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NO LEGAL DEFENCE.

Statesville Daily. The noted trial at Rockingham has presented several new features and there may be others before it is concluded. First was the failure of the defense to object to the drawing of a jury from another county; second, the short time occupied in the selection of a jury, which was completed when only 65 of the 200 veniremen had been examined; third, acceptance by the defense of a juror who said he had expressed the opinion that the defendant was guilty; fourth, and most notable to date, the dual defense—self-defense and temporary insanity.

The "brainstorm" theory was expected. That of itself is a good defense, but not a legal one. Cole was greatly angered as well as humiliated by the allegations against his daughter's character, made by Ormond. The feeling was perfectly natural. Most fathers would have felt that way, and many of them would go gunning under the circumstances. It is possible for one greatly angered to control himself while the object of his hatred keeps out of sight. Many people have had that experience. But coming upon the object of his hatred all the latent anger blazes out afresh and the urge to violence may be irresistible. That is called brainstorm, temporary insanity, in the case of persons who have much money and influential friends. In the case of the average man it is yielding to passions which one is expected to control and most accept responsibility for failure to control. The brainstorm idea is that one knew what he was about just before the storm and immediately afterwards, but was irresponsible at the time. Of course, if the jurors sympathize with Cole's cause for wrath, if one feels that under similar circumstances he would do the same, they may acquit. It is quite common to hear persons say, under similar circumstances, that the provocation warranted the act and it is therefore justified. But it is well to remember that there is no justification in law for one avenging his own wrongs—none whatever. Any acquittal on that ground is simply licensing mob law, whether the mob be one man or a score. All lynchings, or near all, may be justified on the ground that the accused deserved death. And so if one is permitted to avenge his own wrongs the law is set aside; and one may be the judge of whether the wrong justifies homicide. If private vengeance be justified in one case it must be justified in another, if all are to have the same privilege—the poor and humble as well as the wealthy and influential. A little reflection will show that, followed to the logical conclusion, one who felt the urge to slay could first create his grievance, out of nothing, then be seized with brainstorm, and the work is accomplished. All that will be necessary will be to show that he had felt himself so wronged that his passion overcame him and he killed. Then he goes down to his house justified.

Those who feel that under certain circumstances they would be warranted in killing—and there are many such people—should all the time keep in mind that there is absolutely and positively no warrant in the law for private executions. Therefore if one permits his desire to slay to overcome him, no matter what his grievance, he should accept the penalty of the law. He is a whining coward when he does the deed and then claims the protection of the law he has outraged and trampled under foot. It should be burnt into the brains of every man that self-defense, in defense of one's own life, or to save life, is the only legal excuse for homicide. Those who create other causes to save themselves are demanding what they would deny others were the cases reversed; and jurors who set aside the law and vindicate acts of personal vengeance on the ground that provocation was great, are guilty of perjury. They have no such authority in law.

Just where Cole's self-defense comes in isn't clear. Of course it will be said that he shot because he was in fear of his life. But she dead man was making no attack and there was no indication at the time that he intended attack. If there be lacking evidence that Cole premeditated doing what he did, and it is believed that he acted on the impulse of the moment, when the sight of his enemy moved him to uncontrolled anger, he is either guilty of second degree murder or manslaughter. There can be no legal excuse for his act in any aspect of the case.

Size Paper Money May Be Reduced.

A reduction in the size of paper money of all denominations is under consideration by the National Government at a measure of economy and efficiency.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Dewey, in charge of currency, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Dewey, in charge of currency matters, has been directing a comprehensive study of the currency situation for the past nine months and is about to recommend several changes in the currency.

One of these, it is learned, is a diminution of the dimensions of a standard American bill by about one-third to a size that would easily fit in the ordinary envelope.

Another is a change in the color of the \$2 bill from green to brown.

Currency experts calculate that by reducing the size of bills a saving of one-third under present expenditures for the manufacture of paper money may be effected. Twelve bills would be printed on one sheet of silk-lined paper as against eight bills at present.

Technique.

"You don't love me like you used to," complained Ruth.

"Well," answered Paul, "don't you expect me to keep up with the latest developments?"

It was a very cold day and Isaacs and Cohen had walked about four miles without either making a single remark. "You don't you say something!" said Cohen.

"Freeze your own hands!" said Isaacs.

Mr. Cole's Testimony and Attitude

Mr. R. S. Pickett, editor of the Statesville Ledger, who is in Rockingham reporting the Cole trial, has the following in Sunday's issue of his paper:

Cole undoubtedly felt that he would never come to trial. The attitude of the entire Cole connection since the trial began has been one of annoyance. They apparently felt when Mr. Cole explained that he shot Ormond for certain reasons, Rockingham and North Carolina would assume its customary poise and say "that's all right Bill. We know you had a good reason for the killing." The Cole connection has been banked behind the press table during the trial and women have been overheard to remark "Bill is certainly doing splendidly." This when the accused was on the witness stand telling a story that meant his life for death.

Today when Clyde Hoy began to press Cole into an uncomfortable position regarding some of his testimony one very large woman with an unusually impressive front was heard to say "That lawyer is the nastiest man I ever saw in my life. Why doesn't he let Bill alone?"

It is generally reported around Rockingham that Miss Elizabeth Cole told a close friend a week or so after the shooting that she thought it was about time people quit talking about the killing, according to report, and certainly the attitude since the trial began has been much the same as that of a family whose head had run over a neighbor's dog, and the neighbor was actually nasty about it.

When Cole took the stand early this morning he appeared calm and unmoved. He had much the same appearance as he had yesterday when he told his story on direct examination. When the first question of Mr. Hoy was fired at him he became the cotton mill owner and hard headed business man. His first answer was snapped back at Mr. Hoy much as if he had been in conference with a group of men he controlled in a business way. His answers continued to snap and at times he almost snarled at the smiling, questioning attorney who sat directly in front of him. Mr. Hoy's examination was adroit, clever and piercing. Mr. Cole's answers were evasive whenever possible and when forced to answer directly he did so with impatience and annoyance. At times the minds of the two men clashed, but not often.

Cole today repeated his statement of yesterday that he had prayed for three months and finally had reached a consciousness that he had a perfect right to protect himself and his family.

Much speculation is in the air as to what the verdict of the jury will be. Numbers of newspapermen have asked their correspondents to give them stories on the probable final decision in the case. Nothing more impossible can be imagined. The jury is composed of men far above the average jury intelligence. In covering more than ten capital cases in the course of the past seven years the writer

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

SUBMARINE TRAINS TO RUN ON STILTS?

Engineers Plan Tunnel Built on Great Concrete Piers Under the Channel.

For more than a century, one of the most fascinating problems to the European engineer has been the building on a tunnel under the English Channel, to link France and England.

One of the latest schemes, says Popular Science Monthly for November, is that of a Frenchman, Commandant Veyrier. He proposes that, instead of boring a tunnel through the bedrock of the Channel, a succession of great reinforced concrete piers shall be anchored to the sea bottom by means of strongly ballasted caissons.

The piers would be sunk 340 feet from the surface. Once the piers were anchored securely, Veyrier's plan calls for a double-tube railway laid upon them, a section at a time, and fastened firmly to the supports.

At the end of every section of the tube railway would be a watertight compartment similar to the watertight bulkheads with which all modern vessels are fitted. These compartments would insure greater safety in the tube, since if one part of it were flooded, the rest would be shut off immediately. Each tube would hold only one railway line—one tube for eastbound and the other for westbound trains.

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