

FORMER DULUTH MAN SHOT THREE TIMES BY WOMAN

J. D. VanBaalen, an Advertising Agent, Victim of Murderous Assault in Hallway of Newspaper Office at San Francisco. Bullets in Stomach and Lungs.

Surgeons Who Operate on the Wounded Man, Say Recovery Is Doubtful—Mrs. Leah Anderson, Hysterical When Arrested for Shooting, Taken to Prison.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 18.—J. D. VanBaalen, an advertising agent whose home formerly was in Duluth, was shot down this afternoon in the hallway of the Chronicle building at Market and Kearney streets by a woman who gave her name as Mrs. Leah Anderson.

Van Baalen was hit in the stomach, lungs and shoulder by the bullets and the surgeons who operated on him said his recovery was doubtful.

Mrs. Anderson, when arrested, was hysterical, but after being taken to the city prison she recovered her composure enough to tell the detectives that Van Baalen had promised to divorce his wife, who is now in Duluth, and marry her. She said she had traveled about the country with Van Baalen, and when she learned today that he had no intention of marrying her she shot him.

VICTIM OF SHOOTING IS WELL KNOWN HERE

News of Tragedy Is Withheld From His Wife, Who Is in Ill Health.

J. D. Van Baalen, who was shot at San Francisco yesterday, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dahl J. Van Baalen, 524 East Third street, and lived here until 10 years ago. He is a graduate of Duluth high school and is 28 years old.

His wife, formerly Miss White of Winona, has been visiting his parents here for three weeks. She is in poor health, and news of the shooting is being withheld from her. The elder Mrs. Van Baalen, also in poor health, knows nothing of the affair.

News of the shooting is being withheld from them by Charles Freimuth, brother-in-law of the wounded man. The latter's father is in International Falls and Mr. Freimuth is awaiting his return tomorrow before breaking the news.

Wire News of Shooting.

Mr. Freimuth received news of the shooting at 4:30 p. m. yesterday by telegram from San Francisco to Mrs. Van Baalen. The telegram read:

"Van shot and in serious condition. Wants you to come and bring his mother."

The telegram came by mistake to the residence of Rev. Carl O. Swan, 219 Sixth avenue East. Mrs. Swan immediately called Mr. Freimuth at Freimuth's department store, Lake avenue and Superior street. He told her to hold the message and he would call for it. After reading he decided it was best to keep the news from Mrs. Van Baalen.

Mr. Freimuth emphatically denies the allegations of Mrs. Leah Anderson, who shot Van Baalen, that the latter traveled around the country with her.

Traveled With Wife.

"Mr. Van Baalen always traveled in company with his wife," declared Mr. Freimuth. "This is proved by letters from the two written to Duluth when they were in Hawaii, Japan and other foreign points and cities in the United States. To my knowledge Mr. Van Baalen made but one trip without his wife, and that was to Duluth, and I know positively that no woman was with him on that trip. He is not known as a man of loose character."

"I have never had any intimation from Mrs. Van Baalen that she suspected her husband of keeping company with another woman. The two have always gotten along well together. Everything points to the absolute untruthfulness of the Anderson woman's charges."

Van Baalen went into newspaper advertising work after graduating from high school here. Shortly before leaving, he married Miss White of Winona. She came to Duluth from Winona three weeks ago after visiting her parents.

Was Advertising Man.

Van Baalen went into newspaper work in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Des Moines, Spokane, Portland and other cities after leaving here. He has been employed by the San Francisco Chronicle for six years as advertising specialty expert. In this capacity he has traveled extensively in foreign countries, mostly in the orient. He did some advertising work in Duluth some years ago.

Mr. Freimuth wired to get further particulars of the shooting, but at a late hour had received no reply.

Mrs. Van Baalen has been in critical health for some months. She was seriously ill in a San Francisco hospital before leaving there for the East.