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## WATKINS IS HELD IN BOND OF \$5000

(Continued from page 1.)

teen witnesses were called during the inquiry.

**Dr. Landis' Testimony.**

The first witness called by Dr. Morris was Dr. B. E. Landis of Black Mountain, who testified that he was called about 2 a. m. Saturday; that he went to the hotel and to the room; that he found one man lying in the hallway and one lying on a bed in the room; that both were shot; that the one on the floor got up and lay down on the other bed in the room; that Bunting was suffering intensely and screaming; that Collins told him to aid Bunting first; that he gave the latter medicine which eased him; that he did not know whether Collins was rational or not; could not tell whether he was drunk or not; said he (witness) had a cold and could not smell any whiskey on the men, but thought Collins looked and acted as if drunk; that he was sure they had been drinking. He testified to having dressed a wound on the leg of Bunting a few days previous to the shooting; that he had smelled whiskey on Bunting's breath and that Bunting had said he had taken some whiskey. He said Collins acted as rational at one moment and then again he was not; that he wished him to take his deposition; and he told him that he was no lawyer and would not. In reply to a question from Mr. Israel, witness said he saw no flask or like evidence of whiskey. Said that after G. W. Stepp, mayor of Black Mountain, came in Collins talked to Stepp.

**Mrs. Mary L. Woodruff.**

Mrs. Mary L. Woodruff of Springfield, Mass., a guest of the hotel, was called next. She testified that she was awakened about 11 to 12 o'clock by the men coming into the corridor. In a few minutes she heard them wandering about; that one struck her door; that she called to the manager; could not make him hear; the men were mumbling between themselves; she heard profanity; soon after witness heard the voice of Mr. Adams, a guest of the hotel, who went to the door of Collins and Bunting's room and asked them to stop their noise; that all was quiet for a while but in a few minutes she heard one of them call in an oath for the bottle; heard a voice say, "light

the lamp;" the voices were thick and she thought the men were drinking. Witness went to her door and saw men, half-dressed, out in the corridor; heard one say he had the bottle; that they went back into the room. Soon witness said she heard Watkins and the porters coming; Watkins went into the room; she heard a heavy fall against the door, closing Watkins in with them; then door opened in some way and she saw a flash; then witness said she collapsed, and knew nothing more of the occurrences. Being questioned, witness said the men were ugly in their talk; that they talked ugly to each other. Her room was on same floor and almost opposite that of Collins and Watkins.

**Miss Margaret Woodruff.**

Miss Margaret Woodruff of Springfield, Mass., a daughter of Mrs. Woodruff, took the stand. She told of the occurrence in a vivid manner. She heard men coming in about 12 o'clock; they slammed the doors; they were laughing and talking; about 1 o'clock her mother called and said they were wandering about the hall; she heard their thick, drunken voices; there was a light in a lower room, but not in one nearest witness; she heard Adams come to the door and tell them they must stop for there were ladies in the house; after the noise did not cease Mrs. Linnville called Mr. Manley, the proprietor, who called the police. Witness said she looked out of her door; they were both in the hall, staggering; went into the dark room and struck matches; soon Watkins came alone; there was a scuffle, then a noise and a shot; then another scuffle followed by a shot; the door was closed and a porter was on the outside; later it opened again and she saw the wounded man placed on the bed. Witness said she had heard nothing more of the affair in the hotel as she did not wish to discuss it.

**Mrs. W. L. Hill.**

Mrs. W. L. Hill of Warsaw, Duplin county, N. C., testified she arrived at Black Mountain on the late train that night; that she and her boys went to her room and soon fell asleep and were awakened by a shock; that she heard outcries; that finding her boys safe she blew out the light which she had left burning in the room and retired again; later she heard footsteps,

a light shuffling and then a pistol fired, and soon another shot, and heard a man's voice saying, "O God, I am shot." Witness said she called her boys, and knowing nothing of the surroundings in the hotel, she imagined there was a fight. Said she heard other voices, the sound of people moving around; that she saw the porter and asked him to go for the proprietor; and Watkins standing nearby said: "Do not be afraid, I fired the shots." Witness said her room was on same side of hall and close to the room where shooting occurred. She got the proprietor to move her to another room; the whole hotel was in a stir; she went downstairs partly for information and partly for company on account of her nerves; she said that, not knowing the names, someone suggested looking at the register; and finding the name of a kinsman of hers she rushed back and wished to go into the room; that the doctor would not allow her; after the doctor had given the hypodermic she saw the man and said his family ought to know of it, and that she wrote a message to T. O. Bunting of Wilmington.

**C. E. Adams.**

C. E. Adams, a guest of the hotel, said he was aroused about 1 o'clock by the noise of the men; discovering they were drunk, remained in bed a while; his wife was also in the room; they heard much profane language; that he went in to the room; the men were very quiet after he had gone in; he talked to them a few minutes; that they promised to be quiet; that soon after he returned to his own room they began again; that he went into their room a second time; that they did not appreciate the second visit so much; that he told them he would have to call the proprietor if they did not stop; that one pushed the door to, and said: "Send the proprietor." Adams went down stairs, and the proprietor sent for the policeman, who soon arrived; that in the meantime, the men had gone into the other room; that he heard the officer say, "What is the matter?" and heard him strike a match. The light was out when the officer entered the room; Adams heard him say "can't you be quiet?" and "if you can't I will take you to the lock-up;" then soon heard two shots. Witness said he remained in his room, but went into Collins' room after all was over and saw them; that the men shot were the same as he had talked to before; that he thought the men drunk. Witness said there was an interval between the shots, but not long. Witness said the men were both lying on the bed when he went in, with backs turned to the door; that one spoke to him, and showing the wound, asked him to send for a doctor.

**Mrs. Adams.**

Mrs. C. E. Adams testified to being aroused by a great deal of noise; said her husband tried to quiet the men; that he went into the room; that she heard him say: "Aren't you ashamed to behave so with ladies in the house?"; that her husband tried again to quiet them; he went downstairs; in the meantime the men went from one room to the other; her husband soon came back; she heard the officer say he would have to lock them up if they did not stop; that she heard doors slam; then scuffling, and the shots, and the voice of one saying, "I am going to die."

**Dudley Hill.**

Dudley Hill, also a guest, son of Mrs. W. L. Hill, told of being awakened by the shots; that he heard someone say, "O God, O God, I am shot," then heard people coming into the hall.

**Frank Verbsky.**

Frank Verbsky of Black Mountain testified that he was in the hotel when the shooting occurred, but was at the other end of the hall in his room; told of hearing the shots; said he met Watkins, who told him of the shooting; and went to the room with him. One man was lying on the bed groaning, while the other was sitting up and not suffering so much; they asked the men no questions. Witness said that one man had been there two or three days before, and the other came only that night. He could not say whether the men had been drinking or not.

**Leslie Hummel.**

Leslie Hummel of Goldsboro, acting clerk at the hotel, said that he knew nothing of the affair until the shots,

but had heard a noise, which he thought was outside; that after the shots he heard some ladies say a man was shot. One lady asked him to take her baby down stairs; said he heard the cry, "O God, I am shot," soon the doctor arrived. That after getting the baby safely away he went to the room; Collins came to the door, asked where was the proprietor; Officer Watkins said he would go to get him, and as he started off Collins lost his hold upon the door and fell to the floor. The doctor arrived, and Bunting cried for a hypodermic and Dr. Landis administered it; that he was sent for Dr. Carter, but not finding him returned to the room. By that time the men had been separated, one in each room. Bunting soon dozed off. Collins said, "I am getting along all right," and wanted the proprietor. He said Collins would talk wildly at times; that he sent a message to his mother or father, but don't send to his sister. Witness told of taking Collins up to his room when he arrived. He said Bunting had No. 17, and he gave Collins No. 19, adjoining room. Witness told of aiding in bringing the men to the hospital next morning. He said Collins was off at times, and said "I wonder why that woman shot me." Later he asked about his mother, or father, and Collins replied that his mother was living. Asked about other statements, witness said that Collins only smiled; that he was badly dejected at times. Hummel said he smelled whiskey strong in the room; I smelt it on Collins' breath; they talked like drunken men, as I remember it. He said Collins said that he did not notice that either was drunk when they arrived on the 4:47 train that night.

**Clem Jones.**

Clem Jones, colored, of Mount Olive, N. C., a dishwasher at the hotel, testified that when he came back from church about 1:20 a. m. he heard a noise as he came in; that he went to his room; Proprietor Manley sent for him and sent him for the officer; that when he came with the officer, ladies were out in the hall as he passed; that they went to room No. 19, which was dark, and Watkins knocked at the door. Replying to a question Watkins said, "I am a policeman;" the door was opened and Watkins told to come in, "as we take care of all policemen;" that Watkins struck a match; it went out; witness struck a match and lit the lantern. He stepped back towards the door. The men were "sort of huddled up" together on the bed. One got up and Watkins said, "don't come to me."—said this four times. Watkins drew his pistol, the light went out at that instant and Watkins fired about the same time. Watkins' arm probably knocked the light out. Mr. Collins fired, and his foot struck the door and closed it. Watkins said he wanted to get out, but Watkins told him to light the lantern. Soon after the lamp was lighted another shot was fired and the man fell. "I gets out," said the witness, and "Watkins sent me for the doctor." He went to Dr. Landis first, who said he could not come; then went to Dr. Terrell's and he was out of town, returned to Dr. Landis and the doctor went with witness to the hotel. In concluding witness said: "And there I spent the night toiling with the gents." It was upon questions from the jury that the interesting facts were brought out. Witness said the second shot was fired after the lantern was lighted the second time; that Mr. Bunting was standing on his feet, and holding out his hand; he was making no other effort towards Watkins, that he was in that position when the shot was fired which sent him to his grave. Witness said that Mr. Collins was shot first; that his left foot in some way struck the door; that he said "O Lord, you have shot me for nothing; I have done nothing." Witness said again, that about the time of the first shot the room was darkened, and after Mr. Bunting was shot, he exclaimed, "O Lord, go and get a doctor, I am dying."

**H. Burley Cowan.**

H. Burley Cowan, colored, of Statesville, porter of the hotel, testified that when he returned from church Mr. Manley sent him for the policeman and they awoke Mr. Watkins. They brought him back to the hotel and went up to the second floor, finding room 17 empty. Officer Watkins knocked at door of No. 19 and started into the room, which was dark; that a voice asked who it was; that Mr. Watkins replied that he was a policeman; that they said "come in, we take care of policemen in here;" a light was lit; that the men were on the beds; that they said, "We are only talking to ourselves;" that they were talking as drunk men; that one of them made towards Mr. Watkins, the other one tried to pull him back; Mr. Watkins said for them not to advance on him; the man kept walking forward, talking and acting as a drunk man and Mr. Watkins shot him down; in his falling, in some way, the door was caused to shut. Witness was positive that the light went out "immediately as the shot." Replying to a question, witness said that the man was walking toward Mr. Watkins as a drunk man would, but not acting as if he would do anything else; that he was talking like a drunk man; the men were about five feet apart when the shot was fired. Witness said the men were drinking; that he did not see them drinking but knew "they had it in the room."

**F. F. Manley.**

F. F. Manley, proprietor of the hotel, told of being awakened about 1 o'clock by Mrs. Woodruff and Mrs. Linnville, who asked that he go up stairs and quiet the noise; said that the language was reported as being "bad and vulgar;" witness said he was not able to go upstairs on account of a sore foot; that he would send someone else; that soon Mr. Adams came down, and said that the men had told him "we are in our own room and are going to stay there and do as we please;" that later he heard ladies screaming, and "out in their night clothes;" that he heard cursing; he sent Watkins upstairs; he heard a match being struck; heard scuffling and a shot; then scuffling and a shot; that he did not go up until Mrs. Hill sent for him to change her room; that he managed to get up; passed the room and saw the crowd in there, and changed Mrs. Hill's room. Witness said he had only seen Collins for a moment at night. He could not say as to whether he was drinking or not. Bunting had been drinking every day since he had been there, as he had smelled it on his breath. Witness said Watkins and a colored boy came down after the shooting and Watkins said,

"I had to shoot them."

**G. W. Stepp.**

G. W. Stepp, mayor of Black Mountain, told of being awakened by Watkins, who said: "I have shot two men at the hotel; I do not know what to do so will give up to you." Witness told of going to the hotel; finding the men lying on the bed, Bunting perfectly quiet; that Dr. Landis told Collins that he (witness) was mayor and would take his deposition; that before he could find paper, Collins had gone into a rage and would not give it. Witness said he searched the room carefully for weapons but found none at all. That he found a watch and pocketbook under a pillow; that by that time they had separated the men, bringing one into the other room; the negro offered the man the pocketbook; the man abused the negro; he demanded the money he counted; that about this time Mrs. Linnville came in, and the money was counted out and taken down to the safe. Witness thought that Mr. Collins was either under the influence of liquor or deranged from suffering. Said Mr. Collins whispered to him: "I have a girl here; do all you can to keep her from finding out about this; my partner also has a girl here, so look out for her also."

**Mrs. Linnville.**

Mrs. M. R. Linnville, housekeeper of the hotel, formerly of Knoxville, said she was awakened by Mrs. Woodruff calling for the proprietor. She was saying she wanted Mr. Manley to come and quiet the drunken men. She told of going down and seeing Mr. Manley, who said he could do nothing. She went back up stairs, and the men had changed from room 17 to 19. She knocked on Mrs. Woodruff's door and said she would try to quiet the men; Mrs. Woodruff would not let her go over to the room. She told of Watkins arriving; of his going into the room, Clem, the negro, in the door; she heard the officer say "keep back." Witness heard one shot followed soon by another, and heard a voice saying, "O, my God, you have shot me." She told of the officer going for the doctor, and later she went into the room. She told of getting the watch and pocketbook, and heard Collins say: "I don't care a damn for the money, but keep the watch." Then she took money and watch to the proprietor, and returned to the room. Witness said Collins took her hand and said: "A great mistake, a great mistake; if we had only locked the door we would have been all right. He opened the door and fired upon us." Witness said that while Collins seemed irrational at times, he seemed quiet when he made this statement. She told of making cold lemonade for them next morning before they were taken away; said Collins drank some but Bunting would not. Collins said to her next morning before leaving, "O sister, for God's sake change our names on the register; don't let it get to the papers, so mother and sister would find out about it." Witness said Collins said he hoped to be back Tuesday.

A report from the Mission hospital this morning was to the effect that Mr. Collins' condition was very favorable, and that there were great hopes for his recovery.

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