

ERNEST WITMER TRACED AS FAR AS SIOUX CITY.

HIS WIFE WAS LAST SEEN
ABOUT 5 P. M. SEPT. 26
AT HER HOME

HUSBAND VISITED PARENTS

Missing Young Man Told His Sister At Pender That He Had Taken His Wife to Verges Sanitarium in Norfolk

The trail of Ernest Witmer, young farmer, who lived between Brunswick and Neligh and who has been missing a month, so far as authorities and relatives have been able to determine, ends in Sioux City, Ia., where he was known to be on Friday morning, Sept. 25.

No trace of Witmer's young wife, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dreger, living east of Norfolk, has been discovered since she mysteriously disappeared from her home some time after 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 26. At about 5 o'clock that afternoon Mrs. Witmer was seen by John Forbes, on whose farm the Witmers lived, and by whom Witmer was employed.

Sold Chickens Here
Witmer's activities on Sept. 27 and 28 have been learned by the Norfolk police and relatives of both Witmer and his wife. On the morning of Sept. 27, Witmer came to Norfolk and sold some chickens. The authorities are now attempting to learn whether or not he was accompanied by his wife at that time.

Witmer was wearing overalls and a jacket at the time. He had on the same clothes, according to the police, when he rented a Ford automobile from Sam Russ in Norfolk and gave his name as Earl Martz.

Later in the day Witmer was seen in Stanton, where he was dressed in good clothes. The police believe he had the overalls on over his dress clothes. At Stanton, Witmer visited a barber shop where he secured a hair cut and a shave. On the afternoon of Sept. 27, Witmer was seen in Wisner.

Early in the evening of the same day Witmer arrived at his parents' home about one-half mile from Pender. That evening he and his brother went to a dance at Pender. While at his parents' home, the police have learned, Witmer told his sister that he had taken his wife to Verges sanitarium in Norfolk, where she was going to have her teeth pulled.

No Record of Mrs. Witmer
Verges sanitarium has no record of having Mrs. Witmer as a patient, the authorities said.

About 5 o'clock, Friday morning, Sept. 28, Witmer left the home of his parents near Pender and drove the automobile he rented to Sioux City. About 9:30 a. m. the same day, Russ, owner of the car, received a telegram from Witmer, bearing the signature "Earl Martz", saying that he would return to Norfolk with the car on Saturday.

That is the last trace either the officers or relatives have of Witmer. Relatives of both Witmer and his wife have joined hands in an effort to locate the missing couple.

Left Clothes Soaking

Mrs. Witmer left her home without taking any of her good clothes. Relatives upon visiting the Witmer home noticed that apparently Mrs. Witmer had made preparations to do a washing. Garments were found soaking in a tub of water, but to the relatives it was strange that Mrs. Witmer placed white and colored clothes together in the same tub.

Another thing that puzzles the officers is the fact that Witmer's 1924 Ford touring car is missing. Whether or not Mrs. Witmer took the car has not been learned. If this car has been abandoned some place, it has not been reported to the police or relatives. It had as its license No. 26-2960.

Witmer, the police said, frequently talked about going to Minnesota where he has been a visitor a few times. Relatives are holding to the belief that Witmer might possibly be working on a farm in Minnesota.

Every possible means, including radio messages, of getting trace of the missing young people, is being enlisted by the authorities and relatives as the search continues.

Antelope Land Sold

Neligh, Neb., Oct. 26.—Special to The News: Two tracts of land were sold at public auction at the courthouse this week. One was sold to settle an estate and the other was a foreclosure sale. The Kell tract of 145 acres just south and west of the overhead viaduct between Neligh and Elgin was sold to J. M. Perry for investment at \$14,500 or \$100 per acre. The Holcomb eighty west of Elgin was also sold for cash to an investor, bringing \$105 per acre. The Kell land is unimproved and has no buildings of any kind.

Tong War is Ended

New York, Oct. 26.—The recent war between the On Leong and Hip Sing tong in which several Chinese were killed and several wounded has been declared only a "misunderstanding" and "peace" has been signed.

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MYSTERY VEILS YOUNG COUPLE'S DISAPPEARANCE

ERNEST WITMER AND WIFE
HAVE BEEN MISSING SINCE
LAST OF SEPTEMBER

NOTE LEFT IN FARM HOUSE

Husband Rents Automobile In Norfolk After His Wife Disappeared From Home Between Brunswick and Neligh

Authorities in several northeast Nebraska towns and relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Witmer, who lived on one of John Forbes' farms between Brunswick and Neligh are attempting to solve the mysterious disappearance of the young people who have not been heard from since the 26th and 27th of September.

Norfolk police and others are convinced that the Witmers are not together, basing their conviction on information that Witmer was seen in Sioux City, Ia., and northeast Nebraska towns early in October without his wife.

Mrs. Witmer, who is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dreger, living east of Norfolk, disappeared on the night of Sept. 26. When she left her home, Norfolk police have learned, she did not take any of her best clothes, apparently leaving while dressed in a house garment.

Rented Auto in Norfolk On Thursday, Sept. 27, the day after Mrs. Witmer's disappearance, Witmer came to Norfolk, the police said, and rented a Ford coach from Sam Russ, proprietor of a drive-it-yourself automobile concern.

When he rented the car, Witmer, according to the police, gave his name as Earl Mortz. On the following day, Witmer while in Sioux City, telephoned Russ that he would return the rented car on Saturday. He failed to do this.

Another mystery confronting the authorities is the disappearance of a 1924 Ford automobile owned by the Witmers. The license number on this car is 26-2960. The engine number is 10,147,220.

On Saturday, Sept. 22, the po-

speech will be heard in the Auditorium at Omaha, where Senator Norris will talk. H. G. Keeney, president of the Nebraska Farmers' union, will introduce Senator Norris, whose speech will be broadcast over a nation-wide hook-up. A number of farmers in the Norfolk vicinity are forming automobile parties to go to Omaha to hear the Nebraska senator, according to reports.

Out of more than 200 candidates, Francis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Maas, was one of the few young men chosen as members of the Notre Dame university glee club. Francis, who was outstanding in music while attending Norfolk high school, has been rehearsed for solo parts. This glee club, while in Chicago for the Notre Dame-Navy football game, made recordings for the Brunswick company. The singers are expected to make some recordings for the Columbia company in the near future. In December, the Notre Dame glee club will go on a concert tour in the southern part of the United States and Cuba. The club has been booked to make recordings for the Vitaphone company.

A regular two-cent stamp, surcharged in two lines, "Molly Pitcher," was recently placed on sale at Washington, D. C., and several other offices in the east. This issue is for the purpose of commemorating the battle of M. S. D. Monmouth during the Revolutionary war. The postal department of late has taken to surcharging regular issues to commemorate some of the minor events of history, which are not deemed important enough to be remembered by a special design. This is the first time a United States stamp has been surcharged strictly for use in this country. About a month ago the regular two and five-cent values were surcharged in two lines, "Hawaii 1778-1928." While they were intended primarily for use in Hawaii, they were valid for the prepayment of postage in the postoffices of the United States and possessions.

He said, Mr. and Mrs. Witmer attended a dance at King's park in Norfolk. Shortly after leaving the dance pavilion in their car, the Witmers were in an automobile wreck, their machine being damaged when it upset. The damaged car was towed to Schmode's garage in Norfolk.

The next day, Sunday, Sept. 23, after remaining in Norfolk overnight, the Witmers drove their automobile to their home.

Note is Found Upon visiting the Witmer home, some time after the young couple had disappeared, relatives found a piece of cardboard on a table, on which the following was written: "Had to take Rose to dentist's to get a tooth pulled."

On top of the cardboard was found Witmer's wedding ring, which has his wife's initials inscribed on the inside. The police were told that Witmer had never been known to take this ring off his finger, and that relatives were surprised to find it there.

Parents of Mrs. Witmer fear that she might have been the victim of foul play.

The Witmers were married about two years ago. Mrs. Witmer is about 24 years old, weighs 120 pounds and is 5 feet, 3 inches in height. Her husband is 26 or 27 years old, and is rather tall and slender.

Radio station WJAG has been enlisted in an effort to locate the young couple.

ART DEPARTMENT IN NEED OF MORE ROOM

COURSE IS BECOMING UNUSUALLY POPULAR AMONG NORFOLK STUDENTS

Increased interest in the art course offered in Norfolk public schools has brought need for a room, specially built and equipped for the teaching of art. Advanced work in art will be hindered until this is provided, it was said.

Each year the art department, of which Maybelle Thompson-Mason is the head, sends an exhibit to the Nebraska state fair. The entries in this exhibit are in competition for prizes with art work of other schools of Nebraska. As Norfolk is listed in Class C—city schools—it competes with work produced by students in such schools as Omaha, Lincoln and other cities with a population of 10,000 or more.

This year Norfolk won first place as the city school showing the best art work. The award is what is commonly termed "the grand prize." To win this award a school must make the highest score in awards. Every entry made by Norfolk was given some award, ranging from first to third place, with a majority of awards in first prizes.

A number of the Norfolk patrons seem to be misinformed as to the awarding of prizes in public school work, school officials said. No work of one child alone can enter the competition. All entries for public school are made in groups from primary to high school grades. One entry, for instance, paper cutting of an illustrated story, might be represented by work of two dozen children scattered over the entire school system, it was pointed out. This means, it was said, that those twenty-four pupils helped to earn the first prize on primary paper cutting of an illustrated story.

A pupil must work hard to secure the honor of having his or her piece of work selected for the state fair, school officials point out. The art department is becoming unusually popular among the Norfolk students.

Norfolk high school art is now listed with full credit under the educational department of Nebraska at Lincoln. This department is organized with a graded course, extending an excellent opportunity to pupils with special art ability.

Real Old-Time Dance
King's Park Friday, Oct. 26—Adv.

FARMERS!
We collect your dead hogs.
Phone us at our expense.
**NORFOLK RENDERING
COMPANY**
Phone Cedar 2222 or Res. 9293

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COUNTRYSIDE IS SEARCHED FOR SHALLOW GRAVE

AUTHORITIES FEAR MRS. ERNEST WITMER MAY BE FOUL PLAY VICTIM

75 MEN CONDUCT SEARCH

Parents of Missing Young Woman Know of No Reason Why She Should Leave Her Home Without Telling Them Her Plans

Approximately seventy-five men, including officers of Antelope county, searched the countryside between Brunswick and Neligh Sunday in hopes of finding trace of Mrs. Ernest Witmer, who they fear might have met with foul play and have been buried in a shallow grave. Mrs. Witmer has not been seen by her friends since Sept. 26.

The searchers spent several hours looking over the John Forbes farm, on which Witmer, who is also missing and his wife lived.

Albert Dreger, living near Norfolk, father of the missing young woman, spent a part of Monday morning talking with Norfolk police. Sheriff Sutton, Neligh, and Mr. Forbes, also came to Norfolk Monday morning.

Asks Farmers to Search

Mr. Dreger is asking farm residents of Antelope, Madison and Pierce counties to look over their land near the highways for a shallow grave. He asks that wells and culverts be inspected. "I want to find out if Rose (his daughter) is dead or alive," he said.

Witmer, who came to Norfolk in an old Ford touring car, was seen in this city the morning of Sept. 27, the day after his wife was last seen. Witmer, it is believed by the authorities, came to Norfolk either over highway No. 8, or by way of Pierce.

Where Mrs. Witmer was at the time her husband was traveling to Norfolk is a question that puzzles the authorities.

The finding of a broken watch chain near the door sill of the farm home in which the Witmers lived has furnished authorities a clew that may possibly lead to a disclosure of true facts concerning the young couple's disappearance.

Torn From Pocket

The authorities are of the opinion that the broken watch chain indicates there was a scuffle at the doorway, during which the chain was torn from Witmer's pocket.

Upon reading newspaper accounts of the young couple's disappearance, employees of the Ryal Miller Chevrolet company, Norfolk, informed the local police that on either Sept. 29 or 30, they discovered an old Ford automobile, the one owned by Witmer, parked in the rear of their establishment. Puzzled to know who the owner was, the Chevrolet employees said they communicated with officials of Antelope county and learned that Ernest Witmer was the owner.

Car Seen on Oct. 9

About Oct. 9, when the Chevrolet

cers and members will be entertain-

let employees, took some of their second hand automobiles away from the rear of the garage, the Witmer automobile was still parked behind the Chevrolet garage. At that time the garage men examined the automobile and found it to be in good condition.

Some time between Oct. 15 and 17, the Witmer automobile disappeared from its parking place near the Chevrolet garage.

Norfolk police doubt that Witmer returned to Norfolk and took the car. They believe that some boys stole the machine, after seeing that no one had claimed it for several weeks.

Saturday, Patrolman John Pofahl went to Hadar upon receiving information that Witmer, accompanied by a woman, was thought to have been seen in that place on Sept. 29. That is the day after he left his parents' home near Pender and started to Sioux City, from which place he sent a telegram to Sam Russ, signed "Earl Mortz", concerning an automobile he had rented from Russ on Sept. 27.

At Hadar, Patrolman Pofahl was told by Bert Cook, that on Sept. 29, a young man and woman, traveling in an automobile, similar to the Witmer car, stopped at his gasoline filling station and bought some gas. Cook said he noticed that the woman concealed her face so he could not get a good look at her.

Wanted to Write Check

The man, Cook stated, wanted to give a check on the Norfolk National bank in payment for the gasoline. As Cook did not know the man, he told the motorist that he could not take the check. Between the man and woman, the two were able to get enough change to pay for the gasoline, Cook said. Cook also stated that he noticed the man walked to the opposite side of the car to get some change from his companion, evidently to keep the woman from having to look at Cook.

The man, according to Cook, said he knew the Heideman family that lives near Hadar. The police think the man might possibly have been Witmer, because a Heideman boy married a Dreger girl. Rose Dreger was Mrs. Witmer's name prior to her marriage.

Relatives of Mrs. Dreger fear she might be the victim of foul play. They know of no reason why she should want to leave her home of her own accord without first informing her family as to her plans.

21 MEN ARE PLACED ON DRIVE COMMITTEE

CAMPAIGN OF TRAVELING SALESMEN WILL BE INAUGURATED ON DEC. 4

Twenty-one of Norfolk's leading citizens have been organized into a committee to assist the traveling salesmen of the country in their drive to endow a \$3,000,000 home and hospital for aged, indigent and incapacitated salesmen near Winston-Salem, N. C. It was announced by J. H. Love, chairman for the National Traveling Salesmen's Foundation, and treasurer of the Merchants' association of New York.

R. R. Ginn, who was appointed super-salesman of Norfolk, has organized the following committee: J. C. Huddelston, John Ole Olson, W. E. Shield, F. D. Lowry, B. A. McCreary, F. L. Scott, F. R. Huffsmith, C. R. Housh, Harry Peters, Robert Anderson, Gene Huse, W. L. Feeley, Dewey Froseth, T. McGarry, P. H. Spangenberg and Wil-

on would carry her toward central in France.

TWO WOMEN ARE BEING SOUGHT IN WITMER MYSTERY

NS AUTHORITIES HAVE PRACTI-
CALLY GIVEN UP HOPES OF
FINDING YOUNG WIFE

ED HUSBAND MAY BE IN CANADA

Red Dress Rose Witmer Was Seen
Wearing on Day She Disappeared
Is Found With Blue Shirt Soaking
in Jar of Water

(P) Having practically given up
hopes of finding Mrs. Rose Witmer,
young wife whom authorities be-
lieve to have been murdered, offi-
cers are now directing their efforts
toward locating Ernest Witmer, the
missing husband, and two unidenti-
fied women, who accompanied Wit-
mer and his brother to a dance near
Pender on the evening of Sept. 27.

Seek Trace of Two Women
After talking with Norfolk police
Monday morning, Sheriff Sutton of
Antelope county, Albert Dreger,
living near Norfolk, father of the
missing woman, and John Forbes,
owner of the farm on which the
Witmers lived between Neligh and
Brunswick, went to Pender to ques-
tion Witmer's brother who accom-
panied the missing man to the
dance.

It was through Witmer's brother
the officers hoped to get trace of
the two women. Once the two wom-
en are found, the officers will ques-
tion them as to whether or not Wit-
mer told them what he had planned
to do, or if he said anything about
his wife.

Rose Witmer was last seen by
Mr. Forbes about 5 p. m., Wednes-
day, Sept. 26. At that time he said
she was wearing a red dress, light
stockings and high-top shoes.

Red Dress Found
The red dress, together with a
blue shirt and a pair of overalls
belonging to Witmer, have been
found in a jar filled with water. An
effort on the part of authorities to
find blood stains on the red dress
proved fruitless. The light stock-
ings were found stuffed in the
shoes, which were discovered in
the house.

Mr. Forbes and relatives of the
missing young wife say she never
left her home to go any place with-
out wearing a hat. The relatives are
positive that the hats found in the
Witmer home are all that Mrs. Wit-
mer possessed, and that at the time
she left her home and disappeared
she was without a hat.

Through frequent associates of
the Witmers, who accompanied the
missing couple to dances, the offi-
cers have learned that Witmer and
his wife quarreled at times at dan-
ces. The authorities have also been
told that Witmer took a woman to
a dance near Stanton, using the
name of "Earl Martz" while in her
company.

It was that name that Witmer used
when he rented an automobile
from Sam Russ in Norfolk on Sept.
27.

Witmer, on Sept. 28, while in
Sioux City, Ia., sent a telegram to
Mr. Russ in Norfolk, saying he
would return the car on the next
day—Saturday. Authorities believe
Witmer sent the telegram for the
purpose of giving him an additional
day in which to make an escape, be-
cause if he showed an intent to
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return the rented machine he would be believed.

May be in Canada

The officers are holding to the belief that Witmer may be in or around Minneapolis, Minn., or possibly in Canada. Several years ago Witmer, the Norfolk police were told, lived in Canada. He also lived for some time in Minneapolis, it was said.

Shanghai—The orchid, known in Chinese classics as the flower of kings," has been adopted as the official flower of Nationalist China.

construction.

WITMER THOUGHT TO HAVE TRADED AUTO

REPORT INDICATES CAR RENT-
ED FROM SAM RUSS WAS
LEFT IN SIOUX CITY

Hope of finding trace of Ernest Witmer, young farmer between Brunswick and Nelligh, who disappeared the latter part of September was renewed Tuesday when the authorities received a report that a man believed to be Witmer had traded for a Ford automobile at Sioux City, Ia., where he was known to be on Sept. 28.

The report indicates that the automobile traded in by Witmer was the one he rented from Sam Russ, Norfolk, on Sept. 27, at which time the young farmer gave his name as Earl Mortz. The Sioux City dealer has informed the officers in Norfolk that the man who traded for the Ford told him he was on a wedding trip and would return to Sioux City in a few days.

The man was in the company of a woman at the time, local officers have been told.

The woman, who was Witmer's companion at a dance at Pender on the evening of Sept. 27, was located Monday by Sheriff Sutton of Nelligh at Pender. She was questioned, but was unable to cast any light upon where Witmer might possibly be living at this time. She told the officers that Witmer did not disclose to her his future plans.

Witmer's relatives, living near Pender, were also questioned by the authorities, but they were unable to give any information that would furnish a clue to Witmer's whereabouts.

Constable Lewis Pease, Norfolk, expects to go to Sioux City in hopes of determining whether or not Witmer traded Russ' automobile for another car.

Trace of Mrs. Witmer, who has not been seen since the afternoon of Sept. 26, is still lacking.

Banker is Given

Witmer Confesses to Killing Young Wife

GIVES HIMSELF UP TO NORFOLK POLICE AFTER SEEING PARENTS IN PENDER

BODY IS BURIED ON FARM

Young Farmer Says He Struck Wife Dead During a Quarrel; Told Mother Full Story of Crime Yesterday

Ernest Witmer, about 26, young farmer, voluntarily gave himself up to the Norfolk police at 1 o'clock this afternoon and confessed that he killed his wife, Rose, about 24, on the John Forbes farm on which they were living, between Brunswick and Neligh. Chief of Police Frank Flynn stated.

Witmer, Chief Flynn said, told him that he buried the body of his wife near the farm house after killing her the evening of Wednesday, Sept. 26.

Searching For Body

A party of searchers has gone to the Forbes farm to recover the body. This is expected to be somewhat difficult as a blanket of snow nearly a foot deep covers the ground.

Witmer looked tired and exhausted as he entered the police station. He said that he argued with his wife during the afternoon and that while she was washing clothes he struck her dead, and then carried the body out into the yard and buried it in a shallow grave. He then gathered up all the chickens on the place and took them to Brunswick and sold them. He cashed the poultry checks and then came to Norfolk.

He said he brooded over the killing of his wife and decided to go home and tell his mother about it. Witmer said he never read the newspapers and that no one stopped or questioned him. Upon his arrival in Pender Friday, Witmer said his brother showed him a newspaper with his picture and the story of the search being made for him.

Quarreled Over Cigaretts

Witmer in a statement to Chief of Police Flynn and Patrolman John Pofahl about 3 o'clock said that he and his wife quarreled because he didn't want her to smoke cigarettes. Witmer doesn't smoke.

On the day of the murder, Witmer said he went to town to buy some strychnine, which after his return to his home he placed in some beer he gave his wife early in the evening. When his wife became dizzy from the effects of the poison, he took a buggy shaft and hit her over the head with it. Then he said he struck her on the head with a hammer. Witmer stated that he then crushed her skull with an ax.

After striking his wife with the ax, Witmer said he carried her

body to a place near the farm house. About 10 o'clock in the evening, Witmer said he buried the body in a shallow grave.

Bought New Clothing

When Witmer came to the police station he was dressed in new overalls which he bought with the poultry money he received at Brunswick. He was unshaven and after he was locked in a steel cell by the police chief he lay down on the canvas cot.

"What are you in here for?" another man in the jail corridor asked.

"I'm wanted for a murder in Antelope county," Witmer replied.

Witmer had about \$1.45 left in his pockets.

Albert Dreger, father of the murdered woman, declared in the police station: "I knew it; I knew it; I just knew he killed our daughter. I knew something was seriously wrong when he went around using fictitious names."

Witmer used the name of Earl Mortz when he rented the car in Norfolk.

"No, I don't want to see him," Mr. Dreger said to his friends.

Was in Minneapolis

The day after he killed his wife, Witmer said he came to Norfolk. While here on Sept. 27, he rented a Ford car from Sam Russ. The car is now at Pender, Witmer said. Since renting the car Witmer said he traveled in Iowa and at one time was in Minneapolis, Minn.

Last night, Chief Flynn said he received a telephone call from Witmer. Two or three times later, the chief stated, Witmer talked with him over the phone.

About seventy-five persons, including authorities of Antelope county, searched the Forbes farm last Sunday for a grave in which they thought Rose Witmer might be buried. Although Witmer said the grave was near the farm house, they failed to find it.

Rewards Were Offered

Thursday rewards totaling \$300 were offered in the Witmer case. Albert Dreger of Norfolk, father of Rose Witmer, at the time stated that he would give \$200 for the return of Witmer.

Antelope county had posted a \$50 reward for the return of Witmer. Madison county, in which Witmer is charged with stealing an automobile, offered \$25 as a reward for his arrest and conviction, and Russ, owner of the stolen machine, stated that he would pay \$25 for the return of the automobile.

Constable Lew Pease, Norfolk, was sent to Sioux City Thursday for the purpose of finding trace of Witmer. Thursday evening he telephoned authorities here that Witmer was believed to be in a North Dakota town.

Sheriff Sutton of Neligh is expected to arrive here late this afternoon to take Witmer back to Antelope county.

Witmer to Help Find Grave of Young Wife

**SHERIFF SUTTON AND
TWELVE MEN UNSUCCESSFUL
IN EFFORT TO LOCATE IT**

SLAYER TELLS OF MURDER

**Confesses to Using Strychnine,
Buggy Shaft, Hammer and Ax to
Kill His Wife on Evening of
Sept. 26**

An attempt by Sheriff Sutton of Neligh today to find the grave of Rose Witmer, who was killed by her husband, Ernest Witmer, on the John Forbes farm, thirteen miles north of Neligh, proved fruitless.

Sheriff Sutton and about twelve men searched the ground around the house where Witmer said he buried his wife after murdering her on the evening of Sept. 26, but no trace of the grave was found.

At noon today the sheriff returned to Neligh. About two hours later, accompanied by Witmer, Sheriff Sutton left Neligh to return to the Forbes farm for the purpose of having the slayer locate the grave.

Witmer told the authorities that the grave is located about 400 feet west of the farm house at the edge of a cornfield.

Witmer, who voluntarily appeared at the Norfolk police station yesterday afternoon about 1 o'clock, told the officers that he buried his wife about five rods from the farm home in which the young couple lived. Last Sunday about seventy-five men looked over the land surrounding the house, but failed to locate the grave.

"It'll probably mean the electric chair for me," Witmer calmly told the Norfolk officers.

Cares Only For Mother.

"I don't care yet—my mother is the only one I care about," said the slayer.

Witmer, while being held for the arrival of Sheriff Sutton, displayed a desire to tell everything about the killing of his wife. He related in detail the brutal manner in which he crushed in her skull with a hammer and an ax.

Intended to Poison Her.

On the day prior to the murder, Witmer said that he went to Neligh where he bought some strychnine, for the purpose of killing his wife. Witmer said he didn't have to sign for the strychnine when he bought it.

Early in the evening of Sept. 26, while the young couple was in the farm house, Witmer stated that he put the strychnine in some beer which he gave his wife, Mrs. Witmer, due to the effects of the poison, became dizzy and went out on the porch.

Witmer said he and his wife quarreled while they were on the porch and she kept calling him "a liar." Without displaying a sign of remorse or emotion, Witmer then stated that he picked up a piece of a buggy shaft and struck his wife on the head, knocking her down. Witmer said he then choked his wife a little.

"She pleaded with me not to kill her, but I picked up a hammer and sunk that in her skull," the slayer calmly said. Witmer then spread his hands apart to show the officers how far he had driven the hammer into his wife's skull. He also said that he had considerable difficulty in pulling the hammer out of his wife's head.

Hit Her With An Axe

Because he thought his wife "wasn't dead yet", Witmer, again without any sign of emotion, stated that he picked up an ax and split the skull of his wife, telling how the blood spurted upon his shirt.

After killing his wife, Witmer told authorities that he picked up her body and carried it to a place

SEE PAGE 6, NUMBER 1

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Curtis quoted Goldsmith as having blamed the accident on failure to receive proper weather reports. The local manager said Goldsmith had run into a storm in the vicinity of the accident and had attempted to land, thinking he had found a safe place to come down. The plane was not badly damaged, Curtis reported.

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Witmer also told in detail how, after killing his wife, he picked up the things upon which there was blood, "about a bushel full," and carried them to near the windmill and dumped them into a hole. "I covered the blood up with sand," he remarked.

The slayer said he threw away his bloody shirt, but took his overalls, upon which there was a little blood, and soaked them in water. The overalls and a blue shirt were found together with Mrs. Witmer's dress soaking in a jar of water by relatives who visited the home while the search was being made for the young couple.

Sold Some Chickens

Before Witmer buried his wife's body, he said he took some chickens to Brunswick and sold them. It was on his return to the farm home, the slayer stated, that he dug the grave. He told the officers that at the time he killed his wife she was wearing a yellow gingham dress, bloomers and black silk stockings.

Witmer stated that he slept in the farm house that night after burying his wife. "I hated her so damn bad it didn't bother me," he added.

The slayer partly blames cigarettes, which his wife smoked, for causing him to grope to have her to the extent that he desired to take her life. Witmer does not chew or smoke. He also told the Norfolk police that his wife never went to town but that she stole something, saying that he hated her for that.

After sleeping in the house the night of Sept. 26, Witmer, driving a Ford touring car, came to Norfolk, where he abandoned his machine and rented one from Sam Russ, giving his name as Earl Mortz. Russ' machine is now at Pender where Witmer left it before coming to Norfolk to give himself up.

After visiting his relatives near Pender on the night of Sept. 27, and going to a dance with his brother, Witmer went to Sioux City, from which place he informed Russ that he would bring the car back to Norfolk "the next day."

Told His Mother

Since renting the car Witmer said he had traveled in Iowa and at one time was in Minneapolis, Minn. Because he brooded over the killing of his wife Witmer said he decided to go home and tell his mother about it. Upon making a full confession Witmer was advised by his mother to come to Norfolk and give himself up.

Between 11 and 12 o'clock Thursday evening, Chief Frank Flynn, Norfolk, said he received a telephone call. Upon answering the call Flynn stated that he heard some one say "This is Ernest Witmer. I'm coming to see you in about thirty minutes." Flynn said he thought little of the call because he thought "some one was trying to spoof me."

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Witmer Calls Again

Shortly before 1 p. m. yesterday, Witmer called Chief Flynn again and asked him, "What are you going to do to me—burn me over to Sutton?" Chief Flynn said he then told Witmer to come to

the police station to talk over things.

Shortly after talking to the Norfolk chief, Witmer arrived at the city hall, going to where some of the firemen were first. Upon asking where Flynn was, Witmer was informed that he was in the police station.

"Hello, Frank", was Witmer's greeting to the chief. Then the two went into Chief Flynn's office, where the Norfolk officer said, "Did you kill her?" Witmer didn't make any reply.

Then Flynn told him that if he could show that his wife was living and would pay, Russ for the car, it was probable no action would be taken against him.

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EARTH APPEARS

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Slayer and His Victim



This is Ernest Witmer and his wife, Rose, whom he murdered on the evening of Sept. 26 following a quarrel in the farm house in which they were living, between Brunswick and Neligh. Witmer yesterday gave himself up to the Norfolk police and made a full confession.

CORONER'S JURY ASKS WITMER BE HELD OR MURDER

JOHN FORBES TESTIFIES HE
NEVER SAW MRS. WITMER
SMOKE CIGARETS.

FUNERAL HERE TUESDAY

Complaint to be Filed Against
Slayer Will be Based on Jury's
Verdict and Signed Confession
of Witmer.

Neligh, Neb., Oct. 5.—Special to
The News: "We the jury duly em-
paneled and upon hearing the evi-
dence find Ernest Witmer guilty
and we recommend that he be held
for murder in the first degree."
That is the verdict of the coron-
er's jury that finished its work
here shortly after 2 o'clock this
afternoon after holding an inquest
into the death of Rose Witmer,
who was killed by her husband.

Members of the jury were: J. K.
Friedrich, C. G. Melick, Dan
Springer, E. C. Nyrop, C. B. Van
Kirk and Fred Olmsted.

This morning the jury members
viewed the remains of Mrs. Wit-
mer. The condition of the body
was such that John Forbes, on
whose place the Witmers lived,
was unable to recognize the fea-
tures of Mrs. Witmer. The jury
adjourned shortly before noon to
await the arrival of a Neligh physi-
cian.

In his testimony this morning
Mr. Forbes said that he visited the
Witmer home about three times a
week and at no time did he ever
see Mrs. Witmer smoke a cigaret.

Witmer in his confession said that
one of the reasons he killed his
wife was because she smoked ci-
garets.

The body of Mrs. Witmer was
unearthed in a shallow grave
about 2½ feet deep Saturday af-
ternoon, 400 feet east of the farm
house, between four rows of corn.

First Search Fails
The first attempt by Sheriff
Sutton and his assistants to find
the body failed, and during the
afternoon, in company with Deput-
y Sheriff Livingston, took Witmer
out with them to locate the grave.
He made two attempts before the
spot was finally located, and the
body found. The snow-covered field
and surroundings made it slightly
confusing for Witmer to find the
exact location. After the body was
discovered the sheriff and deputy
took the slayer from the scene
and hurried him back to the coun-
ty jail in this city. The officers
were undecided whether to take
him out to the farm or not, but
after they had failed during the
morning to locate the body they
took the chance.

County Attorney Rice was at the
grave until after the body was
taken out. He stated that it is bad-
ly decomposed and hardly recog-
nizable. It had been buried in this
shallow grave for more than five
weeks. The ambulance of Bar-
num's undertaking establishment
was called and the body brought
to this city after 8 o'clock Sat-
urday night, where it still is.

Will Be Brought to Norfolk
Albert Drager, Norfolk, father of
Mrs. Witmer, arrived in this city
early Sunday morning and was in
conference for several hours with
Attorney Rice. In part he has made
arrangements to have the body
shipped to Norfolk for burial.

It is also likely that an autopsy
may be held to determine whether
or not the stomach contained
strychnine, which Witmer alleges
he purchased from a local drug
store and gave his wife in a glass
of beer; also in order to establish
the theory that murder was pre-
meditated, in case Witmer should
in any way deviate from his pre-
vious statements in his final sig-
ned confession.

The complaint to be filed will
be based upon the verdict of the
coroner's jury and Witmer's signed
confession, according to County
Attorney Rice.

C. J. Barnum, Neligh undertak-
er, stated that Mrs. Witmer's en-
tire forehead was crushed in, as
was her right eye.

Body Wrapped in Coat
When Witmer failed to exactly
locate the grave on his first at-
tempt he said: "Damn it; it should
be here; I don't know where in
the hell else it could be."

Then he moved a short distance
from where he had been digging
and found the grave. Upon taking
hold of his wife's foot after dig-
ging through the soft dirt, Witmer
said to the onlooker: "There she
is, boys."

Mrs. Witmer at the time she
was buried did not have on a
dress, as the slayer had said, ac-
cording to information given the
Norfolk police. She had on silk
stockings, bloomers and a few
other articles of clothing. Witmer
at the time he buried his wife
crudely wrapped the body in a
coat, it was said.

Mrs. Witmer's body, said Albert
Drager, the father, will be brought
to Norfolk from Neligh today. Fun-
eral services will be held Tuesday
at Christ Lutheran church in Nor-
folk.

About six months after the Wit-
mer's wedding day—April 18, 1925
—the slayer said he began to hate
his wife. For nearly two years, he

DENY LINDBERGH TO MARRY MISS MARROW

FRIENDS OF AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO SAY THERE'S NO ROMANTIC ATTACHMENT

Mexico City, Nov. 5—(P)—Reports published in Mexico City newspapers that Col. Charles A. Lindbergh and Miss Anne Morrow, daughter of Dwight W. Morrow, American ambassador to Mexico, will be married in Mexico City during the coming visit of the famous airman here, were denied today in circles close to the Morrow family.

The colonel's visit to Ambassador Morrow will not be made to see Miss Morrow and the colonel is not engaged to her, said persons in a position to know, who in addition expressed belief that there was no foundation to various stories to the effect that there was a romantic attachment.

Colonel Lindbergh was invited on his Mexican hunting trip by Col. Alexander McNab, United States military attache on McNab's personal invitation. Miss Morrow, who recently was graduated from Smith college, was then in the United States and knew nothing of the invitation. The ambassador also was ignorant of it until after Colonel Lindbergh had accepted it. Colonel McNab then tried to get the ambassador on the hunting trip also, but Mr. Morrow could not go, but instead invited Colonel Lindbergh to visit Mexico City.

NUMBER 1

(Continued from Page 1)

stated, he lived in the same house with her, despite his hatred which became more intense as the months went by.

Thought of Leaving Her

Several times in that two years, Witmer said he thought about leaving his wife. Last February, he confessed, he had made complete arrangements to leave her, but something interfered with his plans and he abandoned them.

Witmer, in telling of the murder, stated that he never thought of killing his wife until Sept. 25, the day before the murder. It was on that day he went to Nellig and bought some strychnine for the purpose of poisoning her.

After putting the strychnine in some beer, Witmer handed the glass to his wife who, he said, took one swallow. "What's the matter with the beer?" Witmer stated he was asked by his wife after she had swallowed a small amount. Witmer said his reply was, "I don't know."

When the effects of the poison were felt by Mrs. Witmer she lay down on the bed, where she became sick, Witmer stated. Then, according to the slayer, she walked out on the porch where he struck her over the head with a buggy shaft, then using a hammer and an ax to crush his wife's skull.

When asked what he did with the hammer and ax, Witmer said he carried them about a mile and a half down the road from the farm house and throw them away.

Had More Than \$440

When Witmer fled from the farm home the day after the murder and came to Norfolk he had between \$140 and \$150 in money, he stated. Upon his arrival at the Norfolk police station where he gave himself up, Witmer had nearly \$2 in change.

Witmer had with him Sam Russ'

car between the time he fled from his home on Sept. 27 until he returned to Pender the day before he gave himself up to the Norfolk police. After leaving Sioux City on Sept. 28, Witmer drove to Minnesota. At Pipestone, Minn., Witmer said he met a woman who traveled with him for several days. They went to dances at Minneapolis, Witmer said.

After separating from the woman, Witmer found a job on a farm near Minneapolis, where he worked a week. Witmer said while he was gone he went to dances, took in the roadhouses and many shows. Upon leaving Minnesota, Witmer traveled to Iowa where he got a job husking corn. When the rainy weather set in and handicapped corn husking, Witmer said he decided he had had enough. Then he determined to give himself up.

Last Thursday he drove Russ' car to Pender, and while there made a confession to his mother. Then he came to Norfolk Friday and gave himself up to Chief of Police Frank Flynn.

Question His Motive

Witmer has repeatedly said that he killed his wife because "she smoked and took things from stores." This statement is declared false by relatives and friends of Mrs. Witmer, who say they never knew her to smoke and that she never was known to be guilty of petty thievery.

On April 19, 1926, the day after the Witmers were married the following account of the wedding appeared in The Norfolk Daily News:

"Ernest Witmer, Stanton, and Miss Rose Dreger were married at Christ Lutheran church of Norfolk, Sunday afternoon, the Rev. M. E. Mayer, officiating. About 300 relatives and friends were present to witness the event.

"Mr. Witmer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Witmer who live near Clarkson. The bridegroom is a progressive young farmer and is well-known in the community in which he resides.

"The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dreger of Norfolk.

"The young pair was attended by George Witmer, best man; Miss Viola Dreger, bridesmaid; Miss Reda Witmer, Oscar Dreger, Jack and Audrey Vogt.

"Following the wedding a large reception was held at the bride's parents' home in Norfolk.

"They will live on a farm near Stanton."

As soon as the roads are easily passable, Sam Russ said he was going to Pender to get his car.

NUMBER 2.

(Continued from Page 1)

has asked hundreds of political leaders, editors, and prominent men and women in business and professional life, distributed through all the states, for information as to the topics of campaign discussion that have been most prominent in some particular localities. The results of this survey, summarized below, show how the issues have cut across party lines and across one another.

This summary does not purport to list all of the issues discussed or to name them in the order of their importance. Neither does it attempt to take account of the vote-drawing possibilities of the personalities of the two presidential nominees, a factor which many informants declared to be increasingly prominent in political discussions toward the close of the campaign. The attempt is merely to show how such subjects as farm relief, prohibition, religion and the others have fitted into the general pictures introduced by the cam-

WITMER SAYS HE LONG MEDITATED KILLING HIS WIFE

THOUGHT CAME TO HIM SIX
MONTHS BEFORE HE ACT-
ED. CONFESSION REVEALS

FUNERAL HERE TODAY

Signed Statement By Slayer Tells
of His Wanderings After Hiring
Auto in Norfolk, Until He Decid-
ed to Give Himself Up

Neligh, Neb., Nov. 6—Special to
The News: County Attorney R. H.
Rice stated this morning that he
had not yet filed a complaint
against Ernest Witmer, who yester-
day signed a complete confes-
sion that he killed his wife, Rose
Witmer. The coronor's jury yester-
day recommended that Witmer
be held on a charge of first de-
gree murder. Mr. Rice said that
the preliminary hearing would be
held before County Judge Ingram,
the time to be set by the court af-
ter the complaint had been filed.

At the hearing yesterday John
Forbes, for whom Witmer worked,
testified that he had visited the
Witmer home about three times a
week and that he had never known
Mrs. Witmer to smoke cigarets, as
her husband charged.

Funeral Here Today

The body of Mrs. Witmer was
taken to Norfolk yesterday and
funeral services will be held at
2 o'clock this afternoon from the
funeral parlors of Johnson, Then-
haus and Howser. She was the
daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert
Dreger of Norfolk.

In his signed statement Witmer
revealed that he had been medit-
ating the murder of his wife for sev-
eral weeks. The only reason he
gave was that he hated her be-
cause she smoked cigarets and
stole articles from stores, both of
which charges her friends deny.

The full text of Witmer's con-
fession follows:

Witmer's Signed Statement

State of Nebraska, Antelope
county, ss.

I, Ernest Witmer, of lawful age,
being first duly sworn, depose and
say that I am 28 years of age;
that on the 11th of April, 1926, I
was married to Rose Dreger, Stan-
ton county, Nebraska, and on Aug.
23, 1928, we moved to the John
Forbes farm, about ten miles north
of Neligh, Neb., and remained
there until Sept. 26, 1928.

Had Meditated Murder

From the time we were married,
Rose had the habit of taking
things that did not belong to her
from the stores and other places.
She also had the habit of smoking
cigarets; I don't smoke cigarets,
and think it wrong for a woman to
smoke them. Prior to the time
we were married she promised to
quit, but she continued to smoke
on the sly all the time through our
married life. She persistently lied
to me about that, and persisted in
smoking cigarets and taking things
that did not belong to her, over my
objections, until it so preyed upon
my mind that I came to hate her.
For about six months prior to her
death, I sometimes thought of
killing her and during the last
week of September, I made up my
mind that I would kill her.

On Tuesday, Sept. 25, 1928, I
went to Neligh for drill repairs and
while there purchased 25 cents

worth of strychnine at a drug
store, which I took home with me.
Put Strychnine in Beer

On Tuesday, Sept. 26, 1928, upon
coming into the house from the
field where I had been working I
smelled cigaret smoke as soon as
I entered the home, and upon ques-
tioning my wife about the smell of
smoke in the house, she said the
oil stove smoked and that was
probably what I smelled. Supper
being ready I told her to go out
and get a pail of water and while
she was out I got a bottle of beer
from which I filled two pots about
an equal amount of beer in each
and in her portion I put about one-
half of the strychnine which I se-
cured the previous day; when she
returned I told her that that was
her beer and that I had drunk
mine. I went out to shut off the
windmill as she did not securely
fasten it. When I returned to the
house she asked me what was the
matter with the beer, it did not
taste right. I replied, "Let me
taste it," and took a small sip of
it and immediately spit it out as
it was bitter. I told her perhaps
the beer had spoiled in the bottle.
I then threw the rest of her beer
out. We then had supper after
which Rose complained of being
dizzy; I told her that she had bet-
ter go outside and lie down a while;
she did lie down on the bed for
a little time and finally got up and
went outside and sat on the ce-
ment run-way coming up to the
granary. I went outside and see-
ing a club close by I picked it up
and hit her over the right side of
the head. She fell over on the
ground and said, "Honey, honey,
please don't kill me, please." I

SEE PAGE 6, NUMBER 2

COLLEGE Y. M. C. A. TO BE ORGANIZED SOON

F. E. STEVENSON, OMAHA,
CONFERS WITH GROUPS OF
STUDENTS IN NORFOLK

Preliminary to the organization
of a Young Men's Christian asso-
ciation in the Norfolk junior col-
lege, F. E. Stevenson, student Y.
M. C. A. secretary, Omaha, spent
Sunday and Monday in this city
conferring with groups of college
students.

Coach Garold, Nellis, George
Grim, Stanley Donner, Tim Stark,
Ned Lulow and Jack Lowry attend-
ed the conference with Mr. Stev-
enson Sunday. Monday was spent
by Mr. Stevenson in different ses-
sions with college students, before
whom he placed the claims of the
college Y. M. C. A. Mr. Stevenson
works with students in all univer-
sities and colleges in Nebraska.

With interest in the college Y.
M. C. A. at a high pitch among
the students here, it is expected
that an organization will be per-
fected in the near future. The as-
sociation will carry on work sim-
ilar to that of like organizations in
the other Nebraska colleges. When

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MRS. ROSE WITMER'S FUNERAL HELD HERE

MOTHER AND BROTHERS AND
SISTERS OF ERNEST WIT-
MER ARE PRESENT

Hundreds of persons gathered in front of the Johnson, Thenhaus and Howser funeral parlors in hopes of being able to find standing room at the funeral held Tuesday afternoon for Mrs. Rose Dreger Witmer who was murdered by her husband on their farm north of Neligh, on the night of Sept. 26.

The Rev. M. E. Mayer, pastor of Christ Lutheran church, preached the funeral service in both the English and German languages. The casket was carried by pallbearers, young men who knew Mrs. Witmer before she was married, through a dense crowd. Burial was made in the Christ Lutheran cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Dreger, parents of Mrs. Witmer, and their children were present. Practically unobserved, Mrs. Fred Witmer, mother of Ernest Witmer, the slayer, stood in the crowd with her sons and daughters. They had come to Norfolk from Pender. After the services they left for Neligh where the self-confessed slayer is being held in jail.

Mrs. Witmer made no statement while in Norfolk, but it was evident that she would make some effort to secure legal advice for her son who up to this time has not talked with a lawyer other than the county attorney at Neligh. He has indicated that he will plead guilty and let the law take its course.

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Ernest Witmer Kills Himself With Poison

WIFE SLAYER SWALLOWS
QUANTITY OF STRYCHNINE
IN NELIGH JAIL

PRISONERS CALL SHERIFF

Before Committing Suicide, Witmer Writes Letter to Mother and Wife's Sister Telling of His Plans

Neligh, Neb., Nov. 16—Special to The News: Ernest Witmer, 26, who murdered his wife on Sept. 26 and buried her body in a shallow grave, committed suicide in his cell in the Antelope county jail here last night by swallowing strychnine.

According to Sheriff Sutton, other prisoners in the jail noticed Witmer was acting queerly some time between 9 and 10 o'clock, and summoned the sheriff from his office on the second floor of the building.

Although it was difficult for Witmer to talk at the time the sheriff reached him, the slayer was able to tell Sheriff Sutton that he had taken strychnine, which he had concealed in his clothing. A physician was summoned, but efforts to save Witmer's life were futile.

Clothing Is Searched

When Witmer gave himself up to the Norfolk police he was searched. Several times since being confined to the jail in Neligh, the slayer's clothing has been searched, but no poison was found at those times.

A strict watch had been kept over Witmer while he was in jail. Sheriff Sutton is of the opinion that the strychnine was not smuggled to Witmer by relatives or friends.

Last Sunday Witmer was visited by his mother, a brother and two sisters of Pender.

Yesterday Witmer wrote two letters, which are now in the possession of Sheriff Sutton. One is addressed to his mother, and the other to his wife's sister. Both letters contained the information that when they received them he (Witmer) "would be no longer".

"Some One Is Calling"

In one of the letters Witmer wrote, "Something told me to kill my wife". Another said, "Some one is calling for me now, and I am going to my wife".



Ernest Witmer

Writes Note to Prisoners

Besides the two letters to his mother, Mrs. Fred Witmer of Pender, and Miss Viola Dreger of Norfolk, his sister-in-law, a scribbled note was found in Witmer's cell addressed to his fellow prisoners. It read:

"Please mail these two letters. If I die please break the news to Mother softly.

"P. S.—Do not open the letters to read.

"Boys, go straight when you get out."

The letters to Mrs. Witmer and Miss Dreger were about ten pages long. Sheriff Sutton mailed them this morning.

County Attorney Rice announced that there would be no coroner's inquest.

County Attorney R. H. Rice had not as yet filed a complaint against Witmer, but had intended to do so in a short time. A verdict of the coroner's jury recommended that Witmer be held on a charge of murder in the first degree.

The body is at the C. J. Barnum undertaking establishment, awaiting advices from the family.

After slaying his wife, Witmer fled from Nebraska and traveled in Minnesota and Iowa. On Friday, Oct. 26, he voluntarily gave himself up to the Norfolk police, to whom he made a full confession of the murder.

WITMER'S BODY IS TAKEN TO PENDER

**FUNERAL SERVICES FOR CON-
FESSED SLAYER OF WIFE
WILL BE HELD THERE**

Neligh, Neb., Nov. 17—Special to The News: The body of Ernest Witmer, who committed suicide in the Antelope county jail in this city Thursday night by taking a small quantity of strychnine, was taken to Pender in a funeral car from that place yesterday afternoon. The mother of Witmer, two sisters and a brother were also here, but their stay was of a short duration and they accompanied the body to Pender where funeral and burial services will be held.

This is the closing scene of what is described as one of the most fiendish crimes ever committed in this section of the state and the county officials, including the attorney and sheriff, are now at ease after nearly two weeks of a nerve-wrecking suspense. Sheriff Sutton especially had practically no rest either day or night for the reason that his family resides on the second floor of the county jail building, and he had visions of attempted jail delivery or of an effort by some persons to take the law into their own hands.

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in a useful occupation or go into the army.

Slaying in 1929 Magazine Story

How a Norfolk farmer turned detective and helped authorities capture the slayer of his daughter is told in a special article on the murder of Mrs. Rose Dreger Wittmer which appears in the current issue of Startling Detective.

Albert Dreger, the father, tells the story of aiding John Pofahl of the Norfolk police force when Mrs. Wittmer, a bride of a few months, disappeared in October, 1929. The manner in which they traced the murderer is told in the story under the title, "How We Trapped My Daughter's Slayer," which was written by Charles R. Smith, Norfolk.

Ernest Wittmer, husband of the girl, surrendered at the Norfolk police station and confessed the crime which was committed on a farm near Brunswick. After pointing out his wife's grave in a cornfield, Wittmer was taken to the county jail at Neligh where he later swallowed a poison tablet and died in a cell.

Picnics Mark End