

With Revolver, in Their Home Friday

Using the same shotgun that he used 21 years ago to kill Deputy Sheriff Ed Miller, J. W. Richart, pioneer resident and merchant at Apache, killed his wife in their home on Friday night about 9:30.

Having killed Mrs. Richart, the aged man then turned a heavy calibre revolver upon himself and died upon the bed where he was sitting when he fired into his own head.

The tragedy was discovered by relatives of the Richarts early yesterday morning. Call was immediately made to Douglas for officials and the word was relayed to Bisbee. In short order, Sheriff Tom W. Walker and an office deputy were on their way from Bisbee while Coker Omar A. Ash and a number of officers from Douglas hurried to Apache.

When the call first came through it was thought that Richart possibly had killed Mrs. Richart and had not ended the tragic chapter. Accordingly the officers prepared for such emergency by taking tear gas bombs and other such features. However, when they arrived at the scene, they found this not needed. Coker Ash made the required investigation and immediately impounded a jury to determine upon a verdict. The jury made up from bystanders soon signed a verdict setting forth what was evident to all, that Mrs. Richart had been murdered by her husband, using a shotgun which was on the bed beside him and he had used a .38-calibre revolver to kill himself.

The building in which Richart made his home stands across the railroad track from U. S. highway 20, as it passes Apache. The building originally was constructed for a store and he conducted a mercantile business there for many years. He came to Apache 27 years ago. In recent years he had been employed by one—his wife—when he died and the change in business methods had caused him to fall behind in the pace and he had practically retired from commercial activity.

Unhappily, Mrs. Richart, who was a woman of college education and but 51 years old, had continued to carry on her profession as a teacher. She came to Apache originally as the wife of Edward Ball, a scoldier in the World war who later died from effects of the flu. She taught school at Apache and was an efficient teacher. Some years after her first husband's death, she married Richart.

Twelve years ago, Mrs. Richart became a teacher in the school at Benson and had taught there every year since. She recently closed her school work and returned to her husband's home at Apache. She was to return to Benson to teach there again next winter. But she was planning, within the next week, to start on a vacation trip to Colorado, where her son, Edward, lives his home. She was to have been accompanied by her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Logan of Apache. Mrs. Logan is one of the Apache teachers.

Friday evening, after she had visited with Mr. and Mrs. Logan for a time Mrs. Richart returned to her husband's quarters. Mr. Logan recalls that shortly after her leaving their home, he heard what he now is convinced was the discharge of the shotgun that killed Mrs. Richart. But it sounded far off and he thought nothing of tragedy at the moment.

Yesterday morning, a call to the Richart quarters revealed the body of Mrs. Richart resting in a pool of her own blood a little way from the rear door. It had not fallen at that point. When she was shot, Mrs.

Richart was moving toward the rear door. She was shot from the rear and the charge of shot took away the left side and upper portion of her skull, the evidence being plain upon the door and wall and ceiling of the room. She had fallen into the screen on the door and had broken the screen loose from the frame. But her body had been pulled back into the room and left away from the door.

Having gotten the body back into the room, Richart had gone to the bed and sat upon the edge of the bed with his feet upon the floor. He had merely dropped the shotgun down upon the bed and then had taken the pistol and placed the muzzle against the right side of his head and fired. The heavy ball had plowed through his head.

The bodies were brought to the Porter and Ames mortuary where they were prepared for burial. Mrs. Richart will be buried in Benson tomorrow (Monday). The disposition of Richart's body had not been determined last night. Decision will be made by his daughter, Mrs. John Ellis, of Garnet, Kansas.

Richart was a native of Illinois. He had resided in Apache for 27 years. He came there as a pioneer merchant and for many years did a thriving small business. With certain telephone improvements, he being made there 21 years ago, Ed Miller, a deputy sheriff in the service of the late Harry Wheeler, then sheriff of the county, had some portion of the work in his charge. There was a clash in interest between him and Richart in the telephone matter. It involved the placing of a telephone pole. Finally, the matter reached a climax when the two met and the outcome was the slaying of Miller by Richart. A jury acquitted Richart, apparently upon the grounds of justifiable action.

Richart is survived by two daughters, one, Mrs. Ellis, in Garnet, Kansas, and the other, "Mey" Richart, living in California. There are two sons, Roy and Harry, one in California and the other in Nevada, if it is understood.

Mrs. Lelah Richart was born a daughter of Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Read, of Wapanucka, Indian Territory, now in the state of Oklahoma. Her father was a well known missionary among the Indians. She was educated at the normal school in Norman, Okla., and in the University of Arizona, receiving her bachelor of arts degree from the university in 1927. She had since been doing work upon her master's degree at the university.

Survivors of Mrs. Richart are her three children from her first marriage, Edward Ball, of Columbus, Oregon; Douglas Ball, Maricopa, Colo.; and Mrs. Logan of Apache; her mother, Mrs. J. J. Read, and a sister, Mrs. T. M. Bunton, both of Dallas, Texas; four brothers, Theodore Read, Wapamucka, Okla.; David L. Read, Benson; Rev. J. J. Read, Norman, Okla.; Eugene Read, in Mexico.

During her life at Apache and also at Benson, Mrs. Read had taken active interest in all affairs of concern to women. She had been a worker in the women's auxiliary to the American Legion, coming to membership through her first husband, and she was a member of the Presbyterian church in Benson where she took active interest.

The tragedy at Apache was not a surprise to persons acquainted with Richart. His temper had been a matter of neighborhood comment for a considerable period. It is recalled that when certain road improvement was being made there about two years ago by a crew of highway employes, under supervision of the late Porter Morris, Richart went on the rampage and ordered the crew to leave. He appeared on the scene at that time again armed and told them that if they did not get out of his land he would trim them to a deer of lead. Movers talked him out of his mind and put the road through the land it had been planned to use, but Richart was far from friendly to the plan.

It was said that there had been no evidence of bad temper toward his wife, however, although it is said that for a time he was not easily reconciled to her being away as a teacher at Benson. It is one of the theories that he possibly became irritated to find that she was going to return to teach there next year and also to learn that she was going to leave on a vacation trip and that these facts aroused some of the temper which he had, on former occasions indicated he possessed, and that on the impulse of the moment he committed the tragic deed of shooting his wife. That being done, his only out was to kill himself.



Thomas L. Ramsey



Otto Brach



Floyd L. Bossler

Three outstanding leaders in the battle which labor is waging in Toledo, O., are shown here. Floyd L. Bossler, former school teacher, is president of the United Automobile Workers Federal Labor Union, No. 15384, striking at the Electric Auto-Lite plant, where guardsmen were called to quell rioting. Thomas L. Ramsey is business agent of the auto workers' union. He is a former Indiana blacksmith. Otto Brach is secretary of the Toledo Central Labor Union.

Douglas Daily Doings

To Bisbee

Miss Helen Simon was the guest of friends in Bisbee Friday evening.

Illness

Mrs. L. R. Palmer is ill and confined to her home on Tenth street.

Illness

Mrs. W. F. Handley is ill at her home on Seventh street.

From Cottonwood

M. A. Fairchild was in Douglas Saturday from his home in Cottonwood canyon.

From Guadalupe

Willough and Lawrence McDonald were in Douglas Saturday from Guadalupe canyon.

From Bisbee

Mrs. Hilda Timmons, of Bisbee, was the guest of friends in Douglas Friday evening.

From Rodeo

Mrs. A. C. Brown and Billie Tolle, of Rodeo, N. M., were in this city Saturday.

To Bisbee

Paul Hunt, of the Phelps Dodge plant, made a business trip to Bisbee Saturday.

From Miami

Clayton Ober, of Miami, is passing the weekend at his home in Douglas.

From Warren

Mrs. D. C. Bernard, of Warren, was the guest of friends in Douglas Saturday.

From Tucson

Shelby Ripley, of Tucson, is a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Madden on Ninth street.

From Rodeo

J. B. Hado and E. A. Wiley were in Douglas Saturday from their homes in Rodeo, N. M.

To Mountains

C. X. Nichols left Saturday for his cottage in Rustler's park to enjoy a brief sojourn.

To Bisbee

John Bernat, Luis Vasquez and C. Ballestrero, will motor to Bisbee today to attend the baseball game.

From Cananea

Gustavo Vasquez, of Cananea, arrived in Douglas Friday for several days business visit.

From Cave Creek

Mrs. Don Ferrer was in Douglas Saturday, having motored here from her home at Cave Creek.

Illness

Mrs. John Mohr is seriously ill and confined to her home at 911 Ninth street.

From Ranch

Mr. and Mrs. George Stephens were in Douglas Saturday from the Lazy J ranch.

From Rodeo

Mrs. J. O. Atkinson was in Douglas Saturday, having motored here from her home at Rodeo, N. M.

From Apache

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Krelling, of Apache, were visitors in Douglas Saturday.

From Ranch

Mr. and Mrs. Gus Klobbe were in

Somewhat Improved

R. Bretton, who has been seriously ill at his home on Tenth street, was reported Saturday as somewhat improved.

From Bisbee

Mr. and Mrs. R. Chevalier, of Bisbee, were here Saturday evening as guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Williams.

From El Paso

Miss Mary and Miss Josie Debernard, who for some time have been in El Paso, have returned to their home in Douglas.

From Tombstone

Miss Edith Brown, of Tombstone, is visiting in Douglas as the guest of her aunt and uncle, Dr. and Mrs. L. R. Brown.

To Bisbee

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Romine and children and Mrs. May Smith were guests of friends in Bisbee Saturday.

To Globe

Mrs. J. J. Symonds is returning today to her home in Globe following a visit here as the guest of her sister, Mrs. Emmett Gleason.

Meeting

Douglas council, Knights of Columbus, will meet at 8 Monday evening at W. O. W. hall for election of officers.

From Coolidge

Miss Esther Scott, who teaches at Coolidge, is the guest here of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Tackett. Miss Scott formerly made her home in Douglas.

To Elgin

Miss Willie McNitt, city bacteriologist, is passing the week-end at Elgin as the guest of Mrs. W. T. Roath.

To Mexico

Luis Bernat and Joaquin Corella have returned to the Centro de Mayo mine in Mexico following a brief business visit in Douglas.

From San Simon

Mr. and Mrs. John Cameron, of San Simon, returned Saturday to their home following several days' visit in Douglas as guests of friends.

To Warren

Mrs. Dorothy Packard Parker is passing the week-end in Warren as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Hoyal A. Smith.

To Pinaros

Mrs. Isabel Romero has gone to Pinaros, where she plans to remain a week as the guest of her daughter, Mrs. E. Acosta.

From Warren

Miss Ruth Simon has returned to her home in this city after having passed two weeks in Warren as the guest of friends.

From Texas

Jack Miller, who spent the past four months in Tucson, has returned to Douglas and is employed at the Hubbell cafe.

To San Simon

Mrs. Frank Williams, who has been convalescing from an operation, had recovered sufficiently Saturday to return to her home at San Simon.

From University

Douglas City, a member of the

To Tempe

Miss Jeanette Lindner, a member of the Douglas city teaching staff, has come to Tempe to attend summer session at Arizona State Teachers college.

From Flagstaff

Miss Eleanor Kinney, daughter of Mrs. W. W. Kelly, has returned to Douglas for the summer months. She has been attending Arizona State Teachers college in Flagstaff.

From University

E. F. Vickers, Jr. returned Saturday to his home in Douglas after having attended the University of Arizona in Tucson during the past college year.

From Fort Worth

D. J. Mackie, of the United States department of commerce with headquarters in Fort Worth, arrived in Douglas Friday for a brief business visit.

From Tempe

Miss Marion Krentz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Krentz, returned Saturday to her home in Douglas. She has been attending Arizona State Teachers college in Tempe.

From Mexico

Mr. and Mrs. John Campodromo, who have been in Mexico City, have returned to Douglas and plan to remain here some time. Mr. Campodromo made a business trip to Phoenix Saturday.

Extended Trip

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Tackett are leaving soon for Louisiana, Mississippi, various points in Illinois and Cincinnati, Ohio. They plan to attend the Century of Progress exposition in Chicago.

From University

Miss Julia Contreras will return today to Douglas from Tucson where she has been attending the University of Arizona. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Contreras.

To Whitewater

Lee Thompson, who attends Arizona State Teachers' college in Flagstaff, was in Douglas en route to his home in Whitewater, where he will remain during the summer months.

To Ranch

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Glenn returned Saturday to the Glenn ranch in Hunt canyon following a brief sojourn here. Mr. Glenn has been serving as a member of the jury in Bisbee.

From Mesa

Mrs. Lee Hunsaker, of Mesa, is passing the summer here as the guest of her daughter, Mrs. George Burkhardt. Mrs. Hunsaker is accompanied by her granddaughter, Ruth Belle Hunsaker.

To Tucson

Miss Adelaide Karger and Miss Sue Adair left Saturday for Tucson to remain a short while as guests of Miss Helen Barrow, who has often visited in Douglas. Miss Karger will then go to visit in Tempe and Miss Adair will go to Mesa.

Death Of Rodeo Child

Tifford T. Tolle, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. William Tolle of Rodeo, died yesterday afternoon at 1247 Twelfth street. The body will be carried to Rodeo for burial in

Three cars hurried to Apache when the body here of the dou life of Mr. as art. The men quite a bit of th to officers about including tear be a surmise on th Richart might i the crime by kill

When the ne police station den conveyed it y iff and the coo soon was forme to inquire into Justice of the became ex-offic in his capacity was announced homicide, and ity Sheriff's W. E. Morrow andorney George pany him. Oth party without were Highway Smith, Constabney, Wirt Fra Francis McMat Ames and anot Porter and A Ames being so the boys.

Meanwhile Stker and one of hurried from B they also can meet the emta presented if o homicide and t in the buildi, ticers. Sheriff only his usuali ing irons, but t of the tea go could accomm situation

The officrs, tunate that th completed by a Richart and i equipment was

To California Miss Elsie M teaching at F closing of schel her time betw bee, left Satu coast where st remainder of th

To Tombstone E. W. Floyd home on Twel brief sojourn. Floyd is leav for his fortun Miss, where h daughter.

To Fort Huachu E. W. Floyd, Sr. her home in F on a visit her parents, Mr. e treras. She v Fort Huachuca, who will reman

From Tucson Miss Maimie Mahon, of Tu guests at the George Jay, s Miss Gella, s George Jay, Jr returned Saturday Country club o

From Tucson Mr. and Mrs coming to Dou plan to remain as Mr. Brown, the governme rferred here. M membered her Hatcher.

To Tempe Miss Mary H the city teachi Tempe to atten Arizona State I was accompa Dorothy, who w as the guest of Benson (Mary I

From Tempe Mr. and Mrs turned Saturda Douglas followi where they attel exercises at Ariz college. Their v vine Watts (Ma at this time rec

Graduates From Jack Adams, J. L. Adams of I has just returne Duncan where with the high honor of I march at the s where scholasti mines the right class to escort th

June 3 1934 J.W. Richart, Pioneer Merchant Slayed Self With Shotgun, Ends His Own

"I've found the complete refrigerator"

