

A Richmond Sleuth Further Implicates Henry Clay Beattie

Scherer Throws Back at Young Man His Admissions of Love For Beulah Binford And his Contradicting Statements—made Deep Impression.

Testimony During Day Broke Decidedly For Prosecution And Beattie's Chance Appeared Decidedly Slimmer After Saturdays Session.

Chesterfield, C. H., Va., Aug. 26.—Henry Clay Beattie's own words—his admissions of his love for Beulah Binford and his contradictions of his account of the night his young wife was slain—came back upon him today and, if one might judge from the countenances of the Virginia farmer jury that is trying him, lessened still further his already slim chance for his life.

Detective Luther L. Scherer, who suspected Beattie from the moment the rich youth declared a highwayman killed his wife and who caused his arrest at a time when other officers feared to do so, spent this whole afternoon repeating the defendant's language and telling of his suspicious actions after his wife's death.

Previously, in the morning, the practical, unsentimental jurors had looked ominously upon the blood-stained automobile with which Beattie took his wife riding on the night of July 18, and brought her back dead. They were deeply impressed.

Also, in the morning, a group of young society boys from Richmond had sworn that they saw a car—a Buick just like Beattie's—containing a man and woman resembling him and his wife, so far as they could tell in the darkness of that night—standing at the very spot where the state more than ever insisted upon the coil it has been winding about the boy defendant.

Luther Scherer, a square-jawed, good-looking man of 40, is not an ordinary detective. He is claim agent and secret service chief for the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad. He is regarded hereabouts as another Sherlock Holmes—and, indeed, has shown himself to be the most capable sort of an investigator.

Going to the spot on the Midwayman turnpike where a bloodstain marked the scene of the killing, he said, "I found tracks leading from the wheel marks of Beattie's car, to a tree stump at the side of the road, and back again. The state claims Beattie went to the stump and got his gun, hidden there previously, then shot his wife."

Mr. Beattie was with me at the time it was his car I drove there in, and this was only a few hours after the murder I asked him to arrange his car just as it had been when the highwayman appeared. He placed it on the left side of the road, as if he had been there. He had claimed that these blood marks were made by his wife's head banging over the edge of the machine, then he pointed out to him that this could be so. He himself was sitting in the right hand, or driver's seat, according to his story. His wife fell the other way. Therefore just away from the pool of blood was with the car in its present position. He didn't know just what to say, but after a time backed up to the machine, ran it forward to the right side of the blood pool, saying, "It must have been this way."

Incidentally, Scherer said that Beattie exhibited no grief and no interest in the investigation. He did not offer a single suggestion as to how the mysterious highwayman might be found. First he said his highwayman had gone into the woods, again that he had run down the road. He did not know where the man was white, or where the merchandise was a tremendously powerful individual. He had wrestled with the man and taken the gun away from him, Scherer declared young Beattie said.

"I asked him then," the detective went on, "how he, a slightly built youth, could have wrestled the gun from this giant. He replied, 'I guess excitement must have given me extra strength.' But when I asked why, with this strength he did not overpower the highwayman, he answered: 'My first thought was for my wife.'"

Some of the jury men seemed to be more than ever doubtful of the defendant's story as they heard this, and apparently wondered why he could not have told the color of the alleged highwayman if he were close enough to grapple with him in the light of a lamp.

Detective Scherer told how he made a quiet investigation about the gay ways of Richmond and learned of Beattie's infatuation for Beulah Binford. Also he discovered that they had been together the night before the murder. On the day of Mrs. Beattie's burial he called the boy aside and asked him about Beulah.

"I haven't seen her for a long time," Beattie replied, according to the witness. Then Scherer surprised him by describing his recent movements with the girl. Beattie then asked him minutely.

"Where is Beulah? Is she under arrest?" Scherer wouldn't tell him. The boy then broke down and admitted

that he had spent many recent nights with the pretty deuil-mondaine, and that he and another well-known youth named Sampson (a single man) had been in Norfolk with Beulah and Henrietta Pittman, who yet is to testify at the trial, and is another good looking girl of the same class.

"He told me then the whole story of his affair with Beulah Binford," went on the witness. "How he met her when she was 13 years old, how he was the father of her child when she was 15 (giving her a large sum of money) and later paying for the baby's burial when it died, and how his wife knew of all this."

The manner in which young Mrs. Beattie learned of Henry's recent unfaithfulness was asked of Scherer and he began to explain; but Judge Watson decided that this must be told by physicians. Their testimony will establish completely the motive for the killing.

Court adjourned at this point until Monday, when Scherer will be cross-examined. When that is over Beulah Binford will most likely tell her life story, after which the state will wrap up its case with a jury-impressing sensation in the way of Paul Beattie's narration of how he purchased the gun in question at his cousin's instance.

TOBACCO CROP DAMAGED BY A RAIN STORM

Springfield, Mass., Aug. 26.—Last week's disastrous hail and rain storm is believed to have damaged the growing tobacco crop to the extent of \$750,000. The damage amounts to a calamity in the districts affected in that, with some few exceptions, the loss falls almost entirely upon small growers, many of whom will be obliged to mortgage their farms in order to plant next season's crop.

Fifteen hundred acres of tobacco were moved down so thoroughly that not a leaf of merchantable tobacco remains, and more than 1,000 acres were damaged to a lesser degree. More than 10 per cent of the entire New England tobacco crop was destroyed.

TAFT BLOCKS PROMOTION OF 108 OFFICERS

Washington, Aug. 26.—Because President Taft has failed to act on the court martial recommendation for the dismissal of first Lieutenant Robert G. Rutherford, twenty-fourth infantry, 187 officers of the army are prevented from being promoted and receiving increased pay. Friends of Lieut. Rutherford, headed by Senator Stone of Missouri, have succeeded in holding up the President's approval of the verdict. In the meantime sixty-one first lieutenants and 126 second lieutenants are deprived of higher rank and more pay which they would have received had Rutherford been dismissed.

CONTRACTOR IN DURHAM DIES

Durham, N. C., Aug. 26.—After a hard fight for his life, William A. Salmon, of the Salmon Brothers firm of contractors, died today. He was 40 years of age and leaves a wife and two children, two sisters and five brothers.

He underwent an operation early in the year that again put him on his feet, but his last ten weeks had been marked by hopelessness.

His firm was doing the Trinity building and he died without seeing his favorite finished.

The funeral will be tomorrow from the Second Baptist church of which he was a member.

TENNIS TEAM COMING.

London, Aug. 26.—The British tennis team which is to compete with the Americans in the preliminary games for the Davis cup, left for New York on the Atlantic.

TRIED SUICIDE IN JAIL.

Durham, N. C., Aug. 26.—Horace Gentry, in jail for stabbing Walter Stanbury a week ago, cut his throat in his cell tonight, but is not very badly hurt.



JUDGE IN BEATTIE CASE. Judge Walter Watson, who is presiding at the trial in Richmond of Henry Clay Beattie on the charge of murdering his young wife, and (on the right) the defendant. The trial began Aug. 21.

Speed Mania Claims Two Lives at Elgin Cup Race Saturday

Buck And His Mechanician Killed as Car Turned Turtle on Bad Turn Going 80 Miles an Hour—Grand Stand Collapsed.

Len Zengel, Driving National Won Elgin Trophy And Thousands of Dollars Prize Money—He Averaged 66.45 Miles Per Hour on Track.

Elgin, Ill., Aug. 26.—The death of a driver and his mechanic when their big racing car turned turtle going at 80 miles an hour, and the injury of a score of spectators when a section of the grandstand collapsed, marked the second day of speed madness and record smashing at the great Elgin national road races today. One hundred thousand people treated death as a spectacular incident and the sport continued until the finish of the races, when Len Zengel, driving a National car, winner of the Elgin national trophy and the thousands of dollars prize money, Zengel covered the 305 miles at an average speed of 66.45 miles an hour.

It was on one of the closing laps of the race that Dave Buck and his mechanic, Sam Jacobs, driving in the Pope-Hartford car, attempted to negotiate the northern turn at terrific speed. Buck struck a rut and the car threw a front tire. The huge machine turned a complete somersault, Jacobs was killed instantly. Buck was picked up with a broken hip and was rushed to the hospital, where he died this evening.

The collapse of the grandstand occurred during the first lap of the race, shortly after the start of the races. As Harry Grant, lading the field, came down the home stretch, 1,500 spectators, rising to cheer him, were sent into a tangle of screaming humanity as four sections of the grandstand went down like a row of dominoes.

Instantly a panic seized the crowd. The soldiers guarding the course were hurriedly ordered to the scene and by heroic efforts in calling the frightened throng probably averted the fall of the entire grandstand with its 7,000 people. Ambulances and automobiles were rushed to the stands with physicians and nurses. The race was stopped temporarily. Among the injured was Mrs. Ralph Graham, of Chicago, daughter of Senator Lorimer. She was unconscious for an hour after the fall. Thirty minutes after the accident all of the injured had been removed and the crowd was howling for a continuation of the races.

Railroad Officials May Feel Wrath of Interstate Commerce Commission

Washington, Aug. 26.—Railroad officials are likely to feel the wrath of the interstate commerce commission. The recent wreck on the Lehigh Valley Railroad and the New York New Haven & Hartford Railroad has made the members of the commission determined to take drastic action to fix responsibility for the appalling loss of life. Responsibility for the wreck of the Federal express at Bridgeport was due to the engineer running his train at too fast a speed. The wreck at Manchester was due to the spreading of rails.

FLAGS TRAIN TO SAVE LIFE.

New Castle, Del., Aug. 26.—Prompt action on the part of Flagman James McGrath at the Eighth and Delaware streets crossing of the Delaware Railroad saved the life of Steward Hammond, who has charge of the cooking for the repairmen now at work at the bridges and crossings here. The steward is deaf and was moving along at a slow pace a short distance from the crossing. McGrath could not leave the crossing and could not make the man hear when a train approached, so he flagged the train within ten feet of the man.

SNAPPER FIGHTS THREE MEN.

Port Penn, Del., Aug. 26.—A monster snapper, caught in a haul seine, gave John Pustill, Aaron Willis and Frank White, of New Castle, a hard battle. While selling for trout and catfish the men saw a large snapper in the net, and on going to it they found the snapper. An effort was made to lasso it, but it caught the stout braid line in its mouth and bit in two. Finally, by the use of an oar, it was stunned and landed. It tipped the scales at 65 pounds.

FEAT IN CITY ROCK SURGERY.

Allentown, Pa., Aug. 26.—Taylor Roth performed an extraordinary feat last night, successfully blasting away a ledge of 20,000 tons of rock within the city limits, along Cedar Creek, south of the Duck Farm.

EDITORS LAND IN JAIL.

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 26.—Accused of using the mails to forward an indecent and obscene article in La Flamma, an Italian newspaper, Rev. Saividore Florena and T. Lucida, whose names appear at the head of the paper, were committed to the county jail in default of \$500 bail each by United States Commissioner Morgan in Camden.

THE WEATHER.

Washington, Aug. 26.—Forecast for Sunday and Monday: North Carolina, local showers Sunday and Monday. South Carolina, local showers Sunday and Monday.

Twenty Eight People Lose Lives In Motion Picture Show Following Explosion of Film

TWENTY-SIX BODIES OUT FROM WRECK

Two More Victims Have Died Swelling the List of Known Dead to 28—Ten More so Badly Hurt Little Chance is Held Out For Them.

Fifteen of Dead Are Women Inquest Set For Monday—Wreck Was Caused by Defective Rail—Revised List of the Dead.

Manchester, N. Y., Aug. 26.—Twenty-six bodies have been removed from the train wreck of yesterday and the ruins are being searched for more. Two more victims of the disaster died today, swelling the list of known dead to 28 and fully ten more of the injured are so frightfully maimed recovery is thought to be impossible. When the final tally is made the list of dead may reach thirty-five.

Of the twenty-six bodies taken from the two cars on the Lehigh Valley train that went over the embankment at Cananadaga outlet ten are still unidentified. Twenty-four bodies are in the Shortsville morgue and others are at widely separated undertaking establishments. In the Shortsville morgue are the bodies of six women and one man still unidentified.

Of the killed fifteen were women and the others members of the G. A. R. returning from the annual encampment which closed at Rochester Thursday.

The inquest has been set for Monday by Coroner Eiselina at Shortsville.

In addition, the interstate commerce commission is to institute an investigation at once. Commissioner Clements is quoted as saying: "We will stop some of these disasters when we jail a few important railway officials."

A defective rail, it is officially admitted, was the cause of the Manchester wreck.

A revised list of the dead follows: In Rochester morgue: Hill, Mrs. Emily, died. Hahnemann hospital. Rundle, W. P., mail clerk, Easton, Pa. Baker, Harry, trainman, Waverly, N. Y. Bell, E. M., veteran, Los Angeles, Cal.

In Shortsville morgue: Seubeck, Mrs. A., Buffalo. Madden, T. C., Trenton, N. J. Johnson, Mrs. C. F., Cleveland, Ohio. Hicks, Charles, Newark, N. J. Urie, Mrs. I. S., Smithfield, N. J. Hicker, Joseph, Philadelphia. Brownell, Ellen E., Tonewa, Pa. Anderson, Edgar B., 62 years old, Brooklyn.

Johnston, C. P., Philadelphia. Hunsicker, A. M., Vineland, Ont. Paugburn, E., Brooklyn. Pownall, Helen E., address unknown. Woman, unidentified, about 55 years of age.

Wrinkler, Mrs. Fredent, 55 years old, Philadelphia. Woman, unidentified, 30; blond hair, blue eyes, blue serge suit. Woman, unidentified; initials "E. H.," on clothing.

Woman, unidentified, 30, initials "E. H.," on stick pin. Woman, unidentified, initials "E. T. P.," on clothing.

Woman, unidentified, gold band ring, engraved "Minnie, November 28, '83." Man, unidentified, about 80, gray chin whiskers. Danehill, Rebecca, 55, Niagara Falls.

Woman, unidentified, dark hair weight about 175 pounds. Woman, unidentified, 40, dark hair. Boy, unidentified, about 12 years of age.

FARMER LAD TURNS BANDIT

New York, Aug. 26.—Two detectives dragged a well-dressed young man into police headquarters on whom were found a revolver, a black mask made out of a sack, and a peaked cap. "Yes," he said, "I will admit that I had been driven to attempt to make money dishonestly. I am Leon Guppel, 23. Until a few years ago I was a farmer boy in Deering, Me. Then I went to Boston and got a job in a grocery. Three weeks ago I came to New York, but I couldn't even get a job. Then I decided to get money by fair means or foul, and four times I started out on hold-up missions, but lost my nerve when the time came." Inspector Hughes recently learned from underground sources that Guppel was planning a hold-up and set detectives to watch him. Night and day since then Guppel has been shadowed.

Bruised and Crushed Bodies Of Dead Which Choked The Entrance Taken to Morgue

HURT PRIEST TELLS ABOUT AWFUL WRECK

Ithaca, N. Y., Aug. 26.—Bruised and fatigued by his experience in the Lehigh Valley wreck at Manchester, the Rev. William H. Harrington, rector of a local Catholic church, who, in spite of his own hurts, spent hours praying and ministering to the dying and injured in the wreck, arrived in this city today.

"It was more horrible than the human tongue can express," declared the priest. "Monsignor Hendrick, of Ovid, and I had just started lunch in the dining car. I noticed a cup of tea in the monsignor's hand spill and was warning him when there was a crash and we were both thrown to the other side as the car went down the bank."

"Climbing through a broken window, Monsignor Hendrick and I immediately went among the dying."

"We forgot our own hurts. It was the most terrible sight imaginable. The water under the trestle literally ran with blood."

"In the Pullman the dead were piled up high. There was a woman whose son is a priest in Baltimore. She made a practice to never start out on a journey without first receiving communion. She and her daughter had called on their priest yesterday morning, but he was not in and they came away without communion. I administered the last rites and closed the dying woman's eyes."

"In the creek bed a woman lay on the bank moaning, with a man beside her. The man asked me who was beside him, having heard her voice. She spoke her name and he grasped her hand and held it. They were man and wife. I was with them when both died."

"A young boy lay on the bank near me. From the back of his ear to his forehead his scalp was lifted off. Other people had their features distorted and one woman lost her nose completely. We went about among all who were brought out and did what we could to make their last minutes comfortable. It was the most terrible experience I've ever been through. The earthquakes I have been in do not compare."

The latter saw the crowd coming out and were trying to get in for the second performance which was to begin in a few moments. Both the performances draw big crowds on Saturday night and this accounted for the confusion at the main doors.

A POWERFUL ADDITION TO THE U. S. NAVY

Washington, D. C., Aug. 26.—A powerful addition to the navy was made today when the new battleship Utah was turned over to the government at Philadelphia and ordered to proceed to Hampton Roads for duty.

This great sea fighter is of the super dreadnaught class, bears enormous batteries of 10, 12 and 13-inch guns. She will carry 1,100 officers and men. Captain W. S. Benson will command her.

The Utah is equipped with oil burners, to be used when coal runs out, or when advantageous under battle conditions to avoid smoke.

High Living Cost Affects London

London, August 26.—The marked increase in the cost of living in London has led to the establishment of a firm of house bills specialists who undertake to check and pay tradesmen's accounts in large households. Society women who are usually in debt and have no time for the scrutiny of household bills have begun to feel the alarming growth of the domestic budget.

The new firm's very first customer was an American peeress, the Countess of Essex, whose experience during her entertaining campaign this season gave her a startling insight into the methods of West End tradesmen. The next customer was the Countess of Chesterfield, one of the famous Wilsons beauties she is noted for her extravagance. The company receives two and one-half per cent on the amounts saved and they are already doing a lucrative business.

Few Homes in Village Escaped Some Affection as Numbers Were Seriously Injured—House Had a Seating Capacity of About 1000.

Canonsburg, Aug. 26.—In a panic following the explosion of a film in a moving picture show here tonight twenty-eight people lost their lives and many were injured. The bruised and crushed bodies of the dead, which choked the main entrance to the theatre, were gathered up and carried to the morgue, while scores of injured were taken to the Canonsburg hospital or to their homes.

The disaster came with a suddenness that stunned the people of Canonsburg and scores walked the streets in a dazed condition, seemingly helpless in their terror and grief, for few homes had escaped some affliction.

The Morgan opera house is located in the center of the town and on the main street. It is a large structure and has two galleries with which the main floor affords seating capacity for 1,000 persons.

The moving picture cage was located on the second gallery floor and it was from this that the explosion took place. It made a loud noise and showed a flash of flame and this caused a shout of "fire" from the crowd.

The spectators on the main floor and the first gallery heard the cry and all rose en masse and started for the exits. The stairways leading from the second gallery brought the spectators there to the first balcony and then a second stairway led to the main entrance. The rush of both galleries to the stairway caused the exit to become choked instantly.

Some of the others, maddened with fear, sought the first escapes and reached the street in safety. But those that had made for the main entrance found not only their own number filling the entrance but they were stopped in their progress by a crowd of eager people trying to force their way into the theatre at the same time.

The latter saw the crowd coming out and were trying to get in for the second performance which was to begin in a few moments. Both the performances draw big crowds on Saturday night and this accounted for the confusion at the main doors.

Screams and cries and shouts from the confused and struggling mass of people were heard for a considerable distance from the opera house. The cry of fire caused an alarm to be turned in and the firemen came, but they were almost helpless in their efforts to get at the tangled mass of humanity.

Gradually it was seen that there was no fire in the building but the stampeede had done its awful work.

The film booth was fire proof and the fire went no further than its origin.

Calls for volunteers for rescue work brought an army of frenzied workers to the scene. They found bodies mostly in the doorways at the foot of the stairways and all were victims of crushing and trampling behind them.

The most pitiable sight was the number of children who were dead. Others were taken out almost unrecognizable and hurried to McNary's undertaking rooms.

The injured came later from the building which was still lighted and as soon as the struggling ceased it became easy to enter the auditorium. But in the excitement over the accident it was found that many of the injured had been hurried to their homes. Physicians were called for those carried out. Three were taken to the Canonsburg hospital at the outset and that the bodies of the dead began to be carried out. Finally these were cleared and the rescuers began looking out for the injured.

Many of the lesser injured people had been lifted from fire escapes and hurried to their homes where physicians were called to attend them. Others were unable to move and had to be carried out.

In the excitement no record was kept of them and physicians were obliged to make a house to house canvass to learn the whereabouts of the injured.

C. L. McCorkle, a druggist, who was in the theatre at the time the explosion occurred said:

"I saw the people in the audience rise to their feet and being near the door, made a rush for the entrance. I met other trying to get in the place and as we went out I saw a panic which was inevitable. I don't know who started the shouting except that it was some one in the top gallery."