

# Murder of George Massouris in 1950 Is Still Unsolved -- But Not Forgotten

Who killed George Massouris? Police grind on toward the third year of investigating that mystery. Massouris, 30, was found in a ditch on the old Orchard Road, 2 miles east of Council Bluffs at 9 a. m. on Sunday Nov. 10, 1950. There were three bullet holes at the base of his skull caused by a .22 caliber automatic.

Massouris was married, had three children and a good job at the Union Pacific railroad shops in Omaha. He worked part-time at nights as a taxi driver to augment his income.

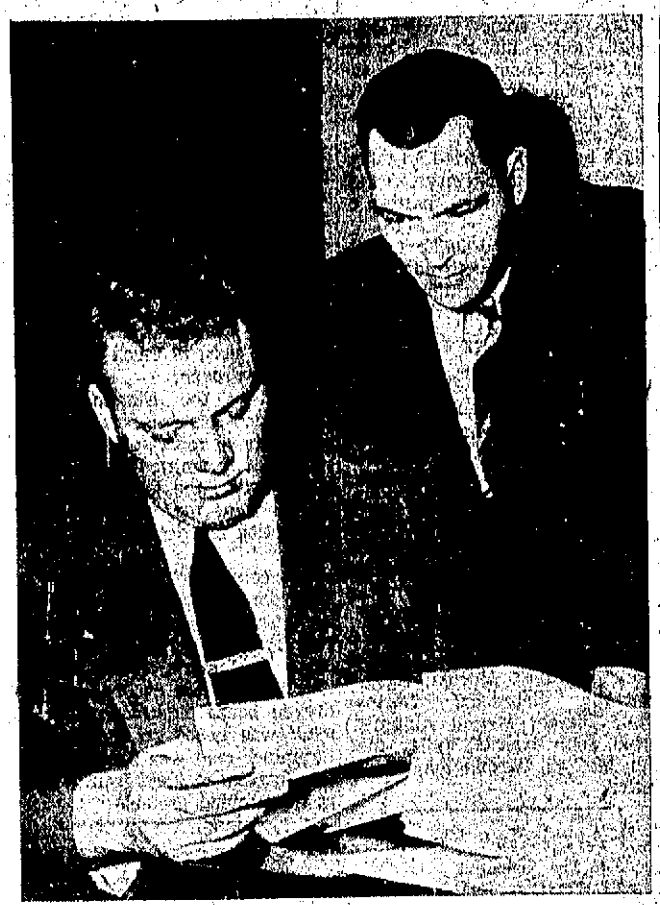
The taxi that Massouris was driving on the night of his death was found abandoned at 8 a. m. that same Sunday on Tenth Ave. between Seventh and Eighth Sts. by another taxi driver.

**Bad Break For Police**  
And that is where police got a bad break. Unaware of Massouris' fate, taxi company officials put the cab back into service.

Several passengers rode in it before news of his death was reported. And any chance of clues in the form of latent fingerprints on the door handles or steering wheel were gone.

Police have always held the motive was robbery. Massouris' billfold with \$3 or \$9, his evening "fares" was gone.

The body was found when Charles Hytrek, 43, Star Route, drove down the Orchard Road to a crossroads store to get a Sunday paper. The sheriff's office was called immediately.  
Neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Capel, living near the murder scene set the timetable for the crime. They said a taxicab passed their home about 9:30 p. m. Saturday and then turned around and went back toward Council Bluffs.  
**Mysterious Passengers**  
The time of the crime was also established by Grace Goodno, a dispatcher for Red Top Cab Company. She told police that a call was logged at 7:45 p. m. requesting a taxi be sent to the First Christian Church, Scott and Myrster St. at 9 p. m. sharp.  
Massouris pulled into the cab of office at 9:08 p. m. and drew the assignment, to pick up the mysterious passenger just two blocks away.  
That was the last time he was seen alive.  
The case is a paradox, police believe. In one way there were too few clues. In another probably too many.  
There is a file a foot thick on the Massouris case at police headquarters.  
Hundreds of persons have been questioned. Their statements are all filed. There was the usual number of "cranks" and tipsters with "hot leads" that were followed patiently but led to nowhere, police said.  
Detectives have quizzed many others whose verbal stories were never recorded.  
"We still are investigating—still questioning," said Police Chief Earl Miller. "While there's nothing new about the phrase, it's still true—murder will out."  
**Christensen Murder**  
Ballistics experts of the FBI and State Bureau of Investigation have



Detectives Leon Nelson and William Swassing . . . ponder the files of the Massouris case as the probe of the unsolved murder grinds into its third year.—Nonpareil Photo.

worked on the three bullets and on the three brass shell cases found in the taxi.  
So the search goes on into its third year.  
The Massouris case is not the only murder that remains "unclosed" in police files.  
The murder of Henry Christensen, 53, on June 21, 1941, was never solved.  
Christensen was found dead, lying behind his car in the garage at his home at 1735 Grand Ave. early on June 21, 1941.  
There were two bullet holes in his chest and a third entering his temple, fired from a rusty 32-20 caliber revolver found at the scene. A woman was later tried and acquitted on a murder charge, police said.  
But the case remains as it was—unsolved.

### Church Installs Pastor Sunday

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
AVOCA — Installation services have been planned Sunday at 7:30 p. m. for the Rev. Elmer Romer. The Rev. H. Irving Petersen of Jacksonville, president of the Iowa district, will install the Rev. Mr. Romer as pastor of the English Lutheran Church.

The Rev. Romer, who has spent the past year in Alberta, Canada, was graduated from Trinity Theological Seminary at Blair, Neb. and has a B. D. degree from the Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary. The Rev. and Mrs. Romer have two daughters, both wives of ministers.

### Urling Completes Pre-flight School

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
Naval Aviation Cadet Robert L. Urling, 20, son of Mrs. Wilma Urling, 24 Bluff St., has been graduated from the Navy pre-flight school at Pensacola, Fla., it was announced here Saturday.  
The 15-week pre-flight course included aeronautical and Naval subjects, which eventually lead to commissioning as a Naval officer. Urling is a graduate of Creighton Prep and attended Creighton College prior to entering the service. He entered the Navy in June, 1951, and was selected for pre-flight training last July. He is now stationed at Whiting Field at Milton, Fla.

### Marine Is Wounded

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
DENISON—According to information from the Department of Defense, Pfc. Burdell K. Friedrichsen, has been wounded in action in Korea. A marine, Friedrichsen, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Berhart Friedrichsen, Route 4.

# To Pay Hancher Same as Hilton

### \$18,400 Base Seen for Two Presidents

**By JACK ERICKSON**  
DES MOINES, Ia.—It appeared likely Saturday that the State Board of Education would vote President Virgil Hancher of the State University of Iowa an increase in salary to match the financial arrangement made with Dr. James Harold Hilton, newly named president of Iowa State College at Ames.

Both Dr. Hancher and Dr. Charles Friley, present Iowa State College head who is retiring next July 1, receive \$16,000 a year. This was the salary voted the two state school heads effective July 1, 1950. They previously had been receiving \$14,600 a year. It has been "traditional in recent years to pay the heads of Iowa State and Iowa U. the same salary. \$16,000 base.

In announcing selection of Dr. Hilton to succeed Dr. Friley, the Board of Education did not announce what Dr. Hilton's salary would be. In North Carolina, where Dr. Hilton is dean of North Carolina State College, it was reported that he currently is receiving \$18,400. This consists of a base salary of \$16,000 plus a 10 per cent increase, or \$1,600, plus \$800 provided by a deanship foundation.

North Carolina State, however, does not provide a home and its maintenance as is done by Iowa at both Iowa State and Iowa U., however.

When Dr. Hilton's appointment was announced, Secretary David A. Dancer of the Board of Education said details of his salary had not been completely worked out. He indicated, however, that Dr. Hilton would receive at least the \$17,600 base salary he is receiving at North Carolina State, plus housing.

Thus, if the Board of Education followed tradition, it would seem likely that Dr. Hancher's salary will be increased to the same rate on which Dr. Hilton's salary is settled. Since Dr. Hilton's appointment is effective next July 1 it seems likely that any increase for Dr. Hancher would begin on that date also.

About a year ago Dr. Hancher rejected overtures from New York University which sought him as a candidate for the presidency of that institution. The salary rate at New York U. is about \$30,000 a year for the presidency. The highest salary paid to a president of Iowa U. was the \$18,000 a year received by Walter A. Jesjip for the 1931-32 school year.

### Has New Rating

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
HAMBURG—Wesley E. Shelton, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Shelton, of Hamburg, was recently advanced to quartermaster third class, according to information from the Navy. Shelton is stationed aboard the submarine USS Odax at Key West. His wife is the former Ardith Jones of Shenandoah.

The United States has about 29 per cent of the world's railroad mileage in about 6 per cent of the earth's land surface.



**NEW CHAIRMAN**—Congressman W. Sterling Cole (R-NY) will become chairman of the joint congressional atomic energy committee, according to Acting Chairman Carl T. Durham (D-NC). Durham replaced the late Sen. Brien McMahon of Connecticut.

### Will Show Movie at Carroll Meet

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
MANNING — A movie, "The Triple Threat of Brucellosis" will be shown at a county-wide meeting for Carroll farmers in late November.

No date has been set for the meeting, which will also include a panel discussion under supervision of county veterinarians.  
Carroll veterinarians met recently in Carroll to discuss a county-wide eradication program with County Extension Agent W. H. Brown.

### Taber Now Has New City Dump

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
TABOR — A new city dump is being established for Tabor.  
Last week the City Council leased a quarter acre of land from Wayne Rhode and started work on a roadway.  
The new dump is located a quarter mile north of the Bateman corner on the west side of the road and includes a deep ravine.  
Tin cans and garbage are to be dumped there, but no papers, according to Mayor Verne Wilkins.

### Plan Screening

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
DENISON — Third, sixth and ninth grade pupils in Crawford County public schools will participate in the annual, speech and hearing screening program at Denison Monday and Tuesday.

### People in the News

Capt. Frank Gilman was appointed training officer for the C.B. fire department. Larry L. Brungenhamke, 1223 Pleasant St., policeman since Feb. 1, 1951, resigned to accept other employment. Archie Ivener, 52, and Paul Haffitz, 33, both of Sioux City, were injured when their car left Highway 275 near the WaSash overhead crossing, plunged down a 30-foot embankment and burst into flames.

### Romance

Engagements announced during the week — Ruth Almsworth and Roland M. Royal Roberts; Violet Taylor and William Hitt; Barbara Jean Brown and Wallace E. Oamek; Maytha Flanagan and Ernest L. Pierce Jr.  
Weddings during the week—Lola Jean Allred and Anthony Gress; Beth Ann Rice and Donald Wayne Mass; Mary Bäss and Walter

# Letter From Home

A brief summary of home news from The Nonpareil for clipping and mailing to service men and women everywhere.

8 November 1952. A new voting record was set in Council Bluffs Tuesday, as the Republicans made a clean sweep of county offices.  
All county officers seeking reelection were successful. New faces on the Board of Supervisors will be Ivan Olsen and Dale Miller. Chairman Jim Henry was elected state representative. Other legislative post holders were re-elected, including Congressman Ben F. Jensen of the Seventh District.

In Council Bluffs, 20,038 voters set a new record, outstripping the 19,350 votes set in 1940.  
Fire continued to take its heavy toll in Council Bluffs. Cunningham Grocery, Wig-Wam Grocery and Hansen's Pastry Shop at 100-102-104 W. Broadway suffered damage estimated at \$100,000 Tuesday. The Wig-Wam Grocery was gutted. A \$500,000 blaze gutted the Continental-Keller Company warehouse and Blue Star Foods, Inc. garage at 1501 and 1509 S. Main St., Oct. 21.

### Quickie Headlines

A coroner's jury cleared John R. Clark, Glenwood, of criminal negligence in the traffic death of Wayne C. Strohl, 25, 200 S. 21st St., but recommended Clark's driving license be suspended.  
Nancy Rodenburg, 5, Neola, is recovering at Jennie Edmondson Hospital after nearly being electrocuted by 7,500 volts two weeks ago by a fallen wire near her home. She suffered a skull fracture, burned face and lost her left toe.

### Delinquent Tax Sale on Dec. 1

The annual delinquent tax sale will be held Dec. 1 at 10 a. m., it was announced Saturday by County Treasurer J. Martin Petersen.  
Successful bidders will receive certificates showing they paid the delinquent tax. The period of redemption is three years by the original property owner.  
Martin said the scavenger sale will immediately follow the delinquent tax sale. Property that has been through three tax sales and not sold will be subject to the scavenger sale.  
Any property remaining unsold in the scavenger sale automatically passes to the county under the public bidder law.  
Martin said the delinquent tax list will be published Nov. 19 and 26 in The Nonpareil.

### Glenwood Pastor Will Be Speaker

**Special to The Nonpareil**  
AUDUBON—The Rev. Arthur C. Marston, pastor of First Baptist Church and a National Guard chaplain at Glenwood, will give the principal address at the annual Armistice Day ceremony in the city square here Tuesday.  
The Audubon High school band will play. Business places are to be closed from 10 a. m. to 1:30 p. m.  
The Rev. Erhardt Nielsen, pastor of Our Saviour's Lutheran church, will give the invocation and benediction.

### BRICKS FOR SALE

CLEAN PAVING BRICKS—ONE CENT EACH. CAN BE SEEN AT CITY YARD AT SECOND AVE. & 13TH STREET.  
—City Manager

# Ask Contributions for ISEA Building

### Direct Appeal to 11,000 Teachers

**DES MOINES, Ia.**—Contributions toward a proposed \$400,000 Iowa State Education Association building in Des Moines were asked of 11,000 Iowa teachers who are concluding their annual convention here Saturday.

Wesley A. Erbe of Ft. Dodge, immediate past president of ISEA, made the appeal for voluntary gifts toward the building fund. He said present ISEA headquarters, rented for \$10,000 a year in a downtown Des Moines building, are inadequate. Plans call for an income property which would not only quarter ISEA offices but also would provide some financial return, he explained.

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# WHEN KIDNEYS Worktoo Often

If you are embarrassed and bothered by getting up nights (too frequent, boring or ailing urination), backache, bladder cramps, burning cloudy urine or pressure over bladder, due to kidney and bladder irritation, ask your druggist about **CVTEx**. Such symptoms may result in loss of sleep and then you can't help feeling tired and depressed. Popular for 15 years, CVTEx frequently brings delightful, soothing relief through its action as a urinary bacteriostat (non-specific germ inhibitor) in acid urine and as an analgesic (pain reliever). Over 100 million CVTEx tablets used prove enduring demand. Ask your druggist for CVTEx today and discover how his popular medicine may prove a dependable friend and aid to you. Satisfaction or money back guaranteed.

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