

SLORAH'S EVIDENCE

Goes to Show That He Does Not Know How Pearl Mitchell Was Killed

BEING UNCONSCIOUS AT THE TIME

Rendered So by Blows on the Head and Neck.

SHE HIT HIM WITH THE GUN

And Everything Turned Black to Him—She Had Times Which She Called Cranky Spells.

From Monday and Tuesday's Daily.
At the continuation of the hearing of the Slorah murder trial Saturday afternoon Mr. Wade again brought up the matter of the drinks which the witness Susie Vernon is said not to have taken during the night of October 22d, and the witness was recalled and stated that during the night in question she had taken a few glasses of wine but no whisky.

Mr. Bleeker wanted to reopen the examination of this witness, but was opposed by Mr. Wade. Much argument was heard on the point of law involved, and the matter was finally decided by Justice Dugas, who ruled that the witness could be questioned regarding matters upon which she had already been questioned. Mr. Bleeker wanted to know if the witness had not said to Mrs. Finger that she had not seen the shooting, as her head was covered at the time. She stated in reply that she had said that she had not seen the effect of the shots.

"Did you not say in the presence of Mrs. Finger, Josie Gordon and Cecil Marion that you did not see the shooting."

"I don't think I put it in that way. I don't remember what I said to Josie Gordon. I think I said I did not see him kill her. I think I also said she might have killed herself."

Robert Switzer, stenographer in the police court, was called and identified the copy of the stenographic report of the coroner's inquest, and Miss Vernon was further questioned concerning her statements made at the coroner's inquest, and said that at the time she was greatly excited and did not know exactly what she had said.

When asked why she had said to Josie Gordon immediately after the shooting, "Why did he do it?" she said that she probably said that without thinking much about it, further than believing that he had done it, "But perhaps he did not."

The taking of testimony for the defense then began and Dr. Sutherland, who helped perform the postmortem examination was called and testified concerning the wounds in the head of the deceased. The hole on the inner side of the skull was slightly larger than on the outside. Witness said that this might be due to the fact that the weapon was held almost against the head when the shot was fired.

He had examined the fur cape and found what he believed to be three bullet holes. The wound in the neck he said had been made by a gun at very short range. The witness agreed with the other physicians in attributing death to the wound in the neck, but under questioning said that the deceased might have inflicted the wound in the neck herself first and afterwards the one in the head.

Mrs. Finger, housekeeper at the Holborn, was the next witness and stated that Susie Vernon had told her immediately after the shooting that she did not see it as she had her head covered at the time.

Josie Gordon stated that after the occurrence she had asked Susie Vernon about the killing of Pearl Mitchell, and had received the answer that she had not seen it as her head was covered.

Cecil Marion, on being sworn, testified that she had held a conversation with Susie Vernon within a day or two after the affair, in the course of which she had been told that Miss Vernon's

head was covered at the time of the killing and that she had not seen the shooting.

Harry Edwards was sworn and testified that he had appeared at two murder trials previous to this as an expert in gunshots. He had examined the cape worn by Pearl Mitchell and found three bullet holes in the cape. One of these was found on the left side between the collar and the body; another on the right side. The garment had been handled a great deal since he examined it before but he also identified a powder burn as one he had found when he examined it before.

Mr. Edwards gave expert testimony concerning the length of time elapsing since the balls fired from the shells taken from the gun found upon the bed after the shooting. Three of them, he thought, might have been fired recently, but the other two, he thought, had not been fired for a longer time.

Regarding the length of time since the other gun had been fired he said it was possible it had been fired within the past three weeks. He gave it as his opinion that the gun might have been cleaned since the period stated. Mr. Edwards first met the prisoner in Seattle in 1897, but knew nothing concerning his character.

Gus Simple was called and said he had known the prisoner for the past 11 years and that he bore a good character.

I. Rosenthal also testified to the good character of Slorah.

Harry Hershberg also had known the prisoner during a number of years and had never heard anything against him.

Charles Goddert, who sells sandwiches and knows all the parties concerned, testified that on the morning of the 23d he had gone to Slorah's room at the Holborn and had delivered to Pearl Mitchell a message from Slorah showing that he was there. The exact message was not admitted in evidence.

At this point Attorney Bleeker stated that more witnesses for the defense who should be in the room were not present, and court adjourned for dinner, after which, although the court, counsel and jury assembled, nothing was done, beyond the statement heard from Mr. Bleeker and coincided in by Mr. Wade, that it would be impossible to finish the trial earlier than today and the accompanying request that an adjournment be taken till this morning which, after some consideration was granted.

The public interest manifested in the Slorah murder trial shows no sign of abatement, and although the seating capacity of the courtroom is so limited as to make it necessary that a large portion of the spectators stand throughout the sittings of the court, the crowd was fully as great this morning as on the opening day of the trial.

The defense this morning in opening called Constable Piper, in cross-examination, who testified that he had taken the witness, Susie Vernon, out for an airing, perhaps 15 or 16 times during her detention as a witness.

James Nesbitt, who visited the room soon after the shooting occurred, testified concerning the positions of Slorah and the body of Pearl Mitchell. The prisoner had raised his hand till it came in contact with the pool of blood in which the revolver lay, when he had said: "Mama, mama, what have you been doing to us?"

Joseph McGill was called next and testified that he had examined the revolver with which the shooting is supposed to have been done. At the time of this examination Mr. McGill said that Mr. Piper, Mr. Thomas and others had taken part in the examination and that they had agreed that three of the shells had been fired recently. He said he was not an expert but based his opinion on the fact that three of the five shells bore a different appearance to the other two.

James Slorah then took the stand in his own defense. He said that he had gone to Nome with the Simons Co. and his wife, who was at the time unmarried. They had been married before Justice Stevens in Nome on the 16th of August. The deceased had left for Dawson on the 19th of August and he had gone out by way of Seattle and had arrived here October 5th.

The prisoner's voice was very weak and had a nervous tremble which seemed likely to break it altogether at any time during his evidence. Otherwise he appeared perfectly cool and collected. Questioned concerning his past life he said he was born in Iroquois, Canada and was 39 years of age. He had followed the butcher business and grocery trade at first, but for the last few years he had been engaged in the liquor business.

On the night of October 22d he had gone to work as bartender at the Orpheum, and Pearl Mitchell had gone to work at the same place and time, although he had not expected her to do so, as she had told him she was ill when he left her to go to work. He

had not gone directly home from his work, but had remained in the Orpheum for some time, and had later visited several other houses, where he played faro bank.

When he reached their room he had found that his wife had been in bed, having gone home at 5 o'clock, but that she had got up and was not in the room. He laid down a package which he carried home and went and looked in at the dining room, where, not seeing her, he had gone to Miss Vernon's room where his wife was sitting on the bed. He laid his hand on her shoulder and said: "You need not be mad because I had to work late, but I found I was late for breakfast and stopped in at a few places. Come on and go to bed, because I am tired." She had replied: "You can go on to bed, I have had my sleep." I replied: "Will you come?" and she had said, "Yes."

"My wife and Miss Vernon were always good friends when they were together, but when they were apart my wife was always talking about the things Miss Vernon did."

After he left the room he retired to his own room, he ate some breakfast and went to bed and to sleep. Presently he was awakened by the slamming of a door. He got up and partly dressed and got partly down the back steps and returned to Miss Vernon's room to tell his wife where he was going. Arriving at the door his wife opened it and they entered the room together, where they sat down on the bed together. She said: "What's the matter now?" I had my arm over her shoulder and I said: "You said you were sick and you'd better go in and go to bed. I am going down to the— That's as far as I got. She jumped up and struck me over the head, and that dazed me for a second or two, and when I raised up I stood in front of her and saw that she had a revolver in her hand with which she continued to strike at me. I warded off the blows as best I could, and tried to knock the revolver out of her hand, and finally I grabbed her by both wrists. She jerked away from me and the revolver exploded. She had the revolver in both hands at the time, the left hand holding the butt. I stepped back and I fell and as I did I caught a glimpse of Miss Vernon standing in the room, which was the first I had seen of her on my last appearance in the room. Just at this time I got another blow on the head, and another across the neck, and after this I don't know if I was struck again or not. I think I heard a pistol shot, but everything turned black to me, and it seemed that I had fallen down stairs and some one had lifted me up. That's all I remember till I came too."

The witness then went to the railing surrounding the jury box, where his head was examined, and retiring to the box replied to Mr. Bleeker's question by saying that he had not inflicted the wounds himself.

He testified further that his wife had always been afflicted, for periods extending over two or three days, with what had been termed by her "crazy spells," but which he had referred to as crazy spells.

At times she had attacked him with various things, hair brushes, beer bottles or any thing within reach. Those spells had been so violent at times that he had found it necessary to have her watched when he was away at work.

In the course of cross examination, Mr. Wade produced the letters previously referred to, and after Mr. Bleeker had offered objections, Justice Dugas ruled that the letters had to be read in toto or not at all.

Mr. Wade expressed the opinion that the courtroom would have to be cleared if all the letters previously referred to were read, and Justice Dugas replied that if necessary he would clear the room, but that he would not permit anything irregular. The letter was read, and upon the statement by Mr. Wade that a contradiction of the witness was intended, portions of other letters were read bearing upon the relationship in which Slorah and Pearl Mitchell had lived. He said he had never been jealous, but that a man named Wilson Carman, employed on one of the river boats had shown her attentions and he had not liked the man and had referred to him as being two-faced in one of the letters.

Poison or Hydrophobia.
There seems to be no cessation of the mortality among dogs, two valuable animals belonging to a man who resides on the hill east of the city being reported as having died Saturday with the same symptoms noticed in the other cases of canine deaths. It will be remembered that three or four weeks ago mention was made of the killing on First avenue of a dog belonging to Chief Isaac of Moosehide, which displayed all the symptoms of rabies and

which was known to have bitten a number of other dogs in Dawson. In view of this, a number of persons interested are disposed to think that the death of so many dogs is due to a contagion something like hydrophobia rather than to poison at the hands of some malicious person. In the meantime people who own dogs which they value highly will do well to keep them closely at home until the cause of so many deaths in the canine family is withdrawn, whether it be poison or hydrophobia.

River Freighting.

The fact that the rates for freighting between Dawson and the creeks have been much reduced, a number formerly engaged in that work have withdrawn and will either put their teams at hauling wood or at freighting from scows stranded up the river. A large number of scows are stranded within 100 miles of Dawson and it is likely that much of their combined cargo will be hauled in this winter for the reason that team owners prefer to keep their stock employed even at a small profit rather than that they should remain idle. A rate of eight cents per pound is now quoted on freight from Stewart river to Dawson, and a number of tons have been contracted to be brought down from that point at the above mentioned figure.

He 'Fessed Up.

Proprietor Horkan, of the Standard library, presented the Nugget office today with a number of apples of the May Flower variety which excel in size, beauty and flavor anything in a similar line ever seen in Dawson. Mr. Horkan is an enthusiast regarding home grown products, and has himself, during the past season, grown many things in the line of flowers, fruits vegetables and cereals, but when cornered he today acknowledged that the apples were not grown in Dawson but are a product of Northern California.

Narrow Escape

While out sleighriding yesterday, Ike Rosenthal and Mrs. Boyker narrowly escaped what might have been a serious accident, as in passing along First avenue the horse became unmanageable and ran away. Making a sudden turn, the occupants were thrown out and upon a pile of wood, but fortunately neither were seriously injured, although it is told of Ike that it required several bottles of wine to enable him to recover from his fright. The horse and sleigh passed on down street, mementoes of the latter being strewn promiscuously along the way.

Tired of Waiting.

Editor Nugget:
It has now been more than a month since an election was held by which two members of the Yukon council were chosen and yet those two newly elected members have not taken their seats. My understanding was that two additional members on the board were needed at once, and for the purpose of supplying that need was the election held. If you can explain the cause of their not being seated you will greatly oblige one who is not, even in the face of the news received here during the past week, ashamed to sign himself
CONSERVATIVE.

(We presume the only reason for the delay in issuing to the members-elect their certificates of election is the fact that the ballot boxes from several of the up river polling stations have not as yet been received by the returning officer. The reason for the delay in receiving the official returns is that the election was held just when navigation for the year was closing, and fully a month before travel over the ice is safe or expedient. For this reason the boxes have not been received, consequently the official canvass of the returns has not been made, and until such canvass is made the respective certificates of election cannot be legally issued. It is probable, however, now that travel over the river is possible, that the boxes will be received, the official canvass made and the certificates of election issued within a week or ten days.)—ED.

For the St. Andrew's Ball.

Preparations for the annual St. Andrew's ball are now well under way, and it will, beyond all doubt, be the greatest society event in the history of Dawson. In addition to the active work of the various committees having "charge d'affaires," every dressmaker and tailor in the city is busy in the work of manufacturing new dresses and suits or in cleaning and repairing old ones. There is no doubt but that there will be as many couples present as the big Savoy theater will comfortably accommodate, as tickets are already being rapidly taken. The event is being looked forward to with intense interest.

THE FIRST GAME

In the Series of Hockey Matches Between the Various Clubs

BRINGS VICTORY TO BANK BOYS

And Brings Defeat to the McLennan & McFeeley Team.

THE SCORE STOOD 3 TO 2.

Large Crowd and Good Band in Attendance—Rink in Perfect Condition.

Several hundred people gathered at the big skating rink on Saturday night to witness the first hockey match of the season. According to the published schedule the contestants were the teams from the Canadian Bank of Commerce and McLennan & McFeeley's store.

Gold Commissioner E. C. Senkler acted as referee with perfect satisfaction to all parties concerned.

The game was a spirited one throughout, although the men by reason of the short time thus far available for practice are not as yet thoroughly broken in. The ice was in splendid condition, having been flooded previous to the game and presenting a surface as smooth as glass. The play was uniformly good and the large crowd which lined the edges of the rink remained thoroughly interested to the end.

The teams were pretty evenly matched, although the advantage seemed to lean slightly to the bank boys, who finally won the match by a score of 3 to 2. A full band was in attendance and discoursed stirring music throughout the game.

At the conclusion of the match public skating began. The rink is certainly a splendid affair and the enterprise which the management has shown is most commendable.

McLennan & McFeeley's team consisted of the following men: C. F. Henry, H. Sharp, J. Smith, A. W. H. Smith, W. G. Hingston, J. Moncreiff, D. Hoy.

The Bank of Commerce was represented by the following: Messrs. Stevenson, Tiffin, Bell, Cowan, Marks, Patterson, Vincent.

An Innovation.

The visitors at the Standard library were treated to a pleasant surprise on yesterday when Librarian Horkan invited them to the conservatory where was spread a splendid lunch of which all partook, and were as unsparing in their compliments as the chef, Mr. Mulcahey, was lavish in supplies. Mr. Horkan believes that the physical as well as the mental wants of the people can be satiated without spending fortunes, and the prices and quality of the refreshment department proves his faith. The steady growth and popularity of the library, reading, writing, chess and smoking rooms has induced the new departure, and will doubtless add still more to the already large numbers that frequent our most popular institution.

A Printing Office Triumph.

Mr. Arthur E. Bloom the efficient pressman of the Nugget has lately completed a task never previously accomplished north of Victoria, to wit: The moulding of a full set of rollers for a power printing press. Mr. Bloom prepared and mixed the composition and the rollers produced are as fine and perfect as any ever turned out from any branch of the American Type Foundry.

Clear the Sidewalks.

The suggestion made by the Nugget a few days ago that the sidewalks be cleared of the packed snow, which in some places is so corrugated as to render travel upon every laborious, has been productive of a certain amount of good, as on Second street today the packed snow was being removed from several rods of the sidewalk. First avenue is now in a deplorable condition, which condition could be remedied by a few minutes' work in front of various buildings.

The Klondike

TELEPHONE (DAWSON'S) ISSUED DAILY ALLEN BROS.

FARTHER

The News is for the vain endeavor to politically. Since "Canadian newspaper" the sworn deger, that the ow! ger, are all has been feeling trying to find out most opportune pl Having been pe its admirers that would win on th conceived the ide fame and fortun organ of that pa As usual, however of its convictions, actly, possessing the convictions, the landslide which the Conservative p feet, has been th tions that it wou in" with the powe the next five ye

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