

NEW TRIAL ORDERED FOR DR. KARL HAU

New Evidence in Case of German Sentenced to Life for Murder.

ONCE LIVED IN THIS CITY

Accused of Luring His Mother-in-Law to Lonely Street in Baden Baden and Killing Her.

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By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BERLIN, Jan. 19.—Karl Hau, once a practising physician in New York, who years ago was sentenced to life imprisonment for murdering his mother-in-law, a widow, Frau Molitor, of Baden-Baden, will be released within a few days. An order has been issued permitting his case to be reconsidered because of new evidence discovered which may prove his innocence.

Karl Hau, alias Stau, was arrested in London in November, 1906, charged with the murder of his mother-in-law, Frau Molitor, at Baden-Baden earlier in the same month. He was extradited to Germany, and, the court at Karlsruhe having ordered an examination of his mental condition, he was examined by the University clinic at Freiburg, where he had been a student, and was pronounced sane. He was removed to Baden-Baden in April, 1906, and his trial set for the same month.

Hau was born in Germany 39 years ago. His father was wealthy and a former member of the Reichstag, and his mother was a baroness. While a student about nineteen years old, Hau eloped with Fraulein Lena Molitor, daughter of the court physician of the Grand Duke of Baden. She was six years his senior.

In 1903 Hau came to America with his wife and young daughter. He entered Washington University, Washington, D. C., and was graduated there with the degrees of A. M. and LL. D. He later was appointed Professor of Roman Law at the university and about the same time was admitted to the bar of the District of Columbia and took up active practice.

According to the accounts of the Hau trial, he lured his mother-in-law, by means of a telephone message purporting to come from the Baden-Baden Post Office, to a lonely street and there shot her in the heart. He wore a false beard at the time, and thus disguised fled to Frankfort and then to London. Soon after his arrest his wife asked that an inquiry be made as to her husband's disposal of her dowery of \$50,000 which he had been keeping. No trace of the money was found, and on June 6, 1907, she committed suicide by drowning in a lake near Pfaffikon, Canton of Zurich, Switzerland. Hau's trial terminated on July 23, 1907, after a most sensational fight, in a verdict of guilty. He was sentenced to die, but this was commuted to life imprisonment. In January, 1910, he nearly made his escape from the Bruchsal prison in Berlin.

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