

# ARREST IN MURDER CASE IS EXPECTED BEFORE TONIGHT

**Authorities, It Is Reported, Have Investigated All Theories, And Are Inclined To Belief That a Woman Committed The Vicious Brandon Crime--More Detectives Here To Help In Sifting Matter To The Bottom, and Locating Criminal.**

## CONFLICTING REPORTS, PROBLEM FOR SLEUTHS

**But They Have Been Busily Engaged In Running Down Every Little Detail With The Hope of Solving Mysterious Crime That Is Now Five Days Old.**

Although reports flew thick and fast about the city today and last night, to the effect that the corps of detectives had arrived at solution of the Brandon murder mystery, committed on Wednesday last, and that an arrest would be made some time before this forenoon, no one has been taken into custody and the authorities are still apparently as much perplexed as they were yesterday. It also is reported, however, that the detectives, aided by other officials of the city and county, are diligently working on various reports that have been brought to them with the hope that they will be able to forge the links in a chain of circumstantial evidence that will result in an arrest probably before darkness today.

According to the best information that can be gathered, the detectives and other authorities who have been following the case, are practically unanimous in their belief that a woman is concerned in the case. This woman, it is said, is a party who lived in the neighborhood of the Brandon home. The theory advanced is that there was a measure of jealousy between the dead woman and the party against whom the suspicion is directed, that the two engaged in a quarrel in the kitchen of the Brandon house; that a death grapple ensued; that Mrs. Brandon was finally thrown across the bed and strangled, and the blow in the head finished the ghastly crime. All of this, however, is based upon circumstantial information, as far as could be learned today.

As has been previously stated in The Capital, the theory that some ravenous negro brute committed the act has been dismissed, nor is much weight placed upon the several reports that Mrs. Brandon was seen as late as 10 or 11 o'clock on the morning of the day that the tragedy was committed. The belief prevailing among persons about the city is that the unfortunate woman was sent to her death some time during the early hours of that day. The whole case has apparently resolved itself into a maze of conflicting statements and reports, and unless the half a dozen detectives have something of the tangle nature concealed, the vicious crime is no more near a solution now than it was on the afternoon that the mutilated body of Mrs. Brandon was first discovered.

Marshal Carter, of the Baltimore City Police Department, and Detective Dougherty, regarded as the chief of the "homicide squad" of that city, are among the additional sleuths who came to the city last night with the hope of lending some assistance in unraveling the mystery. And besides

from Major Raymond Pullman, superintendent of the Washington police, that the department of that city will lend every effort to aid the Baltimore detectives in solving the mystery and that he may rest assured that any Washington angle of the affair would be thoroughly and intelligently handled.

### Mrs. Humiston on Case.

Mrs. Grace Humiston, the New York Portin, who, after repeated failures on the part of a score of detectives, solved the Ruth Cruger murder mystery, has given up a lucrative law practice to devote her life to the protection of the girlhood of America.

Out of 88 cases of missing girls, Mrs. Humiston has solved 14—or, in other words, she has been instrumental in reclaiming 14 girls who had been lured from their homes from lives of degradation and humiliation.

Her office in New York is crowded from morning until night with weeping mothers who beg her to aid in the finding of their missing daughters and by girls who have been led from the path of virtue to the haunts of vice.

### Annapolis Crime Reporting.

"I consider no work more important than that in connection with this dreadful Annapolis crime," said Mrs. Humiston, who has been brought to Annapolis by a Washington newspaper to help unravel the Brandon mystery.

"Not alone the safety of one poor woman, but the peace of mind of millions of women and children and husbands and fathers is involved in this case.

"It matters not who committed the crime; nothing can exaggerate the importance of detection, conviction and punishment.

"If, as I trust will prove to be the case, the crime was committed by one of the lowest and most ignorant of human beings, all the more is it important that he should be caught and punished as an example to other criminals like him.

"There is nothing that prevents crime like quick detection and punishment of criminals.

### Must Defend Girls.

"Let the police find and the law punish the murderer of this poor young wife, Lottie Brandon, and the punishment will act as a warning that will save others.

"To hundreds of thousands of men called into the country's service the first thought is of security for those left at home undefended. Young girls and defenseless women in the honor will rely upon the vigilance of the police and the earnestness of the press for their safety.

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Marshal Carter, of the Baltimore City Police Department, and Detective Dougherty, regarded as the chief of the "homicide squad" of that city, are among the additional sleuths who came to the city last night with the hope of lending some assistance in unravelling the mystery. And besides them Mrs. Grace Humiston, the New York woman who solved the mystery of the Cruger case of a few months ago, after the New York detectives and police officials had failed in their efforts, is also at work on the mystery. She came here largely at the instance of the owners of the Washington Times. This paper seems to be exerting unusual efforts to probe to the depths and come upon the murdered, and has had a corps of newspaper men and experts here. Criminologists and other experts from New York and elsewhere are in the city today. They with the detectives, have been running down every report, in the hope that the mystery may be cleared up within a few hours. Mrs. Humiston, by the way, is of the opinion that the murder was committed by a woman. Other persons still hold to the belief that man did it.

Whatever the outcome may be, the case is the most baffling that has ever confronted the authorities of this city and county, and residents of the city, thoroughly aroused, hope for an early solution.

Much dissatisfaction was expressed over the action of Brandon in sending telegrams to Mayor Preston and Governor Harrington declaring that the case was not being properly handled. He explained that the papers were prepared for him by a Washington newspaper and he merely signed them. He added that he was sorry that he had adopted that course and felt that he should not have acted so hastily.

Mayor James F. Strange announced that he will lend every effort to capture the murderer. He received word

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"As you know, I do not pose as a detective, although in the Ruth Cruger case persistency did enable me to find the body of the poor girl and locate the criminal. I am very glad to come to Annapolis to render what service I can in this case, and especially to impress upon those responsible for crime detection what such a crime means not only to this community, but to the whole country."

### MILITIA COMPANIES MAY LEAVE CITY ON WEDNESDAY.

The Annapolis soldiers, members of Company M and the Machine Gun Company, of the First Regiment, probably will get away from the city on Wednesday or Thursday, according to all information that has been received up to the present time. The companies together with other organizations of the regiment, scattered throughout the State, will be ordered to mobilize at the regimental headquarters at Hagerstown, and from there they will entrain for the Army training camp at Anniston, Ala. There they will be joined by the troops of the District of Columbia and Virginia. All of the soldiers appear to be anxious to get away for the active training course, rather than while away so much time that they have on their hands, apart from their daily routine of drills.

### City Council Meets Tonight

Tonight the regular monthly meeting of the Mayor and City Council will be held at the Council Chamber. It is expected little public business will be transacted.