

# WOMAN FOUND SLAIN; BOARDER IS MISSING

The Two Were Last Seen Together, Engaged in a Game of Cards.

## HER DIAMONDS ALL STOLEN

Slayer Supposed to Have Strangled Her and Then Used a Hammer on Her Head.

Mrs. Annie Kessler, who occupied a five-room apartment on the top floor of 319 East 121st Street, where she took lodgers, sat up late on Sunday evening playing cards with a boarder known sometimes as John Newman and sometimes as John Norman. They were the only ones in the apartment after 8 o'clock that night.

Mrs. Kessler was found murdered yesterday in the room where the card game had been played. A pair of diamond earrings had been wrenched from her ears, two diamond rings and a wedding ring had been pulled off her fingers, and all were missing, together with a small sum of money. Newman had disappeared and a general police alarm was sent out for his capture.

Mrs. Kessler was struck over the head with a heavy hammer, her face and breast were slashed with a knife of some kind, and a towel was tied tightly around her throat. Another towel was stuffed into her mouth. Over her body, which was found on a couch in the dining room of her apartment, a feather mattress had been thrown. The mattress had been taken from Newman's room.

Mrs. Kessler was 40 years old, the wife of David Kessler, who left her about a year ago and went to Allentown, Penn., where he is now employed as foreman in a cigar factory. After he left her Mrs. Kessler began taking boarders. Usually her rooms were full, but most of the boarders left last week, and there remained only Rose Supenstein and Newman. But on Thursday the Supenstein girl went to visit a friend in the neighborhood and did not return until yesterday afternoon, when word reached her that Mrs. Kessler had been murdered.

There were no signs of a struggle. Coroner Shradley, who visited the scene soon after the body was found, said that the woman had probably been strangled with the towels, then struck on the head with a hammer, which was found later under a tub in the kitchen. There was no sign of the knife used in slashing the woman's face and breast.

## Ahearn May Soon Be Ousted.

Assistant Attorney General Ezra P. Prentice has received from Albany the decision of the Court of Appeals declaring the re-election of Borough President Ahearn to office illegal. On Thursday afternoon he will make application to the Appellate Division for the filing of judgment. If it is granted he will take immediate steps to file judgment with the County Clerk, so that unless the court grants a stay Ahearn may be out of office before the end of the week.