

State of Illinois, } ss.
COUNTY OF COOK.

An Inquisition was taken for the People of the State of Illinois,
at 912 W. Madison St. in the City of Chicago
in said County of Cook, on the 12th day of Nov. 13th-Dec A. D. 1917,
before me, PETER M. HOFFMAN, Coroner, in and for said County, upon view of the body of
John A. Becker then and there lying dead
upon the oaths of six good and lawful men of the said County, who, being duly sworn to inquire on
the part of the People of the State of Illinois into all circumstances attending the death of said
John A. Becker and by whom the same was produced, and
in what manner and when and where the said John A. Becker
came to his death, do say, upon their oaths, as aforesaid, that the said
John A. Becker now lying dead at 912 W. Madison St. in said
City of Chicago County of Cook, State of Illinois, came to his death on the
11th day of Nov. A. D. 1917 in the ladies
room of the Sharples Bldg., on the southeast corner of
Washington and Jefferson Streets, from intercranial hemorrhage
fracture of the skull on November 10th A.D. 1917. From the
evidence presented we the jury find that the deceased was
assaulted and robbed and murdered and that assault took place
in rear of 613 Washington Street and deceased staggered in
building where he died and later his body was found. We the
jury recommend that the police continue their investigation and
when guilty persons are apprehended they be held to the Grand
Jury on a charge of murder.

In TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said Coroner, and the jury of this inquest have hereunto set
their hands the day and year aforesaid.

Barnebeck

man

J. C. Bradford

State of Illinois)
County of Cook) ss.

BEFORE THE CORONER OF COOK COUNTY.

INQUEST ON THE BODY)
of) First Hearing.
JOHN A. HECKER)

Transcript of the testimony taken and the proceedings had at the inquest held upon the body of the above named deceased before Adolph Herrmann, Deputy Coroner of Cook County, Illinois, and a jury, duly impaneled and sworn at the undertaking rooms at 912 West Madison street, Chicago, Illinois, on Monday, November 12th, A.D. 1917 at 10:00 o'clock A.M.

PRESENT: Mr. W.R. Turner, Assistant Surgeon,
representing the United States Navy.

Capt. Meagher, representing the Police
Department, City of Chicago.

Reported by David T. Richie.

THE DEPUTY: Is there a relative of the deceased here?

A VOICE: No relative here.

H. C. S I E V E R S ,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name? A H.C. Sievers.

Q Where do you reside, Mr. Sievers? A River Forest.

Q What is your occupation? A Manager, Sweet-Wallach and Company.

Q What business are they engaged in? A Photographic supplies.

Q Where is there place of business located? A 133 North Wabash avenue.

Q Mr. Sievers, you passed the building on the south-east corner of Washington boulevard, at Jefferson street, yesterday?

A I didn't recognize Jefferson street.

Q That is the street all right. A Yes.

Q At the time you were on Jefferson or Washington boulevard? A Washington boulevard.

Q Were you walking or occupying some vehicle? A Driving my machine.

Q The automobile was east or west-bound? A East-bound.

Q What particular part of the street was your automobile, on the car tracks or was it in that portion of the street between the car tracks and the curb? A Between the car tracks and the south curb.

Q Who, other than yourself was occupying the machine?

A My wife and her two nieces.

Q Was it a right or left-hand drive? A It was a left-hand drive.

Q Were you operating the machine? A I was.

Q And whereabouts in the machine was your wife sitting?

A Back seat.

Q Now, sitting along side of one of the nieces -- what was the young lady's approximate age? A Nineteen.

Q While passing the alley between Jefferson and Clinton, what, if anything did you see? A Just as we passed the alley, I saw two jackies, and two girls.

Q Were both of the two members of the United States navy?

A Yes.

Q They were dressed in that uniform? A Yes, sir.

Q With reference to the alley, where were they, right at the entrance of the alley or east or west of the alley?

A They were east of the alley, but I couldn't say just how near, ten or twenty feet.

Q Were they moving or standing still? A Why, as I remember, the front couple were moving along very slowly.

Q When you speak of the front couple, do you mean the couple that was to the west or to the east? A To the west.

Q Go ahead? A The front couple were walking along slowly.

Q Which direction? A West.

Q Go ahead. A Add arguing about something. And the back couple, as I passed seemed to have just about stopped to see what the other couple were going to do. That is the impression I got, the way they acted. I didn't pay much attention to the jackies.

Q Your attention was attracted to the ladies? A To the ladies, because I thought they looked very flashy. They were young girls, but very badly powdered.

Q And would you recognize the ladies or one of the ladies if you saw them here again? A I am not sure; I think I would.

Q In regard to the navy men, would you recognize either one of them? A I might.

Q With reference to their dress, that would help in some manner, as to whether they had on trousers or whether they had on leggings or the uniform, if it was blue or if it was white?

A It wasn't white, I don't think.

Q It was regular blue? A Yes.

Q Were the trousers plain or leggings on; did they have on leggings? A I couldn't say.

Q With reference to their dress, did they appear to be mussed up in any way? A I can't recall about that. I went by, only took a few seconds to go by.

Q I realize that. Did they show any signs of drink or anything? A I don't think that the girls did.

Q And the man? A The back man might have had some drink. I couldn't say anything about the front one; I got past when they were arguing.

Q Did you hear any loud or angry words spoken? A No.

Q Whatever was said was said in a subdued tone? A Yes.

Q At that time you were not aware of the fact that a body or one of the men in the Navy was found in the building?

A No.

Q You learned that by reading ~~this~~ the newspapers this morning? A Well, I first heard of it last night on my way back ~~from~~ home. A man stopped me as I was going along Clinton avenue, for a ride, and it transpired that he was a reporter on the Examiner. He mentioned it to me, and got off in a couple of blocks.

Q That brought this other incident back to your mind?

A Yes, that brought it back to my mind that I had seen this.

Q Now, is there anything further, Mr. Sievers, that you know about the case that I may not have asked? A No, I can't say.

Q What time was it approximately that you passed?

A I should judge about one forty-five.

Q P.M.? A Yes.

Q The police may call upon you later. I would like to get all the address that I possibly could out of you, so they can locate you in a short time? A My phone is -- I am not sure; they have changed it lately.

CAPTAIN MEAGHER: I have got it.

THE DEPUTY: Is there any question that you would like to ask, Mr. Turner?

MR. TURNER: Q That kind of caps did the men have?

A I didn't notice. My attention was particularly attracted to the girls, looking like she was trying to drag these fellows and go some place.

Q There is two kinds of caps worn, a large blue cap and a white cap? A I imagine it was a large blue, I think.

Q Could you say about the leggings? A I think they long didn't have any trousers on. I think they had leggings.

The large man was quite tall, rather robust and had black hair.

(Witness excused).

W. R. TURNER,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name? A W.R. Turner.

Q Where do you reside, Mr. Turner? A 516 Clayton street, Waukegan.

Q Mr. Clayton, you have some official position in the United States Navy? A Assistant Surgeon, U.S. Navy.

Q What was the name of the deceased? A John Andrew Becker. I have not identified him yet, you understand.

Q Then, we will let you identify him before we get the name.

(Witness retires with Coroner to view remains).

Q Now, Doctor, from an inspection of the body at this morgue, the markings that you find on the body externally are the markings that you have in your history sheet in reference to John A. Becker, the gentleman named?

A Yes, sir.

Q And from those markings and so forth, you can identify this body as being the body of John A. Becker? A Yes, sir.

Q Those are the markings you have there externally?

A Yes, sir.

Q There are some markings internally -- his mouth is

internal -- that you have not examined, and we will not examine at this time, for fear that we may destroy some evidence that may lead to the solution how this man met his death, and the facts will be made just as far as they can be safely made without destroying any evidence? A Yes, sir.

Q Now, how old was the deceased, John A. Becker, and his last birthday? A According to his medical history, he was twenty-two.

Q Are you able to give the month and date? A Born August 20th, 1895.

Q Was he a married or single man? A No evidence of having been married; probably single.

Q Where was he born? A St. Louis, Missouri.

Q What was his father's name? A Frank Becker.

Q Where was his father born? A Does not give his father's birthplace.

Q Do you know what his mother's maiden name was? A No.

Q Where she was born? A No, sir.

Q What was the deceased's occupation? A Glass maker, his former occupation.

Q Do you know what his religion was? A Catholic.

Q As a glass maker, do you know what his wages or salary was? A No, sir.

Q What wages or salary in the United States navy? A About forty dollars a month.

Q And keep? A Yes.

Q Do you know if he carried any life or accident insurance?

A Only what the Government would give him, as far as I know.

Q Do you know if he owned any estate? A No, sir.

Q With reference to his mental condition, it was good?

A As far as I have any information.

Q And his physical condition? A As far as I have any information.

Q His eye-sight and hearing? A At the time of enlistment, splendid.

Q How tall was he in feet and inches? A 67 and one-half inches tall.

Q Five feet, seven and one-half? A Yes.

Q And what was his weight? A Why, 151 pounds was the weight last May.

Q Do you know what his education was, common, high or college? A No, sir.

Q Do you know if he left anybody dependent upon him for support? A No, sir.

Q Was the deceased connected with your -- ?

A Great Lakes Naval Training station, is considered a ship; yes, sir; he was a member of the Great Lakes Naval Station.

Q Can you give just what rank about? A Apprentice seaman.
Of course, you understand, he may have had some change of rating without any addition in his medical history, since then.

Q I realize what you give me is the medical history?

A Yes.

Q Do you know if he had any relatives or a father or mother that are alive, who are to be notified in the case?

A His father, Frank Becker, 4013 Best Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri.

Q (To the undertaker). Have you got that father notified?

A VOICE: He has responded today; he has ordered us to ship the body.

Q Now, with reference to leaving the station, do you know how he would be permitted to leave the station? A If it were only to leave a few hours, I think, up to 36 hours, he could get leave of his commanding officer, but if he wanted leave for another period, he would have to get leave through the Executive office.

Q Do you know whether he was granted leave? A No, sir.

Q You haven't been able to ascertain that, as yet?

A I was rushed down here in about two minutes time; I didn't get any information.

Q Of course, I would like to have that information, if I

possibly could. It may be, by making an investigation among his associates you would probably be able to find out who he was in the habit of going with. In other words, his pal. They ~~gankar~~ generally go in a bunch, have two or three of them when they go together, when they come in? A Yes, sir.

Q You would be able to learn that, too, wouldn't you, doctor? A Yes, sir; it would be no trouble at all.

(Witness excused).

M A R Y W I L L I A M S ,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name? A Mary Williams.

Q Where do you reside? A 3140 Fulton street.

Q What is your occupation? A Elliott-Fisher operator.

Q You were acquainted with one John A. Becker? A Yes, sir. I have known him for a month or so.

Q How did you become acquainted with him? A Through correspondence.

Q You became acquainted with him through a lady friend of yours and another member of the Navy, named James Bennett?

A Yes, sir.

Q The Becker that you were acquainted with was a blonde?

A Yes, sir.

Q Medium built man? A Yes, sir.

Q When did you last see Mr. Becker alive? A A week ago Sunday.

Q Where was he at that time? A At our house.

Q Did you make an engagement to meet the man? A No, he said, I suppose, "I will see you next Sunday." I said, "Yes."

Q That would be yesterday? A Yes, sir.

Q During the interval of the week, did you hear from him?

A Yes, sir; twice.

Q By mail? A Yes, sir.

Q Now, did you hear from him in any other way, other than mail? A No, sir.

Q Did you hear from him over the ~~the~~ telephone? A Yes, sir.

Q When did you hear from him over the telephone?

A Saturday evening, at seven thirty.

Q As near as you can, will you relate that conversation over the telephone? A He called me up and asked for me. I went

to the phone. He said, "This is Mary?" I said, "Yes."

He said, "Well, we can't go out to night?" I said, "Why?"

He said, "I am not dressed up enough." I said, "That doesn't make any difference." He said, "Well, I am sorry, I couldn't

bring my friend along with me." I said, "Why?" He said,

"He wouldn't come."

Q And in the supposed friend, who did he refer to?

A I don't know. It was not Mr. Bennett, it was somebody else; a room-mate of his, I guess.

Q You don't know what his name is? A No, sir.

Q But he said he was unable to bring him along?

A He said he was unable to bring him along.

Q Did he, at that time, say there was anybody with him?

A He said he was alone.

Q Did you ask where he was? A When he was telephoning, yes, sir; I asked where he was. He said, at a jewellers.

I said, "Downtown?" He said, a jewellers.

Q That was about what time? A Seven thirty.

Q Saturday night? A Yes, sir.

Q Did he make any engagement to meet you after that?

A Yes, sir. He said, "Now, it is seven thirty. It will be eight thirty before I could come in to see you." He said, "That would be one hour. I am going to 25th and Halsted street, and in one hour I will be back. Will you wait for me?" I said, "Yes." I waited until ten o'clock.

Q He did not return? A He did not come up.

Q Lady, have you been over to see -- have you spoken to any of the police? A No, sir.

Q Have you an idea what jewelers he was in? A No.

Q Was he in the habit of carrying a large amount of money?

A I don't know.

Q At any time did you ever see any signs of drink? A No, sir.

Q Was he a drinking man? A I don't know, and from his appearance, I don't think he was.

Q How many times have you seen him, all told? A Once.

Q That was a week ago. That is the first time you ever saw him? A First time.

Q Now, you spoke about a party, that you were to be accompanied to a party. Do you know where the party was to be held? A That was -- I don't know exactly. I have an invitation from my girl friend, she gave me invitation tickets, three of them.

Q You mean your lady friend who was acquainted with Mr. Bennett? A No, she didn't know Mr. Bennett, just met Mr. Becker for the first time at the same time I did.

Q And her name? A Catherine Connery, 3238 Fulton street.

Q Have you any idea what place he was to visit at 25th and Halsted? A He said a friend that wanted to see him before he went away.

Q If he were downtown and telephoned over and made a trip to 25th and Halsted, it would take him just about an hour to go out and come back to your home? A That is what he said.

Q Did he give you the particulars of the trip. Do you know of any other person he might visit here in the city, other than those? A No, he said he didn't know any relatives in this city at all, except a cousin. I think he was living on Gladys. He asked me where Gladys avenue was, he might try to locate him.

Q Did he give any number on Gladys? A No, he did not. He hadn't any idea where he was at. He was going to write and find out.

Q Bennett, is it? A I think he is his tent mate.

Q What are Mr. Bennett's initials? A James Bennett.

(Witness excused).

Whereupon the inquest was continued
until

State of Illinois,) ss.
County of Cook.)

BEFORE THE CORONER OF COOK COUNTY.

INQUEST ON THE BODY)
of) SECOND SESSION.
JOHN A. BECKER.)

Transcript of the testimony taken and the proceedings had at the inquest held upon the body of the above named deceased before Deputy Coroner Adolph Herrmann, of Cook County, Illinois, and a jury duly impaneled and sworn, at Sheldon's undertaking rooms, 912 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois, on ~~W~~ Thursday, December 13, 1917, at two o'clock P. M.

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THOMAS CROSIER,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name?

A Thomas Crosier.

Q Where do you reside, Mr. Crosier?

A 1634 West Chicago Avenue.

Q What is your occupation? A Engineer.

Q Where are you employed? A At the Sharples Building.

Q At the southeast corner of Washington and Jefferson Streets? A Yes, sir.

Q Are you night or day engineer? A Day, assistant engineer.

Q Coming back to the day that this man was found in the Sharples Building, on the 11th day of November, - were you the man that found the body of the deceased?

A No, sir.

Q Were you notified? A No, sir.

Q When did you first learn of the discovery of the body? A After the chief engineer discovered it.

Q You were on duty? A Yes, sir.

Q What time was it the chief engineer discovered the body? A Four o'clock.

Q What did you do; did you go upstairs?

A No, sir.

Q It is known as the ladies rest room?

A Ladies rest room.

Q It is located on the third floor? A Yes.

Q Now, after the chief engineer found the body you didn't go up to the ladies rest room?

A No, sir.

Q Did you go up there at any time? A Yes, sir.

Q When you went up on the third floor where the ladies rest room is what did you see?

A All I could see of the man was just from his hips down; I saw he had one shoe on and one shoe off; he had no pants on.

Q The man was dead? A He was still warm.

Q Did you any other things in the room, any condition?

A No, sir.

Q Did you notice any vomitus on the floor?

A No, sir.

Q Did you find any blood spots on the floor?

A There was lots of blood spots on the floor.

Q That is a condition. How far down the hallway did the blood spots extend?

A From the passenger elevator in the front.

Q He came to discover it from the blood marks?

A Yes, sir.

Q On the walls and all the knobs were covered with blood of the other doors that were shut?

A Yes, sir; the doors were shut there.

Q Did you see any blood marks below the third floor?

A I didn't.

Q With reference to the door leading to the building from the Washington Street side, is that door kept locked?

A That door is kept locked, from ten minutes after nine --

Q Wend, Sunday morning or Saturday night?

A Saturday.

Q Which would be November 10th? A I looked at the Northwestern clock.

Q There are a great many of the tenants in the building who have a key? A Yes, sir.

Q And they could have opened the door when they went up? A Yes, sir.

Q I am trying, Mr. Engineer, to find out if the man was killed in the building, or had the injuries when he came into the building?

A I couldn't tell you that.

Q You don't know? A I didn't see any blood, on the other steps, where you go up to the third floor; the only place the blood was on the third floor.

Q What time does the elevator stop? A At night?

Q Yes. A She runs until - well, nine o'clock.

Q Was this elevator running until nine o'clock on Saturday night? A No.

Q What time do they shut down Saturday night?

A About five o'clock in the evening.

Q In the evening? A Yes, sir.

Q At nine o'clock when you looked that door did you go up on the third floor? A No, sir.

Q The elevator was not operated after that?

A No, sir. I go up and I look that door first and take the freight elevator and go down.

Q Where is the freight elevator located?

A Boiler room.

Q Where is the boiler room located? A When you go in that door off the alley.

Q It is not anywhere near that entrance?

A No, it is at the rear of the building.

Q Could you tell me how this man was dressed when

you saw him in the ladies rest room?

A No, sir; I could not. I only saw him from the hips down; I never saw his head at all; the officers were standing there.

Q Did the room where he was found indicate that there had been any struggle in that room?

A It looked to me as if there had been; the rug was away over in the corner.

Q This man had been vomiting in that room. I myself saw the vomitus on the floor. There is also a seat in that room? A Yes, sir.

Q He had his trousers off? A Dressed in his under-drawers, yes, sir.

Q And if your engineer was here he couldn't tell any more than you have told us? A No, I don't think so.

THE DEPUTY: Could you go back and relieve the engineer and let him come over here?

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

(Witness excused.)

THE DEPUTY: Let me ask you, lady; Didn't I take a statement from you last time?

MISS MARY WILLIAMS: Yes, sir.

THOMAS O'MALLEY,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q Your name? A Thomas O'Malley.

Q And you reside where? A 4126 Wilcox Street.

Q Occupation police officer, what precinct?

A 27th, Desplaines Street.

Q Now, Officer, in this case, when were you detailed to investigate it?

A About four o'clock on the 11th day of November.

Q That would be Sunday? A Sunday.

Q Upon being detailed where did you go?

A I went to 565 Washington Boulevard.

Q Go ahead and tell it yourself.

A I walked into the station at four o'clock, probably two three minutes before, and I met the Captain coming out. He says, "Keep your coat on, I think we have got a bad case over here." And he went and got his coat and we went over there. The engineer was there, but I didn't talk to the engineer at that time, that is the chief engineer of the building. We went up on the third floor, into the building from the rear -- went into the back way, and upstairs, and he let us into the rest room, on the

third floor. There is a door going into the room. This man laid on his stomach, his hands back like that (indicating), and laying on the right side, his head and his face to the south, laying crossways in the room. There was a couch laying on that side of the building.

Q West side?

A West side of the room. There was a table in there as big as this (indicating), just about a foot south of his head and that couch. There was a rug like this (indicating), and it was all mixed up. This man's pants laid over on the table, also his white cap, and he had nothing on but underdrawers, undershirt and uniform soldier's outside shirt and his body was exposed right across the kidneys, and when I put my hand on him I said to the Captain, "He is not dead, he is very warm," and I run downstairs and called the station and told them to send the ambulance and the doctor over as quick as they could, and they came over and the doctor felt of his pulse and listened to his heart, and he said, "He is dead; I cannot find any life." And I said, "Are you sure he is?" He says, "I can't find any life." So then we removed the body. And we traced this blood then from the room. There was blood on that side of

the wall. (Indicating).

THE DEPUTY: Indicating the west side of the wall.

THE WITNESS: Then he didn't seem to hit this side of the building at all (indicating).

THE DEPUTY: Indicating the south wall.

THE WITNESS: Then he came around on the east wall in two or three different spots of blood, and then he got up -- and he apparently got up against this north wall and the blood ran down along the wall, he had went along apparently on the wall.

THE ~~WITNESS~~ DEPUTY: Extending up above.

THE WITNESS: And the blood ran down along the wall. Then we traced that blood along the hall, over into the side, and he tried the door there, and he tried the door over there (indicating); then the hall runs north and he tried door there and that is where he came in from the landing, and he tried that door, those doors except one. Then he led out onto the real landing of the third floor coming up on the first and second stairs down, there was blood ~~and~~ on that, blood all around the platform here (indicating); you could see by his hands the man was pröwling to get in, it was covered with blood around there. We didn't find any blood on

the stairs, until we went to the second floor, just as you come on the landing there was blood on that knob, and that is about the first blood that we found there. We didn't find any blood on the down stairs, the first was on the second landing, on the door.

We then stayed around there several hours, around through the district and trying to get some information. We didn't get any information that night, and we sent to the Great Lakes, and had Mr. Robinson of the Paymaster's Department come down here, and he identified him for us, and we sent word to his people. He had a ring on his finger, he had two rings in fact, and the next morning we detailed Sergeant Rise, ~~xxxxxx~~ Walsh, Sullivan and Hearn to go and make a tour of the pawn shops, second hand stores or any place where we thought this man might have his jewelry, as we had got some information from this lady here (indicating Miss Williams) that he had called her up at half past seven. We also went to this jewelry house. He had some stuff pawned, and we went to several jewelers. We went to this place at 527 Madison Street, and we found there a Becker had his watch in pawn, and also had the initials put on his ring. They brought over Mr. Ginsberg, who is the

jewelry store, and he said it was he that had pawned a watch in there, and also that he was under the name of Schultz. That was the first we heard of him -- then I went to the Great Lakes to find out what time Becker had been on a leave of absence up there, and I found that the 10th of November at four o'clock was the last he was seen there. He was under the command of Commander Riley, and he was talking to a man named Bennett, who was there, and he asked Bennett if he was going in town. He said, "You are not going off today." He said, "If I can't get off, I am going over the fence."

Q What is meant by that expression, do you know?

A He was going to go away anyway, as he figured lots of times they go away a short time like that and nobody knows it.

Q He didn't mean that he was going to desert?

A No, coming to Chicago.

Q And then go back again?

A So he asked Bennett, "Where will I see you?"

Bennett said, "I am going out to 25th and Halsted, where we were to a party previously." And he said, "All right, I will see you out there." And he said, "Will you be out there?" He said, "All right, I will see you out

there." The next we heard was when he talked with this lady, and that was at seven o'clock.

Q Saturday night?

A Yes, on the 10th. The same Saturday night on the 10th he called over the telephone to Miss Williams telling her that he could not get out there; ~~until~~ half past seven was the time he was to meet her at her home, as they were going to a party. He said he had to go to 26th and Halsted Street to see a friend of mine, who wants to see me before I go away. So she waited until ten o'clock and he did not come and she went to bed and didn't hear any more from him.

Then the next we heard anything about any trouble was a man in the building at 601-613 Washington Street, the waterman. He heard an awful fight in the rear of 601 -- no, 613 is the number -- it is all one building anyway. So we interviewed him, and he will be here today to tell you his story. He heard an awful fight out in the alley.

At ten minutes after eight there was a man by the name of Thomas C. Nolan, who is a clerk for the C. B. & C. He stated that about ten minutes after eight that he saw a sailor at the corner of Jefferson

and Washington, and the sailor came apparently from the south on the west side of the street. As they were about to meet at the corner the sailor went and turned east and he did not say anything to the sailor, but he was all covered with blood. He tried to see whether he was a white or colored man.

Q That was what time?

A Ten minutes after eight Saturday night. He went along and passed the sailor and went along about his business. Right in front of this building he turned around to see how the sailor was getting along and the sailor had disappeared off the street.

THE DEPUTY: I will say, Officer, having been present at the post mortem examination with Dr. Reinhardt, the Doctor remarked that this man evidently had received the injuries a long time before he died; in other words because of the hemorrhage. The hemorrhage was a slow hemorrhage and that undoubtedly he lived for a number of hours after he received the injuries before death occurred. Of course, the body was not found until several --

THE WITNESS: Four o'clock.

THE DEPUTY: And I saw the markings as the Doctor in-

located. It was between the skull and the duramatur and the blood was unable to escape. As it grew larger it kept pressing all the time, and that would take quite a number of hours before it would cause death.

THE WITNESS: That is the last he seen; he didn't say anything, as he was in a hurry to go over town.

THE DEPUTY: Q What time was it when this man heard a fight in the alley?

A Eight o'clock.

Q About ten minutes after the fight?

A Nolan saw him all covered with blood.

Q That would indicate, Officer -- 600 would be west of the Sharples Building? A Yes.

Q It would be in the block west of that, west of Jefferson Street? A Yes.

Q So the time closely fits with that fight that took place in the alley. He evidently was in that Sharples Building from ten minutes past eight until he was found?

A Four o'clock next day.

Q It might have been ten or twelve hours before this man had died? A Yes.

Q He evidently had not been bleeding more than -- that is he was dead less than six hours?

A Yes. It might have been -- oh, two or three hours at the most.

Q Exactly. A Then this Mr. Nolan came in next day and told about what he saw.

THE DEPUTY: I also have a statement from some man by the name of Sievers. He was the man who was driving by on Sunday with his family in the automobile and saw two sailors and two ladies right on the east of the alley where the entrance is to this Sharples Buildings, just east of that, and that they kind of split up and that the women acted as though they wanted to take the sailors some place. But I don't think there is any connection with this case.

THE WITNESS: No, I don't think so.

THE DEPUTY: I think you have got it pretty nearly clearly up, with this man who heard the fight and with the other gentleman of the Burlington road, that connects it up.

THE WITNESS: We have got some of the blood there, and we had it analyzed, and it was human blood. Then the day that blood was found, Sergeant Sullivan went over there, and I interviewed several boys that were down, but they didn't know anything about him.

THE DEPUTY: Q The other man was in the alley, he didn't look out?

A He never went out at all.

Q What is his name? A Patrick Redmond.

Q I might just ask this one further question --

A I will explain that alley: This alley runs in here from Washington Street (indicating).

THE DEPUTY: Indicating going south.

THE WITNESS: To about there (indicating).

THE DEPUTY: Midway between Madison and Washington.

THE WITNESS: And then there is an alley running east, and also one --

THE DEPUTY: A "T" shaped alley.

THE WITNESS: And then you go over there about that way (indicating), and there is a jog in that alley here (indicating) and the one west is there (indicating).

Q Did you go back in that alley for blood spots in the alley?

A Went all through the alley.

Q And find none? A No blood at all. We got in the rear of Washington Boulevard, and there is a loading platform right in here (indicating) and right here is where we found blood, and there is also an iron

flange on the cement there, where they back up, and that is a pretty sharp edge, and right there is where this big pool of blood.

Q This man's watch and stuff are gone, are they not?

A His watch was gone, but he had his rings.

Q His watch is gone? A Yes.

Q With reference to any moneys on his person?

A No.

Q There was no moneys found on his person? A No.

You see when he went out east on Jefferson he turned to the north.

Q And then up into the Sharples Building?

A Then he went east.

THE DEPUTY: I will state, Officer, that our Doctor was unusually careful in examining the stomach and there was absolutely no liquor in him.

THE WITNESS: He couldn't have any liquor; he didn't leave up there until four o'clock.

THE DEPUTY: The reason I speak of that is this: Because it would indicate that this man did not receive the injuries while staggering under intoxicating liquor.

THE DEPUTY: No. The people that I interviewed say that he was like anybody, would take a drink but not

enough to get drunk.

Q But evidently on this occasion he had no liquor, there was no indication whatever of liquor in the stomach.

THE WITNESS: He would take a glass of beer or ~~xxx~~ drink; he could not be drunk because the man only left there at four and he got in here at seven.

THE DEPUTY: And evidently this is a case of assault and murder.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir; absolutely.

THE DEPUTY: Assault, robbery and murder.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.

I wish to submit these statements, which are original records in our files.

THE DEPUTY: They will be copied into the record and returned to you:

(Said statements are in the words and figures as follows:

"DEPARTMENT OF POLICE. 27th Precinct.

City of Chicago No. 70537.

Report of Investigation.

"Nature of Crime: Supposed murder & Robbery.

Nov. 11, 1917.

Complaint: State of Illinois.

Officers: Sergt. O'Malley, Rice, Walsh, Haran and
Sullivan.

Give interviews of Persons seen, Arrests, Comotions,
Discharged or Property Recovered:

John A. Becker, a United States Naval Cadet, of the Great Lakes Training Station, was found dead Sunday Nov. 11 in women's rest room at 565 Washington St., on 3rd floor by C. P. Propilla, 5859 Magnolia Ave., the engineer of building. Dominick Wafer, 835 N. Fairfield Ave., noticed blood on 3rd floor landing and told the engineer who upon investigation found dead body in rest room at about four P. M., and he then notified the police. Becker was last seen in line at training station by Commander Riley at 4 P. M., Nov. 10. At 8 P. M., he was missing from camp having left without permission. In our investigation we find Becker received \$35 salary Friday Nov. 9, and that he visited Hyman Ginsberg's pawn shop 527 W. Madison St. at about 7 P. M. and took out a watch which he had pawned under the name J. J. Schultz, Great Lakes, and a ring which he had engraved; he paid Ginsberg \$16.00. Mr. Ginsberg visited Sheldon's morgue and identified J. A. Becker as the man who pawned watch under name of J. J. Schutz. About 7:30 P. M. Becker

called up Mary Williams, 3140 Fulton St., and said he was going to 35th & Halsted St. and would not be able to call on her till about 8:30, but he did not get to her home at all. At about 8 P. M. Patrick Redmond, night watchman, for Williams & Co. heard a quarrel in rear of building, 601-613 Washington St., and Sunday morning saw a pool of blood in the alley. At 8:10 P. M., Thomas C. Nolan, 4310 Monroe St., a clerk for C. B. & Q., R. R., saw a sailor at Jefferson & Washington Sts. alking east when he got along a little he looked back to see how the sailor was getting on, as he was bloody and sailor had disappeared. This is in front of building. Where body was found: The supposition is that Becker was in quarrel in alley and then wandered into building at 565 Washington Street, where he died.

N. C. Starr, F. C. Boykin were in Ginsberg's pawnshop when Becker took out his watch. They are sailors at Great Lakes, but they do not know Becker. We secured the number of watch and made report on same, also had finger prints taken, photographs and plats taken of premises. We made a canvass of building at 565 Washington St., saloons, hotels and stores in neighborhood trying to get a clue to case. We took a sample of

blood from alley in rear of 613 Washington St., at 5 P. M., Nov. 13, and sent it to Coroner's office, for examination, who informed us that it was human blood. We are still investigation case, and doing everything in our power to clear up case.

Sergt. O'Malley, Rice, Walsh, Haran & Sullivan."

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November 14th, 1917.

From: Sergts. O'Malley & Walsh.

To: Captain 17th District.

In reference to the John A. Becker case, we went out to the Great Lakes Training Camp yesterday and interviewed Lieutenant Robinson, the paymaster, who told us that Becker drew \$35.00 Friday, Nov. 9th, and that he left the camp Saturday, Nov. 10th, between 3 P. M. and 8 P. M. without leave. He then brought us to see Lieutenant Muir who is in charge of Executive Office; he introduced us to Lieutenant C. J. Riley, Commander of 10th Regiment. We told him about finding the sailor's cap, leggings and the three pieces of pants in tailor shop at 18th E. Halsted St. with the names of Metz, Winters and Trenholm stamped in them. He sent for Metz and

Winters who said that on Saturday, Nov. 10, they went to 18 N. Halsted St. in company of Trenholm and a boy named George B. Thomas, of Co. B, and had their pants shortened. Metz said that he left the cap and legging there with the intention of calling for them Sunday, and when he got to the place he said it was closed. We also went to see George B. Thomas, who is in the hospital. He told the same story, as Metz and Winters. We also interviewed L. C. Sutton, commander 10 Regiment, who said W. N. Trenholm was on a 48 hour leave, and not due back until Wednesday noon. We interviewed J. A. Kruzberg, commander of Camp Perry, said he knew Becker since August 10, 1917. He said he drank a little but was always on time. We then went to see a fellow named Berge Morvik, in Cally #101, Camp Dewey, who was supposed to have known of a sailor that was beat up Saturday night at Washington and Jefferson. He told us about a fellow named John B. Van Hoozer, who said that he and a fellow J. M. Barnes left the camp at 1 P. M. Saturday, got into Chicago about 2 P. M. and went down town and walked around until about 7 P. M., when they went out to Riverview Park. Barnes went in the skating rink and Van Hoozer hung around outside, when he got talking to a

girl who he did not know. While he was talking to the girl a fellow who he never saw before came along and said to the girl. "Is that all you can get, is a sailor?" When he struck the fellow and the fellow struck him. He fell down and that is all he remembered. He said he was taken to the County Hospital and left there at about 10 A. M., Sunday. Sergt. Walsh went to the Receiving Ward of Hospital and was told by the clerk that Van Hoozen was received there about 11:10 P. M., Saturday, from Officer Conroy, and Collins, of the 35 Precinct. We then interviewed James M. Barnes, who said that he went to Chicago with Van Hoozer Saturday at 1 P. M., got off at C. N. W. depot, went down town, walked around until seven o'clock, then went to Riverview Park, went into skating rink and skated till 10:30 P. M. The last he saw of Van was about 9 P. M. He left at 10:30 P. M. went down at depot and stayed around the depot till 4:45 A. M. and returned to camp. We then interviewed Raymond Brennan of Shipps Company who said that his folks live at 917 S. Oakley Ave., Chicago. He said he had a girl named Lena Teachnor, 411 NO. LaCalir Avenue. She came out to see me about August 30th with a girl named Mary Williams. I introduced her to Becker. The last time I saw Becker

was last Wednesday. I left Camp Saturday at 12:10 P. M. and got home at 2:15 P. M. We went to dance at Victoria Hall, got home at 1:30 A. M., remained home till 8 P. M., Sunday evening, then went to Dreamland and met Lena and Mamie Collins, who lives next door to Lena. I went from Dreamland to my home at 12:10 A. M. Got up at 5:30 and returned to camp at 6:30 A. M. We interviewed J. F. Bennett, Co. I, Camp Ross, who said the last time he saw Becker was when he was in line at drill. He said to Becker, "Are you going to Chicago?" He said yes, if I can get off; if I can't I will take it over the fence. He said that he would see me at 25th St. and Halsted. I got into Chicago at 8 P. M., Saturday. I went over to get something to eat on Madison St. Then I got on a car and went over to Clark and Chicago Avenue. I met Billie O'Donnell, head waiter in the Belvidere Cafe, Clark and Chestnut St., on Clark St., in middle of block, south of Chicago Avenue. I left O'Donnell and went over to John McDunna saloon, Wendell & Franklin St. at about 7:15 P. M. From there I went to 10:38 Franklin St., saw Mrs. McQuirk and John Corcoran; then I went out south to Hank's saloon. I got there at 4 P. M., saw Joe Willson; stayed there till 12 o'clock; then

took auto ride to 63rd and Halsted St., with Joe Willons; then came back to 36th and Halsted and went home with Tony who lives on 2523 Lenie St., and slept there till 8:30 A. M. Then I went over to Hank's, 2635-2535 So. Halsted St., had dinner with Hanks, stayed there till 3 P. M., when I met Mullen and we both went over to North Side, and hung around till 11 P. M. Then we started for the depot at about one block from the depot we bought a Record-Herald and we saw the account of a sailor's death. We went over to Sheldon's Morgue and identified Becker.

Then we interviewed Mathew Mullen of Co. I. I left camp Saturday at 4 P. M., went to Chicago alone, went to see my girl at 3954 Castello Ave., her name is Girtie Johns, left there 10 P. M., got back at camp at 11 o'clock, and on Sunday I left camp at 1 P. M., went into Chicago, went south and met Bennett at 3 P. M. and went over to North Side. I have known Becker for 10 or 12 years. We lived in St. Louis together. The last time I saw him alive was in camp Saturday. Becker was peaceable fellow; he drank beer. I never saw him drunk. The sailors that were interviewed in the above statement their movements were investigated by us and we believe

them to be true as far as we could learn.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas O'Malley,

Frank V. Walsh, 27th Precinct."

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T H O M A S N O L A N,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was
examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name?

A Thomas Nolan.

THE DEPUTY: This is taken from the Daily Bulletin,
Department of Police, City of Chicago, under date of
November 13, 1917, reading:

"Look out for this watch, arrest any person
found with 16 size, filled case watch, movement
2,892,844, case 8,759,595. This watch belonged to
John A. Becker, a jackie, at the Great Lakes Training
School, whose dead body was found in the Sharples
Building last Sunday. If arrested, notify 27th
Precinct."

THE DEPUTY: Q Where do you reside, Mr. Nolan?

A 4310 Monroe Street.

Q Your occupation? A Clerk, C. E. & C. Railroad.

Q Harrison and Canal? A No, Clinton and Jackson, general office.

Q Mr. Nolan, speaking of Saturday evening, November 10th, this year, and around about 8:30 in the evening where were you?

A Well, at eight -- well, to begin with I came from my home and got off on Madison Street at Curtis Street, I was going over to where the autotrucks are kept to see a friend of mine, and he hadn't come in.

Q That is Curtis and Washington?

A Yes. So I walked down --

Q To kill time? A Yes. I was going to my --

Q Which side of the street did you walk on?

A The south side.

Q South side of Washington? A Yes.

Q Follow yourself along.

A When I got down between Desplaines and Jefferson this sailor came around the corner on the west side of the street, and I noticed he was staggering, staggering across the street.

Q From the west to the east?

A Yes. And I was walking pretty fast and I was getting closer to him, and I noticed his hands were black, it looked like a colored sailor, and I never seen a colored sailor before; and he was staggering, and I thought he must have been drunk. And I got up to him and I turned around to look at him like that, and saw he was covered with blood, and I thought he must have got thrown out of a saloon. So I kept on walking, and I didn't say anything to him thinking he was drunk, and I got up to the next alley between Jefferson and Clinton --

Q Right beside the Sharples Building?

A Yes. And I turned around to see if he was coming and I would take him to the fire station right there, and I turned around to see if he was coming and he was gone. I stayed there for about five minutes and I could not find anyone around anywhere, so I left and went down town.

Q When he disappeared and turned around he had just about entered the Sharples Building?

A Just about made that, I couldn't say he went into that building.

Q Just about time to make it? A Yes, sir; just about time to make it.

Q Ther is no other entrance he could take, there is only one entrance? A To that one building, yes; that is all.

Q Yes. Did you see this deceased after his death?

A No, I didn't see him. I went over to the station Monday afternoon after reading the report in the paper, and Captain Meagher called up her and his body had gone then.

Q Would you have been able to recognize him if you sawhim? A I think I would.

THE DEPUTY: I thank you very, very much, Mr. Nolan. That will be all.

(Witness exoused.)

H Y M A N G I N S B E R G,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name? A Hyman Ginsberg.

Q Where do you reside, Mr. Ginsberg?

A 527 West Madison, my place of business.

Q What business are you engaged in, Mr. Ginsberg?

A Jewelry and loan business.

Q Were you acquainted with one John A. Becker in his

life time? A Well, he left a watch in my place as a pledge.

Q Did he leave it under the name of John A. Becker?

A J. J. Schultz.

Q When did he leave the watch? A It was on October 1st.

Q For what purpose did the leave it?

A To get money on it.

Q You gave him a loan on the watch? A Yes.

Q How much? A The first time he asked only five dollars, and then he came several other times, and I gave him some more money, until the end he had to take it out, he gave about seventeen dollars.

Q So there was about seventeen dollars? A Yes.

Q Was the watch taken out?

A It was taken out on Saturday, when he was murdered.

Q You mean the same day that he received the injuries that resulted in his death; he died the next day?

A I don't know when he died.

Q About what time was it that this watch was taken out?

A It was between seven and eight.

Q Did the deceased come in your store? A Yes.

Q He paid seventeen and how much?

A He gave me two ten dollar bills and I gave him two dollars and something back in change.

Q Did he have any engraving done?

A He had a ring which I engraved "U. S. N." on the ring; it was a plain signet ring.

Q Gold? A Solid gold ring; the same ring I recognized after a while from two detectives.

Q Same ring? A And also he had another ring with a white setting, also a solid gold ring.

Q And the watch? A And the watch.

Q What kind of movement was there in it?

A It was Illinois, - a hunting case Illinois watch, 16 size, 31 jewel.

Q What case was it? A Hunting case.

Q The manufacturer of the case? A I couldn't recollect that, but I have got a description of the numbers.

Q I have got the numbers. A I don't remember the case number.

Q When this deceased paid you for the loan to have the engraving done and when he handed you two ten dollar bills, did you notice whether he had any other moneys?

A I didn't pay any attention, but I wanted to ask him to buy something, he answered that he can't afford, he has

not any money left.

Q In other words, you didn't want him to get out with any money, if he had any left? A That is all right.

Q Later on, Mr. Ginsberg, you came here and saw the body of Mr. Becker here? A Yes.

Q You identified the body as the body of the man who had been in your place? A Yes.

Q And saw the ring that you engraved? A Yes, sir.

Q But didn't see the watch? A No, sir; the two detectives didn't show me the watch.

THE DEPUTY: That will be all.

(Witness excused.)

THE DEPUTY: Let the record show that Officer O'Malley learned that the deceased received his salary on the 9th day of November, in the sum of \$35.

C. P. RIOPELLE,
called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name? A C. P. Riopelle.

Q Where do you reside? A 5359 Magnolia Avenue.

Q And your occupation? A Engineer.

Q Of the Sharples Building, at the corner of Washington and Jefferson Streets? A Yes, sir.

Q Do you remember the Sunday of November 11th, this year? A Well, I remember it, Sunday.

Q What time did you go on duty that day?

A Well, I was not really on duty, but attended a few lights on the seventh floor, it was only a matter of a few minutes work.

Q What time did you get there?

A Between half past three and four in the afternoon.

Q How did you enter the building?

A Came through the front door.

Q What floor did you go to?

A Went downstairs there, and I got a stepladder; then I walks up the back way, that is the back stairway. Then I went into the Republic Fillmeter Company, and asked the man if the lights in the offices were all right, and he pulled the switch and the lights burned. He says, "Did you see the blood on the third floor landing?" I says, "No, I came up the back way."

Q Who is that who asked you that?

A An employe of the Republic Fillmeter Company. He

says, "Somebody had a hemorrhage; it was there this morning when I came in about twenty minutes after seven." So I went down to the third floor and started to go through the third floor landing where he described. While going through I noticed a couple of spots on the wall.

Q Where were those splotches, on the third floor?

A Yes, it leads to the ladies rest room, and I opened the door and I seen the body laying there. I then notified the police.

Q When you entered was the door open?

A Closed.

Q Therewas blood on the knob of the door?

A I coul n't say.

Q On both sides? A There was blood on the wall.

Q Did you notice whether there was any blood on the knobs of the door on the third floor?

A Therewas on on the third floor landing, there was blood on that knob.

Q Did you notice whether there was blood on second floor? A There was none on the second floor that leads to the office, the front landing.

Q Did you go down to the third floor to the outside leading into the building, did you find any blood on that?

A Yes. You mean --

Q From the Washington Street side.

A No, I didn't see any blood there.

Q Now, with reference to the doors, do you know what time in the evening they are locked?

A They are supposed to be locked at nine o'clock.

Q On Saturday when does your elevator stop running?

A About five o'clock.

Q Is the elevator shut and locked?

A The door is locked downstairs and the key is with the engineer.

Q Any one would be compelled to get this key to get into the elevator to operate it? A Yes.

Q Was the power on? A Yes, because we have to keep it on for the freight elevator.

Q You didn't know the man? A No.

Q Did you notice the floor of the room, whether it was covered with vomitus?

A Well, there was a substance which some one remarked he must have vomited.

THE DEPUTY: That is all you know, Mr. Riopelle?

A That is all.

(Witness excused.)

P A T R I C K R E D M O N D,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q Your name, please? A Patrick Redmond.

Q Where do you reside, Mr. Redmond?

A In Cicero.

Q Street and number, please? A 5424 West 24th Place, Cicero.

Q What is your occupation, Mr. Redmond?

A I am watchman down at Williamson's, Washington and Jefferson.

Q Will you kindly tell me the numbers of the Williamson Building? A I couldn't tell you that, - right on the corner.

Q He is the gas fixture place? A Yes, sir.

Q He is just west of Jefferson on the south side of Washington, running from 601 to 613 Washington Street?

A Yes, sir.

Q Speaking of the evening of November 10th, this year that is, Saturday night, Mr. Redmond, what time did you go on duty?

A I went on duty at five o'clock in the evening.

Q During the evening did you hear any unusual noise?

A I heard nothing before I went down from the first floor to the basement, where I worked at the boilers; I was taking the ashes out when I heard the noise in the alley.

Q What kind of noise?

A Well, kind of a scuffle or fight, or something like that, but I didn't pay any attention to it; I hear that noise regular. It was over in the alley and I was twelve feet below.

Q Did you hear any words spoken?

A Not that I understood.

Q You heard voices? A I couldn't tell what they were sayin .

Q What time was that? A Ten or fifteen minutes after eight in the evening.

Q In that neighborhood? A Yes.

Q Did you at any time come upstairs?

A I didn't look out at all; I didn't pay any attention to the noise, it is a thing that happens in there often.

Q You have a loading platform in that alley, have you not? A Yes, sir.

Q That is made of cement? A Yes, back in - and the floor is high from the cement.

Q About three and a half or four feet above the cement?

A Yes.

Q And that has a piece of angle iron on the end of it?

A Something like that, to keep the wagons from breaking the floor.

Q About how many voices did you hear?

A About three voices.

Q About three voices? A About three voices.

Q Did you hear any swearing? A No, they were holler-ing, - big noise, big voice.

Q You knew there was some one fighting?

A I knew there was a fight there, but I hear it pretty near all the time, but I didn't pay any attention to any of these people making a racket all night around there; I didn't pay any attention to them at all.

Q Let me ask you, Mr. Redmond, about how far in would you say that was in feet from Jefferson Street?

A Well --

Q Your loading platform is on the south side of the building, the south end? A In the west end, the loading place is in the alley.

A BYSTANDER: Southwest corner of the building.

Q Let me ask you this one question: The voices that

you heard could you tell whether they were male or female voices?

A They ereall male voices, there were no females in it at all, as I understood.

Q Sunday morning did you go out in the alley?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you notice any blood there? A I did, sir.

Q Big pool of blood? A Not very much.

Q Where was it in relation to the loading platform?

A It was on on the property of Williamson at all, - in the alley.

Q How far from the edge of the loading platform?

A About four feet.

Q Over here where you are.

A At the end of the platform like the blood was here (indicating) and the loading platform was twelve feet in.

Q You are speaking about the loading platform where they back up the wagons? A Yes.

Q The pool of blood laid right out there?

A That angle iron is right over there (indicating).

Q Somebody threw some water on that, do you know anything about that? A No, I don't.

Q Made it look bigger than when you seen it?

A The horses had been backing in there.

Q It was as big as the top of my cap. A Maybe, when I seen it.

Q That was about five o'clock next day.

THE DEPUTY: That will be all, Mr. Redmond.

(Witness excused.)

T H O M A S T. M E A G H E R,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q What is your name? A Thomas T. Meagher.

Q Captain of Police of the 27th Precinct? A Yes.

Q There is no question in your mind but what this is a case of assault, robbery and murder?

A Well, the robbery part can only be from the loss of his watch.

Q And his money? A And money, yes.

Q He was known to have received some moneys in change from this pawn broker just a few minutes previous to this assault. I want to tell you that I think you have got it pretty well connected.

A We are right on the right track, and we are satis-

fied beyond a reasonable doubt, we don't figure any women in the case or anything at all.

DOMINICK WAFER,

called as a witness, having been first duly sworn, was examined by the Deputy Coroner and testified as follows:

Q Your name? A Dominick Wafer.

Q Where do you reside, Mr. Wafer?

A 835 North Fairfield Avenue.

Q What is your occupation? A Aprentice in machine shop.

Q Where? A Sharples Building, Republic Fillmeter Company.

Q Do you remember going in the Sharples Building in November 11 this year? A Yes, sir.

Q What time did you enter that building?

A About quarter after seven in the morning.

Q Which way did you enter the building?

A Through the front door.

Q Upon entering the building did you go up the stairs?

A Yes, sir.

Q To what floor? A A Third floor.

Q That was seven o'clock in the morning?

A About twenty minutes after.

Q Seeing the blood, did it attract your attention?

A Yes, it did.

Q What did you do? A I stopped there for about five minutes, and I noticed the blood. I thought some one hit his head or something. I then thought there was an accident of the elevator, and I stood there and I didn't hear any cries or movements of any kind there. I had to wait on the landing because he had the keys to the door. We got upstairs and started to work and we didn't seem to bother about it.

Q Undoubtedly this man was alive.

A I didn't hear any movements or cries, I didn't see any trail of blood.

Q If you had only spoken about that time we would have got there; of course I think the man had died.

A You never think of murder the first thing in the morning, and if I knew there was a dead man in there --

THE DEPUTY: We have nothing on you, Mr. Wafer. That will be all.

If there is no further evidence we will submit the case to the jury.

I, W. P. Seanlon, do hereby certify that at the request of the Coroner of Cook County, Illinois, I took down in shorthand the minutes of the foregoing testimony, had and taken at the inquest on the body of John A. Becker, deceased; that the foregoing transcript of the evidence so taken and transcribed by me is a true and correct copy of the original minutes taken at said inquest, and is a true and correct statement of each of the several witnesses who have testified at said inquest.

In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand.

W. P. Seanlon

David J. Richie