

SKELLY ON STAND; TESTIFIES CALMLY

Man Accused of Murdering Wife Quietly Tells Jury Story of Her Death

DENIES THROWING GASOLINE

Both Sides Close Evidence—Jury to Visit Scene—Begin Arguments Today

SANTA ANA, July 29.—Frank F. Skelly, the man who is on trial for his life, charged with the murder of his young wife by igniting gasoline he said to have thrown on her, testified in his own behalf today. Quietly he told the story of the morning of May 6, when his wife was burned. He told of hearing her scream, and of running to the kitchen, where he said he saw his wife whirling about in flames. He testified he caught her by her skirts and tried to throw them over her head. He said he held her with his left hand as he threw water on her. She, according to his statement, broke from his hold and ran into the yard. He testified that he wrapped a quilt about her form and carried her into the house.

To the question: "Did you or did you not throw gasoline on her?" asked by Clyde Bishop, counsel for the defense, Skelly said:

"I did not."

"Did you love her?" asked Bishop.

"I did."

"Did she love you?"

"She did."

When asked if she made a good wife he replied: "She suited me."

The accused man repeated Mrs. Skelly's statement, "Frank has murdered me," and said he answered: "No, Ethel, I did not do it." He said he repeated the denial several times. He stated he heard her say to Mrs. Frost:

"I was filling the tank with gasoline."

In regard to his own burns, which he said were not attended to for twenty-five or thirty minutes, he declared he did not feel any pain, so paralyzed was he with shock.

DENIES ANGRY WORDS

He denied having angry words with Mrs. Skelly the previous night, or that they had ever had any trouble.

Testifying as to the insurance policies, he said he carried \$17,000 for his wife and \$1000 for his mother, particularizing the policies in his wife's favor as \$1000 in the Foresters, \$2000 in the Fraternal Brotherhood, \$4000 in the Bankers' Life and \$10,000 in the Occidental Insurance organization. When asked if the latter was not for \$6000, Skelly said W. H. Perry of Los Angeles, agent of the company, had told him the policy was for \$10,000. The policy was produced and proved to be for \$6000.

Skelly was then examined by Attorney Fleming for the prosecution on every part of his statement made at the direct examination. His testimony appeared to be straightforward, and only one time a discrepancy occurred when he stated that he overheard his wife tell Mrs. Frost that the accident happened when she was filling the tank. The prosecution then produced his evidence in the preliminary hearing, when he said he had not heard his wife state the cause of the accident.

In the morning session Mrs. Harriet F. Smith testified that she had worked at the Skelly home for two months. She said Mrs. Skelly filled the gasoline tank usually from a quart can, which she carried in the kitchen. On the cross-examination she admitted that Mrs. Skelly was ill in bed during her stay there, and she had never seen her fill the tank.

C. McNeil, a Santa Ana contractor, testified to visiting the Skelly home at Westminster July 15, after the accident which occurred May 6. He told of seeing blistered outlines over the kitchen stove and in the pantry, and also averred that the front of the pantry door was blistered, while the back of it was unburned. Later, in reply to a question as to whether the kitchen and pantry were in the same condition July 15 as May 6, J. F. Patterson testified that they were the same.

L. J. Aldrich, for the defense, testified to long friendship with the Skellys, and that he had never seen any dissension in the family. He denied having said to Mrs. Cleaver and Mrs. Dimmick, May 7, in the Skelly kitchen: "I know there has been trouble here for the last year. I don't know what it is about, but think it is over the children, and Mrs. Bradley is at the bottom of it."

WIFE'S PARENTS SUSPECT

Aldrich declared that both Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, parents of Mrs. Skelly, were suspicious of foul play, and suspected that Skelly was concerned in it. He testified that Mrs. Lewis said: "If Ethel is to die, Frank will have to die too. It is either Skelly or Frank to die that it is for Ethel."

Mrs. Aldrich, who had testified along the same lines of her husband's testimony on the evening of the trial, was recalled, and in answer to the question as to whether she had said: "It was no accident of Ethel's; she never filled the tank with a glass jar," denied having said it.

In rebuttal the prosecution brought forward Mrs. T. J. Lewis, mother of Mrs. Skelly, Mrs. T. J. Dimmick and Mrs. A. D. Cleaver, sisters of Mrs. Skelly, who testified that Mrs. Aldrich did make the statement attributed to her.

Mrs. Cornelia Phillips and her son—Frank Phillips—testified in rebuttal of Earl Frost's testimony that he had not made the statement that "it looked funny to him that if he (Skelly) was innocent, he would not defend himself against what his wife said," averred that the only words he said in reply to her accusations were: "No, dear, I dropped it." They swore that Frost made the statement to them.

With the rebuttal the evidence ended for both prosecution and defense. Tomorrow morning the jury will visit the Skelly home and in the afternoon arguments will be begun.

PRIEST CONDUCTS MASS ON PASSENGER TRAIN

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., July 29.—The Rev. William F. Sullivan of St. Mary's cathedral, San Francisco, created an ecclesiastical novelty near here yesterday when he conducted mass on an eastbound Santa Fe train.

The service was attended by 100 of the members of the Knights of Columbus en route to Quebec, Canada, and was held in one of the cars which had been labeled "chapel car."

PROMINENT FORESTER DIES

HARTFORD, Conn., July 29.—Henry Evison, deputy supreme chief ranger of the Independent Order of Foresters, is dead at his home here, after a long illness. He was 60 years old.

EXPORTS TO SOUTH AMERICA GREATER

Government Issues Report Showing Tide of United States' Commerce

EUROPEAN TRADE DECREASES

Business with Canada, Mexico and Central America Shows a Decided Increase

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, July 29.—The export trade of the United States to South America, North America and Africa during the past fiscal year increased over the exports of the previous year, while exports to Europe and Asia declined, according to statistics furnished by the department of commerce and labor.

The increase in exports to North American countries over the preceding year was 24 per cent; the increase to South America 22 per cent and to Africa 9 per cent, while the decline was about 1 per cent to Europe and a little over 1 per cent to Asia and Oceania.

Detailed figures show the value of 1910 exports to South America to be \$38,250,000,000 as compared with \$36,500,000,000 in 1909; to North America, \$385,500,000 in 1910 as compared with \$300,500,000 in 1909; to Africa, \$18,500,000 as compared with \$17,000,000 in 1909, to Europe \$1,138,000,000 as against \$1,146,750,000 in 1909, and to Asia and Oceania \$111,750,000 in 1910 as against \$113,000,000 in the preceding year.

The chief growth in exports of the country, it is shown, has been with the near neighbors. Canada the value of exports in 1910 was \$216,000,000 as against \$161,500,000 in 1909; to Mexico, \$58,000,000 as against \$49,500,000; to Cuba, \$57,750,000 as compared with \$44,000,000; to Central America \$20,250,000 against \$25,125,000; to Argentina, \$42,750,000 as compared with \$33,750,000; to Brazil \$22,750,000 as against \$17,500,000.

\$10,000,000 WORTH OF GOLD EXPECTED OUTPUT

Indications Reported Excellent in the Iditarod District

SEATTLE, July 29.—Ten million dollars' worth of gold will be taken out of the new Iditarod camp next season, according to information gathered by C. A. Spencer, assistant cashier of the National Bank of Commerce, who has just returned from Alaska. Mr. Spencer said:

"Every one seems agreed that the camp will be a good producer, although more people stampeded to the new district than can be conveniently handled this season. Many cannot help but be disappointed."

"Few appear to be returning from the Iditarod, and almost without exception those coming out were doing so to secure machinery to take back, or making other plans to develop the new camp."

"Fairbanks is doing fairly well this season, although the stampede to the Iditarod took many from the Tanana district. Many streams and districts in the Tanana section heretofore undeveloped are being prospected and worked this summer with good success."

POLICE DECIDE TOURISTS ARE NOT SAFE BLOWERS

Boys Visiting Denver Have Baggage Examined by Officers

DENVER, July 29.—After being arrested three times within an hour, S. and R. Hester, brothers, from Murdock, Kas., were not well pleased with their first visit to Denver yesterday, and resolved to eliminate this place from any further itineraries. The boys were on their way to Steamboat Springs, Colo. Soon after leaving the Union depot they were accosted by a policeman, who looked with suspicion upon the hand grips each was carrying.

After a search the officer decided they were not safe blowers, as he suspected, and let them go.

A few blocks further on the act was repeated by a plain clothes man. A third time another policeman stopped the boys and searched the grips. By this time their experiences were becoming serious, and the brothers resolved to leave town at once, never to return.

ORDERED TO PRODUCE THE UNITED WIRELESS BOOKS

NEW YORK, July 29.—Officers and directors of the United Wireless company recently indicted for conspiracy to defraud by use of the United States mails, have been ordered yesterday to produce eight or nine missing books next Tuesday or be committed to jail for contempt of court.

Judge Hand of the United States circuit court heard the officers explain that they had done everything in their power to find the books and pronounced the explanations unsatisfactory.

"The only question," he said, "is one of motive and the person who appropriated them had some motive."

STREET CAR IS HURLED THROUGH TEXAS BRIDGE

EL PASO, July 29.—A street car with 25 passengers went through the international bridge over the Rio Grande river here this morning, injuring several passengers. As there is little water in the river at the present time no one was drowned. The car was coming from Juarez to El Paso at the time of the accident. The bridge is the same on which President Taft and Diaz crossed last October in paying visits to each other. The bridge was built in 1901 and is of wood.

MAINE HOTEL BURNED

SOUTH HARBOR, Maine, July 29.—Summer guests from many parts of the country made hurried exits with what little personal property they could snatch when the Perrill hotel here was destroyed by fire early today. The flames reached into the residence section of the town, burning one cottage to the ground and seriously damaging three others. The loss will reach nearly \$100,000.

LAST DAY

Bargains are good things, but you must have the courage to help yourself to them—to take them when offered—or you are no better off than before. We are ready. Are you willing? Then call and we will make you ready.

You Will Invest if You Investigate

Last Call!

This is the last advertisement you will read, telling you about the wonderful inducement offered in our great \$2 a week, NO CASH PAYMENT OFFER.

Trade Your Piano for

The Autopiano

There exists absolutely nothing Musical beyond its reach. It is a combination of a high-grade piano and perfected inside player—plays every key—88 notes. If you have not heard the AUTOPIANO you have not heard the best music played in the best manner. We furnish music to our customers Absolutely Free and change as often as desired. Your piano taken in exchange at full value.

Exchange Difference Depending on Condition

\$465 or \$385

If you have any possible use for a Piano or an Autopiano now is the time to buy. You can now take choice of the BEST Pianos at prices and on terms never before possible. Think of it! An A. B. Chase or a Fischer or an Autopiano at \$2 a week.

Don't Delay! Come Tonight

The Big Exclusive Piano House

Bartlett Music Co.

231 South Broadway Opposite City Hall

BETWEEN SOULTER'S AND BOSTON DRY GOODS STORES

Store Open Tonight Until 10 o'Clock



Seven New York Newspapers Refuse Contest Advertisements

From Music Trades Review.

Some members of the music trade in this city are becoming keenly alive to the discrediting effect of piano contest schemes, and seven of the New York papers have refused to publish advertisements embodying the contest offers, so the Minneapolis idea is taking root in our midst, and why should it not elsewhere?

Why should not the members of the local trade present these facts forcibly to the papers in their home cities?

We must fight to preserve the confidence of the public in piano value, for once that is lost it will take a long time and hard work to regain it.

There will not be nearly as many pianos sold with confidence destroyed, and it behooves every man who is interested in piano selling to exercise exceeding caution before entering into any move which smacks of misrepresentation or which lays him open to the accusation of faking to make sales.

Refuse Contest Ads

Minneapolis Newspapers Adopt Policy Suggested by Piano Houses.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 6, 1909.—As the result of a letter sent to the local newspapers by several piano houses, The Tribune and Journal have decided to accept no more "contest" advertising. The letter to the papers outlined what the anti-contest piano men consider to be the evils of that form of selling. A meeting of advertising managers was called to discuss the protest and the two papers decided to adopt the no-contest policy.

More Indianapolis Attacks on Bonds

Starr Piano Co. Says Pianos Are Merchandise and Should Be Sold as Such, and Plays Certificate Schemes—Many Kimball Pianos Sold by Enterprise of a Country Newspaper.

(Special to The Music Trades.)

INDIANAPOLIS, March 1, 1910.—"Puzzle Checks Are Exposed" is the heading of a column article which has appeared in various newspapers in Indiana recently, signed by the Starr Piano Co. The article calls attention to the fact that the puzzle contest business has ceased in Indianapolis, and says that leading dealers and piano trade editors all over the country are still using every means to educate the buying public that pianos are merchandise in the strictest sense of the word and that the "something-for-nothing" method is no more permissible in the sale of pianos than it is in groceries, clothing or household effects.

Milwaukee "Journal" Refuses Contest Ads

Wisconsin Metropolis Has Been Watched Closely by Post-office Department—H. M. Goesch with C. J. Orth

(Special to The Music Trades.)

MILWAUKEE, March 1, 1910.—The action of the Milwaukee "Journal," one of the leading dailies of this city, in refusing to accept the advertisements of local piano houses featuring various "certificates" or "contest" schemes, has caused wide comment. The management of the paper believes that false inducements are offered to its readers by this class of advertisements and that if it has the best interests of both its readers and advertisers at heart it cannot afford to "run" advertisements of this nature.

A little more than a year ago the attention of the postal officials at Washington was called to the campaign of advertising that was being carried on by certain Milwaukee piano houses. After a quiet investigation, the postoffice department notified the houses in question to cease their present methods of advertising, while requests were made of the papers that certificate "ads" should not be included in their makeup, which, in the opinion of the postal officials, smacked strongly of a lottery scheme.