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GUN FOUND IN BROWN COUNTY MURDER RUINS

New Clew Investigated in Attempt to Clear Up Death Mystery.

FINGER BONE DUG UP

Riddle of Third Body Still Unsolved; Lukewarm Search Made.

A fingerbone and a rusty .25-caliber automatic pistol today were viewed by state authorities as new clews into the murders committed on the fruit farm of Lee Brown at Nashville, Ind., in December.

The pistol, found by Roland Brown, the dead farmer's son, lay in a jar of coal oil at the home of Arch Ball, ballistic expert of the city police department, awaiting examination today.

The pistol was brought to Indianapolis by Virgil Quinn and Charles Bridges, deputy state fire marshals, after a private search of the farm home ruined by Brown disclosed the weapon within four feet of the spot where the corpses were found in the funeral pyre.

Snow Delays Search

Little importance is attached to the finger-bone, deputy fire marshals said. They believe the bone may be that of Lee Brown or of the body found near his side, which is thought to be that of Paul Brown, his son. The bone was turned over to Joshua Bond, Brown county coroner.

Bunge served as guide to the spot where Lee Brown's body lay. He seemed nervous and excited as he conducted searchers on the tour. Charles Bridges, deputy state fire marshal, said.

Quinn asserted today that drifted snow would make it impossible to search the ruins thoroughly for a third body until the first of next week.

While awaiting Ball's report, on the pistol found by the murdered man's son, Quinn plans to seek expert advice regarding the possibility of Mrs. Brown's body being consumed in the open fire of the farm home.

"I haven't had enough experience with bodies burned by fires to know whether it could be burned totally," he said.

Cremation Takes Hours

Cremation of Indianapolis today told Times reporters that it takes two and one-half hours of a torch-like flame to cremate bodies and, even after cremation, bones of the bodies cremated would remain.

"No heat is severe enough to obliterate bones. Acids are the only means of destroying every vestige of a body," said one undertaker.

Last week two Indianapolis physicians declared the bodies were that of two men. Quinn and other officers say the bodies are Lee Brown's and his son Paul.

But Chester Bunge, hired hand of the Brown family and the only eyewitness of the crime, charges that Paul Brown killed his father and his mother and wounded Bunge, after chasing him a quarter mile.

Suicide Is Theory

Supposition of Quinn is that Paul Brown, after wounding Bunge, returned to the family home, fired the house and out-buildings and, re-entering the home, committed suicide.

But the weak link in Bunge's story is that he says Mrs. Brown was wounded and that she was in the home. Yet her body has not been found.

Despite this knowledge, Brown county officers and Quinn persistently have refused to question Bunge again regarding his story. Bunge now is employed as a truck driver in Martinsville.

Charles Bolte, investigator for the state bureau of criminal identification, desired to re-examine Bunge, but was balked at every turn, it is known.

Cling to Bunge Story

"Let's look over the ruins again and see what we can find," was the chant of the officers defending Bunge's tale.

And now Bolte is out of the case. He has been placed on another investigation by E. L. Osborne, chief of the bureau.

"I've no other men to send down there," Osborne declares.

Brown county officers accept Bunge's story and even Prosecutor Howard Robinson of Franklin, definitely says, "I've heard his story and I don't care to talk to him any more."

The best thing that could happen in this case would be for it to end as a double murder and a suicide."

Probers Handicapped

The bureau of identification is reported handicapped in probing Bunge's story by lack of co-operation of the officials of Brown county.

"We have no right to detain a man unless court authorities are willing. But if necessary I'll go to the attorney-general's office in an effort to get Bunge questioned again," Osborne said.

The state police can not act in the murder due to their limited powers which permit arrests merely in automobile theft cases.

Albert Fowler, deputy fire marshal in charge of the arson division, said his department might subpoena Bunge to appear at the statehouse for questioning after all angles of the case had been considered.

Fowler admitted that Brown county officials hindered the probe. He said Quinn had been withdrawn temporarily from the investigation to probe a fire at Portland, Ind.

Winks Tell

By United Press
NEW YORK, March 12.—Pinky, black alley cat, stood on the witness table before Magistrate Michael A. Ford.

"Come, Tom, jump!" an exhortation repeated fifteen times with more ordinary fervor by John Bonner, Negro, who said the cat was his Tom, brought no more than the blinks of a cat-around-town who had been out for a night of it.

"Pinky, wink at the judge," Miss Catherine Borro, who likewise claimed ownership of Pinky, alias Tom, commanded in an effort to prove her point. She previously had explained Pinky was somewhat of a mouser, and also an amateur pianist.

Pinky slyly winked at the judge, first one eye, then the other, and the judge succumbed.

"It's your cat," he told Miss Borro.

TRACE CLEW IN CHILD KILLING

Search Hills for Elderly Brooks Murder Suspect.

By United Press
SAN DIEGO, Cal., March 12.—The behavior of an elderly man who talked incessantly of the disappearance of Virginia Brooks several hours before her dismembered body was found cast suspicions upon him today as police and deputy sheriffs searched the hills for him.

The hunt started when Bill Williams and L. O. O'Dell, living near Escondido, reported that an elderly man they picked up near the Poway grade Tuesday talked about the mysterious disappearance of Virginia, but left the automobile when it started down the Murray Canon road, near where the body was found later that day.

"I won't go down that road under any condition," the man said, apparently in fear.

It was the same man, Williams and O'Dell said, whom they saw near Oceanside nearly three weeks ago with a small girl bundled up in blankets.

The men were positive of their identification in telling their stories to deputy sheriffs.

200 DIE IN BLAST

Careless Chinese Soldiers Blamed for Blast.

By United Press
SHANGHAI, March 12.—Two hundred passengers lost their lives today in an explosion aboard the river steamer Pachi, the Shanghai harbor steamer officially announced.

The accident occurred yesterday night off Big Tree beacon, sixty miles from Shanghai.

"They have by far the highest standard of living in Asia.

"I want to find out if independence would not sink them to a lower standard."

"I also want to see what possible injustices might be wrought upon our own people in the islands, if they were cut loose."

Robinson said he would sail from Norfolk, Va., stopping at Guam and Hawaii and perhaps going on to China and Japan after visiting the Philippines.

500 ARE EXPECTED AT BEEFSTEAK DINNER

COLUMBIA CLUB TO HONOR 25-YEAR MEMBERS WITH ANNUAL FETE.

FEDERAL OFFICERS BREAK SAFE IN SEARCH OF EVIDENCE.

CHICAGO, March 12.—Deputy marshals and prohibition agents descended today on the Cotton Club, Negro night club owned by "Scarface Al" Capone's brother Ralph and demolished the club's safe with sledge hammers and acetylene torches.

They were reported to have been looking for evidence for income tax fraud prosecution the government is understood to be preparing against Al Capone.

"I. O. U." memoranda and other documents found in the safe were carried away for close examination.

Jacob Spellman, manager, was arrested. He said he did not know the combination of the safe's safe.

Two hours later, after a stubborn attack with torches and heavy hammers the safe was opened.

LET'S PLAYMATE, 5, FIRE GUN; BOY, 11, IS SLAIN

CAPONE CLUB RAIDED

Child's Finger Slips on Trigger and Older Lad Falls Dead.

By United Press
MILFORD, Ill., March 12.—It was a proud moment for 5-year-old Francis Bonner when Lawrence Goodhue, 11, said he would let Francis fire his .22-caliber rifle.

Lawrence placed the gun in Francis' hands and started to explain how to shoot a car off a nearby fence.

Francis' fingers slipped, discharging the rifle, and Lawrence fell, wounded fatally. Neighbors found Francis hiding in a coal shed.

FIREBUG MANIAC IS SLAIN BY TROOPERS

SET THREE BUILDINGS IN FLAMES; TRIED TO HAMPER BLAZE FIGHTERS.

By United Press
MORRISTOWN, N. J., March 12.—An unidentified maniac, who set fire to three buildings on a farm near here and tried to prevent firemen from extinguishing the blaze, was slain today by state troopers who fired to frighten him.

Damage to the farm buildings was estimated at between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

Heads of Identification

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