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Dr. Snook and the Coed: The Theora Hix Affair and Murder

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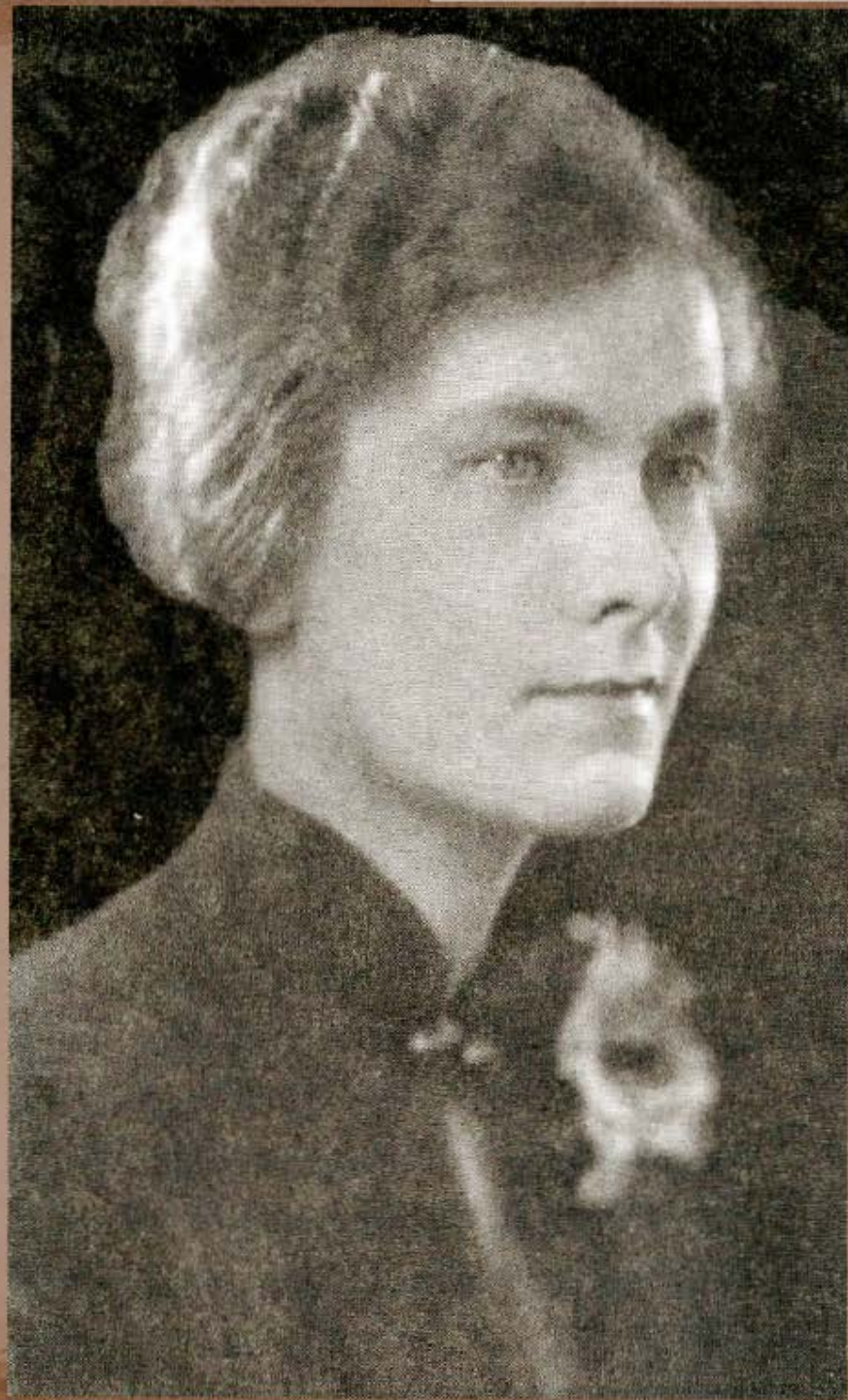
Dr. Snook and the Coed -
Columbus, OH 1926-1930 -

MARK GRIBBEN

the
PROFESSOR
& THE
COED

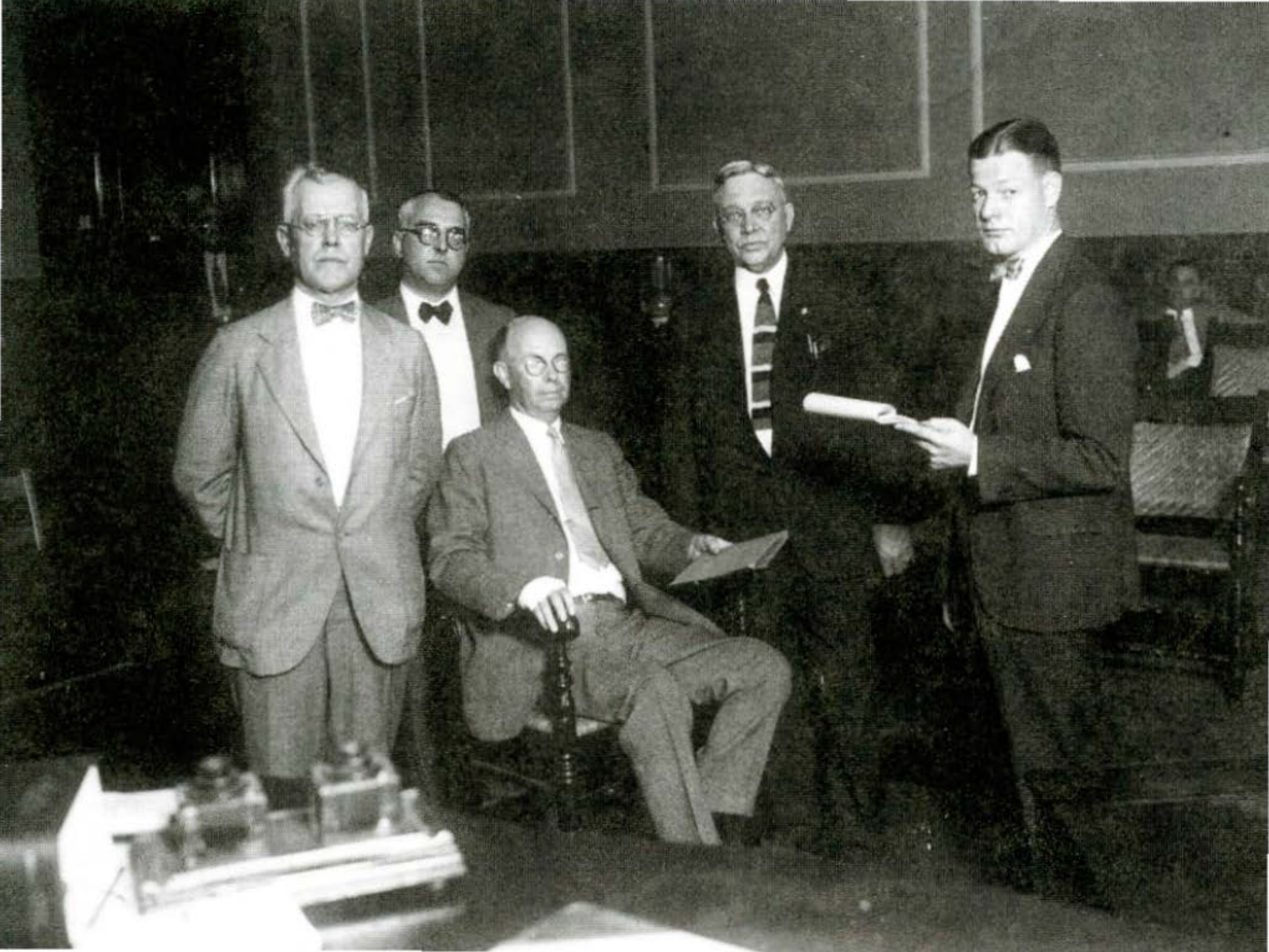
*Scandal
& Murder
at*
THE OHIO
STATE
UNIVERSITY











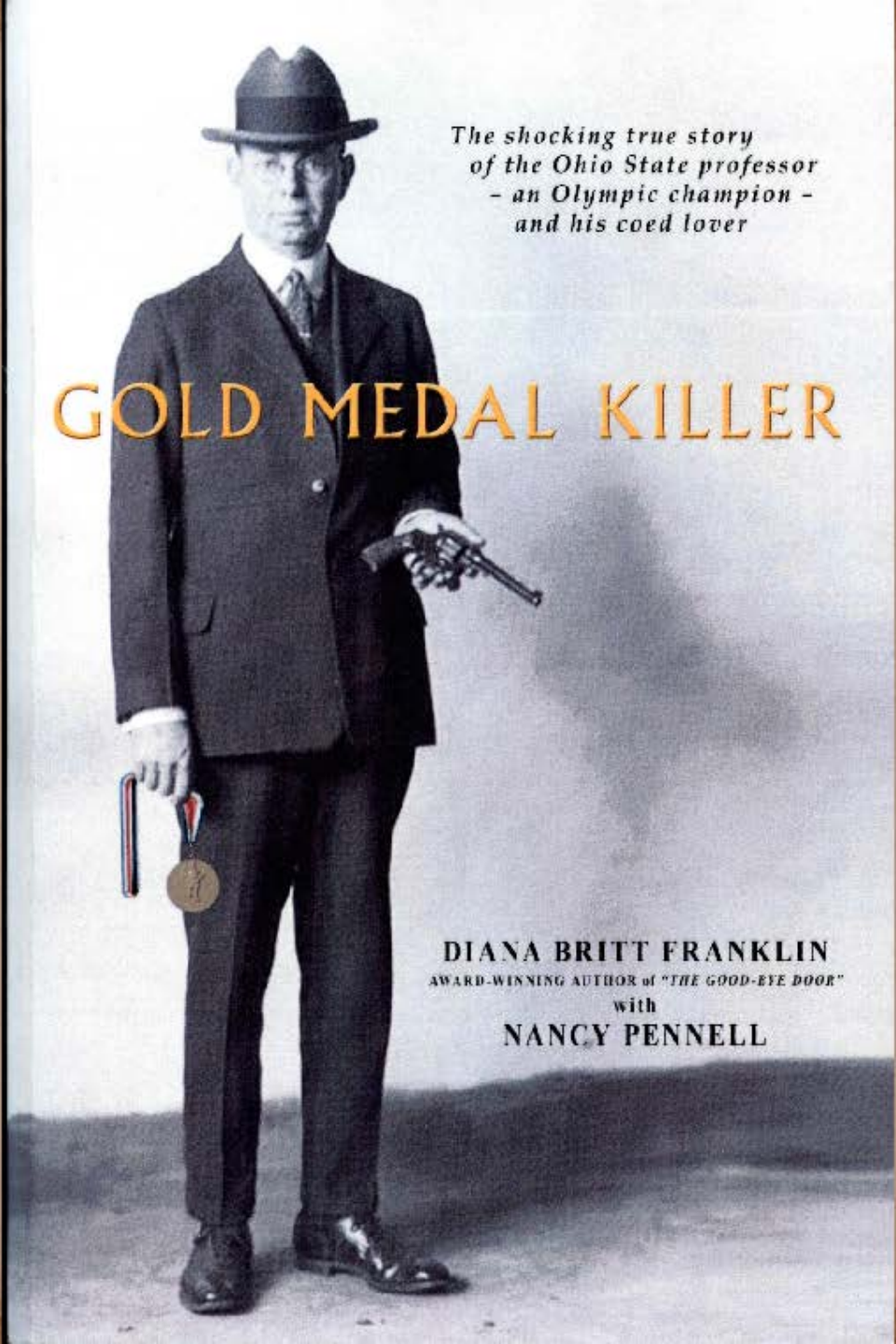
VETERINARY CLASS

1924

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY







*The shocking true story
of the Ohio State professor
- an Olympic champion -
and his coed lover*

GOLD MEDAL KILLER

DIANA BRITT FRANKLIN
AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR of "THE GOOD-EYE DOOR"
with
NANCY PENNELL

DR. SNOOK MAKES CONFESSION OF BRUTAL SLAYING

University Professor Breaks
Down and Admits
His Guilt.

KILLING FOLLOWS
AN ARGUMENT

Girl Objected to His Leaving
City for Week-end
With His Family

(International News Service)
Columbus, June 21. — A university professor, Dr. James H. Snook, regarded by his friends as a man above reproach, beat Miss Theora Hix, co-ed of the Ohio State University, with a hammer and then stuck a knife in her throat, according to the confession which the man told to police in short terse sentences, which followed a crying spell of the usually taciturn man.

Dr. Snook, before he finally broke down and confessed to the brutal slaying cried for a period of 45 minutes, according to Prosecutor John J. Chester, who obtained the confession.

The young county prosecutor said he did not believe Snook's confession was the "entire story," but at the same time expressed the belief that it "was sufficient."

The confession of Dr. Snook, as given to International News Service by Chester, follows:

"Q. Now, doctor, I want to ask just one or two questions first and then you can go ahead and state it in your own language just like you did the last time. What is your full name? A. James Howard Snook.

Q. And your age, please, doctor? A. Forty-nine.

Q. And, doctor, where do you live at the present time? A. 349 West Tenth Avenue.

Q. Now, doctor, you may go ahead and just tell to the stenographer in your own language the occurrence which happened on the night of June 13th of this year.

A. I met Theora Hix about three years ago. The friendship continued in a very intimate way

ever since, inasmuch as she was a very good companion. I have been living with my wife all during this three-year period and regard my wife very highly and respect her very much as a wife, but she lacked some of the companionship afforded by Miss Hix. During the three years that I knew Miss Hix I did assist her in many ways toward an education, but I found out it wasn't appreciated as much as I thought it should be. Our association was not a love affair in any sense of the word, but in time Miss Hix developed a more determined attitude in regard to dictating my movements and the final culmination of this occurred on the 13th of June of this year when I met Miss Hix at the corner of Twelfth and High streets in the city of Columbus, Ohio, when we both got into my Ford coupe and proceeded to drive to Lane avenue and then west out to the Fisher road and to the Columbus rifle range of the New York Central Railroad Company, during which she remonstrated with me against leaving the city with my family for the week-end as I had previously planned to do. She threatened that if I did go that she would take the life of my wife and baby. During this quarrel she grabbed for the purse in which she sometimes carried a 41-calibre Derringer

SNOOK'S CRIME AFFECTS MANY

Father of Girl Declares He
Must Suffer for Sake of
Other Daughters.

(International News Service.)

Columbus, June 21.—The cruel and almost inhuman deed of Dr. James H. Snook, deposed Ohio State University professor, in crushing the skull of Miss Theora Hix, co-ed at the same college, with blows from a hammer and then severing the attractive girl's jugular vein with a common pocket knife, will affect the lives of at least a half dozen persons.

persons.

First there are the aged parents of the girl, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Hix, of Bradenton, Fla.

Mrs. Hix will never forget the one sight of her daughter lying dead on a cold marble slab in a morgue here. She saw the mangled body of her daughter only once.

Theora's father demands the punishment of Dr. Snook. In a statement last night, he declared, "This man must be punished for the sake of other daughters." Mr. Hix is gray-haired, of slight stature and his shoulders are stopped with the weight of his sorrow.

Next, there is the life of the doctor's wife, Mrs. Snook. Though her friends are sympathetic and comfort her in her hour of affliction the woman will always be pointed out on

SNOOK WANTS TO PLEAD GUILTY

And Have It Over as Soon
as Possible, Now He
Has Confessed.

(International News Service)

Columbus, June 21.—Having unemotionally confessed to the fiendish murder of his sweetheart-paramour, Miss Theora Hix, 25-year-old Ohio State University co-ed, Dr. James H. Snook wants to plead guilty and "have it over with as soon as possible."

It was expected he would be indicted by the grand jury today on a charge of first degree murder.

The former university professor, married and the father of a year-old baby, who spent part of his time during the last three years in a "love nest" apartment with Miss Hix as his wife, calmly told today how he first battered the head of his sweetheart with a hammer and then cut her jugular vein, on the night of June 13.

The hammer blows were de-

(Continued on Page 3)

WHISKY IN COD

Bangor, Me., June 21.—The "best fish story of the season" was on record here today.

Inside the stomach of a 7-pound cod, three Inglesboro fishermen—L. E. Smith, Burton Padton and Grover Parkinson—said they discovered a sealed pint of whisky.

Age differences ? -

Rank differences ? -

Public fascination ? -

Evidence, interviewing and court
protocol ? -