

KAREN ANDRE TRIAL BEGINS



Accused murderess Karen Andre conferred with attorney William Stevens last week prior to the opening of her trial for the death of Bjorn Faulkner. Exclusive Photo by Court Photographer Bob Komegay.

Socialite Beauty Faces Electrocution

Last January 16, Bjorn Faulkner, wealthy socialite and business magnate was found dead at the foot of the Faulkner building. Authorities reported Faulkner was pushed from the terrace of his penthouse atop the building.

Karen Andre, Faulkner's former secretary and present occupant of his penthouse, was charged with Faulkner's murder. An eyewitness reported seeing Miss Andre push Faulkner from the terrace. The defendant claims that his death was suicide. "He shot himself and then leaped from the building," she insisted at the inquest.

Officers found a note in Faulkner's handwriting in the penthouse. Contents of the note have not been revealed to the press yet. The note is now in the possession of handwriting experts of the City Police.

Dr. Thomas Kirkland, Medical Examiner of this County, described the body as battered beyond recognition. A close examination showed a bullet wound in the region of the heart. A gun found in Miss Andre's penthouse also is in police possession.

It has been rumored that Miss Andre killed Faulkner out of jealousy. Faulkner had recently married Nancy Lee Whitfield and removed Miss Andre from her duties as his secretary.

Faulkner, a native of Sweden, came to America in 1955. He had risen to the position of one of the world's great financial powers as chairman of Faulkner Enterprises. His October 12 wedding to Miss Whitfield was a major social event of the year. Other than his widow, Faulkner left no other relatives.

Patrolman Elmer Sweeney, the first police officer to reach the scene said Miss Andre was sobbing over the body. She claimed Faulkner

had shot himself and then jumped. She told Sweeney she had struggled to prevent Faulkner from killing himself. Officers reported signs of a struggle in the penthouse and Miss Andre's clothing was torn.

A night employee in the Faulkner building, Mrs. John Joseph Hutchins, told police Mr. Faulkner had entered the apartment with Miss Andre and two other gentlemen. The two other men left after a short time. Mrs. Hutchins is expected to testify that Faulkner had been in the penthouse with Miss Andre for over an hour before his death near midnight.

Attorneys Named In Andre Trial

District Attorney James Flint has been named as prosecuting attorney for the State in the trial of Karen Andre. Miss Andre is set to stand trial Friday, December 6, for the murder of socialite Bjorn Faulkner.

Flint, a graduate of Cornell University Law School has served as district attorney for the State of New York for 11 years. When asked for a comment on the case, Flint stated, "I have no doubt that Bjorn Faulkner was murdered by Karen Andre. All the information I have been able to gather supports this."

Miss Andre has named William Stevens as her defense attorney. Stevens has served as a notable criminal lawyer in the New York area since 1959. He graduated from Harvard Law School and is currently a partner in the law firm of Jones, Kelly and Stevens.

Stevens has a strong background in bizarre legal cases. This is his fifth trial in which a client has been charged with murder.

Sharply's Sayings

Did Karen Love Her Boss?

BY LANTZ SHARPLY

The hot word around town today is that Karen Andre, the woman accused of the murder of Bjorn Faulkner, was carrying on a love

shortly after Faulkner's wedding. She has not taken other employment since then. The reason Faulkner gave Miss Andre his apartment is not known.

In recent years, the pair had become widely recognized together. Miss Andre usually travelled with Faulkner on his business ventures and was always present at conferences and meetings. However, the pair had never been linked romantically. Faulkner was known as a socialite and escorted numerous women to the major social occasions in New York. His marriage to Miss Whitfield removed Faulkner from

the list of New York's most eligible bachelors.

Now, however, several reports have intimated that Faulkner still visited Miss Andre and that their relationship had not ended. There is even talk that Faulkner was killed by Miss Andre out of jealousy. The lovely Miss Andre has refused to answer questions on the matter.

An employee in the Faulkner building reports seeing Faulkner with Miss Andre on more than one occasion after his marriage. Whether this turns out to be true or not will surely be revealed in the trial which opens Friday.

Flint Denies Allegations Of Withholding Witnesses

"No trial in memory has stirred up so much interest," declared District Attorney James Flint as he denied defense allegations that he was keeping surprise witnesses under wraps before the trial of Karen Andre, scheduled for Third Superior Court on December 6.

Out of sight since the death of Bjorn Faulkner have been the widow of the slain man, Nancy Lee Whitfield Faulkner, and her father, wealthy banker John Graham Whitfield. "Whether they will show up for the trial is anybody's guess,"

Flint said. They have not been subpoenaed and, according to Flint, "need not be here. We have sufficient evidence without their testimony."

Nevertheless, defense attorney William Stevens says that "There is much more to this case than is evident at the moment. You can expect some fireworks once the trial begins. My client has been the victim of a gigantic conspiracy and we believe that the Whitfields are material witnesses. Unless the D.A. produces them, we will most certainly move for a mistrial."

Sharply Scoop!

Readers will be shocked to learn that my private informants assure me that another rumor concerning the beautiful Karen Andre is absolutely true—she does indeed know the notorious underground figure Larry Regan.

What connection does all this have with the death of Bjorn Faulkner? Maybe nothing, maybe quite a bit. Did you know, by the way, that "Lefty" O'Toole, an acquaintance of Regan, has also been missing since that interesting Night of January 16th?

'Nuff said.

-Sharply-

affair with Faulkner.

It is known that since Faulkner's marriage to Miss Nancy Lee Whitfield last October, Miss Andre has been residing in Faulkner's penthouse. Faulkner chose to live on Long Island with his wife and was residing there at the time of his death.

Miss Andre, who became secretary to Faulkner in 1962, was removed from her duties as secretary



Last seen at the coroner's inquest at her husband's death, Mrs. Bjorn Faulkner (nee Nancy Lee Whitfield), shown above with her father John Graham Whitfield, has since disappeared.



Principals in the cast of "Night of January 16th" listen as director Miss Beverly Pichon explains a fine legal point the play brings up. The Ayn Rand drama will be given Friday and Saturday evenings, December 6 and 7, in the school auditorium at 8:00.

Troupe 1117

Thespians Get Into Many Acts

W. T. White Troupe 1117 of the National Thespian Society, an honorary organization created to further the Dramatic Arts, is rapidly becoming one of the most active groups on campus. Right now, they are extremely busy with the production of the senior play. Of the various committees headed by Thespians, each handles one particular aspect of production. This year, the following students are committee chairmen: Make-up, Beth Brown; Costumes, Nan Snyder; Props, Amy Stacy; Lighting, Randy Blair; Scenery, Bob Callahan and Bob Kornegay; Business, Tom Turett and Nancy Oliver.

Besides their work on the senior play, Thespians are now involved in two service projects for the school. One group is writing and taping a commentary on the use of the library to be used with slides,

for use in English classes. Another group is working on a similar project for the counselor's office.

Soon after the Senior Play, Thespians will be participating on another service project, the Children's Theater. This includes working up such plays as Rumpelstiltskin, and The Red Shoes, to be performed in grade schools and children's hospitals throughout the community. Three plays, names to be announced at a later date, will be produced under the direction of students. Try-outs, to be held sometime after Christmas, will be open to all students.

Throughout the year, Thespians represent their school at various speech tournaments throughout the state. Students enter in such events as Prose and Poetry Reading, Dramatic Interpretation, and Duet Acting.

Thespian meetings, which any student may attend, are held in the first and third Tuesdays of each month, after school, in room 219. One meeting a month features a program. Programs this year have included a trip to see the National Children's Theater's production of T.C. Tyler and a speaker from the Dallas Theater Center.

Students become Thespian members by earning ten points through participation in dramatic activities. Points may be earned by working on the senior play, either in the cast or on one of the committees, entering speech tournaments, working on one of the Thespian service projects, or being involved in Children's Theater. Interested students should contact Nancy Oliver, Thespian President, or attend Thespian meetings. Miss Beverly Pichon is the sponsor of the Troupe.

Senior Class Presents Drama, Ayn Rand Courtroom Classic

Something new in theatricals for W. T. White High will be displayed when the 1969 senior class present "Night of January 16th" by Ayn Rand in the auditorium on Friday and Saturday evenings, December 6 and 7. Curtain time is 8:00 p.m.

There have been plays before with uncertain endings, but this is one in which the audience takes a part in both development and conclusion. The jury selected from the audience is given the problem of deciding the guilt or innocence of the central character, a woman on trial for murder.

With announcement of the players who will take the various parts, the production of "Night of January 16th" is now well under way, according to Miss Beverly Pichon, who is directing the play.

Strictly speaking, this is a play without a heroine, but Shelle Jacobs has been chosen as Karen Andre, defendant in the murder trial. Nor has it a hero, the principal male role being that of the prosecuting attorney, which will be taken by Marc Vaughan.

Other members of the cast are Eleanor Wooldridge, John Lieber, Dough Smith, Ron Sawall, Wade Russell, Tom Conklin, Patricia Wood, Chris Zelens, Marty Hotchkiss, Sylvia Spangler, Jamie Odell, Bruce Woodin, Nancy Oliver, Larry

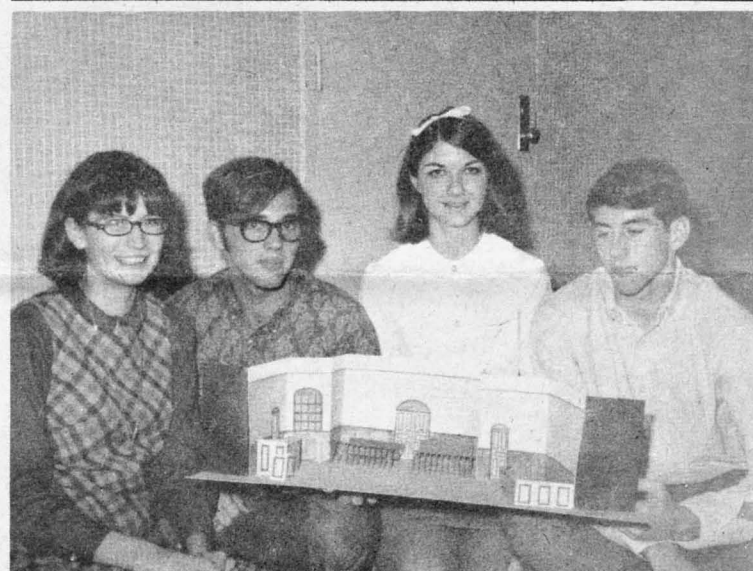
Togg, Tom Wherle, Maureen Lloyd, Susan Holgate, Buron Kilpatrick, and Bob Kornegay.

Twelve important members of the cast remain to be chosen, but will not be selected until the night of the performance. They are the jury members, who will listen to the evidence and render the verdict which will cause one of the two endings written for the play to be used.

The action of the play is a murder trial which has issued from the apparent death of Bjorn Faulkner, Swedish born and financial wizard. It is possible, however, that he had faked his death and really had departed to South America to live incognito and on a fortune he had established there.

Before they take their seats, patrons may leave their names as candidates for jury duty. These names will be given to the clerk of the court, who places them in a drum, and the twelve that are drawn are elected to serve.

The clerk addresses the audience and explains that twelve of them will be called upon to come up on the stage and decide upon the verdict. One by one the jurors step up on the platform and take their places in a jury box to listen to the testimony which will either free or convict Karen Andre.



Above, Displaying the set model for "Night of January 16th" are, left to right, C'Lu Stewart, Richard Kunkel, Linda Hendricks, and Dave Edmonson, all members of the Design Crew.

Many Work Behind Scenes In Senior Play Production

"All the world's a stage," the Bard said, and the number of Longhorns currently at work on the 1968-69 senior play would seem to confirm his statement. In addition to the actors, who will be in full view of the audience, there are quite a few students who presence will be felt if not seen on the nights of December 5 and 6 the production staff.

The people who have the job of managing and directing this crew to do the best job possible are Randy Dooley, stage manager and Andy Anderson, his assistant.

Students who designed the stage set and built a scale model compose the design crew. Its members, all of Miss Jean Patteson's stagecraft class, are C'Lu Stewart, Dave Edmonson, Linda Hendricks, and Richard Kunkel, who originated the design.

In charge of the actual building of the set is the construction crew. Members are Allen Roach, Bob Dalrymple, Bob Callahan, Tom Whitehurst, David Struggle, and Crickett Lobb.

Production staff members responsible for helping the actors realize their characters for the production are the make-up crew. Members are: Beth Brown, David Potts, Jody Marz, Lynn Hollingsworth and Barbie Levine.

An all-important crew, who design and set up a suitable lighting plan for the play, is the lighting crew. Randy Blair, Steve Baine, Stuart Barzune, and Charlie Dodds make up this group.

The paint crew mixes the colors and paints the flats and props. Members are: Jean Beaudy, Shannon Ready, Liz May, Glenda Bland, Lynn Cole, Kathleen Morgan, Susan Heilber and Dale McCloud.

The properties crew gathers all necessary props for the play. Amy Stacy, Susan Holgate, and Jami Odell are the members.

Although their individual assignments are rather specialized, crews help each other out on many occasions in the best tradition of "the theatre". As Allen Roach says, "Everyone works in all phases of stage crafts."

Below, Rare public gathering of Stage Crew members is recorded by the camera. This group is usually unseen as well as unheard.



Stage Set Angled For Better Viewing

The set for "Night of January 16th" is basically simple from the designer's viewpoint. The original idea of the set was to view a courtroom from the side angle. The box set has been planned on an angled axis instead of the more usual parallel-to-the-curtain plan or conventional "shadow box" effect. The biggest problem that the design crew faced was getting everything on stage. The design crew is composed of C'Lu Stewart, Linda Hendricks, Dave Edmonson, Allen Roach, and Richard Kunkel, who is responsible for the original design. Bob Callahan, Tom Whitehurst, Lynn Cole and Stuart Barzune drafted the technical drawings.

One of the main purposes of the set is to hold interest throughout the entire play since there will be no scene changes. The design crew feel they have accomplished this effect with the help of the light-sound crew headed by Randy Blair and Steve "Bird" Baine and the paint crew headed by Jean Beaudy and Shannon Ready.

The color scheme is gold and brown. The setting is the Superior Court of New York State.