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## NATIVE MURDER TRIAL (Continued from page 1)

### WOMAN'S SCREAM

Sixteen-year-old Ruth Wesley said she was walking with Ruby Dudoward on the dock about 11 o'clock on the evening of December 23. There were no lights aboard the drifting Westerly. Robert Sanky's boat was also drifting. The Westerly was about 50 feet from the wharf and near a reef in the harbor. She heard a woman's voice scream: "Harold, leave me alone." She heard no other noise at that time. Later she saw some one swimming in the water and saw a skiff go out toward the Westerly. John Gosnell and Moses Ross were in the skiff. It had the body of Loraine Tait in it when it came to shore. She had seen Harold Ryan on the Westerly standing inside the cabin looking out the door. She had seen hands on the side of the boat and a body go down. The head was floating when the body came up. She had heard Larry Ryan call to Harold to bring in the boat and a response: "Shut up, or you'll be the next." Larry had then said he was going home. She did not see Loraine Tait. The moon was shining that night, she said.

On cross-examination, Ruth said she had been the body in the water about an hour after the conversation between Harold and Larry Ryan. In the meantime she was in her brother-in-law's boat on the other side of the dock. It was when she left that boat she had heard the splash. About five or ten minutes elapsed between the time the body fell into the water and the time it was brought up on shore.

Ronald Smith said he had seen lights going on and off on the Westerly, which was drifting. He did not hear the motor running. He heard noises like things being thrown. He had heard a woman scream after he heard a splash in the water. On cross-examination he said he had heard the splash but did not see the body enter the water.

### FOUND BODY

John Gosnell said he had gone to the dock with his wife shortly after 11 p.m. December 23 to inspect their boat. Some boys were calling and in response he and Moses Ross took a rowboat and rowed out toward the Westerly. They found a body in the water and towed it to the shore with the head out of water. On shore, his wife had directed artificial respiration attempts for over two hours. Loraine Tait's eyes were swollen, there was a cut on her head, and her lip was split. There was not much sign of bleeding.

On cross-examination, witness said he had found the body about 30 feet to the left of the Westerly. It was floating face down. He thought the woman was alive when they started artificial respiration but later did not think so. He had not seen her splashing when they were on the way out.

Moses Ross gave evidence similar to that of Gosnell. On cross-examination he said he did not know if the boat was moving. They found the body about 20 feet from the boat to the left rear of the Westerly. He said when they returned to shore they landed on a rocky beach. He said the body had to be carried out of the water.

**RESCUATION FAILS**  
Mrs. John Gosnell, field nurse for the Indian Health Service, said she had directed artificial respiration attempts after the body was brought in from the water. She, her husband and others had worked over the body for more than two hours. When attempts at bringing back life failed, the body was taken to the council house. She said coromine had been injected when she found there was no pulse. There was always an air passage kept open to her nose and mouth. At first there had been nothing under the body but about ten minutes after artificial respiration was started, blankets had been placed under it.

On cross-examination she said she had not noticed any signs of life. The body was cold, but she said the cold water could account for that. The body had been "carried about 50 feet from the water to the place where artificial respiration was given."

**ACCUSED SWIMMING**  
Ambrose Wells said he had seen the accused swimming under a bridge some time after midnight. He had followed him home. On cross-examination, witness said he had seen Ryan swim-

## Personals

● Cash for old gold. Bulger's.

Douglas H. Payne left on today's plane for a week's business trip to Vancouver.

Pierre LeRoss and son, Pierre, sail on the Chilcotin Sunday night for Vancouver.

● Attention—Sonja Ladies' Aid meeting, Monday, February 5, at Mrs. Gunnar Selvig's. (29c)

Moving from Masset to Gibson's Landing, Mrs. H. Doozee will sail south on the Chilcotin Sunday night.

● St. John Ambulance Association general meeting, Sunday, February 4, 2 p.m., City Hall. (11c)

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Flood and Dick, are leaving on the Chilcotin Sunday night for a trip to Vancouver.

Mrs. N. D. Woodward, RN, who has been nursing at Smithers, is going south to Vancouver aboard the Chilcotin tomorrow night.

Lieut. B. Fee, RCN, and Chief Petty Officer Thorndyke arrived yesterday on the Princess Norah to make a routine inspection of HMCS Chatham.

● The annual general meeting of the Prince Rupert Fishing Vessel Owners Mutual Protective Fund will be held in the Common Lounge, Civic Centre, on Sunday, February 4, 1951, at 2:30 p.m. All members are requested to attend. (29c)

Bruce Rogers left on today's plane for Vancouver, being called south on account of the condition of his younger brother, a veteran of the Royal Canadian Air Force, which has become more serious in Shaughnessy Military Hospital.

ming about one hour after he had seen Loraine Tait's body on the beach.

Larry Lawson said he had seen the accused about 8:30 or 9 o'clock and was talking to him across several boats between his and Ryan's. Ryan had made the remark that Christmas was "lopped" and that he was going "to straighten it out." Loraine Tait had come to the dock on a plank about 12 inches wide. Her face was not bruised at the time. He left them then. He towed in the Eileen S. with the Lucky Boy. He thought some one was on the Westerly.

On cross-examination, witness said he was about 30 feet from Ryan when they were talking and that Ryan appeared happy. He had gone to his cabin and "the girls" had called him about an hour later to tell him Sanky's boat was adrift. When he was talking to Loraine she seemed happy.

Fred Campbell testified he had seen the Westerly drifting about 1 p.m. Later it was about two miles off shore drifting toward an island. He with some other people who had gone out to bring the boat in.

The hearing was then adjourned until 11 a.m. February 9.

## Little Theatre In Good Show

Three Pieces Last Night Please Big Audience

The Little Theatre should do it more often. Prince Rupert has been having little enough of play-acting of late. A crowd, the size of which far exceeded expectations, causing a last minute rush to set up additional seating, saw the amateur dramatics present three well-executed pieces last night. They were one straight skit, one pantomime and one straight dramatic bit. The applause with which they were greeted was ample indication of the spectator satisfaction with an evening's entertainment which was a credit to all concerned.

First was the skit "The Marriage Proposal," a stormy incident wherein, between quarrels, an engagement is reached between a Russian farmer's daughter and a dyspeptic young neighbor. The life of this bit was Marilyn Roos, the attractive girl. Ernest Milgram was the bearded farmer father and Gordon Sharun, the suitor neighbor. Michael Holman directed.

The pantomime of a family drive in New Jersey, was a novel affair, clearly portraying a "Happy Journey" by motor and incidents enroute. Mrs. R. G. Moore, as "Ma" Kirby, effectively carried the principal role and was ably supported by the rest of the family—Ernest Milgram, Margaret Dolron, Robert Jensen and Frances Murphy. Miss Elizabeth Holmes donned sweater and jeans to speak a funny introduction bit and do the on-stage direction.

Murder drama stalked the stage in the one-act mystery "Jewelled Hand" which gave the audience chilly thrills and a startling climax. Elizabeth Holmes had the part of an harassed bride-elect whose romance was in doubt for a time. Mrs. McClintock, as the aunt, also had an important role. Harold Skalmrud, as the fiancee, and Reg Lavigne, as the villain of the piece, carried their parts well. Others in the cast were Marie Lavigne, Margaret Dolron and John Currie. Director was R. S. Edwards.

Robert Wood, young but proficient piano accompanist, was a crowd-pleaser with his inter-

mission numbers. Rowland Miles, opening announcer, told the audience how hard-working and conscientious was the Little Theatre group. Some of those present complained of difficulty in hearing the stage voices at times. The sound of basketball practice in the nearby gymnasium was a distracting factor for a good deal of the time.

J. Reid of the Department of Transport here, is leaving Prince Rupert aboard the Chilcotin Sunday night to work with the department at Alert Bay.

## Legion W.A. In Session

Mrs. R. B. Skinner was appointed at a meeting of the Women's Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion Thursday night to represent the Auxiliary on the executive of the Music and Drama Festival. Mrs. Vernon Clecone was named delegate to the Women's Co-ordinating Council.

Mrs. S. Chester was appointed convener for the annual spring sale of the Auxiliary and Mrs. Harley Lewis and Mrs. A. Holbrook were named to take charge of arrangements for the annual banquet to be held March 15.

Reports were presented by the east and west end visiting committees as well as by conveners of sewing groups and card parties.

One new member was initiated at the meeting which was presided over by the president, Mrs. G. V. Hanley. A visitor from Stewart was welcomed by the president.

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