

Mystery Deaths of Broadway's 'Butterflies' End Luxury Path For Night Club Beauties

EDITOR'S NOTE: Another of Broadway's "butterflies" has been killed. This is the first of a series of three stories in which Mark Barron, Associated Press staff writer, notes the similarity between the latest slaying and other cases.

By MARK BARRON NEW YORK, March 23 (AP)—Past meaning saxophones, champagne bottles, and love diaries, the path has led to death for another Broadway "butterfly."

The body of Vivian Gordon, who was expelled from a convent, was found strangled and robbed. Dorothy King, Louise Lawson and Bobbie Storey met similar fates.

It was Dorothy King, born Keenan, who became the first of that group of young women known as Broadway butterflies. They are beautiful, luxuriously dressed girls who move in night clubs and private parties, curiously fascinated by danger of their lives.

They flit through the theatrical district, among fashionable resorts. They seem to know everyone—stage folk, criminals, wealthy business men, politicians, social recluses and newspapermen.

Yet somehow nobody ever seems to know anything about them until police begin to write the last chapter of their lives.

Little was actually known of Dorothy King when she was found murdered in March, 1923. She had lived with Hilda Ferguson, a "Polite" star, then moved into a lavishly furnished apartment. There she was frequently visited by a Philadelphia millionaire. Her murder is still a mystery.

A year later the body of Louise Lawson, who once had been a choir singer in a little Texas church, was found beneath a pink silk quilt and squirrel coat in her exclusive apartment. She had been strangled, and her furs and jewelry were missing.

She played a minor role in the movie of "Way Down East" and worked for a time as a mannikin at \$50 a week. Then suddenly she appeared with a large bank account, a limousine with private chauffeur and other luxuries. She frequented night clubs and road houses, and was known to many celebrities but that case was never solved.

Bobbie Storey, with her blue eyes and blond hair, was a barmaid in London. Members of royalty and the nobility were among her customers. Charlotte, the producer, saw her and made her a star in his revue.

When he offered her a contract, she said, "As long as I'm a barmaid I'll be happy. But if I go on the stage I will kill me. Somehow I know this."

Bobbie, in spite of this premonition, signed the contract and came to New York. She became a star in the "Follies" and "Vauvites," then misfortune came her way.

A year ago she was found, clad only in a black slip negligee, dead in a friend's apartment. The case was written off as suicide.

There are others, an army of them who have not reached a fatal end. There is Marion Robert, sweetheart of "Legs" Diamond, the gangster. She was with him when enemies attempted to murder him. Today she stays in seclusion.

New Vivian Gordon has gone the same way as Dorothy King and Louise Lawson. From a background of night clubs and other glamour she ended in a lonely jart of Van Cortlandt park with a rope pulled to its death knot around her neck.

A few days prior to her death she had written offering to testify in an investigation of the practices of police vice informers. She charged she had been "framed" by police and arrested.

In the wake of her death came rumors of political scandals, blackmail, extortion and revenge. In her diary were the names of scores of prominent men and records of the terror in which she lived.

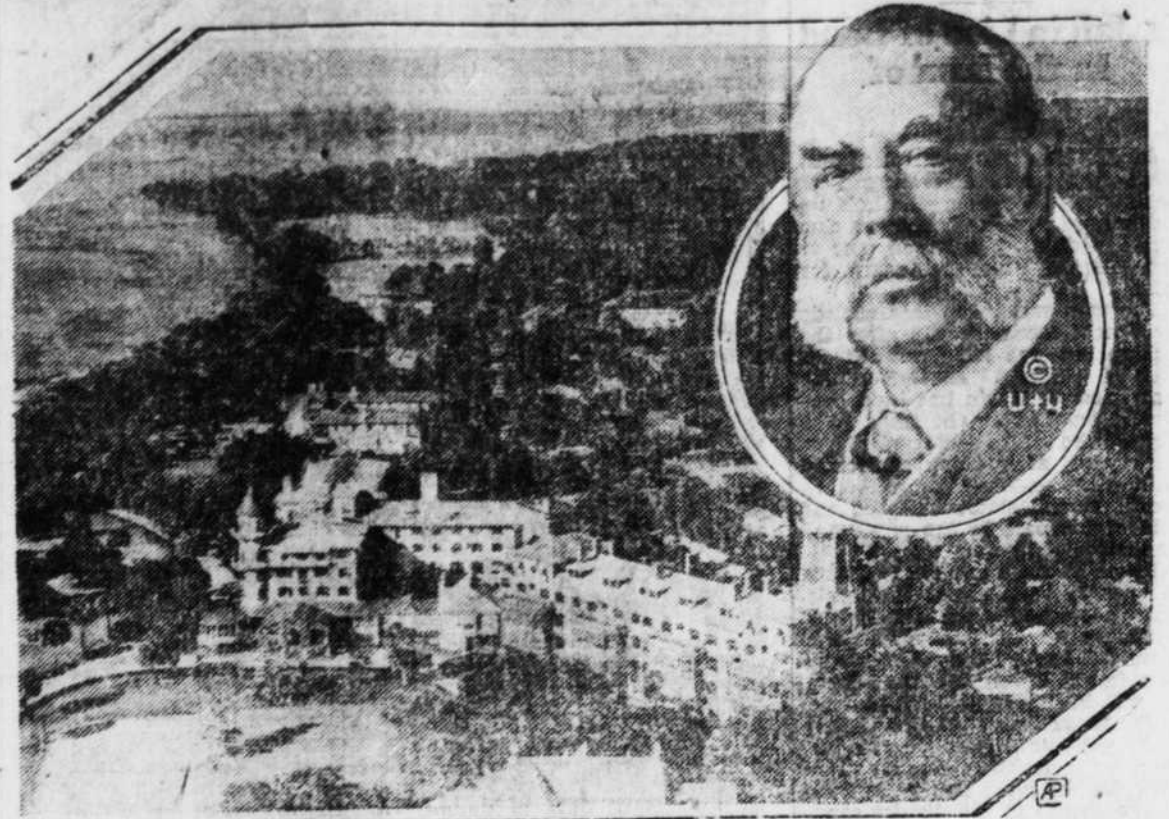


Vivian Gordon (left) was the latest Broadway "butterfly" to be slain. She feared trouble, as does Marion Roberts (right), who after the shooting of "Legs" Diamond. Below is part of the letter in which Miss Gordon offered to testify to New York's vice king.

"I have some information in connection with a case which I believe will be of great aid to your committee in its work. I am, I believe, truly yours, Vivian Gordon."

George F. Baker (inset), the "sphinx of Wall Street," will spend his 91st birthday March 27 on exclusive Jekyll island, off the Georgia coast. Only club members and invited guests are allowed there. This aerial photograph, showing the clubhouse where Baker lives, is one of the few that have been taken of the place.

WALL STREET 'SPHINX,' NEARING 91, FINDS PRIVACY ON EXCLUSIVE ISLE



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BRUNSWICK, Ga., March 23 (AP)—George F. Baker, who in nearly 70 years of potent influence in Wall Street, gained a reputation for silence, will celebrate his 91st birthday March 27 on Jekyll island, where reporters and photographers are taboo.

The New York banker, who ranks with Henry Ford and John D. Rockefeller, Sr. as one of the world's richest men, and who is only one year the junior of Rockefeller, has made no special arrangements for the celebration.

There has been no indication that the "sphinx of Wall Street," who gave but one interview and that was over the 84th birthday, and who made but one address, will break his rule on this occasion.

E. E. Loomis, president of the Lehigh Valley railroad, a close personal friend who spends the day with Mr. Baker each year, will be a special guest.

The aged banker will take his regular morning and afternoon auto rides over the beautiful shell roads of the island and afterward enjoy a birthday dinner with his family.

An early sixteenth century cartographer lettered on his chart of the South Atlantic coast, "Golden Isles of Guale."

When 100 of the world's wealthiest men more than three centuries ago organized the Jekyll Island club, one of the islands thus designated literally became a "golden isle."

The combined wealth of the club members was estimated at one-sixth of the world's total accumulation at that time.

The charter membership in 1886 included the Vanderbilts, Astors, Goulds, Rockefellers, Morgans, Barkers, and Hills. Today such names as Rockefeller, Gould, Morgan and Baker remain, but the Astors, Vanderbilts and Pulitzers no longer are on the roster.

Not is the island's wealth as preponderant today. Membership is by inheritance only, and new money cannot crash the gate.

Jekyll Island club, one of the world's most famous social organizations, demands and secures isolation and absolute privacy for its members while in residence here.

No reporter is admitted, no interviews granted, no photographer permitted on the grounds, and no uninvited visitor is allowed.

Palatial residences dot the island, there are facilities for almost every sport and recreation, and the large clubhouse surpasses many resort hotels in size and accommodations.

But, happiest of all are our aeronautical engineers and designers. Once more they are given a free hand to forge ahead with the development of aircraft and engines. Airplanes are already considered to be reasonably safe. Now the cry is for more and more speed—without sacrifice of safety.

GUIDING YOUR CHILD

By MRS. AGNES LYNE FOOD FOR THOUGHT Because we have only recently become aware of how readily the young child is over-stimulated and fatigued, and of how inappropriate to his mental and emotional immaturity are the buzzing complexities of adult life, there is at present a tendency to deprive him of much experience which is really necessary for his intellectual growth.

Up to the age of four the child in his own backyard, or in the carefully arranged environment of kindergarten or nursery school. Plenty of play materials, the companionship of other children and a friendly, dependable daily routine quite fully meet his needs.

But when he is five or six he requires more than this. He has reached the stage where he is interested in the world outside his home, outside his immediate happy play life.

He wants now to know where his food and clothes come from. He is interested in buildings and bridges and railroads. Trips to the zoo are fascinating to him. He is curious about the hundreds of things that men do.

From this time on he should go on frequent little excursions which will stimulate and satisfy his growing curiosity. To be sure, they should be neither too long nor too strenuous, and the experiences selected should be planned with some thought of his particular interests.

The average child, however, enjoys being taken to market, riding in trains and on boats, standing on a bridge that spans a river and watching the ships pass beneath. Wherever he can see concretely and dramatically any of the new activities of the world in which he lives, he is fascinated and his mind aroused to new questioning, new ideas and new associations.

Left Hand Traffic in Sweden STOCKHOLM, March 23 (AP)—Sweden, one of the few remaining European countries where traffic still moves on the left side, is considered getting in step with the rest of the world. The government authorized the appointment of a committee to investigate the cost involved in making the traffic revision.

READ THIS AGE! for more and more speed—without sacrifice of safety.

Proceedings In District Court

Hon. Wm. E. Orr, District Judge, presiding, March 21st. Calling of law and motion calendar. Calling of trial calendar.

Beryl Lewis Herndon, plaintiff, vs. Harry Everett Herndon, defendant. Roger Foley, attorney for plaintiff. Decree of divorce granted.

Norris Peterson, plaintiff, vs. Maurine Peterson, defendant. Ham & Taylor, attorneys for plaintiff. Time to answer extended to April 11.

In the matter of the estate of Alice G. Blackett, also known as and called Alice Blackett, deceased. McNamee & McNamee, attorneys for plaintiff. Hearing on petition for sale and order of court, re same.

The State of Nevada, plaintiff, vs. G. F. Kelly, defendant. Arraignment. Guy Baker, appointed as attorney for defendant; Harley A. Harmon, district attorney, attorney for plaintiff. Time for pleading set for March 23 at 10 a. m.

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The State of Nevada, plaintiff, vs. C. McKerrigan and Ed Becker. Arraignment. Harley A. Harmon, district attorney, attorney for defendant; H. N. Gambill, appointed attorney for defendant. Time for pleading set for March 23 at 10:15 a. m.

University of Utah officials say more than 75 per cent of the students at the institution are working their way through school.

Fraternal Notices

Vegas Lodge No. 32, F. & A. M. Stated Communications first Monday of each month at Masonic Hall at 7:30 p. m.

Special Communications, work requiring, as announced each month. Visiting brothers are welcome. W. N. SCHUYLER, W. M. Claude Hall, Secretary.

I. O. O. F. Gateway Encampment, No. 23, meets first and third Wednesdays of each month. Visiting Patriarchs cordially invited. L. L. ARNETT, Chief Patriarch. P. L. CHRISTENSEN, Scribe.

B. P. O. E. Las Vegas Lodge No. 1468 Meets every Thursday evening at 7:30. Club rooms open from 11:00 a. m. to 12 p. m. Visiting brothers cordially welcomed. JAS. E. POWERS, Exalted Ruler. WM. L. SCOTT, Secretary.

Artesia Lodge No. 43 I. O. O. F. Meets every Monday night at 7:30 P. M., Eagles' Hall, Fremont St., between First and Second. Visiting brothers cordially welcomed. N. G. E. D. COLVILLE Secretary, E. L. SMITH

Southgate Chapter No. 18, Order of the Eastern Star. Meeting second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:30 p. m. at Masonic Hall. All visiting members cordially welcome. Helen L. Scott, W. M. Minnie Davison, Sec.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY Christian Science society, branch of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass., meets in Economy Hall, Services, Sunday at 11 a. m., on Wednesday eve at 7:30 p. m., Sunday school at 9:30 a. m.

OVERTURNED FIRE TRUCK KILLS FIVE

MALVERN, Pa., March 23 (AP)—Five members of the Malvern volunteer fire company were killed and nine injured when the company's fire engine overturned two miles west of here on a run to a grass fire. When the engine turned into a rut, road it hit a rut and overturned, pinning several of the firemen beneath it.

Aged Sea Gull Puzzles City PORTLAND, Me., March 23 (AP)—How long does the average sea-gull live? That's a question puzzling Maine folk. A gull in Casco Bay, easily distinguished by exceptionally dark feathers on its wings has been under observation for 21 years.

South Dakota has three automobiles for every 10 persons.

Suits Filed In District Court

Robert B. Sharkey vs. Ella M. Sharkey, for divorce. The parties married May 26, 1917, at Buffalo, N. Y., and there are no issue of the marriage and no community property.

The complaint alleges for cause of action that defendant deserted and abandoned plaintiff in September, 1925. C. D. Breeze is attorney for plaintiff.

Library Given Lectern CHAPEL HILL, N. C., March 23 (AP)—A sixteenth century hand-carved lectern or reading stand from northern Italy has been given the University of North Carolina library by the Rev. Aaron Burtis Hunter, Raleigh, donor of the Hunter Collection of Manuscripts and Rare Books.

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SINGLE MAN wants room in private house. Masonic or Odd Fellows preferred. Address P. O. Box 763, Las Vegas, Nev. 11

FOR RENT—Modern home, available April 1st. Completely furnished. Inquire Age office. 11

FOR SALE—3 inch standard pipe, 10 cents per foot. Ladd's Resort. 11

NOW IS THE TIME to place your order for plants and lawn seed. Pansies, stocks, snapdragon, verbena, petunia, zinnia, and marigold. All strong healthy plants, blooming cyclamen, Santa Paulias, Boston fern. Fresh flowers every day. Wedding bouquets, corsages, table decorations and funeral designs. We deliver anywhere, any time. Las Vegas Florists, Tower Market. Phone 386. 24 11

HELP WANTED NO FEE CHARGED to employer or employee for furnishing competent help. Federal, State and County office. 119 N. Main St. Phone 531. 140 11

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QUALIFIED TITLE INSURANCE Roosevelt Title Insurance Co., Ltd. S. R. Whitehead, Mgr., 11 Fremont St. 11

SPECIAL For Opening. We will completely clean, oil, adjust and repair any watch up to and including 17 jewels for \$2.50, 19 to 23 jewels for \$3.50. All wrist watches \$3.00. Y. Younger & Co. Jewelers, 1002 Fremont St. 24 11

RESEED your lawn now, estimates gladly given. Fruit and shade trees, shrubs, bulbs, seed, fertilizer.—Las Vegas Nursery, 3rd and Colorado. Phone 349. 22 11

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REAL ESTATE 160 ACRES on Boulder dam highway. \$35 per acre. Box 1, Age office. 11

WANTED—Land on the highway. Give price and location in first reply. Box E, Age office. 11

TWO LOTS—On South Fourth street; eastern frontage; water piped to lots. Owner, phone 37 after 6 p. m., or write 516 South Seventh St. 11

MATTRESSES FURNITURE REPAIRING, upholstery; pad and couch mattresses made to order; new ticks, rolled edge; pads with cretonne tops and ruffles; mattresses made over into inner spring construction very reasonably. Las Vegas Mattress Factory, p. o. box 541. Two miles out on Los Angeles highway. 11

Aviation Happy Over Outlook For This Year Increased Activity Reported Throughout Country

By SWANEE TAYLOR (Transport Pilot) NEW YORK, March 23 (AP)—All branches of the aeronautical industry are viewing business prospects this year in a quietly optimistic spirit. There is, to be sure, no hope beyond that of a normal increase in profits over the past year.

Aviation has defied the rose-colored goggles that went with the boom days, and is back in the flying business. We do foresee a definite increase in the use of the airplane, and that means more business for all of us.

Manufacturers, as a group, are most hopeful. With the coming of the economical light airplane they anticipate a great increase in what is known as "private" flying—with attendant brisk sales throughout the land. This power-glider type of aircraft—sometimes called Tom Thumb, or Pee-Wee planes—sell for less than \$1,500 and fly 25 miles on a gallon of gasoline.

Low Operation Cost The low cost, economical maintenance, plus a high factor of safety will, doubtless, overcome much sales resistance which has been unmountable in the past. In the meantime they continue to develop the heavier ship to be used for commercial purposes.

In the field of passenger and mail transportation there exists considerable hopefulness. The attitude of air line operators is aptly expressed by Miss Amelia Earhart, vice president of the Ludington line, operating hourly passenger service between New York, Philadelphia and Washington. Miss Earhart said:

"There is little doubt that the public does travel by air when transport operators provide convenient schedules, reliable service and fairly low tariffs. The solution, however, for so doing economically lies first, in having available less expensive equipment with a greater range of usefulness; and secondly, in better management in the establishment and operating of air lines."

Flying schools and airports progressed somewhat even during the depression in 1930. There are fewer schools, but those in existence did show profit. During the past winter months they have conducted class room work in "ground school" subjects, with heavy student enrollment.

Airport Development While airport development has gone forward to the point where by February more than \$20,000,000 for construction had already been allotted at different points, there can be no doubt that the 1,655 airports in operation at the close of last year, will be increased by more than 500 new fields this year. The Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce reports that by late summer that all the proposed airways will be completed.

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DELIZ—MATHEWS: Henry Heckler Delitz, 22, and Betty Mathews, 18, both residents of Compton, Calif. HEMPHILL—SMITH: A. H. Hemphill, 38, of Riverside, Calif., and Massie A. Smith, 25, also of Riverside, Calif.

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS CONCERNED On March 18, 1931, Contract No. 228, between A. D. Drumm, Jr., and the State of Nevada, for constructing a highway from the California-Nevada State Line to Jean, Clark County, was accepted. Creditors' claims against this contract can be filed with the undersigned up to April 17, 1931, for the purpose of securing for claimants proper legal procedure, Section 17, Chapter 169, Statutes 1917, as amended. S. C. DURKEE, State Highway Engineer. mh21-24-26-28-31 a2-4

We Repair and Service Anything Electrical on Autos, Trucks, Tractors and Electric Light Plants.

OUR AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICAL STOCK IS COMPLETE "AL" DREW 131 No. Main Phone 179

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