

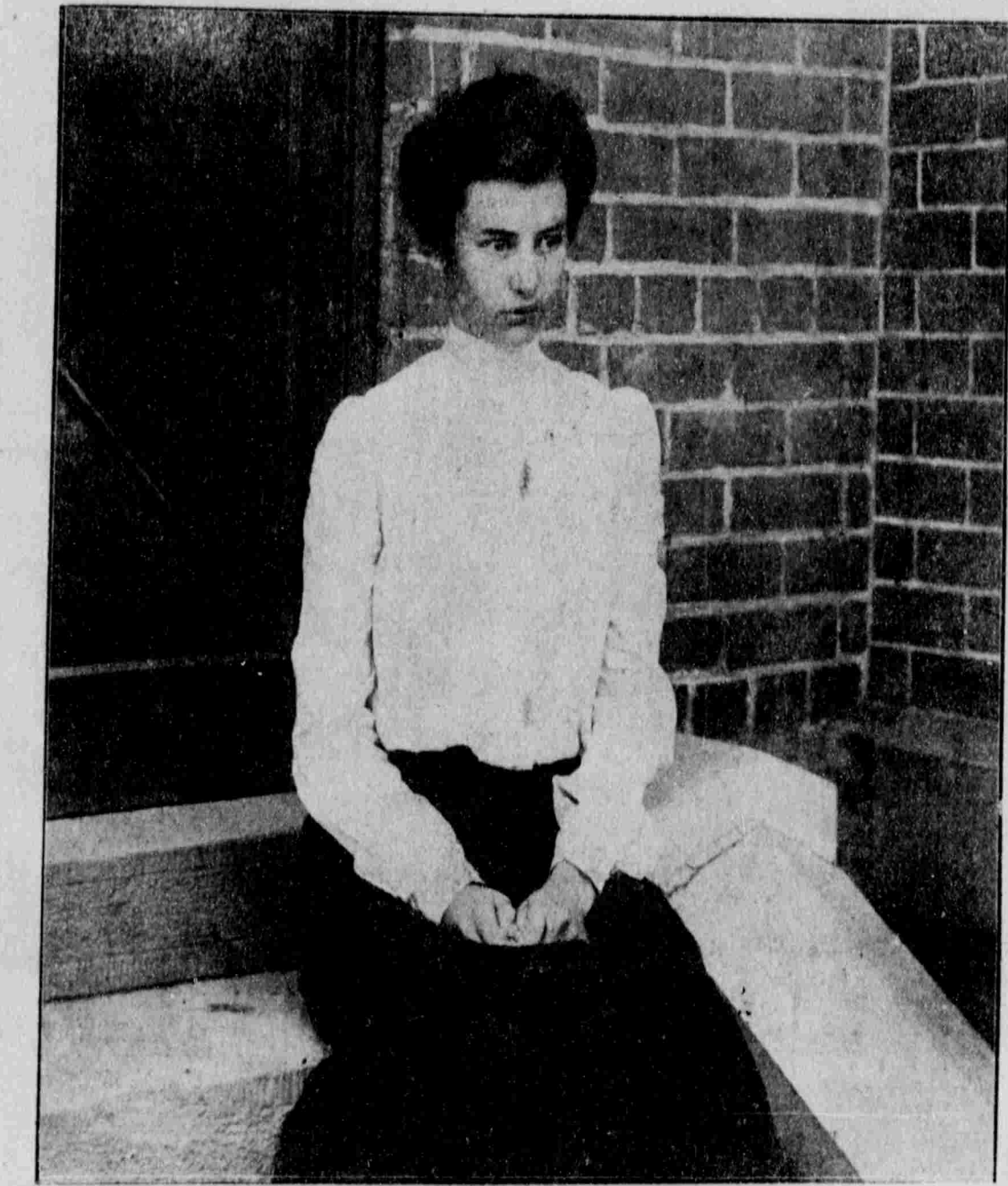
CALL UP 319 when you want the "News" ad. man to call on you and help you make your advertising more effective. He can do it.

LAST EDITION.

"DID I KILL RYAN?"—"I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY"

Strange Woman Is Mrs. Hodge

Young Murderess of Old Man is Cool, Crafty and Silent on Crime—Seals Her Lips on Demand of Her Attorneys And Refuses to Answer the Questions of Newspapermen When They Relate to Killing.



Photographed Specially for the "News" by Johnson.
MRS. AURORA HODGE, SELF-CONFESSED MURDERER.
Snapshot Taken This Morning as She Sat on the Steps of the County Jail.

FACT AND FICTION ABOUT RYAN'S BULLDOG; FRIENDLY WITH EVERYBODY, EVEN JAIL CAT.

THIS MORNING'S TRIBUNE.

Mr. Looftbourrow held a brief conversation with his client. In the same room was the famous white bulldog found tied under Ryan's wagon at the time of the discovery of the murder. Alas, for canine sagacity! The animal paid no attention to Mrs. Hodge, nor Mrs. Hodge to the bulldog.

THIS MORNING'S HERALD.

"Spot" the bulldog that was found tied to Ryan's wagon when the dead body of the peddler was discovered, was in the jail last night when Mrs. Hodge arrived and greeted her with recognition. She recognized him, called him by name, and patted his head.

WHAT THE FACTS ARE.

Surely these stories about the poor dumb bulldog that has been featured so much are varied enough for the most fanciful. Under ordinary circumstances it would appear that one of the two statements would be correct. But according to the jail officials both are wrong. When Sheriff Emery arrived with Mrs. Hodge last night the bulldog was not in the office. She did not see the canine and he did not see her. Later the beast was brought into the office and followed the jailer up stairs. He frisked about the corridors and ran about peering into this cell and that. When he arrived at the compartment in which Mrs. Hodge was detained he paid the same attention to her that he did to the others—no more, no less. He, however, did not appear to recognize her and she distinctly did not recognize him or call him by name. But when it came to Mr. Looftbourrow, Mrs. Hodge's attorney, Mr. Bulldog seemed to be very well acquainted with him; not only well acquainted but very familiar. The truth is the animal makes friends with everybody and everything where opportunity is afforded, not excepting the jail cat. The fact of the matter is he is about as agreeable and unassuming as a candidate for office before election day.

CONVERSED WITH THE "NEWS."

Conversed on Every Subject Except That of the Crime.

At 10 o'clock last night Sheriff C. Frank Emery and his prisoner, Mrs. Aurora Hodge, the confessed murderess of William X. Ryan, the spectacle peddler, whose decomposed remains were found covered with a quilt at his camp near Murray on Tuesday afternoon, July 14, arrived in this city from Grand Rapids, Mich., where the woman first made her confession to the authorities. After arriving they went directly to the county jail, where they found Fred C. Looftbourrow, representing the law firm of C. F. and P. C. Looftbourrow, awaiting them. After conversing with her lawyer for about an hour Mrs. Hodge retired for the night.

CHEERFUL THIS MORNING.

This morning Mrs. Hodge was in a rather cheerful humor and talked freely with a "News" representative on every subject except the all important one which concerns her case. To all questions pertaining to the tragedy, the history of herself, her husband and mem-

stand a comb and brush, a small mirror and a harmonica. Mrs. Hodge amuses herself when so disposed by playing on this instrument, with which she seems to be very familiar.

HOW SHE LOOKED.

The woman herself was dressed in a white duck skirt, a white shirt waist with a black figure and white pearl buttons, a white silk neck ribbon, a black velvet ribbon belt and patent leather shoes. She presented a decidedly neat appearance and was in good humor during the entire interview.

FRAIL BUT CUNNING.

She is of rather slender build, weighing about 105 pounds, her complexion is fair, her hair brown, eyes bluish-gray. She has a well-shaped forehead and nose. Her cheek bones are a little prominent and her lips somewhat thicker than is ordinarily found upon a woman. She shows a marked degree of intelligence and appears to have had good home instructions and training. It takes a shrewd observer to see in her the characteristics that would make it

Bingham in Great Danger

Famous Old Mining Town Being Hard Pressed by a Big Brush Blaze Today—Crackling of Burning Timber Heard all Over Camp While Ashes Fall in a Perfect Shower—Hundreds Turn Out to Fight the Fire.

(Special to the "News.")

Bingham, Aug. 3.—A mighty brush fire is raging to the southwest of the town this afternoon. It covers an area of territory at least a mile square, and a stiff breeze is blowing ashes all over the camp, while the smoke is heavy and the crackling of timber can be heard in every house and store.

The fire started this morning at one of the camps of the Utah Construction company, which is building the Copper Belt railroad. It was, apparently, the means adopted to clear away a patch of underbrush to make grading easier. How foolish that act was is now seen by the great danger that threatens the town. The fire is within 1,000 feet of the nearest house, which is in "Little St. Petersburg," so called from the fact that it is where the Plains and other foreigners live. The houses are very closely connected, there and if the flames ever reach them it will be a sorry day for Bingham, as nothing could then save it. Hundreds of men

are now out trying to keep the blaze back. There is a bare spot between the fire and the town and the effort will be to keep the blaze from crossing it. Should the wind increase, the danger will also increase, as some sparks would almost certainly fall where it would ignite. But everybody is on the alert, and if the fire encroaches any closer, the mines will all call out their employees. But the trouble is that nothing can stop a configuration in a place like this. It simply has to burn out. The greatest danger is in the fire now working its way down across the point into what is called Carr's Fork, and that will be prevented if possible.

The blaze and the smoke arising therefrom was plainly visible from every part of this city and valley this afternoon. Certainly everybody hopes that the fire will be confined to an area outside of the camp entirely, and that there will be no repetition of the catastrophes of the past along this line.

the "News" representative. "Nineteen years," was the prompt reply. "Where were you born?" "At Long Pine, Nebraska." "How long did you live in Denison, Iowa?" "I do not know." "What members of your family reside there besides your brother?" "I do not care to speak about my family." "When did you see your husband last?" "I do not care to speak of him at all." "Was any member of your family ever confined in a insane asylum?" "You had better go and find out," she answered with a hearty laugh. "You know that the officials are looking for your husband and he will be captured and will probably tell something about the case?" She made no reply whatever to the statement and simply raised out of the window.

"When did you first see Ryan?" "It's a nice day," she answered, looking out the window and smiling. "How did you receive your first information that the authorities were looking for you and suspected you of being connected with the crime?"

ABOUT THE MURDER. "I don't care to speak of the case," "It seems that other papers have had interviews with you," suggested the reporter.

"Other papers have had no more from me than you have; they got their information from the officials," was the reply.

"Is it true that you told your brother and the officials at Denison, Ia., you killed Ryan?" "I refuse to say anything about the case."

"What became of the gun with which you killed Ryan?"

"She made no reply to this question, but simply turned aside and gazed out the window."

"I AM NINETEEN."

"How old are you?" she was asked by

"Did three persons eat supper at Ryan's camp on the evening of the murder?"

"If you keep on, I'll refuse to speak at all."

EMOTION AND TEARS.

She was then shown a picture of herself and brother which Sheriff Emery has had in his possession for the past two weeks. Upon looking at it her lips began to tremble, tears came to her eyes and she turned her face and looked out the window. She recovered herself very quickly, however, and turned back with a firm gaze, apparently ready for the next question to be put. She avoided saying anything whatever about her brother and showed signs of being a little nervous when his name was mentioned or when a question concerning him was put to her.

"Was your brother ever engaged as an electrician in this city?" "I will not speak of my family."

AT CENTERVILLE.

"Did you ask Mr. Wright at Centerville, when you stayed at his home the night before you joined Ryan, if he believed there was any forgiveness for a murderer?"

"I don't recall such a question. We talked a long time about 'Mormons,' but I don't remember such a question."

"A little history of your life would not be anything connected with the case; won't you tell something of your early life?"

"She paid no attention to the question, but turned aside."

THE MISSING HUSBAND.

"When did your husband return to California?"

"I do not care to speak about the case."

"Did you tell the officers at Grand Rapids that your conscience troubled you so much that you had to confess and give yourself up?"

"I do not care to speak of the case?"

"You still admit that you killed Ryan?"

"I do not care to speak of the case," was the same old reply.

HAD A GOOD START.

"You had a good start of the officers, you could have got away if you had not given yourself up," was suggested by the reporter.

To that her chin twitched slightly and she turned toward the window, but made no reply. Turning to the jailer she inquired how many questions the reporters were allowed to ask, anyway. Jailer Wilkinson informed her he would not answer any more questions. She replied that she hoped this was the last one that she would have to be interviewed by.

In answer to questions Mrs. Hodge stated that she had a good trip coming back but that it was rather tiresome. She praised Sheriff Emery for the treatment he accorded her en route. She said that she certainly enjoyed the rest which she obtained at Omaha. In a very polite manner she bade the reporter "good morning" and the interview was ended.

THE SHERIFF'S TRIP.

What Emery Has to Say of Mrs. Hodge and Her Offense.

In speaking of his trip today Sheriff Emery said that it was very pleasant although tiresome as all such trips are. He arrived in Grand Rapids, Mich., on last Tuesday night about 11 o'clock and left there on the return trip Thursday morning at 8 o'clock and remained there until Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. The sheriff and his prisoner had a good rest at Omaha while the former attended to some business there. They arrived in Ogden at 5 o'clock last evening being delayed five hours in Wyoming by a week. After remaining in Ogden until 9 o'clock they left and arrived here at 10 o'clock.

The sheriff has words of praise for the officers in Grand Rapids and Omaha who extended every courtesy to him and his prisoner. Capt. Johnson, of the police department at Grand Rapids, and Detective Donahue, of Omaha, were particularly attentive to the case and rendered valuable services to the sheriff.

The trip was made through in a sleeping car and the sheriff paid every attention to his prisoner to prevent annoyance to other travelers. A great many of the tourists were not aware that the young woman was a prisoner at all and those who were informed as to her identity were horrified that a woman of her appearance should be charged with such a horrible crime. At night Mrs. Hodge's clothing was taken into custody by the porter of the car and early looked up and she occupied an upper berth in the car, while the sheriff rested in the lower berth. The woman caused no trouble whatever on the trip and was given every privilege possible under the circumstances.

She told Sheriff Emery quite a story about the shooting while en route here, and drew a diagram on the lid of a green box in which she kept some of her clothing, of the place where the tragedy occurred. She traced out the course of the bullet, the fence, location of the wagon and indicated the position she and Ryan were in when she shot him. Her story as to the cause of the shooting and as to her connections with Ryan is the same as has been published in these columns as her confession.

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