

A CORONER'S INQUEST.

Revealing the Unusual Circumstances in Which Miss Jones Came to Her Death.

Her Own Confession and the Evidence of the Doctor Whom She Visited.

The cause of the death of Miss Mary Ellen Jones, which as reported yesterday occurred on Wednesday afternoon at her mother's residence on Green street, was the subject of an inquiry which opened last evening in the city police court room. Coroner Crompton presided, and the jury empanelled consisted of Messrs. G. H. Maynard, C. N. Cameron, H. A. Lilley, L. Dickenson, J. Newbiggin, J. H. Warner, J. W. Speed and W. J. Hanna (foreman). The inquest is the result of information conveyed to the police departments—both city and provincial—and in consequence of which the funeral arranged for to-day has been postponed until to-morrow, while Superintendent Huesey is on hand to watch the developments in the inquiry formally conducted by Chief Sheppard. The public not having yet learned of the proceedings the attendance in the court room was almost exclusively confined to those summoned as witnesses. The jury first visited the residence, and there viewed the body—that of a beautiful young woman in appearance several years younger than her age.

The evidence given below tells the story so far as developed. A point, however, which in ordinary course might not be explained, may fittingly be referred to here. That is the endorsement on the prescription mentioned—"Take this to Jones," which is merely the printed formula appearing on each slip in the pads issued as a matter of business enterprise by the druggist mentioned—and was not a special instruction by the doctor.

DR. GARROW'S STATEMENT.

Dr. J. K. Garrow was the first witness called. To the coroner he said that he is a duly qualified medical practitioner, resident on the Saanich road, just beyond the city limits.

The coroner—"Are you acquainted with the deceased?"

Witness—"No."

The coroner—"Did you ever see her?"

Witness—"I never saw her—I never saw a person of that name, to my knowledge."

The coroner (to Constable Abel)—"You will have to take this witness up to view the body, Constable."

The witness accordingly left the stand; and the coroner asked if there were any others present who knew anything of the case who had not been to view the body.

Mr. H. Creech here rose to say that he knew something of the circumstances, but had seen the body since death.

DR. HALL'S TESTIMONY.

Dr. Frank W. Hall testified that he had known the deceased. On Saturday night the young man Creech, who had just spoken came and asked him to go to see a Miss Jones. Witness inquired what was the matter, and then told Creech he would not go—that he did not want to get into a case of that kind. On Sunday morning Mr. Creech came again, saying she was very bad, and wanting him to go; he again refused. About noon he came again, with the same result; about eight o'clock he came a fourth time and witness then went out with him and examined the patient. Her temperature was 105, her respiration about 35, pulse about 140. Made a vaginal examination and removed a piece of placenta that was partially protruding. He believed she was suffering from septicemia; and said that she was a very sick patient; prescribed hot water douches and quinine administered internally. Was sent for again on Tuesday morning about four o'clock. He told Mr. Creech, who summoned him, that he could not do anything unless the patient were sent to the hospital to undergo an operation. Creech came again about eight o'clock in the morning and said she was too weak to be moved to the hospital. Witness then drove out to see the patient. He told them the only chance to save her life was an immediate operation, but she was most liable to die. He then telephoned to Dr. Fraser; got his instruments and went out right away to operate. Witness described the operation; he saw Miss Jones again about five o'clock in the evening; she was slightly better then; next morning saw her in consultation with Dr. Ernest Hall; and between five and six in the evening saw her again. He told them if she was alive at 5 p.m. to let him know. He had no report and presumed she died before that.

The coroner—"Tell us why you did not want to go there at first?"

Witness—"I told him to get the doctor who had been attending her."

"Did he say there had been a doctor?"

"Yes, he told me she had visited a doctor at his office and at his house."

"Did he tell you what was the matter?"

"Yes; he said she had been having a miscarriage—words to that effect; it was Mr. Creech who told me this."

"Did he say what doctor?"

"Yes; he said Dr. Garrow. I might state that when they asked me the house what was the matter, I said she was suffering from blood poisoning—they asked me no further questions."

"Did he say Dr. Garrow visited her at her house?"

"No; he said she had been to his office and had visited out at his house. When Mr. Creech came on Sunday night, I might say, he said 'You will have to go, as you have been the family doctor.'"

"What stage of gestation was she in?"

"I should say one or two months."

"Did you call Dr. Garrow in at all?"

"No, sir."

"Isn't it the usual thing to call in the medical attendant?"

"Well, they didn't seem to wish to see him at the house—at least the young man so expressed himself."

"What was the cause of death?"

"I believe she died of septicemia—she was a very delicate girl. There were no marks to indicate why the miscar-

riage had occurred, and I could not say the cause. Septicemia is a form of blood poisoning caused by the absorption of septic material in the blood."

In answer to the coroner, witness said that on his first visit Mr. Creech told him about the protruding placenta. When witness visited the patient she would tell him nothing about the circumstances of her trouble.

The coroner—"Did her mother know what she was suffering from?"

Witness—"She did not say so; though she was in the room when I removed the after birth."

DR. GARROW'S STATEMENT.

Dr. Garrow was then again called. He said that, having viewed the body since he was last on the stand, he thought he had seen the person before, but not under that name. She had given her name to him as something like Mrs. Loveless, or Loveless, and told him that she had formerly lived in Salem, Oregon. As he had once lived there he became interested in her. He first made her acquaintance in the manner stated, about a year ago when he resided on Rae street. She told him then that she was living at Sidney. He thought she made two visits, and he prescribed for her—some slight ailment that he could not now recall. It was nothing of great importance, for he did not hear of her again.

The coroner—"Till when?"

Witness—"Well, some person resembling her—I am not sure it is the same—came about two weeks ago."

He is a poor hand at recognizing patients, but thought this visitor was a person very much like the deceased. She complained of persistent nausea—vomiting, and he thought it was of a bilious nature. She was very delicate, very pale and anemic looking. He gave her some medicine he had in the office. He did not see her again for some days. Then she made a visit to his residence at night. He gave another kind of pellet that time, and did not see her again. That was nearly a week ago, perhaps ten days ago as he could judge. He was still under the impression that she was suffering from biliousness.

Chief Sheppard—"Did she ever mention to you that she was pregnant?"

Witness—"I don't think she did."

The coroner—"You don't think? Are you sure?"

Witness—"I think I asked her; vomiting sometimes accompanies pregnancy, and she being a married woman—as she told me—I might have asked her, but I am not positive. That would be the last time she visited him; when she came to his house she was there about ten or fifteen minutes."

Chief Sheppard—"And all you did was to give her the pellets—to take there or at home?"

Witness—"Oh to take at home; she took them away."

THE CONSULTING PHYSICIAN.

Dr. Ernest Hall told of his having been called for consultation by Dr. Frank Hall, at whose request he examined the deceased. She was in a semi-comatose condition, and could be aroused only with some difficulty. She presented symptoms of septicemia. From his examination he thought she was in the second month of pregnancy. He occurred in the treatment which Dr. Frank Hall had given. Her condition did not give any clue whatsoever to the cause of the miscarriage.

The coroner—"What conversation have you had since with Dr. Garrow? Have you seen him since?"

Witness—"Yes; yesterday I sent a note asking him to call at my office on a matter of importance, and he came."

The coroner—"Had you any talk with him about this case?"

Witness—"Yes."

The coroner—"What was the nature of it?"

Witness—"Am I obliged to answer that?"

The coroner—"Yes."

Witness—"I would prefer to answer questions."

The coroner—"Did you call in Dr. Garrow as to this case?"

Witness—"I did as to the development, he having seen the lady. He didn't know the case by name, but said that he remembered a person answering that description, though he was not certain. He gave the history very meagrely, saying that a party somewhat answering this description called at his house and consulted him for intractable vomiting. She was somewhat pale and vomited in his house." Dr. Garrow gave him to understand that he knew at that time she was pregnant—that was the impression his words left. He said he had prescribed the appropriate remedy for that form of vomiting.

The coroner—"He understood it was the vomiting of pregnancy?"

Witness—"That's what I understood; his reply to me was that he fully understood she was a married woman."

The coroner—"What treatment did he prescribe?"

Witness—"He told me he used an instrument—a sounder, or vibrator, as it didn't know the case by name, but said that he remembered a person answering that description, though he was not certain. He gave the history very meagrely, saying that a party somewhat answering this description called at his house and consulted him for intractable vomiting. She was somewhat pale and vomited in his house." Dr. Garrow gave him to understand that he knew at that time she was pregnant—that was the impression his words left. He said he had prescribed the appropriate remedy for that form of vomiting.

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noon, but got up and went out on Friday night. She died at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesday. A week ago last Saturday he met her at the house. She handed him a prescription which said: "Take this to Jones' druggist."

"I asked her," he continued, "what doctor she went to. She told me Dr. Garrow. I said, 'Why don't you go to Dr. Frank Hall; he's the family doctor.' I asked her what was wrong; she never told me. I bid her good afternoon; and instead of going to Jones' I went to Campbell's, where they put up a box of pills. I went up to the house and gave them to her. I asked her again why she didn't go to Dr. Frank Hall. She said it was on account of owing him a small bill for the doctoring of her brother. I kept on going to the house and on Thursday I asked her again what was wrong. She said she had a bad headache. On Friday, in the afternoon, she asked me if I would drive her out to Dr. Garrow's. I asked her what she thought her mother would say if she asked me where I was going to take her. I am not sure whether or not she told me to say that I was going to take her to Dr. Frank Hall's, but at any rate we went out to Dr. Garrow's. I waited for her outside about twenty minutes. I drove her home."

"She took very bad the next day, on Saturday. I insisted upon her telling me what was wrong. She told me, saying that Dr. Garrow said she was in the hospital. I asked her by whom. She wouldn't tell me. I said, 'I deceived you.' She asked me if I would still continue being the same way as I was—I have been their best friend. I said, 'I will tell it all over.' So then on Saturday evening I told her that I would be her best friend, and I went down to Dr. Frank Hall's and asked him to come up. He asked me who was treating her and what was wrong. I told him and he said he wouldn't come up. I went down again; I think it was Sunday, twice, the second time telling him that he was their family doctor and ought to come up. So he came. I went after him again about 4 o'clock on Monday morning. He told me that I would have to send her to the hospital. I told him I thought she was too weak. I said 'Can't you perform the operation in the house?' He said he supposed he would have to. I left him and went up to the house and told the mother and the daughter they were going to perform the operation. Dr. Hall and Dr. Fraser came to the house and operated on her. The next night Dr. Frank Hall brought Dr. Ernest Hall."

"Before that I asked her what Dr. Garrow had done anything in his office. She said he did—she operated on her. That was all. She asked me if I would not say anything about it to her mother or anyone else, and I promised that I would not. Her visit to Dr. Garrow's office, as she said, was a week ago last Saturday."

To Chief Sheppard witness said deceased had not said anything about what had occurred at Dr. Garrow's house—about any instrument having been used on her there; but he knew before that of what she said had been done to her at the doctor's office.

To the coroner witness said that he had never known the deceased to be sick at her stomach during the last two years, while he frequently had been very ill during her life. She was in her usual health until last Friday, though her health was not very good. Two years ago she had intermittent fever, and was attended by Dr. Macnaughton Jones.

THE MOTHER'S EVIDENCE.

Mrs. Jane Jones, mother of the deceased, said her daughter was twenty-four years old at her death. She had been complaining of it on and off for a while, but got better on Friday evening last. She said she had a sick headache. Witness had never seen her daughter sick at her stomach, except once in a while—nothing serious; and not more lately than before. Witness never knew what was the matter with her daughter. When the doctors performed the operation she did not know what it was for, and did not know until the end what was the matter.

The inquest was then adjourned until 2 p.m. to-day (Saturday) afternoon, when the jury, who are retail business men, had protested that it will be exceedingly inconvenient for them to attend at any time to-day.

"EN LITTLE DATTER"

The members of the Valhalla—by which name the local society of Scandinavians organized about three months ago is known—gave their first social entertainment yesterday evening. Oliver's hall being the scene and the attendance being large and thoroughly representative of the three countries from which the membership of the society is drawn. The feature of the evening was the presentation of a Danish comedy, "En Little Datter," for the first time in British Columbia; the production was well staged and the several characters were creditably sustained by the following cast:

Strandling, Mr. Bay
Nana, Mrs. Bay
Ellingsen, Mr. George Amorsen
Grethe, Mrs. Droop
The Lieutenant, Mr. S. Amorsen
Stine, Mrs. Andersen

The story developed is a very funny one even when filtered into the English for the benefit of those who could not follow last evening's production in the original. The "little daughter" is a stepdaughter several years the senior of her papa, who is very desirous of marrying, but finds that his encumbrance prevents, and so develops into an ardent matchmaker on Nana's behalf as well as his own. The reverse of the coin of young and fair remains a drug on the market, even when offered with a dowry of \$20,000. As a last resort Ellingsen, who is the father of Strandling's innamorata and himself an old crank, is convinced that Nana is just the medicine which he requires as a penance and he accepts the situation as gracefully as he may—with the bonus.

After the play, vocal music was last night provided by Miss Hansen, the brothers Amorsen, Mrs. Droop and Mrs. Bay; and the evening's festivities concluded with a merry dance and supper.

The Valhalla, young as it is and difficult as Mr. Amorsen found the work of organization, is a lusty child among the societies of the city; it has now a membership of about one hundred and is constantly growing in numerical strength and in popularity. The "Little Daughter," so acceptably introduced last evening, will be given a more public production a little later on.

THE CITY

The British Columbia Furniture Company, with Mr. Jacob Sehl as manager, has succeeded the Sehl-Hastie-Erskine company.

The Willing Workers of Christ church cathedral had a most satisfactory attendance at their sale of work yesterday afternoon in spite of the unpromising weather. Buying and selling was brisk and the proceeds amounted to a good round sum, which goes towards a Christmas Tree for the Sunday school children.

Dr. HUGH WATT, who has just arrived in the city from the 150-Mile House, Cariboo, states that the winter in that district has been very open, there not having been enough snow for sleighing when he left. The cattle are in fine condition to go through the winter, and the farmers have on the whole done very well this season.

The newly organized West Coast Packing Co., whose incorporation was noted yesterday and of which Mr. Thomas Hooper is one of the trustees, has begun the erection of two large salmon canneries at Nootka, which they expect to have in full operation in 1896. One of these is located on Thesis river; the other on Gold river.

A LARGE coal oil lamp was accidentally overturned on a desk in the office of the Cold Storage Company last night about 10 o'clock. The oil spread over the desk and floor starting a lively blaze. The fire department was soon on the spot and a stream from the chemical engine extinguished the flames; the damage was very slight.

In the absence of Rev. Dr. Campbell, who had to attend a meeting at the Central church, his paper on the Canadian Constitution was read before the Sir William Wallace society last night by the secretary, Mr. A. Maxwell Muir. Next Friday night, Mr. Leonard Tait will lecture on the British Constitution. A picture of Mr. Cameron was presented to the society at last night's meeting.

A COMMITTEE of the Victoria Presbytery, consisting of Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. D. MacRae, Rev. W. L. Clay, Rev. Mr. Forster and Rev. A. B. Winchester, had a conference last night with the congregation of the Central Presbyterian church in regard to the general interests of the church. The committee will report at a meeting of the Presbytery to be held on Monday night at St. Paul's church.

The steamer Al-Ki, which arrived last night from Alaska, brought news of the trials at the fall sessions of the territory. The Kake Indian, who, at the demands of his tribe, killed his sister because she was a witch, got fifteen months' imprisonment. The schooner Elwood, which had been reported missing, was met at Killisnoo by the Al-Ki, and well. The Al-Ki brought down 300 tons of herring for shipment from Victoria to Honolulu.

EARLY yesterday morning the well known Colwood hotel, situated at the junction of the Goldstream and Metchoin roads, was burned to the ground, the circumstances of the fire pointing to a incendiary. William McNeill, the proprietor, with his wife and child were in town at the time, and cannot supply any information. When they left the hotel for town on Thursday evening everything about the place appeared secure, and their first knowledge of the fire was obtained when they found their home in ruins yesterday. The hotel, which was a spacious two-story frame structure, was with its contents worth probably \$4,000. There was \$2,000 insurance on building and contents, \$1,000 on furniture, in the Elina and Commercial companies. The hotel was owned by A. Bechtel of this city, and will, it is understood, be rebuilt at once.

CAPT. McMILLAN, the caretaker and only occupant at times of the pretty little floating clubhouse of the Victoria Yacht Club had a startling surprise yesterday morning. He was getting out of his bunk at the time, when suddenly there came a crash, and he was pitched headlong on the floor. The shaking of the entire building at once gave him a hint as to the nature of the trouble—the steamer Rosalie while shifting to Hastie & Bannerman's wharf to discharge cargo had bumped with tremendous force into the building, wedging it through the piles and damaging to an unknown extent some of the supporting pontoons. The captain, with assistance, immediately commenced re-locating the building, but he had no sooner accomplished this task than the clubhouse, with almost the same suddenness with which it had been struck, sank. Fortunately, however, the upper flat was not submerged, for in such a case the piano and other furniture would have been ruined. As it is all the club's canoes with their fixtures, several yachts, sails, and the contents of numerous lockers are below water, and it is no doubt owing to the buoyancy of the most of these that the building is kept from sinking deeper. Notwithstanding all this, however, the building does not appear to be badly injured and the club, anxious that nothing shall conflict with the present entertainments which they have in preparation, will have the building raised at once. To-day steam power will be employed in the work, and it is hoped successfully. Yachtsmen say that yesterday's collision was not the first which the Rosalie has had with the house.

Scrambled Eggs

Take a small quantity of Cottolene and a little cream; warm in a frying pan. Break eggs in it and stir until slightly cooked. Serve hot.

Use not more than two-thirds as much Cottolene as you would butter and be sure that you do not overheat it before dropping in the eggs. This is always essential in cooking with Cottolene.

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