

WILLIAM J. BURNS

'FISCO' HAS FINE RECORD

CALLED KING OF DETECTIVES

William J. Burns, Most Clever of the Secret Service Agents Employed by Uncle Sam, Has Earned Proud Title by His Many Successes in Running Down Offenders Against the Law—His Methods Are Shrewd, Direct and Straight Forward, and He Has Yet to Record a Failure in Any Case in Which He Has Been Employed—Land Grabbers, Boddlers or Counterfeiters All One to Him.

San Francisco—William J. Burns, the United States secret service agent who trapped every member of San Francisco's corrupt board of supervisors in a confession of their guilt, is called "the king of detectives."

Although Burns has this international reputation as a detective, it is hard for his intimates to remember always that Burns is a detective. Thus Francis X. Heney, the prosecutor with whom Burns has worked through the land fraud cases in Oregon and in the San Francisco boodle case, finds his associate a source of continual surprise.

"Burns amuses me," said Heney one day recently, as he walked down the steps of his office in the unassuming "Western Addition" of San Francisco.

They rented these houses; then they put in velvet carpets, elegant furniture, pianos and so forth, which they insured. As each house had its own policies, they would move out of the furniture. Then they would light a two-hour candle, and at two o'clock they would return and be surprised to find down with a complete loss. In this way they had got hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the insurance companies.

"When I was called into the case it had been pretty thoroughly gone over by Pinkerton men, who had for some time been poking about the houses to get legal evidence. Jim French, who later led to Henderson, after having served his first sentence, which was a life term, was the leader of the gang.

"The difficulty in all such cases is to uncover the tracks of the criminals without divulging direct methods. Instead of going out to induce some of the marked men to come to the front with a confession, I went to the back of the house. Williams told me that I had been out by the insurance companies to investigate the detectives that had been working on the case and were accused of appropriating their expense money. While carrying on this 'special investigation' I was able to get the story of the insurance companies. I selected the one man who, I thought, could give me the evidence. This fellow, John Rudd, by name, never knew until the day he was called into the grand jury court that he had been aiding in the apprehension of the offenders.

Suspected Informer Killed.

"When all was ready I went before the grand jury and explained the case. The insurance agents told their losses and then we called in Rudd and explained to him his part in the case. After the insurance agents had been in there was a terrible uproar. Some member of the grand jury told the gang that a man by the name of Rudd had told the whole story. No one knew Burns. I had been going under the name of Williams, but the following night one of the gang was murdered. From then on I was called by the name of Williams. I never saw him too much of a hurry to take his job for dinner at the regular time. He is methodical in everything. It is all in a day's work with Burns, and when he turns in at night he sleeps like a top."

"Yet he never procrastinates," put in District Attorney Langdon. "I asked him the other night if he thought he could get a man we wanted and bring him to the office in the evening."

"What's the matter with getting him now?" said Burns. Taking down the receiver from the phone he called up a station. The man there told Burns told him it would be better for his health to surrender himself at our office without delay. The man came."

"What interests me about Burns," put in J. Dwyer, another of the attorneys of the grand prosecution, "is his personality. He gets the men he wants to get better than any of his own men. Those two spy stories to each other until you can't believe them is working all the time to lasso Rufus in San Quentin prison."

"He can mimic a Frenchman, an Englishman, a Dutchman, a German, and the stories he tells sound like good fiction. I believe it is his magnetism as much as his persistence that wins for him."

His First Important Case.

"This is the story of Burns' first important case, as told by himself: It was in 1899, in St. Louis. A number of fireboats had been burned down houses for insurance money.

Every one here in town knows his automobile. But do you think if he wanted you might find him? He would go back? No, sir. He would go straight to your door. Toot, toot, and ring the bell. Never Wears a Disguise.

Burns himself has this to say about his work as a detective:

"People seem to think that there is something uncanny about 'detective work.' They imagine an 'around hold-out' promise of ultimate immunity every man jack of them was willing to squeal.

"I looked every. All things are easy to those who know how. Burns is not doing detective work for nothing these 20 years.

Counterfeiters Caught.

"An illustration of careful detective work is Burns' method in 'ringing down' two counterfeiters from Central America. They were Gen. Federico Mora and Ricardo de Requena. The two men had been making counterfeit notes in the United States. Our government was asked to apprehend the counterfeiters, and Burns was entrusted with the job. Others had worked at it before, but all Burns had to start with was a sofa wrapped up in burlap, in which \$300,000 of the counterfeit notes had been originally shipped to Costa Rica. On the burlap was the mark, 'XX 1634.'

"In parking this, Burns found out the burlap had been originally sent to a factory in Newburg. It was the shipping number. In Newburg Burns went over the books of the factory and found that those particular overalls had been shipped to a dry goods store in Chicago. There they told him that they had recently sold a piece of burlap to an old lady by the name of Mrs. Chevin. It did not matter with the job. Others had worked at it before, but all Burns had to start with was a sofa wrapped up in burlap, in which \$300,000 of the counterfeit notes had been originally shipped to Costa Rica. On the burlap was the mark, 'XX 1634.'

"But, when Burns learned that Mrs. Chevin had a son-in-law, one Ricardo de Requena, who hailed from Costa Rica, he thought the trail was getting warm.

De Requenas was living with a young widow from Pittsburgh at the house of his mother, Mrs. Chevin. Burns placed de Requenas and the widow under arrest. Then he sent one of his men to the jail with an alligator skin to the street that if he would produce the plates of the counterfeit notes the government would abandon his prosecution."

After the messenger left, De Requenas was visited by his mother-in-law. When she left him Burns followed her to her home in Long Island City. Through a window he watched her enter.

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Surprising a Scribe-Taker.

"Of his present work Burns himself says: 'This San Francisco case is one of the most interesting I have ever had. Of course municipal graft cases are all some what alike. You know who the men are who have got official favors. The first thing to do is to single out the official who you think will accept a bribe, and then get at him by inducing him to accept what he thinks is a bribe. Of course your money is marked. Then you surprise him in the act. After that you have him sold. Through him you get at the bribe-givers.'

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Real Estate Exchange

OF WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL

Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

176. Seven-room cottage on west side of Beane street, near corner of Woodward avenue. Price \$1,200. Call on Mr. Whitehead at 110 Exchange Bank.
177. Farm in Springdale township for sale or exchange for property in Royal Oak. Birmingham. 177. Farm in Springdale township for sale or exchange for property in Royal Oak. Birmingham. 177. Farm in Springdale township for sale or exchange for property in Royal Oak. Birmingham.
178. Farm in Avon township, 55 acres of good land, all cleared, small orchard, no buildings, well water, for sale or exchange for small farm.
179. Farm for sale in Town of Springdale, 50 acres, all cleared, one acre of good orchard, gravel and stone, three buildings worth \$5,000, insured. Will sell for \$10,000, cash down in second year. For particulars inquire of Mr. Whitehead at 110 Exchange Bank.
180. Two lots in Royal Oak, Block A. Sold for \$1,000.
181. Corner lot, two feet front on Maple avenue, one foot wide, one foot deep, one-half acre. A bargain for \$500, one-half acre.
182. Farm of 100 acres in White Lake township, with a 1/2 of section 29, well water, 1/2 of section 29, well water, 1/2 of section 29, well water.
183. Farm in the Town of Southfield, 1/2 of section 17, 1/2 of section 18, 1/2 of section 19, 1/2 of section 20, 1/2 of section 21, 1/2 of section 22, 1/2 of section 23, 1/2 of section 24, 1/2 of section 25, 1/2 of section 26, 1/2 of section 27, 1/2 of section 28, 1/2 of section 29, 1/2 of section 30, 1/2 of section 31, 1/2 of section 32, 1/2 of section 33, 1/2 of section 34, 1/2 of section 35, 1/2 of section 36, 1/2 of section 37, 1/2 of section 38, 1/2 of section 39, 1/2 of section 40, 1/2 of section 41, 1/2 of section 42, 1/2 of section 43, 1/2 of section 44, 1/2 of section 45, 1/2 of section 46, 1/2 of section 47, 1/2 of section 48, 1/2 of section 49, 1/2 of section 50, 1/2 of section 51, 1/2 of section 52, 1/2 of section 53, 1/2 of section 54, 1/2 of section 55, 1/2 of section 56, 1/2 of section 57, 1/2 of section 58, 1/2 of section 59, 1/2 of section 60, 1/2 of section 61, 1/2 of section 62, 1/2 of section 63, 1/2 of section 64, 1/2 of section 65, 1/2 of section 66, 1/2 of section 67, 1/2 of section 68, 1/2 of section 69, 1/2 of section 70, 1/2 of section 71, 1/2 of section 72, 1/2 of section 73, 1/2 of section 74, 1/2 of section 75, 1/2 of section 76, 1/2 of section 77, 1/2 of section 78, 1/2 of section 79, 1/2 of section 80, 1/2 of section 81, 1/2 of section 82, 1/2 of section 83, 1/2 of section 84, 1/2 of section 85, 1/2 of section 86, 1/2 of section 87, 1/2 of section 88, 1/2 of section 89, 1/2 of section 90, 1/2 of section 91, 1/2 of section 92, 1/2 of section 93, 1/2 of section 94, 1/2 of section 95, 1/2 of section 96, 1/2 of section 97, 1/2 of section 98, 1/2 of section 99, 1/2 of section 100.
184. Farm in the Town of Southfield, 1/2 of section 17, 1/2 of section 18, 1/2 of section 19, 1/2 of section 20, 1/2 of section 21, 1/2 of section 22, 1/2 of section 23, 1/2 of section 24, 1/2 of section 25, 1/2 of section 26, 1/2 of section 27, 1/2 of section 28, 1/2 of section 29, 1/2 of section 30, 1/2 of section 31, 1/2 of section 32, 1/2 of section 33, 1/2 of section 34, 1/2 of section 35, 1/2 of section 36, 1/2 of section 37, 1/2 of section 38, 1/2 of section 39, 1/2 of section 40, 1/2 of section 41, 1/2 of section 42, 1/2 of section 43, 1/2 of section 44, 1/2 of section 45, 1/2 of section 46, 1/2 of section 47, 1/2 of section 48, 1/2 of section 49, 1/2 of section 50, 1/2 of section 51, 1/2 of section 52, 1/2 of section 53, 1/2 of section 54, 1/2 of section 55, 1/2 of section 56, 1/2 of section 57, 1/2 of section 58, 1/2 of section 59, 1/2 of section 60, 1/2 of section 61, 1/2 of section 62, 1/2 of section 63, 1/2 of section 64, 1/2 of section 65, 1/2 of section 66, 1/2 of section 67, 1/2 of section 68, 1/2 of section 69, 1/2 of section 70, 1/2 of section 71, 1/2 of section 72, 1/2 of section 73, 1/2 of section 74, 1/2 of section 75, 1/2 of section 76, 1/2 of section 77, 1/2 of section 78, 1/2 of section 79, 1/2 of section 80, 1/2 of section 81, 1/2 of section 82, 1/2 of section 83, 1/2 of section 84, 1/2 of section 85, 1/2 of section 86, 1/2 of section 87, 1/2 of section 88, 1/2 of section 89, 1/2 of section 90, 1/2 of section 91, 1/2 of section 92, 1/2 of section 93, 1/2 of section 94, 1/2 of section 95, 1/2 of section 96, 1/2 of section 97, 1/2 of section 98, 1/2 of section 99, 1/2 of section 100.
185. Farm in the Town of Southfield, 1/2 of section 17, 1/2 of section 18, 1/2 of section 19, 1/2 of section 20, 1/2 of section 21, 1/2 of section 22, 1/2 of section 23, 1/2 of section 24, 1/2 of section 25, 1/2 of section 26, 1/2 of section 27, 1/2 of section 28, 1/2 of section 29, 1/2 of section 30, 1/2 of section 31, 1/2 of section 32, 1/2 of section 33, 1/2 of section 34, 1/2 of section 35, 1/2 of section 36, 1/2 of section 37, 1/2 of section 38, 1/2 of section 39, 1/2 of section 40, 1/2 of section 41, 1/2 of section 42, 1/2 of section 43, 1/2 of section 44, 1/2 of section 45, 1/2 of section 46, 1/2 of section 47, 1/2 of section 48, 1/2 of section 49, 1/2 of section 50, 1/2 of section 51, 1/2 of section 52, 1/2 of section 53, 1/2 of section 54, 1/2 of section 55, 1/2 of section 56, 1/2 of section 57, 1/2 of section 58, 1/2 of section 59, 1/2 of section 60, 1/2 of section 61, 1/2 of section 62, 1/2 of section 63, 1/2 of section 64, 1/2 of section 65, 1/2 of section 66, 1/2 of section 67, 1/2 of section 68, 1/2 of section 69, 1/2 of section 70, 1/2 of section 71, 1/2 of section 72, 1/2 of section 73, 1/2 of section 74, 1/2 of section 75, 1/2 of section 76, 1/2 of section 77, 1/2 of section 78, 1/2 of section 79, 1/2 of section 80, 1/2 of section 81, 1/2 of section 82, 1/2 of section 83, 1/2 of section 84, 1/2 of section 85, 1/2 of section 86, 1/2 of section 87, 1/2 of section 88, 1/2 of section 89, 1/2 of section 90, 1/2 of section 91, 1/2 of section 92, 1/2 of section 93, 1/2 of section 94, 1/2 of section 95, 1/2 of section 96, 1/2 of section 97, 1/2 of section 98, 1/2 of section 99, 1/2 of section 100.
186. Farm in the Town of Southfield, 1/2 of section 17, 1/2 of section 18, 1/2 of section 19, 1/2 of section 20, 1/2 of section 21, 1/2 of section 22, 1/2 of section 23, 1/2 of section 24, 1/2 of section 25, 1/2 of section 26, 1/2 of section 27, 1/2 of section 28, 1/2 of section 29, 1/2 of section 30, 1/2 of section 31, 1/2 of section 32, 1/2 of section 33, 1/2 of section 34, 1/2 of section 35, 1/2 of section 36, 1/2 of section 37, 1/2 of section 38, 1/2 of section 39, 1/2 of section 40, 1/2 of section 41, 1/2 of section 42, 1/2 of section 43, 1/2 of section 44, 1/2 of section 45, 1/2 of section 46, 1/2 of section 47, 1/2 of section 48, 1/2 of section 49, 1/2 of section 50, 1/2 of section 51, 1/2 of section 52, 1/2 of section 53, 1/2 of section 54, 1/2 of section 55, 1/2 of section 56, 1/2 of section 57, 1/2 of section 58, 1/2 of section 59, 1/2 of section 60, 1/2 of section 61, 1/2 of section 62, 1/2 of section 63, 1/2 of section 64, 1/2 of section 65, 1/2 of section 66, 1/2 of section 67, 1/2 of section 68, 1/2 of section 69, 1/2 of section 70, 1/2 of section 71, 1/2 of section 72, 1/2 of section 73, 1/2 of section 74, 1/2 of section 75, 1/2 of section 76, 1/2 of section 77, 1/2 of section 78, 1/2 of section 79, 1/2 of section 80, 1/2 of section 81, 1/2 of section 82, 1/2 of section 83, 1/2 of section 84, 1/2 of section 85, 1/2 of section 86, 1/2 of section 87, 1/2 of section 88, 1/2 of section 89, 1/2 of section 90, 1/2 of section 91, 1/2 of section 92, 1/2 of section 93, 1/2 of section 94, 1/2 of section 95, 1/2 of section 96, 1/2 of section 97, 1/2 of section 98, 1/2 of section 99, 1/2 of section 100.
187. Farm in the Town of Southfield, 1/2 of section 17, 1/2 of section 18, 1/2 of section 19, 1/2 of section 20, 1/2 of section 21, 1/2 of section 22, 1/2 of section 23, 1/2 of section 24, 1/2 of section 25, 1/2 of section 26, 1/2 of section 27, 1/2 of section 28, 1/2 of section 29, 1/2 of section 30, 1/2 of section 31, 1/2 of section 32, 1/2 of section 33, 1/2 of section 34, 1/2 of section 35, 1/2 of section 36, 1/2 of section 37, 1/2 of section 38, 1/2 of section 39, 1/2 of section 40, 1/2 of section 41, 1/2 of section 42, 1/2 of section 43, 1/2 of section 44, 1/2 of section 45, 1/2 of section 46, 1/2 of section 47, 1/2 of section 48, 1/2 of section 49, 1/2 of section 50, 1/2 of section 51, 1/2 of section 52