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# Gun Czar's Rebellion--- Romance in the Slums

By Ron Moskowitz

William Thoresen III has been a gun fancier and collector since he was a rebellious rich kid who wooed a pretty Yugoslavian girl in one of the poorest slums in Chicago, The Chronicle learned yesterday.

Every day for months, Thoresen would scoot out of his parents' posh estate in Kenilworth, a highly restricted suburb just north of Chicago. He would head his shiny red sports car toward 19th street and Blue Island avenue, in the heart of one of the very poorest slums in the city.

There, he would see Louise Banich. As the romance progressed, he spent most of his free time in her neighborhood, taking her to movie theaters and the many cheap ethnic-type restaurants which abound around her home.

The neighbors of the Baniches still remember Thoresen well. They should. He took one of their girls and made her an heiress.

The neighbors said that even then — eight or nine years ago — Thoresen was a

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WILLIAM THORESEN III  
Rich boy



LOUISE THORESEN  
Poor girl

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gun collector and fancier. He was also noted — even then — for doing some pretty strange things. His fiancee, Louise, enjoyed his bizarre, carefree antics.

Ruth Brevnic still owns the little drugstore next to where Louise grew up. She and the other neighbors still gossip often about the Thoresens.

RODEO

About four years ago, Mrs. Brevnic heard that Thoresen had been riding in a rodeo and had fallen off the horse — and landed on his head.

Shortly after that, he and his wife drove into Chicago from their Arizona home in a truck, dressed in farmer's garb — his wife looking like something out of the painting, "The Reapers."

They had come to visit Mrs. Thoresen's sister, Joanne Jackson, a schoolteacher in another Chicago suburb.

Mrs. Thoresen's father, John Banich, used to own a small floor-covering business in the neighborhood. He has since moved away to another poor neighborhood.

The heiress' father now does odd jobs to make ends meet. He works out of his home.

SUICIDE

The concensus of the Back Fence Poll in the neighborhood is that Thoresen purposely chose a girl of lesser station in life to spite his parents. They explain most of his present difficulties as they did his past antics — the actions of a rich kid who hated being rich.

His rebelliousness was contagious. His brother was found shot to death in his car in Lake Forest, another posh Chicago suburb, two years ago. The verdict was suicide.

He was also a gun fancier. His million-dollar estate is

being handled by J. W. Ehrlich, the same San Francisco attorney who is now handling the various Federal gun charges against William Thoresen III.