

MISSOURIAN TRIED FOR KILLING WIFE TO GET NEW TRIAL

Shannon County Farmer Sticks to Story That She Jumped in Cistern With Baby to End Life.

WOMAN DENIES FORMER CONFESSION

Former Common Law Wife Once Testified She Choked Legal Wife to Death and Then Disposed of Body.

St. Louis Post Dispatch: Van Buren, Mo.—Frank Welton, a Shannon county farmer charged with complicity in the murder of his wife, Pearl Welton, on a farm near Teresita last January, is to be given another trial at the April term of the Carter County Court. His first trial on this charge has just ended in the court here, after the jury failed to reach an agreement. The crime was one of the most sensational in the criminal annals of the state. On the final ballot the jury is understood to have voted eight to four for acquittal.

Mrs. Carrie Erickson-Hofland of O'Neill, Neb., who lived with Welton for thirteen years as his common law wife on a farm at O'Neill and who has twice confessed that she choked Pearl Welton to death and threw her body into the cistern during a fit of jealousy when she came to Teresita last January and found Welton married to her, now denies her former confession and in her testimony accused Welton.

Had Shielded Welton.

Mrs. Hofland was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary by a jury in the Shannon County Circuit Court last June, and was brought to Van Buren from Jefferson City as a witness. Until Welton's trial she had steadfastly shielded Welton in her stories of the murder, declaring that he was cutting wood in the timber some distance from the house, when she killed Mrs. Welton.

"I never choked Pearl Welton to death," Mrs. Hofland testified before the jury at Van Buren. "I never struck her with anything."

Mr. Welton's story was that Mrs. Hofland, who was deserted by Welton more than three years ago, followed him to Teresita last January and visited in his home, where he was living with his wife and four-month-old baby. She posed to the young wife as Welton's sister, until the day of the murder, when she says she told Pearl Welton that she (Mrs. Hofland)

was Welton's wife.

Tells of Fig t. "When I told Pearl Welton that I was Frank's wife she flew into a rage and tried to kill me," Mrs. Hofland said in her testimony. "She knocked me down and we scuffled on the floor. When I finally freed myself from her I ran to the barn. Pearl was getting up from the floor when I left the house. Some time later when I returned to the house, Frank met me in the yard and told me that Pearl had committed suicide by jumping into the cistern with the baby in her arms. "Frank and I then went to the cistern and he climbed down in the cistern. He put the baby, which was alive, in the bucket and I drew it up. He then tied the rope around her and we pulled the body out. Frank said we had better fix up some kind of a story to tell the neighbors, as we were likely to get into trouble."

When cross-examined Mrs. Hofland was vague and indefinite. Most of her answers were "I do not remember." She says she does not remember telling the coroner's jury at Teresita or Sheriff John By that she choked Pearl Welton to death.

The woman gave no reasons why she shielded Welton and took all of the responsibility of the crime on herself when she made the confession to the coroner's jury at Teresita and when she told of the killing at her trial in Eminence last June. When cross-questioned about her motive she hung her head and replied "I do not know."

Change of Venue.

Welton's case was taken to Van Buren on a change of venue granted from Sherman county on account of the sentiment against him there. He was indicted last June by a special grand jury. The neighbors doubted Mrs. Hofland's story that she killed Pearl Welton alone.

In his testimony in his own behalf Welton clung to his first story and that told by Mrs. Hofland in her confession. He said he was in the timber cutting wood when the murder occurred and that when he returned to the house Mrs. Hofland told him that Pearl had jumped into the cistern with the baby.

Welton's story to the jury hung together very well with one exception. A neighbor, who had been helping him cut wood for several days prior to the murder, testified that on the day of the murder he went to the Welton home to go with Welton to the timber, Welton told him that he was not going to cut wood that day. They were cutting the wood with a cross-cut or

double saw, which requires two men to operate it, the neighbor said.

Mrs. Hofland's Daughter Present.

Mrs. Hofland's 18-year-old daughter, Myrtle Hofland, of O'Neill, Neb., who until her mother's arrest and confession to the murder last January did not know that her mother was not Frank Welton's legal wife, was a witness for the prosecution. Her testimony was delative to the life of her mother and Welton at O'Neill.

When her mother received the 10-year prison sentence at Eminence last June the Hofland girl collapsed and was critically ill for several weeks. After her recovery she remained in Eminence, the people of the town sympathizing with her and showing her every kindness. She has been doing stenographic work at the office of Attorney Shrick, who assisted in the defense of her mother and is in the prosecution of Welton.

Mrs. Hofland was taken back to the penitentiary at Jefferson City following the completion of her evidence in Welton's case.

ADDITIONAL RULINGS ON REINSTATEMENTS

A series of decisions issued by the Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury provides more liberal conditions for reinstatement of lapsed or canceled insurance.

The provisions of Treasury Decision No. 47, allowing eighteen months from the date of discharge for reinstatement upon payment of only two months' premiums on the amount of insurance to be reinstated, are retained. That decision is liberalized, however, by a new provision that men out of the service are permitted to reinstate by merely paying the two months' premiums without making a statement as to health at any time within three calendar months following the month of discharge.

After the three months following the date of discharge have elapsed, a statement from the applicant to the effect that he is in as good health as at the expiration of the grace period, whichever is the later date, will be required together with a written application for reinstatement and the tender of two months' premiums on the amount of insurance he wishes to reinstate.

In order to give all former service men whose insurance has lapsed or been canceled, a fair chance to reinstate their insurance, including men who have been out of the service eighteen months or more, and who are therefore barred from reinstatement

under the former ruling, a special blanket ruling is made which allows all ex-service men to reinstate their insurance before December 31, 1919, provided that each applicant is in good health as at date of discharge or at expiration of the grace period, whichever is the later date, and so states in his application. Of course it is necessary that he tender two months' premiums on the amount of insurance he wishes to reinstate.

Service men who reinstated their insurance by payment of all back premiums prior to July 25, 1919, when the decision requiring payment of only two months' premiums went into effect, upon written application to the Bureau may have any premium paid in excess of two applied toward the payment of future premiums. For example, if after a policy had lapsed for six months, a man reinstated and paid six months' premiums instead of two, he may secure credit for four months' premiums.

The provisions for reinstatement do not protect a man until he actually reinstates. If he waits he may not be in as good health as he was at the time of discharge and consequently may not be able to secure reinstatement.

Don't put off reinstatement. Do it now!

USE THE NEWSPAPER

Montana Trade Journal: No business man in any town should allow a newspaper published in his town to go without his name and business being mentioned somewhere in its columns. This applies to all kinds of business—general stores, dry goods, grocers, furniture dealers, manufacturing establishments, automobile mechanics, professional men and in fact all classes of business men. This does not mean that you should have a whole or half or even a quarter page ad in every issue of the paper, but your name and business should be mentioned if you

do not use more than a two line space. A stranger picking up a newspaper should be able to tell just what business is represented in town by looking at the business mentioned in the paper. This is the best possible town advertiser. The man who does not advertise his business does an injustice to himself and his city. The man who insists on sharing the business that comes to town but refuses to advertise his business is not a valuable addition to any town.

The life of any town depends upon the live wideawake and liberal advertising business men.

Must Have Her Gab.
The back fence conversation Has vanished, you'll allow. The cause of that? Life in a flat. There is no back fence now. But woman is resourceful And has progressive goals. She meets the trend, just calls a friend And gossips on the 'phone.

Compensation.
"Food is very high."
"Cheer up. That engagement ring your husband gave you ten years ago has doubled in value."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

I was there to make a sketch of her. Luncheon was just over, and she was talking to a little knot of women. The first words I heard, as I slid quietly into a nearby seat, were "National Biscuit," calling attention to my own tasty selection. I liked her, and I felt comfortably as she sat in my pen and ears blurted out in my pen.

"Between the dark and light of the day, she was quoting, "there's always a bit of pause when the world seems waiting, listening for the children, since they will be here very day—for must feed their little ones."

Then, when they came to toddle, I turned to me in my own mind. Children's Hour.

"You see, even when you went on, "are much like only National mals. They are most lo... my babies were growing something to eat. National Biscuits never missed the Children's Hour with its tasty feast."

Always ready—always fresh—always welcome. An appetizer at the beginning of the meal, making the best soup better, and the final touch of satisfaction when the cheese and coffee are served. Nothing can take the place of **Uneeda Biscuit** on the family table.

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

PUBLIC SALE!

Having rented my farm and will move to South Dakota I will sell the following described property at public auction at my place 1 mile east of Blackbird, 16 miles north and 4 east of O'Neill, commencing at 1 p. m. sharp, on

Tuesday, November 25

13 Head of Horses

One team of buckskins, 10 years old; 1 sorrel mare, 5 years old, weight 1400; 1 gray gelding, 9 years old, weight 1400; 1 sorrel gelding, 12 years old, weight 1300; 1 sorrel team, 6 years old, weight 2100; 1 gray mare and 2-year-old colt; 3 other colts, good ones; 1 bay pony.

15 Head of Cattle

Seven good milch cows, 4 fresh soon; 1 Hereford bull; 1 red heifer; 5 spring calves; 1 dry cow.

29 GOOD SHOTES.

150 CHICKENS

Farm Machinery, Etc.

One farm truck with box complete; 1 steel truck with hayrack; 2 high wheel wagons; 1 new John Deere mower and rake; 1 Gale Sure Drop corn planter with 90 rods of wire; 1 new John Deere lister; 1 Janesville lister corn tender; 1 Little Jap 6-shovel riding cultivator; 1 John Deere 4-shovel riding cultivator; 1 John Deere 4-shovel walking cultivator; 1 2-row John Deere corn cutter; 1 8-foot Deering binder; 1 4-section steel harrow; 1 Queen City gumbo slat riding plow; 1 14-inch walking plow; 1 fanning mill and 1 corn grader; 1 12-foot 22 single disc Hoosier drill; 1 good surry and 1 top buggy; 1 tractor attachment for Ford auto. HARNESS AND OTHER STUFF—1 new set No. 1 Concord heavy farm harness; 2 set Concord farm harness; 2 set driving harness; 2 saddles; 1 hand corn sheller; 1 coal oil barrel; 1 gasoline steel barrel; 90 pounds Alfalfa seed; 25 bushel prime cane seed; 1 tank heater; 1 hog oiler; 1 Emery tool grinder; 1 tackle block wire stretcher; 1 washing machine with gas engine; 1 cream separator; 1 incubator, 125 egg size; 100 bushel of oats; some corn; 12 tons prairie hay; about 15 tons Alfalfa hay and many other articles too numerous to mention.

FREE LUNCH AT NOON.

BRING YOUR CUPS

*TERMS—One year's time will be given on all sums over \$10.00 with approved security and 10 per cent interest. \$10 and under cash. No property to be removed until settled for.

N. D. HANSEN, Owner

Cels. M. T. Elliott & Sorenson, Aucts.

C. P. Hancock, Clerk.

A man's best pal is his smoke



"Luck kind of low? Time for a smoke"

—Ches. Field

LIGHT up a Chesterfield. Now you're in Luck. No mistake about it, Chesterfields sure do come through on "Satisfy"!

None but the finest varieties of Turkish and Domestic tobaccos, specially selected and expertly blended — is it any wonder that Chesterfields welcome comparison with the best you ever smoked?

Ordinary blending brings out flavor, of course, but blending by Chesterfield's process brings out a new flavor — a flavor that "they" didn't know was there.

And this blend is exclusive—based on our private formula. It cannot be duplicated, or even closely imitated.

You get "Satisfy" in Chesterfields and nowhere else.

And the special moisture-proof wrapping lets none of their flavor escape.

Liggett & Myers Tobacco Co.

Chesterfield
CIGARETTES

They Satisfy

—and the blend can't be copied

20 for 20 cents

