

### Insanity May Be Plea of Rich at Murder Trial

#### Mother Says Son's Mind Unbalanced Since He Was Hurt in Fall in His Youth.

(Continued From Page One.)

ous types and calibers of revolvers. In a recent case at Cleveland, Beal said, the expert singled out the bullets fired from five different guns.

#### Reputations Confession.

"I know no more about the Siefken murder than you do."

This was the statement yesterday afternoon of Rich, just before he was taken to county jail, repudiating statements made to Cleveland and Omaha detectives, and a signed confession, in which he admits the slaying.

"I confessed to the Siefken murder in Cleveland because I was facing life imprisonment for robbery there, and if I had to go to the pen, I wanted to be in Nebraska, near my folks."

"When I was in jail there, they showed me a picture, a clipping of the Siefken murder. All I know about it, I got from that. I didn't even know where the oil station was."

Rich seemed to labor under the impression that once he was out of Ohio, the Ohio authorities could not get his back.

He says he can prove an alibi, and that the gun taken from him later in Omaha was still on a dealer's shelf when the Siefken murders were committed.

#### Will Ask Death Penalty.

County Attorney Henry Beal said that Rich's repudiation of his confession will have no influence upon his prosecution for murder. He said the state will ask the death penalty for Rich and present every iota of evidence obtainable in an effort to convict him.

Handcuffed to Detective William Gurnett and followed by County Attorney Henry Beal, who brought him from Cleveland, O., he disembarked from a westbound train at the Union station shortly after daylight, and made his way through the falling snow accompanied by his captors to a waiting police car.

#### Pleads With Beal.

During the journey, Mr. Beal said, Rich pleaded with him to "try and save me from the juic," the jargon of criminals for the electric chair.

"I wish you'd let me 'cop a plea' and get down to Lincoln right away and get it over with," he told Beal.

The county attorney told him he must answer for his crime the same

as any other criminal, and accept the punishment which is meted out to him by law.

Then the slayer lost his debonaire manner. He broke down and cried. When the train reached Omaha, however, he had recovered his stolidity and exhibited supreme indifference to the events incident to his being placed in a cell.

He gave his Omaha address as 3007 North Fortieth street, his mother's home.

After Rich made another statement to Acting Chief of Detectives Pezanowski and County Attorney Beal, in which he reiterated his Cleveland confession with but one or two exceptions, he asked a reporter for The Omaha Bee to call his mother.

"I'm tired of life anyway," said Rich, and tears began to stream down his cheeks.

"If I can't get life imprisonment, they can give me the chair. The only reason I did it was to get money. I did not possess the physique of the ordinary man because I have been sick most of my life and was unable to earn a comfortable living. My parents were never in any shape to do anything for me."

Rich pins most of his hope to a frank story he says he will tell the district judge. Upon arriving at police headquarters he informed Beal that he was ready to enter a plea of "not guilty" and waive preliminary hearing and was ready to stand trial any day.

Rich was born and raised in Omaha. He was sent from Council Bluffs to Anamosa, Ia., reformatory six years ago for auto stealing.

Rich was released from Anamosa with five other men. The six came to Omaha, he said, and stole four automobiles which were checked to day by Captain Pezanowski. He also says he committed three robberies here. The gang, Rich said, then split up.

Rich was one of the five persons to be arraigned in police court yesterday morning. He entered a formal plea of not guilty and was immediately

held to the district court without bond.

Previous to his arraignment, Rich repeated the confession he made to Cleveland detectives. After it had been typed by Robert J. Cramer, secretary of the detective department, County Attorney Beal called in newspapermen and asked Rich if he made the confession of his own free will. He said that he did, and immediately signed it.

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#### Former Cabinet Member Referred to as "Self- Starter Candidate for President" by Congressman.

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### Slayer Suspect's Statements

Following is the statement made to Cleveland, O., detectives by William Albert Rich, in which he confesses the slaying of C. E. and Robert Siefken in Omaha the night of May 20, 1922, and which he repeated to Chief of Detectives Charles Van Deusen yesterday morning:

Q. How did you get the gun? A. I got the gun from Turner. I met him at Sixteenth and Harney streets. I was nervous, I was on the street, but I didn't see any thing. He handed me a .32 and I saw an oil filling station. I thought that there would be a lot of money there.

Q. How many times did you shoot? A.—How many times did you shoot? A.—I returned it to Turner, then we went down to the lake after that. We were shooting and Turner and I were arrested. Turner had some dynamite caps in his possession.

Q. What did they do with you at the time of your arrest? A.—I returned it to Turner, then we went down to the lake after that. We were shooting and Turner and I were arrested. Turner had some dynamite caps in his possession.

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At bedside, rub the throat and chest thoroughly with—

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is guaranteed by 30 years service to millions of Americans. Kondon's work for your cold, sneezing, cough, sore throat, etc.

FREE 20 Treatment tin on receipt of your name and address

KONDON Minneapolis, Minn.

#### Yes, Mrs. Smith Resinol is wonderful!

"We always keep a jar on hand. It is the best thing I know for eczema and similar ills, and it is so gentle and soothing it is excellent for cuts, burns, or sores. We use Resinol Soap also—it's ideal for the complexion and bath. Yes, you can get all the Resinol products from your druggist."

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#### Grips Wardrobe Trunks Dress Trunks Hat Boxes Hand Bags

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This special selling upholds the reputation for style and for values which our Third Floor has built. Come in tomorrow and see if this is not true.

All Shapes Off Face Large Dressy Hats Directoire Pokes Drooping Shapes Smart Street Hats Sports Hats Gaily Trimmed With Ribbons and Garlanded With Flowers and Fruits.

Here in Wonderful Assortments From Which to Choose

### HERZBERG'S

1219-1221 Douglas Street

### Hereford Breeders Hold Meeting and Show

Grand Island, Neb., March 14.—(Special)—The 16th annual sale, show and business meeting of the Nebraska Hereford association began in this city today with a large attendance of members and fine display of animals.

William Fagan and Sons, Hall county, were awarded the first honor for 8-year-old bulls; L. A. Clark & Sons of Hastings won first in the junior yearling bull class. Other awards are still to be announced.

About 140 head of stock were listed for sale. E. Mendenhall of Beatrice is president and C. Bengner of Callaway, secretary of the association. Other exhibitors are:

P. J. Anderson and Sons of Farwell, Mrs. G. G. Clement and Sons of Ord, John Yoder of Elwood, L. A. Clark and Son of Hastings, G. C. Doehling and Sons of Surprise, Leon Doty of Armour, Erdman Bros. of Venango, W. E. Fagan of Beatrice, Carl Faulhaber of Brownlee, J. P. Forbes of Palmer, Just Bros. of Funk, Mackey Bros. of Eustis, O. J. McCullough, Clarks: Axel Munson, Loomis; C. W. Noll and Son, Ord; Grover Oylar, Elwood; H. J. Peters, Scribner; R. E. Perks, Fullerton; Raussen Bros., Elmer; Louis Richter, Doniphan; M. J. Resac, Lincoln; Schrader Bros, Bertrand, and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

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