

Mystery Of Peru Death Deepens

Administrator Named of Neal Estate to Be Mutual Friend—Stepson Shares in Property.

Letter Found in Home

Auburn, Neb., Aug. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Mrs. Lucy Neal, charged with the murder of her husband, Ben Neal, at their home two and one-half miles southeast of here on the night of August 11, and who is under bond of \$10,000 to appear in justice court Thursday morning to be arraigned for the alleged crime, was in Auburn today.

Both the women were plainly dressed in light materials and wore no symbols of mourning. Mrs. Neal consented to the appointment of a mutual friend of her husband and herself, Frank Woodruff, prominent politician and citizen of Nemaha, as administrator. It is thought that Neal's estate will inventory \$15,000 or more with an incumbrance on the 80-acre farm where he met his death, of \$2,000.

Son Is Her. An interesting feature of the administration of his estate is that his stepson, Leland Wright, now of the Kearney industrial school, will be one of the heirs. It is reported here that Neal, who had an antipathy for the boy, had told his attorneys and his wife that it was his intention to make a will in which he would bequeath Mrs. Neal, her daughter, Ava, and Leland Wright, the stepson, \$1 each, and that he would leave his estate in such a way that the wife and stepdaughters would derive the income of his estate for life and then that it should pass to other hands for the reason that he did not want Leland to ever have a cent other than the technical bequest of \$1.

Neal died intestate and his stepson, whom he wished to disinherit, will be one of the beneficiaries of his estate. Now that Mrs. Neal has been arrested, charged with Neal's death, all of Nemaha county is speculating on her probable guilt or innocence. It is the main topic of conversation on the streets, in the homes and in the public places in all parts of the county. There are many who do not believe that she is guilty of the crime of murder. There are others who say she is guilty, but who condone her guilt, should she have been the one who killed her husband, saying that she had sufficient provocation and justification.

Says Facts Not Given. Most everybody here that the story of the events of the night of the tragedy, which she and her daughter told at the inquest, showed that she had not made a full revelation of the facts to the members of the jury and they condemn her more for this than they do for probable guilt. They all agree that her story stanted evidence in the case.

All of those who were acquainted with Ben Neal, and many of them had heard of his previous threats of suicide, are loth to believe that he committed self-murder. He was an optimistic man. He was in fairly good health. He was in better than the average financial circumstances. He lost 120 acres of land recently by the ravages of the Missouri river, which had taken other hundreds of acres away from equally unfortunate neighbors, but his did not cripple him and it is a frequent and an almost foreseen occurrence along the Missouri river bottoms in this section and one which his taught land owners along the river to take it philosophically.

30 Years Wife's Senior. Neal was 30 years the senior of his wife. He was man of high passions, but in all of his fits of temper he found vent for his anger in words and threats rather than action. He was a man who was familiar with fire arms and for some years kept a revolver in his home. He and his wife, during their entire married career, had had a succession of marital troubles, frequent quarrels, frequent threats.

A year or so ago Mrs. Neal procured Neal's gun, she testified, and hid it behind a cement block in the foundation of their house. It was a big blue steel gun and it was later found by Shern Kaufman, Brownville man, while making repairs at the house and he later sold it to another resident of Brownville for \$10, it is alleged. Neal, when found was lying on the floor of the bedroom. He had a cheap nickel plated 21 calibre revolver in his right hand. It was loosely clasped. Two shells had been exploded. Two cylinders of the gun were empty. There were two loaded cartridges in the cylinders, the center trigger of the gun on an unexploded shell. The unfired cartridges were colored green by verdigris and were oxidized by age. They were loaded with black powder.

Shot on Left Side. The wound which caused his death was on the left side of the neck. The bullet went straight in. It hit the lower part of the jaw bone and then deflected downward severing jugular vein and causing profuse inward bleeding. The orifice of the wound when examined by Dr. Vance of Peru, the members of the coronors jury, Undertaker Armstrong, Sheriff Davis, County Attorney to Page Two, Column One.

Wives Rejoin Husbands After 8-Year Separation

Two Women and Small Sons, Left in Russia When Mates Came to America, Suffer Untold Privation Before Escape Effected; Say Bolshevism Better Than Anti-Red Rule.

Superior, Neb., Aug. 22.—(Special.)—After 8 years' separation, in which they suffered untold privation in the midst of the turmoil of banditry, murders and rapine in Russia, Mrs. Lazar Schwartz and son, Abe, and Mrs. Morris Coplovsky and her son, Abe, arrived in Superior to join their husbands, who have adopted the simpler forms of their names, Louis Schwartz and Morris Cohen, proprietors of the Superior Auto Wrecking company of this city.

In the fall of 1913, the two men left Ukraine to come to this country, leaving Mrs. Schwartz with her babe of two weeks, and Mrs. Cohen and her child of four months, until they could earn money to return to their native land.

They worked in New York and later at Rock Island, Ill., finally going to Omaha. After two and a half years in the state metropolis they came to Superior.

In the meantime their wives were experiencing far different adventures in Ukraine. Mrs. Cohen, a sister of Mr. Schwartz, received assistance from her mother in their town of Ternovka, but Mrs. Schwartz did not fare so well and necessity compelled her to work for her living and support her son.

When Mrs. Cohen's prosperity waned upon the coming of bolshevism, they determined to escape from Russia into Roumania after having endured all manner of gruesome experiences and suffering in their native land.

While not sympathizing with bolshevism, the women say that if bolshevism were in control of Russia conditions would be better than at present, for the Denekins, Wrangle, Kolchak and other bandit forces, adopt inhuman and destructive means of gaining their objective, burning houses, killing inoffensive people on the streets, destroying food and goods in the stores and insulting the women, while the reds respect womanhood, seek to protect the foodstuffs and save the crops.

For four years Schwartz and Cohen did not hear from their wives. Secret halls were built in the basements of the Russian homes, in which to hide when the bandits were on the warpath and it was to these "sekrats," as they are called, that the women would seek refuge scores of times each year as wringing came to them of the approach of the bandits, who many times discovered their hiding places.

When the women had the opportunity to escape with their sons into Roumania, they gladly assented to accompany a refugee runner and were hidden in a dark cellar, after running the guards, remaining concealed there for five days and nights, suffering from hunger and thirst. Finally their guide permitted them to come from their hiding place and took them across the river in a small boat to Roumania.

This was about a year ago and letters came to Cohen and Schwartz about three months later, the first word they had received from their wives since the European war. The men sent money and after the usual difficulty in obtaining passports, the women boarded the Olympic at Cherbourg, France, arriving in New York August 9, when they were met by Mr. Schwartz.

San Jose, Cal., Aug. 22.—A "spurned woman" is blamed by the Rev. John A. Spencer, former Santa Rosa preacher, for causing his arrest on a warrant charging wife murder. Mr. Spencer, in advancing this theory, asserted he was innocent of any attempt to do away with his wife.

Ford Tells How to Run Railroads

Noted Manufacturer Unfolds Plan for Revolutionary Ideas to Make D. T. & I. Pay.

Points Out Rail Evils

By RICHARD LEE, Universal Service Staff Correspondent Copyright, 1921, by Universal Service Detroit, Mich., Aug. 22.—Henry Ford, in his first interview as president of the Detroit, Toledo & Ironton railroad, today unfolded the plan for application of revolutionary engineering ideas tempered with plain business "horse sense" to do for railroading what he has done for automobile manufacturing.

"Despite our description of ourselves on the fancied progress in railroad engineering, the plain, cold fact is that in railroad engineering today nobody has ever made a good start," said the D. T. & I. president. "We intend to do it."

Locomotives weighing one-third the present "money-eaters" and doing just as much work with a reduction of the fuel consumption are a part of the Ford vision of the railroad of the future. Likewise he will have cars similarly reduced in weight carrying present day tonnage at cheaper rates under supervision of better paid workmen.

Engines Too Heavy. "The 200-ton locomotive of today cannot be justified in any way except as another means for the banking gentles in their exploitation rather than the development of the transportation system," he added. "They only serve to wear out steel rails. Such rails should last 100 years, though the steel trust wouldn't like that."

Furthermore, we will put an end to the day when storms are able to paralyze railroads by interference with the lines of communication. We will do our train dispatching by wireless telephones and snap our fingers at storms and maintenance charges.

In all his discussion of railroading he was dealing with the future of the D. T. & I. and not the past. For six months that former joke in the railroad family has been under active Ford management and in that brief period the nation was brought to realize that the business of railroading was due for such an overhauling as he gave automobile manufacturing.

Change Not Revolutionary. That was done without introduction of a single revolutionary idea in engineering, such as are crowding in the automobile manufacturers' mind for the future. That road was turned into a paying institution virtually overnight by the well-known Ford (Turn to Page Two, Column Five).

Woman Kills Baby; Says She Didn't Want It to Grow in Poverty. Cleveland, O., Aug. 22.—Alleged to have preferred to see her baby dead than have it face a life of poverty, Mrs. Mary Soltis, 26, was under arrest at police headquarters today on a charge of murder. The police sergeant declared the young mother admitted she smothered her week-old child rather than see it live in want.

McCarthy questioned Mrs. Soltis after the baby's body had been taken to the morgue. He found two other children, John, 7, and Mary, 4, clinging to their mother's skirts and crying with hunger. "I smothered the baby with the bed clothes," Mrs. Soltis is said to have declared. "I did not want to see him grow up with nothing ahead. There is no money—nothing. What could I do? He would be better dead."

No Watchful Waiting Here



Extradition Of Woman Suspected Of Murder Sought

Requisition Papers Issued for Tacoma Hotel Man's Wife Accused of Slaying Knoxville Auto Dealer. Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 22.—Requisition papers for Miss Maude Moore, charged with the murder of Leroy Harth, a wealthy young business man of Knoxville, Tenn., and reported under arrest at Tacoma, Wash., were issued by the governor today. The killing was a sensation of 1919.

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Habeas Corpus Writ Sought for Hightower

San Francisco, Aug. 22.—William F. Herron, San Francisco attorney, made public today a petition for writ of habeas corpus to obtain the release of William A. Hightower, itinerant baker who is being held in the San Mateo county jail on a charge of murdering Rev. Patrick E. Heslin, a Catholic priest. Herron said he expected to file the petition today.

Pastor Serves Only Two Churches in Half Century

H. F. Grupe, pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran church, eight miles southeast of Tecumseh, has been in the ministry for 50 years and has served but two churches. At the age of 23 he graduated from the Concordia seminary in St. Louis in 1871. For 19 years he was pastor of a church near Cape Girardeau, Mo., and for 31 years he has been pastor of St. Peter's church here.

Clara Smith Hamon to Wed Movie Director



Los Angeles, Cal., Aug. 22.—Clara Smith Hamon, who was acquitted in Ardmore, Okla., seven months ago, when tried for the murder of Jake L. Hamon, was married here late today to John W. Gorman, a motion picture director. After obtaining license to marry, the couple drove to the residence of the Rev. M. Howard Fagan, pastor of the Wilshire Boulevard Christian church, who performed the ceremony.

Bumper Corn Crop, But Potatoes and Fruit Are Failure

West Point, Neb., Aug. 22.—(Special.)—Favorable weather for another week has helped corn along very materially towards its maturity. It is now getting hard and is practically out of danger. The crop promises to be much more abundant than last year.

Railroad Heads Change Name of Nebraska Town

Lincoln, Aug. 22.—(Special.)—Until today there were twin towns in Nebraska. For years there has been a little town between Lush and Sutton by the name of Lyman. Recently the Burlington opened an extension to its line at Haig and one of the new towns was named Lyman.

Husband Killed Woman Found in Grave, Says Son

Man Says Story Untrue as His Wife Eloped to Denver With Chauffeur—Both Held. Granite City, Ill., Aug. 22.—Police Chief Clark today declared the body found in a shallow grave near here and erroneously identified last week as that of Mrs. Serena Gilliland of Cincinnati, is that of Mrs. Nora Dorman, 38, and John, 16, husband and son of the woman, charging murder. The arrests were made at Junction, 130 miles southeast of here, where the elder Dorman was employed as a farm hand.

Although the elder Dorman denies knowledge of the murder and declares his wife had eloped to Denver with a chauffeur, the younger Dorman, according to Chief of Police Clark, confessed that his father confided to him that he had murdered the woman. The son's admission is said to have been made after two hours of questioning. The boy, Chief Clark declared, said he had been sworn to secrecy by his father.

Officers of National W. C. T. U. Re-Elected

San Francisco, Aug. 22.—All officers of the national Women's Christian Temperance union were re-elected today for another year by large majorities. Mrs. Anna Gordon of Evanston, Ill., was continued as president.

Suspected Slayer of Auto Man Is Ordered Released

Sioux City, Ia., Aug. 22.—Max A. Wilson of Hawarden, Ia., who has been held a prisoner for several days on the charge of having murdered W. A. Lapham of Sioux City, a prominent automobile dealer, July 26, was ordered discharged from custody today by County Attorney Ole Naglestad.

The Weather

Forecast. Nebraska—Fair Tuesday and probably Wednesday; not much change in temperature. Iowa—Fair in west; unsettled and warmer in east portion Tuesday; Wednesday fair.

Stage Reset In Britson Tire Tangle

South Dakota Bankers in Depositions Brand Head of Firm's Testimony as "Deliberate Falsehood."

Hearing Resumed Today

Branding as "deliberate falsehoods" much of the testimony given by O. A. Britson, head of the Britson Manufacturing company, in a recent hearing in federal court, two depositions taken by Robert J. Webb, Omaha attorney, from G. J. Flittie and H. E. Haroldson, bankers of Brookings, S. D., were filed with the clerk of the federal court, late yesterday.

The Britson hearing before Judge Woodruff will be continued at 9 this morning. Flittie's deposition resets the stage for a dramatic interlude in the stock company's affairs, staged in the Britson offices in the Woodmen of the World building, Omaha, on February 9, 1921.

It was the date on which Flittie, Haroldson and another stockholder, Cobel, came to Omaha to induce Britson to buy back their stock. Letters Ignored. They came only when repeated letters, telegrams, and telephone calls, asking for an accounting of company affairs, were totally ignored by Britson. Flittie sets forth.

The trio came in the morning, stayed all day and declined to leave until Britson agreed to reimburse them, according to their testimony. "This Britson did, only after consulting his wife, said to be the brains of the Britson organization."

"We came in the morning, talked with Britson awhile, told him what we wanted," reads Flittie's statement. "He said it was rather sudden, like love at first sight, and he would want time to think it over. We apparently didn't make any progress; conversed about Henry Ford, the financial situation, etc., and no headway was made until one-half hour before train time, in the evening, when we told him we would sell our stock to him and retire as directors, after which he went and consulted his wife for a few minutes, come back and said:

"All right, gentlemen!" Haroldson's testimony here augments Flittie's with this statement: "I made up my mind if Britson would not buy my stock I would leave it on his desk, properly assigned to him, and sever my connection with the firm entirely. I also had my resignation as director and stockholder in my possession," said Haroldson, who is president of the First National bank at Brookings.

Britson paid them with checks on the First National bank of Omaha, post-dated seven or eight days ahead. The reason the men assigned for desiring to get out of the company was that they "were not satisfied with the way the company was managed and that repeated requests for a complete audit of the books were absolutely ignored."

Audit Never Presented. The last board meeting was held April 29, 1920, with Lee Huff and a Mr. Taylor present. At that time it was agreed that the audit be prepared for a July meeting. This meeting was never held and the audit never presented to stockholders, they asserted.

Flittie produced as exhibits, seven letters and telegrams he had sent to Britson, inquiring for the audit, all of which were ignored. On the stand last week Britson testified he had never had any dealings or communications with Flittie during the dates in question. Flittie denied he ever made the statement as alleged by Britson in his testimony, that the reason the trio wanted to get out was because Britson wouldn't "come across."

He branded it an absolute falsehood. He denied he ever tried to "blackmail" Britson on a salary proposition. Passed Up Salary. A salary of \$800 was voted to me as secretary of the company at a directors' meeting held at the Fontenelle, but the next morning Britson came and told me the company could not afford to begin payment of my salary then, so I agreed to drop the salary matter. "If Britson said anything about 'blackmail' then he is 'mistaken or telling a deliberate falsehood,'" said Flittie, who is president of the Chamber of Commerce at Brookings. The hearing before Judge Woodruff today is on an application for the appointment of a receiver, begun by H. E. Close and other stockholders.

Mrs. Obenchain and Burch Given Week's Continuance. Los Angeles, Aug. 22.—A week's continuance in entering their pleas to the indictments charging them with the murder of J. Belton Kennedy was granted today to Mrs. Madalynne Obenchain and Arthur C. Burch. The postponement of this procedure to August 29, was ordered by Judge Sydney Reeve, on motion of Attorney Richard Kitterell, who asked the additional time because the defendant's chief counsel Paul W. Schenck, now in Arizona, wished to be present when the pleas were entered.

Meter Burglar Guilty. Reno, Nev., Aug. 22.—Compton R. Hubbard, meter burglar wanted in nine cities, today pleaded guilty in district court to grand larceny and will be sentenced at 11 tomorrow morning.