

HISS PERSONAL 2395

Tyler
MS
December 20, 1948

Memorandum for File

Mr. Schmahl called this morning and said that he had "pursued the matter which we discussed and it proved to be a dud." He said that the machine was not a Woodstock and that he was confused by the name of the man who had rebuilt it, which was Woodward. The machine did not belong to Mrs. Chambers but apparently to a little girl who lives down the block from her. This little girl minds the house for Mrs. Chambers when she goes out.

A.A.

Mr. Schmahl told me this afternoon that he was in Lynbrook on Saturday, December 18 and by pure accident met Mrs. Chambers, Sr. on the street. She remembered him as the man who had been at her house last fall to look for antiques and who had also told her at the time that a relative of his might be interested in buying the house. She greeted him cordially, without any apparent suspicion and asked him whether his friend was still interested. Schmahl said that he might be and made an appointment to see her later in the day. That afternoon, Schmahl and his brother-in-law, Keppler, went to the Chambers' house and went through it on the pretense of examining it for possible purchase. The typewriter which Schmahl had seen there last fall was still there in the same place. It was not a Woodstock but it had

a sign on it saying that it had been repaired by a man named Woodward. The sign was an apparent imitation of the style of lettering on the Woodstock typewriter. Schmall tried to take a specimen of the typewriter but found that only a few keys worked. It was very old.

Mrs. Chambers told him that it was for sale and that it belonged to a girl in the neighborhood.

Schmahl has since checked and found that there was, as long ago as 1921, a typewriter repairman in New York named Woodward. Schmahl is positive that the typewriter is an L.C. Smith and that it is not the typewriter we are here concerned with.

He went through the whole house, including looking through the closets, attic and cellar. He saw no typewriter or any evidence of recent disturbance of any sort. The dust in the attic was an inch deep over everything.

Mrs. Chambers is now using the bedroom which Whittaker used in the house. There is a desk in it covered with typed manuscripts, presumably Whittaker's. Schmahl swiped two sheets of one of them for specimens.

E. C. McL.