

SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION LABORATORY
OF
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

File

SUPERIOR 9455

222 E. Superior
~~400 EAST 20TH~~ STREET

January 26, 1935

Dr. Le Moyne Snyder
Michigan State Police
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Snyder:

In looking over the morning paper I find that you are making the medico-legal investigation of the suspected "baby farm" at Beulah, Michigan. According to the paper you are the Medicolegal Director of the State Police Force. Naturally we are all very happy and proud to find that this work is in such excellent and competent hands.

Sometime I hope to get up in the vicinity of Lansing and I am going to stop in and see your "outfit" at the State Police Headquarters. The Associated Biological Societies are meeting in Detroit during the latter part of March and the early part of April and I will probably drive over to attend these. At that time I hope to be able to stop in and visit your laboratory.

We are in the midst of moving from 469 E. Ohio Street to 222 E. Superior Street, a distance of about four blocks northwest of our old location and nearer McKinlock Campus. We are now in a much better building and one which is also fireproof. I hope you will stop in and visit us if you happen to be in the vicinity of Chicago.

Yours sincerely,



C. W. Muehlberger

CWM:M

BODIES OF TWO BABIES EXHUMED IN MICHIGAN QUIZ

Wrapped in Paper; Boy's
Skull Injured.

Beulah, Mich., Jan. 25.—[Special].—An official order for the exhumation of the bodies of twenty-five infants who died in the Beulah Home baby farm and were buried on a bleak hillside, was obtained late this afternoon from Justice of the Peace Edwin L. Rockwell.

The affidavit on which the order was issued came from Sergt. William Watson of the Michigan state police, who declared that from information he had received there was good reason to believe some of the babies came to death through "poison, violence, or criminal acts."

Two Bodies Exhumed.

Following the issuance of the authority, Sheriff James H. Crawford assembled a crew of grave diggers and set out, late in the afternoon, for the farm, which is only two miles from Beulah. Two little bodies, one that of a boy whose skull appeared to have been broken, were dug up. These bodies were wrapped in newspapers, that covering the boy being dated July 4, 1928. The sheriff announced that the others would be dug up tomorrow.

Post mortem examinations are to be made by Dr. Le Moyne Snyder, medical director for the state police force, and his findings undoubtedly will have a large influence in the direction the investigation takes.

The Rev. Edward L. Brooks, who conducted the Beulah Maternity home and hospital at 2142 North Clark street as well as the summer camp for babies here, appeared before Judge F. S. Lamb, who is sitting as a one man grand jury, and defended himself and his institution.

"Welcomes Quiry," Says Brooks.

He repeated his testimony outside the courtroom, assuring reporters that he had nothing to hide and welcomed the investigation. He had had the summer camp, he said, for 14 years, and the mortality among the children was not unduly large. Many of them, he said, were weak and sickly when received at the farm.

"They were all the sons and daughters of unwed mothers," he said. "Some of them came from our hospital in Chicago. Others were sent by outsiders. Funds for the hospital and the farm came from subscriptions made by charitable persons in Chicago and Aurora, Ill., and amounted to between \$8,000 and \$14,000 annually. I never got a penny of this. My income is a pension of \$500 a year as a retired Episcopalian minister."

Dr. Brooks attributed the investigation to spite work. He added that he owned the farm and also had land in North Dakota, where he was for a time an evangelist.

Others Testify.

Coroner F. J. La Rue of Benzie county, Dr. Fordyce H. Stone, and Mrs. Martha Seal, a Beulah school teacher, were the other witnesses who appeared before the one man grand jury.

Coroner La Rue said he had signed one or two death certificates at the request of Dr. Brooks, and at times when Dr. Stone was not available. He said that he was of the opinion the children at the baby farm were well treated. Dr. Stone, who signed most of the death certificates, declined to talk outside, asserting he had been told to keep his testimony secret.

Mrs. Seal was reported to have testified that she took a child from the home with a view to adopting him. On examination she found that the youngster, who was 3 years old, showed evidences of having been beaten and lacerated.

The location of the graveyard containing the little newspaper wrapped bodies, which were buried without the services of an undertaker, was pointed out to Sheriff Crawford by Edward L. Brooks Jr., 41 year old son of the owner. The younger Brooks, a cripple, is herdsman for the farm's flock of goats.

E. L. Brooks
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Judge Fred S. L.

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LEMOYNE SNYDER, M. D.
LAWYER

MEDICAL JURISPRUDENCE
EXCLUSIVELY

Legal file

1201 CITY NATIONAL BUILDING
LANSING, MICHIGAN

January 30, 1935

Dr. Clarence W. Muehlberger
Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
222 E. Superior Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Muehlberger:

Thank you very much for your letter of January 26. I had a lot of fun up at Beulah but was unable to do very much due to the fact that the bodies which were brought up were decomposed to such an extent it was impossible to tell what might have been the cause of death. At present the affair is being investigated from several other different angles and whether or not we will be able to get any place with it is more than I know. The thing which looks most suspicious to me is that twenty of the twenty-three babies that we have records of died the last two weeks in September or just immediately before they broke up camp for the season. However the last death of which we have any record happened three years ago, and most of them occurred between nineteen-twenty-six and twenty-nine. So you see it is virtually impossible to determine much from the exhumed remains.

I was glad to see that you expect to be in this neighborhood this spring. By all means stop and look things over. I will be tickled to death to see you.

I'm glad you're getting a nice new location in Chicago. It ought to be quite a lot nicer to be near the campus. I will look forward to seeing you in a month or two.

Yours sincerely,

M.D.

LMS/EG

April 4, 1936

C. W. Muehlberger

Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
222 East Superior Street
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Dr. Muehlberger:

I was very glad to meet Mr. O'Neill and have a short visit with him in Ann Arbor. He presented a most interesting lecture which was very well received. Unfortunately I was unable to see him afterwards to tell him how much it was appreciated.

With regard to the dermal nitrate test, I believe that you have stated the case absolutely accurately. It seems to me that all scientific tests of this nature undergo three stages. When first demonstrated the tendency is to accept it with unwarranted optimism. Then, after a few exceptions to the general rule are noted, it is apt to be discarded and branded as worthless. Eventually, after its limitations are well understood and its advantages demonstrated, its usefulness can be accurately calibrated.

Actually when all is said and done the fact remains that this test has never been really scientifically standardized. So far as I know it has not yet been thoroughly determined what influence such factors as temperature, type of skin, dirt on the hand, make of gun, type of powder, perspiration, rain and a thousand other factors have on the accuracy of this test. I have often thought that if I had the time and money I would like to do something of this type under carefully controlled conditions. My own experience based on approximately one hundred examinations, many of them under controlled conditions, lead me to believe that the test is much too valuable to discard as worthless. My idea of the value of this procedure coincides exactly with your statement.

I have been involved in some interesting murder cases this winter particularly the Blank case which undoubtedly will be featured in most of the detective story magazines in the next month or two. I had charge of the medicolegal work on that case and conducted the examination of the scientific testimony at the trial. I expect to be in Chicago soon on a case involving a libel action against ~~xxx~~ the Chicago Times arising out of the Brooks baby farm case in northern Michigan last year. It looks like it is going to be a corker before they get through with it.

Give my regards to everyone in the laboratory, and I hope to see you soon.

Very truly yours,

File

SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION LABORATORY
OF
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SUPERIOR 9455

April 1, 1936

222 EAST SUPERIOR STREET

Dr. LeMoyne Snyder
1201 City National Building
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Dr. Snyder:

Mr. O'Neill just returned from Ann Arbor and told me that he had met you and others connected with your unit in the Michigan State work. He said that you were interested in court usage of the so-called "paraffin" test for powder residues on the hands. I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I wrote to a man in New York City a couple weeks ago covering this particular point. You may be interested in its contents. I testified in the Pittsburgh case (Commonwealth vs. Westwood) and I suspect that that case will eventually be appealed.

I would be interested in your reaction to my summary regarding the value of the test. In addition to the statements in the enclosed letter I have been informed that the police chemist, or the coroner's chemist, at Cleveland, Ohio feels that the test is of no value. It, of course, is well known that there are nitrates in many things besides gunpowder. One of the particular substances which might interfere with the test is pipe tobacco, which frequently contains appreciable amounts of added nitrate. However, with the handling of any of these substances, one finds the distribution of nitrate over other parts of the hands rather than on the particular parts of the thumb and forefinger where they are usually found in cases of firing a revolver. I do not think that the tests reported in the Federal Bureau of Investigation Bulletin are sufficiently well controlled to warrant reporting.

With kindest regards from the group at the Laboratory, I am,

Yours sincerely,



C. W. Muehlberger

CWM:M

copy

March 21, 1936

Mr. Joseph W. Yarchover
113 Essex Street
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

Your letter of March 19th with reference to the so-called "paraffin" or "nitrate" tests to determine whether or not a person's hand had fired a gun has been referred to me for reply.

You will find a large number of conflicting statements as to the reliability of the test. You are doubtless familiar with most of these.

The test apparently originated in the laboratories of Dr. Fernandez Benitez in Havana, Cuba and was published by him in the Revista Medico Legal de Cuba in 1922, under the title of "Algunas Consideraciones sobre las Manchas producidas por los Disparos de Armas de fuego." Of course the use of diphenylamine or diphenyl-benzidine solutions in sulphuric acid have been used as tests for nitrates and nitrites for a long period of time. After its original use in Cuba it was subsequently employed by the Federal Police of Mexico. Following their successful employment of the test it was then used in the sheriff's office in Los Angeles County, California, where deputy sheriff Edward Ayres and Mr. Frank Gompert employed it. You will find a discussion of this in Science News Letter for December 16, 1933. Later the test was employed in various other localities, particularly by the detective division of the Milwaukee (Wisconsin) Police Department, by Professor J. H. Mathews, head of the Department of Chemistry, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin and to some extent by our Laboratory. The Rhode Island State Police Department have employed it in a number of instances, concerning which you may obtain information by writing to Dr. C. Wallace Bohrer, Toxicologist of the Rhode Island State Department of Public Health, State Office Building, Providence, R. I. On the other hand, you will find a number of groups who feel that the test is utterly worthless. I happen to know that the chemist of the Massachusetts State Police Department is of this opinion and apparently the much publicized "G-Men" do not think much of the test as evidenced by their report in Federal Bureau of Investigation Law Enforcement Bulletin for October, 1935, pages 5 to 7.

In my opinion the truth is between these two extremes. It is never possible to say definitely that a certain hand did not fire a gun because of the absence of powder residues upon a hand or hands. The reason for this is that some guns (particularly automatic pistols) are so constructed that the firing of the gun does not produce an appreciable downward spray of combustion products upon the hand holding the gun. Likewise, the residues from ordinary black gunpowder can be easily removed by washing the hands, and the test would thereby be rendered negative. In certain instances, where the amount and distribution of the powder residues upon the hand would warrant it, I believe that these residues are strongly indicative of firing a gun. Under such circumstances the residues consisting of burned or partially burned particles of powder will be found on the trigger finger and to some extent on the thumb, particularly on

the upper surface of these fingers as one grips the revolver. In other words, I believe the test serves as a strong circumstantial link in the building up of a case. I would be very hesitant to state that even with a positive test of an individual's hands that this alone would be sufficient proof to show that the individual had fired a gun beyond all reasonable doubt.

As circumstantial evidence the test has been admitted in criminal cases in the States of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, and I am informed by the Rhode Island authorities that it has been used in trials in their state. These were, as follows:

State of R. I. vs Victor DiMatteo-Providence Superior Court
Jury Trial December 10-14th 1934 - Offered evidence to show he
had discharged a firearm at a shooting gallery 24 hours prior to test.
Acquitted.

State of R.I. vs Harry Lunsford - Providence Superior Court
Jury Trial April 3-6, 1935 - Trial ended when defendant pleaded
nolo on last day of trial.

It was employed to my knowledge in the case of the State of Wisconsin vs. Charles Kranz in the Superior Court of Dodge County on or about April 16, 1934. In this instance the defendant was convicted of first degree murder. It was also employed in Pennsylvania in the case of Commonwealth vs. J. J. Westwood, which was heard in their Criminal Court on or about January 15 to 20, 1936. Mr. Westwood was convicted of murder.

I trust that this answers the questions which you raised in your letter.

Yours very truly,

C. W. Muehlberger

COPY

Dec. 19, 1936

Dr. C. W. Muehlberger
Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
222 East Superior St.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Muehlberger:

17 The reprint of the article on blood grouping tests and also the photograph of your blood alcohol chart arrived for which I thank you very much. I greatly enjoyed my visit at the laboratory and hope I may see you often in the future.

Sincerely yours,

LMS/eg

*File*

OFFICE OF THE
CORONER OF COOK COUNTY ILLINOIS
CHICAGO

FRANK J. WALSH
CORONER

February 14, 1940

Dr. Le Moyne Snyder
1201 City National Building
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Doctor Snyder:

In accordance with your request I am enclosing copies of the protocol form and physician's statement form used by the Coroner of Cook County.

I am also taking the liberty of sending you a list of corrections of references in Glaister's "Medical Jurisprudence and Toxicology" (6th Edition). I feel quite certain that you will find that these are all accurate if you take the trouble to check them in the medical library. The bulk of the work in going through the references in the book was done by W.P.A. clerical assistance but I, myself, have checked the ones which they found to be in error.

I enjoyed our recent visit very much and hope that on your next trip to Chicago you will plan to spend a little time with us out at the County Morgue. I would like to have you meet Doctor Jerry Kearns, Coroner's Pathologist, and see our outfit at the Morgue.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

C. W. Muehlberger

Cook County Coroner's Laboratory
1828 West Polk Street
Chicago, Illinois

Feb. 17, 1940

Dr. C.W. Muehlberger
Cook County Coroner's Laboratory
1828 West Polk Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Doctor:

Thank you very much for the material which arrived in good shape. I am sure it will prove useful to me in getting out this new work. It is barely possible that I will be in Chicago for the Medicolegal Conference this coming weekend, and if I do I will be sure to see you again. Thank you again for your many kindnesses.

Sincerely yours,

LMS/eg

MUEHLBERGER, Clarence Weinert, toxicologist; b. Chicago, Ill., July 16, 1896; s. Otto and Rose (Weinert) M.; B.S. in Chem. Engring., Armour Inst. Tech., 1920; M.S., U. of Wis., 1922, Ph.D., 1923; m. Mary Ellen Finn, Sept. 15, 1923; 1 son, Robert Mortelle. Asst. instr. in chemistry, U. of Wis., 1920-21, research asst. in chemistry, 1921-23; state toxicologist, Wis., 1923-30; also asst. prof. pharmacology and toxicology, U. of Wis. Med. Sch., 1924-30; toxicologist and asst. dir. Scientific Crime Detection Lab., Northwestern U., 1930-35; asst. prof. toxicology and pharmacology, Northwestern U. Med. Sch., 1930-35, asso. prof., 1935-40; professorial lecturer in toxicology, U. of Ill. Med. Sch., since 1931; lecturer in toxicology, Loyola U. Med. Sch., since 1940; professorial lecturer in toxicology, U. of Chicago Med. Sch., 1935-1939, asso. prof. toxicology since 1939; coroner's toxicologist, Cook County, Ill., since 1930; staff toxicologist Cook Co. Hosp., since 1930; cons. expert to Chicago Police Dept. on bombs and explosions. Asso. Editor, Amer. Jour. Police Science since 1939. Pvt., Chem. Warfare Service, U.S.A., 1918-19. Fellow A.M.A.; mem. Am. Chem. Soc., Soc. for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Soc. Exptl. Biology and Medicine, A.A.A.S., Soc. Med. Jurisprudence, Amer. Indust. Hygiene Assn., Am. Medico-Legal Assn., Inst. of Medicine of Chicago, Am. Pub. Health Assn., Phi Beta Pi, Alpha Chi Sigma, Gamma Alpha, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Sigma Xi. Clubs: Chemists, Chaos, Chicago Literary (Chicago). Contbr. studies in forensic chemistry and toxicology. Office: Cook County Morgue, 1828 W. Polk St., Chicago, Ill.

C. W. MUEHLBERGER, PH. D.
TOXICOLOGIST
ROOM 235
1828 W. POLK STREET
CHICAGO

March 7, 1941

Dr. LeMoyne Snyder
Medicolegal Director
Michigan State Police
East Lansing, Michigan

Dear LeMoyne:

In response to your note of March 3d, I am enclosing the sketch taken from "Who's Who in America", which I think will give you the information you desire. You will find a similar "writeup" in "American Men of Science". I am also sending a list of my publications. Reprints are not available for all of these; however if it is important I will send you copies of those which I have on hand.

Yours cordially,

Clarence Muehlberger

C. W. Muehlberger

CWM:M

PUBLICATIONS OF C. W. MUEHLBERGER

1. Poisoning from Shoe Dyes. C. W. Muehlberger and A. S. Loevenhart. The Chemical Bulletin (Chicago) 10:262 (Nov. 1923).
2. The Excretion of Tryparsamide. A. G. Young and C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 23:461-464 (July 1924).
3. The Addition Products of Selenium Dioxide with the Halogen Acids. C. W. Muehlberger and Victor Lenher. Jour. Amer. Chem. Soc. 47: 1842-1844 (1925).
4. Shoe Dye Poisoning. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Amer. Med. Assn. 84:1987-1991 (June 27, 1925).
5. Toxicological Studies of Acute Anilin Poisoning. I. Experimental Studies of Acute Anilin Poisoning. A. G. Young, C. W. Muehlberger and W. J. Meek. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 27:101-123 (March 1926).
6. The Relation Between Rate of Alkaline Hydrolysis of Certain Nitric Acid Esters and Their Power to Lower the Blood Pressure. R. F. Herrman, C. D. Leake, A. S. Loevenhart and C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 27:259-260 (April 1926).
7. Dilatation of Cerebral Blood Vessels as a Factor in Headache. C. D. Leake, A. S. Loevenhart and C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Amer. Med. Assn. 88:1076 (April 2, 1927).
8. Arsine Intoxication: A Case of Suspected Poisoning in the Steel Industry. C. W. Muehlberger, A. S. Loevenhart and T. S. O'Malley. Jour. Indust. Hyg. 10: 137-146 (May 1928).
9. The Effect of the State of Oxidation on the Toxicity of Certain Elements. C. W. Muehlberger and H. H. Schrenk. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 33: 270-271 (July 1928).
10. The Constant-Boiling Mixture of Hydrogen Fluoride and Water. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Physical Chem. 32: 1888-1889 (Dec. 1928).
11. The Rate of Elimination of Glyceryl Trinitrate from the Blood Stream After Intravenous Administration in Dogs. L. A. Crandall, C. D. Leake, A. S. Loevenhart and C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 37: 283-296 (Nov. 1929).
12. The Scientific Estimation of Alcoholic Intoxication. C. W. Muehlberger. Amer. Jour. Police Science 1: 206-215 (March-April 1930).
13. Toxicity Studies of Fluorine Insecticides. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 39: 246-248 (July 1930).
14. Tribromethanol Anesthesia. Ralph M. Waters and C. W. Muehlberger. Arch of Surg. 21: 887-911 (Dec. 1930).
15. Acquired Tolerance To and Cross Tolerance Between the Nitrous and Nitric Acid Esters and Sodium Nitrite in Man. L. A. Crandall, C. D. Leake, A. S. Loevenhart and C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 41: 103-119 (Jan. 1931).
16. Studies on the Possible Intoxicating Action of 3.2 Per Cent Beer. A. J. Carlson, N. Kleitman, C. W. Muehlberger, F. C. McLean, H. Gullicksen and R. B. Carlson. Univ. of Chicago Press. 85 pages (March 1934).
17. The Facilities for Teaching Legal Medicine to Students in Chicago. S. A. Levinson

and C. W. Muehlberger. Ill. Med. Jour. 66: 228-231 (Sept. 1934).

18. An Introductory Course in Legal Medicine for Medical Students. S. A. Levinson and C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Assoc. Amer. Med. Coll. 9:293-301 (Sept. 1934).
19. Relative Toxicological Effects of Synthetic Ethanol and Grain Fermentation ethanol in Blended Whiskies. C. W. Muehlberger. Amer. Jour. Pub. Health 25: 1132-1134 (Oct. 1935).
20. The Determination of Non-Paternity by Means of Blood Tests: A case Report. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Crim. Law and Criminol. 25: 1001-1004 (March-April 1935).
21. Blood Grouping Tests in the Medicolegal Determination of Non-Paternity. C. W. Muehlberger. Ill. Med. Jour. 69: 154-158 (Feb. 1936).
22. Generalized Discoloration of Skin Resembling Argyria Following Prolonged Oral Use of Bismuth. A Case of "Bismuthia". H. C. Lueth, D. C. Sutton, C. J. McMullen and C. W. Muehlberger. Arch. Intern. Med. 57: 1115-1124 (June 1936).
23. Engineering Catches the Crook. C. W. Muehlberger. Armour Engineer and Alumnus. Vol. 2. (October 1936).
24. The Scientific and Legal Application of Blood Grouping Tests. C. W. Muehlberger and F. E. Inbau. Jour. Crim. Law and Criminol. 27: 578-597 (Dec. 1936).
25. The Investigation of Bombs and Explosions. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Crim. Law and Criminol. 28: 406-431 and 581-607 (Sept.-Oct. and Nov.-Dec. 1937).
26. The Handling of Explosives and Suspected Bombs. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Crim. Law and Criminol. 31: 100-102 (May-June 1940).

March 20, 1941

Dr. C. W. Muehlberger
Room 235
1828 W. Polk Street
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Clarence:

I was glad to receive the information requested with reference to yourself and your publications. I have taken the matter up with Dr. Young and Commissioner Olander and we are all agreed that you are the man we want if we can get you. As I stated before, Dr. Young has \$5000 available in his department and at the present time we are scratching around to see if we can get a little more to make the proposition attractive.

The main thing is that I don't want you to accept any other proposition in the immediate future because I feel very confident that as soon as a few details are worked out we will be able to make a proposition which I hope will be attractive to you. I have to be in Chicago again in a couple of weeks and will try to contact you there at that time.

Sincerely,

LMS/eg

April 29, 1941

Mr. Clarence Muehlberger
Room E35
1828 W. Polk St.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Clarence:

I expect to be in Chicago Thursday for a couple of hours and will try to call you up. Our bill has passed the legislature providing the new set-up and awaits only the governor's signature.

I will try to call you at your house about 6 P. M.

Sincerely yours,

LMS/eg

Milan, Michigan

May 18, 1941

Dear LeMoque:-

We have been thinking very seriously of the Michigan State opening and the more we consider it, the more desirable it appears.

One of the problems of selling the idea to Mary is the housing situation in East Lansing for we feel certain that that is where we would prefer to live. On the road to Ann Arbor yesterday, we stopped off at a real estate office in East Lansing and made inquiry as to what places might be available. The salesman, a Mr. A. B. Cline of the East Lansing Realty Service, showed us several places, but only one which really looked inviting at the price. Of course we know nothing of real-estate values in East Lansing and very little concerning structural factors in older houses. I am wondering if you would be willing to look at this place and give us your opinion as to its value. The house is located at 621 Rosewood Ave; about a quarter mile from your home and about three blocks due west of the center of the East Lansing high school. We were told that the wife of the present owner had recently inherited a considerable amount of money and wanted a more elaborate home. They are asking \$11,500 for the

-2-

place - which is on a 70 foot lot.

If it isn't too much trouble for you, I'd like to have your opinion concerning the house and whether or not there are things about it which would be apparent to a person familiar with the community and which might escape the attention of an outsider, which would render the place undesirable or a poor value for the asked price.

So far as the Lansing appointment is concerned, my only concern is with reference to the problem of a split responsibility between Commissioner Olander and Dr. Young. Apparently these two see eye to eye with reference to the development of useful state services and seem to get along very well at present. To depend upon Dr. Young's group for laboratory facilities and materials and to receive most of my case work from (or through) Comm. Olander's division should not present any serious difficulties so long as there is no friction between them. I surmise that if you had known of any difficulties between the State Police and the Laboratory Division of the State Health Dept. you would have told me of them on Friday.

I hope I will not be inconveniencing you too much by asking you to give me your opinion concerning the house in question. I do want to express my appreciation of your interest in our situation and especially for the hospitable welcome given us by you and Mrs. Snyder.

Sincerely yours

Charles Neudorfer

May 22, 1941

Dr. Clarence Muehlberger
Room 235
1828 W. Polk St.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Clarence:

I was very glad to receive your letter written at Milan and glad to know that you are considering the proposition up here seriously and I hope favorably.

With reference to the house you mentioned at 621 Rosewood I hardly know what to tell you. I have never been in the house, but since receiving your letter I have talked with several people whose opinion I trust and who know all about it. The house is about 12 years old and its location is excellent. It has a hot water heating plant using natural gas for fuel. It has been on the market for considerable time at that figure. Whether or not it is a good buy at that price would depend very much in my opinion on the inside appearance and how much remodeling you would want to do to make it satisfy your wishes. My own reaction would be that it might be more desirable for you to take an apartment at some place like the Hillcrest for a little while until you can sort of get your bearings and then either buy or build a place which would satisfy you. I think that East Lansing is the place that both you and Mrs. Muehlberger and the boy would enjoy very much after you got settled here.

With reference to your inquiry about the position itself. I don't think you would ever have to worry a bit about anything which might develop from split responsibility in the work. Both the State Police and the Department of Health are as far removed from politics as it is possible in my opinion for any governmental agencies to be. I have known both Dr. Young and Commissioner Clander for a great many years and have worked under both of them. They are both easy to get along with, are not temperamental, are cooperative, and will be inclined to let you develop the position according to your own ideas.

With reference to the salary angle of it, the thing adds up about this way in my opinion. As far as the outside consultation work is concerned, I see no reason why it should be any less in this position than where you are now. As a matter of fact it would seem to me that you would now be able to get considerable work out of the Chicago area where you are barred at present. Consequently it would appear to me that the main difference is in the salaries actually paid, assuming that your

Page 2--Dr. Muehlberger

May 23, 1941

salaries for teaching are paid on a monthly basis and I don't know whether or not that is true, you would not be losing over \$200 during the last half of this year and not over \$100 the first half of next year; so that at a year from July you would be earning approximately the same amount that you are now with possibly a total loss of around \$300. Then, unless there is a likelihood that there would be an expansion during the next year in your present position, at the end of another year you would be making considerably more here. Add to this the use of an automobile and cheaper cost of living, which I believe will be considerable, and I think you would find it to your financial advantage to make this change.

By far the greatest reason we would like to see you come is entirely selfish on our part and that is that Louise and I would like to have you people in our community. I am sure you would like your associates out at the laboratory and would have a very free hand in developing a fine piece of work. Please express my best regards to Mrs. Muehlberger.

Sincerely,

LMS/eg

MUEHLBERGER, Clarence Weinert, Toxicologist; b. Chicago, Ill., July 16, 1896; s. Otto and Rose (Weinert) M.; B.S. in Chem. Engring., Armour Inst. Tech., 1920; M.S., U. of Wis., 1922, Ph.D., 1923; m. Mary Ellen Finn, Sept. 15, 1923; 1 son, Robert Mortelle. Asst. instr. in chemistry, U. of Wis., 1920-21, research asst. in chemistry, 1921-23; state toxicologist, Wis., 1923-30; also asst. prof. pharmacology and toxicology, U. of Wis. Med. Sch., 1924-30; toxicologist and asst. dir. Scientific Crime Detection Lab., Northwestern U., 1930-35; asst. prof. toxicology and pharmacology, Northwestern U. Med. Sch., 1930-35, asso. prof., 1935-40; professorial lecturer in toxicology, U. of Ill. Med. Sch., since 1931; lecturer in toxicology, Loyola U. Med. Sch., since 1940; professorial lecturer in toxicology, U. of Chicago Med. Sch., 1935-1939, asso. prof. toxicology since 1939; Coroner's toxicologist, Cook County, Ill., since 1930; staff toxicologist Cook Co. Hosp., since 1930; cons. expert to Chicago Police Dept. on bombs and explosions. Asso. Editor, Amer. Jour. Police Science since 1939. Pvt., Chem. Warfare Service, U.S.A., 1918-19. Fellow A.M.A.; mem. Am. Chem. Soc., Soc. for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, Soc. Exptl. Biology and Medicine, A.A.A.S., Soc. Med. Jurisprudence, Amer. Indust. Hygiene Assn., Am. Medico-Legal Assn., Inst. of Medicine of Chicago, Am. Pub. Health Assn., Phi Beta Pi, Alpha Chi Sigma, Gamma Alpha, Tau Beta Pi, Phi Lambda Upsilon, Sigma Xi. Clubs: Chemists, Chaos, Chicago Literary (Chicago). Contbr. studies in forensic chemistry and toxicology. Office: Cook County Morgue, 1828 W. Polk St., Chicago, Ill.

PUBLICATIONS OF C. W. MUEHLBERGER

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2. The Excretion of Tryparsamide. A.G. Young and C.W. Muehlberger. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 23:461-464 (July 1924).
3. The Addition Products of Selenium Dioxide with the Halogen Acids. C.W. Muehlberger and Victor Lenher. Jour. Amer. Chem. Soc. 47: 1842-1844 (1925).
4. Shoe Dye Poisoning. C.W. Muehlberger. Jour. Amer. Med. Assn. 84:1987-1991 (June 27, 1935)
5. Toxicological Studies of Acute Anilin Poisoning. I. Experimental Studies of Acute Anilin Poisoning. A.G. Young, C.W. Muehlberger and W.J. Meek. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 27:101-123 (March 1926)
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9. The Effect of the State of Oxidation on the Toxicity of Certain Elements. C. W. Muehlberger and H.H. Schrenk. Jour. Pharmacol. and Exper. Therap. 33: 270-271 (July 1928).
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16. Studies on the Possible Intoxicating Action of 3.2 Per Cent Beer. A. J. Carlson, N. Kleitman, C. W. Muehlberger, F. C. McLean, H. Gullicksen and R. B. Carlson. Univ. of Chicago Press. 85 pages (March 1934).
17. The Facilities for Teaching Legal Medicine to Students in Chicago. S.A. Levinson and C. W. Muehlberger. Ill. Med. Jour. 66: 228-231 (Sept. 1934).
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19. Relative Toxicological Effects of Synthetic Ethanol and Grain Fermentation ethanol in Blended Whiskies. C. W. Muehlberger. Amer. Jour. Pub. Health 25: 1132-1134 (Oct. 1935).
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22. Generalized Discoloration of Skin Resembling Argyria Following Prolonged Oral Use of Bismuth. A Case of "Bismuthia". H. C. Lueth, D. C. Sutton, C. J. McMullen and C. W. Muehlberger. Arch. Intern. Med. 57: 1115-1124 (June 1936).
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24. The Scientific and Legal Application of Blood Grouping Tests. C. W. Muehlberger and F. E. Inbau. Jour. Crim. Law and Criminol. 27: 578-597 (Dec. 1936).
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26. The Handling of Explosives and Suspected Bombs. C. W. Muehlberger. Jour. Crim. Law and Criminol. 31: 100-102 (May-June 1940).

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LANSING, MICHIGAN

Dear Le Magnus:-

Here are photographs for two auto accident cases
for your book.

One shows similarity in fabric ridge spacing
in comparison with the spacing of fabric marks on
the fender.

The other shows a piece of cloth torn from left
elbow of boy's suit coat, which piece was found
attached to bumper of defendants' automobile.
Complaint 25-984

I think these would be of help in illustrating
our point.

Clarence

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

To Dr. L.M. Snyder From C.W. Muehlberger Date _____

The illustration of the "Cut Throat Suicide" was from "Forensic Medicine" by Harvey Littlejohn, Published in 1925 by J. & A. Churchill, 7 Great Marlborough St., London.

The illustration is found on page 203 of the book; its caption is "Suicidal Cut Throat by Left-Handed Man". The case report is given briefly on page 192 of the book. The man was despondent over partial paralysis due to a tumor in the left hemisphere. The right arm was no longer functional so he used his left hand for the cutting.

Clawee

MUEHLBERGER, C.W.

see Dermal Nitrate Test for
additional correspondence

[contents follow this sheet]

SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION LABORATORY
OF
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SUPERIOR 9455

January 31, 1936

222 EAST SUPERIOR STREET

Denial Nitrate

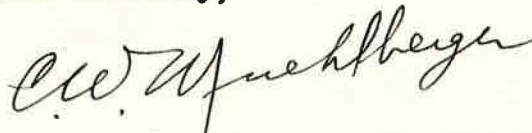
Dr. LeMoyne Snyder
1201 City National Building
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Doctor Snyder:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of January 27th. I testified in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the case of Commonwealth v. J. J. Westwood, regarding the nitrate test for powder residues on hands. I did not make the test myself but merely answered hypothetical questions in confirmation of the test which was made by the chemist in Pittsburgh. Westwood was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. I understand that he is appealing the sentence and the case may get into the records in this way.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,



C. W. Muehlberger

CWM:M

File

SCIENTIFIC CRIME DETECTION LABORATORY
OF
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SUPERIOR 9455

January 21, 1936

222 EAST SUPERIOR STREET

Denial Nitrate

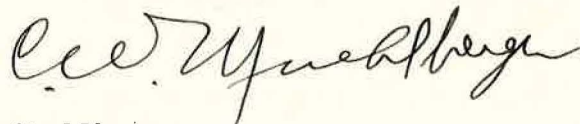
Dr. LeMoyne Snyder
1201 City National Building
Lansing, Michigan

Dear Doctor Snyder:

We are interested in getting information concerning the admissibility of the diphenylamine test for powder residues on the hands of suspects, as evidence in criminal or civil trials. A recent publication by the Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, states that this test has never been admitted as evidence in any case in this country. I am wondering whether or not you have any information regarding any possible cases where it has been admitted in your locality. Any information you can give us on this point will be greatly appreciated.

With kindest regards from members of our staff, I am,

Yours sincerely,



C. W. Muehlberger

CWM:M

Jan. 27, 1936

C. W. Muehlberger
Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory
Northwestern University School of Law
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Muehlberger:

I have a copy of the bulletin put out by the Department of Justice on the diphenylamine test. I have no personal knowledge of where it has been offered in evidence in any trials in this part of the country.

I have run this test myself on about one hundred individuals with what I would consider very satisfactory results. In only one instance did I fail to get a positive test where the man had actually fired the revolver, and on one occasion I got a positive test after seventy-two hours. The bulletin speaks of the nitrate content of various cigarette ashes and of other sources of error, but I believe that after a person has become thoroughly acquainted with this that he would not be likely to be misled or confused in that particular. I have run the test on several rather obvious suicides all with positive results, but as yet I have not had a real good first class murder mystery to work it on.

I hope to get down to Chicago in the near future and look over your new laboratory about which I have heard such wonderful things.

Give my regards to all the members of the staff.

Sincerely yours,

M. D.

LMS/EG

DERMAL NITRATE TEST

see Sergeant Thomas P. Quinn
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Honolulu, Hawaii re. dermal nitrate
test.