

Slayer Cheats Posse in Siege; Takes Life

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Eagle River, Wis.—His ammunition exhausted after a thirty-hour battle with a posse of 15 men surrounding his cabin at Big Lake, John Donahue, burly woodsman who killed Jack Powers, summer resort owner, and then held Powers' wife a prisoner eight days and nights, late Wednesday placed his revolver against his head and used his last bullet to end his life.

When there was a lull in the firing from Donahue's shack, the posse closed in. Cautiously entering the cabin, they found the single room deserted. Search revealed the body of Donahue in the cellar. Pinned to his shirt was a note on a scrap of paper, roughly scribbled in pencil. It read: "I killed Jack Powers and I am not sorry that I did it."

Slaying Motive Mystery

The mystery surrounding the murder of Powers will remain unsolved as a result of Donahue's death. Mrs. Powers denies the men had quarreled. Powers' body was found in an ice-house back of the besieged shack, his head crushed by blows from a blunt instrument. Donahue told Mrs. Powers he had killed her husband with a hammer as the latter lay asleep, but later told John Iverson, a rural mail carrier, that he killed Powers in self-defense.

Big Lake, near Boulder Junction, is 40 miles northwest of here, but so sequestered in the northern wilds of Vilas county that it necessitates a railroad trip of 100 miles to reach it. Powers was killed Jan. 28, but the first report of the slaying, brought by Iverson, the mail carrier, was not received here until late Monday.

Refuses to Surrender

Tuesday morning Sheriff P. J. Gaffney and Dist. Atty. O'Connor left by train for Big Lake. Heading a posse of 15 armed men, the sheriff surrounded Donahue's cabin. Deputy W. O. Strandberg approached the shack and called upon the slayer to surrender. Donahue's answer was a volley of bullets. The siege continued for thirty hours, until Donahue sent a bullet into his brain about 4 p. m. Wednesday. He had boasted he would not be taken alive.

Powers and his wife lived in a cottage a few rods from the Donahue shack. On the night of Jan. 28, Mrs. Powers said, her husband went to the home of Donahue for what she thought was a friendly visit. Mrs. Powers remained at home. Her husband, she said, had often visited Donahue and had even spent the night there. It was 9 o'clock, she said, when Powers went to Donahue's shack.

At 2 o'clock in the morning, she said, she was awakened by a noise at the door. She arose and faced Donahue, who told her he had killed her husband, and that she would have to remain his prisoner. For eight days and nights, she said, she was a prisoner.

Bound Her, but Not Cruel

"For eight days and nights he would not permit me to leave the place," Mrs. Powers said. "Whenever he left, to get fuel or provisions he would bind me, hand and foot. Otherwise he was not cruel to me."

In spite of Donahue's close watch over her, Mrs. Powers was able to find a pencil and a scrap of paper, on which she scrawled a message pleading for aid. This note she concealed in her clothing.

Iverson was the first to discover that Mrs. Powers was being held a captive. Some weeks ago Iverson received a newspaper from Mrs. Powers. Both had once lived in the same town. Iverson went on snowshoes to the Powers home to return the borrowed newspaper.

Mail Carrier Goes Free

Iverson opened the door of the Powers shack to find Mrs. Powers a prisoner, and Donahue standing near her with a gun. He questioned Donahue about the slaying of Powers. Donahue told him he had killed Powers in self-defense. Iverson argued with Donahue to let him go, saying that Donahue was safe from the law if he had killed in self-defense. Donahue promised to give himself over to the authorities, Iverson said.

Freed by Donahue, Iverson started on his way to Manitowish, 18 miles away. Officers were notified at once and a posse dispatched to Big Lake to watch the cabin, while word was sent here to Sheriff Gaffney.

Finds Woman's Note

Near the shack, a member of the posse noticed a piece of white paper stuck in the twigs of a piece of brush. It was the note Mrs. Powers had written and which she had succeeded in dropping outside the house. The note implored who ever found it to help

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2, COLUMN 4)

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her, as she was being held captive by Donahue.

Mrs. Powers persuaded Donahue to allow her to go across the lake to feed her horse, which was stabled there. Donahue yielded, under condition that he sit on the opposite shore and keep her covered with his gun, and that he return at the end of a half hour after her. Mrs. Powers was not aware, however, that armed deputies were on the other side of the lake, keeping Donahue covered.

Met by Deputies

When she arrived at the other side of the lake she met the deputies. A detail of them accompanied her to Manitowish, while the rest of the posse remained behind and kept watch on Donahue.

Members of the posse returned to Manitowish Wednesday night without the two bodies. There are no roads through to the Big lake region, a favorite resort for summer tourists of the northern woods, and the deep snows may prevent rigs from breaking through to the cabin for some days.

Donahue was about 40. During the summer he was employed as a caretaker at summer resorts around Big lake.

SLAYER ENDS LIFE AS POSSE BESIEGES HUT

**Pins Confession to Murder of
Resort Owner to Shirt and
Turns Last Shot on
Himself.** #4

By a Special Correspondent.

MANITOWISH, Wis.—After scribbling a confession and pinning it to his shirt, John Donahue, besieged since Monday in his shack at Big Lake by a posse that sought him for the murder of Jack Powers and imprisonment of Powers' wife, used the last cartridge in his gun to blow out his brains.

When the return fire from the trappers' shack ceased suddenly, late Wednesday afternoon, the sheriff's posse closed in and entered. The building seemed empty, but search revealed the body of Donahue in the cellar. Pinned to his shirt was the note confessing the murder of Powers. It read: "I killed Jack Powers and I am not sorry that I did it."

Powers' Body Found.

The death of Donahue precludes the solving of the mystery of the killing of Powers. Mrs. Powers stoutly denies that there had been a quarrel and that her husband had been killed when he went to Donahue's cottage apparently on a friendly visit.

Powers' body was found in an ice-house back of the besieged shack. His head had been crushed by blows from a blunt instrument. Donahue told Mrs. Powers that he had killed her husband with a hammer as the latter lay asleep, but later told John Iverson, a rural mail carrier, that he killed Powers in self-defense.

Following the discovery of the murder of Powers and the escape of Mrs. Powers a posse of men, headed by Sheriff P. J. Gaffney of Vilas county, surrounded the cabin of Donahue, calling upon him to surrender. Donahue replied to these requests with a fusillade of shots. Reinforcements were brought up and the siege continued until Wednesday afternoon, when Don-

Went for Visit.

Powers, a resort owner, and his wife lived in a cottage a few rods from the Donahue shack. On the night of Jan. 28, she related, her husband went to the home of Donahue for what she thought was a friendly visit. Mrs. Powers remained at home. Her husband, she said, had often visited Donahue late at night and had even spent the night there on occasions. Accordingly she felt no alarm when he failed to return late at night. It was 9 o'clock, she said, when Powers went to Donahue's shack. At 2 o'clock the next morning, she said, she was awakened by a noise at the door. She arose and faced John Donahue, who told her that he had killed her husband.

He then told her, she said, that she would have to remain his prisoner. For eight days and nights, she told the police officials here, she was a prisoner.

Remained With Her.

Donahue, she declared, remained with her except for brief intervals. Whenever left alone she was first bound hand and foot to a chair, she said. Donahue threatened her with a rifle, she declared. In spite of the close watch maintained over her, Mrs. Powers was able to find a pencil and a scrap of paper, on which she scrawled a message pleading for aid. This note she concealed in her clothing against the time when she might drop it where it could be found by someone who would summon assistance for her.

Iverson, the mail carrier, was the first to discover that Mrs. Powers was being held a captive by Donahue. Some weeks ago Iverson received a newspaper from Mrs. Powers. Both had once lived in the same town, and Mrs. Powers, thinking that Iverson might be interested in news of his home town, loaned him the paper. Iverson went on snowshoes to the Powers home to return the borrowed newspaper.

Mail Carrier Arrives.

He opened the door of the Powers' shack to find Mrs. Powers a prisoner, and Donahue standing near her with a gun. Powers, it is said, turned the gun upon Iverson and informed him that he would "never get out alive."

Iverson questioned Donahue about the slaying of Powers. Donahue told him he had killed Powers in self defense. Seeing a possible chance for escape Iverson argued with Donahue to let him go, saying that he, Donahue, was safe from the law if he had killed in self defense. According to Iverson, Donahue even went so far as to promise to give himself over to the authorities.

Freed by Donahue, but leaving Mrs. Powers still a prisoner, Iverson then started on his way to Manitowish, eighteen miles away. Officers

The secretary said Ford was asked if he would the manufacture of fertilizer not make a profit of 8 per cent he would not be bound by consideration. Secretary Wed that Mr. Ford's offer to lease for 100 years be cut to fifty while the secretary testified not believe it "prudent" to government property for longer years, he said, Mr. Ford's cut the time in half should that the proffer should be Five offers, in all, have been ted for Muscle Shoals, Mr. V and two of these have been v He told the committee he e send to it two other offers b Ford's. One of these, he s verbal offer which would p put into writing.

280,147 DESTROYED FRENCH HOMES R

Special Cable to The Sentinel
New York Times.

(Copyright, 1922, by The New York Times.)
PARIS — Charles Reibel, minister for the liberated r a debate in the chamber on day gave the following data construction in the districts by the Germans during the

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Deputies Surround Cabin.

The deputies traveled on snow shoes to Big Lake and secreted themselves in the woods on the edge of the lake which lies near Donahue's home. Drawing nearer the shack, one of the members of the posse discovered the note which Mrs. Powers had written and which she had succeeded in dropping outside the house. The note implored who ever found it to help her, as she was being held captive by Donahue in her home.

She warned any one who came to her assistance to be well armed, as

Continued on Page Two, Column Three.

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New York Times.

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MAN WITH 5 BULLETS IN BODY STILL

By The Associated Press
NEW YORK—A limousine

beside the curb on upper Broadway drive on Wednesday near where Bruno stood in overalls. The groomed men stepped from the car, fired five shots into Tony's back and drove away.

Bruno got up, brushed his face, walked to a police station, told the story, and collapsed.

The bullets "could not hurt him," a desk lieutenant said, amazed that the man still lived.

fire and Donahue was seen to stumble and fall, but he managed to drag himself into the cabin.

NEAR MANITOWOC CLUB.

A flash of fire and a bullet from the lonely cabin whenever the posse moved as though to close in on it, made it plain, however, that Donahue's wound had not been fatal.

The Powers cabin is a few miles from the Manitowoc club, a widely known hunting lodge. It stands in a lonely spot along the winter bound lake, but in the summer is a popular resort.

SLAYER HOLDS OFF POSSE IN CABIN

(Continued from Page 1)

a quarrel over Donahue's alleged attentions to Mrs. Powers.

Powers had been in Southern Wisconsin for a visit, Mrs. Powers declares, and when he returned he accused Donahue, trapper and guide. They quarreled, but were separated without a fight. Later, she said, Donahue appeared at Powers cabin resort and they quarreled again.

HAMMER WAS USED.

Donahue and Powers then went outside the cabin, she said, and into the ice house. In a few minutes, she said, she heard moans and rushed to the ice house where she found Donahue, a powerfully built man, beating Powers over the head with a hammer. Powers was dead when she persuaded Donahue to desist, she said. The body was left in the ice house, the woman declared, while Donahue held her prisoner.

Monday, a week after the slaying, a scrawled note, held in a split twig that had been stuck in the snow at the intersection of two trails across the icebound lake, and signed by Mrs. Powers, notified the outside world for the first time of the slaying. It read:

"I have been held captive for 10 days. My husband was killed by John Donahue a week ago. His body is in the ice house in the rear of the resort. If you want to catch John Donahue wait along this trail and get him when he goes across the lake to feed the horse."

HER STORIES VARY.

The note was delivered to Sheriff Gaffaney at Eagle Lake and he immediately dispatched deputies to arrest Donahue. Lying in wait at the point designated on the lake trail, the posse saw Mrs. Powers crossing the lake toward the stable maintained by Powers. They took her into custody and after questioning found that she already had notified the insurance company of her husband's death, according to Sheriff Gaffaney. They also obtained an admission from her, authorities say, that she had not been held a prisoner, but had remained in the cabin of her own free will.

The posse, augmented by a dozen citizens, then returned to the lake and found Donahue just leaving the Powers cabin. They called to him to surrender, but instead he opened fire and then turned and ran toward the house. The posse returned the

motion picture director, was arrested in Milwaukee in July, 1914, on a charge of blackmailing a wealthy Milwaukeean to the extent of from \$2,000 to \$3,000, police records here reveal.

Collins was arrested by Detectives Arthur Burns and Bart Maloney at a hotel, but was later released upon orders of former Police Chief John T. Janssen.

Collins' police record as received by the Milwaukee police department on Jan. 21, 1922, shows that he went under the aliases of "Steven Daly," "Thomas Watson," "Thomas Tourbillon" and "Henry Hayes."

SOUGHT IN FLORIDA.

MIAMI, Fla.—(By I. N. S.)—Authorities here today said they had been asked to watch for "Dapper Don" Collins, alleged gambler, who is wanted in Los Angeles for questioning in connection with murder there of William Desmond Taylor. Police declared Collins has not been placed under arrest, but intimated they had received information that Collins is either here now or enroute to Miami. Collins is also wanted in New York.

FIRE BREAKS OUT IN TREASURY BUILDING

WASHINGTON—(By A. P.)—Fire broke out this afternoon on the roof of the Treasury building, where repairs were being made. Two alarms were turned in.

Another alarm was turned in a few minutes later. The fire at first did not appear dangerous, the blaze being confined to some scaffolding on the roof.

Posse Besiege #1 in North V

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Eagle River, Wis.—The tragic story of a love triangle that resulted in at least one killing came out of the frozen wilderness 40 miles northwest of here Wednesday, when the first report from a sheriff's posse told of a vigil about a lonely cabin in the woods near Big lake in an attempt to capture the alleged slayer of John Powers, summer resort keeper.

John Donahue, accused of killing Powers by the widow of the resort keeper, was barricaded in the cabin and repelled the attacks of the posse with repeated shots from a high powered rifle. No word has come out of the north woods since the first report, and the result of the attack on the cabin is not known. It is believed Donahue will not be taken alive.

Find Woman's Note

The first intimation of the tragic death of Powers came through a note found at the intersection of two trails leading out of Big lake. The note was written by the wife of the dead man and accused Donahue of killing her husband after a fight near a lonely cabin.

Mrs. Emma Powers was located by the sheriff after the finding of the note and she told conflicting stories about the killing. In the note she had said that Donahue had held her prisoner in the cabin several days. The slaying occurred a week ago last Saturday, she said.

Surprised Pair in Cabin

Powers had been in southern Wisconsin, it is said, and when he returned found his wife in a wilderness cabin with Donahue. They quarreled and later, it was said, the wife was found in the same cabin.

Powers attacked Donahue and a fight raged outside the cabin and into a small shack, where Mrs. Powers said her husband was beaten to death.

Posse Attacks, Ends Siege at Fort in Woods

Manitowish, Wis. — John Donahue, whose arrest was sought in connection with the slaying of Jack Powers, was shot and killed by the posse that had surrounded him in his shack near Big Lake, 18 miles from here, according to a message received here late Wednesday.

The posse, consisting of men from Manitowish, Big Lake and Eagle River, left here Tuesday night for Big Lake.

According to a report received here by a runner at noon, W. O. Strandberg, deputy sheriff of Vilas county, approached the Donahue cabin early Wednesday and called the alleged slayer to surrender. Donahue's answer was a series of shots.

Wife Prisoner Eight Days

Mrs. Powers was rescued from the Donahue shack last Sunday, after being held a prisoner eight days, by a posse of men from Manitowish. Efforts were made to capture Donahue at the time but he put up such a stiff battle that the posse was forced to retreat and return here for reinforcements.

"Donahue killed my husband with an ax on the night of Jan. 28," said Mrs. Powers Wednesday. "Jack left home about 9 p. m. to visit Donahue, whose shack is just a few rods from our cabin. At about 2 o'clock the following morning Donahue came to our home and told me he had killed Jack. He entered the house and told me I'd have to remain his prisoner."

Bound Her, but Not Cruel

"For eight days and nights he would not permit me to leave the place. Whenever he left to get fuel or provisions he would bind me, hand and foot. Otherwise he was not cruel to me."

Donahue is about 40. During the summer he is employed as a caretaker at summer resorts around Big Lake.

Blaze Breaks Out

DEATH ENDS INTEREST IN POWERS SLAYING

By The Associated Press.

DULUTH, Minn.—No further investigation will be made into the slaying of Jack Powers by John Donahue, according to Sheriff P. J. Gaffney of Vilas county, Wisconsin. Talking over long distance telephone from Eagle River, Wis., Thursday night, Sheriff Gaffney told the Associated Press that the note found pinned to Donahue's shirt saying he killed Powers was accepted at the inquest as true evidence of the tragedy. A coroner's jury at Eagle River returned a verdict that "John Donahue killed Jack Powers, later committing suicide."

Donahue killed Powers with a hammer on the night of Jan. 26. He then held Mrs. Powers prisoner for eight days. She escaped last Sunday. Donahue shot the top of his head off on Wednesday when Sheriff Gaffney's posse of armed men surrounded his barricaded cabin at Big Lake, near the northern border of Wisconsin. In the note Donahue wrote:

"I killed Jack Powers and I am glad I did it."

Four brothers of Jack Powers are accompanying Mrs. Powers to Escanaba, Mich., with the body of her slain husband. Donahue's body was taken to Rhinelander, Wis. Authorities have been unable to locate relatives of Donahue, who was unmarried.

STATE LAW LIVESTOCK