

# 15 Minutes

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## HULL GIVEN TWENTY YEARS

VISITED WITH THE EXTREME PENALTY OF LAW.

Hull Was Not in the Least Agitated as He Stepped Up for Sentence, but He Weakened When He Heard Judge Purdy's Scathing Words and the Sentence of Twenty Years Which He Imposed—New Commutation Law Will Take Over Seven Years Off Term.

Winans Hull, of Carbonade, who was returned guilty of murder in the second degree in Homestead on Tuesday last for killing Edwin Schoonover, of Scranton, in the woods near Lake Lodge, on June 26, was yesterday sentenced by Judge Purdy to twenty years' imprisonment in the Eastern penitentiary, the maximum penalty of the law.

The sentence was administered in the afternoon before a half-filled room in the Wayne county court house at Homestead.

Before he dealt Hull his punishment, Judge Purdy delivered quite a lengthy talk, in the course of which he professed his belief in the guilt of the prisoner and severely rebuked him for the deed.

Hull's counsel, Attorney John J. Murphy and James J. O'Malley, of Scranton, were beside him, but made no statement. Hull, himself spoke to the court for about a half minute, pleading drunkenness in extenuation of his act, and averring that he had no ill-feeling at any time towards Schoonover.

It was a few minutes after 2 o'clock when Hull came into court, in care of Sheriff Armbruster, and in company with another prisoner, a young man named Irving Hattler, who awaited sentence on a charge of burglary. Hull was as cheerful as usual, and heartily greeted his counsel. During the delay of nearly half an hour, Hull had an interesting talk with his counsel. The first move was made by District Attorney Atkinson, who asked for sentence by saying:

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S REMARKS. "If the court please, I desire to move for sentence in the case of Winans Hull, who has been found guilty of murder in the second degree. It doesn't seem fitting or proper to make any suggestion other than to call attention to the finding of the jury to which was attached the recommendation that no mercy be shown the defendant. For my part and those associated with me in the commonwealth, I can say that the recommendation agreed upon after two or three days' consideration, was warranted by the facts."

When Mr. Atkinson resumed his seat, Judge Purdy directed his attention to Hull, and indicating by a wave of his hand, said: "Winans Hull please stand up." Hull was like lightning in responding to the court's direction. "You have been found guilty of murder in the first degree by the jury which had you in charge. Have you anything to say?"

Hull was not the least bit agitated by the solemn proceeding in which he was the chief character. "I have, your honor," he calmly replied and in a clear voice that did not betray the least anxiety. He spoke as one who was sorry and penitent for having committed some passing wrong, not the grievous crime charged to him.

"I'm sorry this thing has occurred," Hull continued, "and it couldn't have occurred but for drink; drink was the cause of it. I had no ill feeling against Mr. Schoonover and I haven't any to-day."

When Hull finished his somewhat abrupt explanation, Judge Purdy commenced his talk which was a stinging rebuke to Hull.

### SAVED FROM THE GALLOWS.

"You have escaped the gallows by a narrow margin," began Judge Purdy in his calm mild voice, a voice that speaks the deep sincerity that is respected by this jurist. "Many a man has faced his executioner on a lost testimony than existed in this case. We are informed that a large majority of the jury believed in your guilt of murder in the first degree and only agreed to come in otherwise when it appeared that a disagreement would be the result. While we wouldn't shrink from our duty in passing a sentence in a case of murder, it is a relief to this court that it is not called upon this time to sentence you to the gallows, but instead to imprisonment."

"It is an unfortunate day in a young man's life when he cannot get money by honest means. They don't become hardened criminals by a single bound, but go on step by step until their moral sensibilities become blunted and their consciences seared. But how you should so far forget your rights to society as to take a life for a few paltry dollars, as we believe you did, it is beyond us to understand."

"You say that it is due to intoxication. We believe that the drink habit is responsible for a good deal of crime, but it is not excuse."

"The punishment provided by law is twofold, the information of the criminal and as an example to others, to deter them disposed to crime from its commission."

"It is unfortunate that the innocent must suffer with the guilty. Think of the position in which you place your family. You are selling your mother's and your father's gray hairs to the gallows in sorrow and anguish. It is sad you have a child; this we learn from your father. If this be true, think what you have brought on this innocent little dear; think how you have blighted this young life that it cannot

shake the fact that its father is a murderer.

### MAXIMUM SENTENCE.

"The jury asks that we show you no mercy." Twenty years is the maximum sentence. That seems a long time to spend shut out from society in close and solitary confinement; but if you have a shred of conscience left, Winans Hull, that imprisonment is nothing as compared with the feelings you will undergo in your dark cell thinking of the crime you have committed. Possibly the cries of your victim will ring out again and again to torment you. Your imprisonment all this time seems to be as much to be dreaded and shuddered at as the penalty for murder in the first degree. As we face it, it seems less, but when we contemplate all its horrors we can't say, if put in your position, which we would choose. The only hope is that the imprisonment which we shall impose will work such a reformation in you that when discharged you will spend the remainder of your days in atoning for the awful crime you have committed.

The sentence of the court is that you, Winans Hull, pay the costs of prosecution in this case and undergo imprisonment in the penitentiary of the Eastern district at Philadelphia, for the term of twenty years, to be computed from this date; there to be kept at solitary confinement and fed and clothed as the law provides."

Hull dropped into his seat and for the first time since his arrest he showed a spirit of realization of the gravity of his crime and its consequences. His face flushed and he bit his lips to control the emotion stirred up by the heavy sentence that was imposed on him. He was exceedingly brave and affected nothing of the interest that he displayed even during the most trying part of his trial.

### HULL TAKEN AWAY.

When the court administered sentence in another case, Sheriff Armbruster tapped Hull on the shoulder. He jumped to his feet and held out his hands to be manacled. To no one did Hull make any comment as to the sentence, neither to his counsel or to Sheriff Armbruster with whom he is always sociable and communicative. From expressions that he made since the verdict, Hull indicated his belief in a much shorter imprisonment and was visibly disappointed to be inflicted with the full penalty of the law.

Hull will be taken to Cherry Hill by Sheriff Armbruster on Thursday. He will be brought to Scranton Wednesday evening, where he will remain until the next day, when he will join the party of prisoners who will go from Lackawanna county.

The new commutation act will take about seven years off Hull's sentence. There is great excitement in Homestead still over the Hull case. Rev. W. H. Swift, Presbyterian, and Rev. C. L. Percy, Baptist, referred to the trial from their pulpits Sunday night and drew lessons from the statements of Hull that liquor was the cause of his committing the crime. In various ways the jurors who held out for a second degree verdict are being made to feel the displeasure of the citizens of Homestead who in general felt that Hull merited the gallows.

### INDUSTRIAL JOTTINGS.

What the Operators Letter for October Says About the Anthracite Coal Market.

The October letter of the Anthracite Coal Operators' association says of the market:

"Conditions changed but little during August and September, except that for the first week or so in the latter month the demand showed a slight falling off. Apart from this there was an active movement from the mines to the dealers' yards, and to the colliers of the larger consumers who, in August, took advantage of the lower price. This has left little reserve in the storage yards of the companies, thus providing ample space to carry any coal which may not be required by the market, though it is doubtful whether such a surplus will exist during the colder months."

"Prices, which were advanced ten cents per ton on September 1, have been firm on all sides. The critical months, July and August, passed without a suggestion of shading prices, and from this present time until January the active demand which may be expected will prevent the possibility of such a thing."

### This and That.

The American Locomotive company is reported to have secured a contract for twelve locomotives to be shipped to the Chilean Railways.

The Eynon-Evans Manufacturing company, of Philadelphia, Pa., is working on a large acid-resisting bronze condenser for the Lehigh Valley Coal company, at Hazleton, Pa.

The Westinghouse company is to erect a new town and a mammoth foundry plant at Stewart Station on the Pennsylvania Railroad, a short distance east of Pittsburgh. The company has secured 650 acres, and intends to concentrate all of its foundries in one plant and build around it, for the benefit of the employees, a town to be

called Trafford Park. The cost of the improvements will reach \$5,000,000, and over 2,000 men will be employed in the work. The company has now three foundries, one in Pittsburgh, one in Allegheny, and the third in Cleveland.

The Dickson colliers of the Delaware and Hudson company has been shut down for extensive repairs, and will not be opened up for some length of time, perhaps several months. The entire shaft is to be cribbed and extensive alterations made on the breaker tower. New condumping devices will be installed, so that more coal than ever before can be handled in a given number of hours. Nearly all the 600 men and boys employed at the Dickson will be given temporary employment in the other mines of the company.

### WACO NEIGHBORS MEET.

As a Result Two Die with Their Boots On.

Waco, Texas, Oct. 21.—A street duel with revolvers was enacted in Austin street, the main thoroughfare of the city, this afternoon, between former Sheriff Harris and his son on one side, and Dr. Lovelace and his son on the other. As a result both of the Harris' are dead and Dr. Lovelace and son are under arrest charged with the killing. The trouble is supposed to have originated from domestic difficulties.

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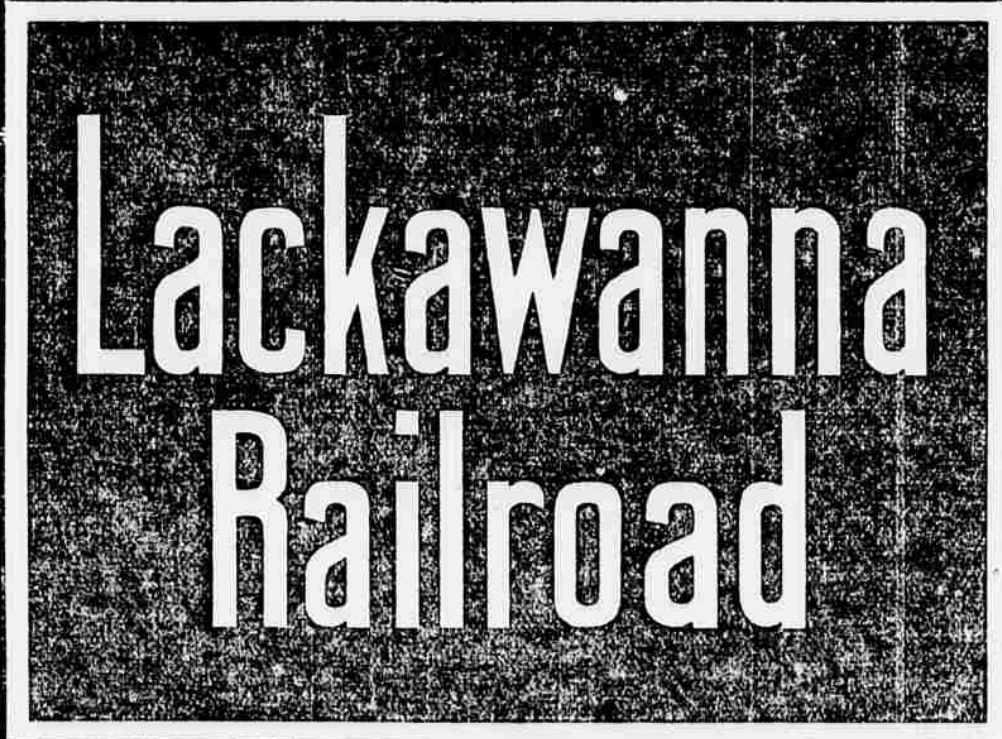
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