

Boston's Young Strangler Uses Business-Like Approach On Potential Woman Victims

BOSTON (UPI) — He has honey colored hair. He is tall, well-colored and business-like. He knocks on an apartment door and tells the woman who answers he's here to do the painting. If she says no, he starts "talking funny."

That is the profile of a young man who homicide detectives believe may have slain seven—possibly nine—women in Boston and its sprawling suburbs since last June 14.

His image haunts thousands of other women living alone behind double-bolted doors. He's known for lack of better identification, as "the strangler."

The description of the would-be housepainter was given to police by Mrs. Marcella Wawrzynak-Lalka, a 30-year-old housewife and a neighbor of victim No. 7. It is one of few tangible clues in the search for a man, possibly men, whose series of stranglings and rapes have turned Boston into a city of fear. There's been a run on door locks, bedside telephones and small pistols.

Meter readers, bill collectors and door-to-door salesmen have been turned away from hundreds of bolted, unopened doors. But the garrotings continued and police search without a serious suspect for a killer reminiscent of Britain's Jack the Ripper or, more recently, John Christie who strangled his victims and plastered them into the walls of his flat.

Marcella Wawrzynak-Lalka lives next door to the Back Bay area apartment where Sophie Clark, 21, was raped and strangled with her stocking and petticoat Dec. 3. That day, Marcella said, she heard a knock on the door of her own second-floor suite. She opened it and a man pushed past her.

"I'm Thompson," he said. "I'm here to do the painting."

Mrs. Wawrzynak-Lalka insisted she didn't want any painting done. She said the man "started talk-

ing funny and said how tall I am and what a good model I'd make."

She told the man she'd have to talk to her husband in the next room and left him standing alone by the door. When she returned, he had gone.

Mrs. Wawrzynak-Lalka said the self-styled housepainter who called himself Thompson looked like a student.

"He was very polite and business-like at first," she said. "I never see him again, I will certainly recognize him."

The first seven cases showed remarkable similarities. In each, the killer was admitted to the apartment or walked in through open or unlocked doors. There was no serious struggle, sometimes apparently none at all.

The killer used a stocking or another article of clothing to strangle five of the women. Once he used his bare hands; once a pillow case. At least four of the victims had been raped. Except for Miss Clark, the first seven victims were older women — between 55 and 75 — suggesting perhaps the killed had a "mother hatred" complex.

Miss Clark's death weakened that theory, but it fit a pattern in another way. Four of the first seven victims were hospital workers and a fifth frequently visited relatives at a hospital near her home. Miss Clark attended a school for medical assistants and worked in a hospital.

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Jacoby On Bridge

NORTH	16
▲K83	
▲AK2	
▲KJ75	
▲AJ4	
WEST	
▲J852	
▲986	
▲8	
▲5732	
EAST	
▲74	
▲743	
▲1063	
▲Q965	
SOUTH (D)	
▲AQ106	
▲QJ105	
▲AQ2	
▲K10	
Both vulnerable	
South West North East	
1 N.T. Pass 4 Pass	
6 N.T. Pass 7 N.T. Pass	
Pass Pass	
Opening lead—♥9	

Convention Shows Count

By OSWALD JACOBY
Written for
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

In international competition it is proper to use as many artificial conventions as desired. The only provision is that they must be listed in advance of play and made available to your opponents so that they will know the meaning of your conventions.

Bobby Jordan and Arthur Robinson have a very special bid after an opening no-trump. Their no-trump is usually in the 15 to 17 range but occasionally they bid with 18 so they use the immediate four diamond response to ask for point count. The opener rebids four hearts with a minimum (15 or a bad looking 16), four spades with 16 or a sorry 17, four no-trump with 17 or a weak 18; they jump to six no-trump with a good 18.

North holds 19 points opposite his partner's no-trump. He intends to bid at least six, but the Jordan-Robinson bid lets him get to seven when his four diamond response sends South to six no-trump to show a maximum opener. South's 18 plus 19 equals 37 and should be enough for a grand slam.

The grand slam is also a lay down. South has 13 tricks in top cards and does not have to worry about the jack of spades and queen of clubs held against him.

It is also likely that most readers also could reach that nice contract, but the Jordan-Robinson method is certainly an easy one.

LAKEVIEW GIRL Is Commended

LAKEVIEW — Nancy Hansen, Lakeview High School senior and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hansen of Lakeview, has received a letter of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship for outstanding performance in the qualifying test which she took last year.

As a result of her name being circulated, as a student with unusual promise, in colleges for consideration for available scholarships outside the NMS, one college has already asked for detailed scholastic information about the Lakeview girl.

Another LHS student marked for recognition is Marie Deming, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Deming, who has been selected as Oregon's alternate delegate to the sixth annual Williamsburg Student Burgess to be held at Colonial Williamsburg, Va., Feb. 16-20. The state delegate is Stan Heisler of The Dalles. The contest for representation was held Dec. 6 at Bend, and Marie, who is a junior, placed second.

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