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SIMON SAYS ALL IS BLANK

Denies Memory of Shooting in Syrian Hall—Had Some Drinks.

On the stand in his own defence this morning, Charles Simon, a Syrian charged with shooting Louis Corey and Thomas Stephen with intent to do grievous bodily harm, denied having any recollection of the shooting, which took place in the Syrian Hall in Prince Edward street, on New Year's Day. He said that he had been drinking and remembered when some trouble started amongst the men gathered in the hall, but from the time he was struck on the side of the face by Louis Corey he said that his memory was a blank until he found himself in the custody of the police. He claimed no remembrance of having threatened to shoot. The trial was commenced yesterday and was continued this morning before Chief Justice H. A. McKeown in the circuit court. The Crown completed its case this morning, evidence being given by Louis Simon, Abraham Joseph, Sergeant-Detective Power, City Policemen McNeill and Leard, C. N. R. Officer Barton and John Shalala.

Evidence for the defence was given by Thomas Simon, Charles Mitchell, Thomas French, Mrs. Simon, wife of the prisoner, and George Moses.

Simon Statement

The prisoner, sworn, said that he was sometimes a contractor, sometimes a peddler, and had lived in St. John for about 22 years.

On New Year's day he planned going to the country to collect some money and he put his revolver in his pocket. He took four or five drinks of whiskey at noon and his wife persuaded him not to go to the country. He told about going to the Syrian Hall where he said he and others were drinking ale from a keg. About 8.30, he said, somebody picked up a stick and started to strike somebody else and he stepped in to stop him. Louis Corey, he said, struck him in the face and he did not remember anything that happened after that.

He said that he had a permit to carry a revolver, from the sheriff about two years ago, after he had been held up on the road.

He denied threatening to shoot anybody. His next recollection was when he was brought to the police station. Cross-examination by Mr. Ryan was commenced after the noon recess.

Lawyers Clash.

Daniel Mullin, K. C., and E. J. Henneberry were present in the interests of the accused, while W. M. Ryan represented the crown. There were several clashes between Messrs. Mullin and Ryan during the proceedings.

Thomas French in his testimony said that on Feb. 2 he and Mrs. Simon met Louis Corey in the street and Corey told him that the shooting was only an accident. This was corroborated by Mrs. Simon who declared that Corey said, "Don't worry, Mrs. Simon. It was only an accident." Mrs. Simon said that her husband had had several drinks of whiskey in his home at noon before he went to the Syrian Hall.

The jury on the case are Nelson H. Gunn, J. C. Berrie, H. J. Keyes, J. B. Hanson, J. W. Cameron, C. W. Chase, C. E. Farrand, Thomas Kingsmill, R. A. E. Mitchell, P. Pumble, Frederick Kelly and Percy Gibbons.

Evidence was given yesterday by Thomas Stephen, George Corey, Michael Mitchell, Raymond Tobias, Fred Isaac, Dr. J. A. McCourt, Dr. F. P. Fleming and Louis Corey. The last named denied that he had ever said it was an accident or that he would take \$1,000 to settle it.

LOCAL NEWS

TWO ARE FINED.

Whittaker G. Hatheway was fined \$200 in the police court this morning on a charge of having liquor in his beer shop in King Square. Harold Colwell was also fined \$200 for having liquor in his beer shop in King Square.

HYDRO REPORT.

With today's installations the number of meters would be more than 8,000, it was said this morning at the office of the City Power Commission. There had been placed in service, up to last night, 2,995 meters.

FOUR WERE DEALT WITH.

Four men were arrested last night on charges of drunkenness and this morning three appeared in the police court and were ordered to pay fines of \$8 or spend two months in jail. One man had put up a deposit of \$8, and this was forfeited.

ELECTION RUMOR.

The name of W. L. Harding has been mentioned as a possible candidate for commissioner at the coming civic election to complete the slate with Messrs. McAvity and McInerney. When asked this morning by a Times reporter, Mr. Harding said he knew nothing about the matter.

CHINESE ARE REMANDED.

Charles Lung and Wee Get, two Chinese, appeared in the docket in the police court this morning, having been arrested on a warrant charging them with unlawfully having in their possession a quantity of opium on April 28, 1923. As there was no interpreter present, Magistrate Henderson ordered the men remanded for three clear days. Their case will be heard next Tuesday morning at 10.30 o'clock. This is an old case revived.

C. P. R. WORK HERE.

J. M. Woodman, general superintendent of the C. P. R. New Brunswick district, who arrived home yesterday afternoon after an inspection trip over the Shore Line from St. Stephen to West St. John, said this morning that work on the shore line by the C. P. R. cold storage yard off Mill street and around the cold storage off Main street would be started as soon as the frost is out of the ground. He said that \$14,000 had been appropriated for this work. The programme so far authorized for the year in the New Brunswick district will be devoted to re-tying, relasting and maintenance of culverts and bridges.

MADE MONEY FOR MISSIONS.

A very successful sale of home cooking fancy wares and fudge was held under the auspices of the Beacon Light class of the Pleasant Point Sunday school in their hall last evening. A creditable sum was realized for missionary work. Part of it will be sent to West Africa for a little boy whom the Beacon Light class of the Pleasant Point Sunday school is supporting. The booths were attractively arranged. The home cooking was in charge of Mrs. Richard Gould, Mrs. Samuel Naveau, Mrs. Margaret Henderson. The fancy work table was presided over by Mrs. W. E. Hamm, Mrs. William King and Miss Edith Kelstead. The candy table was in charge of Mrs. James Spill and Miss Mae Kelstead.

ARE RIVALS FOR FIRST AID HONORS

Police, Militia and C. P. R. Employees—Police May Give Demonstration.

In a quiet way there is considerable rivalry between the St. John police force, the local militia and the C. P. R. employees in the matter of first aid inspections now going on. Each force has a crack team in the competition, and Col. G. G. Corbet of this city is making the preliminary examinations. After the provincial winners are announced, Col. E. A. Hodgkiss of Ottawa, Canadian head of the St. John Ambulance Association—the world-wide organization—will rigidly inspect the successful team, with a view to the wider competition, the all-Canada contest.

St. John holds the distinction of being runner-up to Ottawa, last year's winning city in the Canadian field. The Lord Shaughnessy trophy went to the federal capital through its crack Royal Northwest Mounted Police first aid team. St. John's police team came second with a close score. This was in a competition with many teams from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Therefore there is considerable interest hereabouts in the outcome of the competition this year.

The St. John police team consists of Sgt. F. P. Spinney, Constables Ginter, Storey, Corner and Young. There is a probability of the St. John public seeing the local bluecoats in their first aid work should they be successful again in winning the provincial leadership, but at present they are not willing to appear in public. They are very modest over their accomplishments, but St. John is proud of them and would like to see them at work.

TORONTO WEDDING OF INTEREST HERE

Dunn avenue Presbyterian church, Toronto, was the scene of a very pretty wedding on Saturday evening, when Phyllis Gilmore Weir, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Weir, was married to Gordon Anderson Theford, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Theford of Tyndal avenue. The ceremony was performed by Dr. J. C. Robertson, cousin of the bride.

The church was beautifully decorated with palms, ferns and cut flowers. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Claude V. Weir, looked charming in a lovely gown of ivory crepe and silver cloth, heavily beaded in rhinestones and pearls. Her tulle veil was arranged in a cap-effect with coronet of orange blossoms, and she carried a shower bouquet of Ophelia roses and lilies of the valley.

Miss Lela Cameron made a very pretty bridesmaid in a dainty frock of pale greenorgette, trimmed with silver, and a small French hat of silver lace. She carried Columbia roses. Clarence Theford, brother of the groom, acted as best man. The ushers were Clarence Hewitt of Toronto, and Eric Paterson of Paris.

During the signing of the register W. Burt sang most acceptably the solo "Until." After the ceremony a delightful reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, Waldorf Apartments. The rooms were tastefully decorated with ferns and spring flowers. Mrs. Weir, the bride's mother was beautifully gowned in a dress of gold cloth, veiled in black lace. She wore a smart black hat and corsage bouquet of Ophelia roses and lilies of the valley. Mrs. Theford, the groom's mother, wore a light gray crepe with Persian trimmings, black hat and corsage bouquet of Columbia roses.

Later Mr. and Mrs. Theford left for their honeymoon in New York, the bride going away in a becoming dress of black crepe, trimmed with grey squirrel and embroidered in peacock blue, small French hat and fur wrap. On their return they will live in the Waldorf Apartments. The wedding is of interest to St. John friends.

CITY BONDS WILL BE FOR PURCHASE BY THE PEOPLE

A special meeting of the common council will be held this afternoon at 4.30. Among the matters to come up are the tax appeal of the Furnishers Ltd. and a change in the rate of interest on the city bonds which it is proposed to issue. It is understood a large portion of the bonds will be placed in the hands of the public and the public will be given an opportunity to purchase over the counter the balance of the issue.

ST. JOHN FIRMS WILL HAVE CHANGE

Tenders for Admiral Beatty Hotel will be Asked in Few Days.

A representative of the Ross & MacDonald architect firm, Montreal, will arrive in the city in a few days to call for tenders for the new Admiral Beatty Hotel. The tenders will be asked in the name of the local directorate and all contractors in St. John will be eligible. The idea that the work is to be given out without local tender is erroneous.

Already several local firms have made approximate estimates of the excavation work, that is the removal of the rock and dirt to a certain depth, as the exact specifications for any part of the job have not yet been issued. Some firms have taken considerable trouble to probe the matter of rock depths and water troubles, if any, in this section.

At present Contractor John Flood, after having entirely removed the old Dufferin Hotel buildings, is cleaning up the site of chimney bases, the bottoms of walls, etc. also heavy timbers piled for storage. The flat appearance of this big corner lot has quite transformed the locality. At night the lights of Charlotte street, buildings shine onto the south side of King square and the long stretch of sidewalk of Imperial Theatre gives a new view of this big building.

Apace with the preliminary work of making ready for the erection of the hotel those having the financial affairs of the new enterprise in hand are reported meeting with a most business-like response.

IS SENTENCED TO DORCHESTER

Wm. John James Goes Up Line Because of Watch Theft.

Two years in Dorchester Penitentiary was a sentence passed on William John James, alias Adams, alias Barnes, by Magistrate Henderson in the police court this morning. He confessed to stealing a watch, the property of Weir Mann. An enquiry was sent to Ottawa, and word was received that the defendant had a record. He is also out on suspended sentence for stealing in other centres. When he was recently brought before Magistrate Henderson he was remanded to the jurisdiction of the court.

WILL CALL FOR TENDERS IN MARCH

The monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Protestant Orphan Home was held yesterday afternoon, Dr. James Manning in the chair. The health of the children was reported good and the three buildings filled to capacity. Progress on the new wing was reported. It was decided to call for tenders for the second wing before the end of this month.

Most of the time was taken up in discussion of a bill to be presented to the legislature consolidating and amending the acts of incorporation, the chief feature of which is to provide for the appointment of a representative from each country in the province on the board of directors.

It was reported that about \$180,000 had been paid in on the pledges for the new home.

METAGAMA AWAY; MONTROSE COMING

The Canadian Pacific steamship Metagama will sail this afternoon for Glasgow with passengers and general cargo. Among the cabin passengers will be W. R. Bowler and Gordon W. Cameron of Ottawa, who are attached to the Department of Immigration and Colonization; E. R. Gregory of Toronto, Major Hodgson O. B. E. of Ottawa, and W. L. Van Dyke of Montreal.

According to latest advice received from the S. S. Montrose she will reach port on Saturday at midnight and the passengers will be landed on Sunday morning. They will be sent forward to their destinations in three special trains.

As Hiram Sees It

"Hiram," said The Times reporter to Mr. Hiram Hornbeam, "I have just been reading the speeches delivered in Ottawa last week on the occasion of the unveiling of the monument to Lieut.-Col. George Harold Baker, M. P., who was killed in the war. The Speaker of the House, the Prime Minister, the leaders of the Conservative and Progressive parties were the orators, and I want to tell you that the gift of noble expression has not departed from us."

"You can't get no words in any language," said Hiram, "to tell us it or to tell what our boys done in that war."

"Their example was held up," said the reporter, "to inspire us who survive."

"So it orto be," said Hiram. "What I'm wonderin' is if them there politicians'll take it to themselves. They never was a finer chance—away from war—fer men in high office to serve the country—er we don't want no lip-service—nuther. I hope no feller in Parliament'll hev to hang his head when he walks under the shadder of Col. Baker's monument. That's the place fer it—right there where every member'll be reminded of what one member done fer Canada at Sanctuary Wood—yes, sir."

Beautiful Walls

Every room in the house can be artistically tinted to harmonize with the furnishings and at a substantial saving over the usual decorative costs with

Decotint

The Sanitary and Durable Paint for Walls and Ceilings

This beautiful wall finish is ready for use with the addition of either hot or cold water. It does not chalk or rub off on the clothing and provides a sanitary, odorless coating for all wall surfaces. The choice of a large number of soft, pleasing tints makes the range of color combinations practically unlimited.

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300 Men's Crisp New

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\$1.55

2 for \$3

Fine quality madras Shirts that would ordinarily sell for \$2.25. By purchasing in large quantities and paying cash we procured a big price concession. Don't delay—profit by this saving now—by Monday you'll be too late.

Men's Shop—Street Floor.

SOAP SOAP SOAP

A great big new shipment of real quality Toilet Soap just opened. It comes to us direct from a large maker at rock bottom prices.

Don't miss this saving.

5 cents
10 cents
3 for 15 cents

Bargain Basement.

BASEMENT BARGAINS FOR SATURDAY SHOPPERS

Boys' Knee Pants 98c
Boys' Tweed Bloomers \$1.25
Boys' Ribbed Stockings 30c
Boys' Tweed Caps 60c
Electric Curling Irons \$1.95
Electric Stoves \$1.95
Tungsten Lamps 29c
Women's Knitted Vests 37c
Double Mesh Hair Nets 10c
Economy Coocs, a lb. 15c
Pixie Tale Powders, Clays, Creams, Face Powders, Hind's Honey and Almond Cream, Hind's Vanishing Cream and many other toilet needs 15c
Bobby Cutters, something new for curling and waving the hair, per set. 15c

That's the price of a very fine special Hat we are offering for men. It's a 1924 Hat in the new shapes and new shades. You'll find your favorite in this lot if you come in now, but if you delay you will be disappointed because they are selling fast.

Hat Shop, Street Floor.

OAK HALL - KING ST. SCOVIL BROS., LTD. GERMAIN ST.

RUGS

To make room for our new stock of Carpet Squares, we are offering a large variety of Wilton and Axminster in all sizes at only a fraction of the regular prices.

A glance at the list below, or an inspection of the samples shown in our Charlotte Street window will convince you of the splendid bargains now available.

AXMINSTER SQUARE

9 x 12 ft. \$54.00
9 x 9 ft. \$48.00
9 x 9 ft. \$41.00

WILTON SQUARE

9 x 12 ft. \$90.00
9 x 12 ft. \$55.00
9 x 10 1/2 ft. \$48.00
6 3/4 x 9 ft. \$31.00

TAPESTRY SQUARE

9 x 9 ft. \$13.00
9 x 9 ft. \$13.50
9 x 10 1/2 ft. \$17.00
9 x 12 ft. \$19.00

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THE HOUSE FURNISHER
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And you men who haven't yet tried

A Pearl Grey in a Soft Hat

have a treat in store. The clean soft color appeals at once. Your friend who has worn one knows.

See the window. Come in.

Prices, \$5.00, \$6.00 to \$7.50

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