

Klan Blamed by Family in Death of Man

Omaha Relatives Dissatisfied
With Official Report on
Sudden Death of For-
mer Bluffs Man.

The ghostly finger of the Ku Klux Klan is seen by relatives in Omaha behind the death of John P. Ryan, 29, for 15 years a brakeman and conductor on the Union Pacific between Council Bluffs and Grand Island, at West Hammond, Ill., Saturday November 10.

Mr. Ryan, official explanation of whose death dissatisfies friends and relatives, was a brother of Mrs. J. H. O'Brien, 3555 Webster street, and C. V. Ryan, 1101 South Tenth street. His mother, Mrs. Margaret Ryan, lives at 3923 Farnam street. The widow and six children live at Imogene, Ia.

F. J. White of Imogene, who worked with Mr. Ryan on the Indiana Harbor Belt railroad out of Hammond, Ind., and J. E. Ryan, who also worked with his namesake who died, were in Omaha Friday.

Last Seen in Hotel
"The last time I saw John alive was in the Hotel Carlton at Hammond, Ind., during the morning of Friday, November 9," J. E. Ryan said.

"A man whom I did not know entered the hotel lobby and casually remarked that he hoped all of the men in the group were members of the K. K. K., whereupon John Ryan spoke up, somewhat emphatically, and made it known that he was not a member."

No argument followed the brief reference to the K. K. K. in the hotel lobby. John retired to his room in the Carlton hotel and left the hotel at 12:30 the same evening, according to statements of hotel people to J. E. Ryan and Mr. White.

Found Unconscious
"At 8:35 the same evening he was found in a semi-conscious condition near a packing house over at West Hammond, Ill., by a policeman. He was taken to the West Hammond police station, where he died Saturday morning. A man who occupied an adjoining cell told me that Ryan asked for a doctor, and also requested the presence of a priest when he realized he was dying. I was unable to learn that either doctor or priest was sent to him. Later I was unable to locate this prisoner. Chief of Police Joseph Nitz of West Hammond told me that the case might have been handled differently if he had been on duty at the time."

Inquest Hushed
J. E. Ryan and Mr. White stated Friday morning that neither knew an inquest had been held in West Hammond until it was all over and they called at a mortuary to look at the body.

"They told us that Ryan died of alcoholism. I saw bruises and cuts on the body and remarked then that he did not die under the circumstances the official investigation indicated."

Mr. White stated that John Ryan told him before the two went to Hammond, Ind., on November 2, to work together as switchmen, that he had been in an argument with a railroad engineer at Leppic, O., over the subject of the Ku Klux Klan.

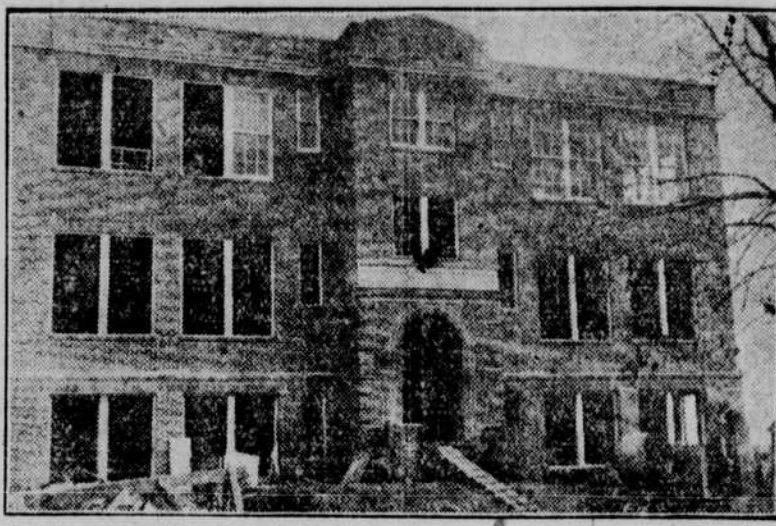
The dead man's body is said to have disclosed a bruise on left side of the jaw, finger marks on the throat, lacerations on the back of the head and two knuckles bruised, the latter injury, according to the family, indicating that an attack had been resisted.

The former railroad associates of John Ryan, and members of his family, join in the opinion that he was assaulted, but they have no evidence as to who committed the assault or the motive.

John Ryan was a native of Imogene, Ia. He and Mr. White left the Iowa town about six weeks ago to obtain railroad work in the east. They had been working only one week in Hammond before the death of Ryan.

Arm Broken in Fall
Beatrice, Neb., Nov. 23.—J. E. Clary of DeWitt broke his arm and received other injuries when he fell from a ladder while working in the opera house at DeWitt.

Shubert's New \$40,000 School House



Shubert, Neb., Nov. 23.—The new public school building at Shubert, in Richardson county, will cost approximately \$40,000, and the equipment will cost about \$13,000. Busboom Brothers of Fairbury, the contractors, have the work well started, and hope to have the building ready for occupancy about the first of the year.

Shubert voted \$40,000 bonds for 30 years, and the 12th grade will be added. Dr. Shook is president; Frank Evans, secretary; Frank Shubert, treasurer, of the school board, and the other members are W. L. Evans, George Riggs and Theodore Hill. D. H. Weber is superintendent of the Shubert school.

Sleuth Poisoned by Pretty Girl

Drinks With Young Woman
He's Trailing—She Puts
Poison in Beer.

By International News Service.
Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 23.—J. F. Sullivan, Washington, D. C., secret service man, is dying in a local hospital here, doctors say, from poisoning by strychnine, believed to have been administered in beer which Sullivan says he was drinking with a pretty young Denver woman he had been assigned to trail. Sullivan collapsed this morning on a street car here.

Before lapsing into unconsciousness at the hospital Sullivan told police he had been assigned by his Washington headquarters to arrest two men and a woman wanted in Denver. He located the woman, he said, and in an effort to obtain information from her had taken her and a woman companion to a cabaret here last night. He said he believed the woman recognized him and put poison in beer they were drinking. He had been threatened with death, he said.

The local office of the secret service is investigating the case. Robert P. Reese, jr., operative in charge, claims he knows of no operative in the service named Sullivan.

In the man's effects was found a plain card addressed to the chief of the United States secret service at Washington. On it was written in pencil:

"Case No. 314 completed, or will be Wednesday. Details by wire.—Operative 216."
"Will report November 16."
"E. J. L. N. M."

Police say only 23 cents was found in the man's clothes.

Shoes he was wearing were marked with the name "L. P. Collins."

Stanton Banker to Speak at Plainview Church

Plainview, Neb., Nov. 23.—J. H. Welch, a prominent layman of the First Congregational church of Stanton, will speak in the Congregational church here next Sunday morning. Mr. Welch, who is a banker, has been chosen by the state superintendent of Congregational work to visit the churches of the Elkhorn Valley association, addressing them on such subjects as these: "The Every Member Canvass," "How a Layman Can Assist His Pastor," and "How I Became Something More Than a Listener."

Inavale Methodists to Hold Thanksgiving Service

Inavale, Neb., Nov. 23.—The Sunday school at the Methodist church here is planning a special Thanksgiving service next Sunday morning. Included in the program are short talks by different members of the church, the reading of the Thanksgiving program and some special music.

To Reopen Virginia Hotel

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.
Beatrice, Neb., Nov. 23.—The Virginia Inn, hotel at Virginia, this county, which has been closed the last month while undergoing repairs and improvements, will be opened next Monday by Mrs. L. C. Steele of Scottsbluff, Neb., who will have charge of the place. It is owned by Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Dalbey of this city.

Woman's Fate Hangs on Word

Whether Italian "Sonno"
Means "Sleep" or "Temple"
Vital in Trial.

One Italian word "sonno" with different meaning in different dialects may convict Mrs. Madeline Grebalo, 1141 North Seventeenth street, on trial in Judge Fitzgerald's court for the murder of her husband, Jack Grebalo, on the night of August 27.

By means of an interpreter, Mrs. Grebalo, on the witness stand Friday, described what happened in the home on the night she shot her husband.

Interpreter Misunderstood.

She claims that in her statement which she signed at the police station after her arrest that Sebastian Salerno, Italian vice consul, who acted as interpreter, misunderstood the meaning of the word "sonno," which in her dialect meant "temple," while his interpretation of the word was "white asleep."

Prosecuting attorneys are seeking to prove that Mrs. Grebalo shot her husband while he was asleep in his bed. Plea of the defense is that Mrs. Grebalo shot her husband in the temple in self defense while he was choking her.

"I didn't go to bed until early in the morning, because my husband threatened me with blackhands if I didn't get out of the house and he had a dagger under his pillow," said Mrs. Grebalo. The dagger was admitted as evidence.

Husband Threatened.

"My husband told me it would be my last night if I didn't go to bed," she said. "He had already gone to bed. When I lay down on the bed at 3:45 he grabbed my neck and tried to choke me. I felt death was coming so I grabbed a gun that I had in my pocket and shot him in the temple. I tried to tell Mr. Salerno this but he misunderstood and thought I said I shot him while he was asleep."

By special request, instructions to the jury were made before noon Friday. Arguments in the case were to open at 1. It was expected the case would go to the jury late Friday.

Three New Bridges to Cost Gage County \$10,000

Barneston, Neb., Nov. 23.—Two car loads of bridge steel arrived here from Omaha Thursday for the Standard Bridge company. Three county bridges south of town washed out or damaged by the floods of the last summer will be replaced. Work will be started the coming week, and will cost Gage county approximately \$10,000.

Blue Hill to Celebrate High School Opening

Blue Hill, Neb., Nov. 23.—The new high school building here is to be dedicated Wednesday, November 28. A parade of the citizens and school children will proceed the program which will be held in the gymnasium of the building. The principal speaker will be State Superintendent Matson. Music will be by the band and school.

Find Liquor on Farm

Minden, Neb., Nov. 23.—Fifty gallons of mash and eight quarts of hooch were seized by Sheriff Hansen of Phelps county and Sheriff Parze of Kearney county in a raid at the farm home of John F. Werner, near Campbell. Werner was brought to Minden and placed in the city jail pending the filing of a complaint charging him with illegal possession of liquor.

Remove Ban on Fraternity

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 23.—Word was received here today that the suspension of Sigma Delta Chi, professional Nebraska university journalistic fraternity, was removed at the annual convention of the fraternity in Minneapolis. The suspension grew out of the vulgarity of the Evening Sun, official scandal sheet of the university.

The monthly fun book of the university, the Awgwan, will again make its appearance, after discontinuance with the suspension of the journalistic fraternity which sponsored it.

Exercises in York Schools

York, Neb., Nov. 23.—Educational week, under the auspices of the American Legion, is being observed by all York schools throughout the entire week, under direction of Superintendent Brooks and the cooperation of the local post of the American Legion and auxiliary. Legion men and members of the G. A. R. spoke to the student bodies at all the ward schools and the high school Thursday afternoon. Every child is required to learn the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Beatrice Water Pure

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.
Beatrice, Neb., Nov. 23.—The city commissioners have received a report from the state chemist, stating that three samples of city water, recently taken for analysis, shows satisfactory condition and is free from bacteria. The new wells on the Pargels farm, northwest of the city, will soon be connected up with the city plant at Zimmerman springs.

Fourth Sunday Evening Lecture

First Central Church
36th and Harney
DR. FRANK G. SMITH, Pastor
7:30 P. M.
Special Subject Tomorrow Night



"What do you believe about the resurrection of the dead or do you believe in it at all; do you believe that the body you see laid in the grave will be raised or what do you believe?"
This is a question of tremendous import to all people whether Christians or not; those who have heard these Sunday Evening Lectures testify that they are exceedingly fair, interesting and helpful. You are cordially invited to come and bring your friends with you.

FIRST CENTRAL CHURCH COMMITTEE

One Minute Store Talk

"I'm glad that you folks have put clothes selling on a solid foundation in Omaha—a man can come here and buy a new suit or overcoat knowing that every dollar he pays for it is in the value—that nobody can buy it for less—it's a real comfort to know such a store as yours," remarked a customer.



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