

EVIDENCE SHOWS WHARTON KILLED FROM JEALOUSY

Bullets Found in Body of Wife, Child and Friend

Autopsy Reveals Girl's Head Was Shattered by Butt of Shotgun

From a Staff Correspondent.

GLASSBORO, N. J., March 24 — Ghastly evidences that Leo A. Wharton murdered his wife and child and Johnson Hemphill, with whom the former is believed to have been infatuated, fired his home on the New Brooklyn road and then committed suicide, were revealed today by an autopsy performed upon the charred bodies of the quartet at Williamstown.

Besides the gunshot wound discovered yesterday in Hemphill's chest, another wound, inflicted by a .32-calibre revolver, was found in his left side. The wadding of a shotgun shell had torn away his heart and filled both lungs with bird shot.

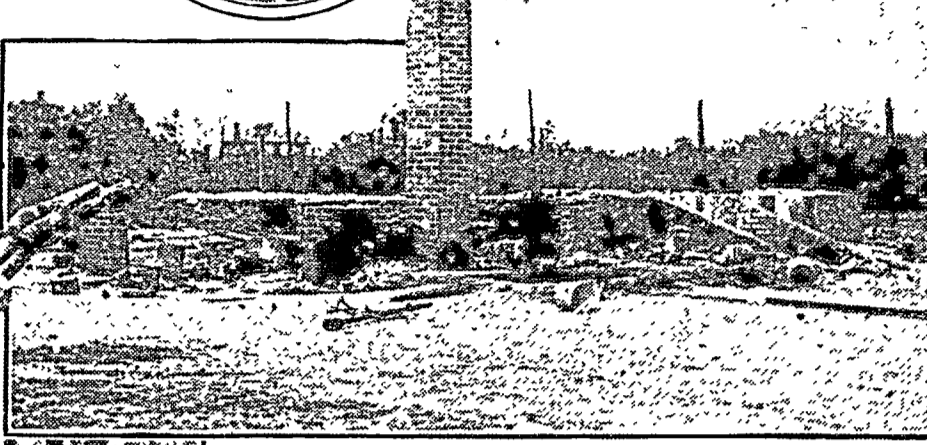
Mrs. Wharton's right shoulder blade had been shattered and two ribs broken by a charge of shot, which, entering her back, had been sufficient to at least render her unconscious before flames began to spread through the little farm house she had shared with her husband and their only child.

Child's Skull Shattered

The child, a girl of only 5 years, the autopsy showed, had received a revolver shot in the head, a .32-calibre bullet dropping from what was left of the latter while the Coroner's physician was conducting his examination of what she had left of it. There were evidences, as the charred skull literally crumbled in

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Victims and Scene of New Jersey's Ghastly Tragedy



LILLIAN WHARTON MRS. C. L. WHARTON
RUINS OF THE WHARTON HOME

Upper—CHARLES LEO WHARTON IN CIRCLE. Lower—JOSEPH J. SUMMERVILLE, ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, WITH SHOTGUN, RIFLE AND LOCKS

together at the moving picture establishment of John R. Myers. The latter said today that he had not seen them, although he believed they had been there together upon another occasion four weeks ago.

After investing in a dozen bottles of beer, Hemphill drove away with Mrs. Wharton to the latter's home. Whether Wharton awaited their coming with shotgun and revolver, or whether, returning home late himself, he found them together and shot them down, is something the fire blotted out.

The Whartons, father, mother and child, will be buried side by side at Newtown, Pa., on Wednesday. Hemphill will be laid to rest with other deceased members of his family in a cemetery near Williamstown.

Evidence Shows Wharton Killed From Jealousy

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the physician's hands, that it had been shattered by blows from the stock of the shotgun from which shot was discharged into the bodies of the child's mother and Hemphill.

Coroner Vernon L. D. Stultz, of Gloucester county, who yesterday found in the ruins of the fire-swept Wharton home the 12 gauge double barreled shotgun Wharton had possessed, today discovered, before the autopsy was held, a .32-calibre revolver Wharton had also owned.

Two of its chambers had been discharged, while the other three contained unused shells. The Coroner stated that the bullet found in the skull of Wharton's little girl was identical in calibre with the shells remaining in the revolver. He explained that such a wound as Hemphill had received would have been inflicted by the same sort of a bullet.

The Coroner also said that he had found an empty shell in the charred wreckage of timber and furniture that is all that is left of the Wharton home, which corresponded to that discovered by him yesterday in the shotgun. He said he was of the opinion that Wharton had not only used the revolver, but, after shooting down his wife and Hemphill with the shotgun, had reloaded the latter and blown his head off with it, after setting fire to the house.

No Bullets in Wharton

No bullets or shot were revealed by autopsy in the charred trunk of Wharton's body, but what remained of his head indicated that he had directed towards it the barrels of the weapon with which he had just shot his wife and the man of whom he had suddenly become insanely jealous.

Piecing together the result of the autopsy performed upon the four bodies and the discoveries he made at the ruins of the Wharton home, with the investigation he conducted of recent incidents in the lives of Wharton and his wife and Hemphill, the Coroner was able to form what he declared was, in his opinion, a graphic picture of what occurred in the Wharton homestead before it was razed by fire.

So certain is he of what occurred in the little two story frame house before the flames blotted out the horrible tragedy enacted there that he intimated last night that it would probably not be necessary to hold an inquest. He will confer tomorrow with Prosecutor Joseph J. Summerville, of Gloucester county, as to whether an inquest shall be held or not.

Wharton was the youngest of the five sons of Oliver Wharton, of Yardley, Pa. **Married Eleven Years**

Leo Wharton and his wife were married at Yardley eleven years ago. U. G. Wharton said today that they were a loving couple before and after they were married, and the result of the autopsy fell upon him like a heavy blow, as it did upon the other members of the family.

About four years ago Leo Wharton, tiring of pursuing his vocation of a carpenter at Yardley, where he was often out of work and dependent upon his brothers, decided to take up farming. From Hemphill he purchased the acres on the New Brooklyn road which formed the theatre for the tragedy early yesterday morning.

He did not till the soil, however, but sought work at Williamstown and elsewhere in that section of Gloucester county as a carpenter. Hemphill, after disposing of the farm, went to live with Miss Isabel A. Stanger, a former school teacher of New Brooklyn, half a mile away. So friendly was he with Wharton at the time of the sale that when the Whartons first moved from Yardley into the section they stayed for several weeks at the Stanger farm.

Wharton often found himself without work. Only recently he had worked for Vernon Champion a contractor, but odd jobs were his specialty and he seemed to be brooding over some secret trouble, even while he was plying his hammer and nails.

Complaints of Home

"Things are going wrong at home," he is said to have remarked to a fellow workman. On another occasion he said to E. S. Champion, the father of Vernon Champion: "I have plenty of trouble; I guess I'll go to New York and leave it all behind."

Only a week or two ago he found himself out of employment again. His wife reproached him for his idleness in the presence of several persons, remarking: "God gave you a brain; why don't you develop it?"

Soon afterwards Hemphill gave him some carpenter work to do about the Stanger farm, and it was still uncompleted when he left there at 6 o'clock on Saturday night. As he walked up the road leading to his home his little girl, Lillian, ran to meet him. Miss Stanger said today that she watched father and daughter disappear in the gloaming and thought what a happy couple they seemed.

It was an hour later that Hemphill told Miss Stanger that he was going to Williamstown. Although there were plenty of conveyances available on the Stanger farm, Hemphill started away on foot at about the time Mrs. Wharton left home with a horse and buggy.

Later he and Mrs. Wharton were seen