

NEW EVIDENCE OF INSANITY IS GIVEN

Examination by Alienists May Bar Trial of Mrs. Collins for Murder.

ILLNESS SHATTERED MIND

Woman Questioned by Newspaper Man Babbles Like Maniac—Actress Brought Into Case—Doctor Says She is Demented.

In all probability Mrs. Kate Collins, to whom all evidence points as having shot and killed her husband, Dr. Roy A. Miles Collins, last Saturday morning, will never be brought to trial for the murder. Instead developments yesterday indicated that a lunacy commission will be called next Thursday to pass upon her mental condition.

If the defense is successful then in supporting evidence it disclosed yesterday for the first time, showing not only that Mrs. Collins is out of her right mind at present and had been for at least a week prior to the shooting, but also that several years ago during a long illness she became insane for several months and had to be closely watched on that account, the commission will undoubtedly judge her insane and commit her to the asylum.

Developments following each other in rapid succession yesterday placed a markedly different aspect on the case. Immediately after a coroner's jury yesterday morning had returned a verdict to the effect that Dr. Collins came to his death by a gunshot wound inflicted by the wife, Mrs. Collins, a friend of Mrs. Collins since she came to Portland with her two small children 20 years ago, hastened to the County Court and filed a charge of insanity against her. Later Mr. Willis gave a statement to an Oregonian reporter in which he related much of the evidence on which he expects to prove that Mrs. Collins was insane and is mentally irresponsible for her actions.

One of the most important portions of this evidence, and something that had not before been made public, is the fact, as related by Mr. Willis, that last Monday, July 19, five days before the tragedy, Mrs. Collins visited him at his office and displayed marked signs of insanity. She wished the attorney to make out legal papers by which she could leave all her property to her daughter, spoke wildly of trouble she was having with her husband, and declared disconnectedly several times that she "was going away from here." More than once she was on the verge of hysterics and had to be quieted by the lawyer. Her actions led Mr. Willis to believe she intended to commit suicide.

Sickness Shattered Mind.

Another new feature of the defense's case is that a number of years ago Mrs. Collins, who had been supporting her two children by the hardest kind of work as seamstress, became sick while at the lawyer's home and was insane for a number of months. Mr. Willis stated that she continued to stay with the Willis' and was cared for there until she finally recovered. Mr. Willis said he recognized the recurrence of the same symptoms of former insanity while she was in his office last Monday.

Further hearing on this evidence of Mrs. Collins' insanity is expected in the statement of Dr. G. Orlo Jefferson, who has been for many years her family physician. He corroborates Mr. Willis' statement about her condition, and further stated that Mrs. Collins was in his office also during the week before the murder and showed marked symptoms of being out of her right mind while there.

An Oregonian reporter said and talked to Mrs. Collins at the Mountain View Sanatorium, at East Thirtieth and Fossil streets, yesterday afternoon. It was the first time anyone save her physicians and attendants, her daughter and representatives of the District Attorney's office had been permitted to speak to her since she was taken from the County Jail to the sanatorium Saturday night. Though attendants at the hospital said her condition was better than at any time since she was brought there, she appeared to be entirely irresponsible and irrational. Her conversation was irrelevant and disconnected.

In response to a question as to whether she had any statement to make, or wished to clear up some of the contradictory statements she has already made, Mrs. Collins turned wildly to her daughter, Mrs. Gertrude Garber, who with her husband was supporting her in bed, and asked: "What's he talking about? What's that he's saying?"

Daughter Near Tears.

"I don't know that man do it? What does he want?" she cried when the query was repeated. "Is that the man who brought me out here?" she went on, turning to Elizabeth Gill, who stands watch over her room from 4 o'clock in the afternoon to midnight. "He has been very kind to me, hasn't he?"

"I never saw him before, what does he want?" she repeated a minute later turning to the reporter.

"He wants to learn how you are," said Mrs. Garber, who was almost in tears as she sat with her arms about her mother. "Why I'm all right," said Mrs. Collins. "I was never sick a day in my life," she added, but the sentence broke off with a sigh that was followed closely by tears and hysterics. That ended the interview.

Those who have been about Mrs. Collins to any extent since she was sent to the sanatorium are firm in their belief that she is insane. Patrolman Gill, who was detailed by Chief Cook to guard the accused woman during the day, said yesterday that he had no doubt that Mrs. Collins is out of her mind. During his stay at her home Gill has been able to quiet the unfortunate woman and avert her from sleeping when no others could. Three times yesterday he put her into quiet slumber merely by laying his hands on her forehead and telling her to sleep. The first time she slept from about 10 o'clock in the morning until 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Then she awoke and was able to take a light luncheon, after which she again slept.

According to Gill, Mrs. Collins only on one occasion alluded to the shooting of her husband yesterday, when she repeated to herself as if greatly distracted, "I did it. It did it." To distract her thoughts the patrolman told her to sleep and she obeyed like a child. She did not again refer to her declaration of the day before that her husband had shot himself. She seemed to have forgotten that side of the story entirely, said Gill. At times the officer said she forgot that her husband was dead and asked for him.

May Become Rational.

At the sanatorium it was said that if Mrs. Collins continued to improve as

WITNESSES IN COLLINS MURDER CASE ON THEIR WAY TO DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.



COUNT AND COUNTESS VIGGO VON HOLSTEIN-RATHLOU.

rapidly as she has since Sunday night, in two or three days they believe she will become rational enough to be able to make a connected statement of her connection with the shooting of her husband.

Mr. Willis told some of the past history of Mrs. Collins that had not hitherto been given out in discussing the case yesterday. Mrs. Collins' first husband, Mark Van Winkle, was a nephew of Mr. Willis' wife, Van Winkle, however, deserted the woman nearly 25 years ago, leaving her with two children to support. About 20 years ago she came to Portland.

"She went to sewing them," said Mr. Willis. "She performed splendid duties as a mother by her children. By her own unaided efforts she brought them up. She is a woman of more than ordinary energy, and is entitled to unusual credit for what she did for her children. Her son died, I believe in California, about two years ago, but her daughter, Mrs. Garber, lives in Camas.

"It was due to overwork more than anything else, I think, that Mrs. Collins was taken ill. She was a woman of more than ordinary energy, and is entitled to unusual credit for what she did for her children. Her son died, I believe in California, about two years ago, but her daughter, Mrs. Garber, lives in Camas.

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Would Let Husband Go.

"At that time, however, Mrs. Collins said that if Roy wanted to go with this other woman, he could go and she would not place any obstacles in his way.

Friskie, who said, but she was partly wild at the time, so that her statement may or may not have been accurate, that she herself was not going to marry Dr. Collins, but that it was he who insisted. I know, however, that she was very much in love with him."

As County Judge Webster and Dr. W. Willis, who is the County Lunacy Commission, who pass on all cases of alleged insanity coming under the jurisdiction of the courts here, are out of town and will not be back before Thursday, it will not be possible to have Mrs. Collins examined by the Commission, even if her condition is such that she could undergo the examination before that day. Dr. S. E. Joseph is the third member of the Commission. Mr. Willis said yesterday that he will ask to have the Commission pass on Mrs. Collins' case as early as possible.

Among the witnesses who testified at the inquest held by Coroner Norden yesterday morning were Dr. Charles E. Berry, Collins' physician, who was summoned to her husband's side by Mrs. Collins; Detective Frank Snow, who was called by the physician; Deputy District Attorney Harry Collins; Dr. J. Wiley, autopsy physician, and a newspaper man. Deputy District Attorney J. H. Page conducted the case for the defense, and the theory of the defense that Mrs. Collins has been insane for some time was Dr. Friskie's answer to a juror's question whether Dr. Friskie thought his wife was insane. Dr. Friskie replied that Collins had thought so for some time prior to the shooting.

Suicide Theory Scouted.

The theory that Dr. Collins might have committed suicide was aired when Autopsy Surgeon Wiley showed that it would have been very unlikely for anybody to have committed suicide by shooting himself as Collins was shot. The bullet entered his left side, said the physician, in such a way that if he had shot himself he would have had to put his right hand to his left side.

Detective Frank Snow testified that Mrs. Collins at no time had stated definitely to him that she had done the shooting, her answers at all times being, "Well, if you say I did, I must have

KILLING, HER MARRIAGE

Mrs. Collins Threatened to Slay Countess von Rathlou.

WIFE NO. 2 HID IN CLOSET

Divorcee Recounts Visits to Physician's Home and Declares Accused Murderer Seemed Insane. Tirade of Threats Repeated.

Another development in yesterday's investigations on the part of the District Attorney's office is that Mrs. Collins had threatened to kill Countess Viggo von Rathlou, the former wife of Dr. Collins. This was added by interrogation of Countess Rathlou yesterday afternoon by Chief Assistant District Attorney Fitzgerald, who summoned her and her husband to his office, where they were both subjected to a line of questioning calculated to draw from them anything that might have formed a basis for jealousy on the part of Mrs. Collins.

The threat to kill Countess Rathlou was uttered by Mrs. Collins in the Sladen home at 722 Flinders street. She had gone there in the company of her husband to see her little son, now in the custody of Dr. Collins' mother, Mrs. J. B. Miles, of Salem, who was then visiting her son with the lad.

"It was on Friday, one week ago, that my husband and myself went to Dr. Collins' home," said Countess Rathlou, "and when we first went in, Mrs. Collins was not in the room. They did not want me to tell my son that I was his mother. I protested against this and Mrs. Collins came out of an adjoining room and commenced an insulting tirade of abuse against me. She said, as well as I can remember, 'I will run you out of town. My, how I hate you! I will kill you one of these days!' I did not say anything in reply. I was surprised, as on a previous occasion when we visited them she told me she hated me and then held forth her hand and counted her as my friend.

"Once when I went to see Dr. Collins in his office, she secreted herself in a closet and listened to our conversation. That was two weeks ago Sunday and was the first time I had seen my former husband to talk with him since our return from Denmark. At that time I did not know he was married and he tried to keep it from me until a few days later, when he told me all about his marital troubles.

"I will admit that my conversation with him was not what it would have been had I known she was in an adjoining room or even had I known he had remarried. Our conversation was largely about my little Billy. When we first separated it was agreed I should have him three months out of the year. When I talked to him he didn't want me to even see the child, but on the following Saturday, succeeding my conversation with his wife on Friday, he permitted me to take Billy out to my home to stay all night.

"I must admit I still had a feeling for Dr. Collins," but, she added hastily, "it was only maternal, not like I have toward my husband."

Countess Rathlou says she believes Mrs. Collins is insane.

"The time she threatened my life," she said, "there was wild look in her eyes, I shall never forget. The pupils of her eyes were dilated, her mouth would close as if she were grinding her teeth and her hands would open and close convulsively."

REFERS TO MURDER IN PULPIT

Dr. Paul Rader Sees Lesson in Killing of Dr. Collins.

The Collins murder was referred to in a sermon at the Hassalo-street Congregational Church Sunday morning by Rev. Paul Rader, who was acquainted with Dr. R. A. Collins, the man slain.

The pastor's text was the proverb, "Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets," and he declared that sermons are preached on the streets daily to the observing.

The clergyman went on to say that a man may appear to his friends to be happy and lightly weighted with the burdens of life, when a great tragedy may be concealed within his breast.

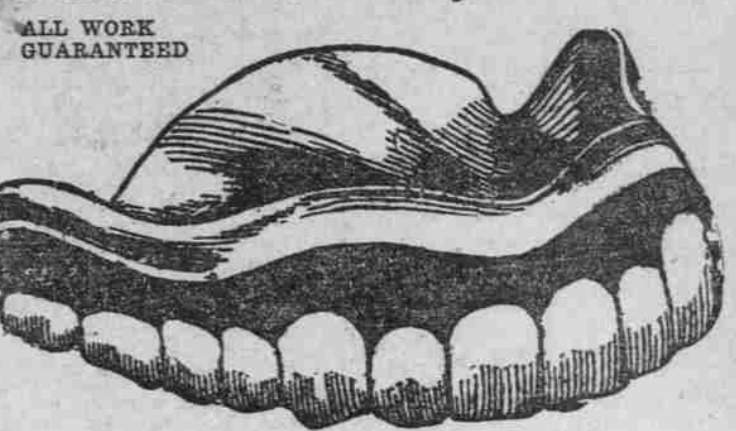
"We usually took our lunches together on Fridays," said Mr. Rader, "and Dr. Collins always appeared to me to be a happy young physician, who was enjoying his work and prospering. He always had a smile for the boys. We often talked over our college days together, and I never dreamed there was anything in his family life such as the last few days have revealed. When I saw the evening headline of Saturday's afternoon paper, to say I was shocked is putting

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CONDENSED NEWS BY WIRE

Ferrol Spain—King Alfonso officiated Monday at the laying of the keel of the first battleship of the new Spanish navy.

New York—The National Woman's Trade Union League has issued its call for the next annual conference, which is to be held in Chicago September 27.

Cincinnati—John W. Herron, 54 years old, father-in-law of President Taft, was much better Monday and Mrs. Taft has been advised not to come to Cincinnati at present.

Tokio—While the crew of the Japanese battleship *Amagi* was engaged in gun practice at the Bay Sunday one of the 22-pounders of the vessel blew up, killing and wounding five of the gunners. Among the wounded were two officers.

Chicago—The change in the name of the village of Rockefeller, named after John D. Rockefeller, to that of Area, has stirred up a battle royal. The patrons of the post-office on rural routes are fighting the change, and two petitions have been sent to Washington.

New York—Miss Mabel Howard, who for ten years has been a prominent actress on the American stage, and who played the title role in a Belasco road company of *Zaza*, has abandoned the stage and is preparing to become a nun in a Roman Catholic convent.

San Francisco—According to Captain Quatrevaux, of the French ship *Tiher*, which arrived here yesterday from Newcastle, Australia, a new island has sprung up from the waters of the Pacific near the New Caledonia. The island is located in latitude 14.25 degrees south, longitude 128.90 degrees west, and seems to be made of volcanic rock.

Chicago—After taking every precaution possible to prevent identification, a man who registered as Edward Wilson committed suicide Sunday in the saratoga hotel by swallowing poison. He was a member of the Masonic order and in a note, found with a ledge upon in the room, made a request that he be buried by the Masons.

New York—Eight of the negro troops of the Tenth United States Cavalry which returned on the transport *Killpatrick* brought with them Filipino wives. They will take them with the regiment to Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. The War Department insisted that when a soldier, whether a private or an officer, marries a Filipino woman he must bring her with him when he returns to the United States.

New York—A stage of New York City by countless millions of little white moths continued until daylight Monday. The visitation, which was the anniversary of a similar event last year, was particularly annoying to the patrons of the hotels, restaurants and theaters, where the moths were attracted in clouds by the bright lights. Streetcars whose crushed them until it was necessary to operate the cars by a liberal use of sand.

Word Received From Nushagak.

ASTORIA, Ore., July 26.—(Special.)—The Alaska Fishermen's Packing Company received a cablegram from P. A. Berlund, superintendent of the company's cannery at Nushagak River, Alaska. The message, which is dated July 17, came via Seward, and states that everybody is well and the prospects are good for a prosperous season. As the cablegram came by steamer as far as Seward, it is expected that letters from Nushagak will arrive in about 10 days.

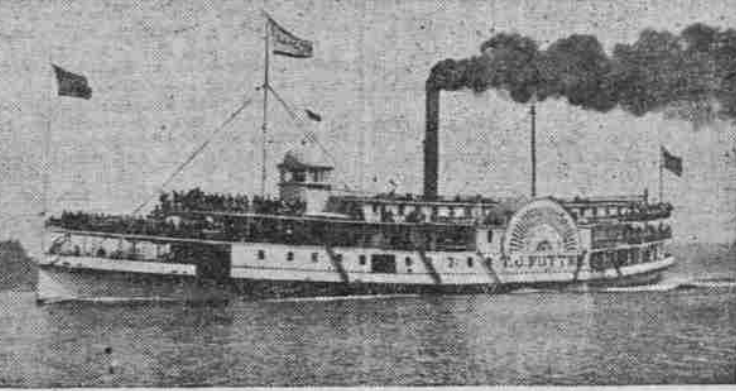
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Judge Wolverton yesterday issued an order in the Federal Court restraining

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