

(No handwritten date)

HELD UP

Scene of Hold-up and Murder

(Photo) The photo at the top shows an exterior view of the scene of the murder of Anthony Michaud, 69, local produce dealer and filling station attendant, by two armed bandits at 6:00 a.m. today shortly after he had opened the station for the day's business. At the pump on the left, the yeggs stopped, asking for 13 gallons of gasoline. One of the bandits entered the door at the left, following Michaud inside, where he robbed him.

The interior view shows State policeman Russel Prior indicating the place where Michaud was found dying in a pool of blood, two bullets having pierced his chest.

(No handwritten date)

BANDITS MURDER FILLING STATION ATTENDANT THIS A.M.

Victim Believed to Have Registered Early Morning Robbery After Gas Purchase Here
PRIVATE FUNERAL WEDNESDAY A.M.

Anthony (Tone) Michaud, 69, well and favorably known local produce buyer this morning at 6:00 o'clock was held up, shot twice and killed in what a state detective termed "the most cold-blooded murder I have ever investigated."

Citizens were shocked and grieved beyond words when they learned of the hold-up and ruthless murder but the man who did the shooting and his partner in the dastardly crime made their escape and left very meager clues.

The murderer used a .38 caliber gun and shot Mr. Michaud twice, the bullets entering on the right side of the sternum and missing the heart. Mr. Michaud lived about 10 or 12 minutes according to those who arrived on the scene first. Some stated that he attempted to say something but his words were unintelligible.

Mr. Michaud, along with his produce buying served as a clerk for the Dan Morand Fruit House and Filling Station which is located on East Water and Behring street, only one block north of the Main street. As his custom was, Michaud arose and went to his work early, arriving at the business place shortly before 6:00.

TWO IN HOLD-UP, MURDER GANG

Two men in an auto drove up and drove into the lot, hidden from view, and according to the pump indicator, procured 13 gallons of gasoline. Mr. Michaud returned to the store to obtain money to make the change and one of the men followed him into the business room. When Michaud came from the store room with a paper sack in which was contained the money to make change, he was shot in cold blood.

It was not learned how much money the robbers obtained but it is known that he often carried (cut off here)

...Sheriff Ed Miller, of Adams County, David Dubach, local policeman, were the first on the scene and were joined shortly by State Policeman Russel Prior.

Price Cox and William Spanmuth, detectives from the State Police barracks at Pendleton arrived this forenoon to assist Sheriff Miller and this noon the officers began to work under the direction of Lieut. Walter Mentzer of this district.

The officers interviewed many persons and tapped every source where a clue might be gained, all thus far with only meager results.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Schindler, who reside in an apartment above the store heard Mr. Michaud's four cries for help and the two reports from the gun. The report of the gun was also heard by Mrs. Edgar Lehman who with her husband lives in an apartment in the Dr. M. L. Habegger office only two doors away from the scene of the hold-up and fatal shooting. She rushed to the door and saw a car speed west on Water street and toward U.S. Highway 27 several blocks west after it had spun around east and north on the filling station lot.

Mr. and Mrs. Schindler hastened to the man who was lying face downward on the floor in a pool of blood. Mrs. Schindler called a physician, police David Dubach and Dan Morand who all responded immediately. The license numbers on the auto, if any, however, were not obtained in all the excitement.

Claude Nelson, an employe of the state highway department, saw the auto, which consensus of opinion agrees was a Pontiac, turn from the east off Main and north down Behring to the station. Shortly thereafter he heard two shots but gave no further thought to it until he saw a crowd of people gather.

One man described as having worn a blue shirt and a black hat but no one seems to have gotten a good view of him.

It is believed that the two robbers were acquainted with the fact that Mr. Michaud often carried considerable money on his person. They emptied his billfold but left behind \$52 which was folded in his vest pocket, behind. The man emptied the purse, ran out of the waiting auto and left in a cloud of dust. He drove a short distance east on the filling station lot then north around the building and out onto Water street and toward U.S. 27. There the trail was lost, and no one, according to the investigation which has been in progress all day, seems to know whether the auto turned north towards Fort Wayne or south towards Richmond.

SHOTS ENTER LUNG

An autopsy performed by a local physician, and Coroner Jerome Yager showed that the course of one of the .38 caliber bullets, by the way, was mangled and seems to have the appearance of a home-made dum dum bullet, was through the right of the sternum, ranged past and broke the third rib on the right side and lodged beneath the skin posterior of the right shoulder.

The course of the second .38 (cut off)

OBITUARY (no date)

Anthony (Tone) Michaud was one of the four sons in a family of five children of Henry (Dad) and Julia Hanni Michaud, born at Reifsburg, on March 12, 1870. He was married by Rev. Rudolph Lehman to Miss Neva Harris on April 5, 1890, who survives him, as do the two children born to their union, Mrs. Ezra (Shiloh) Snyder and Chester T. Michaud and their families, including three granddaughters, Mrs. Homer Huser, Marguerite and Pauline Michaud. His son Chester T., is manager of the Berne Furniture Company, and his son-in-law, Ezra Snyder, is a school teacher.

His father, a well known auctioneer who could speak English, German and French and was a civil war veteran preceded him in death, as did his mother. A step-mother who resides in Geneva, survives, as also his brothers Bert E. of Van Buren, J. A. of Berne, H. S. of Decatur, and Mrs. Aldine Broadwell of Florida.

Mr. Michaud was in the produce buying business since his marriage and prior to that he worked as a section hand and as a hoop mill worker.

Strictly private funeral services will be held at the home on West Main street at 9:30 Wednesday morning. The Rev. Alfred Clauser will officiate and burial will be in the M.R.E. Cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Tone Michaud moved into what is known as the John Neuhauser property on West Main street this spring. The home was bought by his son-in-law Ezra Snyder. Living in the large home were three generations, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Michaud, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Snyder and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Huser.

Adams County Historical Museum 1939-1940 Scrapbook, image 32 Transcribed by Karin King

Decatur, Indiana, Saturday, December 2, 1939

Berne Woman Names Killer

PHOTOS of Mrs. Sam Schindler and Jerry Mangano

Mrs. Sam Schindler, of Berne, Friday identified Jerry Mangano, 22-year-old Chicago Italian, as the ruthless killer of Anthony Michaud, fruit market and filling station attendant, at Berne August 28. Mrs. Schindler, only witness to the holdup-slaying, identified Mangano at Chicago, where the lad is held as the alleged killer of Harry Francois, Chicago policeman, a few weeks ago.

Adams County Historical Society 1939 Scrapbook, image 70 - Transcribed by Jim Cox