

THE DAILY HERALD

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MYRTLE HAWKINS MURDER MYSTERY WILL BE SOLVED AND JUSTICE DONE!

Detectives at work on famous tragedy, following hot footed the many baffling and conflicting clues

NO ARREST YET MADE BUT DEVELOPMENTS EXPECTED!

Reward may be offered and new coroners jury impanelled to consider new evidence. Public interest unabated and feeling runs high.

With public interest in the Myrtle Hawkins murder mystery unabated with the lapse of time, but rather hourly increasing as the police fail to find any solution to the tragedy which resulted in the ruthless killing of the young girl, expected developments are now eagerly anticipated by a waiting world.

The efforts of the police are to be seconded by outside associates. Detectives have been engaged and will be investigating the mass of evidence prepared for them. The different clues will be followed by trained men and it is but natural to believe that some one of these clues will reveal the identity of the murderer or murderers of the popular young girl.

The family of Miss Myrtle will bear the necessary expense. It is entirely probable that a reward will be offered by the county authorities and by the citizens of the town as a further incentive to the discovery of the murderers.

All other theories save that of murder have now been definitely cast aside. It was no case of suicide—neither was the cause of death accidental drowning. It was murder—whether that murder was a cold-blooded, premeditated killing, is yet to be determined.

The unusual features of this case, which have attracted attention to it from every part of the United States, are these:

Miss Myrtle's body was found tightly buttoned in a heavy winter coat. Last Thursday, the day generally accepted as the date of her disappearance, was a day entirely unsuited to the wearing of so unseasonable a wrap. The inference is that she left home either late Wednesday night or very early Thursday morning, although this inference is not justified by the testimony of the dead girl's family.

The last seen of her, alive, except by members of her family, was on Wednesday night. So far, no one has been found claiming to have seen her later than that time.

The murder was committed at some point distant from the lake where the body was found on Sunday morning. Those guilty of the crime, in fear of discovery of their identity, and wishing to mask their foul deed in a cloak of suicide, revisited the shambles of death, and on Saturday night placed the already horribly decomposed body of the girl in the quiet waters of Lake Osceola.

Miss Myrtle may have been done to death in the lonely woods overlooking the lake, in the smiling fields of corn below the dam, in the woods through which she almost daily traveled to the home of her close friend, Mrs. Beatrice McCall, or at some point far distant from where the body was found. Medical testimony precludes any

other explanation. The condition of the body, and certain characteristics of it, makes argument on this point superfluous.

A dainty little clock carried by Miss Hawkins in preference to her watch has been found in the shallow waters of the lake where the body was discovered last Sunday—and the discovery of the timepiece but adds to the mystery of a case which so far has baffled all attempts at its solution.

Briefly summed up, the most interesting features of the case are these: Why did the murdered girl wear the heavy wrap enveloping the body when found?

How did the little clock happen to be in the water with the body?

At just what point did the murder actually occur?

And at what time of the night or day did the child meet death?

HOW and when was the body taken from the scene of the killing to Lake Osceola?

What was the motive? What was the method? Bruises and marks of violence are not visible on the body.

WHO IS THE MAN?
So black a crime as this will not go unavenged.

When the murderers of this young girl sought to hide their crime in a cloak of suicide, they wrapped themselves in a mantle of death. They must be detected—and then the law must be allowed to take its course.

THE STORY.

Haunted and made mad by the ever-present vision of the child he had brutally murdered almost on the eve of her wedding day, the killer of Miss Myrtle Hawkins, the beautiful young girl whose horribly decomposed body was taken from the glittering waters of Lake Osceola Sunday morning, committed an error of judgment which has put the police hot-footed on his trail. For the girl was murdered; she did not commit suicide; neither was her death accidental. She was destroyed in the quiet woods overlooking the lake, or in some spot nearby.

Lay in Woods Three Days.

For three days the little body lay where it had been thrown, exposed to the fierce shafts of the sun and beaten by the rains from an angry sky. The murderer, haunted by the picture of the child so still underneath the trees, revisited the scene of his awful crime and in the dead of night took the thing that once was a mother's delight into his arms, tumbled it into a buggy and drove wildly through the dark woods along the public highway, until he reached a bridge at Lake Osceola, where he hurled the body into the lake. The bushes show where it crashed through them on its way to the waiting waters, and lashing his horse furiously the murderer hastened from the girl's swaying bed. He believed he had thrown suspicion from him and probably breathed more easily, reasoning that the world will think that Myrtle Hawkins, the well-loved daughter of fond parents whose soul ambition it is to gratify their child's only wish, deliberately committed suicide on the eve almost of her wedding

day. The coroner's jury reported "death from unknown causes." The girl's family, frantic over the tragedy, refused to talk, and if they would talk, it is possible some of the mystery surrounding the death of their daughter might be lifted.

An Expert Swimmer.

But here are the facts: Miss Hawkins was an expert swimmer; she was almost an athlete, had she fallen from the rock, where she was seen alive last, into the shallow and rock-free waters beneath, it would have been no task for her to have regained the shore. The water in the lake is not over 4 feet deep.

Her death was not accidental and she did not commit suicide, for the body was in the water not 24 hours, and she disappeared from her home Thursday morning, according to her family's statement.

En Route to Visit Friend.

There is absolutely no doubt whatever that the girl was murdered shortly after her disappearance and the body later thrown into Lake Osceola. On this point the evidence is positive. It had long been a habit with the dead girl to walk from her home through the beautiful woods and quiet paths to the lake and to the home near there of a lifelong girl friend, Mrs. Beatrice McCall. She visited her friend on Wednesday last and returned to her home that evening, her family insists, and about 11 o'clock Thursday morning left her home for the last time. She was seen no more until dragged from the waters of the lake while the church bells were summoning the worshippers to House of God Sunday morning.

Not Robbed Nor Assaulted.

Taking the girl's family statement as correct, therefore, Myrtle left her home Thursday morning and disappeared absolutely. It was her usual habit to visit her friend, Mrs. McCall, near the lake and she usually took some book along with her. She would stop at different favorite places along the thickly wooded path, which was secluded and but little frequented. She was murdered, but not robbed nor assaulted, some time Thursday and the body left until it was taken to Lake Osceola, which was undoubtedly done some time during Friday or Saturday night.

Dead When Placed in Water.

The condition of the body shows life was extinct when placed in the water and also shows that it could not have been there many hours. Also, it would have been impossible for so large an object to have been on the surface of the lake without almost immediate discovery. Lake Osceola is but a mile from town, is daily encircled by hundreds of motor cars and carriages and is faced by one of the largest summer hotels here, whose guests' favorite walk it is.

Making Close Examination.
The path through the woods and through the beautiful Norton estate, by which Miss Hawkins always walked to the lake, is now being minutely examined. It is hoped that a still more definite clue will result from this close examination.

If the girl did disappear from home on Thursday morning, why was not a general alarm given at once, is a question the bereaved family alone can answer. A definite and quiet search was instituted, it is known, but the police were not notified.

Opposition to Marriage.
It is said that some opposition existed to Myrtle's approaching marriage to Mr. Hal Cooper, a young business man of Johnson City, Tenn., a visitor here last, so far as is known, about six weeks ago. Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, it is said, had some idea that their daughter may have eloped with Mr. Cooper and disliking any publicity, instituted a search of their own without the aid of the police.

Mother Prostrated.

The dead girl's home life was ideal. She was devoted to her mother, especially, who is so completely prostrated over the tragedy that her recovery is in some doubt. Mr. Hawkins is one of the most substantial business men of this section and his home in Flat Rock is one of the best there.

The body was in a most horribly decomposed condition. Identification was possibly only by means of her wearing apparel and articles of jewelry.

Feeling Intense.

The state of public feeling over the tragedy is most intense. Should any arrests be made soon in connection with the murder, the police are prepared to adopt every precaution guarding against a lynching. But these precautions must needs be adequate, for never in the history of this town has a tragedy so aroused the people as the horrible doing to death of little Miss Myrtle Hawkins.

Chloroform Used.

The motive and the exact identity of the killer are complete and absolute mysteries, but it is not believed

they will be mysteries for long, for when the child-murderer drove through the black woods that night with his dreadful burden he committed an error or judgment which the police believe will lead to the electric chair.

There was no bruise on the delicate body apparently, but there was every trace of chloroform having been used to aid in bringing about that death.

FOUR DAYS OF DAILY HERALD

Again the question is asked, "When is the Daily Herald going to stop." Unless something big turns up there will be no other issue of the Daily Herald after Saturday, September 16th. This date concludes three months of the Daily Herald's existence. Also on this date the advertising contracts run out. The advertisers make it possible for the paper to run and without them it would be useless to publish a Daily paper.

While the Herald might have been conducted a little different from previous years, yet the new management has tried to keep it up to the same high standard which it has been run in past years and from the already gratifying reports feels that it has given the people of this section as good a paper as could under the circumstances.

The Hustler will have the entire attention of the office force this winter and it is the desire of the management in making this "the weekly of Western North Carolina."

St. Andrew 500th Year.

Edinburg, Sept. 12.—Delegates from the universities and learned societies of all the civilized world, noblemen and many others of note, assembled today in Scotland's ancient ecclesiastical capital at the opening of the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the University of St. Andrew. Among the Americans present were Prof. Josiah Royce of Harvard University, Prof. Bernard P. Moses of the University of California, and Dr. Leonard Steinger, representing the Smithsonian Institution.

St. Andrews was founded in 1411 by Bishop Wardlaw and is the oldest university of Scotland. Prior to its founding the only opportunity for the education of the Scottish youth lay in pilgrimages to other countries.

Gaby Deslys to Visit Us.

London, Sept. 12.—Gaby Deslys, the Parisian vaudeville artiste, whose visits to Lisbon are said to have contributed to the revolution which cost King Manuel his throne, sails today to begin an engagement of eight weeks in the United States. Her first appearance is scheduled for the Winter Garden in New York city the latter part of this month. It is said Miss Deslys is to receive a salary of \$4,000 a week during her appearance in America.

Will Attend the Asheville Business College.

Mr. H. S. Shockley, principal Asheville Business College has been in the city several times this week organizing a club to attend the Asheville business college.

Those who join this club get two months board free.

This college is the oldest and best known in the state. If you are interested, write Asheville Business College for particulars.

The Palace.

The show at the Palace Theater this evening promises to be one of rare opportunity. The management has been trying to get the picture for some time but not until recently did they succeed in getting in line for the valuable reproduction of this picture. Extra musical program this evening. The picture tonight is the Old Folk's Sacrifice. The New Servant.

"LARGEST SUMMER SEASON," SAYS PROMINENT CITIZEN

Hendersonville has fared well in tourist business. Many visitors here yet. Best to own a home here.

Governor Kitchin will be asked to offer a reward for the apprehension of the murderer of Miss Myrtle Hawkins. The authorities are now in communication with the Governor.

Offer a Reward

To the Constituted Authorities of Henderson County: Gentlemen: Black murder has been committed in this county under peculiarly atrocious and shocking circumstances. Outraged justice demands that every effort be made to fasten this crime upon the guilty one, that he may serve as an example for all time to come to other criminals.

The womanhood of this county demand that you at once offer a reward sufficiently large to interest the best detectives of the country that these trained men may aid in running to ground the perpetrators of the most dastardly crime in the history of old Henderson county. Gentlemen, this is your PUBLIC DUTY. You can do no less and remain faithful servants of the people whose agents you are. OFFER THE REWARD!

MAINE GOES WET

Portland, Sept. 11.—Unofficial and only party revised returns from 499 out of 521 cities, towns and plantations in Maine today gave a majority of 904 for repeal of the prohibitory constitutional amendment. This missing 2 towns cast less than 384 votes at the state election three years ago.

Persons desiring to contribute to the aid of Mrs. A. H. Daniel, whose husband left her in desolate conditions with herself sick and a very sick child, can do so at The Wanteska Bank. For the next few weeks meals are being sent the unfortunate lady and her child from a boarding house in this city. A young lady of this city has started a fund at the bank for the Daniel family and it is thought that many of the people and visitors will contribute small amounts in getting the sick ones the bear necessities of life.

E. Lewis and his daughter, Miss Rosa will leave this week for Baltimore where Mr. Lewis will make a large purchase of fall and winter goods. Miss Rosa will enter college in Baltimore this year.

The Hustler company welcomes an old advertiser in the columns of the weekly publications from this office. T. B. Carson one of the best known merchants in Henderson county has begun an extensive campaign of advertising through the columns of the Hustler, the one best weekly in Western North Carolina.

Mr. Luther Maxwell leaves soon for Nampa, Idaho.

"The summer season in Hendersonville," remarked one of the best known citizens of this city, "has been one of the best I have ever witnessed." We have been fortunate in having a little longer season than most of the other mountain cities. It is a strange thing to me that more visitors do not remain here longer in the fall and see the most beautiful part of the year. To my mind there is nothing more beautiful to the eye than to watch the wonderful transformation of the mountains take place in the fall" continued the eagerly speaking citizen.

Hendersonville has fared exceptionally well this summer. Real estate has held its own and in many cases has been on the incline. More property has been sold this summer than ever before at the same time of the year. A summer visitor coming here for the summer only comes once generally before he is convinced that the most comfortable all round way of staying here for a long length of time is to own a home in this beautiful mountain town.

Summer homes have sprung up dotting the mountains here and there in very short times. The city is spreading in every direction from the court house.

SHOWS REFUSED

New York Sept. 11.—The exhibition of moving pictures of the Beattie murder trial will not be permitted in this city. After a conference with Mayor Gaynor today, James G. Wallace, chief of the bureau of licenses, addressed a letter to persons engaged in the moving picture business in which he said:

"I beg to inform you that any moving picture films or stereopticon views relating to the Beattie murder case depicting any scene in connection therewith or featuring any persons implicated therein who are depending for advertising upon their connection with this gruesome tragedy, are condemned for the reason that they are unfit to be shown in places of public amusement."

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 11.—Mayor Thompson tonight issued an order forbidding the reproduction in Detroit of moving pictures of the Beattie murder or trial or the pictures which Beulah Binford recently posed for.

WINS SUIT FROM TOXAWAY CO.

Judge Ewart won his big suit, G. W. Fisher vs. The Toxaway Co., at Brevard last week. The case involved the title to a seventh interest in a tract of land in the Lake Toxaway section, including the big dam which cost over \$30,000 to construct, a large slice of the Lake and the splendid water powers on the Toxaway river below the dam, for which it is said the Duke of the American Tobacco Co., have offered many thousands for. The main issue in the case was the validity of a deed, alleged to have been executed to the Toxaway Co., by the plaintiff G. W. Fisher. Fisher denied signing this deed, but declared it was a forgery.

All other issues in the case here referred to Bartlett Shipp of this city to hear and report his findings to the next term of the court. With Judge Ewart as counsel was Ex-Solicitor McCall, and Judge Shuford and Zachary Clayton of Brevard, represented the Toxaway Co. It is not thought that there will be any appeal, there being no exceptions filed to either the rulings or the charge of Judge Lane by the defendant.