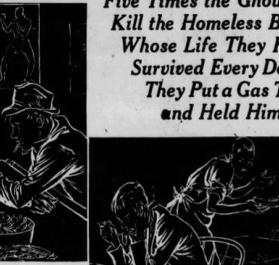


# New York's Most Fantastic Murder

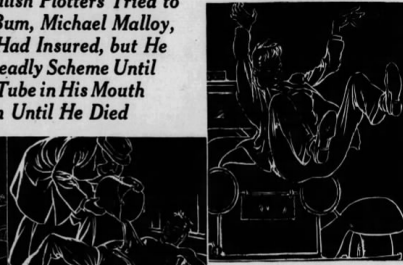
## Five Times the Ghoulish Plotters Tried to Kill the Homeless Bum, Michael Malloy, Whose Life They Had Insured, but He Survived Every Deadly Scheme Until They Put a Gas Tube in His Mouth and Held Him Until He Died



1—In the Hour He Would Drink Himself to Death, Michael Malloy Was Given 10 of the Best Whiskey He Could Drink, but He Thirsted on It.



2—Then He Was Fed Oysters Packed in Wood Alcohol and Suffered Terribly With Poisoned Tin, and He Never Knew the Insurance.



3—He Was Stripped to the Waist on a Cold Night and Dressed With Water to He Would Freeze to Death, but He Didn't Even Catch Cold.



4—He Was Held in Front of a Speeding Taxi and Twice Told to Get Out, but He Was So Drunk He Couldn't Descend Another Drink of "That Good Whiskey."

A PLOT that seemed more like an impossible ploy, written by a fanatic, than a realistic murder trial reached the other day in the conviction and sentence to death of four men in County Judge James M. Barretto's court in New York City.

The victim was Michael Malloy, 49 years old, who had once worked as a stationary engineer, but now was a human derelict, seemingly with one foot in the grave and only too eager to drink himself to death. If someone would supply him with enough liquor, he would do it.

It is hard to picture the man who drank himself into the county mental hospital, the county insane asylum, and a city hospital, until he died before the trial, was well-known for his parts. One of them, Anthony Marino, operated a speakeasy in the Bronx where Malloy would go to drink himself "down" from drinks from customers. Another was Joseph Murphy, bartender at the speakeasy. Then, one of the most important, was Frank Paquet, 34-year-old undertaker who undertook not only to bury the body of the man who died, but also to arrange to have that death was from natural causes.

Paquet did those things, but he could not resist cheating in the detail of his business and just for that he and the others were caught. The fourth man was Daniel Kretschmer, a fruit dealer who had been arrested for that he was afraid of and ready to testify that "Frank Tano" had been the number one gangster who was "burned off" and long ago in prison of his time.

Malloy had no family or relatives. He was unable to himself or anyone else, but he had had to work for a year or so, but he was unable to do so, and he was unable to be insured, which appeared to be the only real difficulty. Four years

ago, this same gang, which seems to have been in this special line of murder for some time, tried to insure him. But on that occasion, not having been properly insured, Malloy told the insurance agent that he did not want to be insured, and the company declined to do it.

Now they tried it again, changing the name from Malloy to Malloy, so that the insurance records would not show up that previous refusal. This time they succeeded in getting him written up for a total of \$1,700, payable to Murphy the bartender. Malloy may have thought this would mean some free drinks from his bartender friend.

At any rate, this time he gave the insurance people the right answers and rather surprisingly was accepted. Subsequent developments show that he was physically a first-class risk because he proved to be an incredible hard man to kill.

According to the testimony, the conspiracy started in at once on the night of the murder, in which the victim cooperated. They held him with drinks. In a little while the happy old man was in a deep alcoholic coma.

But instead of dying he came out of a stupor than ever. They tried it over and over, but he got over 100 proof alcohol, always with some interesting results that it became clear that murder by this slow method cost more than it was worth.

The next experiment was a plate of oysters soaked in wood alcohol, and specially prepared sandwiches. Usually sandwiches come with the oysters, but in this case the sandwich was filled with wood alcohol and the little fish. Malloy ate them, without noticing the trick. "Frank Tano" probably because he wanted them without cheating. Again no results. The man seemed to thrive on this sort of thing.

The conspirators abandoned hope of destroying such a person through his stomach, and tried to kill him by other means.

"Tough" Tano is said to have had the best insurance. "Percussion" is a common and natural death. Make him die of pneumonia and they could double-cross their undertaker partner because the doctor would give a certificate. It was February of last year, however, when the ground had not yet thawed through the Bronx that they put the plan into execution.

First allowing Malloy to drink himself into a stupor, they dragged him to a taxi, dumped him on a bench in Central Park, in New York's Bronx, and left him to freeze to death.

Imagine their consternation at morning when their roadblock without one having caught cold and demanding extra of that "good liquor."

When the taxi driver saw that the man was dead, he called the police and took him to the hospital. The doctor looked at the man and said: "That's all right, you played on a human life—\$1,700."

"Yes, at that time," agreed Green. "I needed money."

"Honesty did not have much value to you," suggested the lawyer.

"No," said Green. "It is as simple as the price is much higher."

"Yes," said Green.

"And if you are discharged (is the only charge with assets) you would go to prison for life?"

Mr. Blinn inquired, and to every-thing asked.

The next plan proved as "foolish" as they had hoped. It involved taking a man in a room, and in his usual condition, they gave him more drinks until he was unconscious and then laid him on the bed. At about one o'clock of a table to the gas jet, Murphy placed the other in Malloy's mouth, wrapped a towel around the face to prevent gas escaping, and the lawyers turned it.

Malloy is said to have related that once they took 10 minutes to get him into the room. In the morning, with all air of gas out of the room, it was time for undertaker Paquet to make good on his profession and do his part of the work, and he did. Paquet sent for Frank A. Kretschmer, former Republican politician from the 10th East-River District. The doctor looked at the dead man, asked a few questions and issued a certificate stating that Malloy had died from labor pneumonia.

For this conspiracy he is now under \$10,000 bond pending trial in connection with the murder, as an accessory after the fact. He denies that Paquet gave him \$100 for the certificate and \$100 more, as was stated in the testimony. Paquet is said to have taken the certificate and to have taken charge of the remains and bury the body in a cheap

plum box and a pauper's grave. Part of his job had been to obtain the remains with a field that would make it impossible to prove that Malloy had died by gas poisoning. But Paquet didn't think there would be any investigation, and therefore no need for the better and slight expense. It was ill-fated economy because, after paying the money, the insurance company became suspicious. Malloy was returned from his grave, where the weight of earth had already broken in the flimsy coffin, and an autopsy revealed the murder. District Attorney Samuel Foley and his assistants, Arthur Carey and Sol Bonagrat, sent for the body.

Except "Tough" Tano, when somebody had "dumped off" with a bottle through the heart in front of the speakeasy. At the trial, Green, the fast driver, turned State's evidence. When he testified that he had agreed to sell \$100 for murdering Frank Malloy and then Malloy, he had a receipt for \$100 from the doctor, Albery Blinn, for the doctor's fee.

"That's all the value you played on a human life—\$100," agreed Green.

"Yes, at that time," agreed Green. "I needed money."

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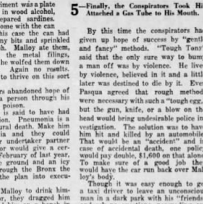
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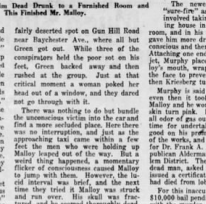
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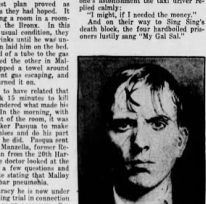
Daniel Kretschmer, Fruit Dealer, Who Must Pay With His Life for His Part in the Plot.



Joseph Murphy, Bartender, Sentenced to Die for His Part in the Plot.



Frank Paquet, Undertaker, One of the Four Men Convicted to Die.



Anthony Marino, Speakeasy Owner, Convicted as Leader of the Gang.



The Body of Michael Malloy as It Appeared After It Was Exhausted.