

MATE ARRESTED; SHE IS "OFF" MEN

Since Frantz has had "rough luck" in matrimony, she testified in domestic relations court. In August, 1923, when she was 36 and an orphan working in an Omaha hotel, she met a soldier, George Smith, and married him. He was taken back to Texas as a deserter.

She got an allowance from his pay.

In July, 1919, her baby was born. Some time later she met another man, Charles Frantz. He begged her to marry him and showed her a clipping, she said, stating that Smith had been sentenced to prison for bigamy.

Believing that this released her, she married Frantz. Later he was also sent to prison. Now, at 32, Mrs. Frantz says she has had enough of men.

See Want Ads Produce Results.

Clyde Finan, Smith Killer, Gets 15 Years

Youth, 23, Pleads Guilty to Luring Trackman to Death in September, 1921.

Clyde Finan, alias Newcomb, 23, in district court Friday morning, paid the penalty for the murder he committed in a lonely railroad cut near Sixteenth and L. streets the night of September 2, 1921.

County Attorney Henry Beal recommended a sentence of 15 years in prison.

"Have you anything to say why sentence should not be passed?" asked Judge Fitzgerald.

"No," said the tall, mid-looking prisoner in his soft southern speech. "Fifteen years in the penitentiary at hard labor," the court pronounced.

With the sentence came a story of a casual boast which led a slayer to prison as surely as the eyeglasses in the Leopold and Loeb case.

Finan was serving a term in the Oklahoma penitentiary for forgery when, in a boastful moment, he confided to a pal that he had murdered William E. Smith, a street railway trackman, in Omaha in September, 1921.

Secret Was Out.

The pal didn't keep the secret. It came to the attention of officers nearly three years after the body of Smith was found. A month ago Omaha police turned over the slender clue to County Attorney Beal.

The law hadn't forgotten the unpunished crime. And, though the lead was not promising, Mr. Beal ordered his special investigator, Carey Ford, to leave no stone unturned in the case.

Ford went to Glenwood, Ia. His investigation there strengthened the clue.

He went to Wichita, Kan., and pursued investigations which convinced him that Finan's hands were stained with Smith's blood. He then confronted Finan himself in the Oklahoma reformatory.

Finan denied the crime at first, but he was extradited and brought to Omaha by Ford. Here he confessed.

Saws Found in Shoes.

On the way north, Ford noticed that his prisoner's feet seemed to be troubling him. He kept his eyes on those feet. Finally he ordered Finan to remove his shoes. Concealed in the soles he found a set of hacksaws. It is believed Finan expected to be placed in some small jail overnight on the trip, and hoped to make his escape with the aid of the saws.

In his confession, Finan implicated Ernest Clark as one of the murderers. Clark was tried by Beal in district court here and acquitted nearly two years ago. Jurymen declared Beal "had no case at all." Clark now lives in Iowa, but he cannot be "placed in jeopardy" more than once.

The third member of the trio that lured the street railwayman to his death on the night of September 2, 1921, was Ray Asher, who confessed to his part before he died in the Kansas penitentiary, where Beal helped to put him on a charge of automobile stealing a year after the Smith murder.

The original charge against Finan here was first degree murder. Beal changed this to second degree on Finan's agreement to plead guilty.

Finan did not seek to justify himself. Asked by the court how much education he had, he replied, "Not much."

"Why didn't you go to school?"

"Mostly because I didn't want to," said the young man.

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