

STEPHENSON IS IDENTIFIED BY HOTEL CLERK

State Also Scores When
Girl's Dying Story Is
Admitted.
(Continued From Page 1)

ment in which the jury listened intently while several women spectators wept openly.

"Were you employed at the hotel during March, 1925?" Remy first asked Wilson, after identifying him.

"Yes. I worked at night. My hours were 7 p.m. to 7 a.m."

Wilson said he was acquainted with the schedule of the Monon Railroad.

When Train Arrived

"What time did the train arrive in Hammond that leaves Indianapolis about 11 at night?"

"At 6:15 in the morning."

"Were you on duty the morning of March the 16th?"

"Yes."

"Did anyone register that morning while you were on duty?"

"A party registered as Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Morgan."

"Anyone else?" asked Remy.

"Yes, a party who registered as Earl Gentry."

"I hand you State's exhibit number two and ask you to tell what is it?"

Register Submitted

"It's the sheet from the register of the Indiana Hotel," said Wilson.

"Is that the sheet on which the parties registered? Those two names the third and fourth down, are those to which you alluded?"

"Yes," said Wilson looking at them.

"I see," said Remy.

"Did you see the woman?"

"Yes, she looked kind of tired and had no make-up on."

Inman did not understand.

"She wasn't wearing any rouge," explained the clerk.

"I didn't see her have any hat on," he said in reply to Remy's question.

"Are either of those men in the courtroom?"

"Yes, sir."

"Will you point them out?"

The witness turned in the witness chair and pointed first at Gentry and then at Stephenson.

"You have pointed out two men. Can you distinguish who is who?"

"If I could leave my seat, I could," said the witness.

"All right, leave your seat, go right ahead," said the prosecutor.

Dramatically leaving the stand, Wilson walked in front of Stephenson.

"That's the man who registered as Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Morgan."

Amid a dead hush, he then walked around the table and laid his hand on Earl Gentry.

Stephenson Pales

As Wilson, who is about 27 years old, paused in front of Stephenson, the latter's face went white and he glared in the night clerk's face.

Gentry sat tense and immovable as the clerk dropped his hand on his shoulder. Spectators and jury watched every move intently as the hotel clerk forged another link in the chain of State's evidence. Then a rustle of excitement ran through the courtroom, as the witness resumed his seat on the witness stand.

"Were the parties assigned rooms?" Remy asked.

"Yes."

Inman then began a grilling cross-examination of the witness as to how she looked and if any wounds were visible.

Asks About Baths

"Were there bathrooms in rooms 418 and 417?" Inman asked Wilson.

"Yes," he answered.

"Do they adjoin each other?"

"Yes but there is no connecting door."

"Are they outside rooms?"

"Yes, fronting south on State St. Is there hot and cold water in the rooms?"

"Yes."

"Is there a telephone in each of the two rooms?"

"Yes, sir."

"You can get a long distance telephone call from any of the rooms to any town or city in the United States?"

"Yes."

"And you can call the local police, Mayor, doctor, sheriff or anybody else?"

"Yes."

Chart Displayed

Inman then displayed before Wilson a rough chart showing the arrangement of rooms and corridors on the fourth floor of the hotel. He quizzed Wilson in minute detail regarding the location of different distinguishing objects in the hotel lobby, such as the entrance, the desk, elevator, stairway and pillars.

"Was there a bed in each of the two rooms?"

"Yes sir."

"Double-bed?"

"No sir. They were what the hotels call three-quarter beds."

"Was there a dresser in each room?"

"Yes sir."

Wilson told Inman the walls of the bathrooms are solid, with the exception of the door spaces, and that when a person enters one and closes the door, he is completely enclosed.

"When these people came to the

hotel that morning did they come in a cab?"

"I don't know, sir, I was making calls at that time."

Saw Three Persons

"You saw three persons?"

"Yes, sir."

"Was one a woman?"

"Yes."

"Without a hat?"

"Yes."

"Did she have any make-up?"

"No."

"Who registered first?"

"The one who called himself W. E. Morgan."

"When he registered, where was the lady?"

"She was standing by the elevator door," Wilson said.

"As if waiting to go up?"

"Yes."

"Did they wear hats, the men I mean?"

"One wore a cap."

"Which one?"

Stephenson Wore Cap

"The one who registered as W. B. Morgan."

"How else were they dressed?"

"The one who registered as W. B. Morgan wore leather laced boots, Khaki breeches and a sweater."

"Was he closely shaven?"

"He was not."

"What time was it when they arrived in the lobby of the hotel?"

"Between 6:20 and 6:30."

"How was the other man dressed?"

All Dressed Up

"He was all dressed up—a black soft hat, and long black coat."

"Did she have long hair or bobbed hair?"

"It judge it was bobbed."

"Did she wear a coat?"

"Yes, a long coat. I think brown."

"Was it fur-lined?"

"I didn't notice."

"It was in the courthouse at Indianapolis."

Inman was jumping from one subject to another in an effort to be fiddly the witness.

"When did you next see these gentlemen?"

"It was in the courthouse at Indianapolis."

"The atmosphere in the courtroom became extremely intense. Stephenson had edged forward in his chair, and was eying the witness intently.

"When did you next see these gentlemen?"

"It was in the courthouse at Indianapolis."

"The witness was jumping from one subject to another in an effort to be fiddly the witness."

"Were you taken to the Marion County jail to identify Gentry?"

"No, sir."

"Are you sure?"

Witness Indignant

"I am absolutely sure," was Wilson's indignant reply.

"Was Mr. Ayres taken to identify him?"

"I don't know anything about Mr. Ayres' business," Wilson fired right back at him. Dean Ayres is day clerk at the hotel.

Inman took another hop in his next question.

"Now, Mr. Wilson, is this a correct sketch of the fourth floor of the hotel?"

State's attorneys stamped their feet as they objected to the character of the question, and Judge Sparks admitted that it was not proper cross-examination, but he allowed it to be answered for a technical reason.

Wilson surveyed the sketch with apparent scorn and replied, "Yes—yes, it's a good amateur sketch."

His remark relieved the tension, and the spectators laughed.

"That's a good answer, it describes it," Judge Sparks smilingly commented.

Inman seemed determined to get at least one answer from Wilson the way he wanted it.

"I'll ask you again, Mr. Witness, if you were not taken to identify Gentry?"

Wilson, his eyes flaming with anger, rose in his chair, shot a piercing glance at Inman, and replied in a loud voice, "No, sir, not at any time!"

"That's all."

Prosecutor Remy adjusted himself in his chair.

"I'll ask you if Mr. Floyd Christian and another man didn't come to you later at Hammond and ask you if you had identified the men before?"

Remy asked.

"Yes, sir. Christian and a Mr. Setters."

The two belong to Stephenson's defense squad.

"And did they talk with you?"

"Yes, sir."

"What did they ask you?"

Truth Asked

"All they said to me was that I should tell the truth." The clerk then left the stand.

At times during his testimony, which was made in a frank and straightforward style, spectators went through a pantomime of clapping their hands. Fear of Judge Sparks, however, prevented any audience cheering such as marked the bail hearing held here in June, when Judge Fred Hines announced that Stephenson would be denied liberty on bond.

Inman then offered a drawing of the premises of the hotel and surroundings. Judge Sparks refused to allow it, saying it was too late to introduce it by that witness.

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