

LATENT PRINT REPORT

Contributor: San Francisco Police Office Specimens: 2 letters, 1 postcard

Case: George West 3 envelopes

Date Rec'd: 11/23/33 Latents Developed By: _____

Time: _____ Photographed By: _____

Assigned To: F Developed By: _____

Special Instructions: _____

By: _____

The latent print attached marked _____ has
an _____ have been
searched in the Single Fingerprint Section and no identification has
been effected.

The latent print attached marked H.C.C. DEE is
are not
identical with fingers any of the suspect attached,
namely:

- (1) John M. Kolmo (4) _____
- (2) Harold J. Hummel (5) _____
- (3) _____ (6) _____

Remarks: Prints marked on the back of the
copies of the envelopes - Prints are very fragmentary

Date: 12/1/33 Name: L. J. Felt

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO
SUBJECT: THOMAS H. THURMOND
JOHN WILLIAM HOLMES
BROOKE L. HART - Victim
KIDNAPPING

DATE: October 11, 1946

Described below are bulky exhibits at present maintained in the San Francisco office in connection with the above captioned case. As it appears these exhibits may not be of any further evidentiary value, permission is requested to destroy them:

Vol. I - Serial 1-B:

b7c

Handwritten notes on the left margin, including "to destroy" and "see" with arrows pointing to items 4 and 5 of the list.

1. One business card of _____
2. One photograph of _____ alias _____ (Front & profile view).
3. One wallet with name "Brooke L. Hart" (containing four snapshots, 1 driver's license in name BROOKE L. HART, 1 Western Union identification card, 1 Credit Courtesy Card of Associated Oil Co., 1 Associated Oil Courtesy card, 18 personal and business cards, 1 San Jose Free Public Library Card, 1 San Jose Chamber of Commerce Card, 1 California State Automobile Association card in name of Mr. A. J. HART, and 1 Associated Oil Credit Courtesy Card).
4. Investigative notes of Special Agent W. R. RAKOFF.
5. Two envelopes of negatives of all photographic copies of ransom letters and envelopes.
6. Cardboard card bearing numeral "1".
7. Cardboard card bearing numeral "2" and words "I cannot drive".
8. Four original ransom notes, in cellophane, which apparently have no connection with the kidnaping, together with photographic copies of two of the ransom notes and envelopes.
9. One copy of confession of THOMAS HAROLD THURMOND.
10. One copy of confession of JOHN MAURICE HOLMES.
11. Short statement taken by Sheriff W. J. EMIG from THOMAS H. THURMOND, but which was not completed. Dated 11-15-33.
12. One postcard received from _____ dated 11-9-33.
13. Typewritten note entitled "Report on trip to home of _____ signed _____"
14. Typewritten note signed L.E.G., dated 11-13-33.
15. Typewritten note concerning _____ who made a report to the Sheriff, dated 11-13-33.
16. Two Wanted Notes issued by J. B. BLACK, Chief of Police, San Jose, together with photographs of victim, BROOKE L. HART.

RECORDED (continued next page)

7-375-68
F B I

15 OCT 15 1946

59 NOV 12 1946

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom left, including "Ack 10 30-46" and "11/13/46".

Handwritten signature or initials at the bottom right.

SF #7-27
Director, FBI
10/11/36

b7c

17. Memorandum concerning automobile license and pertinent data, received over telephone from _____ of the National Auto Theft Bureau.
18. Copy of statement of _____, dated 11/17/33.
19. Copy of ransom letter and envelope received by Mr. HART from Garland, Calif. (Apparently not from authentic kidnapers).
20. Copy of statement of _____ dated 11-18-33.
21. Copy of statement of _____ dated 11-18-33.
22. Signed statement of _____ dated 11-17-33 at San Jose, Calif.
23. Memorandum of Special Agent W. K. RAMSAY, JR., dated 11-18-33.
24. One ransom note with letter and envelope, apparently written by a demented person. Postmarked "Davenport, Neb., 11-17-33".
25. Notation by Dr. EDWARD A. COCHRAN concerning glasses worn by EMOCKE L. HART, Victim.
26. Chart of dental work performed by Dr. J. K. COSMOR for victim EMOCKE L. HART.
27. Letter to Dr. C. D. HAMLIN from Dr. J. K. COSMOR, dated 11-27-33, regarding examination of dental work in body of victim EMOCKE L. HART.
28. Investigative notes of Special Agent PHILLIPICH.
29. Question and answer statement taken from THOMAS E. THURMOED, dated 11-17-33.

CAM:afh
7-27

HOOVER L. HARRY - Victim
Kidnaping.
San Francisco "Call", dated 11/16/35.

NEWS

ALLEGED

ROW

FOR PART

STOMP

NAB 2 AS HAPT KIDNAPERS

San Francisco, Nov. 16 (AP)—A man in a dark suit, who was identified as a member of the "Black Legion," was arrested today by police here on charges of kidnaping a woman and her child. The man, who was arrested at his home in the city, is charged with the kidnaping of a woman and her child, who were taken from their home in the city on Nov. 14. The man, who is charged with the kidnaping, is a member of the "Black Legion," a secret organization of which he is a member. The man, who is charged with the kidnaping, is a member of the "Black Legion," a secret organization of which he is a member. The man, who is charged with the kidnaping, is a member of the "Black Legion," a secret organization of which he is a member.

NOT RECORDED
7-375-A

7m

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Winterrowd	.....
Tele. Room	.....
Mr. Holloman	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

OFFICERS CONTINUE HART BODY SEARCH

Build Dummy to Use in Test- ing Tides Where Youth Was Allegedly Tossed.

By the Associated Press.
SAN FRANCISCO, November 21.—
 Baffled in the prolonged search for the
 body of Brooke L. Hart, San Jose kid-
 napping victim, officers of four counties
 today joined forces for a new effort.
 By means of a dummy, built to cor-
 respond to Hart's measurements, the
 searchers hope to check the tides and
 currents of South San Francisco Bay
 into which the kidnapers allegedly
 threw the 13-year-old more executive.
 Sheriff William Emig of Santa Clara
 County said the dummy will be
 weighted with two 20-pound cement
 blocks, corresponding with those the
 kidnapers said they used to pull the
 boy. Emig said Thomas H. Thurmond,
 accused with John M. Holmes of the
 kidnaping and slaying, had examined
 a pillow slip found near the death
 scene and declared it was smaller than
 the one pulled over Hart's head.
 At the same time, Sheriff Emig said
 Thurmond, who protested when arrested
 that the officers must be mistaken
 because he was "a good church mem-
 ber," had confessed to two robberies in
 San Jose.

W.H. Tolson

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

Asked Ransom After Hurling Heir Into Bay

(Pictures on Back Page)

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 21.—(AP)—The kidnapping of Brooke Hart, 27, son of a wealthy San Jose merchant, came to a tragic climax today with the announcement by the police and intermediaries that two men, both members of respected San Jose families, had confessed they seized and killed the young man and then demanded \$20,000 from the father for the return of his son "alive." After the killing they divided \$7,26 they had stolen from their victims.

The confessed kidnapers and killers are Thomas H. Thurmond, 23, and Jack Holmes, 27.

Louis O'Neal, attorney and political leader, announced the condemnation on the authority of Chief of Police J. M. Black of San Jose and some federal agents.

Seized in Phone Booth

It came a few hours after Thurmond had been yanked out of a telephone booth by Sheriff William J. Egan just after he had finished telephoning the Hart home from a San Jose garage early this morning. Holmes was found in a hotel near by a few hours later.

With the same speed that officers showed in seizing the suspects, Egan and his deputies, reinforced by federal agents, took Thurmond and Holmes to San Francisco for safe keeping. After the confession was made known, crowds began to form about the courthouse here and others along public feeling against the two was intense.

Tied, Thrown from Bridge

Returning to San Jose, Egan announced Holmes had made a confession coinciding with that of Thurmond. Both prisoners, guards and witnesses they took Hart to the San Mateo bridge, across San Francisco bay, beat him until he was unconscious, with a brick, cut his arms with a knife, and threw him down and threw him into the water as he struggled weakly.

Drapping for the body was known at the spot mentioned even before the confession was announced. Men familiar with the water and some efforts probably would be made unless the body had been sufficiently weighted to prevent its being carried by the water reaches of the bay or to the sea.

The youth's father collapsed when told that his son had been killed. Max Holman, a personal friend, broke the news to him.

"Alex" and Mrs. Hart say he is dead.

The elder Hart attempted to speak, but fainted.

Mrs. Hart, who was operated on not many weeks ago, was reported in a precarious condition at her home and under the care of physicians. The younger brother and sister of the slain youth were prostrated by the news.

Story Attributed to Thurmond.

The confession of Thurmond as made public by Mr. O'Neal said:

"I have known Jack Holmes approximately one year. Approximately five or six weeks ago he approached me with a plan to kidnap Brooke and hold him for ransom.

"We discussed this matter on one or two occasions and Thursday, Nov. 9, shortly before 6 o'clock, Holmes and I saw Brooke Hart come to a parking lot where he parked his roadster, Holman and I had previously planned just how we would kidnap him.

"Jack Holmes was to get in Hart's car as it approached Market street and I was to follow in another car which belonged to Jack Holmes.

"On the 9th of November Brooke Hart obtained his roadster from the lot

and drove out the driveway toward Market street. Jack Holmes met the car on the curb and opened the car door with one hand and kept the other hand in his pocket as though he had a gun. He forced Hart to get away with him.

"According to directions I followed the car in Holmes' coach, which had been parked on Market street.

"As soon as I saw him pass me in Brooke Hart's car I proceeded to My place and waited for him at the Spangler garage.

"Shortly thereafter Jack Holmes and Hart drove by in the latter's roadster and I followed the car to a point on the Evans road about seven miles from San Jose.

"When Jack Holmes stopped the car they both got out and Holmes told Hart to get in the back of the coach I was driving. We then drove a short distance ahead when Holmes, who was now driving, turned the car around and headed back to My place with Hart in the back seat.

"I was sitting at the side of the road, who was driving the car. We then turned north and drove through Lexington, to Alvarado, then directly to the San Mateo bridge.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Egan
Mr. O'Neal
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Lester
Mr. Lusk

Chicago Tribune

NOT RECORDED

11-17-33

Handwritten initials/signature

Is Found On Road.

Shortly After Telephone Warning To Parents.

Hamm Identifies One Of Touhy's Gang

As Thug Who Took Him On Abduction Ride.

Trial Opens In St. Paul— Man And Wife Seized— Texan Is Questioned As To Urschel Money.

San Jose, Calif., November 10—
(AP)—Ransom of \$40,000 is de-
manded of Alexander J. Hart,
wealthy merchant, for the return of
his twenty-two-year-old son, Brooke
Hart, the object of a statewide hunt
as a kidnaping victim.

An anonymous telephone caller
said the money must be paid "if
you want to see your boy alive
again," but gave no instructions as
to the manner of payment.

One of the most formidable kid-
naping hunting organizations ever
called into action in Northern Cali-
fornia pursued clues in the case to-
night.

Department of Justice agents,
police of San Francisco and San
Jose and peace officers of the cen-
tral bay district united in the hunt
a few hours after the disappearance
of young Hart after he left the
department store in which he re-
cently had been made a partner.

ABDUCTION IS RELEASED.
San Jose police arrested Tony
Barratona, 28, asserted underworld
character, for questioning but re-
leased him after several hours of
apparently fruitless examination.

San Francisco police said they
had no clues, but Charles Dullen,
captain of detectives, said he had
"been informed" that the abductors
would get in touch with the Hart
family later and that his force was
awaiting such a development.

Search of the Calaveras Dam
area, 25 miles northeast of here,
was made in the hope of picking up
the trail of the young merchant.
His motor car, its lights still burn-
ing, was found early today on a
road leading to that district, in
which many deserted cottages are
located.

FATHER IS SILENT.
The elder Hart remained silent
as to the ransom demand and what
course would be. He received
telephone calls from San Fran-
isco four hours after young Hart's
disappearance, demanding the ran-
som.

not were seized in their care. She
was flung into the ocean, he said,
and Gieseler, who broke loose, was
pursued down the road and cap-
tured again.

St. Paul, Minn., November 10—
(AP)—William Hamm Jr., in a
"dense Federal courtroom, today tes-
tified that Eddie McFadden, a Chi-
cago gangster, resembled one of
the men who forced him into an
automobile when he was kidnaped
here last June 13.

The millionaire St. Paul brewer
stepped out of the witness box and,
with a dramatic gesture, walked
over to where McFadden was sit-
ting with three co-defendants and
pointed a finger in within a few
inches of McFadden's chest.

"This man," Hamm said, "resem-
bled the other man on my right."

The "man on the right" to whom
Hamm referred was one of two men
who pushed him up near his brew-
ery offices, impelled him to enter
a sedan and took him to some place
in Wisconsin, believed near Janes-
ville and Hollet.

McFadden raised his bald head
and looked the millionaire squarely
in the eye.

Hamm told the story of his ab-
duction and identified three notes
bearing his signature as those he
signed at the demand of the ab-
ductors.

Courtroom An Arsenal

George M. Sullivan, United States
District Attorney, beginning his
opening statement to the jury under
the watchful gaze of more than 20
guards armed with pistols and tear
gas guns, named McFadden, Roger
Touhy, gang leader, and Willie
Sharkey as three men whom the
prosecution would show were im-
plicated directly in the \$100,000 ab-
duction. Gustav Schaefer is on
trial also.

"The evidence will show that
Roger Touhy was in the Thomas
drug store on the outskirts of the
city June 13, and placed a note in
one of the booths in which people
eat ice cream," he said, "and the
evidence also will show that later
Roger Touhy telephoned the drug
store representing himself as W. W.
Dunn, sales manager of the Theo-
dore Hamm Brewing Co., and told
the proprietor that he dropped a
note in one of the booths. He
asked the proprietor to take it out
to his home, which the proprietor
did.

"Evidence also will be introduced
to show that sometime on Saturday
night, June 17, \$100,000 was placed
in a leather brief case, tied with a
string and handed to Mr. Dunn. He
drove up Highway No. 1 and, act-
ing under instructions, pushed the
money out of the car onto the high-
way."

Sullivan named Sharkey, Ashe,
driver of the kidnaper's automo-
bile.

Five farmers, two housewives and
five other men were chosen jurors.
Two alternates were picked.

"Just A Crazy Idea"

Dallas, Texas, November 10—
(AP)—Officers said today J. A.
Morgan told them just a "crazy
idea" impelled him to send letters
to Charles F. Urschel telling him
he had \$40,000 of the \$200,000 ran-
som paid for Urschel's release
buried on his Wise County farm.

"I needed money because the
mortgage on my farm was over-
due and I am trying to put my two
boys through college," police quoted
Morgan as saying.

E. J. David, Department of Jus-
tice Agent, said Morgan had made
a complete statement.

Morgan was taken into custody
yesterday at his farm, 11 miles
northwest of Decatur, by Frank J.
Stake, Department of Justice
agent, and Detective L. J. ...

Division
list

The call of...
The stop of...
The bridge at which...
I was...
walked back of the...
HART...
and his...
with a...
which I had...
company...
before we...
started on...
the trip.

When Holmes first struck Hart...
over the head with the...
be...
level...
Holt...
Holt...
on the head...
with the...
and...
Holt...
underneath.

Then I took some...
from the car...
during the...
afternoon...
at a...
store in...
Santa Clara...
for...
and...
found the...
of...
Holt...
around...
his...
up close...
to his...
shoulder.

Holmes then told me to take hold...
of...
He took a...
hold of the...
upper...
part of...
Holt's...
and I took...
a hold...
of him...
from...
the...
back...
and...
together...
we lifted...
him...
on the...
railing...
of the...
San Mateo...
bridge...
and...
tossed...
him...
into...
the...
bay. I...
swam...
as we...
lifted...
him...
onto...
the...
bridge...
he...
struggled...
slightly.

Youth Robbed During Ride.

We then turned around and drove...
back to...
San...
Jose. While...
we were...
riding in...
the car...
with...
Holt...
before...
we...
reached...
the...
bridge...
we had...
asked...
him...
to...
turn...
over...
his...
pocket...
book...
and...
money...
which...
he...
had. To...
the...
best...
of...
my...
recollection...
the...
wallet...
contained...
a...
\$5...
bill...
and...
\$2.50...
in...
cash. We...
divided...
the...
money...
and I...
kept...
the...
rest. After...
I...
returned...
to...
San...
Jose...
by...
agreement...
I...
went...
back...
to...
San...
Francisco...
in...
my...
father's...
automobile...
and...
it was...
our...
understanding...
that...
I...
was...
to...
go...
from...
San...
Francisco...
to...
Oakland...
and...
en...
route...
throw...
the...
wallet...
into...
the...
bay. I...
was...
to...
phone...
Holt...
from...
Tracy...
asking...
for...
\$40,000.

"Busy Signal" Bells Call.

I tried to put through this call...
from...
a...
place...
on...
Market...
street...
but...
the...
line...
was...
busy. I...
first...
tried...
to...
place...
the...
call...
about...
8:30...
and...
then...
went...
to...
the...
Witcomb...
hotel...
and...
placed...
another...
long...
distance...
call...
to...
the...
Holt...
residence...
in...
San...
Jose...
about...
10:30...
P. M. I...
was...
successful...
in...
connecting...
the...
telephone...
and...
I...
told...
her...
that...
her...
brother...
was...
being...
held...
for...
\$40,000...
ransom...
and...
if...
the...
family...
settled...
the...
matter...
they...
would...
never...
see...
Brooks...
Holt...
again.

Instead of taking the ferry from...
San...
Francisco...
to...
Oakland...
to...
throw...
away...
the...
wallet...
of...
Brooks...
Holt...
I...
walked...
down...
the...
waterfront...
for...
two...
or...
three...
blocks...
and...
tossed...
the...
wallet...
into...
the...
bay.

I then returned to my father's...
residence...
in...
San...
Jose...
arriving...
early...
the...
next...
morning. On...
Nov. 18...
at...
about...
11:30...
P. M. I...
left...
in...
my...
father's...
car...
for...
Tracy...
with...
a...
message...
for...
Mr. Hart.

Reports "Son Is O. K."

This message was to the effect...
that...
their...
son...
was...
"O. K."...
but...
if...
the...
police...
were...
notified...
and...
more...
it...
would...
be...
too...
late. And...
on...
this...
card...
it...
also...
specified...
the...
number...
of...
bills...
to...
be...
paid...
to...
the...
\$40,000...
ransom...
and...
not...
to...
return...
the...
money.

I had obtained an envelope of...
money...
and...
when...
I...
got...
to...
Tracy...
I...
went...
to...
Sacramento...
I...
addressed...
the...
card...
to...
Mr. Hart...
and...
left...
it...
with...
the...
postman.

...but I did not...
know...
the...
following...
and...
could...
not...
find...
the...
card...
to...
Mr. Hart. The...
card...
was...
printed...
by...
Holmes.

Search Made to Find.

I was watching Holmes when he...
wrote...
the...
letter...
and...
read...
it. The...
letter...
specified...
that...
Mr. Hart...
place...
himself...
one...
in...
the...
vicinity...
of...
his...
store...
if...
he...
was...
willing...
to...
negotiate.

I left San Jose about 11 in the...
evening...
with...
this...
letter...
and...
drove...
to...
San...
Francisco...
and...
mailed...
the...
letter...
approximately...
half...
an...
hour...
after...
I...
arrived. I...
then...
came...
back...
home.

I did not see Holmes until the...
following...
day. He...
and...
I...
both...
went...
to...
Holt's...
store...
Tuesday...
and...
both...
saw...
the...
anonymous...
note...
in...
the...
store...
and...
that...
night...
we...
conferred...
with...
our...
agent...
called...
Charles...
O'Brien...
Jr.,...
personal...
friend...
of...
Brooks...
Holt's...
and...
demanded...
further...
action.

Orders for Ransom Paying.

The call was placed by Holmes...
from...
a...
pay...
station...
in...
a...
building...
in...
which...
Mr. Hart...
was...
to...
take...
a...
cashed...
with...
the...
\$40,000...
and...
place...
it...
in...
the...
coat...
pocket...
of...
his...
son's...
coat...
and...
drive...
his...
son...
toward...
Los...
Angeles. After...
this...
call...
had...
been...
completed...
Holmes...
and...
I...
drove...
to...
Morgan...
hill...
and...
back...
but...
we...
could...
not...
see...
Mr. Hart...
drive...
out...
in...
the...
car...
and...
at...
about...
9:45...
I...
telephoned...
Mr. Hart...
from...
a...
pay...
station...
at...
a...
parking...
lot...
in...
San...
Jose. I...
asked...
Mr. Hart...
why...
he...
had...
not...
kept...
his...
previous...
appointment...
and...
he...
told...
me...
he...
wanted...
further...
proof...
that...
we...
were...
holding...
his...
son. I...
then...
told...
Mr. Hart...
he...
had...
better...
hurry...
and...
leave...
and...
then...
hang...
up.

Morgan Hill Police Arrest.

Thompson told law it was planned...
to...
receive...
the...
ransom...
and...
detailed...
negotiations...
until...
the...
time...
of...
his...
arrest...
anyway.

We then went to Holmes' brother's...
garage...
on...
South...
Market...
and...
I...
phoned...
from...
a...
pay...
phone...
in...
the...
back...
of...
the...
garage. I...
told...
Holt...
I...
had...
seen...
the...
number...
in...
the...
window...
and...
that...
Mr. Hart...
or...
some...
member...
of...
his...
family...
should...
drive...
the...
car...
(with...
the...
ransom)...
and...
go...
at...
once. I...
told...
Holt...
I...
wanted...
his...
answer...
definitely...
"yes...
or...
no."

I told Mr. Hart that the driver...
of...
the...
car...
would...
be...
paid...
where...
he...
could...
pick...
up...
Brooks...
Holt...
as...
soon...
as...
he...
delivered...
the...
money. I...
told...
Mr. Hart...
I...
was...
one...
of...
the...
boys...
who...
wrote...
him...
a...
letter...
on...
Nov. 15. I...
also...
told...
Mr. Hart...
that...
I...
had...
received...
my...
orders...
from...
headquarters...
and...
that...
was...
all...
I...
could...
do. About...
the...
time...
I...
hanged...
this...
call...
I...
was...
taken...
into...
custody...
by...
Sheriff...
Daly.

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

17m

Handwritten initials or mark.

Tell How Kidnaped Youth Battled for Life in Water

(Features on back page.)

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 17.—(AP)—A police report of agonized cries coming from the dark waters about San Mateo bridge the night of Nov. 9 gave instant corroboration today to the confession of Thomas H. Thurmond and John Holmes that they kidnaped, beat and bound Brooks Hart, 22, and threw him into the bay there.

The report, taken from the police records of Hayward, near the eastern end of the span, was sent today to Chief of Police J. M. Black of San Jose, scene of the abduction, and was amplified in a letter from the wife of one of two men who said they heard the cries.

This story came to officers while four teams were dragging the waters about the bridge in search of the body and while Thurmond and Holmes were being held in San Francisco as a precaution against the mounting of trouble in San Jose.

Second Man Confesses

In the letter city Sheriff William J. Long's office said Holmes had made a signed confession similar to that of Thurmond made public yesterday. Both agreed that they abducted Hart, son of a wealthy San Jose merchant, robbed, gagged and bound him and then threw him over the bridge.

Holmes' alleged confession stated that Thurmond had fired several shots at Hart after the youth had been thrown into the bay.

The Hayward police report and the letter show Victor Ridley and Al Coley, partners in a wood business, heard the cries about an hour and a half after young Hart disappeared from San Jose.

Heard Cries for Help

Ridley and Coley said they saw an automobile move westward on the span, stop and turn back. They said they heard the cry "Help, help" as the automobile stopped, and some one was heard to cry, "Leave me alone. Leave me alone." After the automobile turned back, the wood hunters said they heard the call for help repeated.

the voice say, "I can't hold on much longer." They searched under the bridge, but found nothing.

Another bit of evidence was the discovery of a piece of fabric similar to that of the shirt which young Hart was wearing. To it stuck what officers said appeared to be a bit of flesh.

Hunt Woman in Case

San Jose, Cal., Nov. 17.—(Special)—While the waters of San Francisco's bay held fast tonight to the body of Brooks L. Hart, 22, authorities moved speedily in perfecting an air tight case against his confessed kidnapers and killers, John Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond. Bit by bit they got together the loose ends of the many clues which served to confuse investigators for almost a week and aided the kidnapers in escaping earlier detection.

Motive for the crime apparently has been established in the denouncing in-
spection of women over at least one of the prisoners and possibly both. Ransom of \$25,000 was demanded, according to the confession of Thurmond to enable Holmes at least, to satisfy the demand of a woman for money.

In this connection, authorities disclosed information indicating a woman aided in the preparation of one of the ransom notes sent to Alexander J. Hart, wealthy San Jose merchant and father of the slain youth. The woman's name is known, Sheriff William J. Kelly announced, and she is sought for questioning.

It was also learned today that Charles O'Brien Jr., friend of the slain youth and proprietor of a restaurant, had been selected by the kidnapers as the intermediary in their negotiations for ransom.

O'Brien, it was announced, identified Thurmond as the man who leaped over the running board of his automobile at dusk last Tuesday, put his hand on the door handle, looked quickly at O'Brien and then dropped off and disappeared. Later O'Brien received a telephone call, apparently from Thurmond. The voice instructed him to leave the senior Hart drive shack on the coast highway, the following morning with the \$25,000.

Chicago Tribune

11-12-33

NOT RECORDED

7-377-A

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CLUE TO BODY OF SLAIN HEIR FOUND IN BAY

Searchers Recover Cement
Block and Wire; Stains
Nearby; Woman Questioned

(Pictures on Back Page.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Hopes for the recovery of the body of Brooke L. Hart, alleged victim of kidnaping slayers, were revived tonight as a block of cement that was wire was pulled from San Francisco Bay.

The block was believed by searchers to be one which Thomas H. Thurmond and John Holmes, held in San Francisco, were quoted by authorities as saying they fastened in the young San Jose storekeeper's leg before hurrying him into the bay from the San Mateo bridge.

STAINS FOUND ON RAIL.
At the same time, handkerchiefs were found on the rail of the bridge opposite to where the concrete block was found.

These developments followed by nearly twenty-four hours the bringing to the surface by spearing divers of a block of cloth believed to be from Hart's shirt.

Searchers produced the body of the young storekeeper son of Alvin J. Hart, wealthy merchant, would be recovered.

WOMAN IN CUSTODY.
It also was learned that a woman, taken into custody by San Jose, was brought to San Francisco by officers for questioning. Sheriff William Kelly said he believed the woman, whose name was withheld, could give information about the activities of Holmes who recently departed from the city.

Early expressed belief a woman had recently been questioned between Holmes and his wife, leading to their conviction.

TOOK NUMBER OF CAR.
The sheriff said the Campbell youth's machine was accused and in fact the number of the government man's motor car. This said he was being held in San Jose.

The sheriff said the Campbell youth's machine was accused and in fact the number of the government man's motor car. This said he was being held in San Jose.

CLOTH CLUE IN HART CASE

Continued From First Page.

San Francisco division of the Department of Justice Bureau of Investigation, made public the three ransom notes sent the elder Hart.

"Your son is OK and treated well," said one, mailed November 13. "One more pep will be his flash."

The second, mailed November 15 from San Francisco, gave directions for the payment of the ransom.

The third, November 15, demanded immediate payment and said: "Killing him is the easy way, with little risk for us."

San Jose officers received word from police at Hayward, near the eastern end of the bridge, substantiating portions of the confessions relating how Thurmond and Holmes allegedly knapped young Hart and pushed him into the water before demanding ransom from the father as ransom.

The Hayward report showed Victor Ridley and Al Coley, partners in a firewood business, heard cries of "Help! Help!" at the bridge about 7:30 p. m. November 1, not long after young Hart disappeared. They searched the bridge without success.

Ridley and Coley said they were gathering driftwood along the water's edge near the bridge, saw an automobile drive westward on the span, stop and turn back. They said they heard someone say "Leave me alone—leave me alone."

After the automobile turned back the wood hunters heard the car for help repeated. They thought that they were coming and again heard "come see you Harry."

They reached the bridge and heard the voice say "I can't hold on much longer." This point, they said, apparently came from under the bridge about the point. They searched the spot and found nothing, but reported the incident to the Hayward police.

GUARDED AGAINST MORE.

This story came to officers while their boats were dragging the waters about the bridge in search of the body and while Thurmond and Holmes, charged with kidnaping, were being held in San Jose.

... to a ... added ...

In the latter city Sheriff Kelly's office said that in Holmer's confession he stated that Thurmond had fired several shots at Hart after the youth had been thrown into the bay.

The statement said that Holmes gave Thurmond the gun to cover Hart after he had struck the boy over the head with a brick. They threw the body into the bay, the confession said, and then Thurmond contacted the receiver to the general location of where Hart's body struck the water.

SWIFT TRIAL PROMISED.

Swift punishment will be meted out to the confessed slayers, District Attorney Fred Thomas announced. Thomas said the two men will be brought to trial here in the Superior Court of Santa Clara County under the new California kidnaping law.

Thurmond and Holmes can be tried on charges of either kidnaping or murder even if Hart's body is not found, it was stated by Thomas.

In proceeding with the prosecution, Thomas said he would ask the county grand jury to return an indictment against the two men Monday on a kidnaping charge.

FACE DEATH PENALTY.

Under California law, Thomas pointed out, the death penalty can be demanded on either a kidnaping or murder charge even if "corpus delicti" is not established.

"We have chosen to go ahead with the kidnaping charge," Thomas said, "it would be more difficult to proceed on the murder charge, as the prosecution would be handicapped to a certain extent. But we are positive we can convict on the kidnaping charge."

EXPECT RECONCILIATION.

"We are going ahead on the assumption that the confessions of the prisoners will be repudiated. They generally are."

"We intend to prove that Thurmond wrote the notes and telephoned to the Hart family. We also prove that he had no other means of knowing that Hart was kidnaped at the time he first telephoned."

"We will show that these men had knowledge of the whereabouts of Hart. That should establish the fact he had been kidnaped."

Chicago Herald & Examiner

NO. RECORDED
7-375-A 11-18-33

\$500 REWARD POSTED FOR BODY OF HART

San Francisco Bay Falls to Yield Remains of Abducted Son of Rich Merchant

By the Associated Press.
SAN JOSE, November 24.—A search of San Francisco Bay for the body of Brooks L. Hart was spurred by a \$500 reward offered today while his two alleged kidnapers and slavers awaited trial in the county jail here.
Alex J. Hart, San Jose merchant and father of the 23-year-old kidnaping victim, offered the reward after more than a week of efforts to recover the body had failed.
Thomas K. Thurmond and John M. Hoines, who State and Federal authorities assert kidnaped Hart and throwing him from the San Mateo bridge in a \$25,000 ransom plot, were closely guarded in their jail cells. Sheriff William J. King, however, said he would not try to locate the body.

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

NOT RECORDED
9-975-A

W. H. D. [Signature]

WASHINGTON D.C. TIMES - November 24, 1933.

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**HART'S SLAYERS
THREATENED**

SAN JOSE, Cal., Nov. 24 (U.S.)
Renewed threats of lynching the kidnapers and slayers of Brooks Hart, 22-year-old son of a wealthy department store owner, rumbled through San Jose today.

Reports were flashed to the chief of police and Sheriff William J. Emig that "a vigilante committee of 100 responsible business men" was being formed.

Several salesmen corroborated the reports and told newspaper men that they had overheard the business men discussing final plans for the organization of the "vigilante of 100."

Sheriff Emig immediately posted additional deputy sheriffs at the ancient county jail.

San Jose, Cal. stamp: RECEIVED NOV 25 1933

Vertical stamp: NOV 24 1933

Stamp: NOT RECORDED

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NOV 21 1933

FBI - SAN FRANCISCO

A PILLOW SLIP WITH STAIN ON IT CLEW TO HART MURDER

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 20.—(AP)—Search of Lower San Francisco Bay for the body of Brooks Hart, kidnaping victim, was intensified today by the finding of a pillow slip in the waters two miles southeast of the San Mateo bridge, from which two men held in the case allegedly confessed they threw the hapless youth the night of Nov. 5.

In statements to police Thomas H. Thornton and John H. Hines said they found a pillow slip at a boat near the victim's head. The fabric, found half submerged in the water by Corporal J. J. McDevitt and County Engineer George H. Hines, had a brown egg-shaped stain upon it and a hole such as a bullet would make.

The discovery came also upon the finding of a hat box, one which young Hart supposedly possessed. The hat was found on the muddy bay shore about 400 feet north of the bridge yesterday. It bore the brand of a hat sold by the Hart Department store in San Jose. Alex. J. Hart, head of the San Jose store and father of the abducted youth, was positively unable to identify it. The elder Hart said his store sold many hats of that brand.

On the theory that sometime there was a change to allow the body to be carried of Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, and San Francisco counties called a meeting in Oakland city this afternoon to coordinate the searching.

Chicago Tribune

11-21-33

NOT RECORDED

7-375-A

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WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS, November 23, 1933.

90-10-1
217

- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Foxworth _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Ladd _____

Body Seen Floating May Be Young Hart's

By United Press

SAN FRANCISCO—A body was seen floating in San Francisco Bay early today by workmen on the bay bridge.

Police boats started immediate search to determine whether it was the body of Brooke La Hart, missing kidnap victim.

NOV 27 1933

NOT RECORDED

FILE

11-27-33

WASHINGTON D.C. NEWS, NOVEMBER 24, 1933.

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HART KIDNAPER FAILS IN ESCAPE

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 23 (U.S.)—A heavy guard surrounded the courthouse and jail in San Jose today, and double sentries were at every entrance.

These precautions to protect J. M. Holmes and Thomas H. Thurmond, confessed kidnap killers of Brocke L. Hart, followed a desperate attempt by Holmes to escape from the officers who had the prisoners in charge while en route from the San Francisco city jail to San Jose, late last night.

Throng that passed the jail were curious but not disorderly.

As the hunt for Hart's body entered its seventh day a fleet of small boats were searching the bay waters near Yerba Island on a report that a man's body had been seen floating there.

Meanwhile details of Holmes' efforts to escape en route to San Jose by motor car late last night were disclosed.

Complaining of a bad cough, Holmes asked that the window of the car be closed so that he would be out of the draft. An officer changed seats with him to make him more comfortable.

Suddenly Holmes made a wild plunge for the door, seeking to wrench the handle of the door open, but the handcuffs bit into his flesh, and, screaming with pain, he sank back into his seat.

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

NOT RECORDED
7-315-A

WAD

BELIEVED FOUND

HART BODY

S. F. Mob Hurls Lynch Threat; Sinking Youth Shot, Says Confession

Death Weight Dragged from Water Near Scene of Murder

By ROYCE BRIER

With the recovery of the body of Brooke Hart believed near after grappling hooks had hauled up two of the cement blocks cast off the San Mateo bridge with the aid of victim, cries of "Lynch him! Lynch him!" echoed through Market street last night as a mob men-

JAMES F. HOLMES
HAROLD THURMOND
BROOKE L. HART - Victim.
Kidnaping.

"CHRONICLE", dated Nov. 12, 1933.

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

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of the ENGINE
FERRATE
NITROGEN

