

WOMAN SLAYER POLICE THEORY

Jealousy Now Suspected Motive For Murder Of Mrs. Brandon.

MISS HUMISTON IN ANNAPOLIS TO HELP

New York Woman Who Solved Cruger Case Be- gins Investigation.

[From a Staff Correspondent.]

Annapolis, Md., Aug. 11.—Out of the maze of clues, theories and speculation by detectives investigating the murder of Mrs. Lottie May Brandon has developed the theory that a woman may have committed the crime.

JEALOUS RAGE MOTIVE.

It became known here tonight that the detectives and Sheriff have been investigating this lead and are still at work on it. It is understood that they are working on the theory that a woman may have choked and beaten Mrs. Brandon while in a jealous rage following a quarrel.

The arrest of a woman in the case is not improbable within the next day or two.

SEARCH FOR NEGRO GOES ON.

In the meantime, however, the detectives are searching for a negro who disappeared from Annapolis after the murder. The detectives have spent considerable time inquiring as to this negro's movements just before the murder. They have learned that about 1 o'clock on the day of the murder he borrowed \$10 from a white man with whom he had become acquainted while working as a waiter in a local hotel. The missing negro told the white man he needed the money immediately in order to go to Washington. The fact that the negro lived within three blocks of Mrs. Brandon's home and is missing has aroused the strongest suspicions in the minds of the detectives.

James Davis, alias Thomas, a negro, who admits a penitentiary and insane asylum record, was detained and questioned this afternoon by the Washington police in connection with Mrs. Brandon's murder. Finger-nail scratches on his forehead and bloodstains on his clothes aroused the suspicions of detectives. The police are holding him on a "drunkenness" charge.

MISS HUMISTON ON CASE.

Miss Grace Humiston, the woman who solved the Ruth Cruger murder mystery in New York, came to Annapolis today and spent considerable time making a survey of the Brandon home and talking with Sheriff Sullivan. Tonight Miss Humiston went out into the country about 15 miles from Annapolis in an automobile with Sheriff Sullivan to look for a negro huckster who is said to have been in the vicinity of the Brandon residence on the day of the murder. Sheriff Sullivan said it had been reported to him that the negro was heard to make disrespectful remarks about white women just before he went into the block in which Mrs. Brandon lived.

Governor Harrington and Mayor James Strange, of Annapolis, received telegrams tonight signed by Randall Baslap, father of the slain woman, and Valentine Brandon, her husband, asking the two officials to make requests that as many Baltimore detectives as could be spared be sent to Annapolis and that the Washington authorities be asked to co-operate in helping to solve the murder mystery.

SOLVE CRIME. HUSBAND'S PLEA.

The telegrams were given to the press tonight from the Governor's office through Major Hugh H. Riley. They follow:

"WASHINGTON, August 11.

"Governor Harrington, Annapolis, Md.:

"In my absence on Wednesday my home in Annapolis was entered and my wife, soon to become a mother of my first-born, was strangled and beaten to death. The police of Annapolis and Baltimore devoted 48 hours to an attempt to prove that I had committed the heinous crime. Then the three detectives sent from Baltimore to Annapolis to capture the murderer returned to Baltimore and spent last night, leaving the investigation of this atrocious crime entirely in the hands of the police authorities of Annapolis, a town of a few thousand inhabitants, wholly unequipped to cope with the case.

"I am without means to employ detectives and I am forced to appeal to you to see that the murderer of my wife, still at large—72 hours after he robbed my home of my most precious treasure—is captured. I ask that all the detectives in the Baltimore Police Department who can be spared be sent to Annapolis at once, and that the Superintendent of Police of the District of Columbia be asked to detail to the case as many detectives in his department as he deems wise. If the murderer is not caught he may find another victim in a Baltimore or Washington home. With such a fiend at liberty no home is safe. Not a minute should be wasted.

"VAL N. BRANDON."

VICTIM'S FATHER APPEALS.

The father's telegram follows:

"WASHINGTON, August 11.

"The Governor of Maryland, Annapolis, Md.:

"Three days ago my daughter was foully slain in her home in the city of Annapolis, State of Maryland, while her husband and protector was away. A fiend attacked and choked her and then beat out the beautiful young life that I have loved from babyhood. The authorities of Annapolis started out to capture the murderer and asked for aid from Baltimore. Three detectives were sent from Baltimore to Annapolis and they have been working hard on the case, but today, 72 hours after my child breathed her last, the men in charge of the case admit they are no nearer a solution of the mystery than they were two hours after they started to work.

"If this crime had been committed in the District of Columbia 30 detectives and 600 policemen would have been on the trail of the murderer. Major Pulliam, superintendent of the District of Columbia, in a statement in the Washington Times on Thursday, August 9, says that he will gladly give the aid of the District Police Department if it is asked by you. I appeal to you, gentlemen, with sincerity and the anguish of a father bowed down in grief, telegraph to Major Pulliam a formal request for the aid of the District police in capturing the murderer.

"W. J. HARRINGTON."

BRANDON APPEALS TO GOV.

Asks That More Detectives Be Sent To Probe Wife's Murder.

Valentine N. Brandon, father of the woman who was strangled and beaten to death in her home in Annapolis, Md., on Wednesday, has telegraphed to Governor Harrington asking that all the detectives in the Baltimore Police Department who can be spared be sent to Annapolis at once, and that the Superintendent of Police of the District of Columbia be asked to detail to the case as many detectives in his department as he deems wise.