

"Let Me Help Find Slayer," Is Plea of Hahne to Police

"It's Beal Who's Crazy," He Sefeams in First Show of Excitement; Laughs at Examination.

"I'm as sane as any man in this city," cried John Warren Hahne Monday morning.

He had just been told that County Attorney Henry Beal would file a warrant charging him with insanity, in connection with the killing of Mrs. Hahne last Friday.

"It's Henry Beal who is crazy," he screamed. "He's crazy if he says I killed my wife. Anybody who says that is crazy. I didn't kill her. I'm innocent, as God is my judge."

First Excitement. It was one of the few times that he has become excited since his arrest last Friday night. Only the direct accusation of the slaying of his wife arouses him from his calmness.

Let Me Help. "I wish they would let me out; I would help them find the man who killed her."

"I have only one defense: I am innocent," he said. "They cannot convict me of this crime. They haven't got a thing on me. I'm innocent until I'm proven guilty. Isn't that right?"

Planned Trip Abroad. Hahne declared Monday that he and his wife had been planning recently to make a trip to Europe.

LEIGH FARM SOLD AT \$232,500 AN ACRE. Columbus, Jan. 5.—John Asche, the well-known real estate broker, sold the Leigh farm to Otto Loeschke for \$232,500.

Daughter Dies Two Weeks After Death of Mother. Columbus, Jan. 5.—Funeral services for Mrs. Melvin Farlee, 36, who died here exactly two weeks after the death of her mother, Mrs. H. Hemmington, at Primrose, Neb., were held Sunday at the home, Rev. W. H. Riley, pastor of the Federated church, officiating.

McCook's Growth Reflected in Larger Postal Receipts. McCook, Jan. 5.—The growth of McCook is reflected in the total postal receipts. In 1925 in round numbers the total receipts were \$28,000 and in 1924 they were slightly in excess of \$21,500.

Nebraska News Nubbins. York.—Judge George F. Corcoran, for the past 17 years district judge in this district, and A. P. Sprague, court reporter, have entered into a law partnership and will open a law office when Judge Corcoran's term expires January 7.

York City Council Adopts Dance Hall Regulations. York, Jan. 5.—York city council passed at its last regular meeting an ordinance aimed to control more rigidly the conduct in public dance halls.

Story of Girl, 12, Contradicts That of Ax Slayer Suspect; Difference in Time May Aid in Sending Hahne to Chair

A little girl's story may help to send John Warren Hahne to the electric chair.

The little girl is one whom Hahne used to call "honey" and "dearie." He used to give her candy, and she still thinks he is "an awfully nice man," though police believe he killed his wife with a hatchet.

She is little Margaret Hedges, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Hedges, who are tenants in one of Hahne's apartment houses, the Acadia, at 2214 D street.

She told a story to police Sunday which contradicts Hahne's stories of his activities after he found the body of his wife, cut and battered with an ax, lying at the foot of the basement stairs of their home last Friday afternoon.

"I went to Mrs. Hahne's house at exactly 10:15 that morning," the little girl said. "I know just what time it was, because I called Western Union to ask before I went over. Mrs. Hahne had told me not to come over too early. I was going to copy some notes she had taken on a book."

"No one answered when I knocked at the door, so I went back home. Then I heard Mr. Hahne firing the furnace in our basement. I went down to ask where Mrs. Hahne was, and he said she had gone after some rabbits. He seemed excited about something, because he was making a lot of noise with the furnace."

"I went back to the Hahne home at 11:30, and again at 1:30, but no one came to the door. At 2:30 I heard Mr. Hahne firing our furnace again, and I went down to ask him where she was. He was very cross, and I couldn't understand that, because he was always so nice."

"He said he was in a big hurry, because a plumber was waiting for him outside, and they were going to fix some leaks at his house."

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Margaret Hedges

to ask him where she was. He was very cross, and I couldn't understand that, because he was always so nice.



Clarence S. Darrow

Clarence Darrow, noted criminal lawyer, attorney for Leopold and Loeb in the celebrated case, slouched down in a red plush divan in the Hotel Fontenelle lobby Monday morning and remarked:

"So you've had an ax murder here, too? Well, well!"

"Being told the details of the death of Mrs. Mrs. Hahne last Friday with a dozen ax cuts in her skull, Darrow remarked with a twinkling eye:

"Maybe he did just what other husbands have felt like doing."

500 Attend Rites for Slain Woman; Sister Hysterical

Husband of Ax Victim Breaks Down When He Meets Wife's Relatives; They Stand by Him.

(Continued From Page One.) apolis, entered the room, and Hahne inquired about his mother. He was told that she was very sick in Minneapolis.

"Then this will probably kill her," he sobbed, and was seized by another fit of weeping.

Hahne's pleas to be allowed to attend his wife's funeral Monday afternoon were denied, but he was taken to see his wife's body for the last time at the undertaking establishment.

More Evidence. "More evidence pours in every hour to prove that he killed his wife in a fight which began while they were at breakfast."

Week of Observation. Dr. G. A. Young, alienist, spent two hours Sunday in examining Hahne's mental condition, but did not report his findings to Beal.

Columbus Legion Post Plans Membership Drive. Columbus, Jan. 5.—Hartman post No. 84, American Legion, with a present membership of 160, will launch a membership drive this month.

Peru Store Looted. Peru, Jan. 5.—Burglars robbed the general merchandise store of Redfern & Eilenberger last night of goods valued at \$1,800.

Robins From Wooded Glens Swarming Into Columbus. Columbus, Jan. 5.—Flocks of robins that make their usual winter homes in wooded glens along the Loup river have been driven into the residential section of the city.

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Beal to file the insanity warrant was the report that he had accused one of his tenants, Mrs. Peter Riley, of "being a spy from his old gang."

Beal conferred Sunday with three relatives of the slain woman, who had come to Omaha to be present at her funeral. They were Mrs. Charles La Croix, a sister, and Mrs. Verna Johnson, a niece, both of Denver, and a brother, Ed Schaffer, of Tulsa, Okla.

Perhaps the Police. County Attorney Beal amended at noon his first announcement that he would file insanity charges against Hahne.

2,000 BONUS POLICIES HERE. Two thousand adjusted compensation insurance policies with face values of about \$1,900,000 have been received in Omaha by ex-servees men, being part of 600,000 such bonuses mailed out from Washington to all parts of the country.

Ice Harvesting Begins. Lodgepole, Jan. 5.—Ice harvesting began here yesterday, with a force of 40 men. The ice is about 18 inches thick.

World War Veteran Dies. Franklin, Jan. 5.—Robert Brew, a young farmer living southwest of Franklin, died at his home last week. He was a world war veteran and exposure during the war brought on tuberculosis, which caused his death.

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Burgess Bedtime Stories

By THORNTON W. BURGESS. By pain and fright is wisdom bought, and thus respect for elders taught. —Old Mother Nature.



Little Joe Otter's foolish young son, who had found a dead fish at the back of a little pen of sticks on the edge of the water, remembered the warning to leave dead fish alone.

Then he found that this thing that had him by the toe didn't pull him under water.

ing out into the Great World for myself anyway. Then I'll have to depend on my own judgment. This fish is just waiting for me. I don't know how it happened to be here, but that doesn't make any difference. I would be a silly fellow to waste time hunting for a live fish when a dead one is waiting for me right under my nose.

So, with a look all around to make sure that no one was watching him, the foolish young Otter entered the little pen of sticks through the narrow opening, his eyes shining as he reached for the dead fish at the back of the pen.

By and by he had to stop struggling in order to get his breath. His foot ached dreadfully. Without really thinking of what he was doing he swam toward the shore. Then he found that this thing had him by the toe didn't pull him under water.

Right within reach was that fish which had been the cause of all this trouble. The young Otter didn't even look at it. He, who had before had lusty appetites, had had lost his appetite. Yes, sir, he had lost his appetite completely. Just then he felt as if he didn't care to ever eat again.

The next story: "The Price of Freedom."

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