

**ORPET CASE IS  
VERY PERPLEXING**

**Mark of Suicide and Murder  
Become Substantially  
as One**

Waukegan, Ill., July 28. — The case of Marion Lambert and William H. Orpet in the course of its development became one of the most perplexing in the annals of criminal history. Motive paralleled motive, action paralleled action, opportunity paralleled opportunity until the marks of murder and suicide became substantially as one.

In the end the guilt or innocence of the defendant, so far as the indication of actual fact was concerned went to the jury on the mystifying niceties of chemical analysis and Orpet's own compromising conduct. The mystery attracted unusual interest in all parts of the United States and Canada.

Trial of the case including selection of a jury occupied the better part of two months. There appeared in evidence forty-four letters written by Orpet to Marion over a period of a year; bottles and boxes containing samples of cyanide from the McCormick estate, from the Deerfield high school laboratory, from Kraft's drug store at Lake Forest and white powder scraped from Marion's hand and from spots on her cloak; the girl's garments; a magazine article dealing with the use of cyanide as a fumigator in greenhouses; the chemistry text books used respectively by the high school girl and the defendant; a copy of the Wisconsin statute dealing with the sale of poisons, and a bottle of molasses and water.

**Long Array of Witnesses**  
Five chemists, all of whom were specialists in toxicology, one alienist, two surveyors, druggists, street car men, an undertaker, school teachers, police officers, reporters and friends of the Orpets and Lamberts were among the long array of witnesses who testified.

Ralph W. Dady, State's attorney of Lake county, David R. Joslyn, State's attorney, McHenry county and Eugene M. Runyard appeared as counsel for the prosecution, and James H. Wilkerson, former United States district attorney at Chicago, Ralph C. Potter, his law partner, and Leslie P. Hanna, of Waukegan, for the defense. More than a thousand veniremen were examined before a jury, said by counsel upon its selection to be above the average in intelligence and character, was chosen. Judge Charles H. Donnelly presided.

The series of parallels started at Lake Forest, one of a series of aristocratic suburbs dotting the heavily wooded bluffs along the west shore of Lake Michigan from Chicago to Waukegan, for Frank Lambert, father of Marion, was superintendent of the Kuppenheimer estate, and Edward O. Orpet, father of the defendant, superintendent of the estate of Cyrus McCormick, both at Lake Forest.

Last summer, young Orpet, then a pallid, slender youth of nineteen, of sharply regular features, somewhat vain of his college opportunities and undisciplined as to character, returned from the University of Wisconsin at Madison for a vacation at home. He fell madly in love with Marion, according to his letters. She had completed her junior year at the Deerfield High school and was then seventeen and known for her gaiety and laughter—"the life of the party," as one witness put it.

**She Saved His Letters**  
When Orpet returned to college in the fall of 1915 frequent letters were exchanged. Orpet destroyed hers; she saved his and they remained after her death to speak of the great fear of exposure that came upon her. Orpet, in testifying, said that he was certain that these fears were groundless. Once he mailed a bottle of molasses and water "to ease her mind" and he brought a similar compound with him for the same purpose when he entered Helen's woods, near Lake Forest, with her on the morning of Wednesday, February 9, last.

Orpet testified that he made the trip to allay her fears and to explain a story which had reached Marion that he was engaged to one Celestia Youker, but the elaborate efforts which he made to keep the trip secret and his subsequent conflicting statements of it to officers of the law developed into the most damaging evidence against him. It led to the menacing question of Mr. Joslyn, reiterated again and again, "Why? Why? Why? Why did you come? You brought no relief; you brought no medicine; you brought no tenderness—no words of love! Why did you come?"

On February 8, Orpet at Madison left three letters, post-dated February 9, with his friend Otto Peterson to be mailed on the latter date. One was to his mother, one to Marion, and the third to Marion's friend Josephine Davis. They were worded to make it appear that the writer was in Madison on February 9, the day he kept his trust in the woods with Marion, and she came to her death.

**Writes Alibi Letters**  
Orpet explained on the stand that the alibi letters, as they came to be known, were written so that if by accident he were seen at Lake Forest and word of the fact reached Marion's parents, who objected to him, or his own parents, who expected him to remain faithful to college duties at Madison, they would accept the letters as conclusive evidence to the contrary. The letter to Josephine was to corroborate this to Marion. Josephine testified that she never received it.

On the afternoon of the eighth, in a dark overcoat which he said he had borrowed to wear with a dress suit to a party which he expected to attend on the twelfth, carrying the bottle of molasses and water in his pocket, and leaving behind him the alibi letters and a bed rumpled to deceive his landlady, the student proceeded by way of Milwaukee, where he spent a half hour or so between trains, to Lake Forest. Arriving there he arranged by telephone to meet Marion on her way to school the next morning, walked about for a while to make certain that his parents had retired, and entered the McCormick garage where he spent the night on a cot.

In the morning he and Marion met and walked through the snow into the woods. Orpet testified that there was little conversation, and he could recollect only the purpose of it. He offered her the "medicine" and she refused it. He started to leave but she called him back and asked if he was going to write to her any more. He said there seemed to be no use of it, and started away again.

"Something made me look around—I don't know what—and I saw Marion lying in the snow," related the defendant on the stand. "I returned, knelt over her for maybe a minute. I noticed the moist powder in the lines of her hand. Her eyes were glazed. Then a kind of fog came on my brain and I don't remember much after that except that on reaching the road I threw away the 'medicine' and made my way on foot to Highland Park, caught a train and that evening arrived back at Madison."

Marion was missed that night and her body found the next morning. Orpet was arrested and told numerous conflicting stories prior to the trial, the "medicine" used against him at trial. During his cross-examination which lasted for three days he repeatedly took refuge in "I don't remember." He spoke in a low voice,



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Sale Prices on Batiste  
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27 inches wide, will go out at the first price, and naturally the latter price must buy a much wider pattern; these being 40 inches. Excellent patterns.

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A manufacturer's sample lot of various styles; good qualities in

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Embroidered Scalloped Pillow Cases, made of Pequot tubing; 45x36 inches. Sale price, pr., 59c.

Bolsters to match, 42x72 inches, at 75c.

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Cream Corduroy, mixed suitings, plaids, striped suitings and poplar cloths. Sale price, yd., 25c.

Satin Foulards, in stripes and set figures; also plain, messalines; 20 inches wide. Sale price, yd., 25c.

Satin finish Striped Wash Silks, 32 inches wide. Sale price, yd., 59c.

Satin Striped silk and cotton Wash Silks, 33 inches wide. Sale price, yd., 25c.

Satin Charmeuse, crepe meteor, canton silk crepe, in brown, navy and lilac; 36 and 40 inches wide. Sale price, yd., 59c.

Sport Stripe Beach Cloths, stripes in all shades; 36 inches wide. Sale price, yd., 19c.

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**Women's Sample Hosiery**  
A Sale Feature at  
**29c pr.**

A manufacturer's sample lot of various styles; good qualities in

- Lisle and silk lisle
- Fibre silk
- Thread silk boot

In the assortment are black, white and colors.

Women's plain black hose, silk lisle, double soles; wide garter tops; seconds. Sale price, pr., 21c.

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**Lowest Prices On Domestic Needed Every Day**

American Fibre Water Pails, for general utility; very serviceable. Sale price, 23c.

German China Sugar Baskets, marmalade jars, spoon trays, chop plates, cake plates, nut bowls, and salad bowls. Sale price, 69c.

The Household Food Chopper, complete with five steel cutters. Sale price, 59c.

Flow Blue Decorated Souvenir Plates, made of English porcelain. Sale price, 10c.

Aluminum Coffee Percolator, octagon shape; 2-qt. capacity. Sale price, \$1.49.

Pie Casserole, 10-inch fire proof baking dish in extra quality nickel plated brass receptacle. Sale price, 59c.

O-So-Ezy Oil and Dust Mops—2 mops in one. A very special bargain. Sale price, 75c.

Wearever Aluminum Sauce Pans, 2-qt. capacity. Sale price, 39c.

American Cut Glass Assortment, consisting of 12-inch vases, 12-inch celery trays, 14-inch bread trays, fancy bowls, 14-inch carnation vases, sugar and cream sets, 8-inch bowls, 8-inch round dish with handles and 9-inch compots. Sale price, \$2.19.

**Pre-Inventory Shoes**  
Are Lower In Price Than at Any Time

Women's high grade Pumps, with hand turned soles. A remarkable bargain. Sale price, \$3.75.

Women's White Shoes, high and low; sizes 2½ to 5½. Sale price, 75c.

BOWMAN'S—Main Floor.

**CHAPTER V.**

Four days of the greatest value giving in Harrisburg this season. Genuine, undisputed savings on good, desirable merchandise.

Many thousands of dollars are represented in the hundreds of lots in this annual Summer House Cleaning Sale. Every last dollar's worth would pass out right now for a dollar. No better could we illustrate the fine character of the merchandise.

True, many are broken in size range or color or whatever the case may be which justifies a reduction of One-fourth to One-half.

The most to be emphasized is the importance of a visit to-morrow — open until 9 P. M.

**These Sale  
Items Are  
Attracting  
Scores To The  
Fourth Floor**

**Bozart Rugs**  
—have no equal for the porch or summer floor coverings.

**TWO COLORS**  
6x9 ft. Sale price, \$3.95.  
8.3x10.6 ft. Sale price, \$6.95.  
9x12 ft. Sale price, \$8.50.

**THREE COLORS**  
6x9 ft. Sale price, \$4.95.  
8.3x10.6 ft. Sale price, \$7.95.  
9x12 ft. Sale price, \$9.50.

**Fibre Carpet, 29c yd.**  
With borders; patterns on both sides; color and water proof; 27 inches wide.

**Tapestry Rugs, 69c**  
Green and red patterns; color fast; 27x54 inches.

**Couch Hammocks, \$4.98**  
With box spring mattress; heavy khaki duck ends and wind shield.

**Lace Curtains**  
One and two pair of a kind, white or ecru; at one-half former prices. Sale price, 25c to \$2.50.

**Curtain Corners, 29c**  
In Nottingham, marquise, lace, scrim and net in white and ecru.

**Brass Curtain Rods**  
Telescope; 50 inches long; slightly tarnished. Sale price, 3 for 10c.

BOWMAN'S—Fourth Floor

**48 Auto Caps Will  
Speed About Town**

The very cap you may have admired; now reduced to

**50c**

Take your choice of 48 attractive styles.

BOWMAN'S—Main Floor

**Certain of Women's  
Gloves Are Going  
out at small prices; styles  
to be worn right now.**

Kayser's 2-clasp Silk Gloves, in plain white and contrasting; all sizes. Sale price, pr., 59c.

Kayser's 8, 12 and 16-button length Silk Gloves. Sale price, pr., 75c, \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Kayser's Chamoisette Gloves, 2-clasp, in plain white and contrasting embroidery; all sizes. Sale price, pr., 75c.

BOWMAN'S—Main Floor

**Women Are Invited to a Saving  
On Seasonable Apparel**

**Women's Coats**

Coats in the season's best styles, and some fine, exclusive models enter the sale greatly reduced.

At the following prices many are less than half price.

\$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98, \$5.98, \$8.98

- Coats for Motoring.
- Coats for Sports Wear.
- Coats for Dress.

A pleasing collection of those fabrics most popular this season.

**Crepe de Chine Blouses**

A clearance of colored blouses in this summer's styles and shades; to go at these low prices:

\$1.79, \$2.59

Durable qualities; everyone having sold for considerable more. Included is a small lot of pussy willow blouses. Flesh color; light shades; and some desirable deep shades.

**House Dresses, 49c**

Small lot, but contains a sufficient number for good selection; gingham in medium and light patterns.

Other lots of the better grade house dresses in percale and lawn; desirable light patterns; clearing at 79c, 98c, \$1.25 and \$1.50.

**Lawn Street Dresses**

A collection of smart little summery frocks made of good wash materials, to go out at

\$1.98 and \$2.98

**Taffeta Petticoats  
Reduced**

Unusual values in taffeta in view of the qualities at the sale prices; plain shades and changeable effects. Clearing at

\$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98

Untrimmed hats, including every kind of shape; our entire stock of highest grades. Sale price, 75c.

Trimmed hats, including all our summer straws and best models. Sale price, \$1.00 and \$2.00.

Saturday and Monday Are Inspection Days

**Plain and Fancy  
Ribbons**

Moires, taffetas, plaids and stripes; 6 inches wide. Excellent quality.

19c yd.

BOWMAN'S—Main Floor

**Little Things at  
Little Prices**

Machine oil, bottle ..... 2c  
Odd hair pins, light only ..... 1c  
Hair crimper ..... 2 boxes 5c  
Narrow-neck hair pins, box ..... 5c  
Ventilating hair wavers, card ..... 15c  
Pump bows, pair ..... 5c  
Extra fine bias tape, bolt ..... 8c

BOWMAN'S—Main Floor

**Muslinwear Reduced**

Women's Fine Gowns, of sheer nainsook and fine batiste, in flesh and white; prettily trimmed with fine lace, insertion, embroidery, heading and medallion; low neck and short sleeves; slightly soiled. Sale Price ..... \$1.25

Camisoles, of glove silk, crepe de chine and washable satin; lace and insertion trimmed; pink only; mussed from handling. Sale Price ..... 75c

BOWMAN'S—Third Floor

**Substantial  
August  
Furniture Sale**

August 1st to 31st

An exposition of the most worthy furniture from world-famed furniture markets.

A Saving on Practically  
Every Line

with apparently studied effort, but nevertheless became involved at times and extricated himself by "correcting my previous testimony." His manner was nervous, and he rarely looked at his inquisitor, Attorney Joslyn.

Early in the case the State developed the theory that Orpet purchased a two-ounce bottle from Charles Hassinger, a Madison, obtained cyanide of potassium from an alleged supply in the greenhouse on the McCormick estate, and made a solution of it before retiring to bed in the garage. It was charged that he either forced Marion to take it, or deceived her with the explanation that it was medicine.

The State was unable to persuade any witness to come from Wisconsin, and repeatedly hinted that a sinister influence of the defense was at the bottom of it. Hassinger, wanted with reference to the bottle, was among those who declined to testify, and no bottle or other container for the poison was ever found. Otto Peterson likewise became a persistent absentee, despite the need for his testimony regarding the alibi letters and as having seen Orpet, according to the latter, concoct the molasses and water.

Dr. Ralph W. Webster and Dr. W. J. McNally, chemists, testified for the State that Marion died of liquid cyanide of potassium, and that the spots on her coat were left by drops of the solution. Three defense chemists testified that the poison was taken in powder form and that the important and accusatory cyanide in the greenhouse was not cyanide of potassium at all, but cyanide of sodium, with only a faint trace of potassium. Dr. McNally, having made further experiments, voluntarily appeared for the defense and corrected his previous testimony to agree with that of the defense, and Dr. Webster, recalled by the State, did so in reply to a hypothetical question on cross-examination. It was shown further without contradiction by every chemist who had a hand in the examination of Marion's stomach content that cyanide of potassium caused her death. Only an inconspicuous trace of sodium appeared. When it was shown in addition that to have taken in the amount of cyanide of potassium found in her stomach, Marion would have to

cuten two pounds of the substance in the greenhouse, or to have drunk two quarts of a solution made from it, it was admitted generally that this substance as the instrument of death had disappeared from the case.

The fact that young Orpet might have obtained the greenhouse cyanide had its parallel in the laboratory of the Deerfield High School attended by Marion. The instrument of murder and the instrument of suicide were equally available. The laboratory substance was 97 per cent. pure cyanide of potassium. Marion, on the day before her death, was alone in the laboratory out of hours in violation of a school rule.

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proves it. 25c at all druggists.