

"I AM NOT SORRY," SAYS BRIDE HELD AS SLAYER

TRIO IN DEATH CASE



Three figures in Rochester's brutal "honeymoon murder." Pearl O'Dell, who says she is not sorry for the killing of Edward Kneip (left), her former sweetheart, and who claims that she, and not her husband, James L. O'Dell (right), committed the crime.

A Bride's Confession and Its Consequences

BY WINONA WILCOX PAYNE

Author of "Confessions of a Bride," the Most Popular Serial in America, Now Appearing Daily in The Star

A murder—an atrocious murder—committed by a bride and groom as the consequence of a wretched confession made by the wife to her new husband, revives a never-settled moral question. It is the question which aroused columns of comment when Harry Thaw killed Stanford White.

What ought a girl "with a past" to tell her husband?

Mrs. Pearl O'Dell of Rochester told her husband, James L. O'Dell, an ex-soldier, that she had been wanted by a former suitor and today, their honeymoon not having waned, the newweds are in jail on the charge of having slain the lover.

On grounds of expediency, Mrs. O'Dell's confession and Evelyn Thaw's confession and all of the kind which have ever achieved publicity, seem to have been tragic mistakes. Probably the only good which has ever come from these notorious cases has been their startling warning to weak-minded, weak-willed, over-emotional and much-tempted young women.

There are doubtless more of these emotional and mentally unstable girls today than ever before in the history of the world. This unfortunate condition is a result of the war.

Everywhere there's a surplus of women and a consequent shortage of husbands; a new and surprising familiarity of the sexes in consequence of war employments for women; an open curiosity about sex and a daring desire for experience on the part of certain "advanced" and independent young women; a decay in the standards of chivalry among men, and an alluring tendency in almost every form of modern art.

MODERN CUSTOMS EXPLAIN TEMPTATIONS

These and a dozen other facts occur at once to all well-posted readers of newspapers, and they explain why girls today are beset with romantic temptations unknown to any former daughters of Eve.

Very many girls are forced to face the menace of changing conditions without ever having been provided with the strength to hold fast to the fine old-fashioned safe rules of conduct for young ladies, without being fortified with native common sense enough to perceive the dangers of their new freedom, or the will-power to ward them off.

Such girls are often sophisticated without being at all wise. The Rochester murder, hideous and repulsive as it is, should show some of them how consequences follow close on certain causes.

The average man takes it for granted—his very rightly takes it for granted—that the average marriageable girl seldom has a distressing "past" to confess to.

This honest assumption on the man's part suggests the obvious answer to the question: "Ought the girl with a past to tell her history to the man she marries?"

SHE'S NO TEARS FOR 'HONEYMOON MURDER'

"I Did What Was Right; He Wronged Me," She Says

BY LEE J. SMITS

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 17.—"I am not sorry; I did what was right in punishing the man who wronged me," Mrs. Pearl Beaver O'Dell, 18 years old, comfortably seated in the home-like woman's section of the Monroe county jail, very calmly assumes full responsibility for what local authorities consider the most ferocious murder ever committed in this section of New York state.

They buried Edward J. Kneip the day after his twenty-third birthday from the home of his widowed mother, a modest little home kept up by the earnings of the boy and his sister.

EXPRESSES NO PITY FOR SELF-OR VICTIM

But neither for herself nor for the former lover whom she and her husband confessed they battered to death in a lonely wayside, does Mrs. O'Dell express pity.

She is anxious lest her husband be blamed for what she insists was her own deed, and at the same time James Louis O'Dell is equally determined to shoulder the full responsibility.

Sheriff Andrew Weidenmann and District Attorney William F. Love say that each is trying to shield the other in a partnership crime which they jointly planned and executed in a fashion more resembling the studied cruelty of Turks or the ancient Chinese than anything modern or American.

SHE'S THE ORDINARY SMALL TOWN TYPE

Pearl O'Dell is, in every ordinary aspect, the hard-working, pleasure-loving girl of the small town type, who has lived more than half of her life in Rochester. She is tall, distinctly blond, with curly hair and a small, rather expressionless face.

Members of Sheriff Weidenmann's staff say that from the moment of her arrest, the girl has not shed a tear.

I found her, dressed with pains...

HERE'S COMPLETE STORY OF STRANGEST RECENT MURDER

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 17.—According to statements made by Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell and from the footprints and marks on the scene of the killing this is what befell Edward J. Kneip:

In his foster-father's car, O'Dell called at the factory where Kneip worked nights. Kneip had never seen the husband of his former sweetheart, and O'Dell introduced himself as "Detective Arnold" and told Kneip he was under arrest.

KNEIP OBEYS ORDER OF 'DETECTIVE'

Kneip, who never had been in any sort of legal trouble, accompanied O'Dell obediently and was driven to the home of Mr. and Mrs. George B. Arnold, who had reared O'Dell since he was a year old. Here he was confronted by Pearl O'Dell and by Mr. and Mrs. Arnold. To the accusations hurled at him by O'Dell and supported by the mild remonstrance of Arnold, Kneip said hardly a word.

Handcuffing his wife, whom he addressed as Pearl Beaver, to Kneip, O'Dell started to drive toward the country. His car broke down and he hailed a taxicab, the driver of which was immediately suspicious of him and notified police headquarters. He was told to take a companion and to watch the fake "detective."

DRIVEN FIVE MILES, HANDCUFFED TO A TREE

Five miles from the city limits O'Dell dismissed the car. He walked his wife and O'Dell nearly half a mile down an unfrequented road, turned off along the bank of an abandoned canal paralleling the Pennsylvania tracks and, about 100 yards from the road, handcuffed Kneip with his arms encircling a small tree. Then, turning his back, O'Dell said to his wife:

"He has wronged you, do what you want."

Mrs. O'Dell had taken a heavy file from the kitchen table in the Arnold home. With this she began battering Kneip. As she danced about her captive, driving the weapon against his head, he begged for mercy. He sank unconscious, and O'Dell unlocked the handcuffs. Kneip rolled down the canal bank.

BODY DRAGGED TO CULVERT AND POCKETS RIFLED

O'Dell had threatened Kneip with a small, unloaded revolver, half of which was found near the tree. Its barrel was broken off and the butt smashed. It was one of the several weapons used in the killing. Mr. and Mrs. O'Dell stripped Kneip and took two letters from his pocket and a small penknife. They rolled up his clothing and tossed the bundle into the brush nearby.

With his penknife, the revolver, rasp and later with a rock and a club of wood torn from a rotting log, the two crushed Kneip's skull and dragged the body to a culvert, where they left it, to be discovered in the morning by the engine crew of a passing train.

Plans Wholesale Arrests of American Bootleggers

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—(United Press)—John F. Kramer, federal prohibition commissioner, today predicted that "wholesale arrests of bootleggers may be expected soon in all parts of the country under constitutional prohibition, which became effective last midnight."

"With thousands of detectives at work all over the country today," said Kramer, "we plan drastic and quick measures to make the law effective."

Kramer said his prohibition army of special agents, lawyers and assistants has practically completed its organization. More than 1,000 men are on the job today, prepared to enforce the law to the very letter, Kramer declared.

Assistance will be given them by officials of the justice department, the postoffice and the internal revenue bureau. The law also requires help from local police and other state, county and municipal officials.

This means more than 25,000 officials are ready to suppress bootlegging and the illicit sale of liquor, wines, beers and all forms of intoxicating beverages today is completely outlawed throughout the United States under the constitutional prohibition amendment and the Volstead enforcement act.

No liquor of any description may be manufactured, sold, transported, imported or exported for any except non-beverage purposes, and then only with special permits issued by the government. This applies to home brews.

MEXICO PROBE IS CONTINUED

Secret Testimony Is Being Heard by Senators

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Jan. 17.—The Fall sub-committee investigating Mexican affairs recessed its public hearings yesterday afternoon until Monday, at least. Today will be spent in executive session, hearing witnesses, it was announced, who fear the effect that public testimony might have on their safety should they return to Mexico.

W. W. Miller, San Antonio, yesterday charged that former President Taft failed to bring relief to persecuted Americans in Mexico.

Testifying before the Fall sub-committee, Miller said repeated letters to Taft failed to get results. Filing claims with the Mexican government is a waste of postage, Miller said.

Miller declared his own losses in Mexico amounted to \$70,000. He was connected with a California company owning 200,000 hogs in Vera Cruz.

Says U. S. Interest Rate Is Too High

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Europe's reconstruction difficulties may be traced directly to the high rates of interest charged by the United States, J. Taylor Peddie, international exchange authority, declared today in an interview.

Continuation of the present system is a crime against the peoples of Eastern and Central Europe, he said. The present system of international trading is an unjustifiable gamble, which has resulted in inflation of currency that will inevitably prove a world-wide boomerang.

Parents Separated, SHE LEFT SCHOOL AT 10

She left school when she was about 10 years old. Her father and mother separated when she was a child and until lately she supposed her mother was dead. She has been a more or less welcome lodger in the home of a married sister.

She has worked in factories in the years when she should have been having the sheltered, carefree experience of a school girl.

She has commanded the love of at least two respectable, thrifty young men, one of whom she brutally killed, the other lured by her, according to the district attorney's theory, into a crime of inhuman viciousness.

And, added to the ruin of three lives, is the shadow cast upon the future of her unborn child.

Britain's Agent Escapes Bolshies

PEKING, Jan. 17.—A dispatch from China, filed yesterday, said Mr. Lamson, the British diplomatic agent at Irkutsk, had arrived there, after escaping when the Bolshieviki captured Irkutsk.

The dispatch gave no details of the agent's escape, but said he was proceeding to Harbin.

Petition Release of War Objectors

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—Members of congress are petitioned by the Friends of Conscientious Objectors' organization headquarters, New York, to release all objectors at once. One of the arguments made was that all warring countries, with the exception of the United States, have already freed all objectors.

Fight Battle With Tacoma Moonshiner

TACOMA, Jan. 17.—Altho trees in the woods south of here are peppered with bullet holes, the moonshiner at whom Deputy Sheriff Fred McEwan and City Detective Ben Bryan fired a score of shots is unscathed and all liberty Saturday. The officers raided a still and the gun battle ensued.

"Winter Cholera" Strikes Wisconsin

MADISON, Jan. 17.—The malady which has spread to several Oklahoma towns has now appeared in Northern Wisconsin. Oklahoma state health men diagnosed the epidemic as "winter cholera." More than 300 persons are ill in one Wisconsin community.

CREATE INDUSTRIAL COURT TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 17.—The Kansas senate late yesterday passed

the bill creating a court of industrial relations. The vote was 32 to 5. The bill was sent to the house immediately.

SAN CARLOS TO SING TROVATORE

Week of Opera at Metropolitan Ends Tonight

"Il Trovatore," perhaps the favorite of all the operas, was programmed to be sung by the San Carlo Grand Opera company at the Metropolitan Saturday evening. "Carmen" was the matinee attraction. The singers leave Seattle Sunday.

In "Madame Butterfly," sung partly in English and partly in Italian, the company pleased a critical audience Friday evening. Miss Bettina Freeman sang the role of Cho Cho San, the "Butterfly."

Fortune Gallo, the company's impresario, will depart from the city with the recommendation of Musical America that he be named director of the Chicago Grand Opera company to succeed the late Cleofonte Campanini.

Celebrate Birth of Lloyd George

Lloyd George's birthday will be celebrated by local Britons in Fine Arts hall, 1213 Fourth ave., Saturday night. An entertainment under the auspices of the British-American society has been arranged. Samuel H. Piles, former senator, and Austin E. Griffiths, president of the local branch of the League to Enforce Peace, will speak.

BRITISH BOND ISSUE

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Austin Chamberlain, chancellor of the exchequer, has announced a new issue of exchequer bonds to meet maturities due within the next few months.

VOTERS SWARM TO PRECINCTS

Clerks Too Slow; Saturday Last Day

Saturday marked the final day of precinct registration. When the books close at 9:30 o'clock Saturday evening they will be returned to the county building and will be ready for further registration next Monday morning.

The books will be closed at 9 o'clock on the night of January 27, to remain closed until after the municipal election on March 2nd.

Seattle took a running broad jump at precinct registration Friday, with the result that hundreds of men and women were compelled to go home without qualifying as voters.

Considerable complaint was voiced in many precincts at the dilatory tactics of registration clerks. In some precincts the line of registrants moved with the bewildering speed of a glacier, which, according to our best little scientists, is about 20 inches a year.

However, after an indifferent day of precinct registration on the opening day, Thursday, Seattle horned in hard Friday. In dozens of precincts extra supplies of registration stationery had to be rushed from the county-city building before the registrants could be handled and sent on their way. Scores of clerks were compelled to remain on the job long after the closing hour of 9:30 o'clock to care for those who clamored for action.

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