

District Attorney Lavelle declared that the physicians thought that Richeson might survive the operation, but that in condition was critical. The danger of blood poisoning, said Mr. Lavelle, was great. Richeson made his attempt to escape just as the jail guard was being changed.

It was recently reported that Moses and father of Violet Edmonds, for whom Richeson had discarded a \$10,000, had turned against his daughter's life. These reports were denied, but it is now thought that the motive for his past attempt at suicide.

The date for the accused man's trial was set for Jan. 10. This date was held in abeyance for both sides on Dec. 17 last. At the time Richeson's arrest made emphatic denial of a charge that their client had expressed to the press in a confession to an official of the District Attorney's office.

LAWYER SAYS PASTOR DID NOT MAKE A CONFESSION.

After Attorney Lavelle had issued his statement that the injury the clergyman had done to himself today was not an effort to end his life, he reiterated his former statement that Richeson was innocent of acquittal and that no sort of compromise confession had ever been made.

As to future proceedings, the attorney said that he was waiting for the air for the time being and that all would depend on the young minister's condition. The lawyer said he felt sure that the prisoner would get well.

The theory upon which the prosecution had determined to try the accused pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church at Cambridge is that he himself powdered the cyanide in the capsules, and that he gave the victim to understand that the capsules contained a drug that would bring about a desired change in her physical condition.

Four days before the death of Avis Linnell the Rev. Richeson purchased a box of cyanide of potassium at a New York Centre drug store, telling the druggist that he wanted to kill a dog. The discovery of this purchase led immediately to the arrest of the clergyman. He was found practically hidden in the Edmonds mansion in Brooklyn. After an all-night siege the police gained an entrance and arrested the pastor. He denied his guilt with eloquence enough to convince the Edmondses of his innocence.

POLICE SAY PASTOR GAVE GIRL THE FATAL POISON.

Avis Linnell, nineteen years old, a student at the Boston Conservatory of Music and a daughter of a well-to-do contractor of Hyannis, Mass., died of cyanide of potassium in the arms of the Young Woman's Christian Association in Boston on the evening of Oct. 14. Richeson had won the heart and a promise of marriage from the young girl, who had been a member of the choir of the Baptist Church at Hyannis. He was pastor of the church at the time.

The tragic death of the young girl brought to light the fact that she had become a mother. It was also learned that she had believed herself married to Richeson until a short time before her death, when she had read of his engagement to the Brooklyn girl.

A search into Richeson's past revealed that he had long led the career of a "reacher of bodies," and that he had been engaged to three young women at the same time. A report was circulated by those who remained loyal to him that there was another man in the case, and that Richeson had been deceived by Linnell's only sweetheart. Not a shred of evidence was obtained to support this hypothesis, and during the past few months the Edmondses had hoped to see the young Virginia, according to statements emanating from the District Attorney's office.

MINERNEY AND LEACH ARE APPOINTED TO BENCH.

Mayor Gaynor names the former Special Sessions Judge and makes the latter a Magistrate.

Mayor Gaynor today reappointed James J. Minerney to Brooklyn as a special Sessions Justice for the full term of four years, at a salary of \$2,000. Upon the death of the late Justice Courtney, the Mayor named Mr. Minerney to fill the unexpired term which terminates Dec. 31.

The Mayor also appointed John A. Leach of Long Island City a Magistrate to sit in Queens. He takes the place of Matthew J. Smith, who was elected District Attorney of Queens. Magistrate Leach will serve six years, the period of the unexpired term. His salary is \$1,000. In appointing Mr. Leach, who is a lawyer forty-six years old, the Mayor made it clear that the selection of Mr. Leach was a personal one, and had not been suggested even by any political organization in the borough of Queens.

The Mayor characterized his appointees as men who would not be dictated to by political leaders and who would administer justice fearlessly and without favor.

Christmas Belles

For Xmas they will want: Automobiles, Watches, Typewriters, Building Lots, Furs, Positions, Waiting Maids, A Vacation, Some Lost Article, Etc., Etc., Etc., Etc.

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25,031 World Ads. Yesterday.

10,357 the Herald.

Send World Ads. for Variety

See World Ads. for Quick Results

CONVICTS TESTIFY OF NEAR MURDER IN STATE PRISON

Sixteen Felons From Sing Sing Whole Cast in Remarkable Court Drama.

MOTHER WATCHES ONE.

Her Wayward Son Faces New Penalty for Attack on Fellow Inmate.

(Special from a Staff Correspondent.) WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Dec. 20.—Never in the history of the ancient Westchester County Court House were so many convicts gathered together as were in attendance today at the trial of three Sing Sing convicts charged with committing an assault with intent to kill upon a fellow prisoner. The convicts did not wear prison clothes. They donned civilian's garments for the first time in years, for most of them are long term men, bearing the prison pallor on their cheeks, and uneasy in this strange world outside the walls with which they have been out of touch for many years.

Twelve stern-visaged jurors faced the three defendants and the thirteen witnesses. There was not much sympathy shown for the convicts, but the pathetic face of Mrs. Arthur Lyon, mother of one of them, stood out among the crowd in the courtroom. Mrs. Lyon is a mother of a wayward son who is serving four years for burglary and now faces additional years in Sing Sing for attempting to kill Herman Miller, a fellow inmate. This convict's mother sat near the center of the courtroom with her eyes constantly fixed on her boy. From time to time she wiped her eyes and then sighed, as though reconciling herself to her boy's self-chosen career as a convict.

Convicts show much style in hairdressing. It would not be difficult to pick out the sixteen convicts from the crowd in the courtroom. They are a hard-faced lot, who shuffle when they walk and whose shifty eyes are never still. The thing that strikes the casual spectator most forcibly is the general style of hairdressing. Most of the men part their hair in the middle, since the cropping of hair has been discontinued in the state prisons, and the ends curl over their forehead and dangle over their eyes. That these men, shut off from the rest of humanity, take curious pride in their personal appearance, is apparent.

The more civilian clothes for the first time since their commitment, and their neckties were nattily knotted and their hair carefully brushed.

In fact, the reason they were in court is due to sartorial pride. Three convicts—John De Luca, John Clark and Arthur Lyon—on July 21 attacked and nearly killed Herman Miller, the man serving twenty years for manslaughter, as the result, it is claimed, of a dispute over an attempt to change "shaving day" from Tuesdays and Fridays to Mondays and Thursdays. Why the convicts cared whether shaving day was changed or not was not made apparent. Anyhow, Miller, the man who was slain by his three brother convicts, wanted the change made.

Miller was the first witness and he testified like a veteran in court procedure. He showed a studied knowledge of the practice of criminal law. He was guarded in his statements and attempted to confuse the attorneys for the defense by confusing them with every word spoken. Miller was on the stand his three fellow convicts, charged with driving a hammer into his brain, faced him with grins and continually whispered assistance to their attorneys. De Luca made notes of the testimony and pointed out inconsistencies.

KNIFE, BAR AND HAMMER USED IN PRISON.

The thirteen convict witnesses were strangely silent during the trial, not communicating with each other, but listening intently to every word spoken. Miller told of a dispute in the brush shop over the change of shaving day. He said he was chased by one of the convicts with a knife. He saw his comrade, L. Entenza, being attacked and drew a knife and stabbed John De Luca. Then he lost consciousness, having been struck down with an iron bar and a hammer.

By W. A. Miller of Ossining testified that he attended Miller and removed a section of his skull that had been driven into the brain.

It was evident from the testimony of the convict witnesses and their general attitude during the proceeding that their legal education has been mightily enhanced during their sojourn in Sing Sing. Albert J. Patrick, serving a life sentence for the murder of Millionaire George W. Peck, testified that he had had a hand in the murder. That his schooling has been excellent was shown by the way the convicts testified. The attorneys for the defense tried vainly to make them contradict themselves, but to no purpose.

The trial is likely to be stretched out further than was expected because of the large number of witnesses and because the attorneys for the defense. The District Attorney hoped to end the case in one day, but it will be another day, at least before the case will go to the jury.

The sixteen convicts do not object to life term for murder, is a negro of the name of Charles Smith, who was in the room when the police paid their visit, was also arrested. Klammer pleaded guilty before Magistrate Courtney in Harlem Court today. Smith pleaded not guilty. Both were held for the Grand Jury.

CAUGHT STEALING SUITS. Young Man Held for Theft From Delivery Auto.

Walter Klammer, twenty-four years old of No. 23 East Ninety-fourth street, was caught stealing two women's suits, valued at \$15 each, from an automobile delivery at Riverside drive and One Hundred and Eleventh street yesterday afternoon. When his rooms were searched to-day, "my goods" supposed to have been stolen were found.

Charles Smith, twenty-three years old of No. 14 East Fifteenth street, who was in the room when the police paid their visit, was also arrested. Klammer pleaded guilty before Magistrate Courtney in Harlem Court today. Smith pleaded not guilty. Both were held for the Grand Jury.

DOING CALM READER. A young man, who was arrested yesterday for the theft of a suit, was held for the Grand Jury.

Minister Who Tried to Kill Self; Girl He Is Accused of Slaying



CLARENCE V.T. RICHESON.

tion and kept saying: "I done told you that before." Lawyer Matteo, for the defense, asked Davis if he knew Albert T. Patrick. The District Attorney laughed, and Matteo withdrew the question.

Davis made even the hard-faced convicts laugh. He declared he was not a guesser, when an attorney for the defense asked him to give an idea of the distance between two convicts during the fight.

Convict Wilson, another negro, who followed Davis, could not keep a straight face during his testimony. He laughed and smiled all through his examination. The examination of the negroes was more like vaudeville than a solemn court proceeding.

MISSING ACTOR'S WIFE FEARS HE KILLED SELF.

Veteran Player Lost Job and Left Home, Saying He Would End It All.

"I married him to reform him. He kept away from drink for more than three years. But now all my work has been of no avail and he has broken out again just because we quarreled about money matters. I fear he has committed suicide."

That was the story Mrs. Richard Purdon told the police of the Alexander avenue station, Bronx, this afternoon, when she asked them to find her husband. The husband is an actor. Until three years ago, Mrs. Purdon said, he had appeared with great success in England. He was particularly noted there for his playing of Hamlet. He came to this country with Alvin Karpis, the model. He played with her for six months and then drifted from company to company. Their home is at No. 272 College avenue, the Bronx.

"Of late," said Mrs. Purdon this afternoon, "my husband had been playing with the Cecil Spooner Stock Company. He scored a hit two weeks ago when he played the part of the Governor in 'The Chairman.' This he quarreled with the stage manager and lost his position.

"On Sunday night we quarreled about money matters. 'I'll end it all,' he said and then he left the house. My husband was sixty-seven years old, and he had been a drinking man for twenty-five years."

COURT PUZZLE IS SOLVED.

Justice Crane Has New Term Created for New Judges.

Justice Crane of Brooklyn, who makes out the schedules for the assignment of justices in the Supreme Court, to be later ratified by the Appellate Division, has been much disturbed since Election Day to know how to dispose of the three extra justices authorized by the Legislature. The intent of the Legislature was to make way for three Democrats. Three Republicans were elected.

No courtrooms were available for the new men and apparently the only way they could be used was by "leeching" the already generous vacancies in the justice now enjoy. Justice Crane solved the puzzle by getting the Appellate Division to authorize the establishment of an Appellate Term of three justices to sit in Borough Hall, which will relieve the Appellate Division of the appeals in petty cases from the municipal courts.

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TAXICAB MURDER WITNESS TESTIFIES ALIBI FOR GARVEY

Dick Bell Displayed Loot of Tragedy on Same Night, Says Hines.

TELLS OF A FRAME-UP.

Story Told to District Attorney and Rejected, Young Crook Swears.

The defense in the trial of Martin Garvey for the murder of Adolph Stern, clerk of Jacoby's jewelry store, at Thirtieth street and Sixth avenue, by taxicab bandits last July, threw a bombshell into the prosecution to-day by the testimony of a two-convicted thief.

Frank Hines, who said his correct name is Harry Imenberg, was brought from the Tombs on subpoena and in convincing tones told a story that threw Assistant District Attorney Nott into confusion and brought the courtroom up standing.

It was a clear case of a thief whose pals had gone back on him and who took his revenge by "snitching."

Questioned by Mr. William Hines, a stocky youth of twenty years with three years at Elmira and two and one-half at Sing Sing to his discredit, said: "I was in William Fitzgibbon's house, No. 20 West Tenth street, the night of July 22 last. Dick Bell came in about 11 o'clock, with five diamond rings on his fingers."

"Every one in the court-room straightened up."

DICK BELL IS A "RINGER" FOR GARVEY.

"Describe the appearance of Dick Bell," asked Mr. Wellman.

"He is a tall, dark fellow, who is a ringer for Garvey. He looks enough like him to be his brother. He was excited and his big eyes looked like they were going to jump from their sockets. We asked him where he got the diamonds, and he said—"

"I don't know," he said, "but I saw a man lying on the door-step. I started to help carry him in the store, but a man whom I thought was the proprietor shoved me out and two others carried the body in."

Whittaker pointed out Martin Garvey as the man he saw fire the shot. He said his attention was called to the case again on Oct. 4, when he saw Garvey's picture in the Evening World and recognized him as the man who had shot the shooting.

Mr. Willmar's cross-examination failed to shake Whittaker's story.

The police inspector, who testified to the findings made by Garvey when he was interrogated at Police Headquarters after his arrest.

Commissioner Dougherty also testified on the same subject. Both agreed that Garvey denied all knowledge of the crime, said the first he knew of it was when he read the papers the next morning and that he could not remember where he was on the night of the shooting.

The defense began without an opening address. Attorney Wellman said he would call thirty good men, many to testify to the previous good character of the prisoner and others to establish an alibi for Garvey.

The first witness was William H. Baldwin, who had employed Garvey at his watch store establishment as a porter from September, 1908, until his arrest. Mr. Baldwin said Garvey's reputation for honesty and peaceableness was excellent.

On cross-examination Mr. Mott asked: "Did you know that in 1907 Garvey was convicted of grand larceny?"

"Yes," said the City guide merchant. "Did you know he pleaded guilty and sentence was suspended?"

"Yes," said the witness.

"And in spite of that you tell this jury that you collected man's reputation for honesty was good?"

"Yes, sir, in spite of that fact."

Two other minor arrests were cited from Garvey's police record. Other witnesses gave Garvey a good reputation.

TOOK HER LIFE INSTEAD OF HOLDING CELEBRATION.

Stricken Woman Had Been Forced to Abandon Plans to Reunite Her Family.

After attaching a rubber tube to the gas jet in the parlor of her home, at No. 222 Blake avenue, Brooklyn, this morning, Mrs. Ida Scherman, twenty-nine years old, placed the other end in her mouth and tied it with a piece of string around her neck. After turning on the gas she laid down on a sofa to die. Her sister, Rose Halstein, detected the odor of gas, broke the lock and found Mrs. Scherman lying on the sofa unconscious, although there were still signs of life.

Mrs. Halstein telephoned to the Bradford Avenue Hospital and upon the arrival of Dr. Martin Mrs. Scherman was removed to the institution, where she died a short time after her admission.

The dead woman was a sufferer from tuberculosis and had worried over it for the past year. She had planned an elaborate wedding anniversary on Jan. 10, when she and her husband would have been married ten years. Three children, who are in a Hebrew institution, owing to the mother's physical condition, were told they could come home for the celebration and remain with their parents. Last week Mrs. Scherman became quite ill and she could not stand to have her anticipated happiness blighted.

COLUMBIA WINNERS.

FIRST RACE—Selling, price \$200; for four-year-olds and up; five and a half furlongs—Loyal Maid, 113; Fairbrother, 2 to 1; and 2 to 5; first: Bonnie Bell, 113 (Chappel), 20 to 1; 2 to 1; 2 to 1; second: Tackles 113 (Pain), 6 to 1; 2 to 1; and even; third: Time, 1:10-1/2. Lady Hapsburg, Dandy Danver, Merrie and Miss also ran and finished as named.

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Upright Pianos Slightly Used Big Bargains

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Utterly Wretched

Nervous Prostration Long Endured Before Remedy Was Found.

Miss Miuerva Reisinger, Upper Bern, Pa., writes: "For several years I had nervous prostration and was utterly wretched. I lived on bread and beef tea because my stomach would not retain anything else. I took many remedies, but obtained no relief until I took Hood's Sarsaparilla, when I began to gain at once. Am now cured."

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HIGH GRADE BUNBONS \$1.25

IMPORTED FRENCH GLACE FRUITS, NEW CROP JUST ARRIVED. 5-P UNDBOXES \$1.39

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30 POUNDS OF "METROPOLITAN" MIXTURE, ABSOLUTELY PURE, WHOLESOME CANDY, AND 60 HALF-POUND BOXES, FOR \$2.70

30 POUNDS OF THAT OLD FASHION "BOILED SUGAR MIXTURE," AND 61 HALF-POUND BOXES, FOR \$3.30

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