RICH WOODLAWN MERCHANT IS KILLED BY HIS WIFE

Wife Confesses—Dead Man's Brother Says Another Man Is the Murderer.

John B. Van Keuren, a wealthy Woodlawn merchant, was shot to death today at the home of his wife, 817 E. 61st street.

Mrs. Louise Van Keuren, the wife, told the police she shot her husband, thinking he was a burglar.

H. E. Van Keuren, brother of the dead man, declared a man struggling to escape from the apartment committed the murder.

George Penrose, a jeweler, 61st street and Cottage Grove avenue, was arrested following the brother's charge.

When Penrose was taken to the Woodlawn police station H. E. Van Keuren attempted to attack him, but was restrained by detectives.

"I'd kill him now if I had a gun," shouted Van Keuren.

Van Keuren declared his brother had been separated from his wife since March 19, when they quarreled over Penrose.

"Two detectives have been watching the flat since my brother left," said Van Keuren.

"This morning they saw a man enter the flat. They sent for my brother. When he arrived he went up to the front door with one detective, the other going the back way.

"The man was cornered and tried to fight his way out. That is how my brother was killed."

Penrose admitted having been in the flat, but said he left when Van Keuren knocked at the door.

"Mrs. Van Keuren came to my store yesterday and said she wanted some china matched," said Penrose. "I told her I would look at her china after I closed the store. I went about 11:30. It was about 12:10 when I left. I have known Mrs. Van Keuren for years. There is nothing questionable in our relations.

"I left when I heard a knock at the door. I thought it was some of Mrs. Van Keuren's friends coming in, so I took my hat and went out the back way, home."

Penrose was found at his home. He did not seem disturbed at his arrest, and went to the station willingly with policemen.

Capt. Alcock of the Woodlawn station questioned Mrs. Van Keuren about Penrose's visit.

"I won't answer," she replied. "My lawyer told me not to talk. I have told you all there was to tell. I thought my husband was a burglar."

Capt. Alcock said he did not believe the woman was telling the truth about the shooting. She was confronted by Penrose but still refused to talk.

The story of Mrs. D. Saron, who lives on the first floor of the apartment, was corroborative of Mrs. Keuren's account of the shooting.

"There was a row, and I heard the tinkle of broken glass," said Mrs. Saron. "That was about 1 o'clock. The scuffle went on, and then came the shot."

Mrs. Van Keuren also declared some time elapsed between the time the door was broken in and she fired the shot.

"I heard a noise at the door," the widow told the police after being arrested. "It sounded as though some one was knocking. I went to the door and asked: 'Who's there?' There was no answer.

"I waited a moment and the knocking was renewed. It was dark and I was afraid to open the door. The person on the other side began to shove and push, attempting to force it in. The upper part of the door is of glass.

"I ran for my revolver.

"I heard a crash of breaking glass, and saw the head and arms of a man protrude through the break in the