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HARRY THAW STILL INSANE

Justice Mills Decides That
Thaw Should Still Stay in
Asylum—Story of Thaw's
Case as Justice Sees It—
Paranoiac Insanity.

White Plains, N.Y., Aug. 12.—The state of New York won a complete victory over Harry K. Thaw today, when Justice Isaac H. Mills, decided that the slayer of Stanford White is still insane and sent him back to the criminal asylum at Mattawan. Not one of the many contentions made by Thaw during the three weeks of his recent hearing, was sustained. He is somewhat better off, however, than before he brought the present suit, because Mr. Mills in his decision and the suggestions amount practically to orders, says that Thaw at Mattawan be restored to the privileges he enjoyed during the first three months of his stay there, and that his white haired mother be allowed all possible privileges and be treated with every consideration when she calls to see him. Thaw received the news of the failure of his second attempt to escape from Mattawan today with very slight display of emotion. His manner indicated that he had expected an adverse decision. The information was brought to him first in the local jail by the Associated Press representatives.

"Have you heard Justice Mills' decision?" he was asked.

"No," said Thaw without moving from his chair.

A copy of the court's opinion was handed to him. He read it rapidly and without comment until he came to the sentence "By those beliefs constituted delusions in his mind when he committed the homicide, they are the same now."

"That's not so," he said and marked the lines with his pencil.

Thaw was smoking a pipe when he got the news and as he read he puffed faster and faster until the air about him was a cloud of smoke.

In no other way did he show any perturbation. He referred questioners as to his future plans, to his attorneys.

Thaw's attorney, Charles Morschauer, was not in town this morning when the decision was rendered. None of the prisoner's family could be found. At their hotel, it was said they had locked themselves in their rooms and given orders that they would not see anyone.

White Plains, N.Y., Aug. 12.—Justice Mills handed down a decision this morning declaring that Harry K. Thaw is insane. He dismissed the writ of habeas corpus under which Thaw endeavored to secure his release from Mattawan asylum and re-mands him to the custody of the state authorities of that institution.

After discussing the evidence Justice Mills draws the following conclusion. The insanity with which Harry K. Thaw was affected on June 25, 1906, at the time he committed the homicide, was of the kind known as chronic delusion insanity or paranoiac. This conclusion rests with the following facts which appear to be clearly proven: There was, in his ancestral stock, a substantial, but not very strong trace of insanity, by "not very strong" is meant the fact that not one of his direct ancestors was very insane, upon the maternal side, two uncles were of unsound mind, each at least for a portion of his life, and on his father's side an aunt was at least an epileptic and perhaps insane, though as to them, the evidence is not quite clear, but that there had been insanity in one of his ancestral lines, is shown in the prisoner's descent.

As a young child, he was physically weak and puny, exceedingly nervous and abnormally wakeful. Older he was subject to violent spells amounting to paroxysms of excitement without any naturally adequate cause. He attended various schools for different periods from the age of six upwards, but made little progress in study. While, at school especially in his earlier years, he had frequent out-breaks of uncontrollable excitement in which his facial appearance was wild and staring.

Continuing his history of Thaw's life, Justice Mills says:

"About 1901, he became enamored of a woman, Miss Nesbitt, whom he afterwards married. She was then by common reputation well known to him, the mistress or a mistress of Stanford White. She soon assumed to account to him for her former position with White told him various wild and grossly improbable stories of the inception of that relation. Although he, Thaw, evidently was himself far from a moral man and was then engaged or soon thereafter became engaged in practices of a bad character, as revealed by the testimony of the Merrill woman, which with the corroboration afforded by other witnesses in the case, appears credible, he gave absolute credence to the tales told him by Miss Nesbitt about White. He obtained similar information as to White's conduct with other women, either directly from them or through Miss Nesbitt, all of which information was of the same wild and improbable character, evidently grossly exaggerated. To all, however, he gave implicit belief.

His mind became absolutely pos-

essed with these stories. Such belief, to such extreme extent was plainly a delusion. In that mental condition at the roof garden, he came into the presence of White, doubtless unexpectedly, and publicly shot him to death in a spectacular and theatrical manner. In so doing, he believed that he was acting as an agent of providence and performing a praise worthy act like that of David in slaying Goliath or St. George killing the dragon."

Regarding Thaw's suspicions of a conspiracy against him by his early counsel, the court says:

"Such belief, that is as to his purpose, was utterly without foundation and a clear delusion. "All this," continued Justice Mills and according to the weight of expert testimony is plainly the history of a paranoiac. This court concludes, therefore, that Thaw's insanity was of the commission of homicide was of the kind known as paranoiac, and not all of the brainstorm, sane half a minute before and half a minute after variety, if such variety really exists."

YUKON RAIN MAKERS

There is an interesting article in the August issue of the World's Work on "The Rival Rainmakers of the Yukon," by C. H. E. Askwith, former editor of the Yukon World in which light is thrown on the farcial attempts which were made to secure rain in the Klondyke. He says:

Seldom, if ever, has a great imperial dependency been placed in such an absurd position as resulted from the farcial outcome of the rain making experiments conducted under the auspices of the government of the Yukon Territory of Canada four years ago.

The remarkable series of coincidences whereby the medicine men of the tribe of the Moosehide Indians were able to accomplish what had baffled all the resources of modern science, and the consequent turning of their tribe from the teachings of Christianity to the gods of their savage fathers, is a denouement worthy of the boisterous tastes of Aristophanes.

The Yukon territory is entirely given over to the production of placer gold. Now, those not familiar with placer gold countries cannot understand how much the entire prosperity of the district depends upon a plentiful rainfall during the summer months. With sufficient water, the largest pile of "dirt" may be washed out in the sluices and the impurity of the sluice water is checked. The result is a shower of gold, drizzles and fogs. For the first time for weeks the miners had enough water to sluice out their gold. Everyone in the Yukon was happy, and prosperity descended upon the entire camp.

But this was not all. The rains descended continuously and the floods came. Day after day, the sun was obscured by showers, downpours, drizzles and fogs. For the first time for weeks the miners had enough water to sluice out their gold. Everyone in the Yukon was happy, and prosperity descended upon the entire camp.

But the old chief and the gloomy, saturnine Noonan were happier of all for had they not brought the rain and the prosperity. And would not the young braves of the tribe, who had so long run after the strange religion of the palefaces, come back to their belief in the ancient tribal faith?

Two Sundays later the Rev. Adam MacLaren, a Scotch missionary, who had been laboring among the Athabaskan villages, but who had been away for a couple of months, returned, and proceeded to the village to hold the regular semi-monthly services in the little mission hall that stood near the wigwam of the chief. He waited till long past the hour of the service, but no one appeared. Then from the other end of the village he heard sounds to which the place had long been a stranger—the old sacrificial chant that had been bandoned when the tribe accepted the Christian religion a dozen years ago.

Frowning, he walked in the direction of the noise, which grew ever louder and clearer. As he turned one of the hill corners he came upon the entire tribe assembled in a great circle, in the middle of which stood a weird, gesticulating figure arrayed in skins and paint, the old religion, dancing before the resurrected tribal stone of sacrifice, while the missionary thought had been thrown into the Yukon a dozen years ago.

He pleaded to them to come to the mission, but his words fell on deaf ears. For huddling in a pot over the fire was the body of a white puppy, and presently when the incantation was finished, they would all squat about in a great circle, each chewing a bone of the sacrifice. For this was one of the most sacred observations of the old time faith, giving courage, long-life and luck to the tribe.

The missionary walked slowly back to Dawson. To him it was a tragedy—the upsetting of work. But in the years of pasturing work. But in the villages of the Moosehide all was happiness and contentment, and many presents littered the wigwam of the high priest.

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CAPT. F. R. DESJARDIN,
Schr. "Stork", St. Andre, Kamouraska.

No one was permitted to view the interior of the box of mystery. In a tent beside the elevated box in which the chemicals were placed Hatfield took his station, and during the month of July, in the course of which he was to add two inches to the

country's rainfall, he never permitted anyone to approach it. Not far from the dome on which Hatfield was at work dwelt the tribe of the Moosehide. Among the tribal villages were many old and middle aged men who remembered the palmy days of Alaska before the white man set foot on the land. Their old chief Silas, often spoke of the times, not so long past, when the tribe went forth a thousand strong to battle—when the wigwams swarmed with children and the women were tall and beautiful. But all had changed. The firewater of the paleface, the corruption of gold, of soft living, the insidious influence of the presence of thousands of white men had caused the glory of the tribe to depart forever. Instead of following the great herds of moose and caribou through the long summer days, or under the glory of the aurora borealis, the braves now worked in the mines or on the river steamers, and—oh! what a fall was there—brought their meat from a Dawson city butcher.

All the misfortunes of the tribe, Silas, the hereditary chief, attributed to the adoption of Christianity by the tribe. Silas and Noonan, the gloomy medicine men of former days, alone stood firm in their belief in the gods of their forefathers. The old chief and his mysterious looking satellite were of the old disposition—resistance to the tribe's heroic age.

The rain making preparation aroused the interest of the entire tribe as nothing had done for a generation. It was something they could understand for did not Noonan assist the former medicine man to sacrifice gifts in the still remembered summer over fifty years ago—long before the white man's day—when no rain fell for months, and the grass withered in the valleys and the streams were still; when the Moose and Caribou died by the dried-up springs and the mighty Yukon itself was but a trickle?

To make a long story short, the Hatfield experiment was a howling failure. There was the warmest July on record, Hatfield stole out of the Yukon before the month was over. Silas, the chief, then announced that he would bring rain, and advised everyone to get under cover. The writer goes on to say:

In the working of nature's law of averages and compensation, some queer results are occasionally produced. No rain had fallen for a month, an unusual thing in that country, so it was not very extraordinary that on the afternoon of August 1 heavy clouds should gather and burst causing one of the heaviest rainstorms of the decade.

But this was not all. The rains descended continuously and the floods came. Day after day, the sun was obscured by showers, downpours, drizzles and fogs. For the first time for weeks the miners had enough water to sluice out their gold. Everyone in the Yukon was happy, and prosperity descended upon the entire camp.

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FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Meets in Regina on September 3rd and 4th—List of Subjects to be Dealt With and Some of the Speakers Who Are to Attend.

A special meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association will be held in Regina, Sask., Friday and Saturday, Sept. 3 and 4, 1909. The meetings on Friday will begin at 8.30 a.m., and at 2 p.m., in the City Hall and there will be an evening meeting at 8 o'clock, when illustrated lectures will be delivered. On Saturday there will be an excursion to Indian Head to inspect the Forest Nurseries and Plantations.

The subjects dealt with will refer particularly to conditions in the prairie provinces and will embrace: Tree Planting on Eastern and Western Sections of the Prairies, Forest Reserves, Game Protection, Growing wood for Fuel and for Windbreaks, the Relation of Forestry to the Conservation of Moisture, etc.

His Honor the Lieut.-Governor has kindly consented to open the meeting and representatives of the provincial government, the city of Regina and the board of trade will welcome the delegates and take part in the discussions.

Among those who will read papers are: Mr. Angus MacKay, Superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Farm Indian Head; Mr. Norman M. Ross, Chief of the Tree Planting Division; Mr. J. P. Turner, Secy Manitoba Fish and Game Protective Association; Mr. A. Knechtel, Inspector of Dominion Forest and Game Preserves; Mr. A. H. D. Ross, M.A., M.F., Lecturer in Forestry, University of Toronto; Mr. A. Mitchell, assistant, Tree Planting Division; Mr. T. N. Willing, Chief Game Guardian, Saskatchewan.

It is expected that the following among others will be present to take part in the discussions: Dr. William Saunders, Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa; Senator T. O. Davis, Prince Albert; Mr. R. H. Campbell, Superintendent of Forestry, Ottawa; Mr. C. E. E. Usher, Asst. Passenger Traffic Manager, C.P.R.; Mr. Geo. H. Shaw, Traffic Manager, C.N.R.; Mr. J. B. Whitman, Bridge-town, N.S.; Mr. J. N. Bayne, Depy Municipal Comm., Regina, and a number of representatives of the governmental, lumbering, farming, and commercial, commercial and professional interests in all parts of Canada.

Some United States forestry experts are also expected.

The railway companies have kindly granted a single fare for this meeting regardless of the number attending. Delegates must purchase, first-class one-way tickets (the fare for which must not be less than 50 cents to Regina or the nearest junction point if a through ticket cannot be obtained) and secure a certificate to that effect on the standard certificate form where the ticket is purchased. Railway ticket agents are supplied with standard certificates and are instructed to use them on application.

At the meeting these certificates must be handed to the secretary for signature by him and the special agent of the railway companies. At the time of validation, the special agent will collect from the holder of each certificate a fee of twenty-five cents.

From points east of Port Arthur, tickets will be good going Aug. 28 to Sept 1 inclusive, returning until Sept 8. Delegates from eastern Canada will also be able to avail themselves of the reduced rates to the Seattle exposition, and the British Association meeting in Winnipeg.

Parliament Opens in November.

Ottawa, Aug. 12.—If the present expectations of the government are realized, parliament will be called to meet on Thursday, Nov. 4. It is possible that unforeseen contingencies may delay the opening until a week, or even two weeks later, but the event is bound to occur before Nov. 18. The estimates are being prepared, by the various departments so they may be ready by Nov. 4. The insurance bill is ready to be put before parliament again. It has been considered for several sessions and last year was advanced through the commons, but did not reach the senate in time to become law. It will be put through this year. An amendment to the Bank Act will probably figure on the sessional program.

The speech from the throne will contain an announcement regarding Canada's share in the naval defence. The precise terms of the announcement will not be determined until the government is able to consider the report which Sir Frederick Borden and Hon. L. P. Brodeur made of the work of the imperial defence conference which is now being held in London. The new Franco-Canadian treaty will also form an item in the speech from the throne and a bill ratifying it is likely to be put through before the Christmas holidays are reached. It is probable that the opposition will be more aggressive than last session, but with a substantial amount of progress with legislation before Christmas prorogation should take place at a reasonably early date in the spring.

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