

H. L. WILLIAMS WAS KILLED BY AN UNKNOWN LUNATIC

POLICE OF ST. JOHN SCOURING THE CITY AND VICINITY FOR TRACE OF THE ASSASSIN OF HARRY L. WILLIAMS

(Continued from page 1)

THE UNKNOWN MURDERER.

In another part of this story will be found interviews with men on Lansdowne Avenue who saw the murderer rushing away from the scene of his foul deed, and to substantiate the idea that this man and no other is responsible for the death of Williams is information received by Chief of Police Simpson yesterday from most reliable citizens. Chief Simpson was seen by a Standard man late last night in his office at police headquarters where the chief has stuck closely night and day since the time of the crime. Here he gave directions to his staff of detectives and other officers under him. He also went out and worked on the case personally.

Chief Simpson said that he was now satisfied that the murderer of Harry L. Williams was roaming about in the city or the vicinity. Although every officer is searching for the man, the chief asks that all the citizens assist. Should anyone see a man answering the description given he would confer it a favor if he would at once telephone to Main 157, police headquarters, and the man wanted would be quickly rounded up.

The chief further states that the name of any person sending in such information will be kept strictly confidential and will not be given out to the public.

MURDERER AT STORE DOOR.

The chief said that a citizen called on him last evening and gave him the following information:

At 10.30 o'clock on Tuesday night last he was on the corner of Elm and Main streets. A man came from the direction of Harry L. Williams' store door, but whether the man came out of the store the citizen could not say. The man crossed the road and passed in front of the citizen. There was a good light and a good view was obtained of the man. The citizen gives the following description of the man:

- Age, forty or forty-five years.
 - Square shoulders.
 - Stocky build.
 - Very red face.
 - Clean shaven, or might have had light moustache.
 - Five feet, eight or nine inches in height.
 - Dressed in blue suit of clothes.
 - Wore broad brimmed hat, possibly imitation Panama.
- When the man passed the citizen he was muttering to himself and was in an apparently excited frame of mind and had all the appearances of a person who might have escaped from a lunatic asylum. He was spoken to by the citizen in the usual manner of one person passing another, such as "Good night," but the muttering individual made no reply to the salutation.

The man answering the above description was seen a few minutes afterwards by men working on Lansdowne Avenue and at this time he was running as fast as his legs could carry him in a northerly direction towards the rifle range, or the lots at the rear of Elm street.

CONTINUES ON FLIGHT.

It was just 11.55 o'clock that night, or twenty-five minutes after the man was seen running on the avenue, that two young men, one who resides on Dorchester street, and the other on Somerset street, saw a man described exactly coming along Magazine street, which is at the easterly end of Elm street. At this time the man was going towards Barker street and was going along at a great rate of speed, or as the young men say, going about as fast as he could walk. When the young men noticed that the man was going along to Barker street one of them shouted to him, "You on the wrong road." The man halted, turned and came back, but did not say anything. Another young man who noticed that the man was going the wrong way directed him along Kitchener street to Rockland road and the last seen of him was turning into Millidge street and going towards Paradise Row.

These young men are native born residents of the city and have lived here all their lives, and they stated to Chief Simpson that they believe the man was a stranger in the city as he evidently did not know the streets and had lost his bearings.

Last evening a man somewhat answering the description was seen walking on the Marsh Road near the cemetery gate.

Chief Simpson said that as far as his investigations have gone he can find not one motive for the murder. Jealousy, robbery or any connection of a woman being in the case cannot be learned of. There is only one solution that the chief says that he can now make out of the murder, and that is, that the murder was committed by some person who was not responsible for his actions. The chief further says that from the information that he received, the man seen at the store door, the man running on Lansdowne Avenue, the person seen on Magazine street, and the man who was directed along Rockland Road, had turned down Millidge street to Paradise Row, is the same person, and it points out strongly that this man is the assassin of Harry L. Williams. It is also shown that Police Constable McFarlane was out near the northern end of Lansdowne Avenue late Tuesday night, and he did not see any man running there. This goes to show that the man who was seen running down the avenue had turned up through one of the alleys, onto Elm street, continued eastward to Magazine street where the young men had seen him in an apparently exhausted condition from over exertion.

CITY STIRRED BY CRIME.

Not in a dozen years has the city been so stirred by crime as it is in the present case. The Williams murder is the outstanding topic of conversation and every man has his own particular theory to propound. All kinds of guesses are being made, and every little incident noticed in North End on Tuesday night is being discussed. The most ordinary and, no doubt, innocent, happenings are suspected of connection with the affair, and in the minds of some there is a deeply rooted belief that this tragedy will be solved if the police find the woman.

Whether such a suspicion can be justified is a matter of very grave doubt, and from the meagre evidence now at hand the very existence of that suspicion is unfair to the victim and unkind to his family.

WHO WERE THE WOMEN?

On Tuesday night, a few minutes before midnight, a young woman, slightly over medium height and dressed, so far as could be distinguished, in dark clothing, was loitering on Douglas Avenue almost directly in front of St. Peter's Church. She was alone, apparently not going anywhere, but just loitering around as if waiting for someone. It was also reported, though not on any definite authority, that about eleven o'clock that night a young woman was walking up and down the street between Durick's drug store and the Star Theatre. Whether these two were the same is not known nor whether their presence had anything to do with the crime.

SUGGESTION EXPLODED.

The suggestion of a connection between the murder and the man in the light carriage who drove so recklessly through Fairville and in the Avenue, is exploded. It is stated that this person was recognized, that he was from appearances under the influence of liquor, and is not infrequently in the same condition.

A HIGH POWERED CAR.

Late on Tuesday night a high powered car was seen driving at a rapid rate out the avenue. In the belief that this might be in some way connected with the mystery this car was followed by a North End merchant, also in a motor. The situation quickly developed into a very lively chase in which both cars were let out to their highest speed. Although the pursuer managed to get very close to the other car he was unable, because of the torn up condition of the roads in Fairville, the narrowness and the darkness, to pass the pursued. This latter car had its top up and it was not possible to tell with certainty who was inside. The leading car turned up the Westfield road, still going at almost forty miles an hour, and the chase was abandoned.

QUESTION OF REVOLVERS.

The Standard has been looking into the question of revolvers. Herewith is shown a photograph of a thirty-two calibre Colt Automatic similar to that with which, it is believed, Mr. Williams was shot, together with a reduced reproduction of the cartridge. It is a misdemeanor to be found in possession of a revolver of any sort unless the owner is also in possession of a permit enabling him to carry the weapon. It is a punishable offence for a dealer or any other person to sell a revolver unless a permit is presented by the purchaser. This permit must be signed in St. John by either the Sheriff, the Police Magistrate or the Chief of Police. It is, of course, understood that commissioned officers and certain non-commissioned officers enlisted for service, may without objection be permitted to carry revolvers as a part of their ordinary equipment.

In St. John there are comparatively few dealers carrying stocks of revolvers and not more than one or two who sell automatics. The demand for these latter is not brisk as they are expensive weapons, the one herewith shown costing \$23. But there are instances of revolvers being stolen and from one establishment in this city, a few months ago, six or eight revolvers were stolen at the one time, the back of the wooden case containing them having been removed. The police have not as yet been able to locate any of these stolen weapons.

A COLT AUTOMATIC.

A Colt Automatic such as herewith shown fires a nickel covered bullet. The action of the revolver when once it is cocked becomes automatic. One shot would be readily fired by a girl or woman, as well as by a man but the recoil from that shot might disturb the aim or the steadiness of the hand for further shots unless the person holding the pistol had strong nerves and strong muscles. The recoil of the outer barrel of the revolver cocks the pistol for the succeeding shot and at the same time throws out, practically at right angles to the barrel of the pistol, the empty shell. It is stated by those in a position to know that even at a range of as little as twelve or fifteen feet, the passage of a nickel-covered bullet through the barrel and through the air generates sufficient heat to slightly scorch the hair or flesh of the person struck.

SHOT FROM DOORWAY.

The line of the wound through Mr. Williams' head and the location of the mark made by the bullet together with the location in which the empty shell was found and to which it would naturally be ejected all bear out the contention of The Standard, that the shot was fired by someone who crouched near or outside the doorway of the shop, reached in through the partially open door and fired upwards, the hand and arm of the murderer would thus be in the shop while he himself remained hidden behind the lower or wooden portion of the store door. Maxim Silencers cannot be attached to Colt Automatic Revolvers, nor is any silencer in existence which can be made to work on an automatic.

MORE ABOUT REVOLVERS.

When the suggestion was made that perhaps a good many revolvers had been privately owned by soldiers, The Standard inquired as to the custom in the army. This paper was informed that quite a number of men who enlisted here provided themselves with revolvers of different patterns, not knowing what the regulations were. All these, in which the owners succeeded in getting overseas, were called in and in their place the standard British army revolver was issued. Possibly some of the officers and men who so equipped themselves before leaving here learned what would be done and left their revolvers at home and there may be a number of these weapons scattered around town for which no licenses are held. It was also learned yesterday that in these Colt Automatic

any automatic ammunition may be used. The Savage, Dominion and Colt revolvers are interchangeable in this respect. And moreover because of the construction of the weapons there is no very loud report on the automatic. The explosion being concealed in the mechanism of the weapon and the discharge emanating from the muzzle only, it is a fact that the report of a shot from such a weapon sounds very much like a cough. Thus it is not heard at anything like the distance at which the report of an ordinary revolver would be heard. The list of those persons licensed in the city to keep revolvers is very limited indeed, and in the North End includes only one man, and he is a bank manager.

CRIES FOR HELP?

A phase of the affair which has made many people wonder is the story told by Mrs. Wilkins of the cries she heard at a distance of nearly one hundred and fifty yards. Her story is that a man's voice called "My God, will no one come to help me?" or words to that effect, and the intimation is that Williams was the one uttering them. He may have done so, but people are thinking differently. No man, standing beside a counter in a grocery store, and faced by sudden danger, would let out a lot of stuff like that. His first thought would be to grab a tin of baked beans or anything else that was handy and throw it at his assailant, then duck for shelter. If a call for help were necessary it would be one word, "Help," or "Murder," shouted at the top of his voice. But if such a call had been made, it would have been heard by persons much handier to the store than was Mrs. Wilkins—if at the time she was near her own home.

HEARD NO CALLS.

As a matter of fact a man well known to The Standard was much nearer the Williams store at the time the murder was committed and although the night was quiet he heard no calls and no shot, and feels that no such outcry was made. Again, there is the fact that the clerks in Durick's, and the family living above the Williams store heard no cries or shooting. This, of course, leads to the theory that the revolver, when the shot was fired, was inside the shop but does not disturb the contention that the murderer was in the doorway.

A good many are inclined to attach importance to the report of the man seen running up Elm street. Further particulars regarding this will be found elsewhere, and it is worth noting that the police are also following this lead.

SEARCH FOR REVOLVER.

Efforts are being made to locate the revolver and several different districts have been or are being searched. But the task is a difficult one. In that part of the city there is a good deal of open country, some of it rough land, and more covered by deep grass. Then there is also the probability that the murderer did not throw away the revolver at all.

THE UNKNOWN RUNNER.

Was the man who was seen running at breakneck speed out Lansdowne Avenue, on the night of the tragedy, the murderer of Harry L. Williams? So far certain indications point to this individual as the man who shot the North End grocer dead in his store on Tuesday night. "However, owing to the lateness of the hour and darkness of the street, the men who saw the fugitive did not have a very good chance to closely scrutinize him. From the appearance of the man he was fairly tall, smooth shaven, wore a dark suit and a broad brim black hat and apparently was not over forty years of age."

EDWARD CURRAN SAW MAN.

Edward Curran, who was working in company with three other men on an automobile near the entrance of the garage on Lansdowne Avenue, situated about seventy-five yards from the scene of the murder, on the corner of Elm and Main streets, when interviewed by The Standard last evening said that the man did not as much as raise his eyes off the ground, but kept right on running, even after he got out of sight of the party. This was made known by his footsteps. Curran said that he did not take particular notice of the man, as he did not dream of anything like a murder. "Had I heard the report of a pistol I might have taken particular notice of the individual," said Mr. Curran. "When I heard the approach of the man I thought that we could borrow a knife from him, but he was going so fast we did not think that he had time to stop. Shortly after this incident a man came in the avenue and we asked him for a knife to scrape a coil. I was under the car and did not notice what kind of a looking chap he was. He remained for a few minutes while one of the boys used the knife and then he proceeded on his way."

Was It Revolver Shot?

David Camick, who was in the party at the garage door, and who also saw the fleeing man, told The Standard upon his arrival in the city last night from St. Martins, that after learning of the murder and the incident referred to above, he feels that the man seen was no other than the murderer of Harry L. Williams. "He certainly was running for dear life and he would not be over forty years old, because it is doubtful if any person of an older age could run as he was," said the chauffeur.

Wore Dark Suit.

Regarding the noise that is reported you heard? questioned the representative of The Standard. "Well I think that it was a few minutes before I saw this man running that I heard the noise, which resembled a blow out! In my opinion the man had done something from which he was running. He did not have an overcoat on, but was sitting in a dark suit."

"It was only a few minutes after he passed, that the man from whom we borrowed the knife came in the avenue. I did not have a look at this man as I had nothing but a lantern to work with. I did not even notice what kind of a hat he had on. One thing I am certain of is he was not the same man, who ran out the avenue. He appeared natural and asked me what was the matter, and waited until I was through with his knife. The man who ran out the avenue was on the right side of the street," concluded Mr. Camick. This fact coupled with the theory that the assassin was hiding in the alley adjoining Dr. Dalton's residence on Main street from which he could

MEN'S SUMMER SUITS MARKED DOWN

Here is an opportunity for a number of men to add to their wardrobes.

Certainly it will be years before desirable suits, such as these, can be produced and sold at the prices these were originally marked. Now that many of them are a third less it would appear to be an opportunity worth taking advantage of. All that are left of our Summer suits; regular and pinch back models; colors from dark to light; regular prices \$15 to \$30. Sale prices, \$10, \$12.50, \$15, \$20.

Gilmour's, 68 King St.

Open Friday Evenings; Close Saturdays 1 p. m., June, July and August.

Was Not Working Late.

Thinking that the employees of the New System Laundry on Lansdowne Avenue, who as a rule work up until a late hour on Monday and Tuesday evenings, might have seen a person who would excite their suspicion, The Standard visited the plant last evening to make inquiries. It was learned that on Tuesday evening the plant closed down about 10 o'clock and none of the employees remained after that hour.

Excellent Character.

There have been different suggestions as to revenge, robbery and business spite, but in each case something has cropped up to put an end to further investigation. The most talked of motive has, of course, involved a woman, as might have been expected, but in this present instance the splendid character given Mr. Williams by everyone who knew him, together with details of information as to his whereabouts during the summer, precludes the possibility of complications along this line. If there was a woman in the case a great deal more has to be learned than is now known. Mr. Williams, so far as The Standard has been able to ascertain has missed the six o'clock evening train for Newport in only two or three occasions during the summer, and on these nights in the city he has been busy on his books.

Mrs. Wilkins and Daughter.

Inquiries have also been made as to the woman, Mrs. Wilkins, who states that she heard cries. Mrs. Wilkins is not a very strong woman in any respect, and in a physical condition might be expected to suffer readily from nervous excitement. She was under treatment at the Public Hospital not long ago and it is stated that even now her health is none too good. So that in the anxiety as to her daughter's whereabouts, while sitting alone in her house at 10 o'clock on Tuesday night, she may have been more affected by trivial happenings, than a person in the best of health would have been. Miss Wilkins is described as rather delicate, suffering from an anemic condition. She was studying nursing in Maine and came home several months ago because of her mother's condition. She has been desirous of obtaining employment as a nurse here, but so far as is known has not a permanent position in this line.

Medical Opinion.

Harry Williams was murdered on Tuesday night, so far as can now be ascertained, at between eleven thirty-five and eleven forty-five. He was alive and well at half past eleven. At five minutes to twelve he had been dead for some minutes. The Standard has had conversations with a number of medical men who saw the body within a very short time of the discovery of the crime. Their experience goes to show this, that the amount of blood appearing on the floor of the building in which the crime was committed would exude from a wound of this nature in from ten to fifteen minutes. They had listened to the statements of those who discovered the body and made their estimates on the information so obtained. Besides this, and although from the appearance of the shop at the time it would be believed that Mr. Williams had lost a great deal of blood, the loss really was nothing to what would have been the flow had the wound severed one of the larger body arteries. Keeping this in mind and judging from experience in similar cases these medical men are of the opinion that rigor mortis in this particular case would have set in at from twenty minutes to one hour from the time of death. It is impossible to state the time accurately. But that is their best opinion. And from the time of the finding of the body until it was seen by medical men a very short time elapsed. Indeed, when Detective Duncan put his hand on the dead man's forehead after being summoned by the young men who found the body, the flesh was still warm. And when a Standard man went into the shop very shortly after that the blood flowing from the wound was still giving off vapor in spite of the warmth of the night.

Time of Discovery.

The murder was discovered at exactly five minutes to twelve. At that time the two clerks from Durick's drug store were on their way home. One of

THE FRENCH GA GROUND

British Repulse tinguents at Se cording to O

HEAVY RAIN

Germans Arrang Prisoners in E Made by Air

London, Aug. 9—To of Bischoote the Frenc their ground against the ing the day, while the B attempted raids by hosti at several points on their ing to the official comm sued last night. A heavy falling in Flanders, th adds.

British Statem London, Aug. 8—The British official commu tonight follows: "A heavy rain is again allies gained further g the day northwest of Bix tile raiding parties were night and this morning a and in the neighborhood "The enemy's artillery show great activity cae "Yesterday, in spite wind, airplanes bombard railway tracks, sidings forty miles behind the

H. L. WILL BY

(Continued from them, Leo McMiname, fering from weak arch the discomfort, stooped who was passing the W While in this momenta glanced under the blin street window as the n lighted, and in that gl man's head. He stoppe seeing the body lying t his companion McGuire, ed in, and being averse their own initiative in a serious case, stated policeman. They found can who happened to Main street, and withi the tragedy was first caused people to enqui were immediately sum course could do nothing unate victim was alrea however noted the warn and the flow of blood a conclusion above state of Mr. Williams had be in fifteen minutes of the body. All th that the crime was comly as can be ascertain twenty-five minutes to And at that time, in twenty people within th shop who are known to and who heard no soun night was calm and qu there is the condon charge of an automatic only like a cough and heard at a distance.

Wilkins Family Kne The actions of Miss kins on the night of t the mysterious man who leasly from the directio down Main street to M caused people to enqui Many persons were l lieve that the furiousl might have some conn murder, but the who been investigated by is exploded.

Because Miss Wilkins home on the night of t caused people to enqui young woman was du that-Williams was mu might be here explaine kins family are in no ever connected with th do not know any more occurrence than others just as near the Willia

The Fast Driven It has been learned authority that on Tues Miss Gertrude Wilkins automobile ride, that pended in the way of s the car, and a man wh not to know very kin drive her into the city, the invitation and the horse drove it furiously down Main street, and Miss Wilkins on Mill she went to join a driver of the horse ret street and out Dougl driving at a fast rate.

Post Mortem Co A great deal of com yesterday out of the st the post mortem exami

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