

THE MEDINA SENTINEL

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No. 11

BLOOD ON TRIAL JURY VIEWS PLACE

EXHAUST TWO VENIRES IN SECURING 12 MEN

Accused Is Charged With First Degree Killing—To Be Hard Fought Battle.

Forty men were on hand Monday morning at the start of the murder trial of Claud Blood having answered summons as a special jury venire. When court adjourned in the evening the entire venire had been exhausted and but eleven men in the jury box.

J. W. Seymour is Blood's attorney and is assisted by Jos. Seymour, Jr., and W. P. Ainsworth. Arthur VanEpp is assisting Prosecutor Stine in presenting the state's case.

Blood is charged with first degree murder in that he shot and killed Constable Way Knapp, of Lodi, on June 22 this year after having perpetrated a robbery in three Lodi stores. His accomplices were Harold Huldeman and Clyde Lawrence. During the first day's examination of prospective jurors the stumbling block to the acceptance of many was from the fact that they had read accounts of the happenings in the newspapers and had formed unalterable opinions. Another reason which had to do with the excusing of many was that they were opposed to capital punishment for any crime.

With the venire exhausted Judge N. H. McClure before whom the case is being tried ordered the calling of twenty-five additional venires, and in order to give time for issuing the summons adjourned court until Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

The twenty-five summoned to appear Wednesday morning were selected by the judge from the four neighboring townships and were as follows:

G. A. Wolf, G. O. Haury, E. W. Brintnall, P. W. Himespaugh, H. C. Spith, all of York township; S. H. Hoddinott, George Abbott, W. E. Cole, D. F. Hunter, Winthrop Hill, all of Montville township; W. C. Thomas, T. L. Pulsifer, H. S. Witter, J. J. Armbruster, M. O. Perkins, all of Medina township; H. C. Koppes, W. B. Chapman, W. B. Parker, Chas. Maytham, F. A. Strong, J. Rumbaugh, all of Lafayette township; Levi Witzman, W. B. Alderfer, C. M. Fenn and Clark Reinhardt, all of Medina.

Work of filling the jurors box was resumed at 9 o'clock Wednesday. Several who had qualified on Monday and were evidently very anxious to serve, were removed, while others who were just as anxious not to serve were inducted into the box.

Shortly after the noon hour attorneys for both sides declared they were satisfied with the jury then filled which is as follows:

Jay W. Crawford, Wadsworth Twp., E. D. Flickinger, Medina; Thos. Kintner, Seville; Wm. Steck, Valley City; Julius Wolf, York; W. C. Thomas, Medina Twp.; H. S. Koppes, Chippewa Lake; H. S. Witter, Montville Twp.; P. W. Himespaugh, York; Ed. Beutel, Brunswick Twp.; H. N. Watkins, Medina Twp.; J. G. Armbruster, Medina Twp.

These 12 men who will determine the fate of Blood were then taken by auto to the scene of the shooting, where they went over the ground, until the middle of the afternoon. They were then permitted to go to their homes without returning to Medina.

Thursday morning the court room was well filled, a large number of women being among the spectators. Mrs. Merritt, Blood's mother, as well as the widow of Way Knapp were also present.

In outlining the state's side of the case to the jury the prosecuting attorney stated it was his purpose to show that murder had been committed in the first degree as the indictment charged.

Attorney Seymour, for the defense, would neither deny nor admit that Blood was guilty of murder or robbery, but stated that he would submit evidence to show that the crime was not committed in perpetration of a robbery on the grounds that the latter act took place at least four hours before the shooting. He traced Blood's life from the time he was born at Randolph, N. Y., in 1902 up to 1911 when his parents separated, his mother later marrying Mr. Merritt. He told of how the young man had been rejected from army service on the grounds of physical disability, and had been living with his mother and step father in Orrville for a year previous to the crime. He related how the three boys had left Orrville for Lodi, left the train at Lodi. They left Lodi, according to Seymour's account, about 3 a. m., on June 22, walked down the railroad track to Pawnee, taking a plunge in the creek in the meantime. He contended that after reaching the Falconer store at Pawnee the boys were pursued and shot at and that to protect themselves all three fired back at their pursuers. It was in this exchange of shots that Knapp was killed, according to the attorney.

The first witness called was Dr. Stahl, of Wooster, who performed the operation and removed the bullet from Knapp's abdomen. The doctor testified that deceased's death was due to peritonitis, caused from a bullet wound and told of having found the bullet just inside the abdominal lining. The other bullet entered the lung. In describing the course of the bullet which caused death Dr. Stahl

UNION THANKSGIVING AT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The union Thanksgiving services in Medina, with appropriate exercises in the forenoon. The exact time has not been definitely settled on, but prospects are that 9:30 will be the hour.

No definite agreement was arrived at as to place and meeting at the last gathering of local pastors. After some discussion it was decided to appoint a committee to perfect further arrangements, it having been definitely agreed that a union service should be held. Revs. Bryenton and Caulk were appointed to this committee.

As the Episcopal church was the place designated for the union service last year, which was of necessity given up on account of the Flu epidemic, it was decided by the committee that the service this year should be held in the Episcopal edifice. And further consideration of the subject led the committee to finally agree that Rev. Caulk should make the address.

Later definite announcement will be made of the time of service, probably at 9:30 a. m.

REPUBLICANS WIN IN MEDINA VILLAGE

DRYS PROVE STRONGER ALL OVER COUNTY

Good Roads Levy Carries by Large Majority. Classification Amendment Defeated.

Despite the cold rainy weather voters of Medina county were much in evidence Tuesday, and in the larger precincts of Medina and Wadsworth village election officials were kept busy from the time the polls opened at 6:30 in the morning until the wee sma' hours of Wednesday morning.

But few women took advantage of their right to vote for school board members in Medina village, although the turn-out in some townships was larger than usual.

In Medina village the entire ticket went Republican, the only real contest being for board of education where Geo. McNeal, ran a close third to his Republican opponents. The contest of marshal was also close.

On the county vote tabulated Wednesday on the constitutional amendments, Article XV, Sec. 9-1, Defining the phrase "intoxicating liquor" the drys carried it the vote being Yes 1761; No 3285. The amendment to repeal state wide prohibition went likewise the Yes votes totaling 3137; No 3157. The Classification amendment was snowed under—Yes 1419; No 3655.

The resolution to ratify national prohibition totaled Yes 3137; No 2016. The Crabbe act to provide for state prohibition and enforce liquor laws went Yes 3101; No 1994.

The one mill Good Roads Levy carried by a 3400 to 1479 vote. The vote in Medina village follows:

Medina Village
Mayor—Hartzog 370; West 262.
Clerk—Ainsworth 369; Reinhardt 272.
Treasurer—Harding 407; Bradway 248.
Marshal—Young 377; White 299.
Council—Hobart Edwards 353; S. W. Boyden 382; C. M. Fenn 434; F. P. Bagley 431; C. J. Miller 439; G. A. Bell 406; Frank 291; Asa Curtis 239; S. C. Hanshue 219; D. R. Pelton 222; H. E. Edwards 229; (first named six elected).

Bd. Trustees Public Affairs—C. D. Freeman 358; E. R. Root 386; C. D. Smith 414; E. B. Underwood 162; E. P. Hartman 224. (first three named six elected).

Assessor—Perry Cannon 397; E. E. Loomis 139.
Board Education—Garver 442; Robinson 423; McNeal 414. (two elected).

Wadsworth village and township.
Mayor, F. W. Boyer, Clerk, Carl Stauffer, Treasurer, C. A. Curtiss, Marshal, Thos. Lucas, Member Council, Wm. Bolch 459, C. J. Fry 524, Morgan Neath 538, Thos. Pugh 477, J. A. Crumrine 457, Thos. Dutt 439, Public Affairs, O. E. Swartz 353, A. W. Wolf 406, C. A. Bunnelle 376. Assessor, Owen Hartman 430. J. P. A. M. Beck 105. Bd. Ed. A. J. Krabill 460, W. B. Lee 329. Tp. Trustees, Harry Mills 609, A. M. Baughman 441, R. A. Auble 494. Clerk, W. L. Good 595. Treasurer, H. E. Libert 336. Constable, Tom Lucas 525. J. P. A. M. Beck 22. Bd. Ed., Ed. Lee 13, N. S. Yockey 5, Ditch Sup. Eli Leatherman 5.

To issue bonds for erection of Memorial Hospital, Yes 595; no 339.

In the list of townships and villages following only those elected to office and the number of votes they received are given, as in many cases the scattering votes were unaccountable:

Medina Township
Trustees—C. Edwards 23, A. Nettleton 23, F. W. Clark 22, Clerk, Jay Einhart 37, Treas., Ed. Nettleton 19, Constable, Ed. Hanroth 6, Assessor, E. Z. Worden 32, J. P. M. O. Perkins 13, Bd. Ed., E. B. Blakeslee 36, Roy Treman 32, Ditch Sup. W. Good 2.
Lodi Village and Harrisville Twp.
Mayor, H. M. Myers 142, Clerk, S. B. Marvin 22, Treas., J. E. Waite 151, Marshal, Thos. Fry 172, Mem. Council, Henry Bennader 159, Warren Boy 133, Chas. Bowland 134, E. H. Starbird 158, R. J. Howe 112, John Howe 106, Pub. Affairs, Albert Harris 104, V. A. Homan 118, C. L. Williams 117, Assessor, W. Boley 5. Bd. Ed. Mrs. J. G. Whitacre 200, C. M.

SIX BIG SESSIONS BIBLE CLASS MEET

SPEAKERS WILL GATHER FROM OVER THE STATE

The Big Theme: "Religious Education"—Addresses, Papers and Discussions Open to Public

A big effort is being put forth by both local and State wide interests to make the Fifth Adult Bible Class Federation Convention, to be held in Medina Tuesday and Wednesday, a red letter day in the attractions for the week. To this end speakers and instructors of large experience have been obtained on the program, and six sessions are to be crowded full of music, addresses and papers. The invitation is general; all are invited to attend. Following is the program:

TUESDAY MORNING
Song Service.....G. Walter Moore
.....Mr. G. Walter Moore, Columbus
Bible Reading and Prayer.....
.....Rev. W. H. Bryenton, Medina
"A Revised System of Religious Education".....Rev. Halpenny, Chicago
"Home Religion".....
.....Dr. Clarence G. Miller, Wooster
Welcome to Medina.....
.....Rev. W. J. Drew, Medina
Hymn and Benediction.....

TUESDAY AFTERNOON
Songs of Praise.....G. Walter Moore
Prayer.....Rev. Goodale, Medina
"The Older Brother or Sister".....
.....Rev. J. J. Tisdall, Columbus
"Who Lives Next Door?".....
.....Dr. E. A. Miller, Delaware
"A New Curriculum for Adult Classes".....Rev. E. W. Halpenny
Twin Sessions
"The Citizen Teacher".....
.....Rev. D. Carl Yoder, Cleveland
The Organized Class, Step by Step.....
.....Rev. Chas. Denny, Urbana
"The Seven Day Bible Class".....
.....Rev. Turner, Clarksburg, W. Va.
"My Brother's Keeper".....
.....Mr. Edmund F. Arras, Columbus
"Two and Two Make More Than Four".....Dr. G. H. Smith, Medina
"What's Ahead in Federation?".....
.....Rev. E. W. Halpenny

TUESDAY EVENING
Song Service.....G. Walter Moore
"The Teacher and the Book".....
.....Rev. J. J. Tisdall
The Adult Division Vitalizing Its Service to the Program of the Whole State.....Mr. Arnold, Columbus
"The Value of Social Contacts Illustrated by the Bible Classes".....
.....Dr. William S. Bovard, Chicago

WEDNESDAY MORNING
Singing of Old Hymns, led by.....
.....G. Walter Moore
Devotions.....Rev. W. J. Drew
The Home Department.....
.....Mrs. E. A. Kern, Cleveland
"The Adult Bible Class Activities".....
.....Mrs. Georgia Lee Young, Toledo
"Printer's Ink".....
.....Mr. G. A. Garver, Strasburg
College Trained Lay Leadership in Religious Education.....
.....Dr. W. G. Clippinger, Westerville
"Testing the Bible Class for Values".....
.....Dr. W. S. Bovard
Benediction.....

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON
Sung, directed by.....G. Walter Moore
Devotions.....Rev. V. S. Goodale
How Interest the Rural Adult in Religious Education.....
.....Dr. Wm. S. Bovard
The Week Day School of Religious Education.....Miss Cowles, Van Wert
The Development of the Community Rural Church School.....Rev. Halpenny
Increasing the Attendance of Adult Bible Classes.....Rev. E. B. Turner
Relationship Between the Young People's and Adult Divisions.....
.....Herbert C. Mayer, Columbus

WEDNESDAY EVENING
Hymns, led by.....G. Walter Moore
Scripture and Prayer.....Rev. Bryenton
"Conserving Our Prohibition Victory Through Religious Education".....
.....Dr. Clarence G. Miller
Social Rebuilding.....Rev. Turner
"The Strategy of the Adult Bible Class Movement".....Rev. Bovard
Miss Helen Graham, of Wheeling, W. Va., with large experience in convention work, met with the local leaders in the work at the Medina M. E. church Sunday afternoon. The success of the convention, and its progress, was canvassed, and the local committees given data for the completion of the preliminary work and the conduct of the convention proper.

There will be no parade attempted this year in connection with the program.

Mr. Edmund Arri, of Columbus, governor of the Kiwanis Club of Ohio, will preside at many of the sessions of the convention.

Chairmen of the several committees are; Badges, Mrs. G. J. Damon; entertainment for speakers, Dr. G. H. Smith and Elmer Gibbs; publicity, Dr. G. H. Smith; registration, Mrs. Carrie Hoover; reception, Dawson Longacre; reception (railways and interurbans) R. E. Hart; registration headquarters, Miss Minnie Wells; public comfort; Mrs. Elbridge Gibbs; finance, D. R. Pelton; special service, J. H. Small; information, Elbridge Gibbs; decorations, Karl Lutz.

The Board of Trade had as guest and speaker at a 6:30 o'clock luncheon today—THURSDAY—Edmund Arri, of Columbus. His address was anticipatory to the convention next week.

Ralph House returned Saturday from Michigan where he has been visiting his sister and her husband, Dr. and Mrs. George Hartman.

PROGRAM CARRIED OUT DESPITE THE RAINS

SOME SPLENDID ADDRESSES BY COMPETENT SPEAKERS

President Wishart, of Wooster University, Brings a Real Message—Local Speakers Participate

The heavy downpour of Friday and Saturday cut largely into the attendance at the rural life conference held in the Medina Congregational church on those days. People from the country could not get to town, and those who did brave the storm were wet and made weary in doing so. Not for many weeks has there been such a storm in the county.

Revs. Drew, Caulk and Bryenton, were local pastors having places on the program, while Rev. Buehler, of Labeville; Rev. Eastman, Litchfield; Rev. Keek, Northfield; Rev. Thompson, Granger, were on the program from nearby parishes.

Prof. E. C. Lindeman, of Chicago, gave musical instruction; Prof. L. O. Lantis, O. S. U.; Rev. M. B. McNutt, from the Presbyterian home mission board; Miss Lucia B. Johnson, Columbus; Prof. L. T. Platt, Wooster University, and President C. F. Wishart, of the same institution, gave instructive addresses. Prof. Lindeman failed to appear on Friday and John Beck was drafted for the musical leadership of that day.

The address by Dr. Wishart on Saturday evening was the item of real interest on the program. He spoke to the topic, "The Challenge of the New Day." Served in a nutshell the Doctor said that God was in everything, overlooking and directing man in his onward progress—which progress was always onward—with the details left in the hands of man but with little opportunity for a backward drift continuing over any extended period of time. Today, as the Doctor sees it, we are moving forward surely and certainly. He deplored, in a modest way, the antics of certain U. S. Senators who in opposing the adoption of the new treaty were most certainly blocking the wheels of progress.

The men who had planned and were the leaders in the series of meetings could not but feel somewhat depressed by the continued rains, and the consequent shortening of the attendance, but the chairman of the last session unqualifiedly promised better weather for the meeting next year.

FIND RAISIN JACK READY FOR MARKET

BARRELS OF MASH, TOO, AND STILL TO CONVERT

Men Making the Contraband Mostly Foreigners—Many Raisins Found in Stock

That the illicit distillation of raisin jack has been going on to a certain extent in Medina county ever since the state went dry, has been generally known by dealers in the dried fruit and others well posted. Considering the uncertainty of any action which might follow the arrest of these moonshiners, local authorities have been loath to make strenuous efforts to apprehend the law violators.

With the passage of the federal dry amendment last week this illicit distillation took on a different aspect which resulted in a raid being made last Saturday morning by Sheriff Bigelow, Deputy Sheriff Hange, Deputy Internal Revenue Collector Hanshaugh, of Cleveland, and Charles Hanshue, the latter acting merely as driver for the party.

Following tips which had been drifting into the sheriff's office the four men left Medina shortly before daylight Saturday morning and made their way to a house which stands on the southwest corner of the crossroads known as Young's Corners, one mile east of Grangerburg. The dwelling, which is in a dilapidated condition has been vacant for some time, but the sheriff's party found evidence there, as there were about 2500 one-pound boxes of raisins scattered about the place. The boxes were all empty and no other evidence was unearthed here.

From Young's Corners the officials went to the home of Steff Fensat at Grangerburg where a search of the premises revealed two barrels of whiskey mash and ten 25-pound boxes of raisins hidden in the cellar. No trace could be found, however, of any contraband by which the mash had been made.

The next place under suspicion was Pete Kranov's, one-half mile south of Boneta. When the sheriff and his party arrived here Pete was not at home, in fact the only person around the premises was a small girl. Here the cellar, which was visited first, revealed nothing, but a search of the upstairs brought to light another two barrels of the apparently much-prized mash. By adroitly questioning the child it was learned that the mash had evidently been made on the farm of Lan Lansen. The Lansen farm is better known as the Geo. Kenyon place and it situated one house west of the district school house at Poe.

Swooping down here the hunters were met by Lansen and another man

JOINS MEDINA BROTHER: ON DESTROYER 3 YEARS

Tuesday evening Lewis Lawrence arrived in Medina from England. He came to America on the steamship Laplander, first touching the American shores at Halifax, blown out of their course by a storm. The storm subsiding the Laplander proceeded to New York, her destination. Landing Mr. Lawrence came to Medina to the home of his brother, G. W. Lawrence. There was a happy reunion here, the brothers not having met since Lewis was 5 years old, some 15 years ago.

Lewis Lawrence has come to the U. S. to make a home for himself. He is lately retired from the English service having spent three years aboard a British destroyer. He saw some hard service and is rejoiced the war is over.

When the Laplander docked it was a skirmish among the passengers to make a landing. Not a few among those who paid passage were detained by customs officers, and a considerable number were ordered back to Europe. Mr. Lawrence says it was a sad sight to see people who had used the larger portion of their savings to pay the passage across the big pond sent back to the port of embarkation. Many broke down and cried when they found they would not be permitted to land.

\$6000 PARISH HOUSE AMONG POSSIBILITIES

EPISCOPALIAN SURVEY CALLS FOR \$5,000,000

Not Purpose of This Great Denomination to Strive for Episcopalian Souls Alone

A meeting will be held in St. Paul's Episcopal church Friday evening in the interest of the Nation-wide campaign for a fund of \$5,000,000 for use in enlargement and expansion of the work and utilities in use in the home and church life of this organization.

The Episcopal church of the Nation is in the midst of a nation-wide campaign and efficiency survey. An effort is being made to find out the needs of the several thousand parishes, tabulate and group them, and then work out a plan for satisfying them.

To meet these needs it is planned to raise an expansion fund of \$5,000,000. Churches that need help to provide equipment for work at hand, work that is readily discernible to the appropriation committee, will be given aid. Churches that have the ability to look after their own home wants, and contribute to the aid of needy churches, will be given that work as their part in the plans for advancement and uplift.

The Medina church would like a Parish House that may be used in the general uplift work of the community. Some \$6000 has been estimated as needed for such a work. It is not the purpose of this church to strive for the aggrandizement of the Episcopal denominations, but the good of the whole community, the filling of a want in the community that is broader than any denomination, however well entrenched.

Enterprising men in St. Paul's church are enthusiastic over the possibilities which this enlarged movement in the Episcopal church may bring to communities, States and the Nation. They feel that if a Parish House, as they visualize it, can be built and put into commission here that while St. Paul's church will greatly benefit so, too, will the other church organizations in Medina.

If, for example, a gymnasium and swimming pool were among the equipment agreed upon, it would not be made a means of gathering boys and girls into the Episcopal church and Sunday school alone, but an effort to gather boys and girls, men and women, not into any one church or Sunday school, but INTO SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

It is in the minds of not a few Medina citizens that it were wise to provide intelligent recreation and places for exercise for both old and young of this city. It is understood that such an institution will offer great advantage of furthering the uplift work in the community. They understand that it will be much easier to inculcate godliness when the individual is clean, vigorous and happy than when he is by mere chance able to eat three meals a day and dodge the doctor. And it is knowing this that has led to the present survey of things Episcopalian in an effort to work out some plan that shall make for the good of the whole community, in this way assuring great and profitable advancement for the Episcopalian denomination and its church membership.

There is a loud call for a gym, recreation floor and swimming pool in Medina. The only intelligent effort that is being put forth comes in connection with this survey by the Episcopalian. If Medina parents are alive to their best interests they will give this or any other intelligent effort their united support. The boys and girls of Medina can not attain to the "glory that is in them" unless their bodies are given healthful expansion and development. And a large and growing soul cannot find room to expand in a narrow, contracted body, and especially if that body lacks the health and vigor that only useful exercise can give it.

Mrs. D. S. Schlabeck arrived Saturday to make her home with her son, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Schlabeck.

LITCHFIELD FARMER KILLED, CLEVELAND

DRIVEN INTO CORNER, PAUL JOHNSON IS SHOT

Claim Made by Murphys That Johnson Shot at Them and Then Killed Himself—Murphys in Jail

Paul Johnson, 28, who owned a farm in Litchfield, was killed in Cleveland Saturday. Early in the day he drove to Medina, accompanied by his housekeeper and her son, aged 12 years, left his horse at the home of his father-in-law, Chas. Wass, and the party went by car to the Forest City.

After arriving in Cleveland Johnson went to the home of Hazel Murphy, who lived with him while his wife was still alive—she died in March—the girl having lived in the Johnson family for a year and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson having planned to adopt her, legally, before the death of Mrs. Johnson.

At the Murphy home Johnson became embroiled in a dispute and at some stage of the dispute he was killed. After Johnson's death his father, Wade Johnson, of near Chatham, and a brother went to Cleveland and brought the body back to Medina county, a Lodi undertaker having charge of the remains. Funeral was held from the home of Wade Johnson, in Litchfield township Wednesday at 10 a. m.

At the preliminary hearing held in Cleveland Monday, the girl's father testified that Johnson had called to settle for an assault he had made on Hazel; that in the dispute Johnson had threatened to kill himself and "take some one with him"; that Johnson had begun shooting and then, and only then, he ran to a bureau draw and secured a revolver and shooting in self defense, killed Johnson. He was bound over for further hearing as was also his wife, the charge being murder.

Friends of Johnson cannot believe that he either contemplated murder or suicide. They say that the Murphys are of doubtful character, and go so far as to make claim that Johnson was driven into the corner and killed because he would not yield to the demands of the Murphys. He was killed in the Murphy home, Murphy admits shooting Johnson, and the police are not satisfied with Murphy's explanation.

When Mrs. Johnson was alive she answered an advertisement for some one to take a 12 year old girl for the summer, giving her work for her keep. In answering the adv. she met and took home Hazel, with the father's consent. The girl remained at the Johnson home for over a year, until the death of Mrs. Johnson in March.

After the death of Mrs. Johnson her husband secured a woman as housekeeper, also from Cleveland, and she has a 12 year old boy. They went to Cleveland with Johnson Saturday. On the way to the city the woman searched Johnson, the boy says, for firearms and could find none on him. She did, however, find a large roll of bills. The boy says his mother did not like to have Johnson carry a small pistol he had as she feared police interference. It was because of this that she made the search and laughed about it. The woman is positive Johnson had no pistol with him. Both the boy and the mother insist that Johnson was cornered up and murdered.

An aunt of Johnson tells the story of Murphy insisting that Johnson adopt the girl now and when of age that he marry her. Both the girl and her father knew that Johnson was making money rapidly at the time of his wife's death, and that he had saved considerable and was in possession of two farms, and that he would make a good match for any girl looking out for a property marriage. She does not think that the girl was desirous of such a wedding, but that the father—whom the family feel is not what he should be—was the one planning for this to occur. She further says that, Johnson refusing, he was gradually backed into the corner from which he could not escape, and that thus he met his death. There is a possibility, they declare, that Johnson, with his bare hands, made an effort to fight his way out and that it was not intentional on the part of Murphy to kill him at all, but to intimidate him, and that in his determination not to yield to the demands of Murphy a fight was started in which he lost his life.

When found Johnson lay on the floor with a pistol in one hand. But the claim is held out that the way it was grasped it was good circumstantial evidence that Johnson had not fired it, as the grasp—or lack of grasp—indicated that the pistol had been placed there to fool those who found him.

Murphy had 6 children by his first wife—Hazel's mother. He married a second time, the woman having four children. He dare not take his first wife's children home, it is claimed. Then the second wife died and the present wife is No. 3. What to do with all those children is both a problem to Murphy and his No. 3 wife. In this, Johnson's friends aver, may be found some excuse for Murphy's insistence that Johnson provide, in some way, for Hazel—and the rest of the family.

If there had been correspondence between Johnson and the Murphys, and claims made on Johnson by the Murphys, no such evidence had been given the public up to the time that the Murphys had been bound over to court.

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