DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

March 24 1925

To Mr. S. A. Stellwagen:

Regarding Blanche Booth.

Miss Booth, a former actress, lives at 1319 Yale Place, Apt. 36, Minneapolis, Minn. She claims to be a daughter of Junius Brutus Booth and niece of John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Abraham Lincoln.

According to her story, she was born in Philadelphia, Pa., but we were unable to get her exact birth date. If her story is correct, however, she is approximately 70 years old, as she mentioned that the last time John Wilkes Booth called at her home she was seven or eight years of age, and this was two years before the assassination of President Lincoln.

She mentioned that John Wilkes Booth was a frequent visitor at her home during her childhood days. She claims that she does not positively know that John Wilkes Booth lived for approximately 40 years after the assassination of President Lincoln but has accepted the theories of Finis L. Bates, whom she states had gone into the matter very thoroughly for a number of years and had consulted her frequently in connection with the matter.

We mentioned that the stories she gave the Internation News Service did not quite agree with the statements she gave Mr. Bates in 1922 and her answer was that the article which appeared in the Minneapolis Daily Star under date of February 21st, 1925 was with but very few exceptions, right to the point and in line with her thoughts regarding the life of John Wilkes Booth since the assassination of President Lincoln.

The pictures shown in the Minneapolis Daily Star of John Wilkes Booth are in her possession, she claims, but insofar as souvenirs are concerned, we were unable to get any definite information regarding same.

While she appears to be quite active for a person so far advanced in age, it was apparent during our conversation with her that her thoughts and mind undergo spasmodic changes, as she caught herself from time to time, contradicting previous statements made.

F E Lundstrom