

THE DENISON REVIEW

VOLUME Aldrich chas curator
Historical dept

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Murder In Second Degree

After Forty Hour's Deliberation The Jury Brings In Its Verdict.

FIRST BALLOT STOOD SIX TO SIX.

Jury Works Hard and Finally Comes to Agreement. Thos. Lang Last Juror To Yield.

MOTION FOR A NEW TRIAL IS MADE.

Verdict Leaves it for Judge to Fix Sentence Which May Range From Ten Years to Life Imprisonment.

SHERIFF FEARED MOB VIOLENCE.

Lights Suddenly Extinguished at Friday Night Session Cause Much Excitement. Prisoners were Badly Frightened Before Lights were Brought and Order Restored.

THE FATHER IS MOST PITIFUL.

Stands at Jail Window Hour After Hour Talking With Imprisoned Sons.

REPORTED STANDING ON FIRST BALLOT:

CONVICTION.

A. J. Randall, R. G. Theobald,
Jos. Ingraham, S. C. Dunham,
W. R. Rogers, H. Beardsley.

ACQUITTAL.

S. Jobe, E. H. Smith,
F. A. Brown, Thos. Lang,
C. T. Childress, F. Heiden.

"Guilty of Murder in the Second Degree" were the fateful words of the verdict of the twelve good men and true who for four weeks listened to the evidence and the arguments in the trial of Joseph and Solomon Hassan for the murder of their cousin Fred Nawfl. The court room was about two thirds full when the jury filed into place at 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon. Judge Powers had been called from Carroll about 11 a.

m. by the word that a verdict had been reached. The secret of the nature of the verdict had been well kept and it was not until the actual reading that the result was known to any. On request of the State the jury was polled and one after another the jurors proclaimed the verdict to be theirs. The defendants Joseph and Solomon made no move when the verdict of guilty was announced, their faces

were pale and ashen but they made no sign of grief or nervousness.

The old father however bowed his head in an agony of woe. On behalf of the defendants Mr. Lally filed notice of a motion for a new trial and asked ninety days for the preparation of the motion. This was granted and will be heard in January after further discussion as to the disposition of the money and goods belonging to the defendants, Judge Powers adjourned the court sine die, and the sheriff lead the prisoners back to the narrow confines of the county jail.

There is no question but that the majority sentiment of the community was against the defendants and that the verdict meets with popular approval. Of course there are many exceptions, many who still think the boys innocent and still others who think the case was not wholly proved against them.

The prosecution feels that it has won a great victory and at the same time the defense congratulates itself that the verdict was in the Second Degree. This amounts to an acquittal of murder in the First Degree, and should a new trial be secured no more serious verdict could be returned. The defense is hopeful that a new trial will be granted, and if this is not done the case will undoubtedly be appealed to the Supreme court.

Last Days of Trial

The last of the evidence was in by 11 o'clock on Thursday forenoon and County Attorney Klinker at once commenced with his argument for the state. He spoke for about five hours. He had the evidence very well in hand and he marshalled the facts against the prisoners in a masterly manner. Mr. Klinker is a young attorney and there was much interest in how he would be able to present the case. He did splendidly, fairly winning his spurs as a force hereafter to be reckoned with in the bar of Crawford county. His self possession, his grasp of the case, and his outbursts of fervent and effective oratory received much commendation.

All Friday and Saturday forenoon were occupied by Conner and Lally the attorneys for the defense. They had an up hill fight to make. The sentiment of the community was largely against their clients, their testimony came largely either from the defendants or from Syrian friends who were strangers and without friends or followers in this commun-

ity. That they made a magnificent struggle is witnessed by the fact that on the first ballot the jury was evenly divided and that the verdict returned was in the Second Degree, not in the First as per the indictment. For nearly two days these great lawyers held the rapt attention of the court and jury. No more able or brilliant defense has ever been made for any prisoners in Crawford county and had they been millionaires no more could have been done for them. Mr. Lally spoke first and his appeal in behalf of the Syrian boys brought tears to many eyes. Judge Conner made one of the greatest pleas ever heard in the District court of the county. He analyzed the evidence and brought out every strong point in the defense. The defense was notable in that there was no hope of adequate compensation and that to their own financial detriment the attorneys have given their best efforts for weeks to the defense of the Syrian boys who were practically friendless and alone. There were no popular laurels to be won in any event, practically no compensation, save that of a knowledge that they had done their full duty by the defendants. This they did and no attorneys could have made a better or more strenuous fight.

When The Lights Went Out

It was on Friday evening when the court room was crowded with spectators, most of whom were in sympathy with the prosecution, and while Judge Conner was in the midst of an impassioned appeal for the prisoners, that the lights were suddenly extinguished. The darkness was instantaneous, Sheriff Meehan sprang to his prisoners, drawing his revolver to be ready to frustrate either an attempt to escape or an attempt at mob violence. The prisoners fairly shook with fear. The air was electric with excitement and any commotion might have caused riot and bloodshed. Perhaps ninety per cent of the big crowd thought the lights had been purposely turned off and they breathlessly awaited developments. Matches were light in different parts of the crowd, revealing strained white faces on every side. Finally court adjourned and the prisoners returned to the jail without incident, but Joseph's nerves were so badly shattered that it required an opiate to restore him to his normal condition.

Mr. Sims, for the state, began his argument shortly before noon on Sat-

urday. He spoke all Saturday afternoon and for nearly two hours on Saturday evening. He made a great summing up of the evidence. His manner was controlled and save in few instances did he allow himself to become impassioned, but he displayed great ability in his summing of the testimony and the argument was a great one.

The court room was crowded to its utmost capacity on Saturday night, the crowd extending into the corridors, into the Judge's office and standing room was at a premium. The trial proved that the court room is much too small and that the ventilation is wretched.

It was at 9:30 Saturday evening that Judge Powers finished his instructions and the jury filed out to commence their long deliberation. The hours of waiting were long ones and as all of Sunday passed the prisoners began hoping that at least the jury had disagreed.

We learn from members of the jury that the first ballot stood 6 to 6—For a long time the vote stood 7 for conviction and 5 for acquittal. It was not until Monday, and until the idea of conviction for murder in the first degree had been dropped, that Thos. Lang of Willow township became convinced that he should join with the others in a decision of guilt. The jury is said to have worked hard, to have gone over the exhibits, read the instructions and much of the important testimony.

From several jurors we learn that they placed no credence in Joe's alibi and that they held Mrs. Koplan to be innocent of evil doing. Strange to say, we are also informed that the mysterious blood found on one grip after it had been taken into custody had little weight with the jury. We are told that the jurors believed the grip found at Baker's, left there by Jos. Hassan, had been in Nawfl's possession just prior to the crime and that this was considered sufficient evidence for conviction.

The trial has been the absorbing topic of conversation in Denison for a month. Families have been well nigh disrupted by difference in opinion, friendships of a life time have been strained and it has proven almost as bad as a free silver campaign.

The defendants have many sympathizers largely among the ladies of the community. It is reported that a number of young girls visited them in

their cell at the county jail to express their sympathy. One's heart cannot but go out to the poor old father. At almost any time of the day he may be seen sitting outside of the jail, hour after hour, talking through his tears, to his imprisoned sons. It is reported that on Monday he begged that he might sleep in the jail with his boys to comfort them. Sheriff Meehan has had a hard task of it and he would be glad to be relieved of the responsibility of keeping guard over such important prisoners. It is to be hoped that the community can now think of other things and that the great trial may become history, at least until the motion for a new trial is heard in January.

AN OPPORTUNITY MISSED.

Denison Tendered By Big Convention But Cannot Accept.

From authoritative sources Denison was offered the 1908 meeting of the Southwestern Teachers Association. It is a big thing, more than a thousand teachers being in attendance. The association meets in Council Bluffs the last of October and it is then that the place for next year will be determined. Prof. Fellows was urged to invite the association to Denison and it was intimated that this city would be selected. As we have no suitable auditorium and no prospect of having one by next October and further as there is but little prospect of the hotel being completed by that time Denison must forego the pleasure and profit of this large gathering.

A TRINKET SHOWER.

Saturday evening nearly thirty of the girl friends of Miss Belle Conroy gave her a splendid surprise at the home of Mrs. Edward McAndrews. It was a complete surprise to Miss Conroy and proved to be a very delightful one as well, for she found awaiting her not only so many dear girl friends but a lovely lot of gifts as well. Each present had with it a toast for the bride and contained many wishes for her long life and happiness.

Mrs. McAndrews served very nice two course refreshments to which amid a great deal of fun and laughter ample justice was done.

Mrs. Houlihan's home will be well filled with handsome and useful reminders of her friend's interest in her and in her happiness.

WINTER UNDERWEAR AND HOSE

The Place to Buy

Is where you can buy quality goods the cheapest. Our prices are always the lowest and we guarantee every article we sell.

Petticoats, at very Special Prices

A glance at the line of Black Petticoats we are showing will convince you of the bargains we are offering. Heavy sateen petticoats with accordinian pleated flounce.

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Husking Supplies of all kinds.

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If you have been thinking about getting a new heater this season, it will pay you to give our stock of Peninsular a look. No heater made could give better service than the ones we have sold the last several seasons. This speaks for the quality of our heater. With every stove is given a guarantee bond which assures the buyer of getting nothing but the very highest grade. Our line this season is larger than we have ever before shown. It will pay you to look over our line before you make your purchase. We can save you 15 per cent on any stove you need.

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Our stock of heavy underwear in fleeced and woolen are complete.

- Children's fleeced underwear, extra quality, per garment..... 15c
- Women's fleeced underwear, extra quality, per garment..... 25c
- Gents' heavy fleeced underwear, per garment..... 50c
- Gents' wool underwear, plush quality, garment..... \$1.00
- Ladies' non-shrinking wool underwear, this is a very special garment at..... \$1.00

Our stock of woolen and fleeced hose are larger than we have ever before shown. All grades at the lowest prices.

Linens

We are showing some very nice numbers in table linens and napkins.

ASK TO SEE THEM

Cloaks Cloaks Cloaks!

In invoicing our cloaks after last weeks business we find we have a fine line of blacks of all kinds made up in broadcloth, heavy and light weight kerseys. We are offering some very exceptional values in these cloaks. Don't miss seeing our line no matter whether you need a cloak now or not.

Ladies' Black Kersey, 50 inch cloak, all sizes, \$4.98

Ladies' extra quality Black Kersey cloaks, beautifully trimmed with silk braid and velvet Our price..... \$7.89

Ladies' black broadcloth cloaks, gray or black, satin lined, elaborately trimmed with imported braid, faced with a fancy soutache braid. A very special value \$12.00

We have a very good assortment of browns and blues at prices that will surprise you.

We are showing a big line of fancy brown, blue and gray mixtures

Our prices on these cloaks are money savers. Not one old style will be found in our stock. Don't miss seeing our line before you buy.

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Our stock of corsets show all of the large sizes up to 36. Our special corset at

\$1.00

as a very good value



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We have added the famous Gotzian line of shoes to our stock. This acknowledged by all shoe experts as being one of the best lines of shoes on the market, and we consider ourselves fortunate in being able to offer these shoes to our trade. In order to introduce these shoes thoroughly and make some inducements to give them a trial. We are offering the regular \$4.00, \$4.25 and \$4.50 shoes for

\$3.48 and \$3.89.

These shoes are made in all leathers guaranteed; patent, in vicid kid and kangaroo, butcher and ball, in all of the latest toes.

Buy a pair while this special offer is on it means a saving to you as well as getting a pair of shoes that is made to fit the foot.

In our line of ladies shoes we are also making some very special inducements. Our regular \$3.75 and \$3.50 shoes we are offering at

\$3.19 and \$3.29

the pair. These shoes are made up in a dozen different styles and from all leathers. Don't miss this opportunity of buying a pair of one of the best shoe values in the country at the most reasonable price. Special prices are made on our boys' girls' and children's shoes.

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