

# C. Earl Hulburd

## Newspaper Articles Regarding Embezzlement of Funds

(Compiled by Ted Hine – May, 2003)

The following 6 newspaper articles from the late 1930's and early 1940's appeared in the St. Louis Post Dispatch and were obtained in April of 2003 from the archives of the St. Louis Public Library.

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## Summary

By Ted Hine

The story behind C. Earl Hulburd's imprisonment for embezzlement in the late 1930's has been learned primarily from the following St. Louis Post Dispatch newspaper articles since family oral history about these events was largely non-existent.

While in a St. Louis hospital on Dec. 23, 1938 checking on the condition of his 10 year old son, Earl S. "Bud" Hulburd, who had just undergone an appendectomy, Clarence Earl Hulburd told a St. Louis Post Dispatch reporter that for the past 10 years he had been systematically embezzling approximately \$2,000 per month from his employer, the Collier Estate and from the related Mary Collier Hitchcock estate for which he also did bookkeeping work. He admitted to taking approximately \$100,000 from each entity for a total of about \$200,000. During this period his annual salary was approximately \$3,200.

It is not clear why he chose the hospital as the location for his admission nor why a reporter happened to be present but apparently he used the occasion to provide details of the embezzlement and answer to questions.

His theft had been discovered almost 2 months before in early November at which time he had resigned as Secretary of the Collier Estate. He had told his wife and children about a month before but, since he had been working with his former boss, Judge Hitchcock, to make reparations, the police had not yet been notified. Evidently Judge Hitchcock had indicated to Earl that he would have to eventually go public and apparently this was the time and location which Earl chose to do so.

The copyrighted newspaper reporter's story appeared on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Eve day) in the St. Louis Post Dispatch on the Front Page "above the fold" (as did the next 3 newspaper articles) apparently because of C. Earl Hulburd's social position in the community.

Three arrest warrants were issued on Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> as a direct result of the newspaper articles and in spite of the fact that Judge Hitchcock had not notified the authorities of the crime and, even after the authorities has learned of it, had requested that they not arrest Earl till after the Christmas holiday season. Earl was arrested in the hospital while visiting his son.

The embezzled funds had gone primarily into maintaining the Hulburd family's standard of living and, upon his arrest, Earl had substantially none of it left. He had made some investments over the years in Illinois oil wells which he hoped would "come in" and pay back the funds he had taken. Throughout the newspaper articles it is apparent that Earl felt very sorry about what he had done and that he had wanted to repay the funds at some point but, once he got started stealing the money, he felt like he had a tiger by the tail and couldn't let go. It was apparently very easy to embezzle the funds from his employer of 22 years since his job was not bonded and no audits were ever performed. Earl would

sometimes forge Judge Hitchcock's signature or have checks signed by him and then change the amount and/or payee.

The newspaper reported that Earl's wife Hazel had taken to doing nothing but looking out a second story window of the family home and not eating or sleeping much for the entire month after learning what her husband had done. One or the other of his daughters, Betty S. Hulburd and Harriet N. Hulburd, were sometimes reported as being present with Earl at the hospital and/or the jail prior to court appearances. Learning and having to live with Earl's fraudulent activities must have been emotionally devastating to his wife and children.

Earl initially plead "not guilty" at the suggestion of a prosecutor primarily as a means of allowing himself some time to get his affairs together before heading to jail. He then plead guilty on Jan. 11, 1939 to 3 charges of embezzlement by agent. He evidently had let his attorney go and thus chose not to be represented by council. He just wanted to "dispose of the whole matter" as quickly as possible.

He was sentenced to 10 years in the State Penitentiary in Jefferson City, MO and his sentence was commuted by the Governor after he'd served 4 years and 11 months. He was released from the penitentiary on Dec. 15, 1943.



# EMBEZZLER CONFESSES TAKING \$200,000 FROM TWO ST. LOUIS ESTATES

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## 500,000 BATTLE ALONG 100-MILE FRONT IN SPAIN

### Large Rebel Army Runs Into Stiff Government Resistance in Fighting in Catalonia.

By the Associated Press.  
HENDAYE, France, Dec. 24.—Firm Government resistance, it was reported today, has checked a great Spanish insurgent offensive all along the frozen Pyrenees front in a momentous battle of Spain's civil war.

News filtering across the border into France said the big push, led by insurgent Generalissimo Francisco Franco's Moors and Italians, had been brought to an abrupt halt. The front was said to be completely quiet except for occasional artillery shelling.

#### Visibility Reduced.

Heavy snowstorms reduced visibility and freezing cold made fighting virtually impossible in the mountains where two of the greatest armies assembled on a single front in more than 29 months of warfare were locked in combat since yesterday.

Reports from the front said the cold was so severe that water coolers on machine guns—usually boiling hot—had frozen.

The advantage in the fighting was said to have been with the Government's seasoned mountain troops, defending well-fortified hilltop positions.

Insurgents were unable to advance their machine gun platoons to take the summits of Government-held hills, reports said, and Government rifle fire mowed down waves of insurgents attempting to charge up the slopes with fixed bayonets.

Border sources estimated that half a million men were engaged in the battle area, extending from Trep 100 miles south to the Gross Mountains.

#### Insurgents' Main Goal.

The insurgents' main goal and the Government's prize possession was the little industrial town of Artesa, called by both sides the "Key to Catalonia."

The success or failure of Franco's drive, both sides acknowledged, may decide the war.

One point in the Government's favor was that the insurgents struck at the same points where their attacks failed Dec. 15 when, according to some quarters, an espionage plot gave their plans away.

On the second morning of his offensive Franco apparently had been stopped in the Balaguer and Lerida regions. His troops, however, were said to have broken through at least the first line of Government

## Victims of Army Plane Crash



—Associated Press Wirephoto.  
FROM left, above, LIEUT. JAMES D. UNDERHILL and LIEUT. JOHN W. POLLARD. Below, LIEUT. JOHN H. HYDLE and CAPT. FRED RUEBE JR.

## SEVEN KILLED; U. S. ARMY BOMBING PLANE BLOWS UP IN MID-AIR IN RAINSTORM

### Wreckage of Twin-Motored Ship and Bodies Are Scattered Over Wide Area Near Uniontown, Ala.

## NEGRO CAR WASHES SCORES 'SWING' HIT AT CARNEGIE HALL

### "Boogie-Woogie" Piano Player Brings Down House With "Honky Tonk Blues."

By the Associated Press.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 23.—A Negro automobile polisher from Chicago who also applies a deft touch to

By the Associated Press.  
UNIONTOWN, Ala., Dec. 24.—Parts of bodies recovered over a 60-acre area indicated today that seven, or possibly eight men, died last night in the explosion in the air of a twin-motored Army bomber two miles southeast of here. Identification of any of the victims was impossible.

Mat Warren A. Maxwell, operations officer at Maxwell Field, Montgomery, Ala., said a check of the area convinced him at least seven persons were killed. Effects recovered indicated eight

## COLLIER AND HITCHCOCK FUNDS ARE THE LOSERS

### C. Earl Hulburd, Secretary of Holding Company of One and Bookkeeper for Other, Makes Admission to the Post-Dispatch.

## MONEY LOST MOSTLY IN SPECULATIONS

### He Doesn't Remember How It Began, But, Once Started, It Was "Like Holding Onto Bear's Tail; I Couldn't Let Go."

(Copyright, 1938, by the Pulitzer Publishing Co.)

C. Earl Hulburd confessed to a Post-Dispatch reporter today that he had stolen about \$100,000 from the Collier Estate, a corporation, and about \$100,000 from the trust estate of Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock, in his capacity as secretary of the former and bookkeeper of the latter.

Hulburd resides at 78 Vandeventer place. He has been prominent in social activities.

His confession was made to the reporter in a second-floor corridor of St. Luke's Hospital, where his 10-year-old son, Earl Jr., underwent an operation for appendicitis Thursday.

Hulburd, 50 years old and secretary of the Collier Estate for 22 years, with salary recently of \$3250 a year, plus bonuses, said his speculations began about 10 years ago. He resigned two months ago. He said there had been no formal audit during his entire term of employment, and added, "That was a temptation."

#### Can't Remember Why He Did It.

He insisted that he was so confused by his plight that he could not remember why he had taken the first money, but explained that he took more and more



A. Maxwell, operat- at Maxwell Field, Ala., said a check nvinced him at least were killed.

ered indicated eight have been killed, om Hamilton Field, seven soldiers left aboard the plane, en el Field, N. Y. ember, Army sources y boarded the plane d, Cal., but alighted before the big B-18 w up in a rainstorm. n shook many houses

**Board Plane.**

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**Can't Remember Why He Did It.**

He insisted that he was so confused by his plight that he could not remember why he had taken the first money, but explained that he took more and more after that, buying stocks and land, in the hope of retrieving the loss. He did not gamble or bet on horse races, he declared, but some of the money went for his living expenses.

Hulburd, a short, stocky man, with thinning gray hair and wearing spectacles, showed signs of considerable nervousness as he told his story to the reporter.

"I diverted to my own use," he said, "about \$200,000 of which \$100,000 was from the Collier Estate and \$100,000 from the Mary Hitchcock estate. I began diverting the money about 10 years ago—just how I cannot say—I don't know—I'm too confused really to remember."

"After I began it was like holding on to a bear's tail—I couldn't let go. I kept getting in deeper and deeper, using the money to buy securities in the hope I'd make enough to pay back what I'd already stolen."

**"I've Been a Damned Fool"**  
"I've been a damned fool, who made a mistake."

"I got the money from the cash account, not from diverting any of the securities."

He said that in a few instances he obtained money by forging the name of former Circuit Judge George Collier Hitchcock, son of Mrs. Mary Hitchcock and grandson of George Collier, whose wealth was the basis of the Collier Estate.

"But most of the time," he continued, "I got the money by changing the amounts on checks of the estate to various payees."

Asked to explain how he obtained



# Confesses Looting Estates of \$200,000

Continued From Page One.

cash in this way, he would only reply, "I feel that covers it."

### Partial Restitution Made.

"I have made partial restitution," Hulburd went on, "turning over to Judge Hitchcock all of my life insurance, some stocks that I owned and land in Illinois on which we hope to get oil. If the land actually produces oil, I may be able to make complete restitution."

"I've been living in a perfect hell. I'm not a criminal of the Londer or Capone type, but I realize I played a dirty trick on my friend, Judge Hitchcock. I'm solely responsible."

"About a month ago I told my wife and family about it. Since then my wife has been sitting at the window of the second floor of our house, hardly ever eating or sleeping or saying a word, and she is greatly distressed. She has been out of the house only twice in the month, both times to go to Judge Hitchcock's office."

### "She Did Her Part; I Didn't"

"Several times when I was about to spend money for various things my wife would ask me if we could afford it. I told her somewhat brusquely that if she would take care of the home end, I'd take care of the business end. She did her part, but I didn't do mine."

There were at least three occasions, Hulburd related, when it appeared he might be able to recoup the losses, but each time his plans fell short. He would not give details, except to say one time there was "an oil deal." Declaring that he did not gamble or bet on horses, he said he had been to "a club out in the country" twice, wagering \$10 each time, and had seen a horse race once in his life.

He is treasurer of the Vandeventer Place Association, which takes care of this old midtown restricted residence street, but will resign, he said, at the annual meeting to be held soon.

Just as he completed his confession, a physician came up and told him:

"Your boy is improving; you have nothing to worry about now. Go home and tell your wife and enjoy your Christmas."

### Discovery of the Shortage.

Judge Hitchcock said to a Post-Dispatch reporter that he would make no comment on the confession until he had opportunity to read it.

He said he found the shortage Nov. 2, and the discovery "came like a bolt of lightning."

Thereafter Hulburd resigned, but he has conferred with Judge Hitchcock frequently since. The Judge's office forces, aided by the advice of a public accountant, has been making an audit of the two estates as a result.

The Collier Estate, owned by 18 stockholders, all in the family, hired Hulburd as secretary in the autumn of 1918 on the recommendation of a bank where he had been employed. His salary was increased from time to time, being shared in recent years by both estates. His annual bonuses, which were additional, usually were paid at Christmas and until the embezzlement was found out it had been intended to give him one this Christmas.

Prior to the death of Mrs. Hitchcock in 1928, Hulburd was bookkeeper for her property and he continued in this capacity afterward. The office of both estates is at Judge Hitchcock's office at 208 North Broadway.

### Conjecture on Income.

Hulburd's automobile is a comfortable Packard sedan. The family residence once was the home of Mrs. Goddard King, whose husband was president of the Mermod-Jaccard King Jewelry Co. Formerly the Hulburds resided in a West

End apartment. Hulburd bought a lot on Watson road, St. Louis County, planning to erect a home, but sold it and purchased the large old house on Vandeventer place. The source of his money had been a matter of conjecture for years in social circles. Some persons were of the opinion that his position gave him access to information on profitable investments for his own funds.

Hulburd's son attends a private school here. There are two daughters, Harriet, 22, who made her debut in 1935, and Betty Seward, 20, who was introduced to society last year. Both were graduated from Mary Institute and attended the Finch School, New York, and both have been maids of honor at Valed Frophet balls. The family has traveled in Europe and the Caribbean. The daughters have frequently given elaborate parties. Mrs. Hulburd is a member of the St. Louis Woman's Club.

When a Post-Dispatch reporter first asked Hulburd about the shortage, last Tuesday, he asserted his resignation was purely personal and that after Jan. 1 he and a group of residents of St. Louis and Illinois would form a syndicate to produce oil. At that time he said his employment by the estates had been full time, but that the property actually was managed by Judge Hitchcock.

Judge Hitchcock declined to tell the value of the Collier Estate assets, or of the trust estate of his mother, of which he is sole trustee. The Collier Estate, incorporated for \$300,000, owns a seven-story, partly vacant building at the southeast corner of Fourth street and Washington avenue, also bonds and stocks.

In the trust estate are stocks, bonds and an entirely vacant adjacent seven-story building at 420-22 North Fourth street. The trust estate has declined in value in the depression.

George Collier, whose broad commercial and industrial activities here in 1818-52 created the fortunes on which the Collier Estate was based, left his property to his wife, who bequeathed it to their children, when she died more than 60 years ago. The family corporation was formed subsequently, in 1885.

Collier, born in Maryland in 1796, inherited property from his father, who was in the Atlantic coasting trade. He was educated at an academy in Philadelphia and came to St. Louis in 1818 to join his older brother, John, in the general mercantile business.

After John Collier's death in 1821, George carried on the business, forming the firm of Collier and Powell, from which he retired in 1830. Thereafter he took part in many of the business affairs of the growing city. He invested in the construction of steamboats for the Mississippi and Missouri river trade, quickly selling those which were not profitable and sometimes selling the profitable ones at the height of their productivity. His credit was widely established and his luck in a day of many steamboat disasters became proverbial. Some historians have credited him with the leading part in building up the city's pro-Civil War river trade.

Lead deposits at Galena, Ill., and in Southeastern Missouri attracted his attention and he dealt in the metal, partly to provide traffic for his boats, shipping much of it to Philadelphia and New Orleans. He became a large owner in the Galena mines, which supplied not only eastern states but some sections of Europe. This activity led Collier into the banking business in partnership with William C. Pettus as Collier & Pettus. In addition he was interested in St. Charles flour milling.

His boats would exchange lead, flour and other commodities at

New Orleans for sugar, coffee, salt, molasses and other staples. In 1840 Collier retired from the banking firm but two years later, with his brother-in-law, William M. Morrison, he formed a commission company. However, being in poor health, he gradually disposed of his various interests, quitting Collier & Morrison in 1847, but continuing to manage his own real estate and other investments.

The Collier White Lead & Oil Co., founded by others in 1837, was named for George Collier, the largest investor.

### Many Activities.

He was regarded as a local financial authority, was a director in various banks and his name often appeared in accounts of civic undertakings, including the establishment of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. He was a leading incorporator of the city's first insurance company, in 1831, and was a subscriber to the formation of the Mercantile Library Association. Politically, he was a Whig in a Democratic community. He died at his home here, July 18, 1852.

His first wife, who was Miss Francis E. Morrison, died in 1835. Three years later he married Miss Sarah A. Bell. A daughter by the first marriage, Mary, married Henry Hitchcock, St. Louis lawyer; George Collier Hitchcock is their son. A daughter by the second marriage was married to Ethan A. Hitchcock, a merchant in China. Five sons grew to manhood; one of them, Maurice Dwight Collier, was on the board of freeholders which prepared the 1878 city Charter.

Judge Hitchcock, head of the Collier Estate, resides at 5363 Waterman boulevard, John R. Shepley, vice-president of the St. Louis Union Trust Co., is vice-president of the estate. Among the stockholders are his brother, Ethan A. H. Shepley, lawyer, and Henry Hitchcock of the Gardner Advertising Co. staff and Ethan A. S. Hitchcock, New York lawyer, sons of Judge Hitchcock.

### Mrs. Hitchcock's Estate.

Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock, who died Jan. 1, 1928, at the age of 95, at her home, 54 Vandeventer place, left an estate appraised for inheritance tax purposes at \$1,270,972. It included \$1,091,741 in stocks, \$187,000 in real estate and \$82,235 in notes.

Her will made specific bequests of \$35,000; provided for expenditure from income, up to \$20,000 annually, for the care of an invalid son, Harry Hitchcock, and made a small annuity for a companion. The remainder, comprising the bulk of the estate, was left in trust with Judge Hitchcock as sole trustee. Under the terms, he was to receive the benefit of one-third of the trust estate and his five children were to share the other two-thirds.

Mrs. Hitchcock's husband, Henry, who died in 1902, took a prominent part in the fight to keep Missouri in the Union at the time of the Civil War. A resolute opponent of slavery, he was a Major in the Union Army in the war. Winston Churchill pictured him as Stephen Eric, slavery-hating hero of the novel "The Crisis." From 1867 to 1881 he was dean of the Washington University law school and at one time he was president of the American Bar Association.

George J. Stammer has been employed to succeed Hulburd as secretary of the Collier Estate and bookkeeper of the Hitchcock trust estate.

### Swastika for Lewis Browns.

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 24.—Lewis Browns, English-born Jewish novelist, reported to police yesterday that a four-foot white swastika was painted on the door of his home in Rustle Canyon, north of Santa Monica. He has acted as chairman of several anti-Nazi meetings and is to preside at another Jan. 4.

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# ST-DISPATCH

Sunday Post-Dispatch—76 Pages Today

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NING, DECEMBER 25, 1938.

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PRICE 10 CENTS.

## ROOSEVELT CALLS FOR PEACE IN HIS CHRISTMAS TALK

At Tree-Lighting Says He Will Do All He Can to Hasten Day When War Shall Be No More.

### HE IS PLEASED OVER LIMA PACT

President Will Reach His Absent Children by Phone Today—Holiday Program at White House.

By the Associated Press. WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt promised the world in a Christmas Eve message tonight that he would do everything in his power to hasten the day when war shall be no more. He spoke at the tree-lighting ceremony in Lafayette Square.

"We do not expect a new heaven and a new earth overnight," Roosevelt said. "But in our own land, and other lands—wherever men of good will listen to our appeal—we shall work as best we can with the instruments at hand to banish hatred, greed and covetousness from the heart of mankind. We derive

## TRUSTED EMPLOYE ADMITS THEFT OF \$200,000 FROM TWO ESTATES HE SERVED

Town's Santa Claus in Hospital



## C. E. HULBURD GOT FUNDS OF COLLIER, MRS. HITCHCOCK

Secretary of Former Corporation and Bookkeeper of Latter Trust Lost Money in Stocks and Lands.

### SOME WENT FOR LIVING EXPENSES

Declares He Cannot Recall How It Began 10 Years Ago — Calls Embezzlement 'Dirty Trick on My Friend Judge Hitchcock.'

(Copyright, 1938, by the Pulitzer Pub





Associated Press Wirephoto.  
N. 77 years old, known as Santa Grove, La., was hit by an automob. and leg. There'll be no Santa's substituted.

## TWO ON TRAIN KILLED IN \$150,000 HOLDUP

Robbers Board Manila Express, Hack Victims to Death With Bolos.

By the Associated Press.  
MANILA, Dec. 24.—Christmas eve robbers killed two messengers aboard an express train tonight and escaped with cash and gold bullion valued at \$150,000.

Wielding bolos, long knives, the robbers hacked and stabbed the baggage messengers to death as the train rumbled toward Manila from Bagulo, rich gold mining district.

Then they looted the baggage safe and fled some time before the crime was discovered and reported to constabulary officials, who launched an immediate search for the killers.

How or where the robbers boarded the train, the Ilocos Express of the Manila Railroad, was not learned, as the robbery was undiscovered until the train arrived here.

Manila is the dispensing center for gold from the Bagulo region, one of the most profitable mine regions in the Philippines.

## WHITE HOUSE DINNER MENU

What President's Family Will Eat on Christmas.

By the Associated Press.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—President Roosevelt has his turkey with little sausages, chestnut dressing, cranberry jelly and giblet gravy. These things, with peas and sweet potatoes scalloped with pineapple, will be the main course of the White House Christmas dinner menu.

Before the turkey, there will be served oysters and saltines, clear soup with sherry, celery and assorted olives. After the turkey, there will be orange and cross salad with cheese wafers. Then plum pudding and hard sauce, eggnog, ice cream and cake and coffee.

## HARD JOLT FOR CONGRESSMAN

Request for 100 Gallery Seats for Oath-Taking Denied.

By the Associated Press.  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Joseph J. Smoot, House doorkeeper, said one of the newly-elected Congressmen from Pennsylvania had written him for 100 gallery reservations so that his family and supporters could see him sworn in. The request cannot be granted.

The gallery seats only about 700 persons. One seat is allotted to each of the 535 members of Congress and others are reserved for the President, his family and the diplomatic corps.

## SOME WENT FOR LIVING EXPENSES

Declares He Cannot Recall How It Began 10 Years Ago — Calls Embezzlement 'Dirty Trick on My Friend Judge Hitchcock.'

(Copyright, 1938, by the Pulitzer Publishing Co.)

The theft of about \$100,000 from the Collier Estate, a corporation, and about \$100,000 from the trust estate of Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock, was confessed to a Post-Dispatch reporter yesterday by C. Earl Hulburd, secretary of the former and bookkeeper of the latter, a trusted employe for 22 years.

During his entire career as office man for these related interests there was no formal audit, he said, pointing out: "That was a temptation."

Hulburd, 50 years old, resides at 78 Vandevanter place and has been prominent in social activities. His salary recently has been \$3250 a year, plus bonuses. The peculations, he declared, began about 10 years ago and led to his resignation two months ago. Forgery, he said, was resorted to in a few instances but his method generally was to raise the amounts of checks.

Obviously very nervous, he insisted that he could not remember what led him to take the money at first. It was neither gambling nor horse races, he said, that caused him to steal. In a vain effort to make good the original theft, he related, he took more and more of the funds, using them to buy stocks and lands, with the constant hope that he could make a profitable deal. Some of the money, he went on, went for living expenses. His family's scale of living has been on a much higher plane than that ordinarily associated with a salary such as his.

Confession Made in Hospital.

The confession was made to the reporter in a second-floor corridor of St. Luke's Hospital, immediately after Hulburd had called on his 10-year-old son, Earl Jr., who underwent an operation for appendicitis Thursday. While he talked, passing internes and nurses greeted him and just as he finished a physician came up and told him: "Your boy is improving; you have nothing to worry about now. Go home and tell your wife and enjoy your Christmas."

Mrs. Hulburd and their two daughters, however, learned of his plight from him a month ago.

A short, stocky man, Hulburd has thinning gray hair and wears spectacles.

The Collier Estate, incorporated for \$600,000, is a family concern, owned by 18 stockholders, all descendants of George Collier, whose wealth was the basis of its assets. Its president is former Circuit Judge George Collier Hitchcock, Collier's grandson, and son of Mrs. Mary Hitchcock, of whose trust estate he is sole trustee.

Judge Hitchcock withheld comment on the confession until he could consider it. He said he found the shortage Nov. 2 the discovery coming "like a bolt of lightning." Thereupon Hulburd resigned, but he has conferred with Judge Hitchcock frequently since. As a result, the judge's office force, assisted by the advice of a public accountant, has been auditing the two estates.

Took About \$200,000.

"I diverted to my own use," Hulburd said to the reporter, "about \$200,000, of which \$100,000 was from the Collier Estate and \$100,000 from the Mary Hitchcock estate. I began diverting the money about 10 years ago—just how I cannot say—I don't know—I'm too confused really to remember."

"After I began, it was like hold-

Continued on Page 3, Column 5.



# Admits \$200,000 Theft From Two Est

Continued From Page One.

ing on to a bear's tail—I couldn't let go. I kept getting in deeper and deeper, using the money to buy securities in the hope I'd make enough to pay back what I'd already stolen.

"I've been a damned fool, who made a mistake.

"I got the money from the cash account, not from diverting any of the securities. I forged Judge Hitchcock's name in a few instances, but most of the time I got the money by changing the amounts on checks of the estate to various payees."

Pressed to explain how he obtained cash by this means, he would only say, "I feel that covers it."

### Restitution in Part.

"I have made partial restitution," Hulburd went on, "turning over to Judge Hitchcock all of my life insurance, some stocks that I owned and land in Illinois on which we hope to get oil. If the land actually produces oil, I may be able to make complete restitution.

"I've been living in a perfect hell. I'm not a criminal of the Londe or Capone type, but I realize I played a dirty trick on my friend, Judge Hitchcock. I'm solely responsible.

"About a month ago I told my wife and family about it. Since then my wife has been sitting at the window of the second floor of our house, hardly ever eating or sleeping or saying a word, and she is greatly distressed. She has been out of the house only twice in the month, both times to go to Judge Hitchcock's office.

"Several times when I was about to spend money for various things my wife would ask me if we could afford it. I told her somewhat brusquely that if she would take care of the home and I'd take care of the business end. She did her part, but I didn't do mine."

### Hoped to Recoup Losses.

There were at least three occasions, Hulburd related, when it appeared he might be able to recoup the losses, but each time his plans fell short. He would not give details, except to say one time there was "an oil deal." Declaring that he did not gamble or bet on horses, he said he had been to "a club out in the county" twice, wagering \$10 each time, and had seen a horse race once in his life.

He is treasurer of the Vandeventer Place Association, which takes care of this old midtown residential residence street, but will resign, he said, at the annual meeting to be held soon.

The Collier Estate hired Hulburd as secretary in the autumn of 1916 on the recommendation of a bank where he had been employed. His salary was increased from time to time, being shared in recent years by both estates. His annual bonuses, which were additional, usually were paid at Christmas and until

mother. The Collier Estate owns a seven-story, partly vacant building at the southeast corner of Fourth street and Washington avenue, also bonds and stocks. In the trust estate are stocks, bonds and an entirely vacant adjacent seven-story building at 420-22 North Fourth street. The trust estate has declined in value in the depression.

Circuit Attorney Franklin Miller said yesterday afternoon that no complaint against Hulburd had been made to his office. He said he would proceed in the usual manner when such a complaint was placed before him.

George Collier, whose broad commercial and industrial activities here in 1818-52 created the fortune on which the Collier estate was based, left his property to his wife, who bequeathed it to their children, when she died more than 50 years ago. The family corporation was formed subsequently in 1886.

Collier, born in Maryland in 1796, inherited property from his father, who was in the Atlantic coasting trade. He was educated at an academy in Philadelphia and came to St. Louis in 1818 to join his older brother, John, in the general mercantile business.

### Built Up River Trade.

After John Collier's death in 1821, George carried on the business, forming the firm of Collier & Powell, from which he retired in 1830. Thereafter, he took part in many of the business affairs of the growing city. He invested in the construction of steamboats for the Mississippi and Missouri River trade, quickly selling those which were not profitable and sometimes selling the profitable ones at the height of their productivity. His credit was widely established and his luck in a day of many steamboat disasters became proverbial. Some historians have credited him with the leading part in building up the city's pre-Civil War river trade.

Lead deposits at Galena, Ill., and in Southeastern Missouri attracted his attention and he dealt in the metal, partly to provide traffic for his boats, shipping much of it to Philadelphia and New Orleans. He became a large owner in the galena mines, which supplied not only Eastern states but some sections of Europe. This activity led Collier into the banking business in partnership with William G. Pettus as Collier & Pettus. In addition, he was interested in St. Charles flour milling.

### Business Activities.

His boats would exchange lead, flour and other commodities at New Orleans for sugar, coffee, salt, molasses and other staples. In 1840, Collier retired from the banking firm, but two years later, with his brother-in-law, William M. Morrison, he formed a commission company. However, being in poor

health, he gradually sold his various interests, Collier & Morrison in 1845, continuing to manage his estate and other investments.

The Collier White Lead Company, founded by others in 1845, is named for George Collier, an investor.

He was regarded as a special authority, was a director of various banks and his name appeared in accounts of public undertakings, including the establishment of the Missouri Railroad. He was a incorporator of the life insurance company, in 1845 a subscriber to the fund for the Mercantile Library. Politically, he was a member of the Democratic community, his home here July 18, 1852.

His first wife, who was Francoise E. Morrison, died three years later he married Sarah A. Bell. A daughter from his first marriage, Mary, married George Collier Hitchcock, St. Louis. A daughter by his second marriage was married to George Collier Hitchcock, a merchant. Five sons grew to maturity, of them, Maurice Dwight was on the board of directors which prepared the 1852 will.

### Officers of Estate.

Judge Hitchcock, head of the estate, resides at 1818 Main boulevard. John W. Shepley, vice-president of the Union Trust Co., is a trustee of the estate. Among the other holders are his brother, H. Shepley, lawyer, and Hitchcock of the Gardening Co. staff and E. Hitchcock, New York, and Hitchcock of Judge Hitchcock.

Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock died Jan 1, 1928, at 64 Vandeventer place. She left an estate appraised for tax purposes at \$1,091,741 in real estate and notes. Among the stock of the Collier Estate was \$250,000.

Her will made specific provision for \$35,000; provided for from income, up to \$2,000 a year, for the care of an annuity for a companion, comprising the estate, was left to Judge Hitchcock. Under the will he was to receive the one-third of the trust for his five children and the other two-thirds.

Mrs. Hitchcock's husband who died in 1802, took part in the fight to keep the Union at the Civil War. A resolute abolitionist, he was a Major in the army in the war

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uses, which were additional, usually  
were paid at Christmas and until  
the embezzlement was found out it  
had been intended to give one this  
Christmas.

Prior to the death of Mrs. Hitch-  
cock in 1928, Hurlburt was book-  
keeper for her property and he  
continued in this capacity after-  
ward. The office of both estates is  
at Judge Hitchcock's office at 208  
North Broadway.

Hurlburt's automobile is a con-  
vertible Packard sedan. The fam-  
ily residence once was the home of  
Mrs. Goodman King, whose hus-  
band was president of the Mermod-  
Jacquard-King Jewelry Co. Formerly  
the Hurlburts resided in a West  
End apartment. Hurlburt bought a  
lot on Watson road, St. Louis  
County, planning to erect a home,  
but sold it and purchased the large  
old house in Vandevanter place.  
The source of his money had been  
a matter of conjecture for years  
in social circles. Some persons were  
of the opinion that his position gave  
him access to information on prof-  
itable investments for his own  
funds.

**Family Lived Well.**

His son attends a private school  
here. One daughter, Harriet, 22,  
made her debut in 1935, and the other,  
Betty Seward, 20, was intro-  
duced to society last year. Both  
were graduated from Mary Insti-  
tute and attended the Finch School,  
New York, and both have been  
maids of honor at Veiled Prophet  
balls. The family has traveled in  
Europe and the Caribbean. The  
daughters have frequently given  
elaborate parties. Mrs. Hurlburt is  
a member of the St. Louis Woman's  
Club.

When a Post-Dispatch reporter  
first asked Hurlburt about the short-  
age, last Tuesday, he asserted his  
resignation was purely personal  
and that after Jan. 1 he and a  
group of residents of St. Louis and  
Illinois would form a syndicate to  
produce oil. At that time he said  
his employment by the estates had  
been full time, but that the prop-  
erty actually was managed by  
Judge Hitchcock.

**Value of Estate Not Announced.**

Judge Hitchcock declined to tell  
the value of the Collier Estate  
assets, or of the trust estate of his

**PREPARE FOR THE  
BEST POSITIONS**



# ,000 Theft From Two Estates

mother. The Collier Estate owns a seven-story, partly vacant building at the southeast corner of Fourth street and Washington avenue, also bonds and stocks. In the trust estate are stocks, bonds and an entirely vacant adjacent seven-story building at 420-22 North Fourth street. The trust estate has declined in value in the depression.

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health, he gradually disposed of his various interests, quitting Collier & Morrison in 1847, but continuing to manage his own real estate and other investments.

The Collier White Lead & Oil Co., founded by others in 1837, was named for George Collier, the largest investor.

He was regarded as a local financial authority, was a director in various banks and his name often appeared in accounts of civic undertakings, including the establishment of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. He was a leading incorporator of the city's first insurance company, in 1831, and was a subscriber to the formation of the Mercantile Library Association. Politically, he was a Whig in a Democratic community. He died at his home here July 18, 1852.

His first wife, who was Miss Francoise E. Morrison, died in 1835. Three years later he married Miss Sarah A. Bell. A daughter by the first marriage, Mary, married Henry Hitchcock, St. Louis lawyer; George Collier Hitchcock is their son. A daughter by the second marriage was married to Ethan A. Hitchcock, a merchant in China. Five sons grew to manhood; one of them, Maurice Dwight Collier, was on the board of freeholders which prepared the 1876 city Charter.

### Officers of Estate.

Judge Hitchcock, head of the Collier Estate, resides at 5363 Waterman boulevard. John R. Shepley, vice-president of the St. Louis Union Trust Co., is vice-president of the estate. Among the stockholders are his brother, Ethan A. H. Shepley, lawyer, and Henry Hitchcock of the Gardner Advertising Co. staff and Ethan A. S. Hitchcock, New York lawyer, sons of Judge Hitchcock.

Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock, who died Jan 1, 1928, at the age of 95, at her home, 54 Vandeventer place, left an estate appraised for inheritance tax purposes at \$1,270,972. It included \$1,091,741 in stocks, \$187,000 in real estate and \$82,595 in notes. Among the stocks was \$181,250 in the Collier Estate.

Her will made specific bequests of \$35,000; provided for expenditure from income, up to \$20,000 annually, for the care of an invalid son, Harry Hitchcock, and made a small annuity for a companion. The remainder, comprising the bulk of the estate, was left in trust with Judge Hitchcock. Under the terms he was to receive the benefit of one-third of the trust estate and his five children were to share the other two-thirds.

Mrs. Hitchcock's husband, Henry, who died in 1902, took a prominent part in the fight to keep Missouri in the Union at the time of the Civil War. A resolute opponent of slavery, he was a Major in the Union Army in the war. Winston

# ROBBER, AFTER MONEY, GETS STEAKS INSTEAD

## Attacks Grocer Entering Clayton Apartment—Other Holdups.

A Negro who held up Jack Fendelman, a grocer, when he was entering an apartment house at 6334 Southwood avenue, Clayton, last night, got a package containing two steaks instead of money.

The Negro, armed with a revolver, was waiting inside a door leading to the basement when Fendelman entered. He demanded money, apparently thinking that Fendelman was taking home the receipts of a store operated by the family at Southwood and De Mun avenues. Fendelman handed him the steaks. The Negro struck him on the head with the weapon inflicting a bruise, before he ran with the package, which he threw away in an alley. The money from the store had been taken to the apartment earlier by William Fendelman, a brother.

About 30 minutes later a Negro of similar description held up Albert Kuelker, 4238 Maffitt avenue, in the rear of 6218 Northwood avenue, where he was making deliveries, three blocks north of the Southwood avenue address, and took \$25 from him.

Miss Hazel Milburn, cashier at the Yale Cafe, 617 North Grand boulevard, was robbed of \$45 last night by a young man who entered the restaurant with one hand thrust in his overcoat pocket and ordered her to "give it all to me." She handed him the contents of the cash register.

Francis Sum, owner of a drug store at 2840 Clark avenue, was robbed of \$50 last night by two Negroes, who held him up when he got into his automobile, after he had closed the store. The Negroes, one of whom carried a revolver, forced Sum to drive to twenty-second and Walnut streets, where they got out of the car.

Churchill pictured him as Stephen Brice, slavery-hating hero of the novel, "The Crisis." From 1867 to 1881 he was dean of the Washington University law school and at one time he was president of the American Bar Association.

George J. Stammer has been employed to succeed Hulburd as secretary of the Collier Estate and bookkeeper of the Hitchcock trust estate.

Merry Christmas  
and Happy New Year  
from the little man who sells the  
beautiful neckties.  
Phone GRand 9252



# IS POST-DISPATCH

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Newspaper in St. Louis With the Associated Press News Service

(Closing News)

ST. LOUIS, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1938—30 PAGES

## FIRST COLD WAVE OF SEASON HERE; 13 ABOVE ZERO

Drop of 27 Degrees Overnight  
With Northwest Wind of 31  
Miles an Hour.

Borne on a howling northwest wind, St. Louis' first cold wave of the season tumbled temperatures from a moderate 40 at 3:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon to a crisp 13 at 8 o'clock this morning.

Floating ice in the Mississippi River made its first appearance of the winter today. It was the latest date for ice in the river for seven years. Last year, the first ice appeared Nov. 23.

A drizzling rain, which froze on motorists' windshields with the first rapid drop to below the freezing point yesterday later changed to light and intermittent snow flurries.

The wind, which reached a maximum of 31 miles an hour, retarded the formation of dangerous ice on streets and highways by drying the pavements, and swept the skies clear of smoke.

Yesterday, the danger of ice forming on the wings of planes, caused the cancellation of passenger airplanes schedules between St. Louis and Chicago, the East and the West. Some schedules were resumed today.

The State Highway Patrol reported that Missouri highways were clear and dry throughout the state with the exception of a few places near Macon where there were icy spots.

At Union Station it was said the cold weather had not interfered with train schedules.

## EMBEZZLEMENT WARRANTS ISSUED FOR C. E. HULBURD

\$76,225 Used as Basis in  
Case of Estate Secretary  
Who Confessed Taking  
\$200,000.

BOND, IF GRANTED,  
IS SET AT \$25,000

"Hasn't Dime of the Money  
Left"—Had Been Arrested  
and Placed in Detention  
Cell.

Three warrants, charging C. Earl Hulburd with embezzlement of \$76,225 from the estate of Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock, were issued today by Assistant Circuit Attorney James E. McLaughlin. The three defalcations charged are a lesser part of the thefts, amounting to \$200,000 or more, which Hulburd confessed to a Post-Dispatch reporter Saturday that he committed. He took the money, over a 10-year period, from the Hitchcock estate

Confessed Embezzler



C. EARL HULBURD.

VIGILANTES TO HALT U. S. RENEWS PROTEST  
DRUNKEN DRIVERS



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**Mary Hitchcock Estate.**  
The three warrants were based on thefts from the Mary Hitchcock estate, as the admitted thefts from the Collier Estate took place more than three years ago, and are not subject to prosecution, under the statute of limitations.

The first warrant charges that Hulburd, on Dec. 31, 1936, embezzled \$81,500 from Judge Hitchcock, as trustee of the Mary Hitchcock estate. The second and third warrants charge the embezzling of \$21,374 on Dec. 31, 1937, and of \$23,351 on Nov. 1 last, from the same estate and trustee.

McLaughlin pointed out that the sum of the three amounts, \$76,225, was somewhat more than \$2000 a month for the three-year period covered by the charges, indicating, in the prosecutor's view, that his speculations were made with some regularity and system, at the rate of \$2000 a month.

McLaughlin filed the warrants in the office of the Clerk of the Court of Criminal Correction. If Hulburd should choose to stand a preliminary hearing, it would be in that court, before Judge Joseph L. Simpson. Before the hearing, it would be in order for the grand jury to take up the case, and in that event indictments would supplant the warrants.

**Has Not Indicated Course.**  
Hulburd, who was in Police Headquarters holdover today, following his arrest yesterday, has not indicated whether he will shorten the court process by a plea of guilty, which would make the preliminary hearing, or grand jury inquiry, unnecessary.

The crime charged in each of the warrants, embezzlement by agent, is punishable by imprisonment for two to five years, or a maximum of 15 years in all three cases. The Circuit Attorney's office will ask that the bond, if a bond is granted, be in the sum of \$25,000.

Hulburd was arrested by order of Circuit Attorney Franklin Miller, who took cognizance of the facts stated in the Post-Dispatch Saturday afternoon and Sunday. Before the arrest, McLaughlin called on Judge Hitchcock and obtained the figures used in the warrants.

**Arrest Was Not Requested.**  
Judge Hitchcock said to a Post-Dispatch reporter today that he had not requested the arrest of Hulburd. He said that, when McLaughlin told him the arrest was to be made, he asked that it be deferred until after the



C. EARL HULBURD.

### VIGILANTES TO HALT DRUNKEN DRIVERS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

#### 40 to Patrol St. Clair County Roads With Power to Make Arrests.

Forty members of the St. Clair County Rural Vigilantes will patrol the county's highways New Year's Eve in search of drunken automobile drivers, it was announced today by Sheriff D. A. Prindable.

Drivers will be required to leave their machines and will be taken to their destinations or some safe place, Sheriff Prindable said. Arrests will be made in case of refusal to comply with this requirement.

The Vigilantes are armed and have commissions as deputy sheriffs. They were organized about six years to prevent chicken stealing and other thefts from farms. Four persons were killed and seven were injured in St. Clair County automobile accidents during the Christmas holidays.

### TAVERN KEEPER HELD UP IN AUTO, ROBBED OF \$200

#### Declares He Was Forced to the Curb by Another Car That Followed Him.

Irving Meyer, proprietor of a tavern at 2037 Carr street, reported he was held up and robbed of \$200 by a Negro in an automobile, who forced him to the curb at Aubert and Maple avenues as he was on his way from the tavern to his home, 5743 Kingsbury avenue, early today.

Meyer said he noticed the other machine following him at Delmar boulevard and Walton avenue and circled around several blocks in the neighborhood in an effort to elude the other car. The robber drove north on Aubert avenue after taking the money.

### WOMAN DOCTOR ENDS LIFE OVER HUNGARY PLAN FOR JEWS

#### Irma Szabo, Christian of Jewish Descent, Leaves Note Telling Her Reason.

**BUDAPEST, Dec. 27.**—Another suicide was added yesterday to the list of persons who have ended their lives in protest against proposed Hungarian laws for the regulation of Jews.

The latest suicide was that of a well-known physician, Irma

### U. S. RENEG ON JAPANESE

#### Asks Again That American in China

By the Associated Press  
**WASHINGTON**  
Department office that because the ment failed to i to earlier protest ings of American United States A C. Grew made yesterday.

They said the est protest cove bombings in rec the Tokyo Gove had promised to called the matte of Foreign Minis repeating his re nese war planes

### HELEN GOULD S LEAVES ESTATE

#### Ho Gets \$250,000 Homes and E

By the Associated Press  
**WHITE PLAIN**  
The will of F ard, filed for pro her husband, Fir ard, the chief be He received a of \$250,000, his v home in New Y Shepards' Roxbu as well as the re estate.

Mrs. Shepard, was a daughter c was no estimate the estate.

### 4 CHILDREN PE WHICH DESTROYED

#### West Virginia. Burned in Fut cue From Two

By the Associated Press  
**HUNTINGTON**  
Four children, from eight mont ished early toda the two-story lo parents, Mr. and 15 miles from h Garthee was about the hands file effort to sav mother escaped. The fire appar



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**Arrest Was Not Requested.**  
Judge Hitchcock said to a Post-Dispatch reporter today that he had not requested the arrest of Hulburd. He said that, when McLaughlin told him the arrest was to be made, he asked that it be deferred until after the Christmas holiday period. McLaughlin replied that the matter could not wait, and asked for figures on the sum stolen in the last three years, which Judge Hitchcock gave him.

Judge Hitchcock declined, as he has previously declined, to give a figure on the total of Hulburd's thefts, which Hulburd in his confession placed at about \$200,000, \$100,000 from each of the two estates. However, Judge Hitchcock said that the total would not approach \$300,000.

Hulburd, who is 50 years old and lives at 78 Vandeventer place, was arrested at 2:40 p. m. by city detectives, in a corridor of St. Luke's Hospital. He had been calling on his son, Earl Jr., 10 years old, who is recovering from an appendectomy performed Thursday. It was at the hospital that Hulburd, Saturday, made his confession to a Post-Dispatch reporter.

**No Detailed Statement.**  
At Police Headquarters soon afterward, Hulburd was photographed, and his finger prints and measure-

Continued on Page 3, Column 2.

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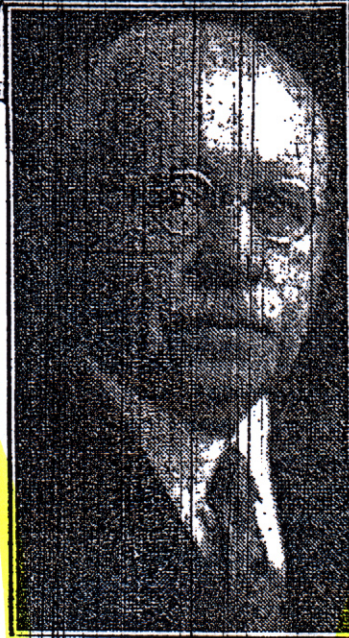
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# Trust Fund Looter's Home; His Employer for 22 Years



By a Post-Dispatch Staff Photographer  
**HOME** of C. Earl Hulburd, 78 Vandeventer place, at right. Former Circuit Judge **GEORGE C. HITCHCOCK**, Hulburd's employer for 22 years.



—Strauss Photo.

## EMBEZZLEMENT WARRANTS ISSUED FOR C. E. HULBURD

Continued From Page One.

ments were made for police records. He was then questioned by McLaughlin and by Chief of Detectives John J. Carroll, but made no detailed affirmation or denial as to the charge of embezzlement. "He did say," McLaughlin related, "that he didn't have a dime of the money left. He said he wished to avoid causing expense to his family, and that he would like to dispose of the whole matter, but he did not make any definite proposal for a plea. He said he had

the facts known to his wife and

## BODY TO BE EXHUMED IN INSURANCE INQUIRY

Philadelphia Coroner Issues Order—Three Accused of Poisoning Four Persons

By the Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—Coroner Charles H. Hersch ordered the body of a man who died last spring taken from the grave today to check what he described as "information that the man was killed" by an insurance murder ring. The victim's name was not disclosed. Two women and a man are being



...ectives John J. Carroll, but made no detailed affirmation or denial as to the charge of embezzlement. "He did say," McLaughlin related, "that he didn't have a dime of the money left. He said he wished to avoid causing expense to his family, and that he would like to 'dispose of the whole matter,' but he did not make any definite proposal for a plea. He said he had friends who might be willing to provide bond for him."

After his talk with the officials, Hulburd was placed in a detention cell, a place preferable for comfort to the regular holdover cells. In this cell, Hulburd will be under watch by a turnkey. This precaution was ordered by Chief of Detectives Carroll, after he had been informed that Hulburd had talked of committing suicide.

Carroll said he asked Hulburd about this, and that the prisoner replied, "I did think of that, but I've put it out of my head."

For breakfast today, Hulburd had the usual holdover fare, bread, coffee and sausage. A warm dinner is served to the prisoners at 2 p. m.

**"Want to Face Music."**

When reporters saw him today, Hulburd was smoking a cigarette nervously, and said he had not slept well.

"I have nothing to add to what I have told," Hulburd said in reply to questions. "I want to be permitted to face the music, and I do not intend to take my life." He said he had made no plans for obtaining bond.

Miss Harriet Hulburd, 22 years old, the elder of his two daughters visited him, and was permitted to talk with him in the office of the Chief of Detectives.

**Messages of Sympathy.**

Messages of sympathy were received by Mrs. Hulburd and the daughters at the Vandeventer place home yesterday, both before and after Hulburd's arrest, and on the preceding Christmas day.

Henry Hitchcock, son of Judge Hitchcock, and the discoverer of Hulburd's peculations, said today that the total thefts from the Collier and Hitchcock estates might reach a total of more than \$200,000.

Henry Hitchcock is a stockholder in the Incorporated Collier Estate, and is a beneficiary of the Hitchcock estate. He was recently vice-president and secretary of Crago, Hitchcock Co., an investment firm, but left that connection to take a position with the Gardner Advertising Co.

**"Temptation" and Audit.**

Before beginning his new work, Hitchcock had some free time, which he spent in going over the books of the Collier Estate in Judge Hitchcock's office. This was the beginning of an audit which disclosed the shortages, and which is still in progress.

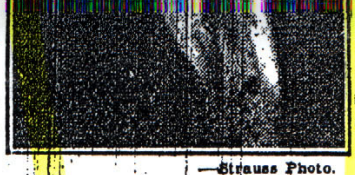
Hulburd, who had been employed by the estate for 22 years, was not under bond, and no formal audit was made a circumstance which, Hulburd said in his confession, "was a temptation."

Hulburd said, in his talk with the reporter Saturday, that he was "not afraid to go to Jefferson City," meaning the penitentiary there, but that he was distressed about the consequences to his family.

**"Enjoy Your Christmas."**

The younger of his daughters, Miss Betty Seward Hulburd, 20 years old, was at the hospital Saturday, and remained in the room with her young brother, while the father talked with the reporter in the corridor. A physician, interrupting the conversation in the corridor, told Hulburd not to worry about the boy, who was making a good recovery, and to "go home and enjoy your Christmas."

After he had told the story of the thefts, Hulburd told his daughter that he had talked with the reporter. She knew the subject of the conversation, as he had made



—Strauss Photo.

the facts known to his wife and daughters a month before.

After making his confession, Hulburd said to the reporter: "I feel that a weight has been lifted from my shoulders. It takes at least one thing off my mind. While I was concealing the facts, I got in such a state that I couldn't answer the simplest question without stopping a moment to think. I couldn't think clearly. My wife's distress, our boy's illness, were just too much for me."

Hulburd decided on making the statement only after Judge Hitchcock had told him that the facts could not be concealed longer, and that he, Judge Hitchcock, would be obliged to make the facts known if Hulburd did not.

"A good slug of whisky made it easier for me to talk," Hulburd said.

As has been told, the detailed and circumstantial story of Hulburd's peculations is still to be related. He said his motive was not gambling or horse-race betting, but that he invested in stocks and land, hoping for profits which would enable him to square matters with the estates.

Since the discovery of the shortage Nov. 2, which came "like a bolt of lightning" as his employer, Judge Hitchcock, has said, Hulburd has turned over his life insurance, stocks and land in Illinois, believed by him to be all land, as a measure of restitution.

**Residence Paid For.**

The Vandeventer place house, formerly the residence of Mrs. Goodman King, is shown on the City Assessor's books at a valuation of \$6160, \$3900 for the house and \$2260 for the lot, 50 by 210 feet. A \$3000 mortgage, given to Mrs. King in 1933 as part of the purchase price, was paid off and canceled in 1936. The property is held jointly by Hulburd and his wife.

Hulburd's salary was \$3250 a year, plus bonuses, which were paid at Christmas. But for the discovery of his shortage, and his enforced resignation, he would have received a bonus this Christmas.

**Lived Beyond Income.**

The Hulburd family's scale of living was beyond that which his income would have made possible. Hulburd held membership in the Ballarive Country Club, and Mrs. Hulburd in the St. Louis Woman's Club. Their daughters are graduates of Mary Institute, and attended a private school in New York, both have been maids of honor at Valedictorian balls.

"I've been a damned fool, who made a mistake," said Hulburd, in the course of the general expressions which he chose in preference to explicit recital of his actions. He said the money taken by him came from the cash accounts of the two estates, and not from any diversion of securities belonging to the estates. He said he forged Judge Hitchcock's name in a few instances, but that his more usual method was to "raise" a check signed by Judge Hitchcock, from a small to a large amount. The lack of an audit enabled him to continue this practice without detection.

Hulburd was a bank clerk before he was engaged in 1916 as secretary of the Collier Estate, based on the fortune made by George Collier in head mining and the Mississippi

By the Associated Press. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.—Coroner Charles H. Hersch ordered the body of a man who died last spring taken from the grave today to check what he described as "information that the man was killed" by an insurance murder ring. The victim's name was not disclosed.

Two women and a man are being held on charges of poisoning four other persons to collect insurance. Assistant District Attorney Vincent McDevitt said.

Hersch said he was working on information that several other deaths in Philadelphia might be traced to such a ring, which he said extended into New York and New Jersey and had collected thousands of dollars fraudulently from insurance companies.

The death of the man, whose body is to be exhumed, was listed at first as from natural causes.

"All I can say at present," Coroner Hersch said, "is that we received definite information that this man was murdered by the poison mob. He was insured for \$11,000 and that sum was paid by the insurance company to persons we believe were members of the ring."

**MAN DIES IN CITY HOSPITAL OF TULAREMIC PNEUMONIA**

Leonard Tarrant, Meat Cutter, Thought to Have Contracted Disease Handling Rabbits.

Leonard Tarrant, a meat cutter, died Sunday night at City Hospital of tularemic pneumonia, resulting from tularemia, or rabbit fever. It is the third death from the disease at the hospital this year.

Tarrant, 50 years old, was taken to the hospital Dec. 15. Physicians expressed the opinion he had become infected while handling rabbits in connection with his work. He lived with his wife, Hattie, at 1307 Ohio avenue.

River packet trade in the first half of the nineteenth century.

He was made bookkeeper for the property of Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock, daughter of George Collier and mother of Judge Hitchcock. Mrs. Mary Hitchcock died in 1928, and Hulburd continued to have charge of the affairs of her estate.

While the value of the two estates is not shown by any recent official figures, and Judge Hitchcock has declined to make a statement as to this, both are believed to be of such value that the losses caused by Hulburd will not disable either of them.

**Reserved Numbers on Cars.**

Hulburd owned two automobiles, a 1936 Packard sedan and a 1938 convertible Ford coupe. Records of the Secretary of State's office at Jefferson City show that the license numbers, 1-080 for the Packard and 2-885 for the Ford, were reserved numbers. Low numbers are reserved for persons of prominence or political influence, but Secretary of State Dwight Brown said he did not know Hulburd, and did not know why this favor was granted in his case. V. H. Steward, commissioner of motor vehicles, in direct charge of the license number list, was not in the office when inquiry was made there.

The reserved number of the Packard was for 1936, but there was no indication that either of the numbers had been requested for 1939. The Ford car took the place, and the tag number, of a 1935 Ford which was traded in at the time the new car was purchased last June.

**For Holiday Festivities!**  
**DRESS SHIRTS AND VESTS LAUNDERED**  
**Glick's** "The Inimitable Glick Way"  
LAUNDRY Forest 6600 5180 Delmar

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# T-DISPATCH

# FINAL

With the Associated Press News Service

(Closing New York Stock Prices)

DECEMBER 28, 1938 - 30 PAGES

PRICE 3 CENTS

## RIS REINFORCES DJIBOUTI TROOPS AGAINST ITALIANS

Battalion of 1000 Senegalese Ordered to Set Sail for Capital of French Somaliland.

## TWO WARSHIPS ON WAY THERE

Governor-General Had asked for Aid, Reporting Italy Was Concentrating Soldiers on Border.

By Associated Press. PARIS, Dec. 28.—A battalion of French army's Senegalese sharpshooters 1000 strong arrived at Djibouti today en route to reinforce the garrison of that African port, an objective of Italian clamor for French territory.

The soldiers moved to the sea from camps nearby preparatory to embarking on two liners due to Dec. 31 for the French Somaliland capital. They are the next, whose departure, set for January, was postponed to permit to carry troops, and the Chan-

The reinforcements had been requested by Governor-General Hubert Deschamps to "assist in maintaining order." There were reports Italian troops were being concentrated near the French Somaliland port. Government spokesmen left no doubt of Premier Edouard Daladier's determination to fight if Italy attempts to seize Djibouti.

## \$200,000 Embezzler Facing the Music



—By a Post-Dispatch Staff Photographer.

**C. EARL HULBURD (left)**

LEAVING the Circuit Attorney's office today before his arraignment in the Court of Criminal Correction on embezzlement charges.

## C. E. HULBURD EXPECTED TO PLEAD GUILTY, GO TO PRISON

On Arraignment, He Replies Not Guilty, but This Is on Advice of Prosecutor to Gain Time to Arrange His Affairs.

## DOESN'T WANT TO "CONTEST MATTER"

To Waive Preliminary Hearing on Charge of Embezzling \$76,225 — Defendant Turned Over to Sheriff for Removal to Jail.

C. Earl Hulburd, confessed embezzler of \$200,000 from the George Collier and Mary Collier Hitchcock estates, entered a plea of not guilty today, at his arraignment in the Court of Criminal Correction, to the three warrants charging him with embezzlement by agent. His preliminary hearing was set for Jan. 11.

Hulburd had indicated earlier that he was ready to plead guilty, and accept sentence to be recommended by the Circuit Attorney's office. But on advice of the Circuit Attorney's office, he decided to enter the plea of not guilty, in order to give him time to arrange some matters of personal business, through his family and friends. It

## RHAME, N. D., WANTS U. S. GOVERNMENT TO PURCHASE TOWN

## FIVE CONVICTED OF MAIL FRAUD IN



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some matters of personal business, through his family and friends. It is expected that, before the time of the preliminary hearing, he will change his plea to one of guilty.

Wants No Contest.

When he was first taken before Judge Joseph L. Simpson for arraignment, Hulburd, meeting a member of the Circuit Attorney's staff, asked: "Is this a preliminary hearing?" He was told that it was merely an arraignment, and he said:

"I intended to waive a preliminary hearing. I do not want to contest this matter."

He then was taken to Assistant Circuit Attorney James E. McLaughlin's office. He was not accompanied by an attorney, but has had the advice of C. O. Inman, a lawyer who is a friend of the Hulburd family. His younger daughter, Miss Betty Hulburd, and a young man accompanying her, were present at his talk with McLaughlin.

Hulburd was turned over by the Police Department today to the Sheriff's custody, for his removal to city jail.

Warrants Specify \$76,225.

The three warrants charge thefts from former Circuit Judge George C. Hitchcock, as trustee of the Mary C. Hitchcock estate, of \$31,500 in 1936, \$21,374 in 1937, and \$23,351 in 1938, a total of \$76,225. Earlier thefts from the Collier and Hitchcock estates, which Hulburd admitted in his confession to a Post-Dispatch reporter Saturday, occurred more than three years ago, hence are not subject to prosecution, under the statute of limitations.

The crime charged in each of the three warrants, embezzlement by agent, is punishable by two to five years' imprisonment, or six to 15 years for all three. A customary handling of the case, in the event of a plea of guilty, would be to impose sentence in each case, making the terms consecutive or concurrent in such manner as to total more than five years and less than the maximum of 15. On the basis of some similar cases, it is believed the Circuit Attorney's office would ask for a 10-year term in Hulburd's case.

About \$3000 a Month.

In his confession, Hulburd said he took advantage of the confidence placed in him by Judge Hitchcock, who employed him without bond or audit, and that he took about \$100,000 from each of the two estates over a 10-year period.

McLaughlin, in issuing the warrants, pointed out that the figures indicated that Hulburd had taken fairly uniform amounts, about \$3000 a month, from the cash resources of the estates. The bank holdings of stocks and real estate were not affected. Hulburd's system, as explained by himself, was to "raise" a check signed by Judge Hitchcock, as trustee, or less frequently, to forge Judge Hitchcock's signature.

Wishes to Avoid Expenses.

In his first talk with McLaughlin and police officials, after his arrest Monday afternoon, Hulburd made no connected admissions of guilt, but said he had not "a dime

Continued on Page 3, Column 1.



...because the police,  
accompanied by the Rev. Mary H.  
...anti-vie crusader, did not  
...a search warrant.

**HULBURD LIKELY  
TO PLEAD GUILTY  
OF EMBEZZLING**

Continued From Page One.

...the money left," and that he  
...to avoid any procedure  
...which would be an expense to his  
...family. His wife and two daughters  
...at the home, 78 Vandaventer  
...ace, while 10-year-old Earl Hul-  
...rd Jr. is still in St. Luke's Hos-  
...al recovering from an appendec-  
...y.

The estate of Mrs. Mary Hitch-  
...ck, Judge Hitchcock's mother, is  
...ually the donor of a thesis prize  
...\$45, in memory of Mrs. Hitch-  
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ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

# ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

PART 2 PAGE 1

ST. LOUIS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1939.

s at St. Moritz



right), wife of the United States and MME. STOYADINOVITCH (left) watching the skaters at

## SPY SAYS MORAN GANG THREATENED HIS LIFE

Attorney Testifies Accused Forger Suspected Him After Arrest of One.

By the Associated Press.

## HULBURD TO BEGIN 10-YEAR TERM IN NEXT TWO WEEKS

### Confessed Embezzler of \$200,000 From Two Estates, Changes His Plea to Guilty.

### HE CAN ASK FOR PAROLE IN 1942

### His Full Sentence Under Five-Twelfths Rule Will Total Five Years and 10 Months.

C. Earl Hulburd, who confessed to the Post-Dispatch that he embezzled \$200,000 from the two estates of which he was secretary and bookkeeper, will be taken to the penitentiary at Jefferson City within the next two weeks, to begin serving the 10-year term of imprisonment to which he was sentenced yesterday afternoon on his plea of guilty to three embezzlement charges.

Under the five-twelfth rule, Hulburd can earn four years and two months by good behavior, and will thus serve, unless paroled or otherwise freed, five years and 10 months. He may apply for a parole or pardon after serving one-third of his term, or three years and four months.

Hulburd, after an earlier formal plea of not guilty, withdrew that plea yesterday and entered a plea of guilty to the three indictments against him, charging the theft from the Mary Chiller Hitchcock estate, in 1936, 1937 and 1938, of a total of \$75,800.

## ONE KILLED, THREE INJURED IN TWO AIRPLANE CRASHES

### Several Others Forced Off Course Returning From Miami Races Forged Down at Brunswick, Ga. By the Associated Press.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 12.—One man was killed and three persons were injured when two airplanes crashed yesterday on their way home from the air races at Miami, Fla.

Harold L. Knowlton, 22 years old of Westfield, N. Y., died here of injuries received in a forced landing. Pilot James Earl McGowan, of North East, Pa., suffered a wrenched back and cut over one eye.

Jack Withers of Danville, Va., and Dan Loftis of Roxboro, N. C., were injured in the crash of their plane near Milledgeville, Ga.

Three Canadian planes, carrying five persons, joined two others at Savannah, Ga., after spending the night on a golf course near Brunswick, Ga. Fog caused a forced landing yesterday. They planned to take off for Raleigh, N. C.

## KENNEL PROPRIETORS SUE MAN THEY SAY BEAT DOG TO DEATH

### \$6000 Sought as Damages and Value of Pedigreed Terrier, Brought Here for Breeding.

Suit for \$6000 damages over the killing of a pedigreed wire-haired terrier was filed in Circuit Court at Clayton yesterday by Mr. and Mrs. Daniel E. O'Neill, proprietors of the Daruth Kennel, Olive Street road and Larkin avenue, St. Louis County, against Albert Koch, who lives nearby on Larkin avenue.

The petition alleges Koch beat the dog to death with a club last Dec. 1 when he found it in his yard. The dog, Eagle Eye of Fox Run, a male, whose ancestors produced 12 champions in four generations, was acquired in Madison, Ind., and brought here for breeding purposes, the petition states. Damages sought represent twice the value of the dog, fixed at \$300 and \$5000 punitive damages.

## AUTO LOANS

New or used Cars; low rates; easy terms; build back credit. Phone FR. 5200 for details. One of the many loan services of

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12—Emile Van who assumed he exposed a \$500- told a criminal lay that members and threatened to they suspected he

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Bever related him \$1000 worth one occasion and ile of 150 on an- he turned them ry and the serial lstered.

**STRIKE-CLOSED JOB INSURANCE**

son Says 58 Were Work When and Out.

Mound-Carol hers l by a strike 13 ck a ruling on or benefit pay- new Missouri Un- pensation Law, resident of -an ation of Labor local, told a rder today: es that no bene-

of guilty to the three indictments against him, charging the theft from the Mary Collier Hitchcock estate, in 1936, 1937 and 1938, of a total of \$78,800.

**Admitted Taking \$200,000**

This was less than one-half the amount which he admitted having taken in his confession, made to a Post-Dispatch reporter Dec. 24. His confession told of the taking of money over a 11-year period from the George Collier estate and the newer Hitchcock estate, about \$100,000 from each. But the thefts from the Collier estate, and a part of those from the Hitchcock estate, were committed mor than three years ago, hence were not punisha- ble under the statute of limitations.

The crime of embezzlement by Agent, to which he plead d guilty, is punishable by two to five years imprisonment, so that the punish- ment in the three cases might have ranged from 6 to 15 years.

Circuit Attorney Franklin Miller had made known to Hulburd that his probable sentence on a plea of guilty would be 10 years. The Cir- cuit Attorney made this recom- mendation to Circuit Judge Edward M. Ruddy when the plea was en- tered, and the Judge followed the recommendation, after asking Hul- burd whether he had a lawyer.

**Appears Without Counsel**

Hulburd said he had had a law- yer, C. J. Stattler, but that Statt- ler was no longer connected with the case, and that he did not de- sire further legal counsel. Stattler had said he would oppose a 10- year sentence as excessive.

No member of his family accom- panied Hulburd to court. Earlier, one of his two daughters talked with him in the Circuit Attorney's office. He sat in the courtroom, smoking cigarettes, for more than half an hour before court conven- ed at 2:25 p. m. After the sentence, he was taken back to City Jail.

Hulburd received \$3250 a year, plus some bonuses, in his work for the two estates, of which former Circuit Judge George C. Hitch- cock is trustee. He was not under bond, and his accounts were not audited until after the discovery, early in November, that funds of the estates were missing.

The thefts were committed in most instances by raising checks signed by the trustee, but in some cases by forgery. Most of the money appears to have been spent in maintaining Hulburd's home in Vandeventer place.

**AD**  
New of used Cars build back credit details. One of t

**SOUTH**



**Trade Old**

**Trade Old**

A brand-new radio table wi

**TRINIDAD BARS REFUGEES**



SECTION C  
ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1943

WIG SPOT  
MAIN TRADE

C. EARL HULBURD FREED  
ON DONNELL'S ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENT  
CEMETERIES  
MOUNT HOPE  
South St. Louis' Only  
MAUSOLEUM

AP).—Commissioners of the Insular Insularian profits, the grain and at times. The relected in a steady na. was restrained by suicides and narers generally re Government pur to have formed a our sales a. many was 1/2% higher to 3/4% lower, eye ey was ahead ba parently was base of some traders will eventually ad Grain experts low are about 1/4 at Chicago. Local ured fairly large strongly held. umber legislation settlement, and about what the be. A special sube Banking Com on a compromise r back into the Committee. in marketings of was noted by grain from the recent demand is strong dication a large way as a result is. e Weather Bureau on in the South- favorable, espe Oklahoma and the report said, as especially time- is. ington said that oration stocks of 1,331,000 bushels ctically exhausted shipment into the

St. Louisan's 10-Year Term  
for Embezzlement Commuted  
After 4 Years, 11 Months.

By the Jefferson City Correspondent of the Post-Dispatch. JEFFERSON CITY, Dec. 15.—C. Earl Hulburd, of St. Louis will be released today from the State penitentiary after serving four years, 11 months and four days of a 10-year sentence for embezzling \$200,000 from the Mary Collier Hitchcock and George Collier estates, of which he was a trusted employe. His release is under a conditional commutation issued yesterday by Gov. Forrest C. Donnell.

The commutation was issued under the "merit" or seven-twelfths-of-sentence system, which credits a well-behaved convict with a year for each seven months served, plus other allowances. Release was ordered 332 days ahead of the expiration of seven-twelfths of his sentence, due to extra merit-time allowances recommended for him by the State Penal Board and approved by Donnell. Under terms of the commutation, Hulburd will be required to make periodic reports to the Probation and Parole Board until July 6, 1946.

Hulburd, 55 years old, was sentenced to serve 10 years from Jan. 18, 1939, specifically for embezzlement of \$76,228 from the estate of Mrs. Mary Collier Hitchcock of St. Louis. Hulburd had admitted embezzlement in all of about \$200,000 from the Hitchcock and Collier estates, for which he was bookkeeper and secretary, respectively.

The additional merit-time allowances recommended included 15 days spent in jail before he was sentenced; 150 days of "wall time" representing a credit of 15 days for each year of his sentence, allowed to each well-behaved first or second offender; 45 days for donating three blood transfusions while in the prison, and 122 days for trustworthy service and extra work as a clerk in a prison office.

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bus from Pine Lawn; 2-grave  
payable \$3 monthly. EV. 211

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3801 E. Grand. Open daily to 8  
Closed Sunday All Day  
OR. 9600

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Calvin J. Feutz Funeral  
1828 NATURAL BRIDGE  
John L. Ziegenhein &  
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DEATHS  
ALBACH, JOSEPH—1034 Gey  
Dec. 14, 1943, 1 a. m., beloved  
of Magdeline Albach, dear father  
tin, Anton Albach and Barbara  
(nee Albach), our dear father-in-  
in-law, grandfather of Corp. R  
bach, Bergt. Anthony Albach, Pri  
Class Herbert Albach and Pri  
Class Walter Renner, and our d  
Funeral from Kutis Funeral H  
Gravois, Fri., Dec. 17, 8:30 a. m.  
mass St. Stephen's Church, 11th  
teau. Interment Old SS. Peter &  
Cemetery.

ALTENBERND, AUGUSTA—71  
Mon., Dec. 13, 1943, dear da  
Mary (nee Zeller), and the late  
Altenbernd, dear sister of Will  
Rudolph Altenbernd, dear sis  
niece and aunt.  
Funeral from C. Hoffmeister  
7814 E. Broadway, Thura, Dec.  
m., to Park Lawn Cemetery.

ANNIS, IDA E.—On Tues., Dec.  
dear mother of Mrs. R. K. Brand  
Mabel Annis of Chicago and S.  
of Louisville, Ark.  
Funeral from the Alexander  
6175 Delmar, on Thurs., Dec. 1  
m., to Oak Hill Cemetery.

BARRY, PATRICK E.—3034 B  
Sun., Dec. 12, 1943, 5:35 p. m.  
of Catherine and the late Patric  
dear brother of James, Martin, Th  
PFC. Michael Barry and Mrs. B  
ton, Mrs. George Hieck and the  
Barry, dear brother-in-law, neph  
and cousin.  
Funeral from Stuart & Sons  
Union and Page blvds., Thura,  
8:30 a. m., to St. Edward's Che  
terment Calvary.

BEALL, PHILIP D.—Pensacola,  
14, 1943. In his 53d year, so  
late Willbur N. Beall, and the M  
Larkin Beall Oliver.  
Interment Pensacola, Fla.

BENDER, EMMA (nee Scherer)  
wood, Mo. Interment Thura

ANGE, Dec. 15.  
t today oats were  
floor of the ex-  
to. 4 red garlicky,  
ite, 85 1/2 c. parn-  
to. 1 red, 87 1/2 c.

| ANGE, Dec. 15. | Prev.       | Close. | Close. |
|----------------|-------------|--------|--------|
| 71 1/2         | 170 3/4     |        |        |
| 87 1/2 1/4     | 186 3/4     | 167    |        |
| 65 3/2         | 163 3/4     |        |        |
| 84             | 164 1/2     |        |        |
| 81 1/2         | 161         |        |        |
| 59 1/2         | 158 1/2     |        |        |
| 57 1/2         | 154 1/2     |        |        |
| 82 1/2         | 181 1/2     |        |        |
| 58 1/2         | 154 1/2 1/4 |        |        |
| 57 1/2         | 157 1/2     |        |        |
| 25 1/2 128     | 124 1/2     |        |        |
| 24 1/2 1/4     | 123 1/2 1/4 |        |        |
| 22 1/2 23 1/4  | 122 1/2     |        |        |
| 21 1/2         | 120 3/4     |        |        |

|            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 82b        | 82b        |
| 80 1/2 1/4 | 80 1/2 3/4 |
| 78 1/2 1/2 | 78 3/4     |
| 77 1/2 a   | 77 1/2     |
| 79         | 79         |

HOG RECEIPTS SMALLER  
AND MARKET TONE BETTER