

'Lost Memory' Plea Fails; Detective Slayer Is Guilty

LONDON (CP)—Guenther Fritz Podola, who tried to escape trial on a novel plea of lost memory, has been found guilty of murdering a London detective and sentenced to be hanged. The defence he offered was unique in the annals of English legal history.

The 30-year-old German-born photographer, a former member of the Hitler youth who lived for a time in Canada, was accused of killing detective sergeant Raymond Purdy, 43, July 13 while resisting arrest.

A jury in Old Bailey central criminal court took only 37 minutes to return a verdict of guilty. The death sentence was passed immediately by the presiding judge, Justice Edmund Davies.

Podola's lawyers said they are considering an appeal, which would have to be heard before an execution date is fixed by the home office.

Nine of the 11 days of the trial were taken up by Podola's plea that he could remember nothing of events prior to his arrest on July 16. His counsel argued that rendered him unfit to plead.

NO DEFENCE

Podola told the court: "I cannot put forward any defence. The reason for this is that I have lost my memory for all these events.

"I do not know if it was me or whether it was an accident or an act of self-defence... I do not know whether I was provoked in any way. For these reasons, I

am not able either to admit or deny charges against me."

Purdy and another policeman, John Sandford, had gone to the South Kensington subway station to look for a man reported making threatening phone calls to Mrs. Verne Schiffman, a blonde 30-year-old model.

Purdy and Sandford found Podola still making the phone call and arrested him. He was being led to a police car when he suddenly broke away and ran. The two officers caught up with him in the entrance of an apartment house.

SHOOT'S PURDY

Sandford testified Tuesday about what happened next. He said he turned away to phone his station and as he did Podola whipped out a revolver and shot Purdy to death at point-blank range.

Podola escaped but was captured in the area three days later.

Defence lawyer Frederick Lawton said he was like a plumber without tools. He said Podola had not briefed him because he could not recall the incidents.

Podola was sentenced to death under the Homicide Act of 1957 which abolished the death penalty for most kinds of murder but kept it for killing a police officer in the execution of his duty.

HOWLAN

The Misses Elaine and Betty Arsenault and Jeanette Gaudet, returned to their studies at Misericordia Convent on Labor Day.

Mrs. Gerald O'Brien of Woodstock and her sister, Mrs. Neil Macdonald of Ontario, left recently to visit at Saint John, N.B.

Terence Gallant who spent his holidays at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dorice Gallant at Duvar, has now returned to Ontario.

Arthur Arsenault of Cascapoc was taken suddenly ill on Monday, Sept. 7 and was immediately rushed to the Western Hospital.

Motoring to Summerside on Tuesday were Gene Gallant, his mother, Mrs. John F. Gallant, and his sister, Mrs. Eileen Gallant.

Prayer hours devotions which opened on Sunday, Sept. 6, at St. Anthony's ended on Tuesday evening after mass at 7 p.m. a very large crowd attended all services.

The Misses Gertrude Arsenault of Howlan and Bridget Jones of Bloomfield Station, have returned to their studies at Tignish Convent.

Frank Gallant spent Wednesday, Sept. 9 in Summerside.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul I. Gallant of Alberton, recently visited at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Finnan at Woodstock.

Mrs. Sylvan L. Arsenault of Fortune Cove who was a recent patient in the Western Hospital is now recuperating at the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur DesRoche, Howlan.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Sweet of Forest View were to Howlan on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Jerry Arsenault entertained the St. Anne Club members on Wednesday night, Sept. 9, in place of Mrs. Arthur DesRoche (Due to illness in the family). Reports were heard from the different committees and approved. It was decided to wait until later on for plans for annual supper. Mrs. Rae Noonan of O'Leary kindly invited members for October meeting. A very delicious lunch was served and \$5.55 was made at bingo.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Blanchard and son of Kensington, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Gallant of Piusville, were recent visitors to their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Arsenault.

Sylvan Gallant spent the day Wednesday in Summerside at the home of his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Gallant.

Andrew Arsenault of Skowhegan, Maine, who is visiting at the home of his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Arsenault, spent Wednesday with his in-laws at Lot 6.

Rev. C. Pitre of St. Anthony's called on the sick in Howlan on Friday morning, bringing to them the Forty-Hour Communion.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Martin, motored to Tignish on Thursday.

Andrew Arsenault who spent the past week with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Arsenault, was a bus passenger to Summerside where he will join his group on return to his home at Skowhegan, Maine.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Noonan, with some of the good sisters of Western Hospital were in Howlan and O'Leary on Friday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus McBaine, visited at the Carruthers home on Friday evening.

Dan Gillis of Kensington with a friend visited old friends in Howlan on Sunday, Sept. 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Alphonse Bernard who are at present living near Charlottetown were in Howlan on Sunday, Sept. 13.

Miss Jean Arsenault of Charlottetown spent Sunday at her home here.

Arthur Rogers of Upper Howlan spent a few days in Western Hospital.

Mrs. John Arsenault of Rumbold, Me., is now visiting friends

KENSINGTON

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Fickering accompanied by Mrs. Stirling Mackay and Miss Vivian Woodside, all of Clinton left by car on September 2nd, on a two month trip to the West Coast, and California where they will visit relatives. En-route they were guests of Mrs. P.A. Jackson at Wainipeg, and they will visit Mrs. Henry Mackay, and other relatives in Southern Alberta. On the return trip Mr. and Mrs. Fickering and party plan to visit their daughter, Mrs. Fred Weeks and Mr. Weeks at Toronto.

Mrs. Harold Woodside, Margate, left recently for Vancouver, B.C. where she will visit her daughter, Mrs. Lynn Hawking and Mr. Hawkins.

Larry Mayhew, little son of Mr. and Mrs. Clair Mayhew, Margate, has made good recovery following a recent operation at the Prince County Hospital, Summerside, and has returned to his home.

Mrs. Mildred Jones of Western Canada, is visiting her brother, Mr. John Whitehead, her niece, Mrs. Fred Henderson, Margate, and other relatives.

Donna Jean Baker, Margate, and Marilyn Paynter, French River, were the recipients of the County Line No. 1 Conventio Area Women's Institute scholarships. These scholarships are awarded each year to the two students in the convention area making the highest marks in the Maritime Board Examinations. The presentations were made by Mrs. George Dunning at French River Hall, and Mrs. Harold Woodside presided. Mrs. J.E. Cousins one of their teachers, was called upon and spoke highly of the scholastic ability and efforts of both girls. Both students thanked the W.I. for the gift. A short

program was given, and refreshments and cake served by the Margate and Spring Brook Institutes. The 12 institutes of this convention area were represented.

The president, Mrs. David L. McLean, presided at the opening meeting of St. Mark's Anglican Church Guild, held at the home of Mrs. Joseph Harding, Kensington, on Tuesday evening. The meeting opened with the collect for the 15th Sunday after Trinity.

The treasurer reported \$222.22 bank balance.

The president acquainted the meeting with a request made by the rector Rev. Mr. Ingraham, that the Guild pay for a crutch and surplus to be kept in the church for visiting clergy and lay readers. It was moved by Mrs. Elmer Paynter and seconded by Mrs. Lester Champion and passed that the request be granted.

On motion by Mrs. William Thompson, seconded by Mrs. Joe Harding, September 19th, was set the date for a rummage and party sale. A tentative date was set for a church supper.

Mrs. Nickson invited the members for next meeting to be held October 6th. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Refreshments were served by the business assisted by Mrs. Garnet Turner.

Recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler, Glengarry, were Mrs. Reginald Coughlin and son Dr. William Coughlin of Missis, who are vacationing in Campbellton.

Recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cooke, Barton, were Mrs. Patricia S. McMillan, her son, John A. McMillan, and daughter Miss Elaine McMillan of Grand River, also Mr. John McMillan, Mrs. Vernon Doyle, Campbellton and daughter Mrs. Elmer Sherry and Mr. Sherry, of Halifax, N.S.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bradley of Charlottetown were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler, Glengarry.

Recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Doyle, Campbellton, were Mrs. Lottie Krough and son, Wilfred Piere of Tignish, also Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Nelligan of Halifax, N.S.

Mr. Camille Gaudet of Summerside, was a recent guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler, Glengarry.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Doyle, Campbellton, had as their guests over the holiday weekend, Mrs. Doyle's sister, Mrs. Elmer Sherry and Mr. Sherry of Halifax, N.S., Mrs. Walter Arsenault of St. Eleanors, and Mr. Harry Clow of

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Mr. and Mrs. Simon Lalreel of St. Louis, were recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler, Glengarry.

Miss Rita Knox and brother, Clifford, also Mr. and Mrs. Ted Bernard of Palmer Road, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Doyle, Campbellton, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler, Glengarry.

Miss Stella Howard, Glengarry, Vance Griffin, Locke Road, Emmett Foley, Bloomfield, have resumed their studies at S. D. U., Charlottetown. Also attending S. D. U. this term is Miss Joan O'Halloran, Cape Wolfe.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Reilly and their two sons of Halifax, N.S., spent the weekend at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Reilly, Cape Wolfe.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Mosher, Halifax, and Mrs. Allan Martin, Moncton, were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Henderson, this village.

Mrs. Edison Wright, Central

BURTON

Mrs. Arthur Brown, her children Paul and Catherine, of Trenton, Ont., were recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Cooke, Barton.

Miss Eva and Jean Coughlin of Bedford, also Paula and Jean Shea of Palmer Road, were recent guests of Mrs. Aubrey Doyle, Campbellton.

Those attending the Homecoming

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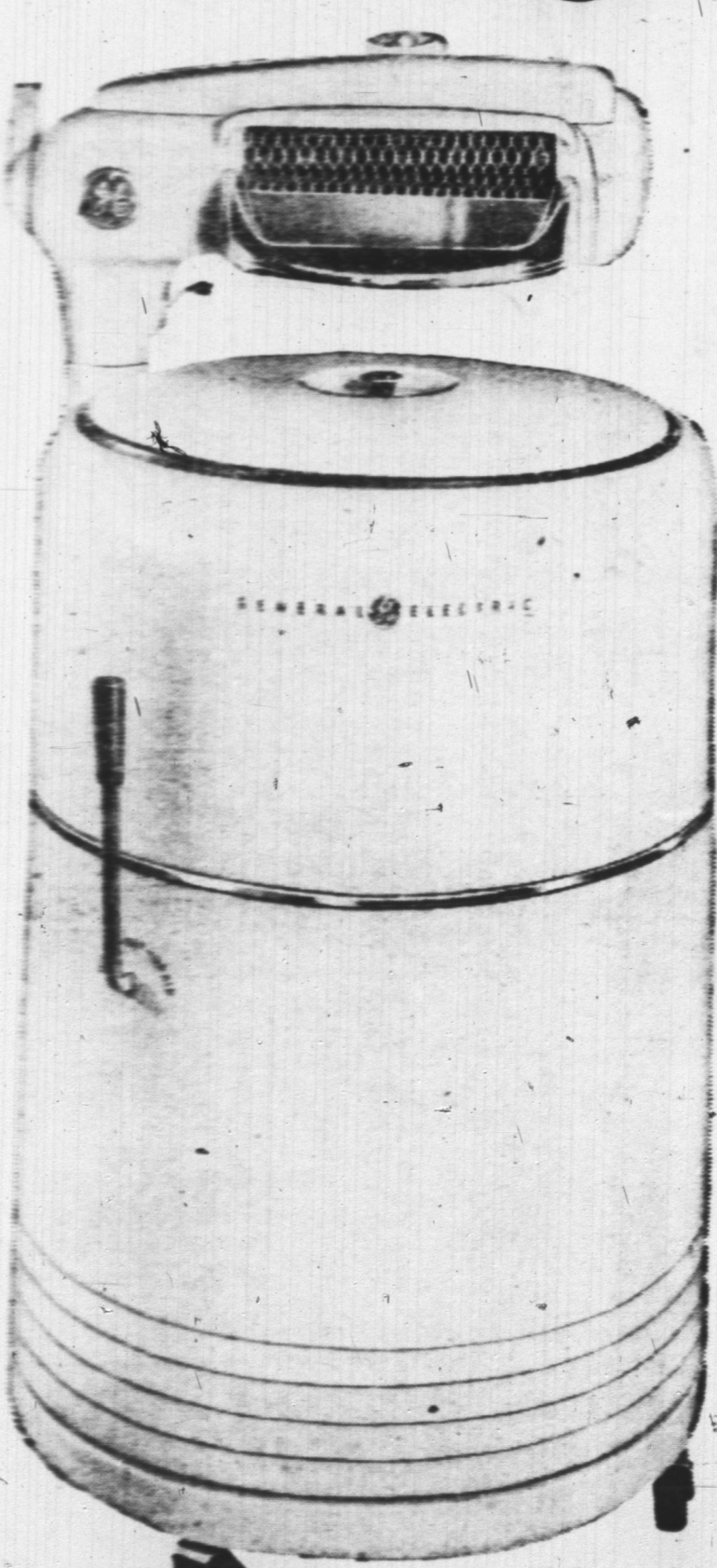
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