

Quiz Friend of Policy King on Murder Clues

SUNDAY MIRROR SEPTEMBER 28 1941

A man described as "a member of a good Brooklyn family" was held by Brooklyn police yesterday for questioning in the slaying of Abe Babchick, policy banker and alleged key man in a gambling racket said to have paid police "between \$250,000 and \$500,000 a year" for protection.

Has a Preference



MRS. LELE WELLS
Told reporters she's "partial to mining men."

Wells Weds 2d, and She's Wealthy, Too

Roe Wells, 55, whose 72-year-old wife died here three weeks ago, leaving him \$10 of her more than \$1,000,000 fortune, has married again. His bride is Lele Daly, widow of Marcus Daly, son of the founder of the Anaconda Copper Co.

Wells met her in August at a luncheon in the home of Mrs. Busch Greenough, shortly after he came here to become reconciled with his wife, then ill in Lenox Hill Hospital.

The marriage to Mrs. Daly took place six days ago in Greenville, S. C., and they are now honeymooning in Miami Beach.

"I am partial to mining men," the new Mrs. Wells was quoted by Florida reporters to whom she admitted the marriage. Wells is interested in nickel mines in Alaska.

Marcus Daly died in an accident in Virginia in 1930, leaving his widow the bulk of his \$7,730,000 estate. In 1932, she became the wife of George Djungaroff in the London Registry Office, in the presence of the Grand Duchess Cyril, granddaughter of Queen Victoria of England and cousin of King George and other distinguished witnesses.

Following the death of Mrs. Emily F. Gilchrist Wells, after weeks in the hospital here, it was revealed she had filed a divorce suit in Dade County, Florida, charging that Wells "embarrassed" her last Winter when she reported the loss of \$775,000 in cash and jewels from her estate at Miami Beach. Later, the FBI announced the mystery had been solved with a signed statement by Wells that he had sent the jewelry and money to a New York attorney for safe-keeping. He said his wife frequently mislaid her possessions.

Wells' attorneys said that after the New York reconciliation, Mrs. Wells asked dismissal of the suit.

Mrs. Wells, the former Mrs. William Gilchrist, was secretly married to Wells in January, 1933, after J. Edgar Hoover, brother of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who died a few days ago.

The witness, called "Cappy" and "The Scientist," was said to have been a close associate of the slain racketeer.

Information obtained from him, or from other sources, was said to have prompted a hurried trip to Ebbetts Field by Deputy Chief Inspector William T. Reynolds, Howard O'Leary and a detail of detectives yesterday afternoon.

They arrived while the game between the Dodgers and the Phillies was in progress. Two detectives were stationed at each gate of the ball park. One report was that the police had reason to believe that the two men who "jostled" Babchick into an auto four hours before his body was found, were among the spectators at the game.

Pretzel Graduate

It was recalled in this connection that before Babchick became a "big time" policy operator and dice game player, who could afford to lose \$75,000 on one roll of the cubes "without batting an eye," he had sold pretzels at ball games.

Asst. Atty. Gen. Amen announced yesterday that additional evidence of importance will be placed before his two extraordinary grand juries tomorrow morning when they resume their examination of witnesses.

Amen and his aides hold to the belief Babchick was silenced to protect policemen on the payroll of the gambling racket.

Brooklyn police, taking an opposite view, insist Babchick was murdered in a robbery.

Nearer \$500,000

Investigators for Amen yesterday said they had obtained new evidence materially strengthening their theory of the murder. Instead of \$250,000 a year, the protection payments to police probably were nearer \$500,000 annually, they said.

Amen is said to have statements from more than 120 persons who worked for Babchick, including his reputed "pay off man," whose whereabouts yesterday remained a mystery.

Amen continued to insist that the "bag man" was not in custody, but trustworthy sources were just as emphatic that he was "singing" to Amen.

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"What's this? I back an hour? V wise known as trusty

"Well, what do y clock. I often v lucky thin

"Peek-a-boo. Boy though, the way put them togethe Say, I

Spy & Int

By using t espionage invest Wheeler-Hill, 40 former publicity will testify this The "monitor" only by the Federations Commission (pages from unlic It is a portable rec tes, and FBI agen It down the block FBI's top floor ap Chandler Ave., 1 their evidence, T following Wheeler- for eight months rest in June. The case again presented begund morning in Broo Court, where he are on trial, charg nage.