

Slain Agent Grinnell Boy

6-33-1933
Harry H. Elliott, Shot Near Oskaloosa Thursday Evening, Well Known in This Community
(love 6-27-33)
VISITED HERE WITH HIS BROTHER THURSDAY P. M.

Was Expecting to Leave the Service in a Few Weeks. Shooting Was Unprovoked

Thursday afternoon Harry H. Elliott, federal agent for the enforcement of prohibition, stopped off while driving through Grinnell for a little visit at the home of his brother, Ellery. He said that he expected to be retired from the federal service in July.

Thursday evening, about 6 o'clock, he fell dying from the bullets of a suspected liquor runner on Highway No. 2, five miles west of Oskaloosa. His companion, A. A. Murphy, of Spencer, also in the federal service, was shot five times and is in the hospital in Oskaloosa in a serious condition, although he may recover. He was wounded in the chest and head.

The two federal agents, according to the story told by Murphy, had stopped at the junction of Highways 2 and 63 in the west city limits of Oskaloosa, when they noticed a Chevrolet coupe driving past with the numbers 88-1026. Recognizing the man and woman in the coupe as suspected rum runners for whom they had been watching, the federal agents started to go around the Chevrolet. Murphy was driving. For some time the driver of the fleeing car thwarted their efforts to pass by pulling to the left side of the highway every time they approached, but finally he slowed down and the agents drew up to him on the right hand side of the road.

As they approached Elliott jumped from the federal car in the rear of the Chevrolet while Murphy drove the car ahead so that there would be officers in front and behind. As Murphy was stopping the car he heard firing and jumping to the road, he saw El-

Elliott was shot twice, the bullet which caused his death entering the center of his chest. The other, apparently fired after he had fallen, entered from the back below the left armpit, and came out at the top of the shoulder. Press reports state that the attacker used a shot gun, but the wounds in Elliott's body evidently are from a revolver.

After the shooting the Chevrolet car left at high speed on Highway No. 2, toward Knoxville. The man who did the shooting is said to have been from Creston. Murphy was not able to recall his name after the shooting. At last reports he had not been apprehended.

Harry H. Elliott was born five miles west of Grinnell on the old River to River Road in Rock Creek township, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Elliott. His mother, Mrs. Melitha Elliott, still lives at 1421 Reed street. He attended the Grinnell schools for a time and later took up the barber trade, doing his first work for Al Hamilton in the barber shop then located under the old Merchants National Bank. Later he was a partner with Al in the shop. Still later he worked for a time in Oskaloosa, and while there became interested in the federal work, serving first as a special and then as an accredited agent. He married Esther Bell, a former Grinnell girl, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bell, who survives him, with three small children. He is also survived by three brothers, Ellery of Grinnell, Aut, who still lives on the old home place in Rock Creek township, and Edwin B. of Coobula, Mo. One sister, Ethel, died when seven years old. Harry was about 37 years old.

Funeral plans have not been made. Mrs. Elliott came down