

# SON NOT ENGAGED, SAYS MR. WHARTON

Repudiates Girl's Story Student Was to Marry Model Who Killed Herself

## LARSEN HAD MORBID MIND

Vehement denial that his son Bayard was engaged to Pauline Virginia Clark, the Boston artist's model and divorcee, who committed suicide during a party at her apartment Thursday night, was made today by Henry Wharton, of 8623 Germantown avenue, Chestnut Hill.

Reports from Boston quoted Miss Ona M. Cossick, of Worcester, Mass., one of those at the party, as having stated that the engagement was announced just twenty minutes before the model drank the poisonous solution which ended her life, and that no denial was made by Bayard Wharton, who was also present, and who remained to help the police in their investigation.

It is also said that she had promised to see no more of Otto H. Larsen, the moody young Norwegian student who furnished her with the poison and killed himself three days later by the same means, leaving behind a letter telling of their mutual love.

"It is not true," said Mr. Wharton, Sr., today. "Somebody is manufacturing these stories."

"Bayard never said he was engaged to marry the girl, and last Saturday morning when I talked to him over the telephone he set everything right."

"It is easy enough for any person to make statements, but so far as my son is concerned, I know this report to be untrue."

Miss Cossick's Story

Miss Cossick said that when the party gathered in Miss Clark's apartment the model announced informally, "Bayard and I are to be married on Saturday."

The announcement was somewhat of a surprise," Miss Cossick asserted. "Mr. Wharton smiled, as if somewhat embarrassed, but offered no comment whatsoever. Larsen said nothing. Nothing was said during the party by the parties concerned, or the other people, as to any possible objections on the part of Mr. Wharton's people to his marrying Pauline."

"I don't think that Pauline understood Larsen. He was of a morbid, highly intellectual disposition and was always talking of the deeper things of life. Pauline was a well-educated girl, and, being of a sympathetic nature, may have appeared to respond fully to Larsen's theories of life. Perhaps in her sympathetic nature he had found a woman who thought and acted completely with his peculiar views."

"I cannot help but believe that there was somewhat of an intellectual bond between them."

"With the exception of Larsen, who appeared during the evening to be just as I had seen him on two previous occasions, every one was gay and care-free. Pauline went about with a perfume bottle in her hand and sprinkled it over me. The smell of it is still in my hair. Everybody seemed happy, and all congratulated Mr. Wharton and Pauline."

Wharton Put Bandage on Girl's Ankle

"We danced during the early part of the evening and Pauline's weak ankle gave way. That is when two of the men left the house, not to get whisky, as Larsen says in his statement, but to get a bandage. Mr. Wharton and I tied the bandage about her ankle. While we

were doing it she said she was in excruciating pain and expressed the opinion that the tip of her ankle had been broken."

"None of us had been drinking heavily. It was a quiet party, such as you might have in your own home. There was no noise except that of the music and dancing and our conversation."

"When Pauline took the poison, Mr. Christy and I were in the kitchen. I had just asked him for a match to light the gas under the coffee percolator. Pauline was sitting in the other room talking with Mr. Wharton and Mr. Larsen."

"I heard a cry. 'Ann, get me some water, please. Pauline has taken something.' Mr. Wharton called and I rushed into the room with the water. Pauline lay slumped back in the chair. The others were trying to revive her. The poison bottle, about three inches in length, lay on the floor. It was the first time I had seen it."

"Larsen said: 'Why doesn't somebody do something? Where are the doctors?'"

Larsen Went for Doctor

"After I had called the two doctors I was standing near the doorway when Larsen ran out, taking his coat and hat with him, mumbling something about getting the doctor."

"I am not the one that Miss Clark told about her plans to commit suicide. It is all a mystery to me. I cannot believe that she intended to commit suicide. I think that she had the poison because she thought that it was clever to have it around the house. I think that she probably wanted to be spectacular that night and touch her lips with the poison to keep those present guessing, little realizing that the mere touch would cause the end. Either that or because of having the two bottles, one filled with perfume and the other with poison, she might have touched her tongue to the poison bottle by mistake."

ETHHEL GOODWIN

Former wife of Abe Attell, the boxer, who is held here pending investigation of \$3,000,000 in fur robberies recently. She also is under indictment in New York.

Head on Suspicion

Lewis put up a fight, but was knocked out by Lieutenant Carlin.

Developments in the case began early Sunday morning when Lieutenant Carlin and two district detectives were strolling through the district. At Thirteenth and Appletree streets they saw a man apparently standing on guard. They passed as if without noticing him and after a detour found another guard on duty at Juniper and Appletree streets. Then they divided forces and entered the block on Appletree street from both sides.

At the rear door of a fur establishment having frontage 1317 Arch street, they found two men forcing the lock. One of the men turned on Lieutenant Carlin and four times pulled the trigger of his revolver. None of the shells exploded, but all show they were struck by the hammer of the revolver.

The lieutenant knocked out the man with the revolver and Detective Gay did the same to the second man. At the station house they gave their names as William Carroll, Brooklyn, N. Y., and Maurício Williams, of San Francisco.

Man in Auto Gets Away

Detective Kane, who was at Thirteenth and Appletree streets, arrested Joseph Smith, who, they say, has numerous aliases, and has been arrested several times for robbery. The three detectives saw one man, who had apparently been to the store, escape before thieves broke in and stole \$8000 worth of his goods.

Captain Souder had a long talk with her this afternoon, after which he said that the police as yet had not been able to connect her with any of the many fur robberies in the Arch street fur district.

Captain Souder wired news of the arrest of Mrs. Goodwin and the others to police of all important cities this afternoon.

"I believe we may have stumbled into one of the cleverest and one of the most extensive gangs of organized thieves in the country," said the captain. "If they belong to the gang I have in mind, it is a mob which does not confine its operations to furs or to one city. It preys everywhere and steals everything of value, specializing in fine furs and jewelry."

Captain Souder said he had learned Mrs. Goodwin had gone to the Eastern Penitentiary recently to see "Micky" Duffy, a notorious hold-up man, who will finish his sentence next month. She said she had been there with a friend.

Enters Strong Denials

Mrs. Goodwin vehemently denied that she had been connected with the robbery, or that she had known the five men under arrest had been concerned in any wrongdoing. She said she had been introduced to the men by her former husband. She is at present under \$50,000 bail in New York on a charge of having been concerned in the theft of \$100,000 in bonds from "Nicky" Arstein in that city.

The woman's arrest in her apartment followed her refusal to open the door upon summons of the police. She insisted that she was in negligee and must communicate with a lawyer before seeing any one.

After threats by the police that the door would be forced, she opened it. In the apartment was Frank Lewis, of New York, who is under bail, charged with being concerned in the attempted

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# ATTILL'S EX-WIFE IS ARRESTED HERE

Ethel Goodwin Charged With Being Head of \$3,000,000 Fur Robberies

## 5 HELD AS CONFEDERATES

A number of fur dealers in Philadelphia who were robbed during the winter appeared at Central Station today in an effort to identify Mrs. Ethel Goodwin, divorced wife of Abe Attell, the former boxer, and five men who are under arrest on suspicion of having been concerned in thefts of furs worth \$3,000,000.

The woman was arrested at the Hotel Majestic last evening by Lieutenant Carlin, Charles C. Malach, a fur dealer at 40 North Thirteenth street, partly identified her as a woman who had entered his store to price furs a short time before thieves broke in and stole \$8000 worth of his goods.

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That developed at a conference between Senator Pepper and several of the high officials of the department. After the conference Senator Pepper expressed himself as fully convinced that there had been nothing shady about the acceptance of Mr. Walnut's resignation at this time. He added that he believed the Department of Justice would proceed with vigor in all the Pennsylvania liquor cases.

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Senator Pepper made it plain that his taking up the Walnut matter with the department should not be implied as criticism of either the department or United States District Attorney C. Gies. He said that he had been called upon Saturday by Joseph M. Steele, president of the Law Enforcement League; Mr. Nicholson, the secretary, and Walter F. Ballinger, chairman of the league's Publicity Committee.

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