

THE EVENING TIMES AND STAR, ST. JOHN, N. B., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1922

WOMAN AND A MAN IN MURDER

New Facts About Slaying of
Minister and Mrs. Mills

Scratches on Victims—Think
Slayers Located Trysting
Place of Clergyman and
Set Trap for Them.

New York, Sept. 22.—The possibility that both a man and a woman participated in the murder of the Rev. Edward Wheeler Hall and Mrs. Eleanor Reinhardt Mills at New Brunswick, N. J., last Thursday is emphasized by the discovery of new evidence. Four witnesses told the authorities they had heard shots and the screams of two women about midnight on Thursday.

Additional information regarding the results of the official examination of the bodies also disclosed that there were deep finger and nail scratches on the woman's face and neck and on the clergyman's hands and arms, indicating that a woman had attacked the couple with her hands before they were shot and killed by a companion, probably a man. From this evidence, together with other new discovered facts not made public, the authorities have constructed a new theory of the crime. They now believe that a man and a woman, having discovered the affair between the clergyman and his choir leader, spied upon the couple, until they learned the location of their trysting place, and then set a trap to catch them together.

After Dr. Hall left his home about 7:30 o'clock last Thursday night, ostensibly to go to his office at the Protestant Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, going on foot, it is now believed, the man and the woman who were watching his movements motored to the clergyman's trysting place and waited until he appeared with the woman. It is believed that the woman who lay in wait did not know that the man with her had a pistol in his pocket, and did not think for a moment that the



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THREE STORES

night's work would have a tragic ending.

Place of Shooting.

If the new witnesses who tell of having heard shots and screams are not mistaken, the place of the shooting was either the same spot where the bodies were found or some place near it, and the time was about 11:45 o'clock at night. It is supposed that Mrs. Mills screamed when she and the clergyman were surprised by the other woman and man, and that the other woman then attacked the clergyman's companion, clawing her face and neck with her finger nails. The woman's body was in such a condition from exposure to the elements, however, that it could not be told for certain whether the wounds on her face and neck might not have been made with some weapon, instead of finger nails. It also appeared as if the attacking woman might have thrown acid upon her rival's face, for the wounds seemed to have been enlarged and eaten by an acid.

The marks on the clergyman's hands and arms, being similar to the supposed scratches on Mrs. Mills' face, indicated that he threw himself between the two women and was clawed by the other woman in her fury. It was at this moment, it is believed that the other man drew his pistol. Now was heard a woman's scream, which, according to witnesses, was of an entirely different tone and

pitch from the first scream. This is taken to mean that the second woman was surprised at the sight of the pistol and attempted to prevent murder.

Then came the shots. Mrs. Mills was shot once in the forehead, and her face was burned so with powder that the pistol must have been held close to her face. The two wounds in the back of the clergyman's head were not powder burns, so he may have been shot as he was trying to escape.

New Information.

The new information the authorities got came chiefly from Mr. and Mrs. Harry McCabe. McCabe is the bridge tender on the "Landing Bridge" crossing the Delaware and Maritima canal and the Maritima river about 1,000 feet east of the place where the bodies were found.

At about a quarter to twelve o'clock on Thursday night McCabe was asleep in bed, having retired at 11 o'clock, but his wife was just getting ready for bed. While she was at her prayers she heard a woman's piercing shriek. She woke up her husband, asking, "Harry, did you hear that?" McCabe awakened just as another scream was heard, this one being much louder and more vibrant, and according to Mrs. McCabe the voice of a stronger woman than the first. McCabe and his wife both said the screams came from the direction in which the bodies were found on Saturday.

McCabe jumped out of bed, dressed and walked across the canal bridge along the landing road to see what was the trouble. He stopped some distance up the road and waited for four or five minutes. Then he heard another scream, that sounded like the voice of the first woman. There was no more noise and the voice seemed some distance away, so he returned to his house. As he was standing by an open window they heard a series of screams, also like that of the first woman, but they grew fainter, and finally died out.

Mills, the widow of the tragedy, Mrs. Hall, the widow, and her brother, Willie, according to the figures about which the investigation revolve.

All three were expected to be questioned again—Mrs. Hall for further details of her nocturnal wanderings in the early hours of Friday morning, soon after the murders are believed to have been committed; Mills for the story of his own wanderings at the same hour, and Willie for further light on his uncanny prediction on Friday morning that "something terrible is going to happen."

Mrs. Hall admitted that she was the woman in the polo coat whom witnesses told of seeing enter the rectory about 2:45 o'clock on Friday morning. She was quoted as saying that she had gone to the church, accompanied by her brother, Willie, seeking her husband who had not come home the night before. Willie refused to say whether he was with her. Witnesses did not see him return to the rectory.

Mills also has told the authorities of having visited the church in quest of his missing wife, at about the same hour that Mrs. Hall said she was there. He regarded it as strange that he had not seen her nor Willie, but hazarded the opinion that they might have visited different parts of the church.

The theory that the rector and his choir leader had been slain elsewhere and the bodies removed to Somerset county to complicate the investigation, was based chiefly on conditions at the spot where they were found. Although tender notes, believed by the authorities to have been

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\$2.45 Each

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SHRAPNEL SHELL WRECKS ROOM

Dropped From Shelf in New York Home—A Veteran Deafened.

New York, Sept. 22.—The explosion of a one-inch shell which fell from a shelf in a basement room at the Melano Apartments at 127 West Fifty-eighth street injured J. Ackerman and Joseph McLean, elevator operators, who were in the room, smashed the windows and wrecked the room. The shock of the blast drove the tenants into the street.

McLean, who was an ex-service man and who had been suffering from shock ever since his plane dropped in France, collapsed in the room, smashed the windows and was completely deafened. He was hit in the foot by bits of shrapnel with which the shell was loaded.

The two men were moving from the basement room to the first floor of the building and were looking around, about 4 o'clock, to see if they had left anything in the room, when the shell on a shelf that stood about 8 feet high and stood on a chair to lift it down. The shell collapsed in a cloud of plaster and a tremendous blast rocked the walls of the building. McLean fell to the floor unconscious and Ackerman was knocked off the chair by the flying missiles. After the other tenants had rushed into the street word was sent to police headquarters and soon a car whirled up with Lieut. James J. Gagan and several members of the bomb squad.

The detectives found another shell which must have been on the same shelf, but did not explode. This they took to headquarters as well as fragments of the missile shattered by the blast. It was said at the apartment last night that the two shells must have been on the shelf for many months.

Ernest B. Roberts, formerly on the editorial staff of The Telegraph and now with the Council of Canadian Meat

McLean and Ackerman denied having put them there.

ORGAN BURNED AFTER ROW

Taken From a Kentucky Church, Smashed and Destroyed.

Henderson, Ky., Sept. 22.—The Christian church at Bordley, Union county, recently installed an organ after several months of wrangling among the congregation. A mass of smoldering embers is all that remains of the organ. It had been removed from the church, taken into the church yard, chopped to pieces and set on fire after coal oil had been poured over the pieces.

Reports reaching here were that a woman member of the congregation, irritated because of the installation of the organ, had destroyed it.

Court action will be taken.

Ernest B. Roberts, formerly on the editorial staff of The Telegraph and now with the Council of Canadian Meat

Packers with headquarters in Toronto, is in the city. In an interview last evening he said that a new industry for New Brunswick might grow out of the proposal of the Industrial and Development Council of the Canadian Meat Packers to extend their operations in the maritime provinces. He referred to the bacon-hog industry. Mr. Roberts is looking over the ground.

LUMBERMEN HAMPERED BY LACK OF FREIGHT CARS

Montreal, Sept. 22.—Contending that the lumber business is being hampered through difficulty in obtaining freight cars in the east to ship wood and lumber, representatives of the limit holders and other lumbermen interested are to wait on the federal government next week, asking for relief. It was said today that the situation was becoming acute, especially from Montreal to Campbellton, and also in New Brunswick.

On Sale Tonight and Saturday Morning

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Store Open Tonight Until 10 p.m. Closed Saturday at 1 p.m.

Women's Fall Coats of tan velour, collar and cuffs of brown cooney fur. Price \$24.75

Women's tailored mannish top coats, raglan sleeves, patch pockets. Shades of tan, brown and olive. Price \$16.75

Children's school coats made of Canadian Velours lined throughout in brown, heather, Dutch blue and rose shades. Price \$8.50 and \$9.50

Large size comforts, down filled, covered French sateen; some are slightly soiled. Regular \$10.50. Half price \$5.25

11-4 white shaker blankets, blue or pink border. Sale price \$1.97

300 yards good quality chintz for furniture covering or drapery. 5 yards for \$1.29

Irish damask table cloths, slight imperfections. Sale price \$1.89

Bleached cotton sheets, 40 to 44 inch. Special price 25c

5 dozen large size white Turkish towels. Sale price 49c each

Scotch huckabuck towels, large size. Sale price 29c each

3 dozen gingham morning dresses, good patterns and colorings. Sale price \$1.29

Fine wool cashmere English rib in coating, navy, gray or brown. Price \$1.25 a pr

Women's heather hose with fancy clock. Price \$1.25 a pr

Women's fine wool vests, drawers to match; fall weight. Price \$1.95 per garment

Women's heavy weight vests, drawers to match. Price 98c per garment

Women's woolltex combinations, medium weight. Price \$2.50

Flannelette nightgowns, lace trimmed. Price \$1.48

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LOCAL NEWS

King, the Hatter, has opened up again at his old stand, Union street, with a complete line of hats, caps and gentlemen's furnishings.—King the Hatter, 179 Union St.

Oak Hall closes tonight at six o'clock, open all day Saturday until ten o'clock in the evening.

Get your shaker and woollen blankets comfortable and bed wear at Bassett's 14-16-18 Charlotte street.

RECENT DEATHS

Mrs. Rebecca Ann Ward.

After an illness of seventeen years, the death of Mrs. Rebecca Ann Ward occurred at her residence, 7 Golding street, last evening. Mrs. Ward was very highly regarded by a wide circle of friends, and will be sincerely mourned. She is survived by four sons—John, of Medford (Mass.), and William D., Arthur H. and George H., of this city; three daughters—Mrs. William Hamm, Miss Ella M. Ward and Miss Edith Ward, of this city; one brother, Robert Good, and one sister, Mrs. J. C. Warren, both of this city, and eleven grandchildren.

James D. Murray.

Campbellton, Sept. 21.—(Special)—James D. Murray, one of Campbellton's leading merchants in past years, died at his residence in Queen street last night. Mr. Murray had been in retirement for some time, having been in failing health for the past few years.

Mrs. J. J. Foster.

Mrs. J. J. Foster, of Listowel, Ont., passed away at the Listowel Memorial Hospital on September 12, following an illness of about a year. She was well known as a community and church worker. She leaves two daughters, three brothers and two sisters, including Mrs. Morrison, wife of Rev. Dr. J. A. Marison, of West St. John.

HEIRLESS TO MILLIONS MARRIED TO CHAUFFEUR

Bennington, Vt., Sept. 22.—It has become known that Mrs. Elizabeth McCullough Turner, daughter of the late Gov. J. McCullough, who was at one time president of the Erie Railroad, was married on Monday to Elmer G. Johnson, who had been employed as a chauffeur. Mrs. Johnson was the widow of Thornton Turner. She is one of two children who will inherit a fortune estimated at \$10,000,000 left by her father.

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