

# HOSKINS FARMER MURDERS BROTHER THEN SHOOTSELF

### HENRY KNEIS KILLS HIS OLDER BROTHER, GEORGE.

### THEN SHOT HIMSELF TO DEATH

### MOTIVE A MYSTERY, THEY LIVED NEAR EACH OTHER.

### FORMERLY LIVED IN NORFOLK

### A Dual Tragedy, Resulting in Two Deaths, Was Enacted at the Farm of Henry Amends North of Hoskins During the Day.

Hoskins, Neb., May 27.—From a staff correspondent: Henry Kneis, a German-Russian farmer living four miles north of Hoskins, today shot and killed his brother, George Kneis, and then turned the smoking revolver upon himself and inflicted wounds which caused his death this afternoon.

#### Motive a Mystery.

Motive for the double tragedy is a mystery. It is rumored that the two brothers had trouble, but the widow of the murderer and suicide says her husband never told her of any old trouble between himself and the brother whom he killed today.

#### Drags Body of Dead Brother.

The tragedy occurred at the house of Henry Amends, a neighbor. George Kneis followed with murderous intent. George Kneis stood in the doorway of the Amends' home when the three bullets were pumped into him and he fell dead on the threshold when the second shot pierced his heart. The murderer then seized his slain brother by the feet and dragged him out upon the bare ground.

#### Falls, Wounded, Near Victim.

With one loaded shell still in his revolver, Henry turned the weapon upon himself and fired. Whether or not this bullet took effect is not known. Afterward he reloaded the gun and shot at himself four more times. He sent two bullets into his own body, one in the abdomen and one in the neck; the other three bullets missed his body. Staggering with fatal wounds, the slayer fell within three feet of the brother whom he had killed.

#### Both Formerly Lived in Norfolk.

Both men formerly lived in Norfolk on the George Williams farm southwest of the city. George Kneis, the murdered man, lived in and around Norfolk for seven years. He was the elder. Henry Kneis, who did the shooting, lived at Norfolk three months.

Henry was induced to leave Norfolk and come to Hoskins by the brother whom he murdered today. Formerly both worked in packing houses at South Omaha. They lived on rented farms here about a half mile from each other.

#### Henry Starts Out to Kill.

It was early this morning that George Kneis went to the farm of Henry Amends, in the neighborhood. Amends and George Kneis jointly owned a bull, which the two men today took to the Amends farm. The animal, under terms of ownership, remained alternately three months at each farm. It had been at the George Kneis farm and today was taken to the Amends farm to remain for three months.

The two men went past the farm of Henry Kneis. Henry was hauling hay in his barnyard. When he saw his brother and Amends pass the farm, on the road, he immediately hitched his horses to a spring wagon, placed a club and a pitchfork in the wagon box and drove to the Amends farm. The pitchfork was one that Henry Kneis had borrowed from Amends, so that he was returning it.

#### George Gets Inside House.

Apparently Amends knew something of trouble that existed between the two brothers. He saw Henry approaching and told George to go indoors. George went in the doorway. Amends looked into the wagon and saw the pitchfork and club.

"You don't need to pack them off; I have something else that will fix him." This was the remark of Henry Kneis when Amends looked at the pitchfork. The man who was to murder his brother and kill himself a moment later seemed excited when he drove into the Amends farmyard.

#### Begins Shooting.

Henry Kneis got down from the wagon and walked toward his brother, standing in the doorway. He went to within ten feet of the brother. Amends stood between the two men. Suddenly Henry drew a gun and began shooting. The first bullet whizzed by Amends, barely missing his head. This ball of lead struck George Kneis. A second one closely followed, that also taking effect. These two bullets struck in the groin and the right leg. The wounded man doubled up with pain and turned slightly around.

#### Third Bullet Pierces Heart.

Then came another bullet. It struck the victim in a glancing manner on the right side. Probably it

pierced the heart of George Kneis for instantly he fell over dead. He dropped backward into the house, his hat landing ten feet from the threshold.

The brother-killer advanced to the door, grabbed the feet of his dead victim and dragged the corpse out from the house into the bare yard. He dropped the body at a point four feet from the doorstep, seven feet from the house.

Three shots had been fired at the man who lay dead on the ground. One more loaded shell remained in the gun. The weapon's smoking muzzle was turned toward himself by Henry Kneis and the trigger was sprung. Whether or not a wound was marked by this bullet or not, nobody knows. There was no witness to this shot.

#### Reloads Gun For Suicide.

But whether or no, Henry Kneis reloaded his revolver and turned its nose once more upon his own body. The gun began rapidly spitting fire and lead. Four bullets plunged from the weapon's barrel. One of them sank into the abdomen; one dug into the neck, at the right side of the windpipe; three sped away into the air and did no harm.

#### Fifth Bullet Fails to Go Off.

The tragedian tried in vain to pump one more clump of metal into his own frame, but the bullet failed to discharge.

For a moment the wounded man stumbled about wildly, and then sank down, mortally wounded, within three feet of the dead brother whose life he had just taken.

The dead body of George Kneis was left lying in the spot where Henry had dragged it, to await the coroner's inquest at 3 o'clock. The wounded body of the murderer was carried to his home. He was at no time expected to live. He seemed only half-conscious and made no statement.

The shooting occurred at 8:30 o'clock this morning; George Kneis died instantly; Henry died between 12 and 1 o'clock this afternoon.

#### Woman and Children Were Near.

The wife and children of Henry Amends were inside their home when the dual tragedy was enacted in the doorway.

It was difficult to get a story from Amends, witness to the shooting, who only speaks broken English. He went to the home of his brother-in-law, Peter Schwindt, and gave the alarm. Hoskins was immediately notified by telephone and Constable Kaulen and Dr. Schenel were the first Hoskins people at the scene of the tragedy.

#### Each Leaves Widow.

George Kneis leaves a widow and five children, the youngest of whom will be a year old July 8 and the oldest of whom is ten years.

Henry Kneis leaves a widow but no children.

The parents of the two dead men, Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Kneis, live six miles north of Hoskins.

#### The Wead Men's Ages.

Henry Kneis would have been thirty-three years old next Sunday. George Kneis was five years older.

Sheriff Mears and Coroner J. J. Williams arrived from Wayne to hold an inquest at 3 o'clock. There was a rumor that Henry Kneis had at one time been insane, but this was not verified.

It is said that the two brothers had some difficulty over hay which they raised jointly last fall, but there seems to be no evidence of any fresh trouble.

It was a .38-calibre revolver, Smith & Wesson, which claimed the two brothers' lives.

## NEW DITCH IS A SUCCESS

### WATER PROBLEM IN WEST END IS SOLVED AT LAST.

### CARRIES OVERFLOW TO RIVER

### Only One Incomplete Detail Brought Out in the Ditch, the Dike Needing an Extension on the North End.

### New Canal Was a River.

The new west-end drainage canal, recently completed from Koenigstein avenue to the Elkhorn river, has been tested and found not wanting. With one of the biggest floods that ever came down from northwest hills, the new canal proved itself entirely capable of handling probably any freshet that will visit the west end of town.

One incomplete detail was brought out by the overflow—the dike to guide the current into the new ditch had not been built quite far enough north—but remedying this detail will be the work of only a couple of days, in the opinion of County Commissioner Taft, and when the new dike extension is constructed the water problem for the west end of Norfolk, which has been such a serious one for almost a score of years, will be solved forever.

#### 2.10 Inches of Rain.

Rainfall for the day amounted to 2.10 inches. Most of this fell in the early part of the day, 1.34 having fallen before 8 a. m. During the after-

noon 76 of an inch of rainfall fell and it fell so quickly that the hills north-west of town poured millions of barrels of moisture down the ravine which leads into the city at its north-west extremity.

Just west and north of the C. C. Gow home on Thirteenth street and Koenigstein avenue the water which rushes toward strikes the new drainage canal and is forced into a sharp angle, the ditch heading off to the southwest at that point. A dike on the east side of the canal was built for the current to beat against that it might be switched into the new direction. Striking against this dike, the water tended to spread north as well as into the ditch, resulting in a slight overflow around the end of the dike.

This overflow flooded the garden of C. C. Gow and washed down across other premises in the neighborhood, finding an outlet down the old gutters on Norfolk avenue. During the high point in the flood Norfolk avenue was entirely under water in the west end. Part of the overflow sought the old channel of Corporation gulch into Thirteenth street. Although the tunnel there had been filled up the force of water ate a passage through and brought this abandoned waterway once again into slight use. This water covered Thirteenth street south of Norfolk avenue.

#### New Canal Was a River.

But pretty nearly all of the water that came down from the hills was diverted into the new drainage canal and went rolling at terrific rate to the Elkhorn river, into which the new ditch empties just west of the Northwestern roundhouse at the Junction.

Bank full and with a mighty current, the new ditch became a river in itself and the muddy water, with debris from the hills, rushed down the channel with amazing speed. The sight was a good one to the eyes of residents of the west end who realized that, but for the dew ditch, one of the most disastrous overflows in the history of the gulch must have been experienced.

The ditch has a decided drop and this sent the water bounding southwest out of town and into the Haase slough. Here the water spread out over the meadow for the time being but when morning dawned it had practically all been drained away into the Elkhorn river.

The ditch was finished from the Haase slough to the river about ten days ago when the county elevator grader was put on the job. It was inspected and accepted by the engineer and commissioners. The ditch runs under the Northwestern freight yards tracks, there being eleven bridges in the yards because of the canal.

#### Was High Water.

Compared with other freshets, the water from the hills represented an unusually high mark. C. C. Gow said that only once had the water come higher and Rev. J. W. Bovee, living a mile northwest of town, said that, while he had seen the water higher, there was more water this time than is usual. He arrived at conclusions from the fact that the highest water took out his entire pasture fence, while this water only took out half of it.

County Commissioner Taft was enthusiastic over the efficiency of the new canal and said that it had proved the solution. He said a couple of days' work with a few teams would remedy the dike at the north extremity so that there could be no outlet hereafter excepting by way of the ditch. Teams would be set at work as soon as they could be arranged for. Mr. Taft will communicate with Engineer R. A. Swartout of Omaha, who designed the canal, and Commissioners Malone and Harding, before going ahead with the work.

### NORFOLK BEAT PILGER.

### Interesting Baseball Game Played There—Haak Pitched Good Ball.

Another victory was added to the Norfolk business college's score card yesterday at Pilger, when the nine representing the Norfolk business college set Pilger's hopes to the bad in one fateful inning. The score at the beginning of the seventh stood 5 to 3 for Pilger, but before the inning had closed the procession of Norfolk players had placed the game safely in Norfolk's column.

Haak pitched for Norfolk, playing a steady game. Koplin handled the ball for Pilger. Hoffman, Haak, Faucett, Reynolds, Bryant, Oxaam, Clarke, Hight, Roth and Larson went to Pilger to represent Norfolk. Haak struck out fifteen men.

#### The Score:

Norfolk ..... 0 1 0 1 4 0 8 0 0—11

Pilger ..... 0 0 1 3 1 0 0 0 0—5

#### Pat Crowe on Trial Again.

Council Bluffs, May 22.—Pat Crowe is on trial in the district court, charged with holding up and robbing the crews of two street cars at the east end of the bridge on the night of Sunday, July 2, 1905.

### LAKE VESSELS RUN ON REEF

### Lifesavers at Port Austin Succeed in Bringing Crews Ashore.

Detroit, May 28.—The steamer C. F. Bielman and her consort, the cargo vessel Cleveland, bound from Duluth to Cleveland with iron ore, ran on a reef in Lake Huron, a mile and a half off Port Austin, in a heavy snowstorm. The Port Austin lifesavers succeeded in bringing ashore the crews of both vessels, after making three trips to the scene of the wreck, the last trip being made in a dangerous sea. There are hopes of saving the steamer, but the barge is thought to be a total wreck.

## OFFICERS IN TROUBLE

### CAPTAINS ARRESTED FOR MUTINOUS INSUBORDINATION.

### ARE BROUGHT TO VALENTINE

### A Conspiracy of Silence is Charged Against Five Captains—One, While Drunk, Caused Big Row—Are in Jail at Fort Niobrara.

Washington, May 25.—A scandal has developed in the Eighth United States cavalry, and five of the eight captains of the regiment were returned to the United States under arrest with charges of mutinous insubordination against them. They were placed under arrest by direction of Lieut. Col. Ayers and are now confined at Fort Robinson and Niobrara, Neb., awaiting action by the war department.

Tried in Philippines. Capt. McNally, of the Eighth cavalry, was tried in the Philippines, and some action was taken against the other four officers, but they will be taken before a court martial in this court.

According to the unofficial information received at the war department the trouble occurred in one of the provinces in the department of Luzon, but all the details are not known, as the papers in the case have not reached Washington. Unofficial advices received by the secretary of war are that Capt. McNally was charged with intoxication which resulted in a big row in the regiment.

#### All Were Arrested.

The other four captains became involved in the difficulty, and it is charged entered into a conspiracy of silence. They declined to divulge the facts regarding the experience of the men now under charges and Lieut. Col. Ayers ordered them placed under arrest.

Col. Ayers has been transferred to the Fourteenth cavalry and is now stationed at Fort Walla Walla, Wash. The names of all the officers involved are not known.

### TUESDAY TOPICS.

J. D. Sturgeon was in Elgin yesterday.

S. S. Allen was in from Foster yesterday.

W. R. Locke of Stanton was in Norfolk yesterday.

Miss Mary Witzel was up from Madison yesterday.

Dr. O. R. Meredith spent yesterday in Battle Creek.

P. J. Peterson of Lindsay stopped in Norfolk yesterday.

Ralph Kummer is home from a Sunday visit in Omaha.

William Hansen of Creighton was in the city yesterday.

R. E. Brinkman of Hartington was in Norfolk yesterday.

W. H. Butterfield went to Valentine on business yesterday.

E. P. Weatherby returned yesterday noon from Bloomfield.

Mrs. S. D. Dunn of Creighton was a Norfolk visitor yesterday.

Charles Rapp was a Norfolk visitor from St. Edwards yesterday.

A. S. Warner of Butte was in Norfolk yesterday between trains.

D. M. Strain of Niobrara was in the city for a few hours yesterday.

Mrs. A. Low was called to Alpa, Kan., by the illness of a daughter.

W. M. Rainbolt has returned from a two weeks' trip over the Rosebud agency.

Misses Myrtle Youngstrom and Tina Texty of Newman Grove are in Norfolk today.

Mrs. H. M. Culbertson and daughter, Genevieve, went to Omaha to visit for a few days.

Mrs. James Conley of Fremont arrived in Norfolk yesterday on a visit with her son, J. H. Conley.

Archie Gow returned yesterday noon from Lincoln, where he had been visiting his brother, Harold.

Mrs. E. P. Weatherby of Council Bluffs returned home yesterday morning after spending several weeks at the home of her sister, Mrs. H. M. Culbertson.

D. Mathewson was in Wakefield yesterday afternoon, returning to Norfolk last night.

Mrs. A. A. Kearney and Mrs. Peters of Stanton were visitors in Norfolk yesterday.

George D. Butterfield went to Rushville last night to attend a meeting of northwestern Nebraska bankers.

Miss Hattie Heckman of Council Bluffs, who has been the guest of Miss Goldie Shriber, returned home yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Norburn of Stockton, Calif., stopped in Norfolk on a visit with Mrs. Norburn's brother, Edgar Redmond.

Robert Bridge returned to his home in Fremont yesterday. Mrs. Bridge will remain until after the high school commencement exercises in which her niece, Miss Mollie Bridge, will be a graduate.

Miss Emma Wetzel has resigned her place with Beeler Brothers to accept a position with the Johnson Dry Goods company.

Attorney M. D. Tyler left yesterday for Omaha, where as a member of the state bar commission he assists this week in holding examinations for admission to the bar in connection with the graduating exercises of the Creighton law school.

All persons wishing to contribute flowers to decorate the soldiers' graves Decoration day will please leave them at G. A. R. hall by 9 o'clock a. m., May 30.

J. R. Corbus, formerly of this city

but now of Chicago has recently accepted an excellent position as superintendent for the N. K. Fairbanks company of that city. Mr. Corbus is a native of Norfolk and a former student of the University of Illinois.

Examinations are held this week in the city schools of Norfolk, the examinations closing tomorrow, Thursday. Memorial day, is a holiday. Friday the school children will visit their rooms for the last time this year, receiving their grade and promotion cards.

Dr. P. H. Salter of this city had a team hitched up ready to start to Hoskins yesterday afternoon in response to a call from that place on account of the wounds of Henry Kneis. Before he started he received word that the man was dead, and the trip was not taken.

An extra edition of The News gave to its readers in all north Nebraska and southern South Dakota news of the Hoskins tragedy hours before any other newspaper. The extra went west on the night train, north to Bonesteel, east of Emerson, southeast to West Point, and over on the Albion branch on early morning trains.

Seats for the "Wizard of Wall Street," musical comedy, in which Mrs. Daye and daughter, Phyllis, are prominent features, go on sale at The News business office Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock. Seats on the lower floor are 50 cents, the first two rows in the balcony 50c, the balance of the balcony 35c and the gallery 25c.

Seats for the commencement exercises will go on sale Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock in the business office of The News. Prices will be 25 cents all over the house. The exercises will take place in the Auditorium Wednesday night. Tickets will be provided for the families of graduates, ministers, teachers and members of the board of education without charge.

Stanton Register: A. B. Baldwin and E. A. Monroe went to Norfolk last week and purchased a feed store and took immediate possession. The new firm are good solid business men and the Norfolk people will find them good fellows to deal with. Mr. Baldwin will run the store this summer and Ed will remain on the farm. Mr. Monroe returned from Norfolk Monday morning.

The revised plans for the new high school building were received in Norfolk yesterday from Architect John Latenser after the final alterations in the plans and specifications had been made in his Omaha office along the line of suggestion offered by the board of education at their meeting last week. Copies of the plans and specification are in President Vele's office for the use of contractors. Sealed bids on the new building will be received June 10.

George Kneis, shot by his brother in the double tragedy north of Hoskins yesterday, was in Norfolk Friday and Saturday of last week. Another visit to this city had been planned for the morning of the murder and suicide. Kneis was suffering from a carbuncle that had appeared on his neck and was receiving treatment from a Norfolk physician. Oddly enough the edition of The News which told of the dual tragedy, told in the personal column of the visit of George Kneis to this city.

O'Neill Frontier: The first round in the criminal proceedings against the band of alleged hog thieves at Atkinson resulted in a victory for the state. The jury in the case of Joseph Skidmore brought in a verdict of guilty, after deliberating some four hours, assessing the value of the hogs stolen at \$80. Skidmore, it appears from the evidence and the statement of one Wm. Weller who was with the party at the Ferguson ranch the night of February 25, was the instigator of the raid on the Ferguson hog pen. Four others are implicated in the job, John Dibble, Frank McShane, William Weller and Roy Purnell. Each of these defendants are to be tried separately, the arrangement being to dispose of all four cases at the present session of court. Judge Westover is here from Rushville presiding at the trials.

County Attorney Whelan and M. F. Harrington appeared for the state and R. R. Dickson for the defense.

Elgin Review: The Elgin opera house has recently changed hands, W. H. McClain having disposed of it to Geo. N. Seymour and Ira Wolfe. The active management of it will fall to the hands of Mr. Wolfe, as has practically been the case for some time past. The new owners are giving the property a thorough overhauling and repairing and putting it in first class shape from top to bottom, inside and out. It has been treated to a new roof, and the plastering has been repaired upstairs and down. The work of newly papering the building is now in progress. The outside stairway has been put in better shape, and a landing provided at a height that would furnish a convenient side exit from the building in case of fire. A walk and side rail have been put in along the side of the building to the outside stairway, and new cement curbs are being put in along the edge of the brick walk in front. All these repairs and improvements and others that may have been here mentioned will put the building in first class shape and make it second to no similar building in a town the size of Elgin anywhere in the state.

English Spavin Liniment removes all hard, soft or calloused lumps and blemishes from horses, blood spavins, curbs, splints, sweeney, ring bone, stifles, sprains, all swollen throats, coughs, etc. Save \$50 by use of one bottle. Warranted the most wonderful blemish cure ever known. Sold by F. F. Ware & Son, druggists.

**When you Watch Stops**  
You cannot make it go by shaking it.



When the bowels are constipated you can disturb them with cathartics but, like the watch, they will not be able to do their allotted work until they are put into proper condition to do it.

One cannot mend a delicate piece of mechanism by violent methods, and no machine made by man is as fine as the human body.

The use of pills, salts, castor-oil and strong cathartic medicines is the violent method. The use of the herb tonic laxative, **Lane's Family Medicine** is the method adopted by intelligent people.

Headache, backache, indigestion, constipation, skin diseases—all are benefited immediately by the use of this medicine.

Druggists sell it at 25c. and 50c.

**PRICES OF BEEF TO SOAR**

**CLASH BETWEEN PACKERS AND COMMISSION MEN.**

**A NEW RULE IS THE CAUSE**

### A Decision Made by Packers Not to Pay For "Cow Stuff" Until After the Government Inspection, Has Brought About Critical Situation.

Chicago, May 28.—Meat prices in Chicago may jump skyward this week unless the "beef trust" recedes from its recently announced intention to delay payment on certain of its livestock purchases until they have passed the government post-mortem examination.

The packers notified the commission firms that beginning yesterday they no longer would stand the loss on condemned cattle, and in order to protect themselves they had found it necessary to refuse payment on "cow stuff" until it has passed the government inspectors.

This attitude caused tremendous excitement in packing circles and it is predicted by commission men that an extremely acute situation will develop unless the packers back down.

During the latter part of last week thousands of letters and telegrams were sent out by the commission men to their customers, notifying them of the action that had been taken by the packers and advising them to withhold all shipments of cattle to the big markets controlled by the trust until the difficulty is adjusted. This is expected to cut the meat supply tremendously before the week is over, and prices are expected to go up correspondingly.

Commission men declare it is the intention of the packers to enforce the rule with regard to "cow stuff" now in the hope that similar action may be taken later with reference to their purchases of sheep and hogs.

There were only 2,000 cattle in for market this morning.

### STOCK MEN INTERESTED.

### Northwestern Nebraska Was Much Interested in Effect on Market.

Livestockmen of Norfolk and northern Nebraska are much interested in the new rule made by Chicago packers regarding the non-payment for cow stuff until after the government inspection. This was indicated by the flood of telephone calls which swept upon The News wires during the day. The developments of the week will be eagerly looked upon throughout this territory.

### MYSTERIOUS TEAMSTERS.

### Unknown Men Appropriated Barn For the Night.

Unknown parties stabled their team of horses in the barn of C. H. Reynolds at his home on The Heights during the night. Before morning the mysterious strangers left the place without a word.

Tracks of the team indicated that the unknown horses had been stalled in the barn over night. Whether the team was a stolen one, being taken through the country, or for what other motive the barn was selected, was not known.

Do not dispose of any great period of your time in a poor market—when a want ad. will really "find a market" for your services.

**Don't Push**

The horse can draw the load without help, if you reduce friction to almost nothing by applying



**Mica Axle Grease**

to the wheels. No other lubricant ever made wears so long and saves so much horse power. Next time try MICA AXLE GREASE. Standard Oil Co. Incorporated.