autograph and I am one of the happiest kids on my block since I received your autograph. I tried to get Melvin Purvis's autograph but I couldn't. I would appreciate it very much if you could find time to send me if you have one, an old signature of Mr. Purvis. I hope I am not sounding selfish.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

S/ Peter Koegel

61-7499-491

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten mark]*



*Melvin Purvis*

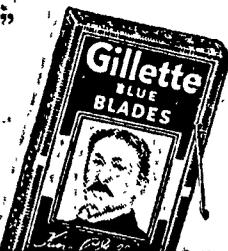
SAYS

"When I saw the expert craftsmanship at the Gillette factory, I understood why Gillette Blades shave so much easier."

**Gillette Blades**

5 for 25¢ • 10 for 49¢

Reputable merchants give you what you ask for. In stores where substitution is practised, insist on Gillette Blades.



Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Postman	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Dawson	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. [unclear]	✓
Mr. [unclear]	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	

1916 3 1930

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

RE-0

WHDL:KBC

August 27, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Re: Talk before the Lions Club, New York City, August 25, 1936.

I had lunch with the New York City Chapter of the Lions Club at the Hotel Astor on August 25, 1936, and addressed the club after this luncheon.

The address was broadcast over Station WJZ and was scheduled to last from 1:15 P. M. to 1:45 P. M. The three "introducers" used five minutes of the time so I actually talked for twenty-five minutes.

There were present about fifty or fifty-five members of the club and I was given the closest attention and generous applause at the conclusion of my talk. The President of the club asked me to express his appreciation and that of the members to the Director for making a Bureau representative available for this occasion and to tell the Director it was one of the finest talks on crime they had ever heard. I extended a cordial invitation to the entire membership on the Director's behalf to visit the Bureau whenever any of them might happen to be in Washington, and found occasion to meet and chat with most of the members personally. All of them spoke in the highest terms of the Director and expressed the hope that he would be able to visit the club at sometime in the future.

The membership of the club is rather limited and I do not believe the Director should accept an invitation to appear before them because of this fact.

Mr. George F. Zimmer was present at the talk and I had a chat with him afterwards. He informed me former Special Agent in Charge Melvin Purvis received \$36,000 for selling his name to the Post Toasties Breakfast Food Company in connection with the comic strip being run by it at the present time.

He stated further, several of the large movie companies had contemplated hiring Purvis as a Technical Director or possibly as an actor for several feature length films and that some of them had consulted

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

K  
S  
1  
492  
10/1/36  
10/1/36

Memorandum for  
Mr. Tolson

- 2 -

August 27, 1935.

him concerning Purvis' alleged achievements, etc. and that he had exposed Purvis for the fakir that he was, whose apparent main objective was to cash in on the Bureau's reputation. Mr. Zimmer stated as a result all of the prominent moving picture companies had made further inquiry and the policy of the industry, acting upon a suggestion from the office of Mr. Will Hays, Director of the motion picture industry, was strictly "hands off" so far as Purvis is concerned.

Mr. Zimmer asked to be remembered to the Director, you and Mr. Clegg.

Respectfully,

W. H. D. Lester.

CT:ACS

August 11, 1936.

Mr. L. B. Nichols,  
#10 Parkview Apartments,  
1230 Ocean Drive,  
Miami Beach, Florida.

Dear Mr. Nichols:-

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letter of August 6th relative to your recent conversation with Mr. Charles Pearce. I appreciate the manner in which you handled this situation.

I do hope that you are steadily improving. Everything here is going along splendidly and you should not begin worrying about getting back to the office. The most important thing is for you to make every effort to fully recover your health before you think about coming back to the Bureau.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover.

67-3702-92

XERO.  
JAN 18 1984

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

#10 Parkview Apt's  
1230 Ocean Drive  
Miami Beach, Fla.  
August 8, 1936

Personal & ~~Confidential~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

While conversing with Charles Pearce, formerly Identification officer of the Miami Beach Police Department, but who because of political reasons is now on a beat, the writer was advised that last winter while you were visiting Miami Beach, a subject was taken into custody at the Rooney Plaza Hotel, by Special Agents Fitzsimmons and Austin. Following this the newspapers carried a story to the effect that your presence had nothing to do with this arrest, and that these agents were blamed by you for the appearance of the news item. He stated that because of this Agent Austin resigned, and that he had told him, he had nothing to do with the incident nor was Agent Fitzsimmons involved. He asked me about these facts, and I of course told him the truth - that I knew nothing about the incident. Pearce then stated that he was well acquainted with Agent Fitzsimmons who had never mentioned the matter to him.

Pearce then asked the writer why Former Special Agent in Charge Purvis had resigned, and he was advised that the writer was not even acquainted with Mr. Purvis and hence he did not know why he resigned. Mr. Pearce then stated that he had been informed by former Special Agent Austin, that Mr. Purvis had been forced to resign because he "was stealing to much of the big bosses publicity". I promptly told Pearce that this was nothing but a plain ordinary damned dirty lie, that you had no personal desire for ~~newspaper~~ publicity, and that every day you were besieged by newspaper reporters, and if you really did desire publicity you had ample opportunity to receive plenty of it. I also informed him that all information concerning the Bureau was given out thru the office of the Attorney General and hence nothing could be more assine that Austin's statement regarding the reason why Mr. Purvis resigned. Mr. Pearce agreed that Agent Austin certainly was mis-informed.

Very truly yours,

/s/ L. B. NICHOLS.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

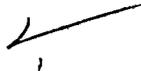
CT:MAM

September 16, 1936

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

① Mr. Frank Waldrop has advised me that Mr. Melvin Purvis has written a book entitled "American Agent" which will be published by Doubleday-Doran, and which will go on sale in November. King Features Syndicate, Inc., has purchased the serial rights to this book, and it will start in serial form in October. The book is supposed to portray the inside story of the John Dillinger case and other exploits of Bureau agents.

Respectfully,

  
Clyde Tolson.

*[Handwritten notes and signatures in the top right corner, including a large scribble and a signature that appears to be 'E. J. Connelley']*

67-7489-493

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten mark]*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Dawsey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	18
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

**Purvis Applies for Coast Law License**  
 SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 4.—(AP)—Melvin Purvis, formerly in charge of the Chicago office of the Department of Justice, has applied for permission to practice law in California. The office of the state bar association said Purvis was given a written examination this week.

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER  
 XERO.  
 JAN 18 1984 9-5-36

THE DENVER POST  
Denver, Colo.  
September 4, 1936  
Managing Editor E. C. Day

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 .....

**FORMER G-MAN SEEKS  
ADMISSION TO BAR**  
San Francisco, Sept. 4.—(A. P.)—  
Application of Melvin Purvis, former  
department of justice chief of the  
Chicago bureau, to practice law in  
California came before the state bar  
association Friday.

*Baran*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

Mr. Tolson ✓  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
 Mr. Clegg ✓  
 Mr. Glavin ✓  
 Mr. Ladd ✓  
 Mr. Nichols ✓  
 Mr. Rosen ✓  
 Mr. Tracy ✓  
 Miss Gandy ✓  
*Sullivan*  
 100

# PURVIS PASSES EXAMS FOR BAR

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 17  
 (U.S.)—Melvin Purvis, Nemesis of  
 the nation's most notorious pub-  
 lic enemies, including John Dil-  
 linger and "Pretty Boy" Floyd, to-  
 day was advised he has success-  
 fully passed the California State  
 bar examination.

Purvis will be formally admitted  
 to the practice of law in California  
 when the State Supreme Court  
 approves his admission.

RECORDED

SEP 18 1936

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

F. F. JOSEPH

## Purvis Over-Rated Gumshoe Man Now Gags Kids

Parkersburg, W. Va. — Melvin Purvis, over-rated Federal A-1, who got all the glory for killing John Dillinger when the desperado was really put on the spot by Anna Sage, the stool pigeon in red, since deported to Rumania, is now continuing his G-man activities at the expense of the kids of America and for the financial betterment of both Purvis and the Toast Posties company of Slaughter Creek, Mich.

Purvis, supposed to settle down in a nice quiet home in Alabama after he was given the can by John Edgar Hoover, chief of the Government Gumshoe men in Washington, lends his picture and how to become a Junior G-man and all his pet tricks to the kids, who help keep Purvis in a life of ease by buying Toast Posties and sending in the package tops.

But you can bet your last lead nickle that the lesson includes nothing about how Purvis used stool pigeons to get Dillinger or how he drank too much lemon pop and then threw the patrons of a drug store in the Hotel Gibson in Cincinnati into a panic by flourishing his gun, much in the manner of a drunken cowboy and telling them what a big bad Gumshoe man he really was.

Purvis was given credit for most of the alleged newspapers for rubbing out Dillinger but it's proved now that it's the little bird that comes whispering and not vain glorious saps like Purvis who provide the leads to solutions of crimes and the apprehension of criminals.

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

*WKS*  
*TT*

*approx July 15*

(Page and Date)  
Unknown

- 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

*Am*

*ms*

---COPY---

WCNS103

SAN FRANCISCO.--MELVIN PURVIS TODAY WAS ADMITTED TO LEGAL PRACTICE IN CALIFORNIA AT A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE STATE SUPREME COURT.

9/21--R328P

SEP 21 1984

67-7481-494

XEROX

JAN 18 1984

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Oct. 10, 1936

RE: AMERICAN AGENT  
Melvin Purvis.

Entire book is very favorable to the Bureau. The author omits reference to the Director by name in every instance but one where the various Director's of the Bureau are listed by dates.

The author uses "I" wherever possible and gives impression of having run things pretty much on his own responsibility - just advising Washington of what was going on.

Believe reaction by the public will be very favorable to the Bureau.

st

67-7489-495

OCT 14 1936

OCT 13 1936

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED  
BY  
ew

- 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 .....

JAN 18 1937

Indexed.....  
Rechecked.....  
Checked.....  
Filed.....

*"Melvin Purvis"*

### Melvin Purvis, Ex-G-Man, to Become San Francisco Lawyer

**Famed Captor of Dillinger  
Passes Tests, Has Only  
to Take Oath**

Melvin Purvis, former G-man who got John Dillinger and Pretty Boy Floyd, will enter the practice of law here as soon as he takes the attorney's oath before the California Supreme Court.

This was learned today with the announcement the public enemy conqueror had passed the State Bar examinations for attorneys from out of state—different from those taken by students.

**'No' Criminal Cases'**

"I'm going into private practice, by myself, in the Crocker First National Bank Building," Mr. Purvis said. "I'm going to practice civil law—no criminal cases and no divorce cases."

For most of the time since his retirement as one of the nation's leading man-hunters, Mr. Purvis has been living here quietly studying and writing and doing a bit of socializing on the side.

**Rose to Top in Two Years**

It took Mr. Purvis only two years to rise from an obscure detective to the most-talked-about of the Federal agents. In 1932 he was made head of the Midwest division of the Department of Justice, and took up the trails of Dillinger, Roger Touhy, Verne Sankey, George (Baby Face) Nelson and Floyd.

Mr. Purvis rounded up the Touhy gang, sent them to prison. Suicide ended Sankey's career after Mr. Purvis' men drove him into a South



**MELVIN PURVIS.**  
Moves to California.

Dakota jail. Mr. Purvis led the officers who shot down Floyd. And Mr. Purvis waited two hours outside a theater for Dillinger to walk forth to his fate.

- 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. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*Not Recorded*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

# PURVIS PASSES STATE BAR TEST

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 17.—(Universal Service.)—Melvin Purvis, nemesis of the nation's most notorious public enemies, including John Dillinger and "Pretty Boy" Floyd, today was advised that he has successfully passed the California State Bar examination.

Purvis will be admitted to the practice of law in California when the state Supreme Court approves his admission at an early date. He will open offices in San Francisco.

While preparing for admission to the California bar, Purvis, who practiced law in Chicago before his spectacular rise to fame as the most astute and able man-hunter of modern times, wrote the story of his amazing experiences and called it "American Agent."

Publication of Purvis' thrilling story, in which he recounts his

many exploits in searching out the lairs of gangsters and kidnapers, will begin in many American newspapers including The Los Angeles Examiner, during October.

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

KEROX  
JAN 18 1934

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
SEP 18 1936

The Washington Daily News  
September 22, 1936

*HIT*

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*OPB*

*[Signature]*

### Bar Admits Purvis

SAN FRANCISCO—Melvin Purvis, former G-Man credited with engineering the capture of several "public enemies," yesterday was admitted to legal practice in California at a special session of the State Supreme Court.

*Purvis*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

PITTSBURGH POST GAZETTE  
September 19, 1936

**Passes Bar Exam**



**MELVIN PURVIS.**  
SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 18.—  
(Universal Service.)—Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man and nemesis of the nation's most notorious public enemies, including John Dillinger and "Pretty Boy" Floyd, today was advised that he has successfully passed the California state bar examination. He does not intend to handle divorce or criminal cases but will specialize in civil actions only, he said today.

- 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. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*Personnel*

POST OFFICE BOX 1525  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

KEROX  
JAN 18 1936

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
508 Medical Arts Building,  
Nashville, Tennessee,  
November 12, 1936.

*Hick*

*RH  
re: for  
12/18/36  
E*

cop:eh

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

*M. G. Purvis*

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith a clipping from the Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tennessee, issue of November 10, 1936, which was submitted by Special Agent C. O. Pickard and is thought to be of interest to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*T. N. Stapleton*

T. N. STAPLETON,  
Special Agent in Charge.

Encl.

*67-7459-496*

NOV 23 1936

XEROX

JAN 18 1984

*MH*  
*[Handwritten signatures and marks]*

# THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL

MEMPHIS, TENN., TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 10, 1936

## RADIO MURDER RATES DRAW OFFICIALS' IRE

### Davis Demands "G" Man Retract Homicide Broadcast

Complete retraction of a statement greatly exaggerating Memphis' 1935 homicide total made last night over a Columbia Broadcasting System national hookup by Melvin G. Purvis, one-time Chicago "G" man, was demanded by Mayor Overton and Police Commissioner Davis soon after Purvis left the air. Demand for retraction was made to William S. Paley, president of the broadcasting company; Cecile B. De Mille, director of the Hollywood Radio Theater, from which Purvis broadcast, and from Purvis himself.

The reported exaggeration was made while Purvis was comparing the murder rates of metropolitan London with those of American cities. He is reported to have given Memphis credit for 1,603 homicides last year.

He had scarcely finished his broadcast when indignant Memphians started telephoning Mayor Overton and Commissioner Davis. Many called The Commercial Appeal.

Clifford Davis, Jr., listening to the broadcast, told his father what Purvis had said, and the police commissioner immediately telephoned the studio.

"I got Mr. De Mille on the phone, told him what had happened and asked to speak to Purvis. The latter, he said, had just left the studio and was en route to his San Francisco home. Mr. De Mille admitted after I had explained my grievance that Memphis has been done a great wrong."

After a conference between Mayor Overton and Commissioner Davis, telegrams demanding the retraction were filed. "We want the retraction made over the same hookup, from the same studio, at the same hour next Monday night," Commissioner Davis said.

"Police department records show that our total homicides in the period mentioned by Purvis were 103. Today the 1936 homicides are 149 less than what they were for the corresponding period last year."

Purvis, now a private citizen, was formerly the ace "G" man of the Department of Justice, was agent in charge at Chicago at the time he resigned and was responsible for the slaying-capture of John Dillinger.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1964

EXCERPT FROM THE DETROIT TIMES NOVEMBER 9, 1936

*"Melvin Purvis"*

Mr. Nathan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tolson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Baughman	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Coffey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Dawsey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Egan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Foxworth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Harbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Joseph	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Lester	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Quinn	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Schilder	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tamm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

# TIMES WRITER TO DISCUSS 'G-MEN' WITH DE MILLE

By Pat Dennis  
Radio Editor

Melvin Purvis, famous "G-man" whose series on notorious criminals and their capture is running in The Detroit Times, will be heard in an interview with Cecil B. DeMille as a highlight of "Radio Theater" via WJR at 9 p. m. today.

Purvis will tell the inside story of many of his important assignments and also will answer questions concerning the work of the "G-men."

Pat O'Brien, Madge Evans, William Frawley and Allen Jenkins will be heard in a radio version of "Alias Jimmy Valentine."

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

"Melvin Purvis"

- 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. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*Refered*  
*[Signature]*

**PICK OF THE AIR**

8:30 to 10:00 P. m. WBBM-CBS—Lux Radio Theater presents Pat O'Brien in "Alfie Jimmy Valentine," with Madge Evans and William Frawley. Mr. DeMille will interview Melvin Purvis, one of the department of justice's most prominent "G-Men."

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

11-9-36

Introduction by Mr. DeMille:

There is no person that deserves the gratitude of the American people in the relentless war on crime more than Melvin Purvis. Born in South Carolina, he received his LL.B. from South Carolina University. Under 5'9" and weighing scarcely 130 pounds, as head of the Chicago Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation he led this powerful organization against the worst criminals that the United States has ever seen. Such criminals as Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd, "Baby Face" Nelson, and others were brought to justice in his war on crime. Quiet and unassuming, he is now an attorney in San Francisco.

Acknowledgment by Mr. Purvis:

Thank you, Mr. DeMille. I have listened with interest to the story of the life of Jimmie Valentine. Few of his kind are left but I remember one I met while running down a lead on John Dillinger. However, only scorn is left for his kind.

Interview by Mr. DeMille:

- Q. Is it true that during the past several months crime has decreased?
- A. It is true but whatever has been accomplished will be turned into dissatisfaction if the law enforcement officials relax their vigilance now.
- Q. Do you agree, Mr. Purvis, with those who think if America had a law enforcement organization similar to Scotland Yard it would hold crime in greater check?
- A. No, Mr. DeMille. The Yard is nothing more than a metropolitan police force.
- Q. What do you suggest as a means of halting crime?
- A. 1st: To see that youth is properly trained by giving more time and money to this training, and by taking the boys out of "dives."
- 2nd: Modernization and organization of state and local police. Weed out the incompetency and give them better equipment.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

3rd: Our prison system must be improved. Few men emerge without a Ph.D. in crime, and few fail to put this into practice.

4th: The public must cooperate with law enforcement officials at all times. Citizens who pay tribute to racketeering "thugs" only tighten the noose around their necks.

Close of interview, by Mr. Purvis:

And now I wish to thank you, Mr. DeMille, for your courtesy and for the many hours of entertainment provided by the Lux program.

\_\_\_\_\_ XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

"Melvin Purvis"

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

**PURVIS Settles Down TO LAW**

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 15. — (I.N.S.)—Melvin H. Purvis, slim, soft-spoken young southerner who became the ace of J. Edgar Hoover's G-men in drives that ended the careers of John Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd and other outlaws, has settled down to private practice of law in San Francisco. Wild horses, he says, couldn't drag him back to the war on scowling public enemies.

Purvis' home in San Francisco is a studio apartment on Telegraph Hill, from which he can look directly down on Alcatraz Island, the federal prison that houses many of the criminals he caught.

Purvis spent eight and a half years with the federal bureau of investigation. When new laws equipped the G-men with guns and extended their authority against the criminal, Purvis, as head of the Chicago field office, was plunged into the midst of the battle.

The former G-man is 32 years old.

Melvin H. Purvis' sensational book, "American Agent," will start Sunday and continue daily in the Herald and Examiner.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

10-16-36

26

COLUMBIAN BROWN CLASS NO. 808  
PAT. 2,290,083  
THE UNITED STATES ENVELOPE CO., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.  
8 x 11

"Melvin Purvis"

Poster  
by "Cleveland Press"



XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

RECEIVED re: "American Agent"

Announcement that Purvis' articles  
are to appear in the Cleveland  
Press.

emk

(sent in by Cleveland Off.)

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. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Handwritten:* 2-12  
10-17-35  
Purvis  
"Melvin Purvis"

**NOW!**



*Inside Story  
of the G-Men!*

**"AMERICAN AGENT"**

**By MELVIN PURVIS**

*Former Chief G-Man Who Got Dillinger and Other Public Enemies*

**In The  
Cleveland**

**PRESS**

PITTSBURGH SUN TELEGRAPH  
October 16, 1936

- 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

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

—VOTE AMERICAN—

# G-Man Epic Dramatized Tomorrow

You think the life of a G-man is a series of thrilling captures?

If you want the real inside facts of what goes on in the life of our government agents . . . of the way in which they trailed Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd, and many another Public Enemy Number One, listen in to the radio dramatization of "American Agent," the story by Melvin Purvis, once head of the G-men in Chicago, now practicing law in California.

The radio drama, though, will be only an excerpt from the whole story which will run serially in the Pittsburgh Sun-Telegraph, beginning Sunday and continuing daily and Sunday.

Eight stations will carry "American Agent" tomorrow. WFBG, at Altoona—WHJB, Greensburg, will broadcast it at 12:30 p. m. WCAE, Pittsburgh, and Fairmont, W. Va., have a 7:15 air time, while Wheeling, W. Va., airs the drama over WWVA at 7:45. Canton, O., with Station WHBC, is to hear the exploits at 9, with WADC, Akron, scheduling the story at 9:30, and WJAC, Johnstown, at 9:45.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
"Melvin Purvis"

POST OFFICE BOX 1525  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

# PURVIS GIVES DATA ON CRIME

America's citadel of organized crime crumbles under the fierce onslaughts of the nation's "G-men."

Reverberations of the crumbling of this sinister structure resound blow by blow in "American Agent," starting Sunday exclusively in The Examiner.

Written by a master author as well as master detective—Melvin Purvis, famed as the "G-man" who "got" Dillinger—it recounts in hard chiseled prose the dramatic struggle of Uncle Sam's forces against those of organized crime.

Back and forth across a fear-chilled nation, like a scythe of destruction, crimeland's gunmen streaked a bloody swathe of murder and plunder.

"Ma" Barker and her spawn of killers, Dillinger, Pretty Boy Floyd, Baby Face Nelson. Each had his brief hour of plunder and of murder.

But the hour of each was closed by the spat of agents' guns in the greatest sustained man hunts in history.

And in the midst of those relentless campaigns of extermination of public enemies, Melvin Purvis was the storm center.

Now in "American Agent" starting Sunday exclusively in The Examiner—he tells of those exciting and death-ridden ten years.

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. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Miss Gandy

HHe

my

Handwritten initials and signatures over the routing list.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1934

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER

OCT 16 1936

PITTSBURGH SUN TELEGRAPH  
October 16, 1936

"Melvin Purvis"

- 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 .....

# No. 1 G-Man Tells Own Story of Crime War

The true saga of the G-Men, "AMERICAN AGENT," written by the man who is best qualified to tell about their gang-smashing exploits, is told in the thrilling, factual account by Melvin Purvis, who was America's No. 1 G-Man, until he returned to practice law on the West Coast.

"AMERICAN AGENT," Purvis' first story which begins Sunday in the Sun-Telegraph, is an authentic narrative written with brilliant moving style as well as breathless suspense. Chief among the highlights of this startling drama of the government agents in action are the facts about the "affair at Little Bohemia . . ." "the blood-thirsty woman leader of the Barker-Karpis gang . . ." and a full recital of the events that led up to the Kansas City Station massacre. Purvis explains the ways and means, often necessarily painstaking, by which the federal agents caught up with the mobsters, pursuing them from one end of the country to the other, in a relentless pursuit which ended only with the capture of the outlaw. Not even the sudden death of a G-Man interrupted this steady, dogged chase.

Purvis' "American Agent" one of the most important histories of detective work, ever to appear. You will find the first installment of "American Agent"—fully illustrated, Sunday in the Sun-Telegraph.

A combination of fact that is stranger than fiction, with realism in the style he uses, makes Melvin

POST OFFICE BOX 1525  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

XERO.  
JAN 18 1936

"Melvin Purvis"

# PURVIS IN NEW ROLE; REVEALS CRIME SECRETS

Famous Sleuth Will Write  
Drama of U.S. Man-Hunters;  
Starts in Examiner Sunday

Melvin Purvis—the "G-Man" who "got" Dillinger—emerges in a new role.

The master detective who deserted the musty quiet of a South Carolina law office to hound gangland's great for ten years now turns author.

Starting next Sunday in The Examiner, exclusively the famous sleuth will rip open crimeland's secrets.

"American Agent" is the confidential diary of a "G-Man." It tells of the nation-wide and ruthless tracking down of Uncle Sam's enemies. From coast to coast, while guns roared, the chase went on from shadowy gang "hideouts" in great cities to the forest fastnesses of the Ozarks.

Dillinger! Pretty Boy Floyd! Baby Face Nelson! Ma Barker! Their sinister names gripped the nation in fear, but each fell before the irresistible onslaught of Uncle Sam's man-hunters.

As each fell, the last chapter of a sordid life punctuated by the spats of agents' guns, a stirring drama closed. But each drama closed in the shroud of impenetrable mystery. Sworn secrecy sealed the case.

Now for the first time those seals will be ripped open. With bold, deft strokes Melvin Purvis paints in true colors the electrifying drama of the "G-Men" struggles against forces of organized crime.

Read of this real-life drama—written by the generalissimo of Uncle Sam's forces—starting next Sunday in The Examiner.

- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Baughman ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Dawson ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Foxworth ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Harbo ✓
- Mr. Joseph ✓
- Mr. Lester ✓
- Mr. Quinn ✓
- Mr. Schilder ✓
- Mr. Tamm ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

RECEIVED

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER

OCT 13 1936

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	✓

WESTERN UNION

NOV 13 1936

WM12 7 XU

RF NEWYORK NY NOV 13 955P

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

US DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

IS MEL <sup>D</sup>PURVIS MARRIED PLEASE ANSWER IMMEDIATELY

WALTER WINCHELL.

1013PM

R12BI

.....0

*no action*  
*11/14*

*adv. Mr. Tolson*  
*R11-13*

*67-7489-497*

XEROX

JAN 18 1984

*2*  
*X*  
*est*

WRG:JAS

114 498

November 25, 1936.

Mr. C. H. Pearson,  
Heffelfinger Publications,  
101 Cedar Street,  
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Pearson:

I have your communication dated November 23, 1936, concerning the whereabouts of Mr. Melvin Purvis. I regret to advise you that at the present time the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, does not have any information as to where he may be located.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

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



XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

K

# HEFFELFINGER PUBLICATIONS

101 CEDAR STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

PUBLISHERS OF  
HEFFELFINGER'S FOOTBALL FACTS  
BERNIE BIERMAN'S FOOTBALL BOOK FOR BOYS

MAIN OFFICE  
924 SECOND AVENUE SOUTH  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

November 23, 1936

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am interested in locating the whereabouts  
of Mr. Melvin Purvis, as I would like to see him on  
a personal matter.

Any information you can offer will be greatly  
appreciated.

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation,  
I am

Yours respectfully,

*[Handwritten signature]*  
C. H. Pearson

CHP:AMY

67-7489-498

*Ack - letter  
11-24-36*

NOV 28 1936

*wife*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

"Melvin Purvis"

- 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 .....

JP  
RW

PLEASE RETURN TO  
DIVISION OF  
PRESS INTELLIGENCE  
2067 Commerce Bldg.

NO.

SYMBOL / J

Press-Scimitar  
Memphis, Tenn.

DATE NOV 11 1936

### 'I'm Sorry,' Says Purvis

Melvin G. Purvis, the former No. 1 G-man, and not afraid of anything—Melvin G. Purvis backed down today. He retreated rapidly. He fell back in disorder. He admitted he was wrong. He is going to say so over the CBS network.

In a broadcast Monday night Mr. Purvis said Memphis had 1630 murders last year. Immediately there were protests. Commissioner Davis called the Columbia Broadcasting System and complained. Memphis had only 103 murders last year.

brought on your inquiry are sincerely regretted and it is my honest desire that Memphis accept my assurance that the inadvertance which caused this should in no way be considered a desire on my part to do Memphis an injustice. Understand from your wire that the correct figure is 103 murders. In accordance with your request this is the figure to be used in the next broadcast of the same program at the same hour next Monday night. Be assured of my sincere high regard for the City of Memphis and please accept my sincere best wishes.

"MELVIN PURVIS."

Today Mayor Overton and Commissioner Davis received from Mr. Purvis in Los Angeles, the following telegram:

"The city accepts Mr. Purvis' apology," Commissioner Davis said.

The circumstances which

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

OFFICE OF  
CLIFFORD DAVIS  
VICE-MAYOR

AND COMMISSIONER OF FIRE AND POLICE



*Jolson*

**COMMISSION GOVERNMENT**

**Memphis, Tenn.**  
November 21, 1936.

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Director:

On a National Broadcast program on the 9th of this month, an old acquaintance, Melvin Purvis, made the ridiculous statement that Memphis had 1630 murders in 1935. By the old system we had one hundred and three. Under the standard of listing illegal homicides we had but eighty.

I immediately talked to Cecil De Mille by phone, wired the President of the Columbia Broadcasting Company and Mr. Purvis, asking a correction. The day following I received a telegram of apology from Mr. Purvis. A correction was made, on the following Monday, not by Purvis but in a simple statement, not as full and as gracious as I had expected.

You can readily see that an injustice was done my Community which cannot easily or readily be remedied. So it was that I called your office for your authoritative statistics.

We made no reference to your Bureau and its release, yet I was certainly tempted to do so in so far as this party is today still enjoying the publicity as a former agent of the Department.

Very sincerely yours,

*Cliff Davis*  
COMMISSIONER.

67-7489-499

XEROX  
JAN 18 1937

*Ch. M. White*

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*Phy*  
*W.S.*

EC-7-2180

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

PERSONNEL RECORD

Name Melvin Horace Purvis, Jr. DEC 1929  
Place of birth Timmonsville, S.C.  
Date of birth October 24, 1903  
Nationality American

Height 5ft. 9ins. Build Medium  
Weight 138 Comp. Fair  
Eyes Brown Hair Brown  
Scars and marks None

Remarks



RENSELER'S 655 & 225 VINE ST CIN. O.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

LEAVE THIS SPACE BLANK

Name Melvin Horace Purvis, Jr.

Class. 032 W TIO 18

Color White Sex Male

Ref. 032 W OMM

RIGHT HAND

1. Thumb	2. Index Finger	3. Middle Finger	4. Ring Finger	5. Little Finger
				

LEFT HAND

6. Thumb	7. Index Finger	8. Middle Finger	9. Ring Finger	10. Little Finger
				

Classified off Assembled \_\_\_\_\_

Searched \_\_\_\_\_ Verified \_\_\_\_\_

Index Card \_\_\_\_\_ Answered \_\_\_\_\_

Note Amputations

Employee's Signature

Melvin H. Purvis, Jr.

Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Four Fingers Taken Simultaneously

Left Hand

L. Thumb

R. Thumb

Right Hand



WRC:WHA  
67-7489-500

December 29, 1936.

Mrs. Carolyn H. Oliver,  
2268 Cathedral Avenue, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Oliver:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated December 23, 1936, wherein you inquire relative to Mr. Melvin Purvis. In this connection, you are advised that the present whereabouts of Mr. Purvis is unknown to this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

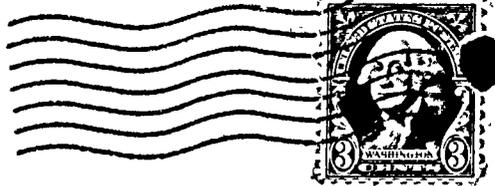
John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

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	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

1/1

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

4



Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.



LEWIS HOTEL TRAINING SCHOOLS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dec. 23 - 36.

RECEPTION ROOM

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

I am very anxious to  
get in touch with Melvin  
Purris.

Will you, if possible  
give me this information?  
I've known his mother,  
have lost track of them.

You can reach me  
at 2768 Cathedral Av. N.W.  
telephone Cal. 4659 & after  
School hours.

JAN 4 - 1937

67-7489-518

INVESTIGATION  
(mo)

DEC 23 1936 A.M.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Sincerely  
Carolyn H. Oliver

Dec 23/36  
MCK

Routed	g	Indexed	.....
Searched	g	Recorded	.....
Numbered		Checked	.....
Serialized	g	Filed	.....

not

"Melvin Purvis"

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Gandy	

*EW*

### Purvis, G-Man Ace, Accused of Speeding

By United Press  
SAN JOSE, Nov. 25.—Melvin Purvis, G-man ace in the drive against the nation's bad men, has been arrested for speeding by Traffic Officer Tony Russo, it was revealed today. Purvis might get a place from the fact that, included among Russo's arrests on similar charges in the past, are the Duncan sisters and a long list of movie stars.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

"Melvin Purvis"

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Downs
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

### G-Man Caught



Melvin Purvis, former ace G-Man, has been arrested for speeding at San Jose, it was revealed today. He was caught by Traffic Policeman Tony Russo, whose record book also contains the names of the Duncan Sisters and many fast-driving movie stars. *Wash. News* 1/25

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

EAT:TMF

501

December 4, 1936.

Mr. H. J. McDermott,  
Chief of Police,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

Dear Chief McDermott:

I have received your letter of November 28, 1936, pertaining to the capture of Charles A. Floyd on October 22, 1934 and was surprised to learn of the promises made to you by Mr. Purvis. You are no doubt aware of the fact that Mr. Purvis is no longer connected in any capacity with this Bureau and I desire to assure you that I never before heard of the statements and promises which you advise Mr. Purvis made to you. Certainly he had no authority to promise to furnish you with copies of investigative reports since Federal Statutes and Departmental regulations provide that the investigative reports of Agents of this Bureau are of a confidential nature and cannot be furnished to any person not directly concerned with the prosecution of a Federal case. The law will not permit the furnishing to any person of property seized upon a person sought for violation of a Federal law. For your information, the two .45 calibre pistols taken from Floyd at the time of his apprehension are presently impounded, awaiting the disposition of the charges preferred in the State Courts of Missouri against Adam Richetti, companion of Pretty Boy Floyd, upon charges of murder. These pistols are being maintained in the custody of the Agent in Charge of the Bureau's Kansas City Field Division, awaiting disposition of the appeal of Adam Richetti. I am advised that a period of approximately two years may elapse before Richetti's appeal is completely perfected.

I desire to advise you that I sincerely regret the representations made to you by Mr. Purvis and to again assure you that these promises if made as outlined by you, were made without any authority on the part of Mr. Purvis.

You may be assured that it is my desire to cooperate with you and all other law enforcement officers at all times in matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

— XHP Y  
JAN 18 1937

## CITY OF EAST LIVERPOOL

O. EARL GREENAWALT, MAYOR

East Liverpool, Ohio.

Nov. 28, 1936.

Mr. Edgar H. Hoover, chief,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

For 33 years I have been engaged in police work, and on numerous occasions associated with members of the secret service and federal bureau of investigation, whom I hold in high esteem. I am a great lover of both departments, always cooperating in the numerous cases involving the city of East Liverppol, and receiving the same courtesy in return.

However, in regard to the killing of Charles A. (Pretty Boy) Floyd here Oct. 22, 1934, there are a few facts about which I wish to inform you, since I have been unable to obtain any satisfaction from Mr. Melvin Purvis, formerly of the Chicago area, who, as you are aware, was a member of the posse.

There are two things, principally, which were promised me by Purvis, neither of which has been done. The first is that I was to receive a copy, or similar information, of his report to you on the Floyd case, and second, that I would be given at least one of the two .45 caliber automatics the fugitive had in his possession when shot down.

I would appreciate very much receiving his report on the case in question, and if you do not wish to part with both guns, I would prefer having the one that was partly rusted, since it is the one he had in his hand when he fell.

I am enclosing a key which was found in Floyd's clothes, which you may be able to trace to a strongbox or some other lock, possibly at Buffalo, N.Y., or some of his other haunts. I the event you do not find the lock it fits, it would like to have it back.

In order that you may know I am justified in making these two requests for the Purvis report and Floyd's gun, I will reconstruct briefly what took place at the time he was captured.

DEC 30 1936

67-7012-521

A detail of East Liverpool police, headed by myself, were combing the countryside near here for Floyd after Adam Richetti, his pal, had been caught. We met Mr. Purvis and his men on a lonely country road, and after driving around awhile, we finally turned down a lane leading to a farmhouse.

As we neared a corner on the place, I saw a man hiding at the rear, and he refused a command to come out. I then hailed Mr. Purvis and his men who had been following us, and as they alighted, the man started to run across a field toward the woods, I then ordered the men to shoot.

When we ran up, Floyd was still living and we snapped on the handcuffs. He asked: "Who tipped you off--where's Richetti-- they got me." I sent Mr. Purvis to a farmhouse to call an ambulance, and by the time he returned Floyd was dead. I asked him if he had called the ambulance and he said "no", that he had called the "big boss" in Washington--meaning you, Mr. Hoover.

On the way back to town I wanted to take the handcuffs off the dead man, but Mr. Purvis objected. We also had an understanding that I was to recount the details of the capture to the press and others who might inquire. It was not long, however, until the newspapers came out with conflicting stories from Mr. Purvis.

Mr. Purvis said at that time he was taking Floyd's revolvers so that he could show them to you, and would let me have at least one of them back. I have never received the gun or his report, and would appreciate very much any consideration you may give my requests.

Yours very truly,

H. J. McDermott.

-----  
Chief of Police.

January 16, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

On the night of Thursday, January 14, 1937, I made a talk before the Junior Women's Club of Maplewood, New Jersey. There were approximately one hundred present and the meeting was held immediately following the business session of the club in the Women's Club Building in Maplewood. The members of this club are a part of the group before whom the Director is scheduled to make a talk in March.

I found the audience to be rather enthusiastic and intensely interested in the work of the Bureau. After I talked to them for about forty-five minutes, they asked questions for approximately thirty minutes. The Program Chairman, who was in charge of the meeting, was Miss Charlotte S. Craig.

At the home of Miss Craig, where I first called, her young gentleman friend, Mr. Frank Elmer Delano, advised that he was associated with the Young-Rubicon Company, 235 Madison Avenue, New York City, which, he stated, was the largest advertising agency in the United States, even larger than Lord and Thomas, and he further advised that their concern handled a large number of radio programs, including Fred Allen, Jack Benny, Burns and Allen, and many other accounts of this type. Mr. Delano informed me that it was his concern that signed up former Special Agent in Charge Melvin H. Purvis for the Post Toasties and Dodge advertisements. I attempted to find out how much money was involved in the contract and told Mr. Delano that I had heard from an unauthorized source that it amounted to a sum of approximately fifty thousand dollars, and he stated that he knew this would be incorrect because Dizzy Dean got \$17,500 and Joe E. Brown \$11,000 for a similar series with General Foods. He stated, however, that the "Junior G-Man" series of advertisements had exceeded in popularity any of the others and that the Melvin Purvis "Junior G-Man Club" now consisted of an enrollment of 260,000 boys in the United States and was still growing, in spite of the fact that the series of advertisements had stopped. He stated that the next series of this type was "Buck Jones."

Mr. Delano inquired concerning the Bureau's attitude towards such advertisements and I pointed out to him that it was considered very unethical for anyone to commercialize on their work, because it served the purpose of instilling fear into the minds of individuals who might be inclined to give confidential information about crime but would be deterred

the Bureau because

67-7489-502

23  
m19

RECEIVED

JAN 18 1937

guy

Memorandum for the Director.

- 2 -

January 16, 1937.

they might fear that the employee with whom they talked would subsequently write up a story about the situation. Mr. Delane stated he could understand that viewpoint and advised that he would be pleased to be of any service possible to the Bureau.

Respectfully,

H. E. Clegg

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Feb. 11, 1937

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Cowley	✓
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 notes:*  
R4  
T D  
A J  
W

The stores are now carrying a new game called "Melvin Purvis' G-Men Detective Game". The game is played on a board similar to that used for parcheesi, and on the top of the board is a rather large picture of Mr. Purvis with the words "Former ACE of the Department of Justice".

The Game sells for \$1.50, and is put out by Parker Brothers, a large concern which also puts out Parcheesi and Monopoly.

enk

67-7489-503

FEB 19 1937

XERO  
JAN 18 1984

HM

CT:ACS

February 17, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

Mr. Edwin Talbot Thayer, home address - 150 Fifth Avenue, San Francisco, California, called to see me by reference from your office on February 16th. Mr. Thayer left with me the attached circular with respect to the objectives of the National Crime Prevention Institute, 425 Fourth Avenue, New York City. He stated that since the death of Mr. Rowland C. Sheldon, Executive Director of the Institute, Professor Frederic M. Thrasher of New York University, has taken charge of the continuation of the Institute, which is financed entirely by contributions from citizens. The attached file (62-38776) reflects certain inquiries made with respect to the nature and scope of the National Crime Prevention Institute by the New York Division.

I was very unfavorably impressed by Mr. Thayer, who does not appear to have any practical experience in crime matters and who was unable to indicate to me any plans for the development of the Institute along practical lines.

Mr. Thayer stated the purpose of his visit was in the hope that you would write a letter approving the proposed objectives of the Institute and I feel that this letter is desired solely for the purpose of encouraging contributions to the Institute on the part of private citizens and also to possibly assist the Institute in securing support from the Rockefeller or similar Foundations.

I told Mr. Thayer that when an opportunity presented itself, I would call this matter to your attention. I recommend against the furnishing of such a communication and have prepared a short note to Mr. Thayer for my own signature in acknowledgment of his visit.

Mr. Thayer showed me a comprehensive two-page letter addressed to him by Mr. Melvin Purvis, former agent, endorsing the Institute. He apparently is tied in rather closely with Purvis in San Francisco.

Mr. Thayer mentioned that on Saturday morning Howard Gill will present a radio program over the Columbia Broadcasting system dealing with the work of the Institute with particular reference to the matter of juvenile delinquency. He thought we might be interested in hearing this program. Mr. Thayer also requested that he be placed on the mailing list of the Bureau at his San Francisco home address. It is suggested that his name be placed on the mailing list to receive crime bulletins only.

Respectfully,

MAR 2 - 1937  
Clyde Tolson.

XERO.  
JAN 18 1984

504  
NICHOLS

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

TDQ:RCL

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

March 10, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

Mr. Suydam telephoned and stated that inquiry had been made of him as to whether Melvin Purvis was in the City of Washington. He stated that a report from San Francisco indicated that he was in this city and he wanted to know if we had any information about him.

I informed Mr. Suydam that we did not have any information concerning him and that I doubted seriously whether, if he were in the city, he would contact the Bureau.

Respectfully,



T. D. Quinn.

MAR 12 1937

67-9-1-505  
XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

- H  
 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 .....

# Mel Purvis Captured by Cupid; Weds Queen of Models April 20



**MELVIN PURVIS**  
*Crime Foe Engaged*

## Ex-Ace of G-Men and Janice Jarrett to Marry on Coast

Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man and nemesis of the nation's gangsters, has been bowled over and captured by the "Lucky Strike Girl," Janice Jarrett, the country's most famous advertising model.

Purvis and Miss Jarrett will be married April 20 in Los Angeles, Calif., it was learned here yesterday.

### "Most Typical Girl"

Janice Jarrett's dark beauty has mowed down the popular expert on crime as effectively as his machine guns laid low our public enemies, among whom were John Dillinger.

Miss Jarrett for two successive years has been declared the country's most typical American girl at New York's Annual Exhibition of Advertising Art, and her billboard smile has lured countless millions into bigger and better buying from coast to coast.

### Purvis a Lawyer

Since his resignation from the Department of Justice in July, 1935, Purvis has been admitted to the California bar and is now practicing law in San Francisco, Calif. He has written innumerable newspaper articles and is the author of "American Agent," a story of his experiences in the war on crime.

Purvis is through with crime and criminals and is devoting his talents to civil law.



**JANICE JARRETT**  
*"Typical American Girl"*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

- 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. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Nease .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*My*

**'Lucky Strike' for Purvis**



Melvin Purvis, former G-man and gangster-catcher, has been nabbed by the "Lucky Strike Girl," Janice Jarrett, the nation's best-known advertising model, it was reported today. Purvis and Miss Jarrett were said to be planning to wed April 20 in Los Angeles. Purvis is now practicing law in San Francisco.

WASH. NEWS

JAN 10 1937

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

B. E. JOSEPH

# Melvin Purvis to Tell of Dillinger Raid on Woman's Magazine Bill

By Ray De O'Fan

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

A story which Melvin Purvis unfolded in The Examiner a few months ago will be retold today by the former ace G-man during NBC's Woman's Magazine through KFI at 3 p. m.

Now a practicing attorney in San Francisco, Purvis has appeared infrequently on the air. Today, however, he tells of the raid upon the northern Wisconsin hideout of Baby Face Nelson and John Dillinger.

In addition to this the Magazine will present its usual features.

Don't blame us for the failure of Bob Parrish to appear on the Eddie Cantor show. Publicity releases stated definitely the young Negro, once heard with Major Bowes, would sing. I am told he even rehearsed with the orchestra as late as Sunday afternoon. Those connected with the Cantor program say Parrish was ill and will be presented at a later date.

\* \* \*

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

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
FEB 23 1937

# Purvis to Speak at Bar Gathering

"Reversion to Gangdom" will be the subject of a speech tonight by Melvin Purvis, former ace of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, at the annual meeting and installation of officers of the Los Angeles Bar Association in the University Club.

Attorney Loyd Wright, for the past eight years a member of the association's board of trustees, will be installed as president.

- 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 .....

*M*  
*JOS*

ZERO  
JAN 18 1984  
LOS ANGELES TIMES  
FEB 25 1937

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
 Los Angeles, California  
 March 18, 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 .....	
.....	
.....	

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. John Edgar Hoover  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 Washington, D. C.

Re: Melvin H. Purvis

Dear Mr. Hoover:

At the Sheriffs' Convention which I addressed in Sacramento, California, recently, six or seven of the members of the Sheriffs' Association of California made inquiries concerning Melvin H. Purvis, a former Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau.

I informed them in no uncertain terms that he was no longer connected with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and that any books authored by him, or advertisement sponsored by him, positively did not have any authorization from you, the Federal Bureau of Investigation or the Department of Justice. These men stated that they were glad to hear this expression from me because there was a general impression to the effect that Purvis' book entitled "American Agent" was authorized by the Bureau and the Department since peace officers did not dream that he would dare publish such a book without the authorization of the Bureau and the Department. I tactfully suggested to certain members of the Association, whom I knew to be friendly to the Bureau, that they could quote me to the above effect.

While talking before the student body of Southwestern University, law and accounting schools, a question was asked concerning Purvis. I stated that I did not know positively what his present occupation was but that I understood he was engaged in advertising Post Toasties and that it required two Post Toasties box tops to join his present "secret" organization for youngsters, whereas it formerly required only one, so I surmised that he had been promoted!

I pointed out to this group and to the Sheriffs and peace officers mentioned in the paragraph above that Purvis was "trading" on the Bureau and that certain cases which he claimed credit for handling were actually in charge of the late Inspector Samuel Cowley. I also pointed out that Purvis' book was in reality a "re-hash" of Courtney Riley Cooper's "Ten Thousand Public Enemies".

MAR 25 1937

67-1457-506  
 XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

Mr. Hoover.

-2-

3/18/37

While talking with Chief of Police Charles Kelly at Pasadena, California, during a courtesy call paid him, he made an inquiry concerning Purvis and I proceeded to "debunk" Purvis. He stated that he had always felt certain that Purvis was attempting to "trade" on the Bureau but was astounded to learn that Purvis would dare to publish a book such as he did without the specific authorization of the Bureau and the Department. Chief Kelly stated that he was president of the Los Angeles County Peace Officers' Association and that he would make a special point to inform its members thoroughly concerning Purvis' "fourflushing" in view of the fact that many peace officers in Los Angeles County were under the impression that Purvis' book was specifically authorized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice.

Chief Kelly stated that Mr. Buron Fitts, prosecuting attorney of Los Angeles County, had attempted to secure Purvis' services for Fitts' investigative staff. Chief Kelly stated further that upon this occasion he had advised against Purvis' being offered this position since he had always felt that there was a "nigger in the woodpile" and that Purvis was attempting to cash in on his former affiliation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I informed Chief Kelly that he was at liberty to quote me to the above effect and thanked him for his continued interest in the Bureau. The other matters discussed by us on the occasion of my courtesy call on Chief Kelly will be made the subject of a separate communication to you under even date.

I have discussed this matter thoroughly with Special Agent in Charge Hanson of the Los Angeles office and with Special Agent in Charge Listerman of the San Francisco office and have instructed them that, although they are not to bring up the subject of Purvis or his activities in any speeches that they give, if the question is asked by any member of the audience or by any interested person in conversation with them, they are to make the facts in the case known, as outlined above.

Sincerely yours,

*W. H. A. Lester*

W. H. Drane Lester  
Inspector

WHDL/EL

Washington Daily News  
March 10, 1937

*HAS*

*My*

*50*

- 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.....✓

### 'Lucky Strike' for Purvis



Melvin Purvis, former G-man and gangster-catcher, has been nabbed by the "Lucky Strike Girl," Janice Jarrett, the nation's best-known advertising model, it was reported today. Purvis and Miss Jarrett were said to be planning to wed April 20 in Los Angeles. Purvis is now practicing law in San Francisco.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

TDQ:RCL

May 5, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON.

Mr. Chamberlain of the Income Tax Unit of the Internal Revenue telephoned and wanted to know if we had a forwarding address on former Agent Melvin Purvis. He stated that they were trying to locate Purvis in an effort to ascertain whether he filed his income tax for the year of 1934 and, if so, where.

I informed Mr. Chamberlain that we had no information as to his whereabouts, but that the last time we heard of him he was sponsoring various breakfast foods and that possibly the General Foods Corporation could give him some information as to where he could be located.

Mr. Chamberlain stated that apparently they were not the only ones trying to locate him inasmuch as the papers indicated that the reporters would like to interview him. Mr. Chamberlain stated that he would send the inquiry to South Carolina in an effort to locate some of Purvis' relatives to see if this matter could not be cleared up.

Respectfully,

  
T. D. Quinn.

67-7489-507

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

04

- 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

## New Film Expert on Crime Is Former G-Man Purvis

Man Who Got Dillinger Is Expected to Be Technical  
Adviser on Movie, "Dead End"; Greta  
Garbo Likes Clark Gable

HOLLYWOOD, March 29.—Melvin Purvis, former chief of the nation's G-men, is talking contract with Producer Samuel Goldwyn. Goldwyn wants Mr. Purvis as technical adviser and also appear in "Dead End," the story of a boy who grew up on New York's water front, becomes a gangster and is killed by G-men. Mr. Purvis, a San Francisco attorney, will probably accept Goldwyn's offer.

Alice Fay today signed a new long-term contract with 20th Century-Fox. Her first picture under the new deal will be "Last Year's Kisses," in which she will be co-starred with Rubinoff and the Ritz Brothers.



Irene Dunne's next film for R. K. O. will be "The Joy of Living." Dorothy and Herbert Fields and Jerome Cowan are writing the music, lyrics and the screen play. Goddess Greta Garbo went like a carpenter's ruler when Clark Gable walked on her. "Madame Walewska" set to talk hunting with Director Clarence Brown. Turning garrulous, the Swedish sphinx chatted half an hour with the great lover, and as he left, coyly hinted he must come and see her often. Barbara Stanwyck is latest to fall for the trailer dressing room fad. Marsha Hunt still strutting with James Dunn. Robert Cummings will build a ranch house on 25 suburban acres he just purchased. Soon as he finishes editing "Parnell," allegedly Irish picture, Director John M. Stahl will vacation in Ireland. Probably he needs a change from Clark Gable's midwestern accent.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

# Purvis, Ex-Chief of G-Men, Likely to Act Real-Life Role In Film Version of 'Dead End'

By LOUELLA O. PARSONS,  
Motion Picture Editor, Entertainment Section

LOS ANGELES, March 25. — Melvin Purvis, G-Man specialist, may turn actor, writer and technical adviser in one fell swoop. The Samuel Goldwyn Company is doing its best to try and convince the man who trapped Dillinger that "Dead End" is perfect for his screen debut. Purvis, we understand, is all but sold on this picture which deals with a group of boys in a New York slum, one of whom grows up to be a G-Man, while his pal becomes a gangster.

Even if the acting contract doesn't materialize, there is a strong possibility that Purvis will become technical adviser for "Dead End" and assist Lillian Hellman in preparing the screen play. Who better than Purvis could select the actors to play G-Men and advise the director on how man hunts are conducted. The former chief of Federal investigators, who now has a law practice in San Francisco, is expected to marry Janice Jarrett, March 29.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Doughman
- 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 AMERICAN  
Forwarded by New York Office  
MAR 26 1937

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

THE MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, MARCH 27, 1937

# Purvis Slated for Three-Way Movie Job Former G-Man May Act, Direct and Write in Film

By LOUELLA O. PARSONS.

Hollywood, March 26.  
**MELVIN PURVIS**, G-man specialist, may turn actor, writer and technical adviser in one fell swoop. The Samuel Goldwyn company is doing its best to try and convince the man who trapped Dillinger that "Dead End" is perfect for his screen debut. Purvis, we understand, is all but sold on this picture which deals with a group of boys in a New York slum, one of whom grows up to be a G-man while his pal becomes a gangster. Even if the acting contract doesn't materialize, there is a strong possibility that Purvis will become technical adviser for "Dead End" and assist Lillian Hellman in preparing the screen play. Who better than Purvis could select the actors to play G-men and advise the director on how manhunts are conducted. The former chief of federal investigator, who now has a law practice in San Francisco, is expected to marry Janice Jarrett March 29.

- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Baughman ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Dawsey ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Foxworth ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Mr. Carson ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Gurnea ✓
- Mr. Hendon ✓
- Mr. Lester ✓
- Mr. Quinn ✓
- Mr. Nease ✓
- Mr. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984 ✓

THE KANSAS CITY TIMES KANSAS CITY MISSOURI MARCH 31, 1937.  
FROM THE KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION OFFICE DWIGHT BRANTLEY SAC.

- 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. Sch.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*Handwritten initials and signature*

Melvin Purvis to the Movies.

The announcement that Melvin Purvis, once the ace of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is to turn to the motion pictures, may well come as an anticlimax to many a hero-worshipping small boy.

It is going to be hard for young Americans to envisage the grim nemesis of Dillinger, "Baby Face" Nelson and "Pretty Boy" Floyd breathing sighs into the ear of some Hollywood cutie. The thought that the type-perfect "G-man," who once faced the rattle of gangsters' machine guns, has substituted the soft clicking of the cameras, somehow lacks inspiration.

To paraphrase one boy's famous plaint, "Say it, ain't so, Mel."

NO

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

# Jarratt-Purvis Bridal Suddenly Called Off

## Wedding Postponed After Quarrel in Hotel Lobby

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., April 26 (U.P.).—The engagement of Janice Jarratt, motion picture actress, and Melvin Purvis, former G-man, was broken off tonight after the pair had an argument in a hotel lobby.

Miss Jarratt's mother announced that the wedding, set for April 29, had been postponed indefinitely.

Tonight Miss Jarratt reportedly was en route with members of her family to the ranch of friends near Victoria, Tex.

### Kept Him Waiting.

The argument was believed to have started when Miss Jarratt kept Purvis waiting and Purvis resented it. Miss Jarratt left the hotel after the squabble and, waving nonchalantly to a group of friends, said:

"I'll see you later."

Purvis stalked back to his room and started packing his baggage. He left through a secluded exit, avoiding reporters.

Later it was learned that he had made reservations to entrain for the West Coast at 3:20 a. m.

First indication that there had been a break between the nation's former ace G-man and the "sweetheart of the Texas centennial" came when Miss Jarratt failed to attend a pre-nuptial party given in her honor.

They were to have been married Thursday night in St. Mark's Episcopal Church. It was estimated that more than 3,000 invitations had been issued for the affair.

### Dinner Dance Off

Purvis came here from San Francisco to aid Miss Jarratt in final preparations for the marriage. They attended innumerable social functions together during the Fiesta de San Jacinto.

A dinner dance was to be given for the couple by Dr. James Nixon tonight. It was called off at the last moment.

Well edited, well distributed, the Washington Herald, Washington's Home Newspaper, is read in more than 70,000 homes in city and suburbs every day and in more than 105,000 on Sunday.



JANICE JARRATT  
Her G-Man Romance Ends

- 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

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812

Chicago, Illinois

May 18, 1937

*W. H. R. S.*

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	.....

Personal and Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir

I desire to advise that the writer learned that Mr. Melvin H. Purvis was in Chicago on May 15, 1937, en route to New York City. It is understood that he plans to sail for Europe on the Normandy in the near future. It was thought the Bureau might be interested in this information.

Very truly yours

DML:IJM

*D. M. Ladd*  
D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

67-7489-508

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
MAY 20 1937 A. M.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON  
LESTER  
RESEARCH  
FILE

MAY 21 1937

ROUTED TO AERON

SEARCHED..... INDEXED.....  
SERIALIZED..... FILED.....  
JAN 18 1984

NEWS-WEEK

March 27, 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. Schuder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

ENGAGED: *Melvin Purvis*, retired ex-G-man who led the band that killed John Dillinger and who now practices



Janice Jarratt, ex-G-man's fiancée  
lay in San Francisco, and Janice Jarratt, blond actress and model.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984



It's twins over at the L. Gilchrist's at Physician's Hosp., Jackson Hghts. . . Frances Faye gets goose pimples everytime Ronald King comes within a mile of her. . . D. Mattos Behring, Brazilian coffee man and Eileen Wenzel, who was to have been his frau, have definilly iceed. . . Ruby Newman actually read this on a Broadway delicatessen menu: "Chopped Herring—Coronation style—15c"—heheheh. . . Are the Roddie Wanamakers preparing a flash? . . . All the razz stuff about Sam Goldwyn in the Satevee's articles on him by Alva Johnston were given to the biogger by Goldwyn himself, according to his chums. . . Schulberg, they'd have you believe, will be next prexy at Universal. . . Winnie Sheehan, rumored set for Paramount, says nope.

They say Garbo and Dietrich flicks haven't made a quarter profit in the U. S., in years. That they are kept merely for the foreign grosses. They click in the big cities here, but perish in the small communities. . . George Jean Nathan and what other New York critic went to W. R. Hearst's birthday (circus costume) party disguised as Broadway Critics? . . . You could tell what they represented by their shiny tux pants. . . One wore a red shirt. . . Larry Adler's word-coinage for strip-teasers: "The Art of Wriggletto". . . Mildred Luber, manager of Reri from the islands, and a screen writer, is divorcing her Holland-Dutch groom. They were glued for 4 years.

For years a success goes up until he reaches the top—and then his taxes keep on going up. . . Belle Baker put Benny Fields in his place for cussing a customer in a Boston spot. . . It's a boy over at the H. Tardys of the Prosecutor Dewey staff. . . Katherine Mayfield of "New Faces," and Pat Halloran, author of "Mulatto" are secretly sealed. . . Arthur Folwell, Sun drama ed of the H-Trib, is back at his desk after a severe flu attack for which hurray! . . . Wright Ludington, of the aviation biz, and Tala Birell have a lot in common, and there's nothing commoner than that. . . Billy LaHiff's Girl Friday, Virginia Burns, has a new 52nd St. spot adjacent Club 18. . . Aside to Bill Farnsworth: Yes, but that guy is still on the lam from his wife and kid, who is gravely ill. What kind of a papa is that?

George Murphy, Lackawanna choo-choo execola, and Eileen O'Mara, whose sis was an Olympic swim champ, will shout their betrothal to the world on the 15th. . . Orchids, orchids and orchids, but lots, to Jay Faggen of the Harlem Uproar House for doing what I've hoped others would do for ten years! . . . He jailed an imposter who signed the name Harry Grant to a check for \$5.90—after refusing to pay the bill and threatening to "have the joint run out of town, as I'm one of Winchell's men!" The grifter! . . . We never heard of him, and he doesn't work for us, nor is he one of my acquaintances! . . . And another thing: Even if I had anyone working for me—it doesn't mean that they can threaten anybody or dine on anyone's cuff! . . . McClelland Barclay and Virginia Moore, one of our exclusive romances, betrothals and soon marriages will blend on Aug. 1. . . Will Jed Kiley be best man or one of them at the Duke of W.'s merger to Wallis Simpson? . . . Margie French, John Jacob Astor's sis-in-law, and J. Wilkin will marry in a month. He was mentioned in her divorce from Fritz Zarbimzzy, whoever he is. . . Margie Kasper, a Powers model, and one of the Whitney nevvies are Red Hot and Whew! . . . Town and Country's incoming mail girl (Olga Kandler) is betrothed to that magazine's outgoing mail man (George Douglas)! . . . Isn't a Wall Streeter named Untermeyer a backer (besides Ben Smith) of Merrill's \$10,000 Coronation plane? . . . Be nice to your mother, if you're lucky enough to have one on Mother's Day. . . After fall, she's been nice to you every day of your life.

Boston Inc. Transcript

5-1-37.

**Pictures and Personalities**

Melvin Purvis, ex-G-man, has been asked by Samuel Goldwyn to play the chief Federal detective role in "Dead End" and also to act as technical adviser on the scenes showing the ambush of a public enemy. The screen version parallels the melodramatic end of John Dillinger in Chicago, which Purvis is credited with engineering.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Laughlin	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Dawley	.....
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 initials and scribbles*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

G-MAN N. G. TO FIANCEE



JANICE JARRATT AND MELVIN PURVIS AT THEIR ENGAGEMENT

SAN ANTONIO, April 27 (UP).—Melvin Purvis, the former G-man who "got his man," went West to

In Cereal Form

Melvin Horace Purvis, Jr., now gets along without the Horace or the Junior, but is still "Little Mel" around his pappy's 2,000-acre tobacco plantation; still has that South-Calina drawl, likes his grits fried with pork on the side. This traditional dish competes with Post Toasties (which he indorses) for his breakfast favor.

Despite these starches, he keeps weight down to 130 pounds; hardens it on horse-back; keeps in voice by cheering at baseball and football games; keeps his eye in at pistol practice. Collects guns and antiques; goes to theatre regularly. Suffers from nose and throat trouble.

day without his woman, the beau-

tiful Janice Jarratt, to whom he had been betrothed.

There were sharp words in a hotel lobby last night. Purvis, who captured John Dillinger, stamped away; Miss Jarratt tripped out nonchalantly, waving farewell to companions; and the bride-elect's mother announced that the wedding, which had been scheduled for Thursday, was postponed indefinitely.

Cause of the dispute was said to have been that Miss Jarratt kept Purvis waiting in the lobby. As a prelude, the sweetheart of the Texas Centennial, who has signed a contract in Hollywood, was said to have ignored a pre-nuptial party in her honor.

An estimated 3,000 invitations had been mailed for the wedding.

Miss Jarratt, former model, left with friends last night for Victoria, Tex., to be guest at a ranch. She is blue-eyed, blonde and once was referred to as the most photographed girl in the world.

Handwritten initials and scribbles in the top right corner.

Handwritten initials and scribbles in the middle right area.

- 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. N. G. ✓
- Mr. Quinn ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

New York Post  
APR 27 1937

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984  
R. E. JOSEPH

Post Office Box 812,  
Chicago, Illinois.

June 1, 1937

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

On the evening of May 30, 1937, the writer attended the annual banquet of the Wisconsin Junior Chamber of Commerce Convention which was held in Rhinelander, Wisconsin.

There were approximately three hundred persons present and the writer spoke to them for approximately an hour on the general work and activities of the Bureau. This group seemed to be exceptionally responsive and very intensely interested. Those present came from all parts of Wisconsin and constituted the leaders of the many local chapters of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Many favorable comments were heard among the members regarding the Bureau, and during the evening the writer had occasion to meet practically all of those in attendance.

Mr. G. P. Finn was elected President of the State organization and it is respectfully suggested that his name be placed upon the mailing list. His address is Rhinelander, Wisconsin.

It is also suggested that the name of H. L. Schmeyer, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, be placed upon the mailing list in view of the fact that this individual is a former President of the organization and seems to hold a key position in the State organization.

Mr. Ernest A. Draheim, Sales Manager of the Daniels Manufacturing Company, Rhinelander, acted as Toastmaster. I had occasion to visit with him at considerable length. He, too, was extremely complimentary regarding the Bureau.

It is respectfully suggested that J. S. Daniels of the Daniels Manufacturing Company, Rhinelander, Wisconsin, and Oscar W. Johnson, President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Rhinelander, be furnished with the usual Bureau releases and copies

JAN 18 1984

of the Director's addresses because of the interest that they manifested in the work of the Bureau, and the writer told them that he would request the Director to furnish them the above material.

On Sunday afternoon, Chief of Police Maurice Straub, who has occupied the office of Chief of Police for thirty-four years and is now in his dotage, called upon the writer in his hotel room. He told a long-winded story about seeing Dillinger and members of the gang at the hotel two days prior to the Little Bohemia affair. He then went on and stated that had the Agents, when they arrived in Rhineland by plane, contacted him he could have guided them in such a way as to successfully capture the whole outfit. I very frankly told the Chief that if I were he I would make no comment such as that, particularly when he saw Dillinger two days before that and did not take the pains of notifying anyone. The "old boy" sort of quieted down then. He seemed exceptionally friendly, however, and at no time while in Rhineland did I hear one "sour note" about the affair at Little Bohemia. The Postmaster, incidentally, who was instrumental in circulating a petition calling for the suspension of former Special Agent in Charge M. H. Purvis, is now deceased.

Chief Straub, in the course of his story, stated that after the affair he had talked to Mr. Purvis and the latter had informed him that he had been instructed by Washington not to say anything to the local Police. I informed the Chief that I knew nothing about the details but if such was the case, it was merely because time did not permit them consulting him prior to going to Little Bohemia.

While on the train returning to Chicago, I met with Mr. Ernest A. Drakein and Charles Steele, the son of former Judge Steele of Rhineland. In the course of the conversation, Steele stated he was very well acquainted with Mr. Purvis and that he understood Mr. Purvis drank himself out of his position

several years ago. I informed him that I knew nothing about the details. He stated he had been "out" with Purvis on numerous occasions and has seen him pretty well "lit up". Steele stated that Mr. Purvis was prone to do considerable talking after he had had a few drinks.

This was rather an interesting observation and I thought you should have it.

Very truly yours,

LEN:mwc

L. E. NICHOLS.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Dowsey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Joseph	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten initials*

**Purvis Heads for Europe After Cracked Romance**

New York, May 20 (AP)—Disguised as "Oscar Smith," Melvin Purvis, former "G-man" who was credited with tracking down John Dillinger, was Europe-bound today aboard the French liner Normandie. The famous sleuth, whose romance with Janice Jarratt, Hollywood movie actress, recently cracked up, slipped aboard the liner a few minutes before its departure yesterday.

The reason for his trip abroad remained Purvis' secret, although it was intimated that he was seeking to get "away from it all" as an aftermath of his broken love life.

NOT RECORDED  
 WASH. POS.  
 MAY 21 1934

XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

- 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 G.

573

**PURVIS' EX-FIANCEE  
PLANS NEW YORK TRIP**

By the Associated Press.  
 SAN ANTONIO, Tex., June 1.—Miss Janice Jarrett, Texas' "centennial sweetheart," who broken off her engagement to Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, last month on the eve of their wedding, will spend the summer here with her sister, Mrs. A. J. Rummel, it was learned last night.  
 Friends said Miss Jarrett will arrive here today. Later, it was reported, she plans to go to New York.  
 Miss Jarrett, former model, departed from San Antonio abruptly shortly before the date set for her marriage. Purvis also hurriedly left the city.

XERO  
 JAN 18 1984

FBI STAMP  
 JUN 1 1937 NOT RECORDED - 67.

el

JEM:LCB

57-1000-510

June 17, 1937.

Mr. S. H. Banyon,  
Editor and Publisher,  
The News-Palladium,  
Benton Harbor, Michigan.

Dear Mr. Banyon:

Your kind letter of June 12, 1937, has been received, in which you acknowledge receipt of a copy of my recent address "Problems in Modern Law Enforcement" which I delivered before the Penn Athletic Club.

I deeply appreciate your commendatory remarks concerning my work as Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

There is enclosed herewith a copy of the address which I delivered at Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Michigan, which it is hoped you will find of interest.

I am taking the liberty of placing your name on our mailing list so that in the future you will receive publications of our organization as they are released from time to time.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure.

KEROX  
JAN 18 1984

THE PALLADIUM PUBLISHING COMPANY  
THE NEWS-PALLADIUM

BENTON HARBOR, MICHIGAN.

June 12, 1937.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

This will acknowledge receipt of your recent enclosures dealing with your recent Philadelphia address and the booklet on your bureau.

Thank you for letting me have these. I have always been greatly interested in the fine work of your bureau. Keep it up. From time to time we have had editorial endorsements of your campaign against the criminal interests.

I might say I regretted very much to see Purvis leave the service. I heard him talk here a couple of years or so ago to a group of southwestern Michigan law enforcement officers and I thought he did a particularly fine job in emphasizing the necessity of close cooperation between your department and local officers. You know as well as I do there is a great deal of opposition to the activities of your men when they seemingly interfere with the local officers. If that feeling could be successfully dissipated to the point where local officers all over the country are willing to cooperate with the federal men I think we would get a long ways toward the goal toward which I know you are working. I hope somebody in the department is carrying forward this phase of the work which it seems to me Purvis was so successfully carrying on.

Cordially yours,

S. R. Bunynn  
Editor and Publisher

67 219-510  
SERB:MAC

JUN 24 1937

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
1105 Mills Tower,  
San Francisco, California  
September 1, 1937

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

RE: MELVIN PURVIS

While with Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Matti, Mrs. Florence Kahn and Julius Kahn, her son, yesterday, before and after dinner, the matter of Melvin Purvis came up.

Mr. Matti stated he knows definitely that Purvis is in Paris at the present time but that it is not known just how long he will be there or what he is really doing. He also stated that he had seen Purvis at the Bohemian Club several times, which is unusual unless a person intends to become a member of the club. Purvis' name, however, was dropped and Mr. Matti stated it was just as well because he would never have made the grade. It is the general opinion of these people that Purvis has slipped a great deal as far as respect and position in San Francisco are concerned, especially since the marriage failure. It was observed that some of the friends of the wife-to-be and Purvis are somewhat chagrined at the fact that their wedding gifts have not been returned despite the fact that the wedding has been called off.

Mrs. Kahn told me that Purvis really has little standing with many people out here and that the worth-while people take little stock in his "what-I-did" stories.

Mr. Matti, Mrs. Kahn, and I, each of us, have several leads outstanding at the present time concerning Purvis' connection with the law firm with which he is associated and how he got in and as to what he is really doing out here. These leads are of the type that cannot be pushed but when we do get the information it will be good, we are quite certain.

I wanted to give you the benefit of what I did have so far and to assure you that I am overlooking no opportunities to develop every bit of information concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

SEP 16 1937

N. J. L. PIEPER  
Special Agent in Charge  
Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Numbered \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

XEROA  
JAN 18 1984

67-7489-511  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
SEP 15 1937 A.M.  
NJLP:MLA  
LEONING  
FOUR 9  
MISS

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E.A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Foxworth	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Joseph	✓
Mr. Lee	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

# Sidewalks of N. Y.

*F. D. R. Banks on Heat | Ben Puts Up \$43,000  
Spurns \$35,000 Bid | Burman Not Union*

By W. S. (Bill) FARNSWORTH

Strategy from the White House indicates that, despite an adverse committee report on the court reform bill, ROOSEVELT will push through a compromise bill about a week after the Fourth. The PRESIDENT hopes to apply not only his own pressure but also that of the weather, which should work wonders on sweltering Congressmen. LEON BLUM'S exit as Premier of France is supposed to be a beautifully executed maneuver to gain time. BLUM wished to duck the responsibilities of the present monetary crisis and is letting CHAUTEMPS do the work. Whether CHAUTEMPS succeeds or not, BLUM can move back to his old job whenever he pleases. There's so much jockeying going on behind the lines in the Spanish civil war that official circles in Washington wouldn't be surprised if both the Feds and the Insurgents launch an offensive at the same time. This is practically unheard of in a major war. But is very likely to happen this time. Rumor has it that JANICE JARRETT and MELVIN PURVIS, the G-Man who got DILLINGER, are about to get together again. We hear that there will be no midway at the 1939 World's Fair. That ancient institution having been declared passe by the experts.

NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL

Forwarded by New York Office

JUL 3 - 1937

*About time for the head lines again!*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

67-

COPY

FBI  
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE  
1105 Mills Tower,  
San Francisco, California  
July 30, 1937

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

For your information this will advise that former Special Agents in charge W. A. Smith and R. B. Nathan were admitted to practice law in the State of California a couple of weeks ago.

So far as I have been able to ascertain, prior to that time their energies were confined to studying for the Bar examination although it was generally reported they were associated with Melvin Purvis and at the present time are reported to be engaged in the "practice of law".

Although there seems to be some mystery attached to the activities of Purvis prior to his departure on a European trip, it was generally believed he was connected in some way with Mr. John Francis Neylan, one of the leading attorneys in the State of California, and who represents a number of interests including William Randolph Hearst matters.

There has been a vague rumor to the effect that Mr. Neylan had some plan in the making with relation to Mr. A. P. Giannini, who is chairman of the board of Bank of America, and also Transamerica Corporation, which I believe is the holding company for the Bank of America. The rumor was to the effect the Mr. Giannini had some sort of an understanding with the administration whereby the national bank laws would be amended to permit banks such as the Bank of America to extend their holdings in different states, under the same corporate set-up and that Mr. Neylan had probably interested Melvin Purvis in connection with this future development of the Bank of America interests.

I have observed that the Giannini interests have from time to time acquired banks in several other western states, but apparently so far they have been under individual set-ups, and not directly connected with the Bank of America organization in the State of California.

67-1-1-181  
XEROX

JAN 18 1984

-2-

Efforts have been made to obtain more definite information concerning this without success; however, upon the development of any additional information the same will be promptly furnished.

Very truly yours,

(S) W. L. LISTERMAN,  
Special Agent in Charge

WLL:MLA

# Purvis 'Just Old Family Friend,' Says Mrs. Akers

WITH Knoxville social circles discussing the possibilities of a romance between attractive Mrs. Marion Atkin Akers and Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, who has just made a week-end visit here, Mrs. Akers said today that "we're just good friends."

The youngest daughter of the late C. B. Atkin, millionaire manufacturer, realty owner and capitalist, said it was nothing more than family friendship that caused Mr. Purvis, who once hunted down Public Enemy No. 1 John Dillinger, to come to Knoxville almost immediately upon his arrival in the United States from a trip to Europe.

Mr. Purvis departed hastily for Europe a few days after his wedding with Miss Janice Jarratt of San Antonio, Texas, fell through, the night before the scheduled ceremony, last April 27.

From Knoxville Mr. Purvis is said to have gone to North Carolina for a visit this week with his mother before returning to the Pacific Coast via Chicago. While here for the week-end he was a guest at the homes of Mrs. C. B. Atkin, Mrs. Akers' mother, on Vest Main, and with Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Lutz, Kingston Pike. Mrs. Akers and Mrs. Lutz are sisters.

MR. LUTZ said today that he and Mr. Purvis are fraternity brothers.

"We have all known him for a number of years," he added. Mr. Purvis was a guest of the Atkin and Lutz families at the Cherokee Country Club dance Saturday night.

Mrs. Akers went to Texas for the intended wedding of Mr. Purvis and Miss Jarratt last spring.

Mr. Purvis resigned from the G-man service several months after the trap he laid resulted in the fatal shooting of John Dillinger outside a Chicago movie house. Rumor had it that Mr. Purvis' popularity after the Dillinger case had brought on friction between him and J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Since quitting the Government service, the handsome Mr. Purvis has been practicing law. He also gets a lucrative fee, it is said, for the illustrated adventure-detective tales in which he is a serial pro in the Sunday comic supplement, sponsored by a well-known breakfast food.



Attractive Mrs. Marian Atkin Akers, and (inset) Melvin Purvis, who she said today is "just a good friend." Mrs. Akers is a dog fancier and an active worker in the Tennessee Valley Kennel Club as well as a prominent Knoxville society woman.

KNOXVILLE NEWS-SENTINEL

JUL 27 1937

JUST AN old 7

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

with  
 Euf

JAN 18 1984

Burleson

# Walter Winchell On Broadway

(Trade Mark Registered) Copyright, 1937, Daily Mirror, Inc.

## Notes of a New Yorker

Those cartoonists are overdoing that caption under their hill-billy child-bride pictures in the mags, to wit: "If yew don't bring in a better report cahd than that—I'll divorce yew!"... Whatever gave the movie historian for the N. Y. Times the idea that the Hartmans, the travesty dancers, are ventriloquists?... Seems to me that John Anderson is penning the most readable of the memos on the Big Town amusements... Wonder why Margot Grahame, the British actress, never decorates her pallor with rouge? Her skin is even whiter than new born snow... That monument to Father Duffy just doesn't look right out there where Broadway divorces Times Square... The sector is hardly up to his dignity.

Wonder why Kay Cameron, the tallest of the show girls at the Paradise, invariably gets the giggles every time she has to bend over to help pick up the sinner in the white georgette who has to go to purgatory?... My idea of a pretty good time is to sit at a table near the door of the Stork Club and watch nearly everyone come in... They all make such an "entrance"... Even those who don't pay!... I used up two hours in bed last night trying to jot down a list of three important people, and couldn't think of one... I mean important enough not to be missed... Incidentally, seven of the most "important" people in movies, show business, fight racket and other professions used to gather about the same corner table at The Tavern five years ago... Today all of them are dead.

There appears to be some mourning over the passing of all those night spots on West 52nd street... Just so long as Jack White and Pat Harrington and Leon & Eddie's remain—the other 30-odd places do not matter and never did... Wonder if that woman who sasses people who won't kick in with coins, near 51st and 7th, ever took a bath?... The boys who sit at the same corner table up front in Lindy's are probably wishing that they had saved at least one dollar a week... Doesn't seem proper, at all, the way George White and Nicky Blair are no longer talking to each other... Probably got tired of telling the same lies... "It Looks Like Rain" remains No. 1 in almost all the surveys, 'cept mine—where it is listed as corny.

I have witnessed many scenes but that newspaper peddler who picks on 42nd Street West of Broadway—and crowds you and insults you if you buy a paper from the newsstand man—is one for the newireels... Only attractive women should do the rhumba... Wonder if Ruth Etting is happy with all that money and no radio job?... Milton Berle would have been furious if some ham did what he did at that Astor Theatre preview... That perfume called "Joy" brings out the Mussolini in me... No woman is more refreshing to look at than Mary Astor... One of the hardest things to do—is to lie to someone you love—or tell the truth to someone you dislike... Vaudeville should move over and make some room for burlesk... I like Paul Fox's crack about Barrymore and Elaine, to wit: "What started out to be Caliban and Ariel turned out to be Caliban and Katz!"

The Palace pavement pounders must be bored stiff looking at the same faces all these years... There oughta be a law against putting whipped cream in chocolate sodas... Mel Purvis, the former G-man, looked so desolate as he walked listlessly in the 40s near 5th Avenue... The girl who tilted him, Janice Jarrett, certainly went into her shell... Lou Holtz's dialect gags make me laugh even though they didn't strike me that funny when they appeared in the column... My idea of a face is that one on Joyce Mathews... Someone asked the golfer, John Montague, who is in that extradition controversy, how he managed to keep out of trouble all these years in Hollywood... He replied: "I merely never fooled around other fellows' girls!"

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E.A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Dawson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Joseph	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Gandy	.....

PK  
C  
Cook

New York Daily Mirror  
AUG 4 1937

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

NOT RECORDED

Wish some newspaper would hire at least one humorist. I'm starving for anything lighter than the avalanche of paragraphers who are trying to improve the world. Life's feature by Artist Hirschfeld, who with only a few strokes of the pen makes notables look like each other, is good stuff. But Vanity Fair used a similar stunt with animal photos and famous bores. I can remember when George Raft, the actor, would slug a guy who made an unwise crack about him. Now Raft walks away and tells you: "This racket pays big money, but rotten publicity would kill it." The nonsense in "You Can't Have Everything" that throws me is when Winninger tells Harry Ritz that he may hire Alice Faye, and Ritz says: "You know where she lives? At the Y. W. C. A." To which Winninger gives him one of those looks and says: "What?" And Harry retorts: "So help me!"

First time in years that New York has no gang chief whom the gazettes can call "Public Enemy No. 1". Those Wilkersons sure can change their minds. After advertising that his ex-wife would resume her column in his paper—the idea didn't sell. Joseph Dineen's reportorial genius is something to envy. His interview with Fuehrer Fritz Kuhn of Yorkville in American Magazine is a pip. I'll never use the word "citizenship" on the radio again. The man who has that beautiful dog named "Red Rust" used to have a more effective act when he was seen and not heard. The man now attempts breezy chatter, but it isn't. If there is any more delicious pot cheese mit sour cream mit chopped scallions than Reuben's peddles, I'm not interested. That what-chamacallit who romps all over the Wilson hooch sign where the Vaudeville News used to office, enchants me.

The guy who invented the repeat broadcast the same night is the only person I really hate, unless it is the guy who tells me how much he enjoyed a paragraph he thinks he read elsewhere—that I had. The only new phrase I've seen in years is "Swing-ding," created by the hot music brigades. Wonder how true that legend is? The one sent out by a Mid-West university that only one out of every 982 newspapermen ever amount to much. Another comedian who never wearies me is Joe Lewis, who makes the people who are listed as his superiors laugh loud. Myrna Loy, married a year, was urged to pass out a few pointers on how to succeed as a wife. Well, one way would be to look as much as possible like Myrna Loy.

The Raymond Scott quintet in two words: "Instrumental Literature". N. Y. has a trolley conductor with a sensayuma. The one on the 42nd St. crosstown car who, when it pauses at Grand Central Station, calls out: "Change here for Chicago?". Mae West tried hard to settle matters with Frank Wallace out of court, but he didn't consider \$30,000 enough to melt his nuisance value. One New Yorker, absent from the Broadway Scene for a long stretch, was asked why he didn't do the night spots more often. "Everytime I go to them," he said, "which is about once every six months, all I can see are the same old faces sitting in the same old places looking a little more tired." The most interesting person I've encountered in ages is a 16-year-old girl from Ohio, whose specialty is making a muscle in her shapely chest wiggle. She came to join a girls' show—and her aunt, a former member of the beef trust, who did it for years—taught it to her.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

CT:ACS

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____ ✓
Mr. Baughman	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Crowl	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Foxworth	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mottel	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. McIntire	_____
Mr. Naughton	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Schilder	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Date 12-22-37

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Murphy, who is connected with Mr. Tom R. Shipp in the Albee Building called me yesterday stating the Bruce Barton Advertising Company in New York has been trying to locate Melvin<sup>o</sup> Purvis and he wanted to know whether we knew his present address. I told him we do not know anything about Purvis.

RECORDED

67-7489-512

DEC 27 1937

  
Clyde Tolson.

Signature

XEROX

JAN 18 1984

# STRESSES NEED OF STATE POLICE

Governor Johnston Makes  
Radio Address.

IN FIGHT ON CRIME

Declares There Will Be  
No Letup in Efforts to  
Secure Unified System.

Stoutly affirming that there would be "no letup in my efforts for a state police system" and expressing hope that the people of South Carolina would "get behind their representatives in this unselfish cause for the happiness and security of our law-abiding citizens," Governor Olin Johnston last night in a radio address from Charlotte, discussed crime and law enforcement.

"It is my desire to discuss crime and law enforcement with frankness," the governor declared, saying he would give special attention to conditions in South Carolina "with which I am most familiar, and, naturally, as governor, most concerned."

He spoke of law enforcing agencies in South Carolina, saying: "Divided authority and responsibility, with consequent conflicts of effort and sometimes harmful jealousy, have been curses against orderly enforcement. As inevitable result of the unhealthy conditions has been the injection of politics into a field of humanitarian endeavor which must be entirely independent of such things if we expect to progress in our efforts."

### Of Deep Concern.

"It has been a source of deep concern to me that my efforts for a coordination of law enforcement agencies into a well organized state police system, trained according to modern requirements and equipped with the latest facilities, have been repeatedly pigeon-holed by the legislature," he said.

"Since my inaugural, a state police system has been one of my major ambitions for South Carolina," the governor said, remarking that he urged such a system in his campaign for office. "Even political enemies have publicly commended the efforts," he declared, adding, "why they have worked against it remains to me a great mystery."

"My whole thought has been to make South Carolina a safe, decent place in which to live," he declared, and he told of having sought the advice of a native South Carolinian, "a man the whole world has hailed as a hero in the cause of orderly society." The man, he said, was Melvin Purvis, "the former No. 1 agent of the federal bureau of investigation—the ace G-man." Mr. Purvis, now an attorney in California, had promised, "if necessary," to come back to South Carolina and give whatever counsel he might in the cause for law enforcement. "He gave his unqualified endorsement of the state police idea, pointing out that it had worked with excellent results in other states," the governor said.

"My plea is for a modern state police system, organized without thought of politics, completely divorced from selfish individuals who might try to use such a force for their own purposes," he declared. "A non-partisan non-political state police system is a possibility regardless of what some cynics or politicians might say."

The cost, he said, would not be greater than that of present costs for the state constabulary of 21 men and highway patrol of some 120 men.

### Haven for Criminals.

A unified state police system, he said, was needed to meet the condition by which the state has become a haven for the criminals from other states.

He pointed to the election of Thomas Dewey as district attorney in New York as adequate proof of the determination of the people of New York to drive out crime.

Chicago has been carrying on a drive against crime, he said, and other cities and states are taking steps to clean up.

As a result, he said, criminals are fleeing to other states where the authorities are not equipped to fight them as strongly as those of other states.

"It seems to be that recent events in South Carolina, like the murder of Policeman Sowell in Lancaster, recently by an escaped criminal from another state and still other dastardly deeds should be proof enough to South Carolinians that the criminals are not afraid of us."

### Not Afraid.

"The reason is clear," he said. "They are not afraid because they know that we haven't modernly organized police agencies, equipped with modern crime-combatting weapons and training."

He advocated radio-equipped automobiles for the proposed force and an identification bureau.

"The rattle of gangsters' machine guns and the horrors which have been suffered for so long in other states have just begun in South Carolina. It is up to us to nip big-time lawlessness in the bud. Let's close our doors to them through the only means possible—a strong, determined, merciless police organization, armed, trained and connected under a central authority, divorced from politics and directly answerable for whatever trouble may arise."

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hottel
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. McIntire
- Mr. Naughton
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

*HKT*

*WMP*

*The State  
Columbia, S.C.  
11-17-37*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
NOV 18 1937  
CHARLOTTE, N. C. CITY  
ROUTE TO: *Bureau*

My Post  
Nov 12-37

- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E.A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Crowl ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Foxworth ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Harbo ✓
- Mr. Hottel ✓
- Mr. Lester ✓
- Mr. McGuire ✓
- Mr. Naughton ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Pennington ✓
- Mr. Quinn ✓
- Mr. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

### FORMER G-MAN STEPS OUT



ROSALIS VAN DER STRICKEN MELVIN PURVIS  
Purvis, former top flight G-man, is in New York for the first time since plans for his marriage were cancelled on the Coast. He and Miss van der Stricken of 410 Park Avenue are pictured in Mon Paris.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

NOT RECORDED 67-

**FORMER G-MAN STEPS OUT**



**ROSALIS VAN DER STRICKEN**      **MELVIN PURVIS**  
Purvis, former top flight G-man, is in New York for the first time since plans for his marriage were canceled on the Coast. He and Miss van der Stricken of 440 Park Avenue are pictured in a night club.

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*  
Miss Gandy

CLIPPING FROM  
NEW YORK POST

**KERO**  
JAN 18 1934

DATE: NOV 12 1937

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

CT:MAM

January 26, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

On January 24th, Mr. Hanson telephoned from Los Angeles, stating that Dr. Charles Strube (?) of the Santa Anita Race Track, had communicated with him, advising of difficulties which are being experienced with certain officers and racing inspectors. Dr. Strube told Mr. Hanson that the Track was considering the appointment of a man to supervise police affairs, and that this person would assume the position with regard to racing which Judge Landis has in the baseball world. EW

Dr. Strube inquired of Mr. Hanson whether Melvin Purvis would be a good man for this position. Mr. Hanson was engaged at the time, and merely told Mr. Strube that Purvis' appointment, in his opinion, would not be advantageous to the racing group. I told Hanson to call Dr. Strube again, and to definitely advise him that this Bureau could not recommend Purvis for this position, and that it was felt it would be a mistake to appoint him. I told Hanson to advise Dr. Strube that it would be necessary for this Bureau to refrain from cooperating with the Santa Anita Track in the event of Purvis' appointment to this type of position, inasmuch as he is persona non grata with the Bureau.

I talked with Hanson on Tuesday in connection with another matter. He stated he had talked with Dr. Strube, and had advised him concerning Purvis along the lines of my suggestions. He advised that Dr. Strube had asked him to drop in to see him, and he is planning to do this on Wednesday afternoon.

Respectfully,

  
Clyde Tolson.

JAN 29 1938

67-7489-513

XEROX

JAN 28 1938

CH

**Melvin Purvis' Father Dies**  
 TIMMONSVILLE, S. C., Jan. 16 (AP).—Melvin H. Purvis sr., whose son, former agent for the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice, was credited with rounding up John Dillinger and many other notorious criminals, died of pneumonia here today. He was a farmer and retired business man. He was sixty-eight years old.

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hottel
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. McIntire
- Mr. Naughton
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

XERO  
 JAN 18 1984

Clipping from  
 NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE

DATE JAN 17 1938

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

67-

Mr. Nathan  
 Mr. Tolson  
 Mr. Laughlin  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Coffey  
 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

**FATHER OF FORMER  
 G-MAN PURVIS DIES**

TIMMONSVILLE, S. C., Jan. 16 (AP)—Melvin H. Purvis, Sr., father of the former Federal Bureau of Investigation agent, Melvin Purvis of San Francisco, who is credited with having rounded up John Dillinger and many other notorious criminals, died today.

Purvis, a farmer and retired business man, had been ill of pneumonia at his home here. He was 68.

*Boston Post*  
 Jan. 17, 1938

XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

67.

PX

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Crowl .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Hottel .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. McIntire .....
- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

**Melvin H. Purvis, Sr.**  
 Timponsville, S. C., Jan. 16. (AP)—  
 Melvin H. Purvis, Sr., 68 years old  
 father of former Federal Agent Mel  
 vin Purvis, who is credited with  
 rounding up John Dillinger and other  
 notorious criminals, died today. Pur  
 vis, a farmer and retired business  
 man, had been ill of pneumonia at  
 his home here.

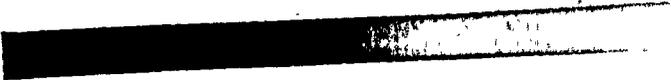
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JAN 17 1938  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS  
 FILE

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

XEROX  
 January 17, 1938  
 JAN 18 1984

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten number 57*



607 U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, N. Y.

REV:PS

November 24, 1937.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: ASSOCIATION OF EX-BUREAU AGENTS,  
NEW YORK CITY

Dear Mr. Hoover:

"M. Purvis"

Recently, the former Special Agents of the Bureau, who have formed an association in New York, about which you have already been furnished information, had their annual dinner.

Special Agent W. J. McNulty has been able to secure information regarding same which, while rather meagre, may possibly be of some interest to you. I am attaching hereto two copies of his memorandum to me.

You will be kept posted promptly on the activities of this organization and anything in connection therewith which may arise in this district.

Respectfully,

R. E. VITTERLI  
Special Agent in Charge

enc: 2

67-029-15

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WMJ:ML

New York, N. Y.  
November 23, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR:  
SAC R. E. VETTERLI

Personal and Confidential

In reference to our conversation this morning, regarding the organization, the members of which consist of only former Special Agents of the FBI, the writer wishes to advise that while in conversation with former Special Agent John Mowry on 11/19/37 the latter advised that the instant organization had held its annual dinner on the previous evening, November 18, 1937 at the New York Athletic Club, this city, and all in attendance - some 45 former Agents - had more or less expressed themselves as being confident as to the success of the new organization, basing this opinion on the large attendance at the dinner, the interest the members are taking in the affairs of the organization, the number of telegrams received during the dinner from members wishing the organization success, and the further fact that several agents in attendance had traveled some distance to be there; namely, Conway from Chicago, Cox from Dallas, Texas, and he, Mowry, from Davenport, Iowa.

Mowry stated that the membership consists of some 150 former agents and they expect the membership to number 300 in the near future.

In connection with the instant conversation with Mowry, it was gathered that when the membership of Melvin Purvis was solicited sometime back, Purvis declined to join the organization, claiming it was his intention at the time to start a similar organization with other former agents on the coast.

Mowry made no reference as to who the speakers were at the dinner, nor as to any one making any detrimental remarks about the Bureau or any one connected with same.

Mowry in the course of his conversation expressed himself as being very friendly towards the Bureau, and advised that sometime back he had been called on as a reference for an applicant, and he declined to recommend this individual, as he

did not think he was a proper person to become connected with the Bureau in any capacity.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. McNULTY,  
Special Agent.

CT:ACS

December 18, 1937.

Mr. N. J. L. Pieper,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
One Eleven Sutter, Room 1729,  
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mr. Pieper:-

The Bureau recently received information in connection with the Association of Former Bureau Agents, which has been formed in New York City, to the effect that former Special Agent in Charge M. H. Purvis, declined to join this organization stating at that time that it was his intention to formulate a similar organization of former Special Agents on the West Coast.

The Bureau is passing this information on to you in order that you may be on the alert in connection with the possibility of the formation of such an organization.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Personal & ~~Confidential~~

C  
O  
P  
Y

df

67-029-18

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

Charge to the account of \_\_\_\_\_ (COPY)

1228 A

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

NEW YORK JAN. 25, 1938

DR. CHARLES H. STRUB  
SANTA ANITA RACE TRACK  
LOS ANGELES CAL

PERSISTENT RUMOR HERE THAT MELVIN<sup>0</sup> PURVIS FORMER G MAN BEING STRONGLY CONSIDERED AS GENERAL CZAR FOR ALL RACE TRACKS. ALTHOUGH THIS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE WONDER WHAT IF ANY BASIS IN FACT THERE IS TO RUMOR. JOHN HERTZ JOINS ME IN REGARDS

STEVE HANNAGAN

RECORDED

67 7489-514

FEB 6 - 1938

CHG SIGNATURE  
247 PARK AVE.  
DAY LETTER

XEROX

JAN 18 1984

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

## ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeated message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:

1. The company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeated-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, *unless specially valued*; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.

2. In any event the company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.

3. The company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.

5. No responsibility attaches to this company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

6. The company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the company for transmission.

7. It is agreed that in any action by the company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.

8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.

9. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

## THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED  
R. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT

## CLASSES OF SERVICE

### TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

### NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such night messages at destination, postage prepaid.

### DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard night letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special Day Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

### NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rates for this special Night Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

Night Letters may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

### FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

### DEFERRED HALF-RATE CABLES

Half-rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be written in plain language.

### CABLE NIGHT LETTERS

An overnight service for plain language communications, at one-third the full rate, or less. Minimum of 25 words charged for. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours.

### SHIP RADIOGRAMS

A service to and from ships at sea, in all parts of the world. Plain language or code language may be used.

( COPY )

1228 A

Charge to the account of \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

NAD73 11-ARCADIA CALIF 27 544P

1938 JAN 27 PM 9 37

STEVE HANNAGAN  
247 PARK AVE

NO TRUTH IN RUMOR OF MELVIN<sup>P</sup> PURVIS POSITION IN CALIFORNIA RACING

CHAS H STRUB

67-7489-

~~COPY TO MISS RAY~~

701384

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE.

## ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeated message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:

1. The company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeated-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, unless specially valued; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.
2. In any event the company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.
3. The company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.
4. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.
5. No responsibility attaches to this company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.
6. The company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the company for transmission.
7. It is agreed that in any action by the company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.
8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.
9. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

**THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY**  
INCORPORATED  
R. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT

## CLASSES OF SERVICE

### TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

### NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such night messages at destination, postage prepaid.

### DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard night letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special Day Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

### NIGHT LETTERS

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than standard night message rates, as follows: The standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such standard telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rates for this special Night Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

Night Letters may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Letters at destination, postage prepaid.

### FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

### DEFERRED HALF-RATE CABLES

Half-rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be written in plain language.

### CABLE NIGHT LETTERS

An overnight service for plain language communications, at one-third the full rate, or less. Minimum of 25 words charged for. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours.

### SHIP RADIOGRAMS

A service to and from ships at sea, in all parts of the world. Plain language or code language may be used.

Personnel Files wants to know if this should  
be placed in Purvis' file.

ACS

yes ✓  
✓  
✓

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ (✓)
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Baughman \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Crowl \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Hince \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Hottel \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Naughten \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Schilder \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

- See Me \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Prepare Reply \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- For Your Information \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- File \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Remarks:

---



---



---

67-7459-515  
COPY

LBN:MWC

January 19, 1938.

Honorable Oscar G. Olander,  
Commissioner,  
Michigan State Police,  
East Lansing, Michigan.

My dear Commissioner:

I am in receipt of your letter dated January 12, 1938, transmitting a copy of a memorandum addressed to you by Trooper Merwyn H. Mitchell of your force and a photographic copy of a Certificate of Appointment signed by Mr. Melvin Purvis.

The report of Trooper Mitchell is astounding and I am in complete accord with the reported position of Circuit Judge Herman Dehnke and certainly Mr. Purvis' activities do not have this Bureau's sponsorship nor did this Bureau have knowledge of his activities in connection with the Law and Order Patrol and the issuance of badges. Unfortunately, since Mr. Purvis has not been with the Federal Bureau of Investigation for nearly two years, we have no control over any of the activities he might engage in, and consequently, we are not responsible for them.

I personally think that the commercialized project of the issuance of badges is not an altogether desirable practice and that the issuance of such credentials to the individual referred to in Trooper Mitchell's memorandum was indeed most unfortunate. Since this is a commercial project sponsored by the Kellogg Company, Battle Creek, Michigan, and since Mr. Purvis is no longer associated with this Bureau, I do not see how this Bureau could do anything to prevent a re-occurrence of the incident.

I want you to know I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in furnishing this information to me.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

COPY

Oscar G. Olander,  
Commissioner.

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
MICHIGAN STATE POLICE  
EAST LANSING

January 12, 1938

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Inv.,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Director:

I am attaching hereto, a photograph of  
a Certificate of Appointment, which is signed by Melvin  
Purvis.

At the top of the certificate is a photo-  
graph of the badge which is presented with this cert-  
ificate.

I am also enclosing a copy of a report  
made by Tpr. Merwyn Mitchell covering this matter.

A copy of this information has been sent  
to Hon. Raymond W. Starr, Attorney General of Michigan,  
asking for his suggestions in this matter.

I thought you would be interested in  
receiving this information.

Yours very truly,

Oscar G. Olander  
Commissioner.

OGO:DC  
Encl. 1

12  
11

67-7417-510  
V WRG  
AGM  
BIA

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

COPY

East Tawas, Michigan  
January 6, 1938.

Subject: Melvin Purvis - Law and Order Patrol. A Sales promotion by  
the Kellogg Company of Battle Creek.

To: Commissioner Oscar G. Olander, East Lansing, Michigan.

Enclosed please find badge and certificate of appointment  
to the rank of Captain of the Law and Order Patrol issued by the Kellogg  
Company to Carl E. Neumann and signed Melvin Purvis as Chief Secret  
Operator.

On December 28, 1937, the above mentioned Carl E. Neumann  
was arrested by this officer for carrying concealed weapons, and insisted  
that he was an agent of the Department of Justice. Neumann then produced  
the enclosed paper together with the badge as proof of his appointment.  
It should here be stated that Neumann is thirty-six years of age, but  
possesses the mind of a boy of about 14 years.

On January 4, 1938, when Carl E. Neumann was arraigned  
before Circuit Judge Herman Dehnke at Tawas City, he plead guilty to the  
charge and the case was then adjourned to the March term of court. At this  
time Judge Dehnke requested that officer write you and enclose the papers  
which the Kellogg Company had issued to Carl E. Neumann, also that you  
be requested to see what action might be taken to stop the continuance of  
this type of sales promotion.

Judging from the Circuit Judge's remarks from the bench  
while talking to Neumann it appears that he believes that certain types  
of young minds might be lead through the belief that they have been  
appointed to a police agency, into committing serious crimes. The Judge  
pointed out that they might believe they were trailing a bandit and then  
get a gun and shoot some innocent person.

Respectfully submitted,

Merwyn H. Mitchell  
Trooper #136.

Approved  
Sergeant Hiram Grimson  
Commanding East Tawas Detachment

XEROX  
JAN 18 1938

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
 Los Angeles, California  
 February 2nd, 1938

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Rughman .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Crowl .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Hendon .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Hendon .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Hendon .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Tracy .....

Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director,  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
 U. S. Department of Justice,  
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:-

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

This is to confirm telephonic conversations between Mr. Tolson and the writer on January 24, 1938, and February 2, 1938, concerning an inquiry that I had received from Dr. Charles Strub, Vice President and General Manager of the Los Angeles Turf Club, Inc., operators of the Santa Anita Racetrack.

Dr. Strub, as I explained to Mr. Tolson, telephoned me on January 24, 1938, stating that because of some difficulties that had been experienced at the track, due to the resignation of certain State officials and more especially because of an alleged expose indicating that bookmakers had propositioned the Chief of Police at Arcadia, California, in which jurisdiction the racetrack is located, and also an officer of the Los Angeles Police Department detailed at the track, resulting in the suspension of these two officers, the racetrack operators were considering the appointment of an individual who would be to the track what Landis is to baseball. Dr. Strub related that the track officials wanted a man with possibly a national name and a reputation for honesty. He then stated that he would like to have an answer from me, either "yes or no", with respect to the track considering Melvin H. Purvis for this position. I informed Dr. Strub that I would say "no" to that individual, whereupon Dr. Strub inquired as to whether there was anything personal in my comment in this respect. In view of the fact that I had a visitor in my office at this time I told Dr. Strub I would like to think about this matter for a few minutes and then call him back, explaining that I could make no particular statement at the time.

Thereafter, I immediately contacted Mr. Tolson, explaining the situation to him, and in accordance with telephonic instructions from Mr. Tolson I subsequently contacted Dr. Strub telephonically,

FEB 16 1938

67-7481-516

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 12 1938

JAN 18 1938

TOLSON

REB. DIV.

MAIL ROOM

RECORDS

informing him that I believed the track officials would be making a mistake if they considered Purvis; further, that I could not recommend him, explaining also that it was the general consensus of opinion in the Federal Bureau of Investigation that Purvis was a person who could not be recommended; that for the good of the track no consideration should be given to him, and stated that in view of Purvis' apparent glory in publicity and the fact that he apparently seizes every opportunity to profit personally in commercial ventures with his past experiences, I did not believe that it would be wise for the track to consider him.

I also informed Dr. Strub that from an official viewpoint I knew that if Purvis were given an appointment by the track that it would be necessary for this Bureau to refrain from cooperating with the track on at least certain types of matters. Dr. Strub expressed to me his appreciation for my having furnished him with this information, stating that it would go to no one else.

During my subsequent conversation with Dr. Strub I inquired if he had it in mind that this particular position would be a national one, such as the position held by Landis in connection with baseball. Dr. Strub stated that undoubtedly the position would grow to one of that kind, stating that at the immediate time there is developing a lack of confidence by the public in horse racing; that with numerous tracks opening and with bookmakers operating and scandals appearing here and there in the racing world, more than likely such a position would have to be established. He said that racing at this time needed "something to restore the confidence of the public" and that he felt it would be valuable to the Santa Anita Racetrack if it could fill such a position, putting in it a man who has a name and reputation for honesty.

On January 20, 1938, after I had filled a speaking engagement in Alhambra, California, I stopped at the Santa Anita Racetrack for the purpose of thanking personally the officials there who had been cooperative with this Bureau in connection with the Ronap case. I saw Messrs. Mort Shaw, manager of Pari-Mutuels, and Lou Walger, in charge of the Money Counting Department, thanking them personally but because the races were in operation it was not possible for me at that time to see Dr. Strub. I mentioned this fact to Dr. Strub in my conversation with him and he requested that at my convenience I visit with him.

Subsequent to the above conversation with Dr. Strub, I called on him personally, at which time I reiterated my previous statements to him concerning Purvis and he indicated that no consideration would be given to the latter.

Dr. Strub then inquired of me as to whether it would be possible for three or four Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to be detailed at the track. He indicated that he was not satisfied that the Pinkerton Detective Agency, which now polices the track, is able to cope with the more shrewd criminals who might be habitues there and he felt that if Agents could be at the track they would be more successful, stating that he believed that such Agents would not only render a service to the track but also could render a service to the Federal Bureau of Investigation at the same time. I informed Dr. Strub that while I was not in a position at that time to speak for you it was my personal belief that such a proposal could not be carried out because of the limited investigative personnel in our organization and because numerous other similar demands would, of course, be made on our Bureau should it be known that such a service was extended to the Santa Anita Racetrack. Dr. Strub stated that he could appreciate that fact and he said that he would further appreciate it if I would bring this suggestion to your attention, which I did in a telephone conversation on February 2, 1938, with Mr. Tolson. I should also state that when I first called on Dr. Strub on the latter occasion he displayed to me a Western Union telegram dated January 25, 1938, at New York City, received by him, same reading as follows:

"PERSISTENT RUMOR HERE THAT MELVIN PURVIS FORMER G. MAN  
BEING STRONGLY CONSIDERED AS GENERAL CZAR FOR ALL RACE TRACKS  
STOP ALTHOUGH THIS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE WONDER WHAT IF ANY  
BASIS IN FAITH THERE IS TO RUMOR STOP JOHN HERTZ JOINS  
ME IN REGARDS

STEVE HANNAGAN"

Dr. Strub said he could not understand how Hannagan, whom he described as a publicity man, could have heard of Strub's ideas with respect to Purvis unless someone in the Federal Bureau of Investigation had revealed this information or unless someone had

Mr. Hoover

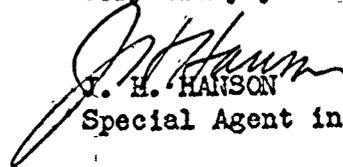
2-2-38

Page 4.

tapped the telephone of either Dr. Strub or of the Los Angeles Office. I assured him that I had no idea how Mr. Hannagan might have learned of this, indicating, of course, that it might be that someone had tapped his telephone.

After my conversations with Mr. Tolson on February 2, 1938, I informed Dr. Strub that I had been in touch with you and that it would not be possible to have this Bureau detail any representatives at the track.

Very truly yours,



J. H. HANSON

Special Agent in Charge.

JHH:HG  
AIRMAIL

SECTION CLOSED

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 2150  
Knoxville, Tennessee  
April 26, 1938

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Davey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hottel	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL.

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

While at Raleigh, North Carolina, Mr. R. McIVER of Florence, South Carolina, asked the writer and Special Agent in Charge EDWARD SCHEIDT what we knew of the recent activities of MELVIN PURVIS and, of course, was informed that we knew nothing. He stated that PURVIS, he understands, recently returned to Florence, South Carolina and is purportedly engaged to a Mrs. ROSE TAYLOR, who was the former wife of a football star from the University of Alabama. It is reported that they will be married before long.

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood  
R. B. HOOD, *esp*  
Special Agent in Charge.

RBH:REL

RECORDED  
MAY 2 - 1938  
67-7489-517

*copy detached for the Bureau 4/29 and*

*Handwritten signatures and initials: E. J. Connelley, J. P. Malone, etc.*

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

# HOLLYWOOD

By ED SULLIVAN

## The Week's Wash

Hollywood, Cal., March 29.  
 Helress Muriel Phelps Vanderbilt of the "Sixty Families," and Woody Malone, her San Francisco escort, called it off a few hours back. . . The Randy Scotts didn't bet on Battleship 40 to 1, Grand National winner, on the pessimistic advice of Trainer Hobbs. . . The great Man o' War colt wasn't rated highly in England, because, believe it or not, Man o' War isn't even listed in the English stud bluebook. . . Benny Goodman, swing king, is wooing Eunice Healy Yurmi Stern, of the late-lamented Casino de Pared, is suing Warners because of the Al Jolson picture of that tag, alleging they caricatured him as a hooligan. . . he's asking a million. . . Frances Langford will wed Jon Hall, "Hurricane" husky. . . Cleon Manning will become Mrs. Artie Auerbach. . . He's on the Phil Baker program. . . Mother of one of the kids who clicked in "Tom Sawyer" is telling locals she's a widow. . . Her Eastern husband, when he learns, may explode on page 1. . . Henry King, orchestra leader, speeding East to beat Sir Stork to his wife. . . Mister Stork has called off his visit to the Andy Devines. . . Aside to Grover Whalen: Thanks for the memory.

International Casino, on Broadway, grossed \$861,000 in the first three and a half months and lost \$80,000. . . And they kid Hollywood! . . . Despite recession, Cantor's "All Baba" has grossed over \$1,000,000 in this country. . . The Harpo Marxes' (Susan Fleming) baby boy arrived Saturday, a year-old boy adopted in New York. . . No mystery to the Eastern trip of Melvyn Purvis, Dillinger exterminator. . . The former G-Man is liquidating the estate of his sister, who died. . . Al Lichtman, out \$5,000 at roulette, hit five numbers quick and cleaned up \$3,000. . . Song Writer Lew Brown, out \$9,000 at dice, got a roll and won several G's. . . He penned "That Old Feeling," so make up your own jokes. . . I'm tired. . . Baby girls for Bob Burns and Monte Westmore. . . Gloria Dickson and Perc Westmore have set the date. . . John Barrymore's "ptomaine poisoning" is a recurrence of ulcers. . . The Allan Joneses, the Spencer Tracys and the Gene Raymonds, (Jeanette MacDonald) Eastbound; the Joneses by train, the Tracys by boat, the Raymonds by car. . . No poro-sticks? . . . Town chuckling at Tommy Farr's classic line to Randy Scott: "Too bad you're not in England," mourned Farr. "As the owner of the Grand National winner you could have mixed with the toffs, the aristocrats."

New Hollywood Games: At the Clover Club, Cary Grant, Phyllis Brooks, Doug Fairbanks Jr., Marlene Dietrich and Countess Dorothy Di Frasso attracting starers with a burning racehorse game. . . A racetrack is sketched on chemically treated paper, with dots representing horses at the post. . . The race starts when you touch lighted cigarette ends to the dots which proceed to burn a path to the finish line. . . Horse ignited by Legs Dietrich wins. . . At the Trocadero: Connie Bennett, Virginia Zeanuck, Mrs. Jock Whitney, Frank Morgan and Gilbert Roland absorbed in a table cloth tiddley-winn tournament. . . Roland proves to be the No. 1 tiddler, flipping five him slugs into a demitasse cup. . . At the Clover, Alice Faye, Tony Martin, June Knight and Jimmy Ritz, singing off key, but loud, as Tony Sacco warbles with Bob Grant's band. . . Sacco struggles through without once miscueing, and collects bets. . . Some fun, huh, kids?

- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Baughman
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hottel
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. McFaire
- Mr. Naughten
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Schilder
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

M. Purvis

XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

MAR 29 1936

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
 Suite 1729 - 111 Sutter  
 San Francisco, California  
 May 16, 1938.

*W.A.*  
*EW*

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Dawsey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Director,  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Special Agent J. H. RICE has received information that "NAVY BILL" INGRAM, former football coach, has taken over the office suite formerly occupied by MELVIN PURVIS, at San Francisco, and that INGRAM will act in the capacity of a labor relations man for the Safeway Stores. No definite information has been received as to what former Agents NATHAN and SMITH are doing.

Further information has been furnished that former Agent LOU NICHOLS now has employment with Braun and Company, business advisors located at 601 West 5th Street, Los Angeles, California, and that the Braun Company has taken over the Safeway accounts since PURVIS has reported to have left the West Coast. At this time it is not known in what capacity NICHOLS will be employed by the Braun Company.

Very truly yours,

*J.H. Pieper*  
 W.L. PIEPER,  
 Special Agent in Charge.

*W.P.*

JHR:IST

MAY 27 1938

67-74499-518  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 MAY 26 1938 P. M.  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 TOLSON  
 EAMM  
 ROUB  
 RES. DIV.  
 Miss Gandy

# WALTER WINCHELL

On Broadway

## MAN ABOUT TOWN

The Proletariat: Jackie Cooper, the boy screen actor, may wed Katherine Case (ex-Miss Phila.) at Flint, Mich., this week — If Mrs. Cooper doesn't change her mind . . . Intimates of the Rex Tugwells hope the rumors aren't true . . . Ex-G-Man Melvin Purvis will wed a gal named Taylor from his home burz, Timmonsville, dyawon in Sath Klina. . . H. McNaughton, the "Bottle" of the Phil Baker program, will wed a golf champion in the Deal (N. J.) county clerk's office today . . . Sidney Kingsley can't get his 3rd act written because Martha Stephenson, the de-beauty, has such eyes! . . . Life will front cover Betty Gray and Blanch Brewer, Washington's most beautiful Gov't clerks, who are five beautiful feet, 10 beautiful inches tall . . . Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. New York for helping me return some of the hospitality that Mr. and Mrs. Washington extended to my unmarried daughter of 11 . . . and thanks for helping me make my now famous retraction (that there were no pretty girls there) in such conspicuous blonde and brunette type . . . Fritz Kuhn, chief of the N. Y. Ratzis, will sue a columnist for calling them Ratzis.

✓  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Crowl  
Mr. Dawsey  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hottel  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. McIntire  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

U. S. Court House  
40 Wall Street  
New York, N. Y.

April 27, 1938

REV: PS

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

For your information, I learned today that the Special Agent who failed to testify properly in Federal Court in Philadelphia, whose name is not known to me, is now associated with former Agents J. H. Tracy and W. F. Seery. Also Seth Wyard, formerly in the Bureau in the Laboratory, the correct spelling of his name being unknown to me, is also with the above concern.

Yesterday, a former Special Agent Accountant, by the name of Simon, correct spelling of name unknown, employed at the Washington Field office for a number of years, also visited the above firm with a view to securing employment.

As a matter of possible interest to the Bureau, I understand that former employe Melvin Purvis is supposed to be in New York today, or within the next few days. Apparently, he had written to Wayne Merrick, who is employed by the Association of Casualty and Surety Executives, and Merrick advised one or two other individuals.

Respectfully,

R. E. VETTERLI  
Special Agent in Charge

47-38142-61

Suite 1729, 111 Sutter,  
San Francisco, California  
May 3, 1938

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I thought you would be interested to know that last week there was a meeting in Los Angeles consisting of approximately twenty-five former members of the FBI, the meeting being held in line with the banding together of former FBI agents, about which we have corresponded heretofore.

Also last week at Solari's Restaurant one evening here in San Francisco about sixteen men, former agents of the FBI, got together for a similar meeting. Mr. GAIL NICHOLS heads the group here in San Francisco and from reports received by me he has demonstrated no antagonistic or unfriendly attitude toward the Bureau, its policies or you personally. It was called to my attention also that nothing concerning the Bureau was discussed at this meeting and that it was a social get-together. HEINRICH DIETZ was there as were MELVIN PURVIS, W. A. SMITH, LOU NICHOLS and BRUCE NATHAN.

I thought you would also be interested to know that PURVIS has left San Francisco for the East and will make an effort to make some connection there for future employment. I have been able to pick up that the work PURVIS and his associates was doing was in line with Safeway's program to fight the movement to curtail chain stores; now it appears that all the big chain groups in California have united and will take on this fight, which leaves PURVIS out since he, apparently, was not chosen to carry on the program.

My information is to the effect that PURVIS has no desire to come back to the West Coast if he can make an Eastern connection. What SMITH and NATHAN will do is questionable although I understand that SMITH is going East and NATHAN will probably go to Los Angeles. NICHOLS, it is understood, has already gone to Los Angeles.

JAN 19 1984

67-1051-29

I have just had a call from Commander FREDERICK WALLACE CONNOR of the Naval Intelligence, who stated to me that he was desirous of getting in touch with any Agents who might be discharged as a result of our curtailment, since he felt there might be a possibility that his organization could take on another man. I, of course, advised him that I knew of no Agents in our service who were contemplating resignation and that I could, therefore, be of no assistance to him. During our general conversation I "wormed" out of him that he had been to see both SMITH and NATHAN several weeks ago and that they had given him no information they were folding up here in San Francisco. I did not let him know in any way that I knew they were leaving, so doubt whether he could get together with them looking to the possibility that either SMITH or NATHAN might be associated with the Naval Intelligence on a permanent basis.

If I pick up anything further along this line, I shall advise you immediately.

Very truly yours,

M. J. L. PIEPER,  
Special Agent in Charge

HJLP:MLA

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California  
May 31, 1938

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Crowl ✓
- Mr. Dawsey ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Foxworth ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Lester ✓
- Mr. McIntire ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

Mr. J. E. Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

I recently learned from Mr. Henry Dietz who was formerly a Special Agent in our Bureau, but who is now attached to the office of the State Attorney General in California, that Melvin Purvis had closed his office in San Francisco, California. Mr. Dietz mentioned this to me on an occasion when I saw him recently at a meeting of the California State Sheriffs Association. Dietz said that he did not know just what type of work Purvis had been doing in San Francisco, saying that so far as he knew, Purvis had no appreciable law practice there.

Mr. Dietz also said that former Special Agent in Charge W. A. Smith and Bruce Nathan, who were affiliated with Purvis, had also left San Francisco, Smith going to Indianapolis, Indiana, and Bruce Nathan coming to Los Angeles where he is reported to be affiliated with an organization known as Braun and Company. This latter organization, according to Dietz, is engaged in work of some kind in behalf of the chain stores, Dietz not being familiar with the work other than to say that he understood the organization followed legislation pertaining to chain stores. He also said that he understood that Bruce Nathan would be in Los Angeles for possibly a period of several weeks and thereafter Nathan was to be in charge of an office for Braun and Company in some portion of Western United States.

Very truly yours,

J. H. HANSON  
Special Agent in Charge

JHH:HG

JUN 30 1938

67-7489-519

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUN 29 1938 A.M.  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FOLSON  
TAMM  
UHF. OLA  
FOUR  
TRACY  
Miss Gandy

JAN 19 1984

THE BIRMINGHAM POST  
 BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA  
 DATE 7/9/38

**BYWAYS of Birmingham**  
 by HAROLD HELFER

**Melvin Purvis Still Acts Just Like A G-Man**



MELVIN PURVIS

Melvin Purvis, once the crack investigator for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, is now in private business, but from his actions and words you would never know that he is no longer a G-man.

First of all, in G-man fashion he slipped very quietly into our town the other day, so quietly that few knew he was in town.

When personal questions were put to him by the one or two persons who recognized him, G-man-like he put them off with smiles.

Before he left he was asked if he were going to take a hand in the Florida kidnaping case—when Mr. Purvis was in Birmingham the case was still unsolved—and he gave the G-man reply:

"I am sorry but I have no statement to make about it."

- Mr. Tolson.....✓
- Mr. Nathan.....✓
- Mr. Tamm.....✓
- Mr. Clegg.....✓
- Mr. Coffey.....✓
- Mr. Crowl.....✓
- Mr. Dawsey.....✓
- Mr. Egan.....✓
- Mr. Foxworth.....✓
- Mr. Glavin.....✓
- Mr. Harbo.....✓
- Mr. Lester.....✓
- Mr. McIntire.....✓
- Mr. Nichols.....✓
- Mr. Tracy.....✓
- Miss Gandy.....✓

J

13

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

JEL:TD

August 25, 1938

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
✓  
✓

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I thought you would be interested to know that while Mr. Lawler was in New York he accidentally ran into a friend from his home town, Mobile, Alabama, Miss Clara Yerger, and she related that a short time before she had become acquainted with Melvin Purvis; that Purvis was in New York endeavoring to become associated with an insurance company believed by her to be an insurance company which has employed a number of Bureau Agents heretofore. It appears that this insurance company was not interested in employing Mr. Purvis.

Miss Yerger further related that she was advised Mr. Purvis was proceeding to Florence, South Carolina, where he is to marry one of his childhood sweethearts, who has been married for some ten years. His fiancée is presently divorcing herself from her husband in order to marry Mr. Purvis.

Respectfully,

*P. E. Foxworth*  
P. E. Foxworth

RECORDED  
SEP 1 1938

67-7489-520  
AUG 31 1938

SEP 19 1938  
*J. Edgar Hoover*

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E.A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

**Purvis Ready to Take State Police Post**

By the Associated Press.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 26.—Gov. Burrell Maybank announced yesterday that Melvin Purvis, former G-man, had agreed to head a State police force for South Carolina if it were set up by the General Assembly.

"Since my inaugural address," Gov. Maybank announced, "I have received hundreds of telegrams and letters on the State police subject, and the conclusion I have reached is that the people want such a law enforcement system established. I had talked with Mr. Purvis before, and I met with him again yesterday."

Mr. Purvis, a native of Timmons-ville, S. C., led Federal agents when desperado John Dillinger was slain.

M. PURVIS

R1

Love

67-

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

WASH. STATE  
JAN 26 1939

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. McIntire.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

**State Police Headed  
By Purvis Is Urged**

By the Associated Press.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 18.—Gov. Burnet R. Maybank proposed yesterday in his inaugural address to place Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, who figured in the capture of John Dillinger, at the head of a State police system. If the Legislature would create it.

He said he would ask Mr. Purvis, a native of Timmonsville, S. C., to assist in setting up the "State police system under a plan similar to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"Mr. Purvis' reputation with the Federal bureau . . . is a guarantee of what could be accomplished if our plan can be carried out."

MELVIN<sup>0</sup> PURVIS

XEROX  
JAN 19 1934

WASH. STAR

67-

JAN 18 1934

A

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

January 13, 1939

PERSONAL and CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that in the late afternoon of January 9, 1939, Mr. R. G. McCALLUM, Former special agent of this Bureau who is now connected with the insurance organization formerly headed by the late FRANK PARRISH, visited the Philadelphia office.

McCALLUM SPOKE WITH SPECIAL AGENT MAXWELL CHAFFETZ in my absence, and it appears that he was just passing through Philadelphia on his way to Camden, and dropped in the office in order to see Agents McDEVITT and FALLON, both of whom were known to him.

During his conversation with Agent CHAFFETZ, Mr. McCALLUM stated that he understood that efforts are being made now to secure a successor to Mr. PARRISH, and that he has heard rumors to the effect that former Special Agents in Charge R. E. VETTERLI and MELVIN PURVIS are possibly being considered. Mr. McCALLUM further remarked that he understood that Mr. VETTERLI and former Special Agent LEON G. TURROU are doing some work with the investigative organization being conducted by former Special Agents TRACY and SEERY. He also remarked that he understood that TURROU has made some arrangements with TRACY whereby the latter is to be TURROU'S agent in connection with the writing of any future articles. He further stated that he believes Mr. VETTERLI is writing a book concerning his activities in the Bureau.

For your information it appeared that Mr. McCALLUM'S visit to this office was only a social call, and he did not request any information.

Very truly yours,

S/ A. B. Leckie, SAC

copy-lk

EAT:JW

October 1, 1938

Time - 11:16 A. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SAC Brantley called from New York stating that Agent Bill McMulty informed that he saw Seery last night at an eating place in New York; that Seery advised to the effect that ~~Pravin~~ plans to join the law firm of Bill McSwain in Chicago; that Furrou is supposed to be in charge of the personnel department of some large firm in New York, but that Seery refused to disclose the name of the firm to Agent McMulty; that former Agent Tom Neal is endeavoring to connect himself with the Tracy-Seery outfit; that Seery made statements indicating that there are only two men in the Bureau who know why Mr. Vetterli left the service, mentioning the Director and me, and telling Agent McMulty that he, Seery, would furnish him with the information he has on this subject "in about two years from now."

Mr. Brantley advised that he learned that ~~Mr.~~ Assistant United States Attorney Ed Egan has joined some firm that represents the Daily News; that Egan is a good friend of Riley Cooper and also of Tom Tracy; that a man by the name of Carter, of the same firm, is likewise believed to be a friend of Tracy; and that these sources probably represent Tracy's connections with the Daily News.

Mr. Brantley stated that Ike McNally called on him yesterday afternoon, this being merely a "get acquainted" visit.

E. A. TAMM

67-1493-270

Mr. A  
 Mr. B  
 Mr. C  
 Mr. D  
 Mr. E  
 Mr. F  
 Mr. G  
 Mr. H  
 Mr. I  
 Mr. J  
 Mr. K  
 Mr. L  
 Mr. M  
 Mr. N  
 Mr. O  
 Mr. P  
 Mr. Q  
 Mr. R  
 Mr. S  
 Mr. T  
 Mr. U  
 Mr. V  
 Mr. W  
 Mr. X  
 Mr. Y  
 Mr. Z

✓

**PURVIS AND HIS BRIDE  
ARE IN TIMMONSVILLE**

TIMMONSVILLE, S. C., Nov. 17  
 —Melvin Purvis and his bride have returned from their wedding trip. They arrived here today by automobile from Charlotte and New York. They are at the Purvis home on Main street with Miss Mary Beth Purvis, the former G-man's youngest sister.

*Charlotte, N. C., "A"*

*11-18-38*

*William Miller*

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. N. J. ...
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Crowl .....
- Mr. Dawsey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. McIntire .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

**ON HONEYMOON** Shown here are Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, and his bride, the former Mrs. Rosanne Willcox Taylor, boarding a Southern railway train for New York City where they will embark for Europe to spend their honeymoon. They were married here last night by Dr. Luther Little, pastor of First Baptist church. (Observer staff photo.)



JAN 19 1934

*Charlotte, N.C. Observer  
9-15-38*

W. R. RAYSON

*Bureau*

# Melvin Purvis Weds Mrs. Rosanne Taylor

Ceremony Takes Place in Charlotte With Dr. Luther Little Officiating—Will Make Their Home in San Francisco After Honeymoon Trip to Europe.

Melvin Purvis of Timmons ville, S. C., former ace investigator of the F. B. I., was married last night in a quiet ceremony at First Baptist church chapel in Charlotte to Mrs. Rosanne Willcox Taylor of Florence, S. C., and Baltimore, Md.

The former G-man was issued license 388 yesterday afternoon at the register of deeds office and gave his age as 31, while that of the bride-to-be was listed at 30.

#### DR. LITTLE IN CHARGE.

The marriage took place at six o'clock with Dr. Luther Little of the First Baptist church officiating. Present for the wedding were Philip and St. George Willcox of Florence, brothers of the bride, Mrs. P. A. Willcox, mother of the bride, Miss Mary Beth Purvis, sister of Purvis.

Mrs. James McLeod, Congresswoman A. H. Gasque, Rivers McCall, Miss Flora Barringer, and Allen Gasque of Florence were present for the wedding as was William Yates of Charlotte.

#### LEAVE FOR NEW YORK.

The bride and bridegroom left last night at 8:15 by train for New York, and Mr. Purvis said that they expect to spend a part of the honeymoon in Europe.

Mr. Purvis is now practicing law in San Francisco, Calif. He became a national figure several years ago while connected with the Federal Bureau of Investigation when he trapped and shot to death the No. 1 bad man of the day, John Dillinger.

#### CHILDHOOD ROMANCE.

The marriage was a culmination of a childhood romance started in Timmons ville, when Melvin Purvis became enamored with the beauty of 12-year-old Rosanne Willcox.

The two went their separate ways, and Mr. Purvis went on to world-wide fame as the G-Man who trapped and shot the No. 1 bad man of the country.

When he returned to his old home a short time ago, the old romance was rekindled.

Yesterday they said their vows in a beautiful setting. At their request, the ceremony was performed just at twilight, with no artificial lighting.

As they came from the church, they passed through a large group of churchgoers, who had learned who the famous bridegroom was.

JAN 19 1934

Washington Post  
September 16, 1938

*the Carter*  
*John*

**Wirephoto: Former Ace G-Man Weds**



Copyright by the Associated Press.  
Melvin Purvis, former Justice Department agent who was credited with wiping out desperados John Dillinger, "Pretty Boy" Floyd and others, shown with his bride, the former Mrs. Rosanne Wilson Taylor, shortly after their wedding at Charlotte, N. C.

72772  
19 38

*P*

- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Crowl .....
- Mr. Dawsey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Mumford .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

4/19

## Purvis Wed To Baltimore Matron

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Sept. 13.—Melvin Purvis, former Federal Bureau of Investigation operative who directed the hunt for John Dillinger and was "in on the kill," was married here yesterday to Mrs. Rosanne Willcox Taylor, of Florence S. C., and Baltimore.

Purvis, now a San Francisco attorney, gave his age as 31. The bride is 30.

Purvis, whose home is in Timmonsville, S. C., resigned from the FBI to write the inside story of some of his adventures.

4

1934

*Key*

[Faded text, possibly a list or index, with a checkmark at the top right and a signature at the bottom right.]

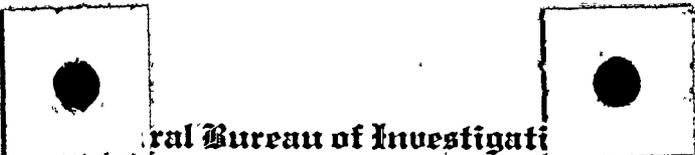
**Former G-Man to Wed**

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Sept. 10  
 —Mrs. Rosanne Willcox Taylor of Florence, S. C., will be married soon to Melvin Purvis, former ace G-Man according to a letter received here from Mrs. Taylor. The disclosure was made last night by Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Hill, with whom Mrs. Taylor lived here while obtaining a divorce from Archibald R. Taylor of Baltimore.

*Wash. Daily News*  
*Sept. 10, 1938*

*R*

XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Atlanta, Georgia  
March 2, 1939

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....
.....
.....

JEC:hm

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir:

On March 1, 1939 I addressed the members of the Military Order of the World War in Atlanta, Georgia, and at the speaking engagement I met an individual who stated that he lives in South Carolina and is well acquainted with MELVIN PURVIS. This man told me that in all probability PURVIS will be put in charge of the South Carolina Highway Patrol. I asked him if he had any definite information as to when Mr. PURVIS would take over this position and he stated that he did not, but he has learned that the position has been offered to Mr. PURVIS. I do not recall the name of the informant, but this information is being submitted to you as it is not known whether the Bureau has been advised in this matter.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Clegg*  
J. E. CLEGG  
Special Agent in Charge

CC Charlotte

MAR 11 1939

RECORDED  
JAN 18 1984

67-7489-521

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAR 11 1939

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TOLSON  
TAMM  
NICHOLS  
CLEGG  
FOUR  
MISS GANDY

RECORDED

*Handwritten signatures and initials at the bottom left of the page.*

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

**Purvis And A Report**

Melvin Purvis, sometime G-Man, who is credited with being responsible for the end of John Dillinger, Baby Face Nelson, and other public enemies, came back to Columbia the other day to tell the Legislature of South Carolina that he was ready to accept a job at the head of the State Police which Governor Maybank wants to establish, and to say that he thought the time "propitious" for the establishment of such a police on a purely merit basis.

From this distance, it looks as though the thing ought to be a foregone conclusion. The present State Constabulary is obviously not much shakes. For one thing, it is much too small. And for another, it is a political football. The men get their jobs, not because of fitness but because they know somebody. And throughout its existence, the force has been mainly used for such things as Governor Richard's drive to make life miserable for Sunday golfers or Governor Johnston's pet purposes, rather than for actually coping with crime. On the other hand, Purvis seems the ideal man to get a real police force going on a sound basis.

But for all that South Carolina Senate's committee turned out an "unfavorable" report on the Maybank bill. Far be it from us to take to monkeying with hornet's nests or telling South Carolina how to run her business. But all the same we can't help wondering mildly about that.

*Charlotte, N.C. News*

*1-29-39*

Submitted by Charlotte Office

*J.E. Dowd, Editor*

67-

# State's Police Plan

## Interest in Governor Maybank's Proposal for New System Heightened with Appearance of Purvis

COLUMBIA, Jan. 26.—Special: There is a humming interest here in Governor Maybank's desire and plans for a new style law-enforcement agency for the central state government. He first expressed his desire in a pre-inaugural speech at Charleston, repeated it at the time of his inauguration and projected it once more this week when he called Melvin Purvis to Columbia for a conference and later announced Purvis had agreed to head a new agency.

Purvis is the young South Carolina lawyer, who recently has been practicing in San Francisco and who led in the apprehension and killing of John Dillinger. He was then a member of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mr. Maybank has not yet disclosed specific plans for an agency, and speculation is rife here. Some are guessing that since Purvis will be selected as the director, the new agency may take the form of the federal bureau. Others believe the governor may propose to the general assembly a uniformed force.

When the new governor's predecessor, Olin D. Johnston, was recommending a state police force, he always called for a "unified" system, specifying the merging of the state highway patrol and the state constabulary. Mr. Maybank has not used the word "unified", or said that he would propose such an amalgamation, although in his inaugural address he did say this:

"With our law-enforcement agencies coordinated under a state police system, we will then be equipped to deal with criminals and law-breakers of all kinds."

That really is as far as he has gone, but another reference to his inaugural address shows how seriously and determinedly Mr. Maybank is taking the law-enforcement responsibility of the governor. On that he said:

"The constitution of South Carolina vests in the governor the responsibility for the enforcement of law, yet under our present system he is not provided with adequate law-enforcement machinery necessary to carry out this constitutional mandate. The first step to assure the observance of law in South Carolina should be the establishment of a state police system on a merit basis, independent of politics."

Whether the highway patrol, now a body of 130 officers and men, will be involved in any proposals to be

made regarding a new state law-enforcement agency is a question that cannot be answered, now. Nor can it be said now what will become of the state constabulary, or "the governor's constables", as some say. Mr. Maybank has told Chief Henry Jeanes, of this organization, that his commission and those of his men run through February 1, but has said no more.

It is considered extremely unlikely here that the highway patrol will be involved. Friends of the highway department in the general assembly say they do not believe any proposal for a new state general law-enforcement agency would include a provision for the absorption by it of the patrol.

The highway commission and executives of the department are known to be particularly proud of the patrol, now a body of 130 uniformed officers and men, and they speak glowingly of the patrol's record. The guess here is that any proposal to change its status would result in stern resistance.

The state constabulary is a body of twenty-one men at this time. Prior to repeal, it was a smaller body but when prohibition went out the constabulary was enlarged on the theory that it would be needed to enforce the new liquor-control laws. Much of its activity has been the old prohibition-days function of destroying corn-whiskey stills.

Such law-enforcement as has sprung from the governor in the last decade, or longer, has come from his constabulary. Plainly, Mr. Maybank does not regard this as an adequate force and is determined to establish a new and up-to-date agency.

Specific plans as to a law-enforcement agency and as to almost anything else doubtless will not be forthcoming until after Governor Maybank shall have received the report of the legislative committee which has begun a special study of the state's financial condition. Mr. Maybank is anxious to get as soon as possible a true and comprehensive picture of the financial situation.

(Almost)

# M. MAYBANK, PURVIS ADDRESS SENATE

## Governor Makes His First Personal Appearance in Legislative Chamber

Columbia, Jan. 26.—Special: Governor Burnet R. Maybank today made his first personal appearance in one of the halls of the general assembly since his inauguration.

Invited by the senate, the new governor made a short, impromptu speech in which he expressed his belief in the need of a state police system. His talk preceded one by Melvin Purvis, who has been proposed as head of the system.

When word got out that Mr. Maybank would appear in the senate, a crowd quickly filled every seat behind the railing on the senate floors and many others pushed into the galleries. Downstairs many who could not find seats stood. The senate had scheduled Purvis to speak on a police system and then it was proposed that the governor be invited to speak. Senators W. H. Nicholson, of Greenwood, and Cotesworth P. Means, of Charleston, were sent to extend the invitation to the governor. Immediately word flashed through the lobbies up and downstairs that Mr. Maybank was to make an appearance in the senate and the rush was on.

It was the first time in history that a Charleston man, elected by the people, had addressed the senate in its chambers. The inauguration, of course, is a joint session of the assembly, but it is held out of doors or in the hall of the house. So this was an unusual event that occurred in the senate chamber today.

Mr. Maybank came in smiling, flanked by towering Senator Means and bald, stout Senator Nicholson. The senators stood as the governor and his escorts made their way to the rostrum, with serious, small Mr. Purvis with them. The governor wore a brown suit and brown tie. Purvis, looking anything like you would imagine the man who got Dillinger, wore a blue suit and dark blue tie. Purvis talks in a deep, clear voice and measures every word. His tone is almost ministerial.

The senate obviously was tremendously interested in the appearance of the new governor. Often senators pay slight attention to visiting speakers, but today the attention was almost intense. The governor was warmly applauded, as was Purvis.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier

1-27-39

Submitted by Charlotte's Office

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. McIntire.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

1939

W





**FORMER G-MAN  
TO HEAD POLICE**

Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, who led agents in the slaying of John Dillinger, has agreed to head the proposed South Carolina state police, Governor Burnet Maybank announced Thursday. Purvis is a native of Timmonsville, S. C.—Journal photo.

- Purvis*
- Mr. Tolson
  - Mr. E. A. Tamm
  - Mr. Clegg
  - Mr. Coffey
  - Mr. Crowl
  - Mr. Egan
  - Mr. Foxworth
  - Mr. Glavin
  - Mr. Harbo
  - Mr. Lester
  - Mr. Quinn
  - Mr. Nathan
  - Mr. George Tamm
  - Mr. Tracy
  - Miss Gandy
- W.H.*

*Atlanta Journal*  
*1/26/39*

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

*W*

# Ex 'G-Man' Urges S. C. Police Plan

## Talks to Assembly

### Purvis Sees Maybank, Talks to Assembly; Governor Backs Him For Post

The state police issue was dramatically presented to the legislature Wednesday when Melvin Purvis, of G-man fame, addressed the house of representatives, endorsing the plea made by Governor Burnet R. Maybank in his inaugural address.

Coincident with Purvis' address was a statement by Governor Maybank revealing that Purvis "with great sacrifice to himself has expressed a willingness to head such a force when and if it is set up."

Purvis came to Columbia today from Timmonsville, his home town, at the request of the governor, and his address to the house followed a long conference in the governor's office.

"Since my inaugural address," Governor Maybank said, "I have received hundreds of telegrams and letters on the state police subject, and the conclusion I have reached is that the people want such a law-enforcement system established."

#### Public Interested

"There was a wider response to the police subject than any other in my message. I had talked with Mr. Purvis before, and I met with him again today. He came here at my request and with great sacrifice to himself has expressed a willingness to head such a force when and if it is set up."

The governor asserted that he favored a state police system "organized purely on a merit basis."

"It is impossible," he declared, "to have rigid law enforcement without the proper organization for it. I am for law and order and will go the limit with the proper plan. It is not enough just to wish for law and order. We have got to provide the force to carry it out."

The governor disclosed also that he had requested hearings before the judiciary committees of the senate and house, the senate finance committee and the house ways and means committee to go more fully into the law enforcement subject. He plans to have Purvis attend the hearings Thursday so that he might give any desired information.

#### Introduced by McFadden

Purvis was introduced to the house by Rep. J. Hugh McFadden of Clarendon as a native South Carolinian and graduate of the University of South Carolina who won worldwide recognition when he was directly responsible, as chief of the Chicago FBI office, for the capture of John Dillinger, Baby Face Nelson, Pretty Boy Floyd and other notorious gangsters and racketeers.



Melvin Purvis, of Timmonsville, former "G-man," today conferred with Governor Maybank who declared that he wanted Purvis to head the state police system which he had proposed. Purvis later talked before the general assembly, saying he thought the time had come for South

Purvis explained that the governor had invited him to a conference on the state police subject "because he has the idea it might be of some assistance with regard to the law enforcement situation in South Carolina."

"Some weeks ago," Purvis said, "the honorable governor invited me to confer with him in Charleston concerning this question which seemed to be on the minds of all good South Carolinians—this question as to whether South Carolina will have an organization for the decent people to live, as they should, under law and order."

"If I can be of any assistance I want you all to know that it would be a distinct pleasure and honor to serve my home state. . . . It has been my earnest hope to come back here and live with the people with whom I was raised."

Approached by Citizens: "Since the governor's inaugural address many people have approached me with queries as to whether such an organization should be created. Each one impressed me as being highly in favor of it because it was the only way a decent standard of living could be insured in South Carolina."

"It is my earnest opinion that the people want the police system . . . because they don't want South Carolina to become saturated with crime as have some other states."

"We don't have all of these bad conditions now, but we are fast becoming a dumping ground of other states who are driving their criminals out of their borders. The time to stop it is at the inception. I think the present time is propitious in South Carolina."

"The state should have a force with jurisdiction over the enforcement of all the laws. It must be apart from politics both as to enforcement of the laws and selection of personnel."

"If politics are allowed to interfere it will topple over and no man, not even the honorable governor, could touch it with a 10-foot pole."

"I was with the FBI for eight and a half years and it is no boast that I know something about law enforcement as would any man connected with it that long."

Sees No Conflict: "There is no reason for an organization of this type to step on the toes of others, usurping their authority. There would be no reason for failure to cooperate with the sheriffs and police."

"It would cost some money. Radio cars could be supplied, teletypes and other such factors if the organization comes to life, and we could have laws legally enforced and honorably enforced."

The house listened with intense interest to the former G-man. It was obvious that he made a strong impression upon the membership. Purvis has been at his home in Timmonsville for some weeks helping in settlement of the estate of his father who died recently.

Columbia, S. C. Record

1-26-39  
Submitted by Charlotte Office.

Ch

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Crowl	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Foxworth	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

✓ H. K. ✓  
COTER

# Sheriffs Would Oppose "Purvis" As Law Leader

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 24.—It was reported here today that a subcommittee representing South Carolina sheriffs had agreed to ask that Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, not be employed to head a State police system should it be created.

Governor Burnet R. Maybank has conferred with Purvis and expressed a desire to have him aid in establishing the contemplated system. Sheriffs told the House Judiciary committee yesterday they feared the system would encroach upon their duties. The subcommittee was directed to work with the legislative committee.

Other recommendations the subcommittee will make, it was reported, would include requests to retain and enlarge the highway patrol and require it to co-operate with sheriffs.

*Charlotte, N.C. Observer*

2-25-39  
Submitted by Charlotte Office.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

WRG:MTS

March 15, 1939  
Time: 2:18 P.M.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Miss Shannon, Secretary to Mr. Early at the White House, telephonically communicated with me and stated that she had just received a call from a person identifying himself as Melvin Purvis who was desirous of securing an appointment with Mr. Early.

She wanted to know whether Mr. Purvis was the former employee who had written the spy stories. I advised her that he was not, that he was formerly in charge of the Chicago Office of the FBI. She then wanted to know whether we knew of any reason why Purvis wanted to see Mr. Early. I told her that I did not personally know of any reason; however, I would check and call her back.

Respectfully,

*W. R. Glavin*  
W. R. Glavin

Miss Shannon advised that Mr. Purvis is staying at the Washington Hotel.

*Called her*  
MAR 20 1939 67-7489-522

MAR 19 1939

*Handwritten initials and stamps*

*Handwritten initials*

Mr. Tolson .....  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Glavin .....  
 Mr. Ladd .....  
 Mr. Nichols .....  
 Mr. Rosen .....  
 Mr. Tracy .....  
 Miss Gandy .....

## Purvis Offered Police Chief Post

EVANSTON, Ill., May 25.—Melvin Purvis, former G-man who led Federal agents the night the notorious John Dillinger was slain outside a Chicago theater, was being considered today for the post of police chief in Evanston. Announcement that the position had been offered Purvis was made by Mayor Henry D. Penfield.

*M. Purvis*

WASHINGTON TIMES-HERALD JUN 19 1934

RECORDED

(copy-cmcw)

TX

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORD OF TELEPHONE CALL OR VISITOR.

May 9, 1939.

Time 10:55 AM

Name Max Bessler, of News week  
Magazine, tele.

Referred to

Details:

Asked if the Bureau could tell him  
where Melvin Purvis was at the present time.  
He was advised that Mr. Purvis was no longer with  
the Bureau and that his present whereabouts were  
not known to the Bureau.

ebs

Notation:  
No information of any kind should  
be given News week.

H.

*[Handwritten initials]*

MAY 25 1939

7-7489-523

T *[Handwritten signature]*

**A Beauty Falls Victim to Cupid**



Janice Jarratt

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 9 (AP).—Lovely Janice Jarratt, famed New York artists' model who once jilted former G-Man Melvin Purvis, was married here today to Thomas Deely, engineer.

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. McGuire.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*Melvin Purvis*

Clipping from NEW YORK DAILY NEWS  
 DATE: MAR 10 1939  
 JAN 19 1934

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

RECORDED

*OK*



**Purvis' ex-throb weds**—Janice Jarrett, model, movie actress and radio star who once was engaged to former G-man Melvin Purvis, was married at San Antonio, Tex., to Thomas Deely, an engineer. Only relatives and friends attended ceremony, held in St. Paul's Episcopal church. Couple left for Mexico honeymoon after rites.

- 179
- Mr. Tolson.....
  - Mr. Nathan.....
  - Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
  - Mr. Clegg.....
  - Mr. Coffey.....
  - Mr. Crowl.....
  - Mr. Egan.....
  - Mr. Foxworth.....
  - Mr. Glavin.....
  - Mr. Harbo.....
  - Mr. Lester.....
  - Mr. Malintre.....
  - Mr. Nichols.....
  - Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
  - Mr. Tracy.....
  - Miss Gandy.....

Melvin  
Purvis

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE  
JAN 19 1939  
March 10, 1939

Ch

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

May 24, 1939

EAT:CHS

Time: 4:05 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SAC Ladd of the Chicago Office called and advised that one of his friends with the City News Bureau had advised him that within the past week the Mayor has asked for and accepted the resignation of Chief of Police Freeman at Evanston, Illinois, who has been there since 1927. Mr. Ladd stated he was further informed that the Mayor indicated he had been in touch with Mr. Purvis and is offering the position of Chief of Police at Evanston to Mr. Purvis, and that Purvis indicated by telephone that he was in the receptive mood and was thinking of going back into police work again. Mr. Ladd stated it was his understanding that Purvis and Freeman were at one time very close friends.

I told Mr. Ladd I would bring this matter to the attention of the Director.

E. A. TAMM

JUN 2 1939

67-7489-5241

MAY 29 1939

✓ [initials]

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

[Handwritten initials and marks]

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Chicago, Illinois  
May 25, 1939.

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Personal and Confidential

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir

Confirming my telephonic conversation with Mr. E. A. TAMM of the Bureau on May 24, 1939, I desire to advise that Mr. ABE SWETT of the City News Bureau telephonically informed the writer on that day that he had received information to the effect that the Mayor of Evanston, Illinois, was considering appointing Mr. MELVIN H. PURVIS Chief of Police of Evanston, Illinois and that according to the Mayor he had been in telephonic communication with Mr. PURVIS on several occasions within the past few days and Mr. PURVIS indicated he was in a receptive mood and, further, was alleged to have informed the Mayor he was considering going back into law enforcement work and had considered work with the South Carolina State Police.

As you will recall, WILLIAM FREEMAN has been Chief of Police in Evanston since 1927. About a week ago the Mayor requested and obtained his resignation. A meeting of the citizens of Evanston was held in protest to the resignation of Mr. FREEMAN.

In the event any additional information is received with respect to this matter I will promptly inform the Bureau thereof.

Very truly yours

JUN 2 1939

D. M. LADD  
Special Agent in Charge

DML:IAJ

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
MAY 29 1939  
FBI - CHICAGO

67-7489 JAN 28 1934

MAY 29 1939  
TOLSON  
LADD  
FOUR  
CHIEF CLERK

Mr. Tolson.....  
 Mr. Nathan.....  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm.....  
 Mr. Clegg.....  
 Mr. Coffey.....  
 Mr. Crowl.....  
 Mr. Egan.....  
 Mr. Foxworth.....  
 Mr. Glavin.....  
 Mr. Harbo.....  
 Mr. Lester.....  
 Mr. Nichols.....  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm.....  
 Mr. Tracy.....  
 Miss Gandy.....

**G-Man**

**Purvis Invited to Head Police**

EVANSTON, Ill., May 25 (By International News Service).—Melvin Purvis, former ace G-Man who trapped and killed John Dillinger, has been offered the position of Chief of Evanston police and may accept, Mayor Henry D. Penfield announced today.

The Mayor said he had had two telephone conversations with Purvis.

Purvis is at his home in Charlotte, S. C., writing about Dillinger's crime career.

RECORDED  
 O. S.

XEROX  
 JAN 18 1984

Clipping from  
 NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL-AMERICAN  
 DATE: MAY 25 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION

- 18
- Mr. Tolson.....
  - Mr. Nathan.....
  - Mr. J. A. [unclear].....
  - Mr. [unclear].....
  - Mr. Coffey.....
  - Mr. Crowl.....
  - Mr. Egan.....
  - Mr. Foxworth.....
  - Mr. Glavin.....
  - Mr. Harbo.....
  - Mr. Lester.....
  - Mr. McIntire.....
  - Mr. Nichols.....
  - Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
  - Mr. Tracy.....
  - Miss Gandy.....

**MELVIN PURVIS OFFERED  
EVANSTON POLICE JOB**

Melvin H. Purvis, former head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Chicago, prime actor in the slaying of John Dillinger, has been offered the position of chief of the Evanston Police Department, to succeed William O. Freeman. Mr. Purvis was reported to be in a "receptive" mood.

The disclosure was made by Mayor Henry D. Penfield, who said he had had two long-distance telephone conversations with Purvis at Charlotte, S. C., yesterday, where the former G-man is writing his "Dillinger memoirs."

18  
KEROI  
JAN 19 1984

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

5-25-39

18

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. McVire.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

# Penfield Offer to Purvis

Melvin H. Purvis, formerly in charge of the Chicago office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today was offered the job of heading Evanston's police force by Mayor Penfield.

Purvis, chief figure in the slaying of John Dillinger, was in receptive mood, it was learned.

Penfield said he had two telephone conversations over long distance to Purvis' home in Charlotte, S. C., where the former FBI man is writing his "Dillinger Memoirs."

The Evanston mayor said: "He told me he'd like to get back to police work, and at one time considered a job with the South Carolina state police. He appeared favorably disposed, and I expect to have another telephone talk with him soon, after which I may have more definite information."

Penfield accepted the resignation of William O. Freeman, police chief, yesterday, and said earlier today he soon would confer with O. W. Wilson, chief of the Wichita, Kan., police department, regarding the vacancy. Penfield has designated Capt. Charles Paasch as temporary chief.

REPORT  
 JAN 18 1984  
 JAN 18 1984

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

5-25-39

100

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. McIntire.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

**MELVIN PURVIS MAY  
BECOME NEW CHIEF  
OF EVANSTON POLICE**

Melvin H. Purvis, one of the chief actors in the slaying of Bandit John Dillinger, may be the new chief of police of Evanston, it was indicated last night. There were unconfirmed reports that Mayor Henry D. Penfield had talked twice to Purvis, who is at Charlotte, N. C., and that Purvis is in "a receptive mood."



All that Mayor Penfield would say last night was that "you have hit it pretty close." William O. Freeman, who has resigned, will relinquish the position July 1.

Purvis is now writing his "Dillinger memoirs" in the southeastern city. He was recently reported to be considering a post with the North Carolina state police.

O. W. Wilson of Wichita, Kas., who on Tuesday was reported to have been asked to take the job, said yesterday that he was not a candidate.

JAN 26 1954

**CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE**

5-25-39

65

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Crowl.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Foxworth.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. McIntire.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Quinn-Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

## Offer Purvis Evanston Job

Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, has been offered the position of chief of Evanston police and may accept, Mayor Henry D. Penfield announced yesterday. He said he had had two long-distance telephone conversations with the man responsible for catching and killing John Dillinger, and he expects to talk again soon to Purvis at his home in Charlotte, S. C.

The man selected will succeed Chief William O. Freeman, who resigned.

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
MAY 15 1939

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

5-25-39

A

CHIEF \_\_\_\_\_ FREEMAN

POLICE DEPARTMENT, EVANSTON, ILL.

Pittsburgh, Pa.,

May 25, 1939.

Press dispatches show where the City of Evanston, Illinois have invited M. H. Purvis to become Chief of Police. I wrote Furbershaw asking what had become of Chief Freeman. His answer follows:

"After being on leave of absence for a number of years, Freeman retired from Chicago Police Department on pension of about \$135.00 per month recently on the assumption that he was set for good in Evanston. New Mayor Penfield never re-appointed him, but let him hold over. Freeman resigned and City Council accepted his resignation. No explanations have come from either Freeman or the Mayor.

Friend of mine, close to Mayor says he understands Mayor is waiting for some yelp from Freeman or his friends in which event Mayor will give reasons for failure to re-appoint and resignation. Doesn't intend to embarrass Freeman unless it becomes necessary. I don't know any details, but this is the way it was explained to me.

Suggestion of Purvis' name has not as yet been cause of any enthusiasm. Many doubt he will get job. He would no doubt make a good chief if given full authority.

I thought Purvis was practicing law in California."

NOTE: Back in 1930 I had considerable dealings with Freeman. He said at that time the reason he had such a soft berth was that when he first went in as Chief of Evanston he "got something" on all the big fellows, especially those in control of the city so they could not fire him. <sup>the word</sup> has no doubt turned.

In 1931 when Jake Lingle, Chicago Tribune reporter was murdered on the subway at Minroe Street entrance. The investigation developed checks made out by racketeers to Freeman were cashed by Freeman, but nothing came of it.

JUN 21 1939

67-7489-526

JUN 20 1939

TOLSON  
E. A. TAMM  
NICHOLS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1939.

6/14

- The Director
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Crowl

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo

- Files Section
- Personnel Files
- Identification Division
- Technical Laboratory
- Mechanical Section
- Chief Clerk's Office
- Crime Statistics
- Mr. Tracy

SUPERVISORS

- Mr. Balch
- Mr. Bellino
- Mr. Brennan
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Chambers
- Mr. Cornelius

- Mr. Drayton
- Mr. Guerin
- Mr. Hayden
- Mr. Hogan
- Mr. Kimball
- Mr. Kramer

- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. McIntire
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Richmond
- Mr. Van Pelt
- Mr. Wyly
- Mr. Zimmer

\* \* \*

- Miss Gandy
- Mr. West
- Mrs. Morton
- Miss Coe
- Mr. Albaugh
- Mr. Halter
- Miss Conlon
- Mr. Gauthier
- Typists 5724
- Stenographers 5236
- See Me

- Bring file up to date
- Send File
- Correct
- Call me regarding this
- Note and return
- Search, serialize and route
- Stenographers 5724
- Stenographers 5730
- Stenographers 5706

*[Signature]*  
P. E. FOXWORTH - 5734

**G-MAN IS EDITOR** Melvin Purvis, former No. 1 G-Man, who brought down John Dillinger and other notorious criminals, has settled down in Florence, S. C., as publisher of an evening newspaper. He's shown here hard at work at his desk. (Photo by John E. Hales.)



- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Glavin .....
- Mr. Crowl .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Lawler .....
- Mr. Nichols .....
- Mr. Rosen .....
- Mr. Searl .....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

NOT RECORDED  
O.O.S.

*Charlotte N.C. Observer*

7-16-39

Submitted by Charlotte Office.

67

G-MAN—Melvin Purvis, re-  
tired ace G-man, left, shown  
with his new partner, J. A.  
Zeigler, in the venture of  
publishing the "Evening  
Star" in Florence, S.C.  
Wide World photo

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy



~~EXROX~~  
JAN 19 1934

LOS ANGELES TIMES

JUL 18 1939

THE NEW ORLEANS ITEM,  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.,  
July 7, 1939.

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Crowl ✓
- Mr. Harbo ✓
- Mr. Lester ✓
- Mr. Lawler ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Sears ✓
- Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓
- Dalton ✓

G-Editor



MELVIN PURVIS, former G-man, who was the nemesis of John Dillinger, announced today he would begin publication of an afternoon daily newspaper in Florence, South Carolina, about August 1. He said J. A. Ziegler, former associate editor of the Florence Morning News, would be editor of the new newspaper.

MELVIN PURVIS

NOT RECORDED

008

XEROX

9 1934

WASH DC IN CITY NEWS WICE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. A. T. [unclear]
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawler
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

JUL 7 9 34 AM '39

RECEIVED  
F B I  
COMMUNICATIONS

JUL 24 1939

FLORENCE, S.C. -- FORMER FBI AGENT MELVIN PURVIS ANNOUNCES HE WILL  
BEGIN PUBLISHING AN AFTERNOON DAILY NEWSPAPER HERE AUG. 1.  
7/7--2931A

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
JUL 10 5 44 PM '39

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE  
F B I  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
JUL 10 2 23 AM '39

RECORDED  
1939

THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA  
7-7-39

- Mr. Tolson.....✓
- Mr. Nathan.....✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....✓
- Mr. *Lib*.....✓
- Mr. Coffey.....✓
- Mr. Egan.....✓
- Mr. Glavin.....✓
- Mr. Crowl.....✓
- Mr. Harbo.....✓
- Mr. Lester.....✓
- Mr. Lawler.....✓
- Mr. Nichols.....✓
- Mr. Rosen.....✓
- Mr. Sears.....✓
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....✓
- Mr. Tracy.....✓
- Miss Gandy.....✓

**PURVIS TO PUBLISH  
NEW DAILY PAPER**  
FLORENCE, S. C., July 6.—(AP)  
Melvin Purvis, former G-man who was the nemesis of John Dillinger, announced today he would begin publication of an afternoon daily newspaper here about August 1. Purvis said that J. A. Ziegler, former associate editor of the Florence Morning News, would be editor of the new newspaper.

NOT RECORDED

*M. Purvis*  
*008*

*[Faint, illegible text]*

*[Handwritten mark]*  
*[Faint text]*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

WRG/bw

July 24, 1939

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Lawler.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sears.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Re: MELVIN PURVIS --  
Former Special Agent  
In Charge.

Mr. Reed of Dun and Bradstreet telephonically com-  
municated with my office Saturday, July 22, 1939 requesting in-  
formation concerning the activities of the above individual since  
he left the Bureau. I endeavored to get in touch with Mr. Reed  
on two occasions but was unsuccessful, and inasmuch as he has not  
called back, no further effort is being made by me to contact him.

Respectfully,

*W. R. Glavin*  
W. R. Glavin

*103*

*Spur 7/24*

*Reed called back and I advised  
him I had no information regarding  
Purvis' activities*

*Aug 7/39*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 2 1939	

67-7489-527
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 3 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

July 31, 1939

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Crowl	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Lawler	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sears	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

LBN:GA

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

During the recent SAC Conference, I talked to SAC Scheidt of Charlotte regarding the Florence, South Carolina Evening Star, a new newspaper to be published by Melvin Furvis. Mr. Scheidt stated that he was fully cognizant of this and would govern his actions accordingly.

He then went on to relate that with reference to the recent agitation in South Carolina for a State Police force, he had been informed by Officers down there that the State Police force was defeated largely because of the fact that the Law Enforcement Officers of the Carolinas thought if Furvis was too big for the FBI, he certainly would be too big for them; they were not opposed so much to the idea of the State Police as they were to the fact that Furvis probably would head it.

Respectfully,

*LBN*  
L. B. Nichols

*Director advised  
Aug 31/39*

AUG 9 1939  
67-7489-528

AUG 14 1939

*Rec'd on*

*CM*  
*[Handwritten initials]*

JAN 15 1934

Mr. J. E. Hoover:

July 19, 1939.

RECEIVED  
JUL 19 1939

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Lawley
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

UNIONTOWN MORNING HERALD  
 JUL 19 1939  
 It's Publisher Purvis



MELVIN PURVIS

Melvin Purvis, former G-man and credited largely with the roundup of John Dillinger, notorious Indiana desperado, who was killed in a gun battle when caught, now is a publisher. Purvis has assumed his new duties as publisher of the Florence, S. C., Evening Star, a new newspaper.

*Delivered to  
 Scheidt about  
 7/17/39*

*Presms. to Mr. Tolson  
 7-31-39  
 LBN*

E W R.

RECORDED  
 JAN 19 1939

Mr. Tolio	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. [unclear]	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Lawler	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Sears	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*14*

**PURVISES PLAN TO MOVE TO FLORENCE THIS WEEK**  
 TIMMONSVILLE, S. C., July 30. — Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Purvis, who were married in Charlotte, N. C., several months ago and have been living at the old Purvis home here since their return from a wedding trip abroad, are moving to Florence Tuesday, where they have leased a house.  
 Mr. Purvis, formerly connected with the Department of Justice and known as a famous G-man, is publisher of the Florence Evening Star, which will make its appearance in Florence Thursday evening.

MELVIN PURVIS

*Charlotte N.C. Observer*  
 7-31-39  
 Submitted by Charlotte Office.

JAN 19 1934

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Charlotte, North Carolina

August 2, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

During a conversation which I had with Assistant Director E. A. TAMM while I was at the recent conference for Special Agents in Charge, I mentioned to him that an individual who is associated with MELVIN PURVIS in the latter's recent newspaper venture is identical with the person who previously furnished information regarding alleged irregularities on the part of United States Attorney CLAUD NAPOLEON SAPP and United States Marshal WILLIAM F. BURGUSON, both of the Eastern District of South Carolina.

It will be recalled that <sup>SEP 4 1939</sup> MR. TAMM telephoned the writer on March 31, 1939, instructing that immediate investigation be made concerning the allegations relative to United States Attorney SAPP and United States Marshal BURGUSON; and advised at that time that JOHN ZEIGLER, of the <sup>67-741-529</sup> Florence Morning News, Florence, South Carolina, was supposed to be in possession of information regarding these allegations.

Investigation was subsequently made in these cases under the respective captions of "CLAUD/NAPOLEON SAPP; IRREGULARITIES BY U.S. ATTORNEY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA", Charlotte File 62-768, and "WILLIAM F. BURGUSON; MISCELLANEOUS - IRREGULARITIES OF UNITED STATES MARSHAL, EASTERN DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA", Charlotte File 62-769. After the initial report of Special Agent J. W. CANNON, Charlotte, North Carolina, dated April 12, 1939, had been submitted in the BURGUSON case, the Bureau advised in letter dated June 3, 1939, Bureau File 62-53502, that no further investigation was desired, inasmuch as inquiries in this matter would be made by a Department Examiner. The SAPP case is still being carried as pending by the Charlotte Division, awaiting Bureau instructions, investigation having been suspended with the report of Special Agent J. W. CANNON, Charlotte, North Carolina, dated April 12, 1939.

It will be noted that MR. JOHN ZEIGLER was interviewed, and furnished information in both of the above mentioned cases.

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Tolson*

67-741-529  
SEP 4 1939  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TOLSON  
TAMM  
NICHOLS  
*[Handwritten signature]*

Re: MELVIN PURVIS

Director

-2-

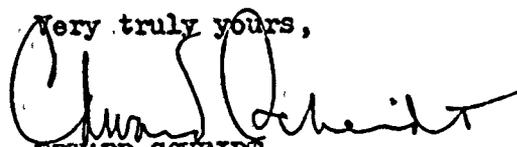
8-2-39

MR. TAMM stated in my conversation with him that it was quite possible that ZEIGLER's charges might have had some connection with the efforts which PURVIS made to secure appointment as a Federal Judge, and suggested that these facts be brought to your attention, in order that you might be fully advised regarding the connection between ZIEGLER and PURVIS.

For your further information, there is enclosed a clipping from the Charlotte, North Carolina, Observer of July 30, 1939, bearing a Timmonsville, South Carolina, date-line, which announces that PURVIS' newspaper, to be known as the "Florence Evening Star", will get out its first issue on August 3, 1939, and sets forth the names of the persons on the staff of this paper. It will be noted that MELVIN PURVIS is listed as the publisher, and JOHN A. ZEIGLER as the editor.

With further reference to MELVIN PURVIS, I thought I would advise you that he called at the Charlotte Office on the day he was married at Charlotte; and, also, on a recent occasion, he telephoned the Charlotte Office regarding a case in which he was interested. I was out of the city on both of these occasions. There was no particularly apparent reason for his visit, and his telephone call concerned a \$1,000.00 bond which was purported to be stolen about eight years ago, and has since turned up in another State. He inquired as to whether investigation could be made regarding this bond, and was informed in the negative. It struck me that from his former Bureau experience, he should have known this without calling.

Very truly yours,

  
EDWARD SCHEIDT  
Special Agent in Charge

ES:ADC

67-303

Encl.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
date 12 1 1939

## PURVIS REVEALS STAFF OF PAPER

Former Ace G-Man Announces  
First Issue of Florence Paper  
to Be August 3.

TIMMONSVILLE, S. C., July 29.—Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, today announced the staff of The Florence Evening Star, which he will publish daily in Florence. The inaugural issue is scheduled for August 3.

The staff: Melvin Purvis, publisher; John A. Zeigler, editor; R. C. Hester, advertising manager; Mrs. Kate Brown, bookkeeper; Mrs. Anne Yarborough, society editor; Miss Harriet Tobin, secretary; W. B. Zeigler, circulation manager; Miss Frances Lewis, news department; Miss Louise Outlaw, want ad department; Fred Sheram, advertising solicitor; Ashby Matthews, compositor; Thomas Cottingham, stereotypor-pressman; F. W. Ortman, Bohlinger Sharpe, Harvey Lankford, Leonard Boyd, linotype operators; and Lawson James, janitor. The newspaper is housed in a modern building on Dargan street, with latest modern equipment. This is the first venture of the former Federal officer into the publishing field.

*Charlotte N.C. Observer*

*7-30-39*

Submitted by Charlotte Office.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

44-159  
W.H.R.  
ROR

Q. What has become of Melvin Purvis, the former G-man?—B. D.  
A. Mr. Purvis is now publisher of the Florence (S. C.) Evening Star.

*Melvin Purvis*

005

NOT RECORDED

*10:00 AM*  
*10:00 AM*  
*10:00 AM*

KEROI  
JAN 19 1934

SEP 26 1939

77-159-107-12

D / 1  
O  
at

DIVISION OF  
PRESS INTELLIGENCE  
COMMERCIAL BUILDING  
ROOM #304

NO.

SYMBOL *Jr*

State (D)  
Columbia, S. C.

DATE  
AUG 29 1939

**PURVIS HE KNOWS!**

Melvin Purvis, ex-G-man, is now publisher of a newspaper, the Evening Star, at the county seat of his native county, Florence. The Star in a recent editorial on juvenile crime advised refraining from any sort of "glorification of the criminal classes; far too often, in motion pictures, on the stage and in current literature, the criminal or gangster has been depicted as a hero. He has been portrayed as a valorous person, with fine qualities of mind and spirit. Nothing could be further from the truth. Such distortion of the facts has a most injurious effect upon the plastic minds of the young boys and girls of this country. The criminal is not a hero. He is a dangerous enemy." Purvis should know, for he has dealt, to grim success, with some of the worst gangsters the country has known.

67-

NOT RECORDED

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Crowl ✓
- Mr. Harbo ✓
- Mr. Lester ✓
- Mr. Quinn ✓
- Mr. Nease ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Sears ✓
- Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

XEROX  
JAN 19 1964

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

October 16, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

*EM*

The following article relative to Melvin Purvis is taken from "Editor and Publisher" for October 14, 1939 page 26.

"Melvin Purvis, former "G" man, now publisher of a new daily, the Florence (S. C.) Star, is reported to be making rapid strides in his newly chosen field. In two months time, the Star was built from scratch a circulation of more than 3,500. Among the circulation promotions used, by way of introducing the new daily, is that of sending complimentary copies of the paper to patients in the local hospitals. A sticker attached to the paper states: 'We sincerely hope that you are well on the road to recovery and will soon be completely cured. We are sending you this 'Star' in the earnest desire to brighten the day for you.' "

Respectfully,  
*A. R. McIntire* XPROX  
JAN 19 1984  
A. R. McIntire

OCT 24 1939

*Jeff Hodman*  
*EM*

Indexed  
X

17-747-5310  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
OCT 19 1939  
TAMM  
*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

60

Federal Bureau of Investigation

United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

CT:ACS

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Crowl	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sears	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

*COS*

Date 11-22-39

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Miss Sheaffer advised me that while shopping recently in the toy department of Woodward & Lothrop the saleswoman recommended to her for a young boy the game called "G-Man" by MELVIN PURVIS. The game costs \$1.50 and Melvin Purvis' photograph appears in an oval on the lid of the box containing the game. The following also appears on the box: "Former ACE of the Department of Justice." Miss Sheaffer asked her if Purvis had invented the game; she stated he had and that he received a royalty on every one sold. It was interesting to note that she recommended "G-Man" first and "Boake Carter's" newspaper reporting game second.

Respectfully

✓

Clyde Tolson

DEC 21 1939

*Mr. Tolson*

67-14-531

TOLSON  
TAMM  
CLEGG  
LADD  
LESTER  
HENDON  
NICHOLS

JLH:HUB

7439-532

December 6, 1939

Mr. Melvin H. Purvis  
Publisher  
The Florence Evening Star  
Florence, South Carolina

Dear Melvin:

Many thanks for your letter of December 4th, and I shall certainly look forward with pleasure to reading the copies of "The Florence Evening Star" which you are going to send to me.

I had seen some reference in the paper to the fact that you had started publishing a paper, and I am glad to know that you enjoy it and are finding it interesting. That is really what makes life worthwhile - when one can do the things that he likes best and which are interesting and not boring.

Should you be in this part of the country I hope that you will give me a ring.

With best regards and good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sears
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 DEC 9 1939  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

XEROX  
JAN 10 1940

MELVIN PURVIS  
PUBLISHER

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	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

# The Florence Evening Star

Florence, South Carolina

December 4, 1939

PERSONAL

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Edgar:

I have thought of writing to you many times since I began publishing the Florence Evening Star down here but have been out of town a great deal and I have been extremely busy while I was here publishing this paper. It is a most interesting and fascinating job and I am very much pleased with it. I am taking the liberty of sending you the paper for a few weeks just to show you what it looks like and also in case you are not getting all the news up that way.

With all good wishes, and hoping that I can see you soon,  
I am

Sincerely,

Melvin Purvis

MP/hat

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

Rec'd  
12/16/39  
JED

DEC 11 1939  
*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*

JLH:HCB/S

533

67-1111

December 14, 1939

CC/

Mr. Melvin H. Purvis  
Publisher  
The Florence Evening Star  
Florence, South Carolina

Dear Melvin:

I have just received your telegram advising of the arrival of Melvin Horace, Jr., and I hasten to extend to you my hearty congratulations. I trust that Mrs. Purvis and the young fellow will continue to get along nicely.

May I extend to the new heir my best wishes for a life filled with an abundance of happiness and prosperity.

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Sears \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 DEC 14 1939  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. McIntire	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tour Room	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

RECEIVED  
 U S DEPT OF JUSTICE  
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
**DEC 14 1939**  
 WESTERN UNION

WH14 14

FLORENCE SOCAR DEC 14 1150A 1939

J EDGAR HOOVER, PERSONAL

DIR FED BU OF INV DEPT OF JUSTICE

MELVIN HORACE PURVIS JUNIOR BORN THIS MORNING AT

8:45 ROSANNE AND BABY DOING WONDERFULLY

8:45

*note*  
 12-14-39  
*JHR*

DEC 20 1939

MELVIN

DEC 20 1939

*[Handwritten marks and signatures]*

XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

HN:CSH

December 20, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: VISIT OF MR. MELVIN PURVIS

Mr. Melvin Purvis called at my office this morning. He had previously telephoned from his hotel. He was accompanied by, I think, a Mr. Scarborough. He said he had just come into town, was leaving this afternoon, and just wanted to see me. The conversation consisted solely in humorous references on the part of both parties to the fact that he is now a newspaper publisher and to various incidents connected with the Chicago Field Division when he was there. It was facetious in its entirety.

Very truly yours,

H. Nathan

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. McLaughlin.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Tour Room.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

DEC 22 1939

67-7457-534

*Dir and [unclear]*

*[Handwritten initials and signatures]*

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Jan 5, 1940.

Re: <sup>0</sup> MELVIN PURVIS'  
 newspaper.

Unless otherwise advised  
 copies will not be brought  
 to the Director's attention  
 unless some article of  
 interest to the Bureau  
 appears therein.

Felson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
 E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. McIntire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Schilder \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Boehm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

st

11  
 005

9/5  
 H  
 Searched \_\_\_\_\_ Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Serialized \_\_\_\_\_ Filed \_\_\_\_\_  
 7489-535

JAN 15 1940  
 RECORDED

JAN 9 1940  
 XEROX  
 19 384

TRACY  
 MISS GANDY  
 FILES SECTION

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	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

5

**MELVIN PURVIS VISITS  
CAPITAL ON BUSINESS**

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Melvin Purvis publisher of the Florence Evening News, Florence, S. C., and former head G-man, left for his home today after a business stay here. He conferred with Representative John L. McMillan of the Sixth South Carolina district.

(6)

APR 11 1940

573

The Charlotte (NC) Observer  
March 7, 1940  
 Submitted by Charlotte Office.

APR 10 1940

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

January 13, 1940

609 ✓

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. McLaughlin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	✓

Melvin Purvis, editor, Florence (S. C.) Evening Star, and Mrs. Purvis, are the parents of a daughter, born recently.

Melvin Purvis

OUT OF SERVICE

NOT RECORDED

67-

JAN 13 1940

7

A.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

General Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

May 6, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NATHAN *159* *00.5*

Time: 5:00 P. M.

Mr. Melvin Purvis called to say hello as he was passing through the city. He was advised that Mr. Nathan was presently out of the city and would be advised that he had called.

Respectfully,

*J. Riner, Jr.*

James A. Riner, Jr.  
(Communications Section)

*MAY 24 1940*

Replied to Mr. Tolson  
JAN 18 1963  
XEROX

TOLSON  
NATHAN  
REPLY CLERK

OUT OF SERVICE

ack in  
ack. no fol up.  
RHS  
5

zk

169-7489-537

JUL 20 1940

CHF. CLK.  
w/ly

XEROX  
JAN 18 1984

~~code of...~~  
RHC

ack  
8/29/60  
CDH

L  
RHS  
5

7/17/40

Dear Sir:

I would like, if you would be so kind, any available information concerning Mr. M. Pervis, aman of your department, dealing with the Dillinger and Nelson cases: If it is possible, I would greatly appreciate it, to have a short story of Mr. Pervis's life as a G. Man.

I thank you ever so much.

Yours truly,

*James Morgan*  
85 Hawthorne St.

James Molgano  
85 Hawthorne St.  
Stamford, Conn.

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
STAMFORD, CT  
JUL 18 11 AM 1940  
67-707



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mr. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau Of Invest.  
Washington,  
D. C.

CAH: JMU  
67-7489-537 August 20, 1940

*Handwritten initials*

Mr. James Molgano  
85 Hawthorne Street  
Stamford, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Molgano:

In the absence of Mr. Hoover from the city, I wish to acknowledge your communication of July 17, 1940, the contents of which will be called to the Director's attention upon his return to Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy  
Secretary

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Handwritten initials*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ AUG 30 1940 ★  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
 AUG 30 9 15 AM '40  
*Handwritten signature and initials*

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

SEP 20 9 22 AM '40

RECEIVED

RECEIVED-CPH  
SEP 20 5 30 PM '40

SUBSTITUTE FOR ITEM TIMED 923A

MELVIN H. PURVIS, FORMER G-MAN WHO TRACKED JOHN DILLINGER AND CHARLES "PRETTY BOY" FLOYD TO THEIR DEATHS, HAS BEEN SUGGESTED FOR APPOINTMENT AS FEDERAL JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA. PURVIS IS EDITOR OF A FLORENCE, S.C., NEWSPAPER.

9/20--R929A

67-

OUT OF SERVICE  
NOT RECORDED

*[Handwritten signature]*

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_

Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

002

**Purvis Suggested  
For U. S. Judgeship**

Melvin H. Purvis, former G-man who tracked John Dillinger and Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd to their deaths, has been suggested for appointment as Federal judge for the eastern district of South Carolina. Purvis now is editor of a Florence, S. C., newspaper and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in July.

REC'D  
SEP 20 1940

SEP 20 1940

PARKINGTON TIMES-HERALD

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

November 19, 1940

EAT:TEB

Time 4:55 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

FOR SERVICE

During telephonic conversation with Mr. Vanech in the Department he advised that Senator Smith of South Carolina has endorsed Melvin Purvis for a Judgeship. He stated he thought this information would be of interest to the Bureau.

Respectfully,

E. A. TAMM

539

DEC 4 1940

70-539  
TAMM  
CHIEF CLERK  
S. GANLEY  
TERRY

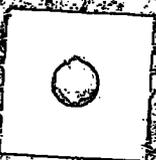
67-7089

RECORDED

FEDERAL

OCT 7 1940

Route  
Search  
Number



file

Mr. Edger Horn  
 I am asking you if you  
 would tell me if you  
 know this is the same  
 person and a book we  
 have seen in the  
 paper get the get  
 with the name ask him  
 the will be as said as a  
 book and intent on  
 we are doing good work  
 we closed up our was  
 selling powdered milk and  
 the Budweisers this is  
 and was in the we are  
 I hope if you see him or  
 hear of him let us know  
 a way to Mr and Mrs  
 Lawrence address your letter  
 to Lawrence Thomas B's and  
 3 and 1/2 way Street

OUT OF SERVICE

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

Mr. Tolson   
 Mr. Clegg   
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten signature]*

NOT RECORDED

67-

**Purvis May Be Judge**  
 Melvin H. Purvis, former G-man who tracked John Dillinger and Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd to their deaths, has been suggested for appointment as Federal judge for the Eastern District of South Carolina. Mr. Purvis is editor of a Florence, S. C., newspaper.

XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984

SEP 21 1940

WASH. NEWS

December 1, 1940

39600

Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:-  
OUT OF SERVICE

Will you please give me the present address of Mr.  
Purvis the man who caught John Dillinger.

*J. Dillinger*

Sincerely yours,

*Mabel E. Stewart*

1310 N. Main Street  
Brookfield, Mo.

RECORDED

67-7487-540

DEC 7 1940

Numbered

TOLSON

CHF. CLK.

DEC 19 1940

*Reply  
12-14-40  
Rett*

EX-109  
9 1940

RCH:AKK  
67-7489-540

December 14, 1940

Miss Mabel E. Sturtevant  
1310 North Main Street  
Brookfield, Missouri

Dear Miss Sturtevant:

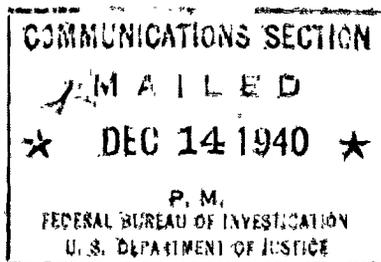
I have received your letter of December 1, 1940, and while I do not have the present address of Mr. Melvin H. Purvis I thought you might like to know that the late Inspector Samuel P. Cowley of this Bureau was in charge of the Special Agents who apprehended John Dillinger.

The stamped envelope which you forwarded is being returned.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure



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  
 Mr. Nease  
 Miss Gandy

CUT OF SERVICE

①  
**BAR SUSPENDS MELVIN PURVIS**  
 Melvin H. Purvis, former FBI agent, has been suspended from the California state bar for failure to pay dues. It was announced today by the State Supreme Court. Mr. Purvis, now Florence, S. C., publisher, notified the bar some weeks ago he wished to go on the inactive list.

67- NOT RECORDED

JAN 10 1944  
 SAN FRANCISCO NEWS  
 FORWARDED BY  
 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

DEC 19 1940

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Drayton
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Harbo
- Tele. Room
- Your Room
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Boehm
- Miss Gandy

EAT:GEG

July 16, 1941

Time: 9:25 A.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Vanech in Mr. McGuire's office called and stated that Congressman John L. McMillan of South Carolina is again pushing Melvin Purvis for a Federal judgeship, the Congressman having written a letter to the Department in this regard. Mr. Vanech stated he believed Ed Hodges in the Anti-Trust Division of the Department has a good chance of getting this appointment inasmuch as he is a good personal friend of Senator Smith of South Carolina and also has Senator Byrnes behind him.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

5 713041  
RECORDED

67-7489-541	
Routed <i>2</i>	Recorded.....
Search- <i>8</i>	Indexed.....
Numbered <i>11-30</i>	
JUL 24 1941	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	

TOLSON

NICHOLS

THREE

XEROX  
MISS GANDYAN 19 1984

EAT:DS

April 21, 1941

Mr. Melvin Purvis  
Publisher  
The Florence Evening Star  
Florence, South Carolina

Dear Melvin:

With reference to your telegram of April 10th concerning Alfredo de la Vega, I wanted to advise you that Mr. de la Vega called at the Bureau on April 12, 1941. He was interviewed by a Bureau official and furnished with an application blank in order that his desire to secure appointment to a position in the Bureau might receive appropriate consideration.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

XEROX

**COPY**  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 10, 1944

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

CARBON  
COPY

WH 35 67 DL

FLORENCE SO CAR APR 10 424P

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, PERSONAL

DIRECTOR, FBI, US DEPT, OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC.

WALTER CHRYSLER JUNIOR WIRES ME THAT A CLOSE FRIEND OF HIS NAMED ALFREDO DE LA VEGA NOW STAYING AT MAYFLOWER HOTEL WANTS TO SEE YOU. HE WILL TELEPHONE YOUR OFFICE TOMORROW FORENOON FOR APPOINTMENT. WALTER ASKED ME TO WIRE YOU IF YOU WOULD BE KIND ENOUGH TO SEE DE LA VEGA. WALTER WILL CONSIDER IT GREAT FAVOR IF YOU WILL. ALL GOOD WISHES TO YOU.

MELVIN PURVIS.

U.S.

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Drayton \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Tour Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

AMT:ESK

September 5, 1941

2:30 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. FOXWORTH

Major Beckett of MID, Extension 2414, War Department, called and stated that MID was considering former Special Agent in Charge Melvin Purvis for a position in the Military Intelligence Division. He indicated that possibly Mr. Purvis might be designated to be in charge of one of the MID field offices and Major Beckett inquired as to whether the Bureau's files contained any derogatory information concerning Purvis. He wanted to know if the Bureau would be willing to give him a recommendation.

I told Major Beckett I would have to check the files and would call him back tomorrow on this case.

Respectfully,

A. M. Thurston

SEP 22 1941

OUT OF SERVICE

Handled for T  
G

Mr. Tamm

His advise for you to take up with Maj. Beckett before you leave for the West. His doesn't want to go in record as not recommending Purvis but they should check into him.

9/6 1082

Routed	Indexed
Searched	Recorded
Numbered	Checked
Serialized	FILED 1941

67-7489-542

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 9 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOXWORTH TAMM

RECORDED

Done



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

WRG:1rd

January 7, 1942

MEMORANDUM

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Holloman	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

By reference from your office I spoke to a Mr. Deibler of the Federal Communications Commission concerning former Special Agent Melvin H. Purvis.

Mr. Deibler wanted to know whether Mr. Purvis was a man who had been dismissed from the service due to selling information. I advised him that he was not, that he had been with the Bureau for several years and for several years had been Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Office and had resigned several years ago.

OUT OF SERVICE

✓ W. J. Glavin  
JAN 31 1942  
RECORDED

67-7489-54 13

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 17 1942

Routed 46 Recorded 46

Searched 87 Checked 99

Numbered 11 Filed 122

Handwritten signature

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984



RKC:GJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

March 3, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NICHOLS

Re: Melvin Purvis,  
Former Special Agent

As a matter of information to the Bureau, there appeared under the column "U. S. and Us" in the March 2, 1942, issue of the Washington Times-Herald, a comment to the effect that former Special Agent Melvin Purvis of the FBI is presently in training as an officer in the Provost Marshal General's School, Arlington Cantonment, Arlington, Virginia.

You will recall that on Wednesdays and Thursdays of alternate weeks the training classes in the Provost Marshal General's School are taken on a special tour of this Bureau by Supervisors in the Crime Records Section. It is very likely that on the morning of March 11 or March 12, Purvis will be in the group which tours the Bureau. If he is not in one of those groups, the next possibility of his being here would be on March 25 or March 26.

Respectfully,

J. J. McGuire

MAR 18 1942  
RECORDED

67-7489-544	
Routed.....	Recorded.....
Searched 182	Indexed.....
Numbered 72	12/60
MAR 11 1942	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	

110/1000  
THREE

JAN 19 1984

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Neleman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahn \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

OUT OF SERVICE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

✓

File

RAW--The man who ambushed John Dillinger, one of the nation's most notorious gunmen, is now Capt. Melvin Purvis of the provost marshal general's office in the capital. The former G-man, who got a raw deal from headquarters because of the fame he gained in ending the Indiana boy's criminal career, now passes on all applications for enrollment in the Army's policing establishment.

Informational

L.A. Herald-Express

APR 23 1942 Ray Tucker's Column  
4/11/42

APR 22 1942

*[Handwritten signature]*

APR 20 1942

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E.A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Mr. Carson ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Hendon ✓
- Mr. Holloman ✓
- Mr. McGuire ✓
- Mr. Harbo ✓
- Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
- Tele. Room ✓
- Mr. Nease ✓
- Miss Beahm ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

*File*

*John Murphy*

*Du and*

APR 22 1942  
67-NOT RECORDED

67-

Routed  ... Recorded   
 Searched  ... Checked   
 Numbered  ... Filed   
 APR 22 1942  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 YEROZ  
 APR 19 1984  
 APR 17 1942

# Peter Carter Says: 17

NANCY HARTUNG, pretty brunette daughter of Mrs. Smith, Hartung, now of New York but formerly of Washington, was married to Lieutenant "Bud" Thompson, West Point graduate, in the Chapel at Fort Meyer last Monday.



Peter Carter

Nancy, who has been most successful as a model, is relinquishing a very successful career to become a lady of domesticity only. The groom had to return promptly to his post in Jackson, Miss., and his bride returned equally promptly to New York to gather together her trousseau before joining her husband in the South. Calvert Bowle, godfather of the bride, gave her away, and Mrs. Hartung had somehow managed in a very limited time to gather together all of her own friends as well as Nancy's (in Washington) for the wedding.

Bill and Patsy Bride are in the throes of interior decorating and getting settled in their new house on Legation Street. This house is not much bigger than a bandbox, but perfect in detail, and Patsy is enthralled with it.

Peggy Gibbins, lovely daughter of the late Gen. Henry Gibbins, will be married on April 25 to Noel Bride, son of Mrs. William Bride sr. The wedding will be at St. Matthew's Cathedral at five in the afternoon, and a very small reception, limited to the bridal party and two families, will follow immediately. Noel at the moment is at Camp Lee in the officers' training school and will be graduated with the rank of first lieutenant the very morning of his marriage. At the present, the thing worrying everyone is whether Noel will be able to make it to Washington exactly on time for his wedding, as his graduation exercises are somewhere around noon. "But," says one of the family, "there are always planes."

MELVIN PURVIS, former G-man, is now in Washington with the Provost Marshal's Office, and has the rank of major. Melvin, happily married to a childhood sweetheart, is, as everyone knows, extremely quiet and retiring, but he possesses that certain ring of authority in his voice which is never mistaken.

This town has lost two of its very nice young men—Joe Hayden and Tommy Campbell—who have departed for various Army camps and schools. Just before Tommy Campbell left, he was given a farewell party by his legal friends (Tommy is a lawyer) and the invitations were the most original I have seen in some time. T. Edward O'Connell was the moving spirit and had these invitations done in the form of a subpoena from the District Court of the United States here. The whole thing was done in such a realistic manner, with the legal forms, etc., that most of the guests who received them were scared skinny until they read them carefully through.

THE Seen and Heard Somewhere Department: "Whatever she wants to marry him for, I can't see, he is exactly like a setting hen."

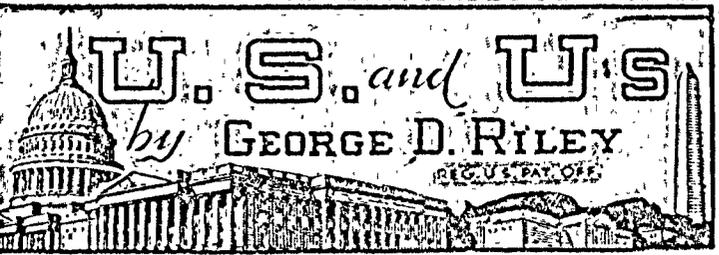
Mrs. Walter Watson, the irrepressible Nancy, is feeling very put upon. Recently she and Walter celebrated their wedding anniversary. One male came up the front walk, laden down with red roses and a corsage. "How nice," greeted Nancy, "but you shouldn't have brought me both roses and a corsage." "Don't worry," replied the unabashed male, "these aren't for you. I am taking them to the love of my life later on." And to cap the climax, another guest arrived with an armful of exquisite apple blossoms, said "hello" to Nancy and promptly gave the apple blossoms to Robert, the Watson butler, with instructions to put them in the ice box until Mrs. B. comes, they are for her." "Do you blame Nancy?"

OUT OF SERVICE

*Melvin Purvis*

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Holloman.....
- Mr. McGuire.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Mr. Nease.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*Redding*



# Frills and Reforms Fade

It has taken three months past the date of shooting war to prove that reformers fail with their made-work to build solidly enough in the Federal civilian service for mobility, flexibility and endurance.

Within two weeks of the start of Hitler's march in 1939 we pointed out the plans to shape American industry for war. We said then that William S. Knudsen would start the ball rolling. Nearly 300 days later he did.

Even as the Federal civilian service has been the subject of several dozen executive orders, each in its little way designed to get the administrative house in order for what most of us knew would be our part in the world conflagration. Finally the White House "froze" practically all personnel in their jobs. The "freeze" continued from July 1, 1940, until late in February 1942.



George D. Riley

Now it is "maximum speed" and "utilization" of all resources to strip the administrative service for war action. And we have gone as far in this direction as we had veered away nearly 30 months. Now there will be "no maximum age limit" for jobs except where appointing offices can submit a case otherwise. The administrative and executive dikes which have pent up the flood waters of civilian administrative labor supply finally have been broken—at least on paper.

Some long-range benefits may result. U.S. & U.S. has maintained a central application and tentative hiring office issuing uniform application blanks is necessary and that a permanent transfer agency is needed. Civil Service Commission says it is arranging the former modified.

Yesterday we said Oliver C. Short will be chief of War Transfer Service. Archie C. Edwards will be assistant chief, Room 1, 820 Seventh Street NW. Now if the high-powered Olson Committee, Interdepartmental Placement Service, Decentralization Service and the National Roster are merged maybe we can advance the paper plans.

# Office of Provost Marshal Expands

Office of the Provost Marshal General has become one of the most rapidly expanding branches of the Federal service. This branch was set up July 31, 1941, with one stenographer and five officers from Office of Judge Advocate General and one clerk from Adjutant General's office.

That office has grown to 125 civilians and 108 officers in the central office. There are 1,500 undercover men over the country. A provost marshal general's school has been established at Arlington, Va., with 30 officers on the faculty and 211 student officers.

In addition, a school of military government is being set up. Many professors of political science will teach carefully selected officers how to become civil administrators.

A corps of military police has been created with 51 new battalions of the "interior" type and 18 prisoner of war escort companies now in process of formation.

Investigations Division includes Capt. Melvin Purvis, formerly of FBI and famous as the Dillinger nemesis, and Capt. William B. Richardson.

According to Col. Archer L. Lerch, deputy provost marshal general, the work of Investigations Division includes examinations of records of applicants for important national defense positions, for directors of Civilian Conservation Corps, and undercover work in connection with prevention of crime and apprehension of criminals within the Army.

This is the division which supervises work of 1,500 undercover men. Already, this division has been able to solve some rather involved larceny cases and is making some hundred investigations daily of persons in the national defense setup.

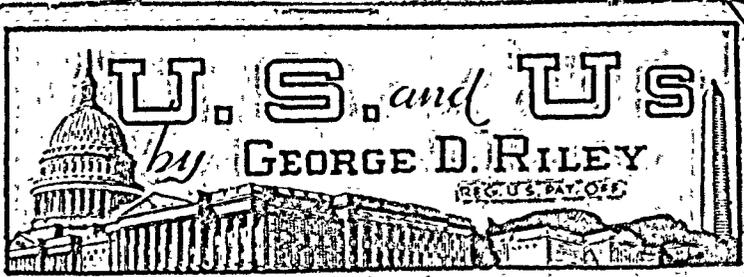
Emergency Operations Division is under command of Lieut.

Col. Homer W. Jones and is designed to take over whenever there is domestic disturbance, and is on the alert for sabotage, fire, riot, strike, or flood.

1942

149  
XEROX  
JAN 25 1984

67 NOT RECORDED



## Office of PMG Expands

Office of the Provost Marshal General has become one of the most rapidly expanding branches of the Federal service. This branch was set up July 31, 1941, with one stenographer and five officers from Office of Judge Advocate General and one clerk from Adjutant General's Office.

That office has grown to 125 civilians and 108 officers in the central office. There are 1,500 undercover men over the country. A provost marshal general's school has been established at Arlington, Va., with 30 officers on the faculty and 211 student officers.

In addition, a school of military government is being set up. Many professors of political science will teach carefully selected officers how to become civil administrators.



George R. Riley

A corps of military police has been created with 51 new battalions of the "interior" type and 18 prisoner of war escort companies are in process of formation.

Investigations Division includes Capt. Melvin Purvis, formerly of FBI and famous as the Dillinger nemesis, and Capt. William B. Richardson.

According to Col. Archer L. Lerch, deputy provost marshal general, "the work of Investigations Division includes examinations of records of applicants for important national defense positions, for directors of Civilian Conservation Corps, and undercover work in connection with prevention of crime and apprehension of criminals within the Army."

"This is the division which supervises work of 1,500 undercover men. . . . Already this division has been able to solve some rather involved larceny cases and is making some hundred investigations daily of persons in the national defense setup."

Emergency Operations Division is under command of Lieut. Col. Homer W. Jones and is designed to take over whenever there is domestic disturbance, and is on the alert for sabotage, fire, riot, strike, or fire.

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Glavin.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. I. G. [unclear].....
- Mr. M. [unclear].....
- Mr. G. [unclear].....
- Mr. N. [unclear].....
- Miss Gandy.....

*File*

O.S.

38  
 m/l?  
 Purvis  
 not on Burd  
 ml  
 3-6-42  
 mcd

IPCA

WASHINGTON, D.C., TIMES-HERALD

March 2, 1942

NOT RECORDED

JUN 19 1942



HHC:BG

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

March 9, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Holloman
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

Captain Albert E. DuBois, NPA graduate, formerly of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Police Department and now with the Provost Marshal General's Staff, called. He is attending a school called the Provost Marshal General's School. It started off as a Military Police School but General Gullion changed its name. He is the Provost Marshal General. Several such schools are being conducted. There were 200 in his school. They are being trained for two months. One month is devoted to traffic control; two weeks are devoted to military police duties and two weeks are being devoted to crime detection. So far the crime detection work has related to crimes on government reservations.

I asked him if there was an investigative unit which would bear relationship to the Provost Marshal's Office similar to the detective bureau to a patrol force. He stated there was such an organization, solely on paper to date. Rumor has it that Melvin Purvis, now attached to the Provost Marshal General's Office, will be connected with this organization. He stated this was in a state of rumor up to this point.

The general idea of the entire school is to train men to perform duties in those areas where marshal law is declared and for the first time in Army history, it is all being done on a nation-wide basis under the Provost Marshal General. He stated that what they needed is a great deal of inspiration, idealism and more practical training.

He asked if I would consent, if he made the recommendation to his superior, to talk before his school either during a regular class or at the graduation, although he was not sure there would be a graduation. I explained to him how very busy we all were at this time and the fact it was unlikely that anyone could be made available due to the heavy burdens already existing on the Bureau's entire staff. He stated that he is going to make the recommendation at any rate and he hoped that the Bureau would give it such consideration as was possible at the time such a communication came, if it did. I told him of course the Director would consider it, depending upon the situation existing at the time any such invitation was extended. He stated that obviously no one in high authority in the Army was acquainted with police duties and this was reflected in the school and its organization.

*In view of open & marked hostility of Provost Marshal General toward FBI we will not be available.*

Respectfully,  
H. H. Clegg

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
MAR 16 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Kramer
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

JEN:ESP

November 25, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROSEN

As of possible interest I desire to record the fact that on November 25, 1942, I had lunch with Captain Carl Eardley, attached to the Provost Marshal General's Office, Western Defense Command. Captain Eardley advised he is presently attending the school for criminal investigators being conducted by Lieutenant Colonel Melvin H. Purvis. This school has been held at Fort Oglethorpe and is presently being moved to Battle Creek, Michigan. Captain Eardley stated the school has been organized for the purpose of training investigators to handle petty offenses committed by armed personnel, both on and off Government reservations. He indicated they used two films prepared by the Bureau, one being the "Technique and Mechanics of Arrest" and the other showing an organized raid on an apartment house.

Mr. Eardley informed that a former Agent named Hancock also acts as an instructor in this school. He said he believes Purvis is ambitious to establish "a little FBI" within the Army but as far as he, Eardley, can see Purvis is bogged down with Army red tape and he doubts very much that an organization of any importance will develop. He indicated the course of instruction will cover about fifteen weeks.

Respectfully,

J. B. Nugent

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
DEC 27 1942

67-7489-545  
6 DEC 31 1942  
FBI FILE SECTION

OUT OF SERVICE



New Haven, Connecticut  
September 21, 1942

RTS:DB

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL:

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Confirming my telephone conversation with Assistant Director RICHARD GLAVIN at 9:00 P.M. on September 8, 1942, please be advised that on September 6, 1942 Special Agent ROSYELL T. SPENCER of this office, in conducting another official investigation, contacted [redacted]

[redacted] who advised him that Mr. LEON TURROW, a former Special Agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, had been in Greenwich, Connecticut and stated that he, TURROW, together with MELVIN PULANIS, another former special agent, were getting commissions as Majors in the U.S. Army Counter-Espionage Unit.

[redacted] advised Agent Spencer that Mr. TURROW had told him that he could secure a Captain's commission in the U.S. Army for him. He stated that TURROW had told him that their work was to be that of counter-espionage overseas behind the lines.

[redacted] further intimated that Mr. TURROW was looking for other recruits, particularly Bureau trained men.

Inasmuch as the above information was told to Agent Spencer in the strictest confidence, it is requested that every effort be made to keep [redacted] undisclosed. This is being furnished to you for information purposes.

Very truly yours,

R. H. Simons  
Special Agent in Charge

b7D

EX-100

JAN 20 1944

9 OCT 5 1942

SWR:hs

November 19, 1942

MR. CUNNINGHAM

Reference is made to a letter to the Director dated September 21, 1942 from Special Agent in Charge, New Haven, Connecticut. This letter concerns statements made by former Special Agent Leon Turrow to the effect that he and former Special Agent Helvin Purvis were obtaining commissions as Majors in the United States Army, Counter Espionage Unit.

This matter was discussed with Captain Calvert, who advised that a tab has been placed against the name of Turrow in the files of G-2, indicating that this man should not be commissioned until he has been thoroughly investigated. Captain Calvert stated that Purvis has a commission as Major in the Provost Marshal General's Office and there is no indication that he is working in any Counter Espionage Unit. He stated that as of the present time, he does not believe Turrow has received any commission.

Respectfully,

S. W. Reynolds

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED

June 9, 1942

GCB:GS

MR. LADD

Reference is made to the memorandum for the Director by Mr. Tamm dated June 5, 1942, with reference to the report that Leon Turrou was to be commissioned a Captain in the Office of the Provost Marshal General.

Pursuant to your instructions, I contacted Colonel Bissell. Colonel Bissell stated that several days ago Mr. Tamm had called him about this matter and that immediately thereafter he had called a friend of his in the Office of the Provost Marshal General and had been advised that Turrou was almost sure to receive a commission because he was "thoroughly vouched for by Captain Melvin Purvis". Colonel Bissell stated that he would make further efforts to block this appointment, but stated that it looked like it was out of his hands by this time.

Respectfully,

G. C. Burton

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

September 9, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On September 9, 1942 Mr. Winfield C. Cook, Acting Regional Director, Facility Security Branch, Office of Civilian Defense, 1528 Baltimore Trust Building, Baltimore, Maryland, contacted this office and stated that he was in Richmond, Virginia, with a view to setting up a program relative to the prevention of sabotage.

Mr. Cook related that his program was in connection with the Executive Order 9165 and that the program had been discussed with Mr. P. E. Foxworth, Assistant Director in charge of the New York Office of this Bureau. Mr. Cook stated that his program had as its primary purpose the coordination of nine Federal investigative agencies.

He advised that within the near future fifteen men would be taken from the State of Virginia and trained at Fort Ogelthorpe, Ga. under the direction of Melvin Purvis, formerly connected with this Bureau. He stated that they would receive intensive training in fingerprinting, firearms, raids, quick draws, laws of arrest and the methods of sabotage. Mr. Cook advised that through his program he believed that they could be of assistance to us in educating the employees of the various plant facilities in the state in the method of following sabotage.

Mr. Cook has advised that as soon as some definite program is set up in the State of Virginia he will confer with me further in connection with this matter.

Very truly yours,

H. I. BOBBITT  
Special Agent in Charge

JEL:EH

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

418

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

CC-258



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

September 9, 1942

WRG:lrd  
8:50 A.M.

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Goshin \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM

SAC Simons of the New Haven Office communicated with me and stated that he had been advised by [redacted] [redacted] had been contacted by Leon Turrou who advised that he and Melvin Purvis were contacting men for counter-espionage work in G-2.

b7D

I later advised Mr. Simons that Turrou had no authority to do such recruiting and suggested that he tell [redacted] to check into it a little further before he commits himself to any plan advanced to him by Turrou.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
W. F. Glavin

*Mr. Simons  
adv 9/10/42*

67-6600-477  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 SEP 11 1942  
 Routed *SK* Recorded \_\_\_\_\_  
 Searched *17* Checked \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number *45* Filed \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten Signature]*

OUT OF SERVICE



LBN:NWD

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

June 15, 1942

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

For record purposes and possible future reference, Kenneth Crawford of PM newspaper called on me on the afternoon of June 10th. He stated that he had learned from various sources that General Gullion and the Provost Marshal General's Office were engaged in activities that were not particularly desirable. He stated that he was doing a general story on the encroachment of the military on civil matters in war-time and pointing out the attending dangers which attached thereto.

He then went on to advise that the outfit General Gullion is setting up has potential dangers, particularly in view of the attitude of General Gullion. He stated that Gullion and Purvis together with other members of the clique meet at a Mrs. Moorhead's apartment at periodic intervals; that one of the members of this clique is General Searles, head of Public Relations of the War Department.

He stated that he understood that we had had some difficulty on the part of Gullion's interference in Japanese matters on the West Coast. I pointed out that probably the dealings with the War Department were through Mr. L. M. C. Smith or Mr. Ennis of the Department. At this point Crawford volunteered that he had received the entire story from Jim Rowe and that Rowe had referred to the encroachment and interference on the West Coast. I suggested that Rowe should be in a position then to furnish him with all the details. He also mentioned that he had talked to the Attorney General about this.

He referred to the anti-Semitic view of Gullion and others and to their feeling toward the Bureau. I told him that there was of course no comment that we could make on the matter.

He brought up the question of Purvis's <sup>Index</sup> Bureau record. I did not discuss Purvis but did point out that Inspector Cowley was in charge of the Dillinger case; that he operated more or less quietly while Purvis did a certain amount of "fronting." Crawford stated that he had heard that Purvis was not highly regarded by the Bureau. I did not comment or deny this.



COPY IN FILE

Memorandum for Mr. Tolson

Page Two

He wondered if there were any leads that we could give him. I told him that we would certainly keep this in mind, although as I had indicated there was no comment we could make.

Crawford was very affable and referred voluntarily to his new understanding of the Bureau, stating that he wished he could come over and see us more often and referred to the dinner I had with him some months ago. I pointed out that I had noted that his paper had taken a few digs but that he had not resorted to some of his old tricks - shooting darts at the Bureau. He laughed and stated that "You don't have to worry about me." He pointed out that he had an entirely new understanding of the Bureau and was still sorry for some of the things he had said and done.

Respectfully,

✓

  
L. B. Nichols

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Kramer
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

**SUES ENGINEER 3**



ONCE KNOWN as, the most photographed model, Janice Jarrett is suing in Texas to divorce John T. Deely, to whom she was married in 1939. Earlier she had broken engagement to Melvin Purvis, G-man.

CUT OF SERVICE

116  
RECORDED

67-

Routed... Recorded...  
 Searched... Checked...  
 Numbered... Filed...  
 JUN 25 1942  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FRANK

New York Post

6-18-42

XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984

By

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR  
JPM:KGB



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
April 16, 1942

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Holloman	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Boehm	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. GLAVIN

RE: SPECIAL AGENTS WITH RESERVE COMMISSIONS

*General*

You will recall that Major A. C. Kelly of the Adjutant General's Office previously contacted you regarding the names of those agents who had not submitted their resignations to the Secretary of War and he requested that he be recontacted regarding this matter. On a return call Major Kelly advised that Major Gray of the Provost Marshal General's Office desired some information regarding those agents who had not submitted their resignations. Major Kelly indicated that Major Gray would call at the Bureau regarding this matter.

On April 15, 1942, Major Gray called in person and stated he was desirous of obtaining the names of the agents who had not submitted their resignations so that they might be called to active duty by his office.

Major Gray was furnished the names of the ten Special Agents who had not submitted their resignations as well as the corps area to which they were assigned and the branch of service. He was also given the EOD date on these agents. He was further informed that certain of the agents had already reported for active duty.

He mentioned incidentally that former SAC Melvin Purvis was serving as an officer in the Investigative Division of the Provost Marshal General's Office.

He indicated that there was no further information he desired at this time and he was informed if there was anything the Bureau could furnish him, he should not hesitate to call.

Respectfully,

*J. P. Mohr*  
J. P. Mohr

67-0-5201

APR 20 1942

Route 56

43 55

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

INDEXED

FILED

cc: Mr. Wilcox

copy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 8, 1943

LEN:RC

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Major Oliver McKEE who is now assigned to the Provost Marshal General's School at Charlottesville, Virginia, has informed me that while at Camp Custer near Battle Creek, Michigan, he learned that Colonel Melvin Purvis was either Commanding Officer or Executive Officer of the M.P. Officer Candidate School.

McKee's class had no contact with Colonel Purvis nor had he heard any gossip or talk about Purvis' activities. Oliver stated he would try to drop in and see us when he got to Washington this fall.

Respectfully,

s/L. B. Nichols

L. B. Nichols

NOT OF RECORD  
ORIGINAL FILED IN

RECORDED

67-7427-546

SEARCHED

INDEXED

OCT 27 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy ✓

*SP*

*J.M.N.*

**Top Prexy**



Lieut. Col. Melvin Purvis, former ace G-man, has been named director of all enlisted men's schools in the Battle Creek, Mich., area. Col. Purvis formerly was director of the Chicago FBI office when Dillinger was trailed and slain as he tried to escape up an alley.

8 MAY 27 1943

97-102 REPORT

*P. J. ...*

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

MAY 11 1943

JKM:GS  
Call 2:00 p.m.

April 6, 1943

MR. LADD

RE: LEON TURROU

ASAC Donegan called at this time with the thought that the Bureau might be interested to know that he had just learned that Turrou enlisted in the Army as a Private on April 5, 1943. It is understood that he will be assigned to the Provost Marshal General's branch and will work under Melvin Purvis doing training work.

Respectfully,

J. K. Mumford

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

APR 10 1943  
RECORDED  
INDEXED

LBN:HBM

February 2, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

A Mr. Bowman of the London Daily Mail called. He wanted to secure some information on "the G-man Purvis who killed Dillinger and is now heading up the War Crimes Section."

*Malvin Purvis*

I told Bowman that this was a War Department matter, that we of course could furnish him with no information. I did point out that Mr. Purvis was assigned to the Chicago Office during the time that Dillinger was being sought, that he did work under the Inspector, Sam Cowley, who deserves the credit for the actual apprehension of Dillinger, and I also told him a few other minor items.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

Whenever opportunity presents itself get over truth--Purvis did not kill Dillinger and had very little to do in the case. Cowley was in charge and deserves the credit. H.

RECORDED - 144

67-7489-546X	
Searched	Indexed
AUG 12	

DEMOX

11-2-1958

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-29777-7096X

12  
6 AUG 15 1958

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

February 19, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NICHOLS

The Director might be interested in information received by Agent Mason to the effect that Colonel Melvin Jurvis was separated from the Army last week and he has now returned to civilian life. It is presumed that he will take up his old activities in North Carolina.

Former SAC Sackett who is a Colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Office of the Army has recently returned from Tokyo where he was engaged in preparing cases against Japanese war criminals. It is understood that in the near future Sackett will enter Walter Reed Hospital to have his hemorrhoids removed and thereafter will return to civil life.

Respectfully,

M. A. Jones

4 APR 15 1946

7427-547

Record

8 MAR



REC'D  
PERSONNEL UNIT

FEB 7 9 53 AM '46

FEB 14 3 09 PM '46

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

F B I

FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEB 7 8 54 AM '46

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

F B I

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEB 14

RECEIVED-TAMM  
F B I  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FEB 7 4 19 PM '46

*2nd* **Melvin Purvis, Formerly With  
FBI, Promoted To Colonel**



MELVIN PURVIS, of Florence, S. C., formerly with the FBI, whose promotion to full colonelcy has been announced. Colonel Purvis has been serving as deputy provost marshal general of the North African theater of operations at headquarters in North Africa since going overseas in September, 1943. He entered the army at the beginning of the war as a captain. He is the brother of Mrs. Henri Goug and Mrs. Samuel P. Swafford of Columbia, S. C. His wife is the former Miss Rosanne Wilcox of Florence, S. C. A graduate of the University of South Carolina, Colonel Purvis was with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and as an FBI agent was instrumental in the slaying of John Dillinger, then Public Enemy No. 1, several years ago.

*1/1*

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. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

READY  
72

NOT RECORDED  
87 JUL 12 1944

*Carolina Sheriff & Police Review*  
*3rd quarter 1944*  
Submitted by *Charleston*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd  
FROM : L. R. Pennington  
SUBJECT:

DATE: June 5, 1946

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

*OK*

At the meeting of the Americanism Commission yesterday in Indianapolis I had a long talk with one of the new members, Lieutenant Colonel Karl Nash who was in charge of CID work in the European Theater. He stated he had worked with a number of our men prior to these men being returned to the United States.

Colonel Nash stated he had numerous contacts with Melvin Purvis and Leon Turrou. He stated that both men were incompetent, thoroughly despised and both had yellow streaks up their backs. He stated this was generally known and he had informed Turrou to stay away from his headquarters and his men. He further stated that Turrou was originally refused a commission and through the finagling of Melvin Purvis finally secured one. He further stated he knew that Turrou and two other incompetents received their promotions as the result of extensive loans made to Purvis. He stated Purvis actually owed Turrou \$11,000.

I inquired as to how Melvin Purvis would need such sums and he stated that when Purvis returned to South Carolina after having made considerable easy money in this country he endeavored to live like a country gentleman and built a home away out of proportion to his income and as a result was continuously financially strapped.

He stated that from personal observation of Purvis' cowardice in the European Theater he definitely knew the reason why another man was substituted for Purvis to be in charge of the capture of Dillinger. Colonel Nash stated that both Turrou and Purvis were pathological liars; that he came in contact with Turrou's son who had formerly been a Bureau employee and he was about as bad as his father.

AUG 19 1946

*well the truth will out*

67- 748,548

SEARCHED 3

INDEXED 1

XEROX

JAN 19 1984

1 JUN 27

July 10, 1946

7489-549

AUG 14 1946

Mr. J. Reuben Long  
Attorney-at-Law  
Conway, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Long:

Upon my return to the city, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 24, 1946, in which you make inquiry concerning Mr. M. H. Purvis, a former Special Agent of this Bureau.

Representatives of the FBI do not serve as prosecuting officers. The FBI is an investigative agency and it is our responsibility to secure the facts, which are then presented to the various United States Attorneys and the prosecutive officials of the Department of Justice for decision as to prosecution.

I trust this will answer your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CT:DSS

- 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. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

JUL 10 1946 P.M.

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
JUL 10 4 02 PM '46

RECORDED & INDEXED

J. Reuben Long

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
CONWAY, S. C.

June 24, 1946

SOLICITOR  
12TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Hon. John Edgar Hoover  
Chief Federal Bureau Investigator  
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Sir:

If there is no impropriety in your doing so, and no violation of the rules or regulations of your Department, I would appreciate it very much, in deed, if you would be kind enough to forward me a record of the Trials engaged in by Mr. Melvin Purvis, a former member of your Department. If there should be any cost, incident to the compilation, I should be glad to pay same upon the receipt of your bill.

I might add that Mr. Purvis is seeking a Public Office, and as I am advised claims a record of numerous trials on the part of the prosecution. My interest in this record is not one of mere curiosity, as Mr. Purvis is seeking the position I have had the Honor of filling for the past eight years.

If you are unable to give me this information, and can advise me were I might obtain the same, I will appreciate it if you will do so.

Thanking you in advance for your early attention to this, I am,

Yours very truly

*J. Reuben Long*  
J. Reuben Long

JRL:mp

ADG 11946

RECORDED

67- 7489- 549	
Searched	68
Indexed	68-33
JUL 12 1946	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	

*ack 7/10/46*

*Mr. Hoover*  
*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. Harbo*  
*Mr. Hendon*  
*Mr. Pennington*  
*Mr. Quinn*  
*Mr. Nease*  
*Miss Gandy*

XEROX  
JAN 15 1984

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON *W.A.*

DATE: 12-20-46

FROM : W. R. GLAVIN

SUBJECT:

- 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. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

Mr. Tiesen, from the office of the Assistant Secretary of War, telephonically communicated with me inquiring as to whether the Bureau knew the present address of Melvin Purvis. Mr. Tiesen stated that the Army was particularly anxious to get in touch with him to handle Chief Special Investigator's job in Tokyo.

**RECORDED**

I told Mr. Tiesen I did not know where Mr. Purvis was at the present time; that he undoubtedly was at home in Florence, South Carolina.

*Mr. Tolson advised*  
*W.A.*

*Handwritten signature*

67-7489-550

Filed

5 DEC 30 1946

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*Handwritten signature*

THREE

11 19 1946

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744

11-6

1946

TO:

- Director
- Mr. Edward Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy
- Personnel Files Section
- Records Section
- Mrs. Skillman

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*  
 G. E. ...  
 J. ...

See Me For Appropriate Action

Send File Note and Return

Clyde Tolson

*Re - Former Bureau Employees*

## Purvis Says Youth Must Play Role in Crime War

Former Ex-FBI Agent Says Young People Must Be Given Place in 'Scheme of Things'

We will have taken long strides in cutting crime to an absolute minimum if we make the young people of today feel they are a vital part in the scheme of things in the home, community and government, Col. Melvin Purvis, former FBI agent, told a large audience last night at Irem Temple.

Col. Purvis was introduced by study by the best minds in our country if we are to curb the crime which is again becoming rampant in certain parts of the country.

Warden William B. Healey and greeted with a great deal of whistling and cheers by several hundred members of the Luzerne County Junior Police.

The appearance of Col. Purvis, first speaker on the Wyoming Valley Lecture Series this season, was under the auspices of the Grebe Lecture Agency.

"I have come to detest the term juvenile delinquency," Col. Purvis said, and added, "our delinquency is adult. There is no juvenile delinquency except in mentally defective incorrigibles."

Col. Purvis expressed a strong faith in the youth of today. He said they should be taught sportsmanship, federal, state, county, and city laws and they should have a knowledge of the laws on wild life.

He stated that he didn't believe we are going to completely eradicate crime but it can be lessened with some formal thinking and action. He advocated a strong law enforcement agency, federal, state, and municipal, to combat crime. "Parole, investigating, penal, and law enforcement agencies must work hand in hand to accomplish this," he said.

Col. Purvis remarked that there was need for a long range program to be designed after long

For the benefit of his junior audience, he described the captures of "Pretty Boy" Floyd, whom he termed an incorrigible and John Dillinger, as a case of a paroled man. He said both were examples of men who thought they could beat the law.

Col. Purvis decried the so-called code of criminals. He said, "They will squeal on one another in order to save their own hides."

Parole and penal institutions in his opinion are archaic. He said after a man has been sentenced and served his time or has been paroled he is released but one thing is forgotten. That is the abnormal life the man has lived while in prison, which has left a mark on him, he said.

"When a man has committed a crime and he is captured, immediately a study should be made of his background." The law enforcement agencies should work closer with the parole and penal institutions when a man has paid his debt to society, Purvis proposed.

Yesterday morning, he spoke to approximately 800 students of Bucknell Junior College.

He told them veterans are in no way to blame for any condition which exists in the nation today. Rather, he said, the people are to blame. The veterans, he added, have not been treated right in many ways and have not been made to feel they are part of the country.

- ✓
- 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. Harbo ✓
  - Mr. Pennington ✓
  - Mr. Quinn ✓
  - Mr. Nease ✓
  - Miss Gandy ✓

WILKES BARRE RECORD  
WILKES BARRE, PENN.  
Oct. 23, 1946

NOV 20 1946

OCT 25 1946  
PHILADELPHIA OFFICE  
FILE

# Purvis, Dillinger Nemesis, Says Public Morals Better

Morals and respect for law are better in the United States today than in 1934 when he rounded up the Dillinger gang in Chicago, so declared Col. Melvin Purvis, former FBI agent, here today. But he warned we are headed for an era of crime—we are almost in it, he said.

Col. Purvis who also ended the crime careers of "Pretty Boy" Floyd and "Baby Face" Nelson, will speak tonight at 8:30 in Irem Temple under auspices of the Grebe Lecture Agency. Some 1,000 members of the Junior Police will hear him.

This morning Col. Purvis spoke to approximately 800 students at Bucknell Junior College. He told them veterans are in no way to blame for any condition which exists in the nation today. Rather, he said, the people are more to blame. The veterans, he added, have not been treated right in many ways and have not been made to feel they are part of the country.

### Cooperation Needed

"We must have strong law enforcement organization," Col. Purvis said. "But this is not the entire answer to the crime situation. Naturally we must adopt forceful means and even expedient measures to cope with the present growing crime element."

Parole and penal institutions, in his opinion, are archaic. They should work hand in hand from the time of the identification of crime. The law enforcement agencies, he continued, should work closer with parole and penal institutions when a man has paid his debt to society.

Col. Purvis is a lawyer with offices in Florence, South Carolina, but during the Fall and Winter months is scheduled to give lectures in several parts of the country.



COL. MELVIN PURVIS

During World War II he was originally a captain in the Judge Advocate General's Department. At the outbreak of hostilities he was loaned to the Provost Marshal General and was a director of Officer Candidate School. He served as Deputy Marshal General in North Africa in that theatre of operations, and was called back to the United States to help organize the War Crime Office, of which he was deputy director. Returning to Germany for war crimes work, he was in charge of investigation and apprehension program.

s Barre Times Leader  
Barre, Penna.

Oct. 22, 1946

SEARCHED	INDEXED	SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 24 1946			OFFICE
FBI - BARRE			FILE

JAN 19 1984

### Junior Police Unit To Hear FBI Official

Kingston Unit Junior Police will meet in front of the high school tonight at 7. Members of the committee will accompany the boys to Irem Temple where they will hear Melvin Purvis, assistant to J. Edgar Hoover, of the FBI. Boys in sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades are invited to attend.

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 24 1946	
FBI - WILKES BARRE	

The Wilkes Barre Record  
Wilkes Barre, Penna.  
Oct, 22, 1946

XEROX  
JAN 19 1984

## FBI Man to Address Boys Tuesday Night

Col. Melvin Purvis, former FBI man who broke the John Dillinger gang, will speak before young boys Tuesday night at Irem Temple.

Col. Purvis's visit here was announced yesterday afternoon at the meeting of the Police Executives Association in Legion Hall, Georgetown, with Georgetown Chief of Police Michael Skuba as host.

Tickets will be distributed among boys from 10 to 16, and admittance will be by ticket alone, the executives said. The Purvis talk is not intended for adults.

Paul Kelly, attached to the immigration office in the Wilkes-Barre Post Office Building, was speaker at yesterday's meeting and he chose for his topic "Legislation."

The Wilkes Barre Record  
Wilkes Barre, Penna.  
Oct. 19, 1946

PHILADELPHIA	IMMIGRATION OFFICE
OCT 24 1946	
PHILADELPHIA	OFFICE
FILE	

MEMOR  
JAN 19 1984

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *[Signature]*

FROM : V. P. KEAY *[Signature]*

SUBJECT: FORMER SPECIAL AGENT MELVIN PURVIS  
ADMINISTRATIVE

DATE: September 3, 1948

Mr. Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. E. A. Tamm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Ladd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Carson	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Egan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Gurnea	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Harbo	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Hendon	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Pennington	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Quinn Tamm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Nease	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Beahm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Miss Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reference is made to telephonic inquiry of the Director as to whether former Special Agent Melvin Purvis is employed by the Air Corps in investigating crashes of Air Corps planes to determine if sabotage was the cause of the crash.

Colonel C. P. Martin, of Air Corps Intelligence, caused inquiry to be made which resulted in the determination that Purvis is not employed by any section or division of the Air Corps. Colonel Martin further advised that Purvis holds a reserve commission as a Colonel in the Judge Advocate General's Division, and that he is not at the present time on active duty. Colonel Martin advised that the possibility exists that Purvis may have been employed by some local Commander to make a specific investigation, but that, if such was done, Air Corps Headquarters is not aware of it.

A check was made with the Civil Aeronautics Administration and the Civil Aeronautics Board by SA Edward S. Sanders, and it was determined that Purvis is not employed by either.

ESS:hke

67-7489-551

Numbered ..... 77

Filed ..... 8

SEP 22 1948

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDS SECTION

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ (✓)
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_ (✓)
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ (✓)
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

*We should try  
to check this  
this season.*

- See Me \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- For Your Recommendation ( )
- What are the facts? ( )
- Remarks:

*H.*

RECEIVED  
 FBI  
 3 3 2 03 PM '44

*1004*

# Leonard Lyons

NEW YORK.—Melvin J. Purvis, the former G-man who shot John Dillinger, will become a candidate for office in South Carolina . . . Decca has acquired the rights to the Yiddish song, "Mein Shtaytela Beltz," and will release recordings with English lyrics . . . In 1943, during the Nazi occupation of France, St. Nazaire ordered new locks for its waterways. The locks were ordered from the Mann Co. in Gustafsberg, Germany. This month the locks were delivered.

Gertrude Lawrence, who received an honorary master of fine arts degree from Ithaca, said the other night: "When I think of the initials 'G.L.M.F.A.' I feel so Lucky Strike-ish."

Last week the Latin Quarter celebrated its sixth anniversary. Lou Walters, proprietor of the club which is one of the largest in New York, started his career in Boston. He opened his first Latin Quarter there, with a great deal of trepidation and very little cash. The Boston critics who reviewed that opening described the place as having color and charm, because of the checkered tablecloths—Walters selected them because it would cut his laundry bill—and because of the unique lighting—Walters placed wax candles into the necks of empty liquor bottles, only because he couldn't afford to buy lamps.

Victor Gallanz, the British publisher, heard of "The Nazarovs," the new novel by Mrs. Louis Fischer, and told Fischer he'd sign a contract for the British rights merely on Fischer's say-so. Gallanz signed the contract, but only after Fischer insisted on taking him to his hotel and giving him a copy of the book.

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Mr. Egan ✓
- Mr. Gurnea ✓
- Mr. Harbo ✓
- Mr. Mohr ✓
- Mr. Pennington ✓
- Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
- Mr. Nease ✓
- Miss Gandy ✓

*Handwritten notes:*  
 12/15  
 1/1  
 m

*Handwritten signature:* m Nichols ✓

11 AUG 13 1948

67-
Searched _____
Numbered _____
Filed <u>66</u>
4 JUL 22 1948
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDS SECTION

XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984

WASHINGTON POST  
 Page 1215  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

JUN 15 1948

*Handwritten notes:*  
 12/15  
 1/1  
 m

# Amateurs Blot Gangsters Out, Asserts Purvis

FLORENCE, S.C., Feb. 5 (UP)—Melvin Purvis, the former G-man who tracked down Dillinger, said today that amateur competition has put the public enemy out of business.

"There's no dearth of bad men, but they just don't get the publicity they used to with so many amateurs crowding into the act," Purvis said. "A professional gangland killer would need a press agent to make a name for himself these days."

## They Make Headlines

"In the old days, the gang personalities in Chicago and New York made the headlines. Today you are as apt to find the story about an ax murder in Oshkosh or a man running amok in Missouri."

All of which suits Purvis because he never entered the chase of public enemies voluntarily and is more than content now as a gentleman farmer on his Mississippi-bordered plantation near here and as owner-manager of radio station WOIS.

At 44, he is a smallish, gray-haired man who never would be taken for the onetime chief of the Chicago FBI office and director of the dangerous six-month hunt for the notorious John Dillinger.

## Gets Calls for Advice

Despite his 13-year retirement from active police work, Purvis still gets periodical calls for advice from Florence citizens who need official help. He listens sympathetically and refers his callers to the police.

"I don't like guns and shooting and violence," he explained. "I got into the FBI by mistake

at the first place and I want no part of it."

When he was 23, he said, he went to Washington with his law school diploma, hoping to secure a diplomatic post with the assistance of the late Sen. E. D. (Cotton) Ed. Smith of South Carolina. He got the job—but a four-month waiting period was involved so he dropped around the FBI office to see if he could not

work while passing the time.

Sent to Dallas by FBI

The FBI sent him to Dallas as the youngest agent in the service and it was eight years before he retired from the G-men. He entered the Dillinger case in February 1934 after the killer escaped from the Crown Point, Ind., jail by brandishing a wooden

pistol and crossed the sky in a stolen automobile, making himself a federal quarry.

The late "woman in red" finally provided the tip that enabled Purvis and fellow agents to trip Dillinger in a Chicago movie house after the gang had been broken up. He reached for his gun but the G-men were too quick and too many and Dillinger died in an alley.

Soon thereafter Purvis returned

from the seclusion to return to Florence where he practiced law and ran a new business. He took a lucrative legal job on the

West Coast for two years and when the war came along he was called to Washington as a reserve officer. He helped organize the famed criminal investigation division of the Army and later served as intelligence officer in North Africa and Sicily and with

the war crimes division in Germany.

He has settled down again and "this time I mean it," Purvis said.

*PHOTO COPY*

*Index*

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. Harbo	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Jones	✓
Mr. Leonard	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*JAN 10 1948*

6 FEB 26 1948

67-7489-05

Searched *32*

Numbered *32*

Filed *32*

3 FEB 19 1948

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

another case of one who was made by the Bureau & would never have been heard of had for his FBI connections. He has done himself proud here.

FEB 6 1948

Times Herald Page 7

RECORDS SECTION

XEROX

JAN 10 1984

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 5, 1947

FROM : SAC, Houston

SUBJECT: SOCIETY OF FORMER SPECIAL AGENTS OF THE FBI  
HOUSTON DIVISION

As a matter of interest to the Bureau, I am forwarding herewith a clipping which appeared in the Sunday edition of the HOUSTON POST on May 4, 1947.

CBS:NK

Encl. (1)

7  
9 JUN 14 1947

EX-102  
JUN 14 1947

# Fellowship as Members of F. B. I. Kept Alive

## 36 Former G-Men Hold Key Civilian Jobs Here

By ELBERT TURNER

What happens when the ex-G-Man returns to civilian ranks?

The answer is that 36 ex-members of J. Edgar Hoover's famous F. B. I. have become an integrated part of Houston's business and industrial life. They are now using the renowned G-Man training in helping solve the problems of peace.

But once a G-Man, always a G-Man.

To keep alive the fellowship enjoyed as members of the F. B. I., these ex-agents have banded together into the Society of Former Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Officers are Erik G. Peterson, president; Tom G. Kelliher, vice president, and Lewis LaMaster, secretary-treasurer. This is the local chapter of the national society, which has more than 1200 members in a world-wide organization.

On the local scene, the older and better known former F. B. I. agents are Charles W. McPhail, former Houston chief of police, now vice president of the Houston Lighting and Power company and a member of the Houston school board; Mr. Peterson, independent oil operator; and A. T. (Ted) Deere, general superintendent, plant protection division, Dow Chemical company.

Another local old-time agent and survivor of the Kansas City massacre, organized crime's boldest offensive against law and order, is Joe Lackey, assistant to the president, Consolidated Steel corporation.

In 1933 Mr. Lackey, Agent Frank Smith, and the late Otto Reed, chief of police at McAlester, Okla., captured Frank Nash, escaped convict and murderer, in Hot Springs, Ark.

While removing Nash by automobile, two attempts were made to release him by fellow gangsters before he was put aboard a train for Kansas City at Fort Smith, Ark. Preparations had been made in Kansas City to continue the journey to Leavenworth penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kan., by car.

Preparations also had been made by the underworld of that day to "spring" Nash when he arrived in Kansas City. On hand for the job were "Pretty Boy" Floyd, Adam Richetti, Verne Miller and other top trigger men—all vicious and reckless killers with an inborn hatred for the law.

A well-laid ambush awaited the officers and their prisoner when



INTEREST IN SHOOTING developed by F. B. I. training is carried over into civilian life by ex-agents, left to right, Jim Scott, Bill Butler, Lew LaMaster and Herbert Bollfrass prepare to step up to the firing line. —Staff Photo.



**SURVIVOR OF THE KANSAS CITY MASSACRE** in 1933 when "Pretty Boy" Floyd machine gunned to death four police officers and the desperado Frank Nash, whom he was trying to free, Joseph Lackey is now assistant to the president of the Consolidated Steel corporation here.—Staff Photo.

offered them in private business, but that as agents their time isn't

employment possibilities, passing the information along to members best qualified for the positions.

In addition to the Houston chapter, there are local groups in Chicago, Washington, Cleveland, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Members keep posted as to the whereabouts and activities of former fellow-agents through a directory of members published annually and a quarterly magazine. Membership assures an ex-agent of a ready welcome from society members regardless of the part of the country he is in.

Devoted to fellowship among ex-agents, the Houston chapter holds meetings once a month, usually a dinner. Talk over the highballs is mostly about old times and a rehashing of exciting chases in the past.

But ex-agents, as citizens of Houston, are also conscious of their duties and obligations as members of the local civic body.

Knowing well from their experience that a city's indifference and neglect of the factors contributing to juvenile delinquency, spawn the criminal of tomorrow, they are taking an increasing part in civic activities.

Last fall members of the local chapter acted as a team in the Community Chest drive under Capt. Bill Butler.

ald Frankel, Alfred C. Goodson, William E. Harlan, Benjamin M. Harrison, Raymond Holland, Howard S. Hoover, Gene Houchins, Franklin C. Jones Jr., Tom G. Kelliher, Murry D. Kennedy, James H. Kerr Jr., Henry E. Kregel, F.



**DEAN OF THE HOUSTON EX-G. M.** vice president of the Houston Lighting member of the school board, looks aft of his charges at lunch time at Rusk

Joseph Lackey, L. M. LaMaster, Alvin R. Martin, Charles W. McPhail, Cecil E. Moore, Joseph A. Morris, Phil Peden, J. Franklin Perry, Erik G. Peterson, Ray Pittman, W. S. Smith, C. W. Williams, J. Will E. Wright

inspired the merciless massacre, died with the officers. Lackey was shot three times and was hospitalized 20 weeks. The last of the slugs was removed from his spine in 1937.

This bold challenge to law and order aroused the indignation of a heretofore indifferent nation, and was the signal for a relentless war on crime led by the G-Men.

Of the leaders of the massacre, Floyd was killed by the F. B. I. while resisting arrest. Verne Miller was put on the spot by fellow hoodlums when the F. B. I. search for him became too hot for their comfort. Richetti was captured and electrocuted.

Mr. Lackey points with pride to the fact that 11 other persons who participated in arranging the "spring" at Kansas City were all given long prison terms.

**Is there any special job in private industry for which the F. B. I. training fits an ex-agent?**

No.

Applicants for the F. B. I. are so carefully selected and tested that their fitness for business careers is obvious. To this is added the far-famed G-man training that develops the use of initiative, imagination and the ability to follow through.

The G-Man must (and this is the basis of his value to business):

(1) Be a person of quick, positive action.

(2) Be able to unmask the facts and present them logically — an essential in obtaining a conviction in court.

Given these two requisites, his transition to commercial and industrial life is rapid.

Add experience in meeting and handling problems and persons in all strata of society as a member of a service noted for its attention to detail, and you have the answer as to why business finds ex-G-men well equipped to assume executive positions.

Locally, the list of occupations of former G-men varies widely. The predominant peace-time pursuit is the private practice of law. This is closely followed by occupations involving the use of legal training, such as oil, land rental and lease, real estate mortgages, claim investigations and labor relations.

However, the local industries and businesses which have found use for G-man trained ex-agents are as varied as the composite industrial picture of Houston.

They include life and property insurance companies, casualty insurance, oil companies and transportation. Ex-agents are employed as public relations counselors, accountants, investment consultants and supervisors, and personnel directors.

On the national scene, John S. Bugas, young F. B. I. graduate, heads Ford Motor company's department of labor relations, where he has made an outstanding showing.

Melvin Purvis, who directed the roundup of John Dillinger in 1935 in Chicago, left the F. B. I. in 1936. Shortly afterwards he entered the newspaper publishing field, and later bought a radio station. During World War II he was a colonel in army intelligence, a rank he still holds in the peace-time army.

A co-worker with Purvis on the Dillinger case was Ralph Brown, now vice president in charge of the New York office of Braun & Co., public relations and management firm.

Some other well-known ex-agents who occupy prominent positions in the business world are John Hanson, director of personnel, Lockheed Aircraft company, California; Frank Fay, vice president of Macy's department store, New York City, and Francis

DIVISION OF  
 PRESS INTELLIGENCE  
 GOVERNMENT  
 INFORMATION SERVICE  
 BUREAU OF THE BUDGET  
 Tempo V Bldg.

SYM. *J.*

News and Courier  
 Charleston, S. C.

690 #2  
 DATE **MAR 19 1947**

**Purvis Seeking  
 Full Purchase Of  
 Florence Station**

WASHINGTON, March 18. Special: The former G-man who ended the reign of John Dillinger as Public Enemy No. 1 was in Washington Monday seeking authority to expand his radio interests.

Melyll Purvis, who led the FBI's last search for Dillinger and headed the detail which shot the desperado down on the streets of Chicago after the 'woman in red' put the finger on him, now is practicing law in Florence—and on the side is half-owner of the stock of a radio station there.

Purvis was here to confer with Federal Communications commission officials concerning his application to purchase the entire stock of the Florence station. In addition he conferred with Senator Johnston and renewed acquaintances among the FBI Washington staff.

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. Harbo   
 Mr. Hendon   
 Mr. Jones   
 Mr. Leonard   
 Mr. Pennington   
 Mr. Quinn Tamm   
 Mr. Nease   
 Miss Gandy

*4/30/47 Mr. R.C. Smith  
 advised that J. War was  
 we reviewed Purvis was  
 in Florence, Purvis was  
 S.C.  
 J.P.*

**9 APR 24 1947**

**XEROX  
 JAN 19 1984**

...it have been sentenced to death and executed.

Since the Cominform's quarrel with Tito began in March, and trials were instituted in April, it is fair to assume that these men were executed because they were involved in a conspiracy against Tito's regime.

They were all old Moscow agents. Janko Puffer, for instance, had been chief of the

In the trials, Juranicz, the Foreign Office official, confessed to having belonged to the scientific section of the staff at Dachau and to have killed thousands of prisoners with his own hands.

Dil and Baric were in the same service, under the notorious German war criminal, Professor Schnellling, condemned to death by the Americans.

Presterl confessed that, in the service of Himmler, he had put

elevated to power as a result of the revolution for these services to communism and then charged and hanged for the very crimes by which they came to power, requires a Dostoevski—or a Koestler—adequately to relate. But the type affinity between Communists and Nazis long has been observable; absolute contempt for all ethics, brutal callousness to human suffering, acceptance of the theory that the end justifies any means.

## ★ E A R L W I L S O N

NEW YORK. — Millionhefress Hope Hampton, who has 16 phones in her 17-foot-wide Park Ave. house, including two that are unsinkable which she uses in her bath, has added to her hardships a freckleproof automobile that I have nicknamed a "Hampton cab."

The duchess of Park Ave.'s attractive fiance, Attorney Sinclair Robinson, flits about in a Buick roadmaster convertible.

He likes to ride with the top down.

But the duchess, or "Hopie," being blonde, detests the sun unless it's spelled "son" (or even "Robinson.")

So "Sink," in a labor of love for the bediamonded Mrs. Jules Broulatour, who was a famous actress and is now a celebrated first nighter, decided to get a special auto top just to cover her share of the front seat. It would be, in effect, a 3-quarter convertible car, the remaining one-fourth having a regular top, to shield her fair skin from the sun.

If you don't think that's tough to get, try it.

"I went all over town," Robinson, who's one of our leading barristers, told me.

Most people I talked to said, "what's a matter—you crazy or sompin'?"

"Finally I found one who said he could make it but it would cost me.

"Well, I have to have it for the duchess!"

But when he arrived to exhibit

it to her at her Park Ave. quadruplex, the duchess said, "Oh, horrors! The sun could still sneak in from the side. The special section or 'panthouse,' which had been designed for her, had only a top covering. 'Sink' had the man make side curtains for her, so she could shut the sun out entirely.

And that she likes.

"I drive along with all the top down—except her own special top for just her seat—and they think I'm chauffeur and I have a queen in there," he told me yesterday outside the Hotel Plaza.

"And I do," he said, smooching her, tenderly.

I told the duchess I was awfully stupid and didn't get it.

"You remember Jack Spratt could eat no fat and his wife could eat no lean?" the duchess said.

"Well, I can't stand sun and he can't stand shade so we get together."

On the hottest afternoon he drives along with the duchess enclosed in her own compartment with no sun reaching her. He is blissfully baking in it.

"If she wants to talk to me all she has to do is knock and I'll lift the side curtain," he said.

"And if I want to talk to her all I have to do is wiggle my finger and tell her I want to come in," he added.

The duchess said, "it keeps us from fighting." She added, "be-

ing blonde, I hate suntan and sunburn. It makes me sick." Her special top is probably the only one in the world. All it needs is a telephone and since she even has a phone in her apartment elevator ("it's a phoney," she says) she may get one.

Let's only hope she never gets mad at her fiance, because if she did, she would, of course, blow her top!

The midnight Earl . . .

What's hot: (New York City) . . . Lana Turner's beef making her own beds in Rome (chambermaids' strike) (the poooooor kid! . . . They say Gov. Dewey's trying to get Lem Jones, his ex-publicist, to do a special job for him again . . . Melvin Purvis, among others, is investigating recent Army plane crashes with a view to sabotage possibilities . . . Joey Adams says all Russia is importing now is its own diplomats.

Dinah Shore was given a farewell party prior to her trip to London to play the Palladium . . . Mrs. Jimmy Doolittle entertained her daughter-in-law before the latter left for Japan to join her husband . . . Rasputin, famous Chicago manager, is here wearing his specially designed tie which reads, "have you read Earl Wilson?" (clever boy!)

Today's smile: Many political car-tates live on farms because they can use their speeches for fertilizer.

APR 20 1954



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

305 Realty Building  
Savannah, Georgia  
September 2, 1948

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO  
FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E.A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director, FBI

ATTENTION: Mr. D. [Redacted]  
Assistant

Re: MELVIN PURVIS  
MISCELLANEOUS

Dear Sir:

Per telephonic request of SA C. MULROY of the Charlotte Division, SA PAUL CHRISTIAN, Resident Agent, Florence, South Carolina, discreetly contacted M. C. BRUNSON, United States Commissioner and former prominent newspaperman of Florence, and ascertained from him that Mr. MELVIN PURVIS is still in Florence, South Carolina, and has not been contacted by the Department of the Army to conduct any investigations for it.

Very truly yours,

*J. A. Robey*  
J. A. ROBEY, SAC

NBW:CLY  
62-

11 OCT 27 1948  
~~19 OCT 4~~ 1948

67-7477-552
Searched .....
Numbered .....
Filed .....
4 SEP 28 1948
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECORDS SECTION  
XEROX  
JAN 19 198

67-21623- Not recorded

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR,  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.,  
OCTOBER 7, 1949.

FBI AGENT TURNED POST BLAST DILLINGER 'MYTH'

The "woman in red" who lured Melvin Purvis John Dillinger to his death wasn't wearing red at all. SI says James J. Metcalfe, a former FBI agent who was in on the kill.

Metcalfe, who writes the feature, "Portraits," appearing daily on the back page of The Star, switched from running down criminals to wringing down poetry.

IN INDIANAPOLIS for a series of lectures sponsored by The Star, Metcalfe turned his thoughts back to a July night in 1934 at the Biograph Theater in Chicago.

Then a young agent assigned to the Chicago FBI office, Metcalfe "was there with gun in hand" when Dillinger's crime career ended in a hail of bullets.

"I didn't kill him, but he was killed . . . that's what we wanted," Metcalfe said.

Anna Sage, who won international notoriety as the "woman in red," actually was wearing an orange skirt that night, Metcalfe recalls. It just looked red under the glare of the theater's neon lights.

THE NERVOUSNESS of Melvin Purvis, FBI agent in charge that night, is another feature that sticks in Metcalfe's memory. The poet recalls that Purvis was supposed to light up a cigar as a signal when Dillinger emerged from the theater.

Purvis used up 10 matches and never did get the stage going, Metcalfe said.

Another famous case on which Metcalfe worked the kidnaping of Mrs. Alice Speed Stoll had Indianapolis as the principal setting.

The wealthy Louisville society matron was held prisoner for six days in an apartment house on North Meridian Street before being released.

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR - FBI AGENT TURNED POST BLASTS DILLINGER 'MYTH'

Her kidnaper, Thomas H. Robinson Jr., brought her to the home of the Rev. E. Arnold Clegg, pastor of the Capitol Avenue Methodist Church, after payment of \$50,000 ransom.

METCALFE SAID he scoured 20 blocks of North Meridian Street looking for the kidnap hideout. At one time he was in the same apartment building where Mrs. Stoll was being held without knowing it.

He also worked on the cases of Baby-Face Nelson and the Karpis-Barker mob.

Metcalf turned from being a G-Man to journalism in 1935 "So I would have a profession to turn to in time of need." He took a 50 per cent drop in pay to join the Chicago Times as a rewriter and reporter. One of his first assignments was an investigation which resulted in an expose of the German-American Bund.

Another of his projects was a 20,000-word serial on the life, loves and adventures of Errol Flynn.

Like so many persons who have become prominent in writing, Metcalf has a Hoosier background.

HE LIVED in South Bend from 1915 until 1922 and attended grade school and high school operated by the University of Notre Dame.

Metcalf started writing "Portraits" in 1938, taking the column over from his brother, John, who had written it in prose for the Chicago Times.

The new author tried to write it in a humorous vein for the first year and received a grand total of two letters from his public.

When he switched to honey poems about love, philosophies of love and commonplace things, the mail began to pour in by the sack. It's still coming.

He's published more than 5,000 of the brief poems strung together with dots and believes he can continue the daily stint as long as he lives without running out of ideas.

METCALFE SPOKE yesterday at a meeting of the Advertising Club. Today, he will address Butler University journalism students in the morning, broadcast over Station WIRE between 12:15 and 1:55 p.m., and be guest at a Press Club dinner party at night.

COPY JAK

Paper Clipping

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR -- FBI AGENT TURNS POET BLASTS DILLINGER "LYON"

Tomorrow, he will speak at a noon luncheon of the Altrusa Club, preside at an autograph party for two of his books, "Poem Portraits" and "Garden in My Heart," at William H. Block Company at 2 p.m., and will be special guest at a dinner to be given by the Indianapolis Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles at night.

A tousel-headed man of 43, Metcalfe lives in Dallas, Tex.

He writes all his poetry in the early morning hours after midnight and devotes much of his time to his children, Kristina Maria, 6, Jinnie, 16, and Donnie, 12.

His next book, "Happy Time Rhythms," will be dedicated to Kristina. It is scheduled for publication next spring and the child can hardly wait until "my book" is published, Metcalfe said.

---

MR. NICHOLS

September 29, 1949

MR. JONES

BOOK REVIEW

"WHERE MY SHADOW FALLS"

AUTHOR, LEON G. TURROU

*McLure Press*

Following is a review of the book "Where My Shadow Falls" (Two Decades of Crime Detection), copyrighted 1949 by Leon G. Turrou; published by Doubleday and Company, Inc., 14 West 49th Street, New York 20, New York; price \$2.50.

In the prologue author Leon G. Turrou's first words are, "What is a G-Man?" He asks "What about him is truth and what about him is legend?" His introduction to the book which the author states deals with his experiences over the twenty years he served as an investigator with the FBI and the Criminal Investigative Division of the Army during the war, offers the author's answer. Turrou asserts that the highly qualified agent of the FBI who is possessed of a deep refined sense of duty is deserving of the public's respect and admiration. The G-Man, whose motto is "For God, For Country, and For John Edgar Hoover," the author states, is deserving of the flattery of legend which his achievements may have accorded him.

Eight of the thirteen chapters in "Where My Shadow Falls," written in the first person, recount cases on which the author worked as a Special Agent of the FBI.

Initially, Turrou tells of his assignment to the Chicago Office, headed by SAC E. J. Connelly. Turrou recounts his first assignment which resulted in the apprehension of a fugitive who had escaped from Leavenworth Penitentiary. Turrou tells graphically how his knowledge of Polish enabled him to overhear a conversation in which the location of the fugitive was given. The arrest which Turrou made single-handedly and unarmed, was a complete violation of regulations and authority and Turrou describes the reprimand Mr. Connelly gave him in that regard; however, Turrou notes Connelly's satisfaction for the able handling of the case and Turrou later received a letter of commendation from Director Hoover, in which the latter commended Turrou's handling of the case.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

"That's the Game" is the subtitle given to Turrou's account of the downfall of Special Agent John Willard, assigned to the Chicago Office. He had achieved a good reputation for investigative ability. One of Willard's cases was assigned to Turrou who immediately apprehended an individual for whom the Bureau had long been searching. The apprehension resulted in the uncovering of a long history of falsification on the part of Willard in his reporting

NJC:ojh

404  
XEROX  
JAN 16 1984

of investigations conducted. It was discovered that Willard had been preparing case reports which reflected lengthy interviews, extended surveillances and active attempts to apprehend, all of which were fabrications.

Turrou's account of the situation in which he was approached by an escaped convict who took Turrou into his confidence, thus divulging his identity, is entitled, "Round Trip to Atlanta." Herein, Turrou states that he and another Agent, Tom Tracy, had been waiting in an airport terminal for a plane to New York when an individual approached him and stated he believed Turrou was an ex-convict. Turrou describes how, with this individual, plans were made to rob a Federal Bank, and in the course of these plans the escapee's identity was learned and he was returned to the Penitentiary.

Turrou devotes a chapter entitled "The King of Convicts" to an account of Turrou's solution of rackets in an unidentified prison. Turrou relates that he was on official business at a penal institution for the purpose of interviewing an inmate whom Turrou had been instrumental in sending there. This inmate, who was to have furnished Turrou information concerning an automobile theft, described to Turrou a prison racket which had grown to such proportions that everyone took orders and paid-off to one of the inmates. Turrou lengthily describes the various rackets which included the pay-off of prison officials, blackmail of prominent inmates and luxurious living on the part of the prisoners in control. Turrou tells how, with this information, he was able, with the help of high prison officials, to completely clean up the prison rackets. He makes mention of reforms which he recommended in his case reports and which were adopted by the prison.

The first international kidnaping case in the history of the United States, the abduction of Guillaume Rozen, is dealt with by Turrou under the chapter entitled "The Way Evil Dies." Turrou explains that because of his proficiency in French he was placed in charge of the case by Mr. Hoover. Working with Agents of the Treasury Department, the case was successfully solved. Turrou lengthily and graphically describes the beatings and abuses Rozen suffered at the hands of his abductors.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

"The Saga of the USS Akron" is Turrou's account of sabotage on the dirigible built by the Goodyear Company at Akron. Turrou relates how he was placed in charge of the case and was able to discover the individuals responsible for the sabotage being committed. The chief perpetrator was Paul Kasey, a militant Marxist. Turrou describes how he was able to gain the confidence of these individuals and how his investigation contributed toward the correction of many of the defects in the USS Akron. Turrou explains

that by a quirk of fate he had been unable to acquire the complete drawings of the sabotage which had been effected, including the location of faulty rivets, and for this reason, the Akron, which was commissioned and placed in service, later crashed and burned. Turrou states that although the catastrophe had been labeled an "Act of God" by naval spokesmen, Turrou's conscience was clear inasmuch as he had advocated that the USS Akron should never have been launched.

Turrou tells of his handling of an extortion case in "Letters of Blood," one of the two stories related in the chapter entitled "Detour on Easy Street." The other story, "The Big Gold Mirror," is a story of a banker who is fleeced of his money and killed. "The Big Gold Mirror" makes no mention of Turrou, the FBI or any other investigative agency. It is rather unrelated to the whole.

Turrou's account of the Lindbergh kidnaping is entitled "The Lindbergh Tragedy." Herein Turrou relates how he was named as one of the members of the "Lindbergh Squad" which included Special Agents Thomas H. Sisk, Wayne Merrick, William Serry, J. E. Seykora, A. Sandburg and Harry Leslie. Turrou explains that the FBI had been ordered into the case by President Herbert Hoover and that instructions were to work in close cooperation with the New York and New Jersey local and state police. Turrou tells of the hundreds of false leads which were covered in their attempt to locate the kidnaper. He devotes three and one-half pages to his description of the attempt to locate the abductor by means of a mystic. The latter individual claimed to be able to lead the Agents to the kidnaper by means of visions which came to him while in a trance. Turrou tells of the futility of their investigation until September 18, 1934, when a ransom bill was reported to have been received at a New York bank. This lead was covered by Special Agent Sisk. It led to the apprehension of Richard Bruno Hauptmann. Turrou discusses the questioning of Hauptmann, his refusal to confess, his trial and his execution.

"It Started in Eden" tells of the FBI campaign against vice by means of the enforcement of the Mann Act. Turrou discusses prostitution in detail. He discusses why, for various reasons, the Mann Act, which was originally enacted in 1910, had been in a state of disuse and why, in 1936, the FBI initiated action to enforce it. Turrou states that Mr. Hoover had called him in and Turrou drew up a series of plans for an attack on organized vice. He tells of various raids made, extensive wire tapping conducted and of criticism resulting from the raids. He makes observations regarding the control of the problem. Turrou defends prostitution and lengthily deals with the necessity for and benefits of legalization and federal control of prostitution. He points out the failure of the French to outlaw prostitution as argument for his advocated course.

JAN 19 1936

Turrou states that he was assigned by Mr. Hoover to direct the FBI counterattack against the Nazi spy ring in 1938. Turrou's account of his investigation is contained in the chapter, "The Crooked Cross in the United States." He tells how a vast network of German aliens in America were entrenched in industry and government. He relates how investigation led to the arrest of Dr. Ignatz Griebel who is described as the Number One Nazi spy in America. He tells how eighteen persons were indicted in New York on espionage charges, and that the confessions of Dr. Griebel, Gunther Runrich, Jenni Hofmann and others involved scores of individuals. "Because of legal difficulties," Turrou states, "we could only prosecute four; Runrich, Hofmann and the German aliens Erich Glaser and Otto Herrmann Yeas." Turrou states that the ferreting out of spies by the FBI had no precedent. He states that methods then developed have since become standard procedure and he declares that in 1937 the United States was confronted by the threat of militant Nazism. At this time the threat is Communism. With this transition Turrou comments on the great danger of Communist espionage within this country. He declares that steps must be taken to combat Communist influence in the United States, but that these alone would not be sufficient. Turrou states that in view of the threatening cataclysm of atomic war we must become ideological aggressors, and that the newly organized Central Intelligence Agency was conceived with this in mind. The CIA, states Turrou, takes advantage of the fact that American tourists, students and businessmen are scattered throughout the world. The American Government, he states, feels that it is completely justified if some of these have been previously trained for espionage and sabotage. Turrou points out that the CIA is lamentably undermanned and asserts that Congress must rouse itself, that this is an age of speed and vigor and pussy-footing is the way to catastrophe. Turrou's reference to the task in this connection within our country is set forth as follows: "The most difficult job of culling Communists from the productive and political life of the nation continues at home, but the issues are so confused and the methods so awkward that the process can only be called bungling. Communists are ordinary people that do not wear identifying insignia; they do not shout their views on street corners; they do not carry concealed weapons. This makes weeding them out difficult."

Turrou devotes a chapter to his "Days of Transition." He states that he resigned from the FBI immediately after indictments were returned in the Nazi spy case. His reason: "I was certain that Nazi Agents would continue to infiltrate into the country and threaten our security. American isolationists were trying to rock the people to sleep. I felt it my duty to tell the people the facts, to wake them up to the menace of foreign spies and of the Fifth Column. I could only do this in an unofficial capacity, as a citizen of the United States."

The balance of Turrou's book deals with his experiences while in the United States Army. Turrou relates that he enlisted, that he was assigned as a Private to training at Fort Riley, Kansas, and that it was by chance that he ran into a Lieutenant Colonel at Fort Custer, Michigan. The latter officer was Melvin Purvis, former Special Agent of the FBI, who was then serving as the administrator of an Army school for investigators. Purvis, "utterly miserable" that Turrou was an enlisted man, immediately arranged for Turrou to gain a direct commission as a First Lieutenant in the Corps of Military Police.

The author states that he was assigned to the North African Theatre of Operations where he was appointed Chief Investigator and Assistant Director of the CID in North Africa. He speaks of the magnitude of that group's task and of the painful shortage of personnel. The job performed was primarily that of cleaning up black marketing and Turrou describes the solutions to various problems and practices which confronted the Army investigators.

The author reports an assignment which led him to come into personal contact with General George S. Patton. Patton at the time was in an inactive status in Sicily by reason of his much-publicized slapping of a psycho-neurotic soldier. The General believed that Turrou and Purvis, who had been sent to Sicily to investigate another matter, were in fact there to learn the details of the slapping incident. Turrou explains that in spite of the denials on the part of himself and Purvis, Patton clung to this belief and commented lengthily on the affair. Patton's attitude of regret and shame was incorporated into a report submitted by Purvis and Turrou, in which they stated categorically that General Patton's immobilization was an injustice to him as well as to the war effort. Turrou concludes by remarking, "Patton quickly joined the Allied battle and fought his way into history."

CROWCASS, Central Registry of War Criminals and Security Subjects - was set up in Paris and Turrou relates details of the efforts of this agency to identify and locate war criminals. Turrou states that he, as Operational Chief of CROWCASS, was charged with setting up the investigative machinery in this "greatest manhunt in history." Turrou states that probably 150 to 200 war criminals were located daily by CROWCASS. A thirty-five per cent failure to locate and apprehend wanted individuals was attributed by the author to Russia and its policy of non-cooperation. Discussing Russia's attitude toward the operation, Turrou relates incidences which led him to believe that Hitler, listed by CROWCASS as their Number One criminal, is still alive today. Turrou states that in conversation with a Russian Army officer, the latter implied Hitler is being held incommunicado in Russia and the author speculates as to what the ulterior motive might be behind this

secretive detention.

The most important investigation Turrou had ever conducted, the author states, was that described in the last paragraph of his book. Herein he tells of notification of his son's death and of Turrou's subsequent investigation to verify this and to locate the body of his son, who was killed October 16, 1943, in Italy.

OBSERVATIONS: In the preface, author Leon G. Turrou stated he wrote his book "not the less for my own gratification than for the edification of an abstract public." His success in first purpose is evident - self-glory and personal aggrandisement are coupled with factual distortion and editorial dishonesty to defend his second avowed aim.

Turrou's prologue eulogizes the Bureau. His purpose is seemingly only to enhance his own stature. He makes reference to the Agent's quest for information which results in his treading softly on the hallowed ground of State's Rights. But, says Turrou, uncooperative policemen will find themselves on the Bureau's black list, cut off from available services. In this same discussion Turrou makes reference to the society of former Special Agents of the FBI, giving implication that he is a member of that group. He purports to recount his experiences over the twenty years he served as an investigator with the FBI and with CID during the war. His chronicle is one of dramatic action which is colored and implausible to the degree that even the unconditioned reader will question some of his material. For example, his "Round Trip to Atlanta," "The King of the Convicts," and "The Big Gold Mirror" appear to be largely fictitious incidents which make gripping "crime stories" whether or not they are based on any semblance of fact. Turrou's experiences as related afford him the opportunity to pass on various subjects of a controversial nature, including his advocacy of legalization and federal control of prostitution and his assertion that Adolf Hitler is still alive and being held by the Russians for some opportune moment for release. Turrou shows talent in the use of abstract references and editorial devices which place him "in charge of an investigation" or "the man who solved the case." His style is highly readable and fast-moving even while it is sometimes verbose and given to personal laudation.

It is to be noted that personnel records of former and present employees reflect a single individual named John Willard has served as a Special Agent of the FBI. John S. Willard served as a Special Agent from 3-1-41 to 10-6-42 as a firearms identification expert assigned to the technical laboratory. The author's account of the dishonesty of "Special Agent John Willard" cannot be established as factual on the basis of name.

Turrou achieves the role of an individual of extreme inves-

investigative ability and one who occupied a high place in the investigative history of the Bureau on the basis of his accounts.

To excerpt textual evidence and so document the author's departure from truth, his coloring of fact, and his devices for personal aggrandizement is to recount the stories he has told.

**NOTE:** In the October issue of Reader's Digest, page 45, "Saboteurs for Profit" is reprinted as a partial condensation of Turrour's book. In description of the author, the following information is set forth with the article: "For nine years an outstanding FBI Agent, Leon G. Turrour, helped solve many notable cases, among them the Lindbergh kidnaping. In 1938, after his investigation of eighteen persons, he resigned from the FBI and wrote the best-seller, 'Nazi Spies in America.' In World War II he was decorated twice by the United States Army, three times by the French."

**AUTHOR:** Leon G. Turrour entered on duty with the Bureau as a Special Agent, 4-1-29. He was assigned to Chicago 4-22-29 and to New York City 7-18-30. On 6-20-38 he was dropped with prejudice from the service. The personnel file concerning this individual reflects a long record of violations of trust and exhibitions of personal dishonesty. His dismissal was immediately occasioned by his selling details of an official investigation of the espionage operations of a German spy ring to newspapers in such a manner as to cause this Bureau's great concern and embarrassment. Turrour's capitalization on his service with the Bureau, financially or otherwise, has extended over the years since his dismissal. He has frequently corresponded with the Director, requesting that his dismissal be voided and that his resignation be accepted. All of these requests have been refused. The file further reflects inquiries from government and private agencies regarding Turrour.

This correspondence reflects that he has frequently falsified the circumstances surrounding the termination of his employment. As recently as 1-27-49, a letter was received from Colonel Francis E. Howard, CMP, Provost Marshal General, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D. C. The letter, which made inquiry concerning the service record of Turrour, indicated that the information was desired due to the pending return to the United States of Major Leon G. Turrour, who was then being considered as to his suitability for further assignment. Colonel Howard was advised that Turrour would not be eligible for re-employment with the FBI and that he had been dropped from the service of this Bureau with prejudice. The personnel file further contains a memorandum reporting a conversation in which Lieutenant Colonel Karl Nash, in charge of CID work in the European Theatre of Operations, is convinced that Turrour, and other incompetents, had received Army commissions through the finagling of Melvin Purvis. Colonel Nash stated that Turrour had received

his promotions as a result of extensive loans to Purvis and that Purvis was in debt to Turrou in the amount of \$11,000.00. It is further reflected that in 1948 Turrou was the subject of much consternation within the Department of State because of allegations that he, as Chief Compliance Officer, Office of Foreign Liquidation Commission, was involved in illegal dealings in the disposal of war surplus property in France.

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Post Office Box 812,  
Chicago, Illinois.

July 1st, 1935

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.

67-7489-360v

Dear Sir,

In compliance with Section 35 of the Manual of Rules and Regulations, the following information is submitted:

- (a) Marital status: Unmarried.
- (b) Names of Societies or organizations with which connected: Kappa Alpha (Southern), College social fraternity.
- (c) Legal Residence: Timmons ville, S. C.
- (d) Education: Graduated Timmons ville, S. C. High School; LL.B. degree, University of South Carolina.
- (e) Person to be notified in emergency: Mr. M. H. Purvis, Timmons ville, S. C.
- (f) Relatives in Government Service: None.
- (g) Office of preference: Chicago, Illinois.

Very truly yours,

*M. H. Purvis*

M. H. PURVIS,  
Special Agent in Charge

MHP:mwc

JUN 12 1935

Place Chicago, Illinois

Date June 20, 1934

Special Agent  
in Charge

M. H. PURVIS

I. DEGREE: SCHOOL: LOCATION:  
LL.B. University of Columbia, S. C.  
South Carolina

II. BARS: YEAR ADMITTED:  
South Carolina 1925

III. CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS: YEAR:

IV. LANGUAGES: INDICATE DEGREE OF PROFICIENCY:

V. SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS: INDICATE DEGREE OF PROFICIENCY:  
(Vocations, avocations, and miscellaneous qualifications.)

DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION  
JUN 25 1934 AM.  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
CH CLK, DIV. 4 FILE

*722*

JUN 22 1934

*M. H. Purvis*  
Special Agent in Charge.

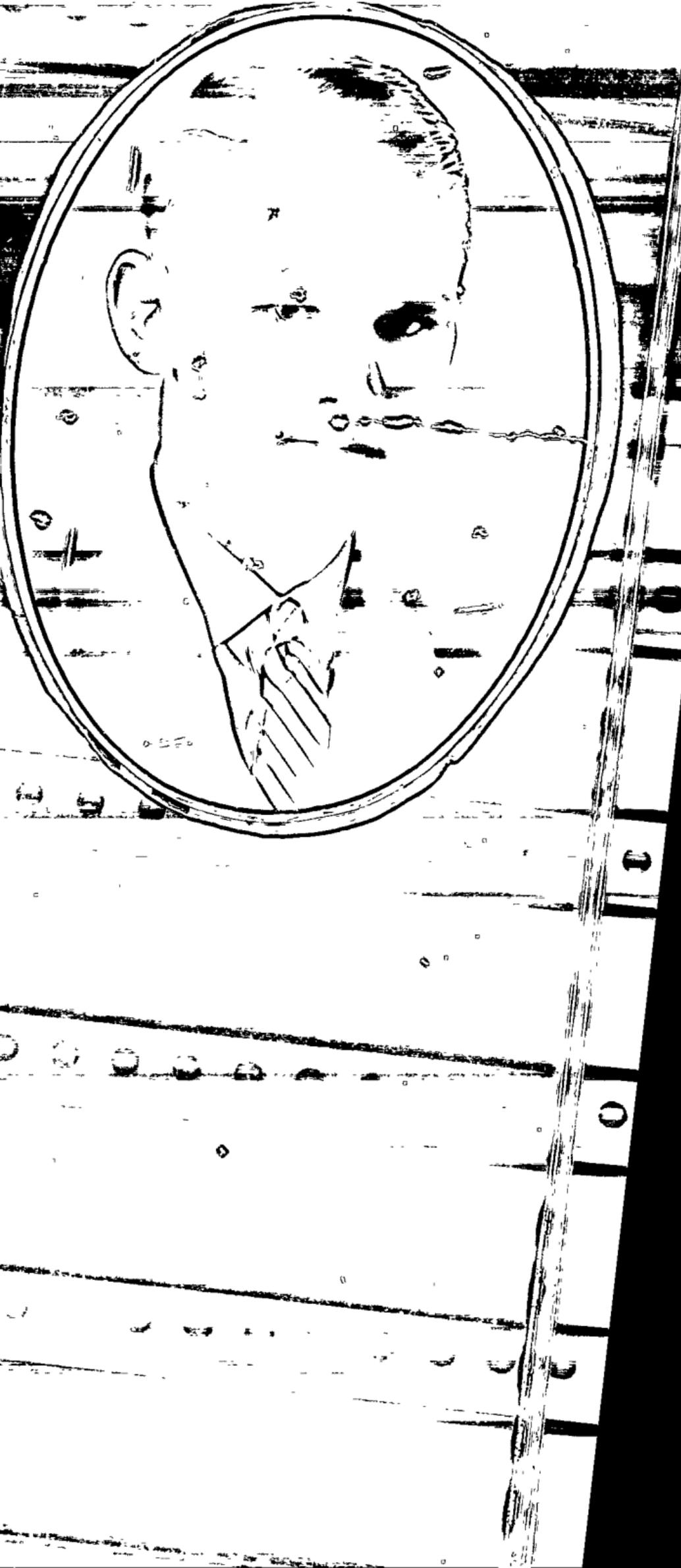
Francis  
Chatterbox



Melvin H. Purvis

67-7489

Hollinger Corp.  
pH 8.5



MELVIN H. PURVIS, JR.  
TIMMONSVILLE, S.C.

PHOTO TAKEN DURING 1924