

# WOMEN WEEP AS RUSSELL'S SISTER GIVES TESTIMONY

(Continued From Page One)

led that she last saw her brother-in-law on July 12, when he was at his cabin on the Pacific highway. She finished with him and departed shortly before 3 o'clock. The witness identified a silver watch, a fountain pen, a hat and other articles picked up at the scene of the wrecked car as the property of Dennis Russell. She also identified the handwriting in a diary as that of Dennis Russell. She was not cross-examined to any extent.

**BARBER IDENTIFIES HAIR**

A. J. Willard, local barber, on the witness stand, testified that he had known Dennis Russell for perhaps six years and that he had frequently cut his hair during that time. He was shown the piece of scalp, with hair attached, and asked if he recognized it as being Dennis Russell's hair. The witness said that it was. He testified at the peculiar manner in which Russell had his hair cut, long on top and short on the sides and neck shaved round in the back.

The defense on cross-examination attempted to confuse the witness as to the relative difference between human and animal hair, but he remained positive in the identification of the hair on the scalp which was attached to the "number 14" as being exactly the same as that of Dennis Russell.

**BROTHERS TAKE STAND**

J. E. Rose, who had known Dennis Russell for 36 years, was the next witness to be examined. He told of viewing the headless body in the morgue shortly after the accident and said he was positive the corpse was that of Dennis Russell.

Ed Russell, brother of the murdered desperado, then took the stand. He last saw his brother alive on July 12, he said. He was shown a silver watch found at the wreck.

"Yes, that's the watch my brother had, all right," answered the witness. He also identified a pipe, a fountain pen and a diary as property of his brother. A partly burned shoe taken from the dead body he also identified.

J. T. Russell, another brother of the murdered man, also identified the watch found at the wreck by the state as belonging to Dennis Russell.

**FUSE AND CAP FOUND**

Isadore Sellig, Myrtle Creek merchant, the next witness, said he sold Dennis Russell a pair of shoes on March 25, 1921. They were charged to Russell. The shoes were known as the star brand and retailed at \$8.75. A charge slip bearing Dennis Russell's name was found at the scene of the wrecked car. This, submitted as evidence by the state, was recognized by the witness, who said he had the duplicate in his pocket. He was positive that the shoe found at the body was one of the pair which he sold to Dennis Russell.

C. W. Parrott told of finding a piece of fuse which the wreck occurred, approximately 10 inches in length, attached to which was a percussion cap. He said he found no sticks of dynamite there.

**BULLET WOUNDS ON BODY**

Dr. E. B. Stewart, the next state witness, told of performing, with the assistance of Dr. George T. Houck, an au-

toper on the body found at the wreck. The physician told of discovering two bullet wounds in the back of the headless body, which, he said, were inflicted after death, as no evidence of a hemorrhage was found.

**WOULD CAUSE DEATH**

These wounds were sufficient to cause death within several hours, he testified. From one of these wounds the doctor states a bullet was removed which had lodged in the chest cavity. The witness said he did not know how the head had been removed from the body, but that the tissues of the lower part of the neck remained jagged and torn.

"It some blunt instrument was used it must have been pretty dull," he said. The witness was sure that the two wounds were not made by the same bullet. The condition of the heart was found to be normal, but the left lung was discovered to be infected. The next witness called, gave testimony in corroboration of the preceding witness and the court pronounced a noon recess.

The taking of the testimony was resumed at 9 o'clock this morning and as early as 8 o'clock the courtroom was packed with spectators. Dr. Brumfield, the accused, told his lawyers that he felt exceptionally well today after a good night's rest.

**WEBB FINDS BODY**

Deputy Sheriff Percy Webb was the first witness examined by the state. He told of accompanying Coroner M. E. Ritter to the scene of the dentist's wrecked automobile at midnight on July 12. The rear tires of the wrecked machine were still burning, he said. He made an investigation of the car and found that the car was in "second gear." He further told of standing on one of the seat cushions that had become dislodged from the wrecked automobile and wedged in the seat in such a manner that it acted as a dam. The deputy said he took a stick and made a way for the water to run out.

**EXPLOSIVE IS BARRED**

"Two sticks of dynamite floated down beside me," said the witness. He also discovered blood on a cement culvert through which the creek ran, he testified, and found the headless body near the wrecked automobile. The officer told of finding a piece of human scalp, attached to which was gray hair, and other articles which had previously been offered as evidence by the state. Judge Bingham interrupted the court proceedings saying, "I don't like explosives around very much," as he eyed the three sticks of dynamite lying nearby on the court reporter's desk.

"We have no objection to the powder being removed," laughingly remarked Attorney Rice for the defense, and the state's exhibits were turned over to Sheriff Starmer, who carried the explosives from the court.

**DR. BRUMFIELD TO DENY HE MURDERED RUSSELL**

Roseburg, Oct. 11.—The jury in the trial of Dr. R. M. Brumfield charged with the murder of Dennis Russell, Tuesday visited the scene of the crime, after opening statements by attorneys for the state and defense. The visit was made on the motion of the defense, and the state concurred in the proposal. When court opened Tuesday morning Prosecuting Attorney George Neuner immediately presented the state's case to the jury. He reviewed the incidents pertinent to the alleged murder from the time Brumfield left his office in the Perry building on the afternoon of July 12 until the dentist was discovered working on the Vader ranch near Calgary, Canada, some weeks later. This procedure required almost an hour.

**LETTER READ TO JURY**

The full contents of a letter found

among the personal effects of Brumfield after his arrest in Canada, but written as though Dennis Russell was the author, were given to the jury during the presentation of the state's case by Prosecutor Neuner. This writing of several pages was full explanation of the "murder mystery" which was no mystery at all, according to the letter which follows in substance:

"Dr. Brumfield, on July 12, had made a trip by automobile to Myrtle Creek for the purpose of collecting a dental bill amounting to \$50 from a Myrtle Creek school teacher. On his return to Roseburg he stopped at Dennis Russell's cabin to show Dennis a gun that he (Russell) was to purchase if the weapon proved satisfactory. The deal was not consummated at that time but the doctor promised to return again that evening.

"It was nearly dusk when Brumfield reached the Russell cabin on the return trip. The gun was tried out, several shots being fired. Russell found the gun satisfactory, paid the doctor \$30 and the deal was made. The doctor had some whiskey with him. Russell had some of this and became ill. Brumfield advised a driver south on the paved highway as a restorative. 'I leaned out of the car to throw up' reads the letter, 'and in doing so fell out of the car on my nose. The doctor got blood on his clothing trying to assist me back into the machine.'

**CAR WAS WRECKED**

Brumfield then brought Russell to Roseburg and suggested that he spend the night at his ranch near Melrose. "The doctor, was driving fast" the letter reads, "and couldn't make the turn and made an investigation of the car and found that the car was in 'second gear.' He further told of standing on one of the seat cushions that had become dislodged from the wrecked automobile and wedged in the seat in such a manner that it acted as a dam. The deputy said he took a stick and made a way for the water to run out.

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**DOUBLE DEFENSE PLANNED**

Attorney Rice then spoke for the defense and intimated that they would base their case on the defendant's mental condition. The attorney said the defense would prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Brumfield was insane July 12, the day Dennis Russell met a foul death on the much-traveled Pacific highway near the Booth ranch, approximately 15 miles south of Roseburg.

"You may gather from the questions put to you touching on your qualifications as juror," went on the attorney, "that there was no defense to this case other than the insanity plea. If you have gained that impression, I wish to change your minds regarding that fact, for it is not his only defense. He did not murder Dennis Russell and the state will not be able to produce evidence sufficient to convince this jury beyond a reasonable doubt.

"My only request to you, gentlemen of the jury, is that you hold your minds free and open until you hear this testimony which the state will offer. Unfortunately for the defendant and for others in this case, we will not be able to show to you what the defendant did on the night of July 12 or any time between July 12 and when he was apprehended in Canada.

**DEFENDANT SLEEPS WALKER**

Continuing, the attorney said the defense would show that the defendant was of a neurotic type, that he was a sleep walker and was out of his head on the slightest provocation, that he overworked his mind in his studies when a boy and that he had suffered nervous breakdowns before and that leading up to July 12 the defendant was carrying a heavy responsibility. His family, too,

had suffered from temporary insanity. Rice said.

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The first witness called by the state was Dancy Campbell, local garage employe. He said he left Roseburg on the night of July 12 between 2:30 and 3:00 o'clock and drove to Melrose and returning to this city about 11 p. m. noticed a wrecked automobile near Newhard's slaughter house, about 3 1/2 miles from Roseburg. The car was on fire. His party stopped and one of them started to the bank to investigate. Campbell said he pulled his company back, fearing that an explosion might take place. They came on into Roseburg and notified the driver of the fire truck and along with several others returned to the scene of the accident. The witness said he recognized the machine as the property of Dr. Brumfield, a red Egin Six with disc wheels.

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