

**Riggle Faces 1st Degree Murder Charge;
Trial Probably Will Begin First Of Week**

Clay "Tricky" Riggle, one-time rodeo and circus performer, will probably appear in district court here the first of the week, according to local authorities, after a postponement due to the inability of a key witness to appear at the date originally set.

The serious illness of his wife prevented Dr. Whalen of the State hospital in Evanston from coming to Wheatland and forced delay of the trial from the December 2 date which was previously announced. Riggle, who faces first degree murder charges in connection with the gunshot deaths of Mrs. Frances Irene Williamson and Walter Akerblade, is pleading not guilty by reason of insanity, and spent several months under observation in the Evanston institution.

The alleged double slaying took place in Wheatland last March 28th in the lunchroom operated by Jim Angle, at 8:15 on a Saturday evening. According to eye-witnesses, Riggle appeared at the open door of the lunchroom, where Akerblade and Mrs. Williamson were sitting at the counter, and saying, "I told you I'd get you", shot Akerblade five times and Mrs. Williamson four. Both were shot through the heart and died instantly.

Eye witnesses to the incident were James B. Angle, John Faas, John Burke, Emile Bolte, Joe Ferguson, and Charles Randall who was also present at the time of the killing, but whose view was obstructed by two of the other witnesses.

Riggle had parked his 1937 Chevrolet in the alley outside the lunchroom and left the motor running. Following the shooting, he ran out, leaving the stunned witnesses standing at the scene of the crime, escaped in the car, which he later abandoned in a deep gulley on the John Phifer ranch east of town.

The sheriff was notified immediately and within fifteen minutes, all roads were blocked and the search for Riggle was underway. After an all-night search, a large posse was organized. After two days of futile efforts, he was accidentally discovered in a new home being constructed by Dick Dockter, manager of the Perry Bros. lumber yard. Riggle surrendered to Dockter, Charles Perry and Don Sherard, who brought him to the courthouse.

Riggle is being tried before Judge Sam Thompson, and is represented by local attorneys William Watt and Don Sherard and Thomas Tacy of Iowa.