

DEAD GIRLS LINKED WITH SUICIDE PAIR

Several Witnesses Say Dead Couple Were With Children

By Cyril Briggs

The analysis given in yesterday's Daily Worker of the death of three children, whose bodies were found last Saturday on a mountainside near Carlisle, Pa., has been confirmed by the reluctant admission of police, linking the dead children to the unemployed couple that died in a suicide pact on the same day.

The bodies of this couple, found near Altoona, Pa., were identified yesterday by several persons as that of a man and woman, who, with the three children, asked for lodgings on the night of Nov. 21 at the tourist camp of Mrs. S. Kroemer of Gettysburg. Unable to secure lodgings at that camp, the quintet later applied at the camp of Mrs. Kroemer's daughter, Mrs. Snyder, where they passed the night.

Described As "Down-Hearted"

Another woman, Mrs. Dill, also identified the three children as having passed through her camp at South Langhorne. She had previously identified photographs of the dead man and woman as "the down-hearted couple who accompanied the children."

She will be taken to Altoona to view the bodies of the dead couple who are reported to have traveled as Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Malone.

On Tuesday, Larry Carney, a Philadelphia worker, positively identified the dead man as Horace Hughes, a worker he knew in California and met again in Philadelphia on the Monday before the tragedy. Hughes told him then he was up against it.

The wife of a Carlisle, Pa., restaurant proprietor, also identified the quintet as having stopped for a meal at that restaurant. She declared she remembered them because the man had asked to be allowed to split his orders and by a conversation she had with one of the little girls. The girl told her, she said, that the family was broke and jobless and often went hungry.

Police Hide Cause of Tragedy

While police yesterday claimed that the three children had been poisoned. Dr. George R. Moffitt, city pathologist of Harrisburgh, announced that an autopsy revealed no sign of poison. He advanced the theory that the three small girls had been slowly suffocated by gentle pressure on the throat by they slept, or by a pillow held over the nose and mouth. The bodies of the children were found on a carefully-made bed of pine boughs and blankets.

For days, Pennsylvania authorities and police and the capitalist press concealed the real facts in the case: the truth, now admitted, that the five dead persons must be numbered in the long and ever-growing list of working class victims of capitalist chaos and crisis, of mass hunger and misery in the midst of plenty and cynical denial of adequate relief to the unemployed and their starving families.