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CITIZENS SEEKING MURDERER

Over One Thousand People in Mass Meeting Determine to Take Matters Into Their Own Hands.

Committee of Five Is Given Charge of an Independent Investigation of Crime of Three Weeks Ago.

Have Begun Work With Vigor and Have Fund on Hand of Over \$1,100 and More Is Wanted.

Unable to force County Attorney Einar Hoidale to step down out of office as county attorney, and dissatisfied that the work of running down the murderer of Dr. Gebhardt should remain under his direction, more than a thousand citizens of New Ulm in mass meeting assembled Saturday evening practically took the work which belongs to the county into their own hands and appointed a committee to direct the work.

This committee, consisting of Mayor Charles Silverson, Frank Retzlaff, Ferdinand Crone, Albert Pfaender and Wd. Eibner, is to carry on a secret search for the criminal by itself, hire its own detectives and council and spend all money in its possession as it sees fit without being accountable to any person. This committee is not to interfere in any way with the work of the county, which will still carry on its investigations, but because of the uselessness of two investigating committees it is the general opinion that one or the other will quietly discontinue work.

ALL REFLECTIONS AVOIDED.

The speakers at the mass meeting where careful not to cast any reflections on the county attorney, and said that the action was taken only because of the extreme delicacy in which the present situation placed him. The delicate situation is this. Those who called the meeting and many of those present have strong suspicions pointing in the direction of Dr. G. R. Koch. They think the county attorney is not forcing the investigation along this line of suspicion and hence the dissatisfaction.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Silverson who stated its purpose. He said:

MAYOR SILVERSON'S SPEECH.

This meeting was called for the purpose of devising ways and means to detect and convict the murderer of Dr. Louis Gebhardt. Up to this time the county has furnished all the money to pay detectives to ferret out this murderer, but so far we have not been successful. Therefore, I thought it best to call this meeting to see how we can raise funds.

We do not want any mudslinging or censuring of the past; we want to see if the citizens of New Ulm are going to permit the cruel murder to pass without making a supreme effort to apprehend and convict the murderer of Dr. Gebhardt.

My plan would be, unless you can propose something better, to appoint a committee of three or five men in whom you have the utmost confidence and give them the power and privilege to engage whomever they see fit without consulting anyone until they are ready to have an arrest made, so that all their actions could be kept secret.

Then, we want the people to come to the front. There are a great many people here in New Ulm who know more about this murder than they care to tell. Some are scared, others do not want to be pulled into trouble. Now, I ask you in all sincerity, is this fair to yourselves and is it fair to the city of New Ulm? I have heard it said today that a prominent business man knows of a person who would do such a deed outside of the person who has been suspected up to this time. Now, if this is so, why cannot this man come forward, and for heaven's sake clear the suspicion against this man whom a great many suspect. If this man is innocent, we want him proven innocent, and I will be the first man to come up to him and congratulate him.

If there is any person who is suspected, why not come forward and inform the committee of what they know. A great many of you have the mistaken idea that you can be sued for slander if you make any remarks about any one that you should suspect to be the murderer, but this is preposterous, for, if any one reported a certain thing about any person they suppose might have been the murderer, and they reported it in all sincerity, and afterwards it turns out to be false, the person who would be so charged would not have any cause for a suit for slander unless he could prove that the party who made these statements, made them with malicious intention of defaming his character, but, if the charges were made in all sincerity, there would be no cause for a suit, and they would have a very small chance

of success. I have heard that such threats have been made. Now, you need not fear them.

There has been quite an excitement in town during the last few days thinking that there would be some arrests made. It is easy enough to suspect someone, but it is quite a different thing to convince a jury of twelve men that a certain party is guilty, and if we could make an arrest, we expect to do so with the intention of landing the criminal before the bars of justice, and we will not do it until we have enough evidence so that we feel reasonably sure that the jury will convict the one whom we arrest.

Now, in order to do this, we must have detectives and probably an attorney and we have to work in secret, for there is no use looking around for a murderer with everybody yelling at him warning him that we are after him. It has to be done secretly and quietly, and you will have to have patience. It may take months or longer before the authorities can discover and prove who the cold-blooded murderer was. Therefore I thought best to call this meeting and get a list of the prominent citizens present and see how much they are willing to contribute to this cause. I am willing to contribute my share, and I hope that all of the citizens of New Ulm will contribute to the best of their ability in order to clear the good name of New Ulm, which cannot be done until we have apprehended the murderer of Dr. Gebhardt. This will probably require a great deal of money, and we may stumble on the right party within a week or ten days. Should there be any surplus of money after the authorities have discovered the murderer, then this committee could refund to the parties who subscribed it in proportion to the amount that is left in their hands, or if you gentlemen present have any other plan of how we can raise funds, we will be pleased to hear from you. Some have proposed that the city bear the expense, and in this way, one who pays taxes will bear his proportionate share. That, however, cannot be done, for, if one dissatisfied tax payer desired to do so, he could get out an injunction, or if the money was actually taken, they could bring suit against the city officials and compel them to pay the amount expended.

ATTORNEY POPHAM SPEAKS.

Attorney George M. Popham, the Chicago criminal expert and one of the attorneys who defended the car-barn murderers in that city, was called upon for a few words. He explained first his connection with the case. He had been a classmate of Dr. Robert Gebhardt, he said, in college, and his wife and the murdered man had attended the high school together in Black River Falls. Natural he had an interest in the case and he had been the first one on who the dead man's brothers had called when they wanted advise. He had come here not to assist prosecute the case but merely to advise the Gebhardt brothers as to swearing out a warrant for an arrest.

He said he was heartily in favor of the proposed citizens' committee and explained a little the law of slander, assuring the people that if they knew anything connecting any person with the crime, they need have no fear in coming forward and telling it to the committee. Mr. Popham had the confidence of the audience and his remarks met with approval.

The secretary of the meeting, Albert Pfaender, then read the following resolution which was adopted without a dissenting vote.

It is hereby resolved by the people of New Ulm, Minn., in mass meeting assembled on this 19th day of November, 1904, that a committee to consist of not more than five citizens of this city be appointed and organized for the purpose of conducting a thorough investigation of said crime in order that the person or persons guilty thereof may be detected, arrested and dealt with according to law; and

It is further resolved, that the Honorable Charles Silverson, mayor of the city of New Ulm, be and is hereby appointed by this meeting as one of the members and as chairman of said committee, and that he be and is

Continued on last page.

OTTOMEYER'S Special Bargains

Dress Goods, New Trimmings, Dress Skirts, Petticoats, Sweaters, Shawls, Fur Scarfs, Muffs, Gloves, Mittens, Collars, Handkerchiefs, Ribbons.

We show some rare bargains in Dress-Goods from 10c up to \$1.95 per yard.

Some goods we wish to close out at half the regular price.

Petticoats. We show a good Petticoat for..... 79c
This Petticoat is worth \$1.25. We also have a large line of better.

Shawls. Knitted head or shoulder Shawls from 19c up to \$3.
Blanket shawls from \$3 up to \$12.

Furs. The largest and best line of Fur Scarfs ever shown in this city. You will find at our store Fur Scarfs from \$1 up to \$30.

Call at our store for Fall Goods.

OTTOMEYER'S

THE PLACE FOR BARGAINS IN DRY GOODS.

SPECIAL SALE!

NOV. 28-29

Monday and Tuesday.

Velvet and Velveteen for fancy work etc.

Velvet purple and grey	49c	worth 75c
Velvet blue	35c	worth 50c
Velvet brown	35c	worth 50c
Velveteen dark red	25c	worth 35c
Velveteen blue	25c	worth 35c

A large line of Elite Petticoats worth \$1, sale price 69 cents

Kid Gloves, all sizes and all Shades

Sale Price \$1.15	Worth \$1.50
" " \$1.00	" \$1.25
" " 79	" \$1.00

Bargains in Everything else

Be sure and remember the date.

Don't Fail to Come.

Part of the story is told in this column. Come to the store and see the continuation in our other special items.

Suits for Men
are kept busy nowadays—we never weary in showing them and usually find exactly what a man wants, at just the price he is willing to pay. Any man that buys one of these well-made suits will be so well pleased that he'll buy the next one in the same place.

Buy Your Furs
at home. Needn't send away for furs—you can get them right here just as good quality as you wish, and at a lower price than you'd pay in a larger place. We can prove all this. We're willing to sell furs at a small profit and can get exactly what you want.

IN THE CLOTHING SECTION. Here's where the men and boys will save not only pennies but dollars. To do that they need not sacrifice style, fit nor quality. We sell clothing at dry goods profits. We have but one price—our very best. Investigate.

In Overcoats
We're showing the leading styles. They're makes and styles here to suit the tastes of all. The best assortment in the city. Coats for men and boys.

For Dressy Men
Yes for dressy men—everything that we have in the line of Clothing. Not necessarily for moneyed men as the prices will show. Come and let us show the goods.

LADIES' SHOES. A cheap shoe presents a sorry appearance when the wearer is dressed in her best. But all ladies can afford good shoes at our prices.

CRONE BROTHERS.

MILLER TO ENTER STONE BUSINESS

Defeated Register of Deeds Manager of Local Company.

Wesley C. Miller, defeated at the last election for register of deeds, is to become manager of the New Ulm Stone company and will take up his new duties as soon as his term at the courthouse expires, January 1st.

Mr. Miller has been the register of deeds of Brown county for six years and is a reliable business man. He believes, as do the citizens of New Ulm generally, that there is a big future before the New Ulm company and in identifying himself with it he has a promise of something much better than a county office.

Archbishop to Confirm 600.

Archbishop John Ireland will be in New Ulm Sunday, December 11th and will give the sacrament of holy communion to all who have not been confirmed. It has been six or seven years since the archbishop was in this city last and in that time the class to be confirmed has grown until it is now over 600.

COLEMAN WOULD SOLVE MYSTERY

Will Wait Until Other Detectives Have Failed Says Sleuth.

It is Detective Tom Coleman, the Minneapolis sleuth, to the rescue. This man of many exploits has held aloof from the Gebhardt mystery up to date but he is getting ready to "butt in." To a local man who was in St. Paul last week the detective said:

"I am laying low and am not saying anything, but when all the other fellows have done all they can to clear up the case and failed then I will come down and find the murderer."

Coleman has won notoriety of a rather unsavory kind in several mysteries which have been connected more or less closely with New Ulm and its vicinity and he would doubtless meet a cool reception in this city.

County Attorney Einar Hoidale was called to Olivia Monday to testify in a criminal case in which he is an interested party. Last June his valise was stolen on the train and the alleged thief caught and put in jail. He now comes to trial.

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Shirts, Underwear, Neckwear.

Duck Coats, Rubber Lined Coats, Sheep Lined Coats. Trunks, Suit Case, Valises, etc.

Now is the time to buy Clothing and Holiday Goods.

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