

Grand Jurors to Hear 'Damaging Evidence' On Arsenic Charges

Sheriff Readies Testimony for Hearings in Evansville; Prepare to Exhume Body for Tests

By CLIFFORD THURMAN, Times Staff Writer
EVANSVILLE, Aug. 22—Did Mrs. Clarice Francetti Spurlock poison her own mother with arsenic?

Sheriff Frank McDonald of Vanderburgh County thinks so. He said today he was prepared to present "damaging evidence" before the grand jury which convenes today.

And did Mrs. Spurlock give the same lethal doses to her own father to gain possession of a wife in Memphis, the highly nervous school teacher was later released on orders of Indiana authorities. He is said to have "disappeared" in Memphis without even attempting to communicate with his wife. She said, however, she knew his whereabouts. Evansville authorities expressed confidence that he would be in Evansville when Mrs. Spurlock arrived.

Persons who knew Mr. and Mrs. Dearing read reports of their daughter's arrest but were cautious in their remarks about their "mysterious" and "strange" deaths.

Typical Hoosier
Mrs. Dearing was described as a typical Hoosier housewife, interested in her family and home. She had gone to stay with Mr. and Mrs. Spurlock to assist in caring for her sick son-in-law when she contracted the "mysterious" ailment which caused her death.

Mr. Dearing apparently was better known and more active in the civic life of Huntington. He had been a switchman employed by the Southern Railway System for more than 30 years. He was an official in the Huntington Christian Church and active in the lodge affairs of the community.

He was reported as very fond of his daughter.

Only one report of a possible rift between them was being circulated. It appears that Mr. Dearing assigned his share of a \$1500 life insurance policy—made jointly to him and his daughter—over to Mrs. Spurlock with the understanding she was to pay her mother's funeral expenses.

Appeared Upset
He learned later from the Pink Funeral Home, Huntington, that the bill remained unpaid. He went to Evansville to question his daughter about it and it was then that he became ill and died in a hospital.

Sheriff McDonald recalls that he was "suspicious" about Mr. Dearing's death because "it was too much like his wife's illness." It was pointed out, however, that despite the fact he had appeared upset regarding the funeral director's bill remaining unpaid, he had had his entire estate—estimated at approximately \$20,000 by authorities here—to his daughter. His conviction was not included. The will was executed less than two weeks before his death, officials said.

Swears Out Warrant
He received the doctor's report of the examination Friday and immediately swore out a warrant. Mrs. Spurlock, with her husband, Arleigh, 39, was picked up in Memphis after a six state alarm had been sent out.

As Sheriff McDonald prepared to depart for Memphis today to bring his prisoner back to Indiana he announced several clues connecting Mrs. Spurlock with the arsenic death of her mother.

The suspect was described as a gay, party-loving and attractive woman who completely "dominated and ruled" her semi-invalid husband. Acquaintances she has a forceful personality and while charming and very pretty apparently has few close friends.

'Stodious Type'
Her husband, however, was described as a "quiet, studious type" while engaged as an instructor at Lockyear's Business College, Evansville. He had been ill for several months, however, and did not teach. Neither did he appear much at social functions. His illness was described as a "nervous disorder."

Authorities will seek to have him undergo an examination to determine if any part of his illness can be attributed to arsenic. Detained for a time with his

C. M. Haffner Dies; Burial Wednesday

Requiem mass for Clarence M. Haffner, who died yesterday in his home, 3949 N. New Jersey St., will be sung at 9 a. m. Wednesday in the St. Mary Catholic Church, Ft. Wayne. Burial will be in Ft. Wayne. He was 57.

Born in Ft. Wayne, Mr. Haffner was transferred to the Indianapolis branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1926. He was employed by the railroad 40 years. He worked in the superintendent's office.

Mr. Haffner was a member of the St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church and the Third Order of St. Francis. A veteran of World War I, he was overseas eight months.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Alma Haffner; a daughter, Mrs. Lois Keller, Indianapolis; a son, Richard M. Haffner, Long Island, New York; a sister, Mrs. John Wagner, Ft. Wayne, and three grandchildren.

Allen Webb
Allen Webb, carpenter-contractor and lifelong Marion County resident, who died Friday in his home, was to be buried in Crown Hill following services at 2:30 p. m. today in the residence, 5902 Broadway.

Mr. Webb was born near Millersville on the site of the Boy Scout Reservation. Most of his life, however, was spent in Indianapolis. A farmer for many years, he had studied agriculture at Purdue University following his graduation from Millersville High School. He was a member of the Broad Ripple Methodist Church.

Surviving is his wife, D. Estella Webb.

Mrs. Bettie Lott
Services for Mrs. Bettie Lott, 102 W. Walnut St., who died yesterday, will be at 2 p. m. tomorrow in the Jacobs Brothers' West Side Chapel. Burial will be in New Crown Cemetery.

Born in Dover, Tenn., Mrs. Lott had lived in Indianapolis for 2 years and was a member of the Baptist Church. She was 71.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Pearl Reed, and a son, Percy Lott, Indianapolis; a sister, Mrs. Henrietta Johnson, Clarksville, Tenn.; four grandsons and seven great-grandchildren.

Why You Couldn't Drive on N. Capitol



If you were a motorist driving down N. Capitol Ave. in the 11 a. m. traffic the other day, you probably fumed like all the others and wondered why the police car that had just cruised by didn't do something about this truck, blocking one entire side of the street. The northbound cars had room to go through, unless, that is, they met head-on with a southbound vehicle forced into the wrong lane. These commercial "road blocks" are one of the major traffic bottlenecks on industrial N. Capitol.

Hoosierland Traffic Accidents Kill 4, Injure 4; Two Die in Flaming Truck

Five Hoosiers were dead and five others, including an Indianapolis policeman, were injured in a series of week-end traffic accidents, including a spectacular crash at the W. 16th Street Speedway last night.

Three men died when their light truck was struck by a Southern Railway System train 10 miles west of Petersburg and burst into flames.

The dead were Jackie Ray Shepherd, 19, of Oakland City; George Davis Gardner, 24, of Oakland City, and Kenneth Hume, 18, of near Winslow.

State police said Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Gardner died in the flaming truck after the crash. Mr. Hume was dragged for half a mile by the train.

Otto Short, 56-year-old Muncie city fireman, was killed early Sunday when his car apparently went out of control on U. S. 35, seven miles northwest of Muncie.

Sheriff W. Pete Anthony said the car traveled 165 feet, crashed through a fence and turned over on the farm of Lawrence Monroe. Mr. Short was alone in the car.

Race Car Crashes
More than 10,000 persons at the 16th St. Midway Speedway watched in horror last night as one of the race cars crashed through a guard rail and pinned one of the officials against a light standard pole.

Bob Gatlin, 29, of 430 Leeds Ave., one of the officials in the field, suffered a fractured pelvis when struck by a machine operated by Mike Burch of Indianapolis.

Witnesses said Burch's car was leading the field when he was rammed from behind by the runner-up and shoved inside the guard rail towards the official's table.

All but Gatlin scrambled away as the table, timing instruments and records were scrambled by the impact. He was pinned against the post as he tried to leap aside.

Gatlin's condition was described as "just fair" at Methodist Hospital.

Frank Ulrey, 72, of 1506 S. Alabama St., died early today of injuries received Friday when struck by a car in the 1300 block of Madison Ave.

Police said he walked between two parked cars into the path of an automobile operated by Phillip Porter, 63, of 708 Murray St.

He died in General Hospital of a brain concussion.

Girl Critically Hurt
A young woman was critically injured in a two-car crash early yesterday on South St.

Police said Miss Theima Terrell, 19, of RFD 1, Bridgeport, was a passenger in an automobile operated by Chester Miller, 45, of 925 E. 11th St. when it crashed into the rear of a car driven by George Ulrey, 24, of Connelleville, Pa.

Mr. Ulrey stopped for a signal light and Mr. Miller was unable to stop behind him police said.

Miss Terrell was in St. Vincent's Hospital with a fractured pelvis and other injuries.

Policeman Injured
Motorcycle Officer John Mickey, 33, of 1727 Carrollton St., was hurt when his motorcycle crashed into a car he was chasing at Illinois and New York Sts. He was treated and released at General Hospital.

Paul J. Easterling, 29, of 748 Parkway Ave., received a sticker for making a left turn at a prohibited corner.

Neutral Pruitt, 26, of 2841 Denison St., was only slightly hurt when his automobile crashed through a hedge at the Indiana School for the Deaf and crashed into a power standard, a fire hydrant and a tree. He was not arrested.

Services for Mr. Ulrey will be held at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. Burial will be in New Palestine, Ind.

An Indianapolis resident for 43 years, he had been employed as a salesman for the Booth Fibers. Born in New Palestine, he was a member of the Red Men's Lodge there.

Surviving are his wife, Frances; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, Cincinnati, O.; two sons, Frank H. Ulrey Jr., Seattle, Wash., and Edgar L. Ulrey, Indianapolis; a stepson, Paul J. Easterling, Indianapolis, and a stepdaughter, Mrs. C. B. Dreyer, Cincinnati.

Mr. Ulrey stopped for a signal light and Mr. Miller was unable to stop behind him police said.

Miss Terrell was in St. Vincent's Hospital with a fractured pelvis and other injuries.

Policeman Injured
Motorcycle Officer John Mickey, 33, of 1727 Carrollton St., was hurt when his motorcycle crashed into a car he was chasing at Illinois and New York Sts. He was treated and released at General Hospital.

Paul J. Easterling, 29, of 748 Parkway Ave., received a sticker for making a left turn at a prohibited corner.

Neutral Pruitt, 26, of 2841 Denison St., was only slightly hurt when his automobile crashed through a hedge at the Indiana School for the Deaf and crashed into a power standard, a fire hydrant and a tree. He was not arrested.

Services for Mr. Ulrey will be held at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. Burial will be in New Palestine, Ind.

An Indianapolis resident for 43 years, he had been employed as a salesman for the Booth Fibers. Born in New Palestine, he was a member of the Red Men's Lodge there.

Police Check Confession in Lobaugh Case

Farm Worker Admits 3 Sex Slayings Under Lie Test

PT. WAYNE, Aug. 22 (UP)—

Police planned to take a 30-year-old celery farm worker to the scenes of three sex slayings today to bolster his confession by reconstruction of the crimes.

The slayings, two of them previously confessed and later repudiated by Ralph W. Lobaugh, were admitted after week-end lie detector tests by Franklin Click, father of five young children.

The sight of girls in shorts drives me crazy," Click told police as he signed a statement admitting the 1944 slayings of Anna Kuznetz and Wilhelma Haaga.

"There's something wrong with my head," he added. "I need an operation."

Followed 7th 'Stay'
Click confessed a day after the governor of Indiana granted a seventh stay of execution for Lobaugh, 32-year-old Kokomo factory hand, who originally was scheduled to die in the electric chair nearly two years ago.

Authorities said Click "talked" after they told him his wife, Marie, 23, and the couple's children ranging in age from five months to six years were "under a strain" because of the investigation.

Click said his husband was injured in a 1940 auto accident and that his injuries "may have affected his mind."

"Such a thing is impossible to believe about a husband that has been as good as Franklin has been," she said.

Attorneys and criminologists said that but for "slow justice" a "horrible mistake" might have been made if Lobaugh had been executed for the crimes he confessed voluntarily. Lobaugh also confessed a third slaying.

Twenty-eight months ago, Lobaugh walked into a Kokomo police station and confessed that he killed the women here. Lobaugh was sentenced to die in February, 1947.

Two of the women whose murders Lobaugh confessed were the same victims Click says he slew.

The other woman was Mrs. Dorothea Howard, slain in 1945, Robert V. Christen of Denver, Colo., was sentenced to life imprisonment on a second degree murder charge last April in that case.

Confessed Another
In addition to the Kuznetz and Haaga slayings, Click also admitted that he killed Phyllis Conine, whose murder in 1944 was never solved, and that he kidnapped and raped Mrs. Simon Sparks, 19, last Wednesday.

It was the Sparks rape-kidnap that snared Click.

Services for Mr. Ulrey will be held at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. Burial will be in New Palestine, Ind.

An Indianapolis resident for 43 years, he had been employed as a salesman for the Booth Fibers. Born in New Palestine, he was a member of the Red Men's Lodge there.

Surviving are his wife, Frances; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, Cincinnati, O.; two sons, Frank H. Ulrey Jr., Seattle, Wash., and Edgar L. Ulrey, Indianapolis; a stepson, Paul J. Easterling, Indianapolis, and a stepdaughter, Mrs. C. B. Dreyer, Cincinnati.

Mr. Ulrey stopped for a signal light and Mr. Miller was unable to stop behind him police said.

Miss Terrell was in St. Vincent's Hospital with a fractured pelvis and other injuries.

Policeman Injured
Motorcycle Officer John Mickey, 33, of 1727 Carrollton St., was hurt when his motorcycle crashed into a car he was chasing at Illinois and New York Sts. He was treated and released at General Hospital.

Paul J. Easterling, 29, of 748 Parkway Ave., received a sticker for making a left turn at a prohibited corner.

Neutral Pruitt, 26, of 2841 Denison St., was only slightly hurt when his automobile crashed through a hedge at the Indiana School for the Deaf and crashed into a power standard, a fire hydrant and a tree. He was not arrested.

Services for Mr. Ulrey will be held at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. Burial will be in New Palestine, Ind.

An Indianapolis resident for 43 years, he had been employed as a salesman for the Booth Fibers. Born in New Palestine, he was a member of the Red Men's Lodge there.

Surviving are his wife, Frances; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, Cincinnati, O.; two sons, Frank H. Ulrey Jr., Seattle, Wash., and Edgar L. Ulrey, Indianapolis; a stepson, Paul J. Easterling, Indianapolis, and a stepdaughter, Mrs. C. B. Dreyer, Cincinnati.

Mr. Ulrey stopped for a signal light and Mr. Miller was unable to stop behind him police said.

Miss Terrell was in St. Vincent's Hospital with a fractured pelvis and other injuries.

Policeman Injured
Motorcycle Officer John Mickey, 33, of 1727 Carrollton St., was hurt when his motorcycle crashed into a car he was chasing at Illinois and New York Sts. He was treated and released at General Hospital.

Paul J. Easterling, 29, of 748 Parkway Ave., received a sticker for making a left turn at a prohibited corner.

Neutral Pruitt, 26, of 2841 Denison St., was only slightly hurt when his automobile crashed through a hedge at the Indiana School for the Deaf and crashed into a power standard, a fire hydrant and a tree. He was not arrested.

Services for Mr. Ulrey will be held at 1:30 p. m. Wednesday in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. Burial will be in New Palestine, Ind.

An Indianapolis resident for 43 years, he had been employed as a salesman for the Booth Fibers. Born in New Palestine, he was a member of the Red Men's Lodge there.

Surviving are his wife, Frances; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, Cincinnati, O.; two sons, Frank H. Ulrey Jr., Seattle, Wash., and Edgar L. Ulrey, Indianapolis; a stepson, Paul J. Easterling, Indianapolis, and a stepdaughter, Mrs. C. B. Dreyer, Cincinnati.

Mr. Ulrey stopped for a signal light and Mr. Miller was unable to stop behind him police said.

Miss Terrell was in St. Vincent's Hospital with a fractured pelvis and other injuries.

Policeman Injured
Motorcycle Officer John Mickey, 33, of 1727 Carrollton St., was hurt when his motorcycle crashed into a car he was chasing at Illinois and New York Sts. He was treated and released at General Hospital.

Paul J. Easterling, 29, of 748 Parkway Ave., received a sticker for making a left turn at a prohibited corner.

Thomas Blackwell, Lawyer And Flying Enthusiast, Dies

Town Attorney For Speedway

Thomas J. Blackwell Jr., widely known Indianapolis lawyer and attorney for the town of Speedway since 1939, died at 6:30 a. m. today in St. Vincent's Hospital. He was 57.

Admitted to the hospital June 2, Mr. Blackwell had never fully recovered consciousness following an operation June 11.

The son of Thomas J. Blackwell, president of John J. Blackwell & Sons, Inc., Funeral Directors, he attended Holy Cross Grade School and Cathedral High School and was graduated from Notre Dame University.

Mr. Blackwell passed his bar examinations and was admitted to the practice of law in Indiana in 1936, although his law degree from Indiana Law School was not awarded until the following year.

Active Democrat
Personal attorney for Mayor Peeney during his two terms as sheriff of Marion County, Mr. Blackwell was active in Democratic work.

He was a candidate for nomination on the Democratic ticket for Superior Court Room 1 Judge in 1942.

Mr. Blackwell entered the Navy in March, 1944, and was commissioned a lieutenant shortly after completing training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station.

After more than two years service in the Navy Supply Corps, negotiating contracts with private manufacturers for the Navy, he was honorably discharged April 11, 1946.

Since coming out of the Navy, he had been an associate with Leo Gardner in the law firm, Gardner & Blackwell.

He had been counsel for the town of Speedway since 1939.

Light Plane Pilot
An enthusiastic amateur light-plane pilot, he was a member of the Quiet Birdmen Club. He was also a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus, Indianapolis Press Club, Athenaeum and Highland Golf Club.

Other fraternal affiliations included membership in the Indianapolis, Indiana and American Bar Associations, American Legion and Vets of America.

Surviving in addition to his father are his wife, Mabelle Sherman Blackwell, and four children, Thomas III, Judith, Gregory and Margaret (Peggy) Blackwell, who live in 5760 Guilford Ave.

Also surviving are a brother, John H. Blackwell, and two sisters, Mrs. Robert J. Boyle and Mrs. Robert J. Lewis, all of Indianapolis.

The family has requested that no flowers be sent by friends to the funeral home. Instead, friends are asked to send memorial contributions in his name to the Marion County Cancer Society, 1101 W. 10th St.

Services at 8:30 a. m. Wednesday in the Blackwell Funeral Home.

Surviving is his wife, Ruby Irene Johnston, Indianapolis.

Almg M. Cain
Alma M. Cain, who died Thursday in his home, 1404 E. Raymond St., was to be buried in Memorial Park following services at 10:30 a. m. today in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. He was 76.

A native of Frankfort, Mr. Cain was a foreman for the Wheeler-Schaefer Carburetor Co. when the National, Co. Duessenberg and Marmon automobile manufacturing plants were operating in Indianapolis. He was a member of the Olive Branch Christian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; three daughters, Miss Evelyn Cain, Mrs. Carl Wright and Mrs. Cory Zody; a brother, Frank Cain; a half-brother, Harry Downer, all of Indianapolis, and a sister, Mrs. Alice Clapp, Denver, Colo.

Services at 8:30 a. m. Wednesday in the Blackwell Funeral Home.

Surviving is his wife, Ruby Irene Johnston, Indianapolis.

Almg M. Cain
Alma M. Cain, who died Thursday in his home, 1404 E. Raymond St., was to be buried in Memorial Park following services at 10:30 a. m. today in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. He was 76.

A native of Frankfort, Mr. Cain was a foreman for the Wheeler-Schaefer Carburetor Co. when the National, Co. Duessenberg and Marmon automobile manufacturing plants were operating in Indianapolis. He was a member of the Olive Branch Christian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; three daughters, Miss Evelyn Cain, Mrs. Carl Wright and Mrs. Cory Zody; a brother, Frank Cain; a half-brother, Harry Downer, all of Indianapolis, and a sister, Mrs. Alice Clapp, Denver, Colo.

Services at 8:30 a. m. Wednesday in the Blackwell Funeral Home.

Surviving is his wife, Ruby Irene Johnston, Indianapolis.

Almg M. Cain
Alma M. Cain, who died Thursday in his home, 1404 E. Raymond St., was to be buried in Memorial Park following services at 10:30 a. m. today in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. He was 76.

A native of Frankfort, Mr. Cain was a foreman for the Wheeler-Schaefer Carburetor Co. when the National, Co. Duessenberg and Marmon automobile manufacturing plants were operating in Indianapolis. He was a member of the Olive Branch Christian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; three daughters, Miss Evelyn Cain, Mrs. Carl Wright and Mrs. Cory Zody; a brother, Frank Cain; a half-brother, Harry Downer, all of Indianapolis, and a sister, Mrs. Alice Clapp, Denver, Colo.

Services at 8:30 a. m. Wednesday in the Blackwell Funeral Home.

Surviving is his wife, Ruby Irene Johnston, Indianapolis.

Almg M. Cain
Alma M. Cain, who died Thursday in his home, 1404 E. Raymond St., was to be buried in Memorial Park following services at 10:30 a. m. today in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. He was 76.

A native of Frankfort, Mr. Cain was a foreman for the Wheeler-Schaefer Carburetor Co. when the National, Co. Duessenberg and Marmon automobile manufacturing plants were operating in Indianapolis. He was a member of the Olive Branch Christian Church.

Surviving are his wife, Mary; three daughters, Miss Evelyn Cain, Mrs. Carl Wright and Mrs. Cory Zody; a brother, Frank Cain; a half-brother, Harry Downer, all of Indianapolis, and a sister, Mrs. Alice Clapp, Denver, Colo.

Services at 8:30 a. m. Wednesday in the Blackwell Funeral Home.

Surviving is his wife, Ruby Irene Johnston, Indianapolis.

Almg M. Cain
Alma M. Cain, who died Thursday in his home, 1404 E. Raymond St., was to be buried in Memorial Park following services at 10:30 a. m. today in the G. H. Herrmann Funeral Home. He was 76.

A native of Frankfort, Mr. Cain was a foreman for the Wheeler-Schaefer Carburetor Co. when the National, Co. Duessenberg and Marmon automobile manufacturing plants were operating in Indianapolis. He was a member of the Olive Branch Christian Church.

L. S. Ayres & Co.

FRanklin 4411

"Campus News in College Fashion!"

The indispensable "little crepe dress"

A Dayne Taylor

12.95



For teatime, datetime, luncheon in town! Soft rayon crepe, self-buttoned to a deep V neckline, gathered at the waist with a double looped belt, with two pockets hidden in the soft folds of the skirt. Teal, toast, brown and black included. Sizes 10 to 20.

Ayres' Sportswear, Third Floor

Bring your college wardrobe planning problems to Ayres' College Clothes Consultants, in the College Service Shop, Third Floor.



Latest Campus Communique

Sweaters will be worn in pairs!



Choose them in cashmere, in nylon or wool; pick a handful of colors; mix or match them as you like for a complete sweater wardrobe!



Ayres' Sportswear Accessories, Third Floor