

# Police sought motive in 1902 assault

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It was Weimer, herself, who furnished the officers with a possible explanation for the crime. In the *Telephone* of Oct. 28 it is related, "she talks of the affair and is inclined to believe that she was mistaken for someone else, and that when her assailant saw that he had made a mistake, he dragged her to a point about 20 feet from the walk and hurried away. The brute may have been frightened from his purpose."

Another interesting theory was more sinister — that Weimer at her switchboard had overheard a conversation she shouldn't have — information that someone wanted her to forget. Another suggestion was that the assailant was a jealous woman dressed in a man's clothing. Still another theory was that a man, angry with his wife, mistook Weimer for the wife.

The young woman mercifully recovered from the assault, but despite a \$200 reward, the mystery was never solved. In the aftermath several things happened.

On Nov. 7, City Councilman Sanford Teter proposed that Marshal Johns be empowered to buy two bloodhounds and that two extra lights be installed on the old campus. Weimer eventually moved away from Bloomington and local relatives lost track of her.

**Next week: An unsolved murder in Bedford.**