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VOL. 11 No. 2

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ROSE STREET REGINA

DID BROTHER MOOSE JAW KILL MORRIS MYSTERY

Ernest Morris Sent to Regina Charged With the Murder of His Brother--Suspected that There Was Foul Play--Coroner's Inquest Proceedings.

Milestone, Sask., April 11.—That Charles J. Morris was foully murdered Monday night and his shack set on fire to cover up the evidence of the dastardly deed, is being impressed upon the minds of the people of Milestone and district, as the inquest being held by Coroner McLane and jury proceeds.

The expected happened yesterday in this sensational case when Ernest Morris, the brother of the victim, was brought before Magistrate Bunn and Murphy, charged with murder, and remanded to Regina for one week pending the verdict of the coroner's jury.

Ernest Morris, during his long examination of Thursday night, proved a very unsatisfactory witness to the jury. His testimony disclosed peculiar financial transactions with his brother, also that he had sold a team of horses belonging to his brother, retaining the proceeds.

The victim had expected to raise money by giving a chattel mortgage on the horses to pay for seed grain. Ernest had his trunk en route to the station preparing to make a hasty departure. While giving his testimony before the jury he was nervous and ill at ease and repeatedly contradicted himself.

Friday morning he was again placed on the stand and appeared in a better light, though still leaving unexplained a number of important matters bearing on the case. On being asked by Foreman Bunn, of the jury, if he wanted to change any of his testimony of the night previous, he said that he did not remember what he had said. Friday afternoon was occupied with the hearing of evidence of eight or ten of the neighbors living in the Long Creek district. The important fact of the finding of a bottle of strychnine by one of the neighbors in his stable, which did not belong to him, was told to the jury.

The finding of this poison coupled with the fact that Ernest had been in the stable on the night of the tragedy, was not explained satisfactorily to the jury by Morris. Friday evening the result of the post-mortem examination was placed before the jury by Dr. Cook.

This disclosed the presence of blood clots, indicating hemorrhage, previous to death. Asked by the coroner if the fracture of the skull might not have been caused by the falling of the roof, producing the hemorrhage, Dr. Cook declared that in his opinion the fire had caused the destruction of the building so that the roof would fall in. There would be sufficient heat to kill the man of itself before the falling timber struck him, in which case pulsation would cease and hemorrhage would not occur after death. Witness could not say whether the fractures were caused by sharp or dull instruments.

The doctor's evidence strengthened the theory of foul play, or murder, as expressed by one juror Friday evening at the close of the proceedings. The result of the chemical analysis of the stomach will not be known here until Wednesday, though the opinion is advanced that when the test is made evidence of poisoning will appear.

That the body of this victim is not already enroute to its former home in Missouri, and justice miscarried, is due to the effective and energetic work of Mounted Police man Morse, who in his first connection with the tragic case, discovered suspicious circumstances pointing to murder as well as arson.

Want Government Elevators.

Winnipeg, April 12.—Next week a delegation from the inter-provincial council of grain growers' associations of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta will visit Ottawa to wait upon Sir Richard Cartwright, and urge the government to adopt the control of terminal elevators. The following will represent the three western provinces, Edward F. Frame, Innisfail; George Langley, Maymont; Roderick McKenzie, Winnipeg. Manitoba petitions are now in the hands of the local executive and bear 16,000 names.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Eddy returned this morning after spending the winter in the east.

Investigation Into the Mysterious Poisoning of Mrs. Kent—Who Was It, telephoned—Doctors Find that Death Was Due to Poisoning.

Moose Jaw, April 8.—The coroner's inquest into the mysterious poisoning case of Mrs. A. J. Kent Saturday last opened in the council chamber of the city hall tonight, and after five witnesses were heard the inquiry was adjourned until April 10. There was very little additional light thrown upon the case by the witnesses called unless it was to strengthen the theory of murder. The police submitted no evidence as they have at the present nothing definite that would in any way assist the jury.

Harriet Elliott, the telephone girl who was on duty at the time the message was sent to the Kent home by the unknown woman, was the most interesting witness called to-night, and the most remarkable feature of her evidence was a statement to the effect that the behavior of the unknown woman at the phone impressed her as being that of a guilty person. Several times the coroner sought to secure her motive for using the word "guilty," but the girl only persisted in using it as expressing her idea of the impression the voice and manner of the mysterious unknown had made upon her.

"There was a laugh in the woman's voice all the time," she said "and that laugh impressed itself upon my memory." The evidence of Gladys Cochrane was interesting as to the behavior of the unfortunate woman in the few moments preceding her death. Her last utterances have significance as tending to disprove the theory of deliberate suicide. The witness was satisfied that her manner upon arriving at the Cochrane home was "just natural," and that she seemed in "good spirits." Another very significant piece of evidence was given by this witness to the effect that, deceased said the medicine was given to her by Miss Grayson. She was not positive that this was the name mentioned, however, and she refused to swear to it. There is a Miss Grayson in the city.

Harriet Elliott who was the first witness called, stated that she went on duty at 7:30 and that it was almost immediately after this that the call was received from the C.P.R. pay station for Mrs. Kent. She called the Kent house and having received the hello answer asked if it was Miss Grayson speaking. The answer was simply "yes." She then called the woman at the C. P. R. booth and after the latter had dropped the nickle in the slot, she connected the parties and went on with other connections, and left them talking, to see if they were still talking, and heard snatches of the conversation. The first time she heard some lady say she felt sick at the stomach. She next heard something about a little boy who could not get in so left "it" on the doorstep. The last she heard was a remark which she thought was "take this medicine. I think it will help you." Questioned by the coroner she was sure it was a woman's voice speaking all the time, and positive that the last remark was made by the woman at the C.P.R. booth.

Coroner—What was the mood of that woman?
A.—There was a laugh in her voice all the time.
Coroner—That was all you heard?
A.—Yes, the next time I went to the phone they had hung off.

In answer to W. B. Willoughby acting in behalf of Mr. Kent witness said she did not recognize the voice of the woman speaking from the C. P. R. booth. She had never heard it before. But the voice seemed guilty to her.

Asked what she meant by guilty, both by Mr. Willoughby and the coroner, she seemed unable to describe the impression which forced the word from her lips, but she repeated it several times, adding that it was unnatural and that the laugh which ran through her voice was impressed on her memory. There was only one call from the C.P.R. pay station that day, Dr. Radcliffe was the next witness called and gave evidence of being called to the Cochrane home by phone girl called could only account for one. While the police had no evidence to submit to the coroner to-night it is believed they are in possession of information of a useful nature and developments may soon follow.

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HUNTING PRISONER

R. N. W. M. P. Scouring the Country for Fred Kane, Who Jumped Through the Car Window When He Was Being Brought to Jail.

Edmonton, Alta., April 11.—With a force of eighteen mounted policemen scouring the countryside for miles around Leduc and Strathcona, Fred Kane the convict, who made a sensational escape through the window of an express train near Strathcona, is still at liberty and the chances of his arrest are slight. Every train passing through Pental and Emerson is being searched.

Two hours after his spectacular escape five men from the local R.N.W.M.P. detachment, supplemented by a number of citizens, and the officers from Leduc and Wetaskiwin were on the scene, but no trace of the fugitive could be found. The police spread out in fan shape from where he was last seen and all Thursday night and all day Friday were scouring the country for miles around.

Inspector Worsley has communicated with all the police in Alberta, and has also wired a description of Kane to all the railway officials in the country.

It is thought that immediately after his spectacular exit from the train, Kane went to the home of one of his friends where he was supplied with a horse and sufficient money to ensure his getting away. The police have interrogated all the settlers within a radius of twelve miles from the point where the escape was made but all deny any knowledge of the existence of the escaped prisoner. Should Kane not be located today a large force from Saskatchewan will be added to the man hunting posse.

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