

Rich Woman Who Vanished Two Years Ago Reported Slain

Informant Offers to Locate Grave of Mrs. Sarah S. Scollard for \$200,000, Seattle Mayor Declares

SEATTLE, April 28 (UP)—Mrs. Sarah Smith Scollard, one of the richest women in the Pacific Northwest, who has been sought for two years, has been murdered, Mayor John F. Dore of Seattle said he was informed today.

The mayor said the information came from a man whom he refused to name, who asked him for \$200,000 as the price of "revealing Mrs. Scollard's grave."

Mrs. Scollard was owner of an estate estimated between \$5,000,000 and \$15,000,000. She was known to carry as much as \$500,000 in a suitcase with her at times.

"A great many people have suspected for a long time that Mrs. Scollard was murdered," Mayor Dore said. "If this could be proved, and her body found, it would aid in settling her estate."

Turns Down Offer

The mayor said he turned down the man's offer because he is not now the attorney or legal representative of any of the heirs to the estate or for other parties interested in the litigation.

Dore was one of the several attorneys who took part a few years ago in tangled affairs of Mrs. Scollard and her former husband, Francis Scollard.

She inherited several millions from her first husband, George Smith, who made a fortune in the

Calumet-Hecla mine at Wallace, Idaho. She made several millions in real estate in Chicago and returned to Seattle in 1926. She was said to be carrying \$2,000,000 in Liberty bonds in two suitcases and an additional \$880,000 inside her dress when she went to her home on Lake Whatcomb, near Bellingham.

After she married Francis Scollard they went to South America and later raced back to Bellingham on separate boats. The \$880,000 was said to have been left in a trunk at the Lake Whatcomb home, but when Mrs. Scollard arrived it was missing. The Scollards were in divorce court later and in lengthy litigation over the Scollard fortune.

Subsequently, a caretaker, sleeping in the basement of the Lake Whatcomb home, pulled out an extra blanket in the dark to put on his bed. The next morning he found his bed covered with \$1000 bills. The blanket had contained a hidden hoard of \$360,000 of the missing money, which was turned over to Mrs. Scollard.

After obtaining her divorce, Mrs. Scollard became associated with the late Reese Brown, Seattle and Yakima real estate operator.

According to government agents, Mrs. Scollard was last seen alive in Los Angeles. Before leaving Seattle she drew \$500,000 in currency from a Seattle bank, which she placed in a handbag, government agents said.

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