Murder Plot Questions and Answers

e sixth day of the trial of Mayor Smith his sight codedendants on charges of iting the Shern law against public ofa angagement in politics and of coney to commit assault and murder of today before President Judge Brown, in Municipal Court, sitting at the City as a committing magistrate.

or testimony is appended, that of importance verbatim and connecting in the chain of evidence summarised IOMAS BATTAGLIESE, sworn as first

in the Fifth Ward. He was examined

Were you in the Finletter Club the the raid was made upon it? A. Yes.

You are a committeemen, I believe, the seventh division, Fifth, Ward?

Q. Will you tell us what took place , around half-past eight we were in the committeemen's room on and floor. I looked out the window d a patrol wagon was going down toward th street, so I looked and Judge Carey, turned around. He said, "Gome on, get

our head around. He said, Gome on, get our head in out of the window." I said, I looks like a fight downstairs there." Its said, "You don't have nothing to do with that." I said, "All right." I put my head in the window. Lieutenant Bennett was standing in back of the rol wagon, in back on the steps, so at ten or fifteen minutes after that, s. I was looking out the window again, Wirtschafter, he stood out on the m, and he shot through the window on first floor, and I went down stairs, and en I went down stairs Mike Hogan, sergeant, was in the entry. Somebody I beat him up; he was bleeding. When went in the entry to mick him up, and its here Feldman and Clark he walked in he door. I said, "What do you want in here?" I said, "You don't have no right in here." This Feldman, he turned around and made a crack at me with a black-jack and he missed me. So then I turned around and I walked back towards the ck of the club like, and that is all I seen

of the fight. You saw Officer Wirtschafter shoot the club? A. From the window. Where was he standing when he shot

A. On the step. Who was with him? A. That is the only one I could see, because he didn't have no collar on, and that is how I could

was plenty others, but they ran to-i Seventh street. I couldn't tell who it as, because it was pretty dark. He was p on the step and the light shined on him. Q. You went down stairs? A. I went own stairs and I found Mike Hogan lying

Tes. Twenty-fifth District, I think.

Q. Lying on the floor? A. He was lying right in the middle of the entry. I was going to pick him up, and I went to pick him up and Feldman came in and Clarky stepped in the door, they shoved the door, I said they came in to the door. I said they came in to the door. and they came in to the door. I said, "What do you want in here?" Feldman sent with his blackjack and he made a crack at me with the blackjack, but he didn't hit me. Clarky said, "He is an officer." I said, "I don't care what he is." If it wasn't for that I suppose he suld have hit me a second time

Q. What is Detective Clark's first name? A. Harry Clark. Q. Was Sergeant Hogan conscious? A. Yes, he was lying in the entry. He didn't spack to anybody. He was bleeding. You couldn't tell none of his face, he was bleed-

Q. How many other persons were with eldman and Detective Clark? A Only sem two over in the club, and there was a stranger came in there, but I couldn't tell

Q. Were there any other persons heaten ere at the time? A. There was only one dish kind of a Jewish man hollering for oldish wind of a Jewish man hollering for merny and help, and was lying right in the big chair that they got in the Finletter Clob downstairs there. I didn't see no-body else get beat up at that time.

Q Tell us what tok place early primary morns g? A. I got around there about five minetes after 7, and when I got around there they had already locked Henry Casses up the judge of the division.

they had already locked Henry Caser up, the judge of the division.

Q. Was he there when you got there?

Who was there? A. First the clerks

the fellows that are supposed to work the board. Who else? A. Myself and some of voters around there and Deutsch's facof the clerks that were working for supposed to assist Deutsch, and they ed around and they said they were to have a curbetone election, and I up the County Commissioner's office they said they didn't have no right o lock up the judge of the division; they ught to have locked them up the next day

the day before. Was Isaac Deutsch there? A. Isaac sch was there, and a man—I don't his name—supposed to be a lawyer know his name—supposed to be a lawyer and that there Levis, Levis's lawyer or something like that, he was there, and that there fellow of Andy Evert, or whatever his name is, he is supposed to be a constable or something like that—Eddie Abrams—he was there, and he insisted he was running the division, and all that kind of stuff, and I told him, I said, "Well, nobody is going to run the division until the judge comes back."

Q Did Deutsch say anything, Isaac tech? A. He insisted on telling the other ow what to do. He said, "We will have arbstone election," and I told him, "No," d then we went inside. I said, "There is use in having any fight like that, because then and Deutsch. Get in the machine see if Casper is coming back right p,' So I got in the machine and went in the Third District. Before I got to red and Lombard Casper was on his way

Q Did you then proceed with the elec-n. I A. Yes. There were no ballots cast till the judge came back.

Herore that, some days before that, you seen any of the police officers us to any shopkeepers? A. From about three weeks previous to primary they were going convassing the all around, all around the seventh

Who were? A. Lieutenant Bennett ike Bennett and his special officers, them always going around together CROSS-EXAMINATION

Connor—Q On this morning, elec-croing, when you saw Mr. Deutsch in ting hause of the seventh division—

And fold him that the judge had been ted, he offered you his machine to go the station nouse, didn't he? A. Yes,

got in his machine? A. And I —didn't get to Third and Lombard. natrate to go to the station house

told you to do that, didn't he?

Q. Was it covered on the sides or was it open? A. It was open.
Q. How many officers were in it? A. I think about two. I ain't sure. About two; but Lieutenant Bennett was standing back

on the steps.

Q. You said Lieutenant Bennett was standing on the rear steps. In uniform?

A. Yes, he had his cap on.

Q. You can not tell whether he had his coat on or not? A. He had his regular uniform on.

SAMUEL BARRIS, 510 Lombard street

a cripple, limped to the witness stand and testified how he had been beaten with a blackjack over the head by policemen at-tached to the Third and De Lancey streets MORRIS BOCCHIASKI, a resident of the

fifth Ward, described the attack on the fore the murder of Acting Detective Eppley Boschiaski said that after a shot had been fired by some one cutside, policemen and others affiliated with the Deutsch wing. rushed into the club and began wielding blackjacks JACOB BLITSTEIN, a printer, of 436

Lombard street, was sworn next and testi-fied he was in the Deutsch club just before the raid, but went to the station house, where he was when the first and second riot calls came in. He said he saw Fireman Peterson being taken from the patrol bandaged and bleeding.

Mr. Gordon-Q. What else did you see! A. I seen Wirtschafter standing on the top step of the club. Murphy was standing right below the step. Uram was right in

Q. Uram? A. Yes. I didn't know what was up, and I ran right in through the growd right into the clubhouse, and the first thing I seen was a hig puddle of blood, about that wide, round almost, and about that thick (indicating) on the floor. The walls were all marked with blood. I went in the clubroom and there was blood all around into the parlor.

MORRIS BLECHARSKI, of 419 Pin freet, was the next witness. He also tob street, was the next witness. He also told of the attack on the Finletter Club and declared he recognized Sergeant Glendenning, Special Policem in Wirtschafter and

Policemin with the particular of the particular

strangers. I don't know.
Q. Who else was beaten up in your
resence? A. My father was beaten up.
seen Sergeant Hogan getting beaten up.
Q. How many men had blackjacks? A. verybody that came in had blackjacks in

HARRY N. BRENNER, of 524 Pine street, founder and principal of the Na-tional Preparatory School, was called next and told of the raid on the Finietter Club

as follows:

As I and my brother went out from the As I and my brother went out from the Finletter Club quits a large 'crowd was coming up the street. They looked to me somewhat strange, but I thought maybe they are some friends of some of the members. All of a sudden I felt a severe blow on my head. That blow was so stunning that I actually lost my senses, and soon I felt my face was all covered with blood, my face, my collar, my shirt, everything, even my stockings, were full of blood. And just as soon as I received the first blow two other of these men rushed blood. And just as soon as I received the first blow two other of these men rushed at me and struck me once right here in my forehead and the other somewhere in my head, with blackjacks. My brother, who was on the other side of the same step, he was attacked by three of these men, that is three went towards him, three towards are the same at the same step. toward me. Just as soon as they got through with me they rushed right into the hallway. So that particular moment, the hallway. So that particular moment, as I say, as these men left me, I heard a shot. I was so excited that I rushed across the street and I saw Special Officer Uram standing there. He saw me and he smiled. My face was covered with blood. He didn't even budge. He didn't even come

over and offer me any help.

Mrs. Daisy Levy, the first woman to testify in the hearing, was next called. Her father was in the Finietter Club on the night of the raid, she said. When the trouble started, she and her mother walked from their home nearby to the place to see what was the matter. She rushed into the club seeking her father, she said.

we up, the judge of the division.

Q. Was he there when you got there?

No: they had already taken him up to station house.

The club seeking her father, she said.

"I rushed through the hallway," she continued, "and one of the men said. "You better come up here, or you will get hurt." So I rushed upstairs and hid inside nurt.' So I rushed upstairs and hid inside a closet. There was somebody else there, I don't know who it was. A man said, 'You better hide, because you don't know what's going on here. Go up to the next floor,' and I went up to the roof. I couldn't see who they were, but there was a man and woman there. She said she saw a shot fired and also that she way Policeman Uram on the ten-

JAMES DUFFY, bf 214 Spruce street, the next witness, also was in the Finletter Club during the raid. He said three shots were fired through a window in six sec onds. One bullet lodged in a divan. He was struck in the face by a man he be-lieves to have been Mascia. He saw two

ileves to have been Mascia. He saw two
men attack Fireman William Peterson.
FRANK BROWN, of 260 South Fourth
street, the next witness, also described the
assault on the club. When the raiders
swarmed up the steps, he said, he saw
Wirtschafter in the lead and another fellow
with a Deutsch hat on and a blackjack up his sleeve. Wirtschafter, Murphy and Uram all dashed in when the door was broken open, he said. He said he was thrown over the back fence and rendered unconscious Wirtschafter and the others were Deutsch hats, he said.

WIRTSCHAFTER FIRED SHOT INTO CLUBHOUSE, TESTIMONY OF WOMAN

MRS. ANNA HIRST, of 407 South Sevonth street, the next witness, said her husband was attacked at Fifth and Pine streets early on the night of the raid, and when she reported the fact to Policeman Bleuthe latter said, "Well he ought to stay he house." Later she went to the club to find her husband and witnessed the at-

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"THE POLICE BUREAU IS ON TRIAL"



William H. Wilson, "Director of Public Danger," as former Mayor Blankenburg branded him, is expected to appear in Judge Brown's courtroom today as a witness in the Fifth Ward murder conspiracy hearing, which, in the words of District Attorney Rotan, shows the Bureau of Police to be "discredited and on trial from top to bottom."

"I seen a whole crowd coming and I tarted to scream, and I got on to the car track, and just then I seen Officers Wirts-chafter. Uram and, I think. Feldman, and stood listening, right on the top step, and seen Officer Wirtschafter fire the shot into and then I started to scream, and I seen Officer Bleuben. He was with them, but he didn't go into the club. He came running up Seventh. I said to my husband. 'God help you.' Just then I ran across the street, opposite the club, and the shades tew up, and I seen the men blackjacking nem and hitting them over the heads, and seen a man looking right stout fall down thought it was my husband and I cushed into the club, and as I rushed in I almost fell over the top of a big, stout man in the hallway. I seen it was not my husband and Officer Uram passed by and I ran into the back room.

In cross-examining Mrs. Hirst, Attorney onnor caused a wrangle by attempting show that her husband had a criminal record.

Mr. Connor-Q. You said in answer to Judge Gordon that your husband is a prize-fighter? A. Yes, sir. Q. Also if pickpocket? A. My husband?

Q. Yes, your husband? A. That is a ile. rdon. And a grossly improper I am afraid you have forgotten

Mr. Connor. No. I haven't forgotten, Judge. You opened the door by trying to show what this gentleman was. When I asked her that question I asked it ad-visedly, because the records show that I as entitled to an affirmative answer. Mr. Gordon. You can produce all the cords and show that there are perjurers and that there are pickpockets here

The Court. I direct her not to answer HENRY CASPER, a constable, of Magistrate Harris's office, the next witness, testi-fied the raid was led by Special Policemen Uram and Wirtschafter. He swore that Uram, facing the crowd, cried, "Altogether, come on, hoys!" He also asserted that it was Wirtschafter who fired the shot through the window. Most of the policemen of the Third and De Lancey streets station, who were in citizens' clothes and who par-ticipated in the raid on the Finletter Club, wore "Deutsch hats," of the kind that was the raiders.

worn by many of the gunmen, Casper tes-

Casper also testified he was judge of election in the seventh division of the Fifth Ward, and was arrested on the morning of primary election day and put in a cell in the Third District on a warrant issued by Magistrate Persch on a charge of con-spiracy based on his having vouched for a oter on registration day. He soon was re-eased, he said, and returned to his division, o find the Deutsch forces holding a curbtone election to choose his succ He was also arrested on registra-ABE BLECHARSKI of 412 Pine street

ext witness, told a story of the de-on the Finletter Club that agreed with the accounts of the other victims.

At 1 o'clock the Court announced a recess 2 o'clock p. m.

When court reconvened at 2 o'clock the the court reconvened at a belock the following persons were ordered not to leave the courtroom until further permission by Judge Brown: Mrs. Anna Griffiths, Policeman George K. Grover, Policeman Leo, of the vice squad; Policeman Niselman, of the vice squad; Policeman Lewis P. Balger, Peliceman Willam A. Fritz, of the motor-cycle squad; Policeman Seal, Policeman Quinn, Policeman Creedon and Policeman George Whitworth. The last

MRS. J. STAREY, janitress of the Fintter Club, was the first witness of the afternoon session. She was trampled in the lisorder that followed the appearance of the raiders, she said. Her story of the at-tack was substantially the same as that of

THOMAS J. NIHILL was then sworn and told of going after Sergeant Michael Ho-gan, one of the victims of the Finletter Club raid, to bring him into court as a witness, and finding him lying on a couch, under orders of Police Surgeon Owen not o risk leaving the house until further re-overed. Hogan expressed a willingness o testify, said Nihill.

P. J. O'BRIEN called. (No response.) Mr. Gordon. I am informed the witness Brien has gone to Sergeant Hogan's house with a machine to see if he can bring him ver here. THOMAS F. GREAVES, of 101 Naudain

treet, a constable of Magistrate Harrigan's office, was then sworn, and gave his ver-sion of the Finletter Club affair. He identi-fied two of the defendants in court as among

WOMAN ACCUSER TO FACE LAGODA

Employe of Laundry Declares Eddystone Suspect Bitterly Denounced War

USED ASSUMED NAME

Mitchel Lagoda, Russian radical and former employe in the Eddystone Ammuni-tion Corporation plant, now facing an accusation of murder in connection with the explosion in the plant which killed 133 persons, worked for a month under an assumed name in the Market Street Laundry, 1310 Filbert street, according to employes in that establishment. that establishment. There his bitter denunciation of things American and his radical antiwar utterances, together with his inquisitiveness regarding the Frankford Arsenal, the electric plant at Tacony and Arsenal, the electric plant at Tacony and other plants aroused the suspicions of his fellow workers, they declared today. Mrs. Rose Adams, an employe of the laundry, almost engaged in a physical encounter with Lagods, she said today, when she exhibited a picture of her son, who is in the military service, and the Russian cast a snear at the American soldiers. sneer at the American soldiers.

The foregoing information was given to the EVENING LEDGER today by Mrs. Adams and other employes of the laundry, who declared they had seen the picture of Lagoda in the EVENING LEDGER and had recognized it as a picture of the "M. Loyde" who had been one of the fellow workers.

WOMAN TO BE SUBPOENAED The information was immediately com-municated to Sheriff Heyburn, of Delaware County, at Media. The Sheriff said he prob-ably would subpoena Mrs. Adams and others for Lagoda's preliminary hearing on a charge of murder before Justice of the Peace F. F. Williamson at Media Thursday

The Sheriff said he would in all probabilcombat Lagoda's defense that he has been wholly in sympathy with the Kerensky Russian Government and with the Allied cause ever since the fall of the Czar and therefore could have no reason for wanting to destroy the Eddysione plant.

Lagoda and Nicholas Klekner, who were arrested at Media a week ago and accused of plotting and accomplishing the Eddy-stone explosion, have contended, through their counsel, that they are well known in Russia to be in sympathy with the elements that overthrew the autocratic Romanoff Government and established the Russian Republic, and that if they were in Russia today they would occupy positions of re-sponsibility in the new Liberal Govern-

"Therefore," said one of their counsel, Ernest L. Green, of Media, to a representa-tive of the EVENING LEDGER, "it is apparent that they could have no reason for wanting to destroy the Eddystone plant. They are Socialists, it is true, but the Russian Government now is Socialist. They are in sympathy with the present Russian Government because it is progressive and liberal and democratic eral and democratic.

"These men are known as Socialists and call themselves Socialists, but the meaning of that word is virtually the same as the meaning of the word Democrat. These men, so far from wanting to hamper the new Russian Government, want to do all they can to aid it, and since the United States and all the other Allies are fighting for democracy-the same democracy that has been set up by the new Russian Gov-ernment—it is absurd to say that these men plotted the Eddystone explosion."

WOMAN ACCUSER'S STORY Here is the story of Mrs. Adams, which my be used to combat the defense. Mrs. Adams, who lives at 616 Woodland avenue Cheltenham, Montgomery County, works in the ironing department of the Market street laundry. Her son, Charles J. Adams, served on the Mexican border with the Seco Pennsylvania Field Artillery and Camp Hancock, Ga., with the 108th United States Field Artillery

"That man came here to work about the 15th of June." said Mrs. Adams. "I was suspicious of him almost from the first, and I told several people that we had a spy working here. He went by the name of "M. Loyde" here, but he showed a paper to George Whitworth. The last two are attached to the squad of former Captain of Detectives Albert Souder, the Mayor's per- ing questions. He wanted to know how to get to the Tacony electric plant and he wanted to know how he could get to go through the Frankford Arsenal. "He wanted to go through the Torresdale

water plant, too. He used to go to New

York every week-end. I told him in fun, he must have a girl in New if he would spend money to go over in fun, he must have a girl in New York if he would spend money to go over there every week when he was only making about \$11 a week and was always complaining about how little he made and how hard it was to live. He said he didn't have a girl, but he had to go over to New York on important business in connection

"The 23d of June we had a Red Cross celebration in Cheltenham, and the day before that—the 22d—I asked him for teas cents for the Cheltenham Red Cross He wouldn't give it to me. He said he wouldn't give a cent for war. I said this wasn't for war. It was to help the wounded—any wounded soldier, whether he was an American or not. He said it was all for war just the same and he wouldn't give a cent for war, no matter what soldiers it was for.

"One day I said something about the Caar being dethroned, and he said this would never be a real country until we did the same thing with President Wilson that Russia had done with the Caar. He said You only had to work six hours a day in Russia and you got \$5, and when he was there he got \$15,000 a year. 'Well,' I said, 'why did you come over here if you got along so well in Russia? Then he just laughed and said, 'I have reasons of my

own for coming over here."
"Then I had a picture of my son and I was showing it to some of the people here. Then he said an American soldier was not as good as a street cleaner. The street cleaners clean the street; for the people, he said, but the soldlers just go out and kill the people. I was pretty mad, and I told him he didn't belong here. I was about ready to hit him a crack, I was so mad. but Sarah Nass, another woman that works here, caimed me down and he apologized, so that ended the argument. He said he didn't mean any reflection on my son. told him he'd better not,

"One time he came back from New York and said the hospitals in New York were full of American soldiers and sailors, but there was never anything in the newspapers about it. I asked him how he happened to know so much and he said he had a friend in New York that worked for one of the newspapers—this man he went to see about munitions—and he told him about it. I asked him what the soldiers and sailor were in the hospitals for and how they happened to be there, but he wouldn't tell anything more about it.

"He worked for about four weeks and then he was given a slip to fill out to regis-ter. All the employes have to be registered. you know. You have to give your name and the last three places you worked and other information. He had a man help him fill out his slip, but he never took it to the office. Then, after a while, a boy came for his slip, and he said he had lost it and he got another one to fill out.

"Then he started off for the office with the slip, but he never went there. He did not come back for about two weeks. Then he came back to get some things he had left here—some shirts and one thing and another. He said he wasn't coming back because he had a better job.

"So he have registered at the office." "So he never registered at the office. guess he thought he would rather quit than

register.

Joseph Cabrie, of 2633 South Third street, another ironer in the laundry, said he saw the picture of Lagoda in the Evening EDGER and recognized him as Loyde even before he saw the name Lagoda in the paper. He had always known the man as paper. He had always known the man as Loyde until they were talking one day about munitions work and Loyde said he guessed he would go to work at Edystone. "I said I guess he would have to have pretty good recommendations to get a job there," said Cabrie. "He said he had good recommendations and then he showed me a letter just for a minute. It wasn't long enough for me to read it, but I saw the name Lagoda on it and I thought it was

Michael. I didn't say anything to him about

it being a different name, but I men it to Rose. Afterward he told me it stood for Mitchel and not Michael "He asked me how he could get be to through the arsenal, and I told his I guessed nobody could go through now, said he guessed he could go through all right

53 SURVIVORS AT REUNION

Lancaster County's Own" Reported Ten in Year Answer Last Call

LANCASTER, Pa., Oct. 9.—Fifty-three of the 125 survivors of the 2000 on the rosts of the Seventy-ninth Pennsylvania Volun-teers, "Lancaster County's Own," attended the annual reunion on the annual reunion on the annual reunion on the annual reunion on the survivariary of the Battle of Perryville, where the reg-ment distinguished itself in the Civil Waz. ment distinguished their in the Civil War.

Since the last reunion, ten manners have
died. These officers were elected: President
Captain J. H. Druckenmiller, Sayra, Pavice presidents, William Blickenderfer, Lancaster; Captain Phillip Bissinger, Raeding,
Captain Edward M. Boring, Philadelphila
Daniel Cramer, Hollwood; secretary, W.
Hambright, Lancaster, and treasurer, H. C.
Shenck, Lancaster.

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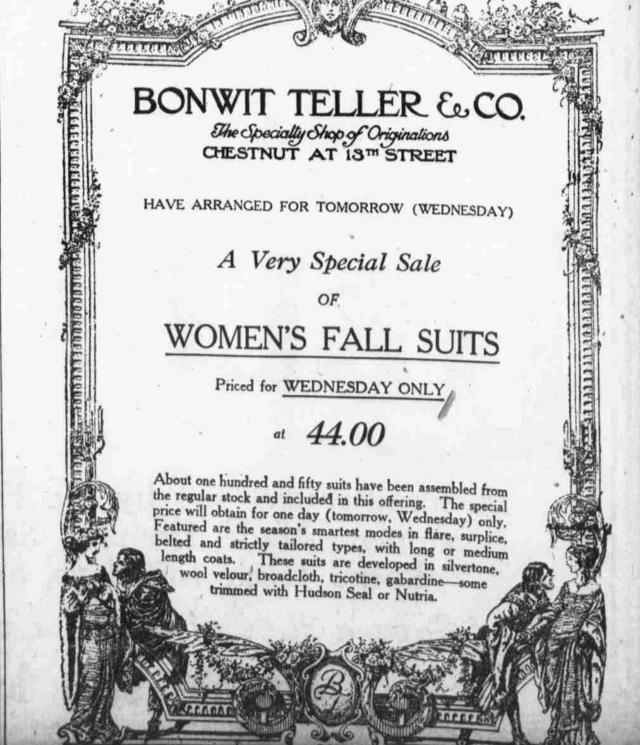
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