



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

THIS IS THE END OF MUR # 579



BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of )  
 )  
1977 Non-Filers - Party Related )  
 )  
Democrats Abroad (France) ) MUR 577 (78)  
Democrats Abroad (United Kingdom) )

CERTIFICATION

I, Marjorie W. Emmons, Secretary to the Commission, do hereby certify that on July 5, 1978, the Commission approved by a vote of 6-0 the recommendations in the General Counsel's Report dated June 16, 1978, to take the following actions in the above-captioned matter:

1. Take no further action with regard to the France Committee and the United Kingdom Committee.
2. Close the files.

7/5/78  
Date

Marjorie W. Emmons  
Marjorie W. Emmons  
Secretary to the Commission

Signed by the General Counsel 6-27-78  
Received in the Office of the Commission Secretary 6-29-78, 3:45  
Circulated on 48-hour Vote Basis 6-30-78, 12:30

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# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 6, 1978

MEMORANDUM TO: CHARLES STEELE  
FROM: MARJORIE W. EMMONS. *mw*  
SUBJECT: MUR 577 (78) - General Counsel's Report  
dated June 16, 1978

Attached is a copy of Commissioners Springer's vote  
sheet with comments regarding the above-mentioned report.

ATTACHMENT  
Copy of vote sheet

7804005511



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1200 SIXTH AVE.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20543

78 JUL 5 P 4: 28

Date and Time Transmitted: JUNE 30, 1978 4:28 P

Commissioner James L. Spring

RETURN TO OFFICE OF COMMISSION SECRETARY BY: JULY 5, 1978 4:28 P

MUR No. 577 (78) GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT, JUNE 16, 1978

- (X) I approve the recommendation  
( ) I object to the recommendation

COMMENTS: Recommendation is approved. The Commission should take immediate action to bring the matter before the Commission.

Date: July 5, 1978 Signature: William L. Springer

THE OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL WILL TAKE NO ACTION IN THIS MATTER UNTIL THE APPROVAL OF FOUR COMMISSIONERS IS RECEIVED. PLEASE RETURN ALL PAPERS NO LATER THAN THE DATE AND TIME SHOWN ABOVE TO THE OFFICE OF COMMISSION SECRETARY. ONE OBJECTION PLACES THE ITEM ON THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AGENDA.

June 29, 1978

MEMORANDUM TO: Marge Emmons  
FROM: Elissa T. Garr  
SUBJECT: MUR 577

Please have the attached General Counsel's  
Report on MUR 577 distributed to the Commission on  
a 48 hour tally basis.

Thank you.

7804005513

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

June 16, 1978

In the Matter of )  
 )  
1977 Non-filers - Party Related ) MUR 577(78)  
 )  
Democrats Abroad (France) )  
Democrats Abroad (United Kingdom) )

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

I. BACKGROUND

On January 16, 1978, the Reports Analysis Division referred to the Office of General Counsel the name of the Democrats Abroad (France) ("France Committee") for failure to file its 1976 Year-End Report as required by 2 U.S.C. §434(a)(1). However, the Commission has never found reason to believe or reasonable cause to believe that the France Committee failed to file its 1976 Year-End Report.

On February 15, 1978, the Commission found reason to believe and on March 8, 1978, the Commission found reasonable cause to believe that the France Committee failed to file its 1977 Year-End Report. On April 4, 1978 the Reports Analysis Division referred to the Office of General Counsel the name of the France Committee for

failure to file its 1977 Year-End Report as required by 2 U.S.C. §434(a)(1). Originally, the complaint against the France Committee for its failure to file its 1977 Year-End Report was included in MUR 564. However, in an effort to consolidate all nonfiler compliance actions against the France Committee, the Commission determined that the complaint should be continued through this MUR.

On April 4, 1978 the Reports Analysis Division referred to the Office of General Counsel the name of the Democrats Abroad (United Kingdom) ("United Kingdom Committee") for failure to file its 1977 Year-End Report as required by 2 U.S.C. §434(a)(1). On February 15, 1978, the Commission found reason to believe and on March 8, 1978, the Commission found reasonable cause to believe that the United Kingdom Committee failed to file its 1977 Year-End Report. Originally, the complaint against the United Kingdom Committee for its failure to file its 1977 Year-End Report was included in MUR 564. However, because of the similarity of the compliance action against the United Kingdom Committee and the compliance action against the France Committee, the Commission determined that the complaint should be continued through this MUR.

## II. ANALYSIS

730107310

The France Committee and the United Kingdom Committee appear to be typical of a number of Democratic committees which have been formed over the years throughout Europe. They are loosely affiliated with the Democratic Party Committee Abroad and to some extent coordinate their activities through that Committee. The Democratic Party Committee Abroad is not registered with the Commission. The purpose of the France Committee and the United Kingdom Committee seems to be to encourage United States citizens living abroad to vote by absentee ballot. The committees generally espouse the aims of the Democratic Party but typically do not support individual candidates for federal office. It appears that one of the primary functions of the committees is to provide an opportunity for social gatherings.

A review of the reports filed by the France Committee reveals the following. The France Committee has filed a report with the Commission covering the time period from October 25, 1976 to November 30, 1976 and checked it as a thirtieth Day Post Election Report. For this period the France Committee listed receipts of



\$4,018.28 and expenditures of \$2,650.52. It listed no debts or obligations. The France Committee has also filed 3a postcards for the April 10 and October 10, 1977 reports.

7 3 0 4 0 1 5 7  
A review of the reports filed by the United Kingdom Committee reveals the following. On July 20, 1977 the Commission received a report entitled a "15 Month Original Report" from the United Kingdom Committee. The report covered the time period from January 1, 1976 to March 31, 1977. For this period the United Kingdom Committee listed receipts of \$18,717 and expenditures of \$18,165. It had \$626 cash on hand and owed \$1,189. The United Kingdom Committee filed a 3a postcard for the July 10, 1977 Report. For the September 30, 1977 Report the treasurer of the United Kingdom Committee sent a letter with an attached "treasurer's report" and reported that he was doing this as he did not have a Form 3. The treasurer reported that "(t)he financial activity of the (United Kingdom Committee) during this period was solely related to a 4th of July part and as such our expenses although in excess of \$1,000, were not for political purposes." The net position of the United Kingdom Committee on September 22, 1977 was \$665.23 in the black.

III. RECOMMENDATION

Based on the functions of the France Committee and the United Kingdom Committee, their minimal financial activity and that much of their funds are used for other than political purposes, it is recommended that the Commission take no further action with regard to these committees and close the file.

6/21/78

*W. J. P. Lee*

7804075533

78040055519

M-4  
D-12



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1325 K STREET N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

January 16, 1978

MEMORANDUM

TO: WILLIAM OLDAKER  
THROUGH: ORLANDO B. POTTER *OBP*  
FROM: LOIS ZELLA *L Zella*  
SUBJECT: NON-FILERS

The Reports Analysis Division has completed, (through publication), its tracking of candidates/committees that are non-filers for several reporting periods ("multiple non-filers"). Attached is a chart of these multiple non-filers which shows the various actions the Commission has approved and the date of such actions. The green certification cards for each stage are also attached.

On January 9, 1978, the Press Office issued a release containing the names of those candidates/committees that failed to file various reports. (see chart attached) Only those candidates/committees whom the Commission had sent reason to believe and reasonable cause to believe notices were published in the press release.

Also included in this referral are committees which have failed to file the 1976 Year End Report. These committees have been notified twice concerning their year-end reporting obligation. However, the Commission has not made a finding of reason to believe or reasonable cause to believe for their failure to file the Year End Report.

Should you have any questions, or need any assistance, please let me know. As our Division becomes aware of any of these candidates/committees filing any of their outstanding reports, we will contact your office immediately. Should your office receive any reports that would take a candidate/committee off this list I would appreciate being informed of this immediately. Recommendations for three (3) committees have been included for your reference. Should your office concur with these recommendations, I would appreciate being so informed.

*SP.*



Memorandum

To: Bill Oldaker  
From: Bill Loughrey **B.L.**  
Re: 1977 Nonfilers  
Date: January 16, 1978

After discussions with the team chiefs and John Gibson, I would recommend filing suit against the following committees:

7 9 0 1 0 1 5 5 5 1  
✓ John Hemenway for Congress Committee (also will be recommended for audit)  
Sportsmen for Kentucky  
Taxpayers Action Fund  
United Nations Reform Electoral Campaign Committee  
Genesee County Republican Finance Committee

I would not recommend action against the other candidates and committees, although you may wish to proceed against some or all of them. Also, since some of these candidates and committee are in the process of filing reports, please check further with the Reports Analysis Division before any recommendation to the Commission. Even if the above five committees do file, I would suggest the filing of a suit for late filing.

I agree with Bill's observation above but  
would add the thought that we might want  
to proceed against others who had disclosed  
activity in excess of \$10,000 (or comparable threshold)  
on the theory that they might again be candidates  
in 1978— O.B.P.

COMMITTEE NAME	LAST REPORT FILED				JANUARY 31 REPORT					APRIL 10 REPORT					JULY 10 REPORT				OCTOBER 10 REPORT			
	RCPTS	EXP.	C	Ob	Not. 1	Not. 2	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	RCIB3	FILE	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	FILED
REGARDS TO THE LINDSAY YEARS COMMITTEE(1972) 1/				(*)	N/A	N/A	4/1	4/27	10/28 11/25		5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR REAGAN(IND. EXP. COMM.)	5025	2715	307888		N/A	N/A	4/1	4/27	10/28 11/25		10/28	11/25				10/28	11/25			10/28	11/25	
CITIZENS FOR RESPONSIBLE ACTION (IND. EXP. COM.)	4,350	3628	621E009				4/1	4/27	10/28 11/25		10/28	11/25				10/28	11/25			10/28	11/25	
(*) \$233,569																						
1/ THIS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO FILE REPORTS BECAUSE ITS RECORDS ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.																						

(\*) \$233,569

1/ THIS COMMITTEE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO FILE REPORTS BECAUSE ITS RECORDS ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

C = Cash on Hand

COMMITTEE NAME

LAST REPORT FILED

JANUARY 10 REPORT

APRIL 10 REPORT

JULY 10 REPORT

OCTOBER 10 REPORT

SENATE

ECAN FOR SENATE

IFFORD FOR U.S. SENATE

IERNEY FOR U.S. SENATE COMM.

CANDIDATE NAME

ECAN, DAN

IFFORD, HOWARD

Thurman Hamlin  
 Yenton H. Parker Senate  
 Campaign Comm. Inc.

RCPTS	EXP.	C	Deb	Not. 1	Not. 2	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	RCIB3	FILED	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	RCIB3	FILED	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	FILED
1,049	2,755	0	333	N/A	N/A	4/1	4/29	10/28	11/25		5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
1,700	3,000	700	-	10/28	10/28						5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
13545	13545	0	525	N/A	N/A	4/1	4/29	10/28	11/25		5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
4,019	2808	0	357	10/28	11/25						5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
1434	3552	0	392	10/28	11/25						5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
ONLY	OCURRING	FILED	IS A	FOR	2 ON	6/17/77														10/31	11/21	
20	1000	0	-							yes					yes				yes	10/31	11/21	

COMMITTEE NAME	LAST REPORT FILED				JANUARY 31 REPORT				APRIL 10-REPORT				JULY 10 REPORT				OCTOBER 10 REPORT					
	RCPLS	EXP.	C	DBL	Not. 1	Not. 2	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	RCIB3	FILE	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	FILED
BILL BROWN FOR CONGRESS CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	13881	13898	0	11/25	10/28	11/25									yes	8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
BOUEY FOR CONGRESS	91	812	8	31/2	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
CITIZENS FOR DENNERLL COM.	1182	1182	0	98.3	10/28	11/25					5/7	10/28	11/25			8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
CITIZENS FOR GRIMM	350	359	90	0	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
CITIZENS TO ELECT CAMPENNI	11515	11515	0	11/25	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
CLARK FOR CONGRESS	61285	61214	71	23/2	10/28	11/25									3a				3a		n/a	
COMMITTEE AMIGOS DE JAIME SENTEZ**	29,679	2405	273		10/28	11/25					10/28	11/25				8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT BRUCE LATIA	7002 6703	7003 6301	-- 0	Candidate 0	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT CHARLES G. JOHNS	0	32	0	0	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT HARRY A. HANNA	8845	1189	165	25/2	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT HILL TO CONGRESS	1200	1200	0	0	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT KARL T UNTCH	5	4	.81	0	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT ROBERT M. REYNOLDS	914	810	94	38.4	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
COMMITTEE TO ELECT ROBERT LEBURG '76	1004	1324	0	18/2	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25			10/28	11/25	

\*\* CANDIDATE AND COMMITTEE MIX



COMMITTEE NAME	LAST REPORT FILED				JANUARY 31 REPORT				APRIL 10 REPORT				JULY 10 REPORT				OCTOBER 10 REPORT					
	RCDIS	EXP	C	DB	Not 1	Not 2	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	RCIB3	FILED	RTB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILED	RTB	RCIB	FILED
IN FINNIGAN FOR CONGRESS	5580	5170	47	236	10/28	11/25									3a				N/A			N/A
RANKE FOR CONGRESS	1680	1102	17	600	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
SSE RATILLY FOR CONGRESS	14876	1155	558	4080	10/28	11/25									3a				N/A			N/A
IM HOWARD FOR CONGRESS COM.	14820	1465	16	2750						YES	5/7 (ret)	5/27 (ret)	10/28	11/25					3a			N/A
MADE FOR CONGRESS	10804	10804	-2	220	10/28	11/25					5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
TRIT OF 76 CAMPAIGN	2000	2000	0	0	10/28	11/25					10/28	11/25				8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
OUT FOR CONGRESS	6461	6432	28	1010	10/28	11/25					5/7 (RET)	5/27 (RET)	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
<del>CITIZENS FOR</del>	<del>1415</del>	<del>1347</del>	<del>67</del>	<del>0</del>	<del>10/28</del>	<del>11/25</del>					<del>5/7 (RET)</del>	<del>5/27 (RET)</del>	<del>10/28</del>	<del>11/25</del>		<del>8/9</del>	<del>10/28</del>	<del>11/25</del>		<del>10/28</del>	<del>11/25</del>	
YNOLDS, ROBERT	300	300	0	383						YES	10/28	11/25				8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
len Blume for Cong. Comm.	900	1450	41	251						yes					yes							
lin Hemerway for Cong. Comm.			20	518						yes					yes				yes	10/31	11/21	11/21

RET = Notification  
Returned

COMTEE NAME

LAST REPORT FILED

JANUARY 31 REPORT

APRIL 10 REPORT

JULY 10 REPORT

OCTOBER 10 REPORT

NON-PARTY

✓ SPORTSMEN FOR KENTUCKY

✓ TAXPAYERS ACTION FUND

✓ UNITED NATIONS REFORM  
ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN COM.

PARTY

DEPUTY ABROAD (FRANCE)

✓ LEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN  
FINANCE COMMITTEE

NEW YORK STATE VOTER  
REGISTRATION DRIVE

\*RECOMMENDED FOR AN  
AUDIT ON 11/18/77

NON-PARTY

CONF. COMM. AFL-CIO

Greensboro, NC

IRONWORKERS LOCAL UNION

NO. 25 Pol. Educ. Comm.

RCPTS	EXP.	C	Deb	Not. 1	Not. 2	RIB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILE	RIB	RCIB	RCIB2	RCIB3	FILE	RIB	RCIB	RCIB2	FILE	RIB	RCIB	FILE
3065	1514	111	0			4/1	10/28	11/25						12/1					3a		N/A
16022	16640	116	4704			4/1	10/28	11/25		5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
1230	2412	31	0			4/1	10/28	11/25						3a					3a		N/A
4018	2650	130	7 0	10/28	11/25									3a					3a		N/A
26884	27491	570	963						YES	5/7	5/27	10/28	11/25		8/9	10/28	11/25		10/28	11/25	
?	10000	?	0	10/28	11/25	4/1	4/29			N/A	N/A			YES			YES				YES
WLY 1 - CURRENT FILE IS A 3a POSTCARD on 7/3/76																					10/31 11/21
WLY 1 - CURRENT FILE IS A FORM 1 on 3/16/77																					10/31 11/21

7 8 9 4 0 3 5 5 2 7

**THE WEATHER** — **PARIS**: Thursday, Cloudy. Temp 16-8 (60-46). Friday, Clear. **LONDON**: Thursday, Bright with sunny spells. Temp 13-10 (55-50). Friday, Similar. **CHANNEL**: Moderate. **ROME**: Thursday, Cloudy. Temp 24-17 (75-55). **NEW YORK**: Thursday, Cloudy. Temp 22-16 (72-60).

ADDITIONAL WEATHER — COMICS PAGE

# INTERNATIONAL Herald Tribune



Published with The New York Times and The Washington Post

No. 29,637

ZURICH, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1978

# tribune

Washington Post

ACK

Austria	12 S	Kenya	Shs. 7
Belgium	20 B.F.	Lebanon	EL2 25
Denmark	3.50 D.Kr.	Luxembourg	20 L.Fr.
Egypt	40 P.	Morocco	275 Dr.
Greece	22 P.	Netherlands	1.50 Flor.
Finland	2.50 F.M.	Nigeria	70 K.
France	3.00 F.	Norway	3 N.Kr.
Germany	1.50 D.M.	Portugal	20 Esc.
Great Britain	20 P.	Spain	40 Ptas.
Greece	18 Dr.	Sweden	275 S.Kr.
India	Rs. 7	Switzerland	1.70 S.F.
Iran	60 Rials	Turkey	LT 15
Italy	400 Lire	U.S. Military (Eur.)	\$0.35
Israel	1.09.00	Yugoslavia	20 D.

Established 1887

## Buchwald al Power

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEMOCRATS IN FRANCE: To vote in  
be a candidate in French  
Committee in France election  
Officers & executive committee to be held  
June 14 registration as voters in elec-  
tion of candidates must be received  
by May 25, 1978 at the French  
Committee in France, 21 Ave. De  
Friedland, 5006 Paris

PORTUGAL SEE  
Holidays & Travel

The Blumberg Energy Plan would also include the housewife. With a few simple changes in the design of ovens, a homemaker could cook meals while taking her exercises. By eliminating heat loss from an oven, a 5-pound roast could be cooked medium rare in about two hours after preheating the oven. If the housewife wanted to go to a movie, she could, of course, pedal faster.

Blumberg advocates a plan whereby each family would be solely responsible for the amount of energy it produced. Everyone's meter would be set to zero as soon as they received their pedal machines.

If they produced more electricity than they needed (a family of four who pedaled every night while watching television could easily do it), the government would buy the excess energy from them and sell it to someone who didn't want to pedal that week. This would be an incentive for families who would like to earn extra spending money while doing something together.

Blumberg is aware that this would not fulfill all the energy needs of the country, but he feels that if everybody receiving unemployment insurance was required to pedal five hours a day before collecting his check, it would take care of most of the industrial needs of the country.

"We waste two thirds of our present fuel when we burn it for electricity now. But pedal-produced energy, which goes directly into a generator, is 97 percent efficient. It is clean energy produced by one's own perspiration, and it is cheap energy since it doesn't require costly equipment and repairs."

Blumberg knows he will face opposition from the lobbyists and fuel companies, who could lose if Americans go for his plan. But he is prepared to fight for it anyway.

"Once people discover they can make their own electricity instead of buying it from someone else, they will demand their pedal machines and the Department of Energy will have to supply them. A whole new industry will be born, and this nation, which has gone soft physically and mentally, will soon have a population of men, women and children with the strongest legs in the world."

*'I didn't get as much as a typist would today for typing them. And copies of the originals are worth more now than I got for writing them.'*

## The Shadow Disguised as an 80-Year-Old

By William Gildea

WASHINGTON (WP)—Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?

The Shadow knows. The cloaked crime fighter, remembered for his blazing automatic and the eerie laugh that chilled his victims and radio listeners from 1936 to 1952, is somewhere in the city. He's in disguise, of course, but not that of LaMont Cranston, man-about-town.

He is 80 years old, white-haired, heavy-set. He answers to the name Walter Gibson. Or Maxwell Grant.

Maxwell Grant was the pen name used by Gibson when he wrote all 282 Shadow novels (averaging more than a million words a year for 15 years) that used to sell up to 300,000 pulp copies each almost as fast as they hit the newsstands. The books, some of which were recently reissued in paperback, became the basis of the radio series and eventually made the author a cult figure.

The Shadow did not die in 1952. Today, as part of the interest in nostalgia, there are Shadow clubs and Shadow collectors and correspondents.

"It got to be part of my life," he says, in obvious understatement. "The closer you got to it, the faster the ideas came. I was getting ideas all the time. I got five or six months ahead and stayed that way."

### Trail of Evildoers

"The Living Shadow," "The Black Master," all were titles that launched the Shadow on the trail of evildoers everywhere—a "character of unlimited scope" that Gibson says he created "by combining Houdini's penchant for escapes with the hypnotic power of Tibetan mystics."

A magician himself, and author of 125 other books, many on magic, Gibson used to travel with Thurston, Houdini, Blackstone and Dante, and is linked to yet another celebrated illusionist, the late Great Raymond. He is married to Raymond's widow. Gibson recently took part in the ninth annual Brotherhood of Magicians meeting in Washington.

Gibson tells stories as fast as he used to write them—and he could write a 60,000-word Shadow novel in four days. While working on Philadelphia newspapers, Gib-

son gained a considerable reputation for speed, so that when he walked in to the Smith & Street publishing office in New York one day in 1941 to peddle some detective stories, the editor said, "You're just the man we want to see. We want four novels—last."

Another Smith & Street official had the idea for the Shadow, their only instruction to Gibson was to hit his typewriter keys and get back to them in a hurry. Oh, yes, he was told, introduce a Chinatown angle in the first novel because, to save money, they planned to use a handy cover that happened to have a Chinese figure on it. Gibson obliged with an early chapter titled "The Tea Shop of Wang Foo."

### Tempo of Pulp

"Once I got the tempo of the pulps," he says, "I would suddenly get a new idea, like getting up a new trick. If an idea came up in the course of a story, I'd lay it aside for another story. I had a backlog of incidents. For example, I was doing research into castles in England and came across a description of the Golden Arrow train. I began to think of some murders taking place on this train." And so came the opening pages of "Zemba, Legendary Parisian archcriminal."

"The whole thing built itself up," Gibson says. "I'd write whenever I wanted as long as I wanted. Usually, once I got writing, I didn't quit. I was always writing faster at the finish."

He even had time left over. "I knocked out an occasional book. I edited a magic magazine."

The "master fighter whom all gangdom" feared became so popular so fast that in 1932—"That's when I hung up the record," he says—he was asked to deliver 1,440,000 words, or 24 stories, at 60,000 words each. He did it in 10 months and then wrote four extra novels for a total of 1,680,000 words. (He figures he's written 29 million words lifetime, including such numbers as "Thurston's 200 Tricks You Can Do," "Bunco Games to Beware Of," "Houdini's Escapes," "Houdini's Magic," several in the Biff Brewster series under the name of Andy Adams, and "Judo Explained" under the name of Moborushi Kinjo.)

The Shadow always managed to escape from difficult situations. Trapped between

two violent robots, he ducked as the robots smashed each other to bits.

Gibson says that he always plotted well in advance—at least before he put paper in his typewriter. "Some writers would get to chapter 11 and have a big problem. I'd sweat it out on the plot. If I took five days when I should have taken two, I'd make it up on the writing."

Still, he'd add bits of color that occurred to him in mid-sentence. Once, as he typed, the typewriter carriage, little by little, nudged a large copper bowl further and further toward the right edge of his desk, until it fell off with a gong—just the sound he says that might occur "in the lair of Wang Foo."

Gibson says that he took the names of many of his characters from railroad timetables. "If somebody said to me, 'Why did you use me for the villain in that story?' I'd say, 'Because you happen to be the third stop on the Winchendon line.'"

Cranston was the name of a Scottish theater owner whom Gibson came across in some notes for one of his Houdini books. There was a financier at that time named LaMont, Maxwell Holden and U. J. Grant—names which Gibson combined for his own pen name—were both New York City magic dealers.

As Maxwell Grant, Gibson made \$400 for his first Shadow novel, \$500 for most, and \$750 near the end. "If I wanted to buy a car," he says, "I could do it with two books. But I never really did make any money. If I had invested in things like real estate, I would have come out very well. But I was so busy, so wrapped up in things."

"I didn't get as much as a typist would today for typing them. And copies of the originals are worth more now than I got for writing them. I gave away 10 original paintings that were covers."

Still, he has much saved at his home—the equivalent of 22 rooms including barn and smaller house—in Eddysville, N.Y. "I've got a room for Shadow stuff, a room for true crime stuff, a room for magic. I've got about 30,000 books in all. All the stuff from the Great Raymond's show. I'm trying to get it organized."

The memories prompted a laugh from Gibson. Not the laugh he made famous, the "shuddering laugh of triumph" that ended each Shadow episode. The gentle laugh of the Shadow's creator.

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