

ELWELL CASE CLUE LEADS TO CHESTER

But Lawyer Whose Phone Number Was Found in Victim's Home Didn't Know Him

CALL RECORDS SEARCHED

Some one telephoned to Joseph B. Ellwell, the sportsman and whist expert, who was murdered in his home in New York, from Chester, Pa., a week ago. At least that is the inference from a telephone notation found by the New York detectives who are trying to clear up the most baffling murder mystery they have had to deal with in years. It is understood the New York detectives will go to Chester to run down any possible clue which might be furnished by the telephone number. The Chester telephone exchange said today that it would be extremely difficult to trace a call made from Chester to Ellwell's New York home, unless there was some definite clue from which to start.

The number found by the police looks like "Chester 12." That number is the office listing of Samuel Lyons, a Chester attorney. And there the clue—if it is—comes to a dead end, for Mr. Lyons did not know Ellwell, and no one in his office had called any New York number on the date given or any other date for weeks.

Does Not Know Ellwell "I'd like well enough to give the New York detectives a clue," said Mr. Lyons, "but it is just as mystifying to me as to any one else. The first I heard of it was when one of the Chester papers called me up. I did not know Ellwell, though I had heard of him as an expert on auction bridge. Nor did any one else connected with my office know him. I sent over to the Bell Telephone Co.'s office in Chester and had the records looked up. They showed that no call had been made for any New York number from my office. We have not even had any business with New York recently."

The number found in New York might have been written down inaccurately. Or it might be that the Chester exchange was confused with some one of the other exchanges in the neighborhood of Chester. That is the only explanation I can think of.

Thinks Clue Useless "Of course, it is only by working out clues like this one—going into every smallest detail—that the police will be able to get to the bottom of the murder mystery."

It had been suggested some one not connected with Mr. Lyons's office used his telephone for a New York call, but that theory is overturned by the records of the telephone company at Chester. Meanwhile, this notation of a Chester number is the nearest that the Ellwell mystery has come to Philadelphia.

Elwell Murder Baffles Police

Continued from Page One investigation last night that a telephone connection had been made between Mr. Ellwell's home and that of his friend early on the morning of the murder. The mysterious lady of the lingerie, bits of whose apparel have been discovered in Ellwell's late residence, continues to be the central figure in the search for the noted whist expert and turfman's slayer.

It is said to be the same young society woman whose photograph in the late view yesterday. This was the wife of a young army officer. Her husband is said to have won a judgment of \$150,000 from another man, not Ellwell, for alienating the affections of his wife while he was fighting in France. This woman, who has been a moving picture actress, was questioned by a detective about her relations with Ellwell, but insisted that she knew about him was that he had once been pointed out to her at Saratoga and she told her mother that she had seen that wonderful man Ellwell. She will be questioned further, but is looked upon merely as one of a number of similar sightings on Ellwell.

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With crimson countenance Mrs. Marie Larsen, the Swedish woman, who worked as housekeeper for Ellwell, admitted last evening in the office of Assistant District Attorney John T. Dooling, that she had endeavored to conceal this woman's connection with the case from the detectives by hiding her belongings from them.

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Mrs. Larsen denied knowledge of the numerous other female acquaintances whom Ellwell is credited with having had and expressed the positive belief that no woman had keys to the premises. On the day preceding the tragedy, she said, she had discovered him, on her arrival at about 8:30 a. m., seated in his reception room reading his mail in the same chair in which she had found him the following day with the death wound in his forehead. To the persons investigating the case the importance of this information attaches to the fact that it had hitherto been a matter of much surmise as to how extremely late hours he worked and how he up last Friday when his mail was delivered and when the slayer arrived.

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Never Saw Her Before This girl, she said, was about twenty-three years of age. She declared that it was the only time that she ever saw her on the premises. After lunch, she said, this girl left in a taxicab that Ellwell had summoned.

Mrs. Larsen denied knowledge of the numerous other female acquaintances whom Ellwell is credited with having had and expressed the positive belief that no woman had keys to the premises. On the day preceding the tragedy, she said, she had discovered him, on her arrival at about 8:30 a. m., seated in his reception room reading his mail in the same chair in which she had found him the following day with the death wound in his forehead. To the persons investigating the case the importance of this information attaches to the fact that it had hitherto been a matter of much surmise as to how extremely late hours he worked and how he up last Friday when his mail was delivered and when the slayer arrived.