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CRIPPEN'S COMPANION IS ACQUITTED OF MURDER CHARGE

LeNeve is Now Free--No Witnesses Called For The Defence--Jury Is Only Out a Few Minutes--Evidence of Landlady the Crown's Case--Judge's Charge Was Favorable to Prisoner

London, Oct. 25.—Interest of the public in the Le Neve case was quite as keen as in that of Crippen and standing room was not to be had at the opening of the trial. The clothes of Belle Elmore, afterwards worn by the prisoner, were strewn along benches ready for production. A great throng of ladies crowded the public gallery. As soon as Lord Alverstone was seated Le Neve walked in, unassisted, appearing quite composed. Entering the dock she took her position exactly as Crippen had stood. The clerk then read the charge, that, well knowing that Crippen had committed a felony, Le Neve did feloniously receive, comfort, harbor, assist and maintain him. If firm tone Le Neve answered "not guilty" and then, seating herself with eyes almost closed and hands clasped tightly together, she sat motionless, apparently oblivious of all that was going on around her. The same counsel appeared for the prosecution, while Le Neve is defended by F. E. Smith, M.P., one of the leading lights of the Conservative party, and Barrington Ward.

Muir said the defence could not dispute that Crippen had murdered his wife. Guilty knowledge and guilty intentions were the issues of the case, issues on which a jury rarely have direct evidence. The jury would have to look at the facts with a view to discovery of the knowledge of the prisoner had at the time the act was done and question her intentions regarding the acts she herself did. Muir told again the story of the murder and of Crippen's intrigue with Le Neve, declaring that he murdered his wife to possess himself of Le Neve. He pictured the misery of Le Neve on that fatal night. The landlady had said her illness had been of no ordinary kind. Something seemed to strike the prisoner with horror. "That this state was contemporaneous with the murder of Belle Elmore was undisputed. Was her state of horror due to a knowledge that Crippen had murdered his wife?"

She Must Have Known.

Muir referred to the fact that the prisoner had become cheerful after February 2, and had said that Crippen had promised to marry her. She had brought it was unlikely that the wife would desert her husband and leave behind her clothes and jewels. Crippen, according to the prisoner, had never said that his wife was not returning, but immediately the prisoner wore her clothes and jewels.

The crown prosecutor, after referring to the trip to Dieppe, to Le Neve's return for the purpose of making her residence at Crippen's house, and to the fact of the police finding her in possession of them (clothes and jewels) said: "Their flight is plain. They were flying from justice. Newspapers were full of their descriptions, and it was incredible that she had not seen the papers. When Le Neve was arrested on board the steamer Montrose at Rather Point, and was charged with being a party to the murder she made no reply. She became faint, but made no explanation. She was given an opportunity to step into the witness box at Bow Street Police Court, but she had not offered any explanation or account of the elaborate precautions taken to prevent pursuit. She assisted Crippen by disguising herself. She assisted him to evade the police. She testified him by not remaining behind to tell what she knew. The only interpretation the jury can put on the facts is that she knew of Crippen's crime and assisted him to escape."

The Evidence.

Mrs. Martinetti was ill and was unable to appear in court. Muir read a deposition which she had made at the preliminary hearing in Bow street.

Crippen's Denial.

Inspector Dew gave details of the inquiry made for Elmore after her disappearance and of the steps taken to arrest the fugitives. He then related a conversation which he had with Le Neve on the Montrose and her assurance that she knew nothing about the crime. Cross-examined by Smith, Dew said he had made inquiries into the past life of the prisoner, and had found that she was a typist for 10 years. Her father was a canvasser in the coal business and belonged to the lower middle class. Crippen had told Dew that Le Neve knew nothing of Elmore. Dr. Pepper repeated the evidence at

harshly because she had fallen. The jury ought not to convict on suspicion. They ought to carefully consider what was the probability of this sounder telling her about the woman he wanted for his wife. If that occurrence of which the landlady spoke took place when the prisoner did not know that Elmore had been murdered it wiped away the charge altogether. Way should Crippen have told her a story different from that which he told to everyone else?

The judge's summing up occupied about half an hour, and the crowded court listened eagerly. Right Hon. Winston Churchill, Home Secretary, occupied a seat on the bench beside the Chief Justice.

SHOT BY BROTHER

Children Engage in Fatal Game of Rabbit Hunt Near Medicine Hat—Guilty Boy Tells A Weird Story of Crime

Medicine Hat, Alta., Oct. 25.—Coroner Boyd was called to Josephburg today to conduct an inquest over the remains of Fred Sackman, the seven-year-old son of Adam Sackman, who was shot by his elder brother Adam at his home Sunday at 12 o'clock. The parents were absent at church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., their four children being alone in the house. A gun, which was kept in the room, was used by the children in a game of rabbit hunt and was loaded and discharged by the elder son, Adam, aged 10. The charge wounded the boy in the face, neck and hand and he died shortly afterwards.

Adam took a cartridge from a cupboard in the room and loaded the gun. He then proposed a game of rabbit hunt, Fred to be the first rabbit. Fred assumed the role and Adam pointed the gun and pulled the trigger. Fred staggered and fell, blood streaming from his face and neck. The shooting occurred apparently about noon.

MAY SEND BALLOON

In Search of Missing Crew of the America

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 25.—Edmund Stratton of the American Aero Club, who is here organizing a search for the missing balloon America II, is still without information as to the probable whereabouts of the balloon. A relief party, composed of members of the geological service, familiar with the north country, is suggested. Local lumber kings have sent instructions to men in the lumber camps to report any balloon sighting. Mr. Stratton called upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier today and received the assurance that his government would do anything in its power to find the missing America.

There is a wide divergence of opinion concerning the practicability of a plan to send Von Phul in another balloon to search for Hawley and Post. Some say that even should the balloonists be so extraordinarily lucky as to strike the precise country that would take them out over the American's course, the chances would be infinitesimal against them seeing the balloon or its occupants even at a low level if they had landed. Von Phul said tonight that he was preparing for the trip.

Fort William, Ont., Oct. 25.—Discouraged by want of employment and funds, Miss Mary Hodgins, aged 30, a waitress, recently from Toronto, took poison today in a rooming house. She was promptly rushed to the McKellar hospital and will recover.

FEAR THE SOLDIERS

The New Republic Now in Danger of a Military Despotism—Portugal Government Working Toward the Separation of Church and State

Lisbon, Oct. 23.—The government is uneasy over the attitude of the regiments which made the revolution possible. Although not openly insubordinate, the soldiers, flushed with victory, are showing extreme independence, and are championing the maintenance of the strong power in the hands of the military.

The government's real reason for according leave of absence to the soldiers who took part in the rising, with full pay, is the desire to break up the regiments temporarily and remove the danger of military rebellion. The majority of the soldiers, however, have refused to accept this offer, saying that they would not be duped by the deceptive liberality on the part of the cabinet. The minister of war visited their barracks and pleaded the necessity, patience and forbearance during the trying moments of the republic.

BIG FINE FOR NEWSPAPER

Daily Chronicle Has to Pay \$1,000 and Costs for Publishing Story of Crippen's Confession—Story Came from Canadian Correspondent

London, Oct. 25.—The case against the Daily Chronicle for contempt of court was heard today, and resulted in the conviction of Editor Ferris, who was fined \$1,000 and costs. Montague Shearman, K.C., who appeared as counsel for the Chronicle, explained that complaints had been made with reference to two statements that had appeared in the newspaper. (1) That Crippen had poisoned his wife. (2) That he had made a confession to the effect that he had killed her. The counsel admitted that there had been contempt of court, but submitted that at the time of the statement, of which complaint was made, there were no proceedings against Crippen. Shearman proceeded to read the various cables from Montreal to the Chronicle. One of these said that a persistent rumor that Crippen had confessed was supported by the fact that Inspector Dew looked so good humored.

Attempt to Make Journal Prove Panama Canal Charges.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The final attempt of the federal government to uphold the validity of indictment of the Press Publishing Company on a charge of libel, growing out of the publication of an article in the New York World on the purchase of the Panama canal, was made this afternoon in the oral argument before the supreme court.

Much attention had been paid to the charges by Mr. Roosevelt during his administration, even being made a subject of discussion in a special message to congress. The entire argument on both sides was limited to two hours. The court then took the case under advisement. An opinion may not be rendered for several weeks.

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GRAIN RUSH AT LAKE PORT

Wheat Being Rushed Through Terminal Elevators—One of the Busiest Days in the History of Fort William

Fort William, Oct. 25.—Today at the port of Fort William was the busiest of the year and one of the busiest in the history of shipping at the Canadian head of the lakes. Every elevator in the harbor has been in operation since last night and employees this evening were requested to report for extra shifts. Since morning 14 vessels received cargoes of wheat and cleared with a total of 1,750,000 bushels. In addition to this the steamer Peasey loaded 5,000 tons of screenings, which is equivalent to 240,000 bushels of wheat in space.

Discussing the rather unusual rush with such low rates, grainmen said that indications point to a brisk movement until the close of navigation. During the last few days the rate on grain has increased a quarter of a cent for Buffalo cargo and one-half cent for Montreal. This is due to the fact that there has been a slight increase in demand for export trade. While the Canadian freighters are taking their share of the grain down the lakes, the big American crafts are coming to Fort William in bunches for cargoes. Many of the steamship companies rather than take their boats out of the lake service, are taking cargoes of grain now, trusting that the rates will take a boost as the season advances.

BIG RAKE OFF.

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OPPOSING SUNDAY WORK

Lord's Day Alliance Fighting Attempt of Steamboat Companies to Do Work on Sundays—Work Will be Allowed At Owen Sound

Ottawa, Oct. 25.—Applications on behalf of the Mutual Transit Company and the Canadian Pacific Railway for leave to load and unload freight on Sunday at Windsor, Owen Sound and Fort William were argued before the Railway Commission today and met with opposition from the Lord's Day Alliance.

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Capital paid up 5,350,000
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application was granted work be done before 6 a.m. and after 8 p.m.

In the Owen Sound case the application was later granted.

Big Fines

Owen Sound, Ont., Oct. 25.—Fines totalling \$4,975 were today imposed on the violators of the license law. The men death so severely with were the proprietors of the Comely House, the Grand Central Hotel and the Pacific House. Louis Minter, former owner of the Pacific House, is missing. The charge against him is the second offence, which carries with it imprisonment.

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