

**HM  
SUPREME COURT  
OF CHINA**

**[SHANGHAI]**

**INQUEST BOOK. No. 9.**

**From January 26th 1907; To January 14<sup>th</sup> 1908.**

**TNA REFERENCE:**

**FO1092: 276**

[pages 1 – 15]

Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> 1907.

An Inquest held at No. 10 Quinsan Gardens this day on the body of one A. S. McInnes.

Body view.

James Vance Marshall (Sworn).

I reside at No. 10 Quinsan Gardens. I am employed in Chinese Engineering & Mining Co. I identify the body which has just been seen by you as that of Allen Smith McInnes. Deceased was 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of the S.S. Maori King. He shared a room with me in this house, bring the room adjoining the one in which you have just seen the body.

I was in deceased's company this afternoon from about 10 o'clock. I had seen him up to quarter to nine this morning & again at tiffin.

At tiffin time, 1 o'clock, when I saw deceased he was slightly under the influence of liquor. After tiffin I adjourned to my room with him & he became under the influence of drink. He had whisky upstairs. He became intoxicated. He told me that there was only a dose of opium [pills] between me, him & death. As he told me previously in the Maori King there was only a revolver between him & death. He told me that he had sat with a revolver in his hand only he did not have the strength to shoot himself. He told me he would have done away with himself long ago if it was not for his mother & the old folks at home, as he put it.

I left him in our room & went into the next room which is Mr. Soper's room. He followed me in shortly after. We had one drink I believe there, perhaps two. I lay down on the couch & there was in the room with us Mr. Soper, Mr. Clarke & Mr. Couch who came in later. I went in to the next room & left him there. He lay down on the bed while I was with him. He said he was going to sleep. I returned into Mr. Soper's room & as I have said lay down on the couch.

Shortly after I believe I heard two pistol shots in the next room. Mr. Clarke then I believe entered the room & remarked that McInnes had a revolver. Mr. McInnes immediately after entered & spoke to me. He said, "Two of them have gone already & by God I'll do it," or words to that effect. He spoke to me but I cannot remember exactly what he said. I saw him place the revolver against his temple & heard the shot. I did not realise what had happened. He fell at the foot of the couch a few seconds later.

I believe that upon that upon that Mr. Couch immediately left the place to report the matter. As soon as I realised what had taken place I came & reported it to Mr. Wanstall.

By Coroner.

I did not hear any conversation next door. That table was knocked down when I left him in his room lying on the bed. Deceased [??] knocked it down while he was under the influence of liquor.

I have only known deceased for the last 7 months approximately. I had only seen him under the influence of liquor on say two occasions before. Deceased had talked to me about the trouble on the Maori King but only discussing the facts. He said he did not get on well with the late Captain. He told me that in Vladivostock. I came down on the Maori King. I was employed on her as purser. I only entered the Chinese Mining & Engineering Co. 2 weeks from to-day. I know therefore all about this case & the trouble on board. I did not appear as a witness. I was left out by both parties owing to my knowing too much about both sides, to be straight.

I believe the reason deceased shot himself was that as soon as he touched liquor he went light in the head. He suffered from temporary insanity at least by the statements he made. Deceased was of a very excitable disposition. He was easily affected by a little alcohol.

I never had any trouble with deceased at any time. We have been good friends ever since I knew him. JVanceMarshall.

Before me, J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

Charles Haward Soper (Sworn).

I reside here & occupy the room in which deceased is now lying. I have heard the statement of the last witness. I confirm it in every respect. I actually saw the deceased put the revolver to his head. He came into the room. I saw every thing.

By the Coroner.

When he came into the room I expected to see a revolver as I had heard the shots. I watched him. I watched his hand under his kimono. I thought the revolver was there. The next thing I knew he had pulled the revolver out & shot himself. C. H. Soper.

Before me, J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

Frederick St. Clair Clarke (sworn).

I reside in this house but am on the ground floor. I was upstairs in Mr. Soper's room with the last two witnesses when the circumstances just related occurred. I have heard their statements, they are quite in accordance with the facts. I went in to the room following the deceased, that is into his own room. I saw him stoop down at one of the drawers. I saw him put his hand on a revolver. I left the room at once & went into Mr. Soper's room. Whilst I was leaving deceased's room two shots were fired. I told the others in Soper's room that deceased had a revolver. I did not attach any particular significance to this. I thought it was purely a joke. McInnes followed me into Mr. Soper's room & exactly as previous witnesses have sworn, before any one could possibly have any idea what he was doing, put the revolver to his forehead & blew his brains out.

I don't know deceased at all. I have seen him at meal time but I have had no close intimacy with him in any way.

I am employed in the Office of Dent & Co. The deceased seems to have been in very good spirits up to just previously. I should think it was a case of temporary insanity. F StC Clarke.

Before me, J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

Daniel Mitchell Couch (Sworn).

I live at 27 N. [Tyeluen] Rd. I am a friend of Mr. Soper's. I came into Mr. Soper's room about 4 o'clock. I have heard statements of previous witnesses. I confirm them. The deceased shot himself I should say about 4.30. Deceased was not a personal friend of mine. I had only met him on one occasion previously.

Directly I entered the room I noticed he was in an intoxicated condition, but after I entered the room no one had any liquor. As regards the actual deed I confirm the evidence of all the other witnesses.

Immediately after I went to inform Dr. Mills. He was out so telephoned to Central P.S. to Dr. Marshall who came and examined the body in my presence. DMitchellCouch.

Before me, J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till Monday next (28<sup>th</sup>) at Supreme Court at 10 a.m. J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body of one Allan Smith McInnes. Adjourned from St. 26<sup>th</sup> Jany '07.

Robert James Marshall (Sworn).

I am a medical practitioner in actual practice. On Saturday afternoon shortly after 4.30 on receipt of a telephone message I went to No. 10 Quinsan Gdns. In a room at the top of the house I found on the floor a body of a man with a small bullet wound in the right temple. The body was still warm & death had evidently been quite recently. I found a revolver at his feet. There were four persons, I think, in the room. They informed me that this man had walked into the room, put the revolver to his head, fired & dropped down dead. The position of the body & the appearance of the wounds quite bore out this statement. RJMarshall.

Before me, J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

James Vance Marshall (Recalled).

The deceased was 26 years of age on Friday the day before. He was not married.

Finding of the Court.

That Allan Smith McInnes died on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of January 1907 from a bullet wound in the head self inflicted whilst in a state of mental excitement due to alcohol.

J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

[Pages 16 - 18]

Monday February 4<sup>th</sup> 1907

An inquest held this day at the French Hospital on the body of one David Francis Pearse.

Body viewed.

Robert James Marshall (Sworn).

I am a Medical Practitioner. I identify body seen by you as that of David Francis Pearse. I saw him riding in the Handicap on Saturday in which I was also riding. I had 2 minutes start. I came up & found him in a ditch & with the help of 3 other members of the hunt I placed him on as door & had him carried to Nan Ying College where he remained till the ambulance arrived. He was brought to the Hospital & I found that he was suffering from fracture of the spine. He died Sunday morning about 5 a.m. RJMarshall.

Before me, J. C. Douglas, Coroner.

Charles Robert Bennett (Sworn).

I was riding in the Handicap on Saturday. He deceased had 2 ½ minutes start & so did I. I saw deceased fall. We were going up [Yemin] Creek, he was going near the creek up the line of jumps & I was to the right of him and two lengths behind him. His pony began to stumble about 5 yards from the jump & came down just on the edge of it. Pearse seemed to pitch head first into the other bank of the jump. I took the jump myself. The jump was a dry ditch. CR Bennett.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Verdict.

Accidental death. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 19 – 31]

Monday February 5<sup>th</sup> 1907.

An inquest held this day at the [?????] Road Mortuary on the body of one John McDuff.

Body viewed.

Thomas Mellows (Sworn).

I am Inspector of River Police. On Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> an officer of S.S. Shansi came to River Police Hulk & reported that John McDuff 3<sup>rd</sup> Eng. of that ship fell into the river between ship & Wating Wharf (Pooting) & was drowned at 5 a.m. Yesterday at 2 p.m. I visited a constable on duty below Standard Oil Wharf. He had just found the body of a foreigner. I had it brought to the mortuary. The description of the body was about 5 ft 6 in. very thickly built, dark brown hair & one could see that it had had a moustache. The face was all eaten away, right thumb torn off & the top joint of left thumb off. Clothes, a blue cloth trousers, striped cotton shirt, flannel singlet, brown woollen socks. Neither marks nor wounds on body. The only property on the body was Glasgow News latest City Edition, Sat. Nov. 29, 1906.

Amongst reports of bodies missing which I have, this is the only likely to have on [????] with English newspaper upon. Thos. Mellows, Inspector R.P.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Neil Clarke Brodie (Sworn).

I am Chief Engineer of S.S. [Chenan]. I knew John McDuff, 3<sup>rd</sup> Eng. of Shansi. He was two years with me as shipmates. I last saw him about 4 months ago. It was on board the Chenan. I have seen the body & I think by the shape of the body it is him. It is the same height & same build. The teeth look like his too. He had very good teeth. I have seen the clothes. He had a belt exactly the same as the one there & he also had a pair of trousers like that of blue cloth. I was with him when he had the suit made. He was from Greenock. He was married but no family. His wife is at home. NeilClarkeBrodie.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow at H.B.M. Supreme Court. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Wednesday February 6<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Archibald Rose (Sworn).

I am an Assistant in the Consular Service & at present in charge of the Shipping Office of this Consulate. A report was made to me about the 1<sup>st</sup> of this year of a man having been drowned through falling into the water from a British ship. I held a Board of Trade inquiry on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. I have here the minutes of that inquiry. (Reads them).

By Coroner.

I do not know who is responsible for berthing ships & seeing that proper communication is established with shore. I have been unable to find any one who admits responsibility. I imagine it would be the Chief Officer. Archibald Rose.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow morning. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Thursday February 7<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one John McDuff.

No one present from B & S though letter had been written to Manager.

Inquest adjourned till 2.30 & summons to issue fir attendance of Mr. H. W. Robertson.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Inquest adjourned from this a.m.

Wellesley Ellis (Sworn).

I am Wharfinger to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire at Wating Wharf Pooting. As such it is my duty to see that a ship is properly berthed. The S.S. Shansi was lying over on the out side Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> & Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. She was then berthed with her head to southard, close up against the wharf. There will be other ships also at the wharf, but she was next to the wharf & no ship out side. There was, to the best of my recollection, a Jacob's ladder on the side near the wharf.

There was also this plank at the after end of the ship at the North end of the pontoon. It is at any one's option to use this but it was there for coolies working cargo.

The ladder would be between the ship & the wharf so any one using it would have to step off the wharf onto the ladder & climb up the ship's side by it. There would be no inconvenience in stepping on to the ladder. The ladder would be close to the wharf; it is not as far forward as where the ship begins to be cut away. All the officers would be living on board. We have no gang ways over there such as one used for landing passengers.

There would be no objection as far as I know to a gangway being used if one was provided, but they have always used the Jacob's ladder. If they like to use the planks for the cargo that is their look out.

There are no lights lit on the wharf except when we are working cargo, except the ship's lights. I cannot swear positively if there were any lights there for working the cargo of other ships there at 5 a.m. in the morning.

I live over there & am on the property all the time if there is anything to take me out.

Wellis.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Thom Evans Davies (Sworn).

2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of S.S. Shansi. I was not sleeping on the S.S. Shansi Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>. to Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. I got back to ship at 8 a.m. & heard for the first time about McDuff falling overboard.

The provision for getting from the ship to pontoon was a rope ladder. It is the customary thing to have one. On this occasion I cannot swear of the ladder was there or not. The Chief Officer is responsible for putting it there. I saw the plank which McDuff was supposed to have used. It was the only plank I saw. It was approximately 15 feet long, about 1 foot wide. It was broken at the end but the broken end when I saw it was projecting inside the ship's side about 4 feet.

To my knowledge that wharf is well lighted when they are working cargo. When they cease working cargo there are no lights to my knowledge.

The man who was Chief Officer at that time, Edgar Manns is now home on leave.

Tom Edward Davies.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

John McDuff came to his death by accidentally falling overboard between the S.S. Shansi & the wharf when going on board of her at 5 a.m. on the morning of January 1<sup>st</sup> 1907. There is no evidence to show that the deceased was drunk at the time, in fact the contrary appears

[the following lines deleted + and I can only come to the conclusion that the accident was certainly in part due to the careless manner in which these ...]

I desire to call attention to the evidence as to the lighting of the wharf & as to the means provided for getting on board the ship & to refer to the recommendations of the Jury at the inquest held on the body of one Alfred Whooley, Dec. 16, 1904. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

For correspondence relating to this Inquest & for copy of Board of Trade Inquiry see the Inquisition on File. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[page 32 only]

Tuesday February 12<sup>th</sup> 1907.

An Inquest held this day on the body of one Duncan McKellar, Engineer of the S.S. "Kaiping" who died on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 1907 at Chubg won too.

UPON hearing the report of the Captain, the Chief Engineer, & the supt. of Chinese Engineering Co.

Upon reading the medical certificate of dr. Gordon O'Neill dated Feb. 9.1907 & the entry in the official log.

And upon noting that C. Talbot Bowring, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs, I. M. C. had held an inquiry & examined everyone likely to know anything about the occurrence & had [rec'd] the medical certificate

It is Ordered that the body of Duncan McKellar be buried forthwith, there being no likelihood of any useful purpose being served by the holding of an Inquest. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Note: For papers see file. JCED.

[pages 33 – 65]

Monday March 11<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held at the Mortuary this day on the body of Robert John Morrow. Body viewed.

Samuel Chilver (Sworn).

I am Inspector in the Shanghai Mnp Police & in charge of West Hongkew Station. I identify the body just seen by you in my presence as that of Robert John Morrow, a Constable in the S'hai Mnp Police attached to West Hongkew Police Station. The deceased was on patrol duty last night from 12 midnight till 6 a.m. this morning, his business being to visit the men in the boats, i.e. the Chinese and Indians. On that duty I only have one foreigner out at night. All the beats are filled by Chinese at night. I have also Indians patrolling and this one foreigner.

I was woke up this morning by hearing the report of firearms at the back of the station. This was I should say at 2 a.m. A moment or two after Police whistles began to go and there was reports of rifles or guns of some description. I jumped out of bed dressed myself, seized hold of a revolver & rushed down stairs. I was informed by P.C. Butler who was on charge room duty that there was a gang of aimed robbers in the Elgin Road & that P.C. Morrow had gone round there, also that some of the other foreigners had gone taking revolvers and ammunition with them. P.C. Morrow being on patrol duty would not be armed. Only the last lot of foreigners had taken arms. He also told me that the Indians had been called & I told him to give them ammunition & send them out as quick as they came down. I then ran out of the station by the Cunningham Rd. to the Elgin Rd. Running along the Cunningham Rd I saw P.C. 80 (Austin) & P.C. 567 (Hamell) leaning over the body of P.C. Morrow laying on the road. I asked them if they thought he was dead. They said that they thought so but were not quite certain. I told them to get the ambulance & have him taken to the Hospital at once.

I then went on to Elgin Rd where is the shop reported to have been robbed by these robbers. With one or two other foreigners & the Indians we made a search, went over the vacant ground to the sailors' station but were unable to find any trace of any of the robbers. I came back to the Elgin & Cunningham Rd corner and found eight empty cartridge cases and one loaded all lying on the ground in this vicinity.

Exs. 1. These are the cartridge cases.

Exs. 2. There were also I should say six of these candle torches. Two or three were lying in the shop & the rest outside. four more cartridges were found at daylight. I returned to the station & learnt that Dr. Marshall had said that Morrow was dead when he arrived at the hospital.

It was a very dark night and misty and difficult to see about c15 yards. The last lamp post in that place is situate at the corner of the Elgin & Cunningham Rd. After that there is short distance of the Cunningham Rd on the North of Elgin Rd leading away into the country. The Cunningham Rd runs up the side of the West Hongkew P. Station compound to the Elgin Rd which runs at the back of the Station. There is also an easy way to the end of Elgin Rds corner of North Chekiang Rd.

By the Coroner.

There are eight foreigners at the station including myself. I have 14 Indians & 47 Chinese. The boundaries of the West Hongkew District are North Hanan Rd, Foochow Creek & Settlement Boundary.

Deceased was about 26 years of age & is unmarried. S. Chilver, Inspector.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Frederick William Butler (Sworn).

I am P.C. 100 West Hongkew Police Station. I was on duty last night in the Charge Room from 12 midnight to 6 a.m. At 2 a.m. the dog cart coolie came and reported armed robbers in Elgin Rd. At that time P.C. Morrow was at the station. I at once informed him and he made off for Elgin Rd. Shortly afterwards I heard a whistle followed by shots. I at once informed the inspector & all the men & under orders of the Inspector served out ammunition.

When I got the report from the dog coolie I went down the West Hongkew Compound & saw P.C. Morrow passing along the Haining Rd & told him at once. He at once started off round the corner. I had already got back to the charge room & informed the Inspector when I heard the whistle & the firing. FWButler, P.C. 100.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

William George Austin (Sworn).

I am P.C. 80 West Hongkew Police Station. I was off duty in bed last night. I was awakened by Police whistles & firing. I afterwards found this was about 2 a.m. I jumped out of bed, started putting on my clothes. Just then P.C. Butler came into the room, stated there were some armed robbers in the Elgin Rd. Without waiting to button up anything I seized my rifle & bayonet, ran through the charge room & grabbed a handful of cartridges off charge room desk.

I at once made my way towards Elgin Rd through Cunningham Rd. About 15 paces from Elgin Rd I saw Constable Morrow lying on ground across the road. I gave a hasty glance at him & could see that he was pretty well gone. I met an Indian Constable at corner of Elgin & Cunningham Rd & from what he said in pidgin English the robbers had gone north to the country side. I had already loaded my carbine & sung out to the Indian to follow me & on the way gave him some cartridges. I went along to end of Cunningham Rd to the Settlement boundary till I came to the swamps. There I stopped. I could not see very far in front of me at the time. I at once came back to look at P.C. Morrow & found P.C. Hamell bending over him. He told me they had sent for the ambulance. I at once doubled round to the station & telephoned for Dr. Marshall. I afterwards went with ambulance, assisted to put Morrow on to ambulance & took him to the Hospital in company with P.C. Hamell.

When I got up to where Morrow's body was lying there were two or three Chinese constables & the one Indian from the Hongkew Station who had come along Elgin Rd from Hainan Rd.

WGAustin, P.C. 80.

William Hamill (Sworn).

I am P.C. 67 West Hongkew Station. I was also in bed at 2 a.m. this morning & I was also aroused by the shots & whistles & by P.C. Butler who called me.

I got up, dressed myself & took my carbine off the stand and passing through the charge room I took some ammunition off the desk. I ran round to Elgin Rd corner through the Cunningham Rd. I saw the body of P.C. Morrow lying in Cunningham Rd., about 12 or 15 yards from Elgin Rd corner. He was lying on his back with his arms stretched straight out. He had a great coat on. I opened the great coat & the tunic underneath & felt his body to feel the heart. The body was still warm. In putting my hand down left side I found a bullet hole. There was a slight froth around his mouth. The ambulance had been sent for & P.C. Austin came up & between us we put him in the ambulance & sent him to the hospital.

Shortly after arriving at hospital Dr. Marshall came in & said he was dead. He showed no signs of life from the time I found him. WilliamHamill, P.C. 67.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow (12<sup>th</sup>) at Supreme Court. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Robert James Marshall (Sworn).

I am registered medical practitioner. At 2.30 a.m. on the 11<sup>th</sup> I rec'd a telephone message from West Hongkew P.S. to effect that foreign constable had been shot & had been taken to hospital. I went to the Hospital & saw the constable mentioned. He was quite dead.

Yesterday afternoon I made a post mortem exttn. In his tunic I found two holes, one on the right side about the waist slightly in front, the other was on the left side slightly higher up & behind. The hole on the right side was small while that on the left was larger & more of a rent. These holes corresponded to position of two wounds which I found in his body. The wound on right side was in the nipple line just below the margin of the ribs and that on the left side was about the situation of the 10<sup>th</sup> rib & slightly behind a line from the arm pit. These wounds were about of the size to admit the point of my little finger & blood had issued freely from that on the right side. Inside the body I was able to trace a direct line between those two wounds showing that they were both produced by the same bullet.

In its course through the body the bullet had pierced the right lobe of the liver causing very considerable destruction of the tissue. It then pierced the large vein slightly below its entrance into the liver, passed in front of the spinal column, passed through the spleen & came out about situation of the 10<sup>th</sup> rib, which it fractured.

Ex. 3. I found inside the body 3 wads. These are they. They appear to be the wads which would fit this cartridge case. (Ex. 4.). I think the wound would probably have been caused by a nickel coated bullet of about the calibre of one from that cartridge. I think the considerable destruction caused to the internal organs might be due to the wads. I found one of the wads just near the liver & the other two in the spleen. The wound in the spleen was a very large one.

Death must have been, if not instantaneous, very sudden. I did not observe any indication of smoke or burning. The difference between the two holes leads me to suppose that wound of entrance was on the right side.

There were no other wounds or marks on the body. RJMarshall, M.D.  
Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Wang Yung Dang (Cautioned).

Native P. Constable 286. I was on duty in Elgin Rd about 2 a.m. yesterday. I was in charge of the dog catching cart. I was standing at the corner of Elgin & Cunningham Road. I saw a number of loafers. At first I saw five loafers coming down the north part of Cunningham Rd. They had arms in their hands held behind their backs. They rushed up & caught hold of my cue & knocked me down, and one of them threatened me with his arm (a rifle) whilst another stopped him, and told me not to make a noise. I took out my whistle but he snatched it from my hand. There was a hole by the corner about over a foot in depth. He told me to go into the hole. I refused. They struck me with a sword on my arm. Three or four of them forced mew into the hole & threatened me with their rifles. They pout me into the hole and covered me with a plank and one of them pointed a riffle at me & said if I made a noise he would shoot me. After that I heard only the firing. I could not see any thing at all as I was covered y two planks. I was about 5 minutes in the hole. I got up myself after they went. I heard them saying they were going away. When I got up I saw Constable No. 72 lying on the ground. I shouted out on my way back robbers, robbers, because I had left my whistle. As I was going down Cunningham Road I met three Chinese Native Constables. I told them that Constable 72 was shot. We went together back to the place where P.C. 72 was lying & soon after the Inspector & some others arrived.

By Coroner.

I had gone to the distance of 7 or 8 Chinese houses down Cunningham Rd before I met the Chinese Constables.

I first of all saw five of these men followed by a good number more. I should say there were altogether about 13 or 14. It seemed to me that they were all armed with rifles. I could not see the faces of any of them as it was very dark.

The hole I was put into is in front of a corner shop beside a lamp post. The plank I was covered with was the door of a shop. They make it open with mind of axes. After that I only heard the rifle shots. I heard seven or eight single shots.

By Inspector Chilver.

When I first saw the men I was standing at the corner of Cunningham & Elgon Rd just in front of the shop by the lamp post. These men were about 5 houses away when I first saw them but I thought they were only passers by as their arms were concealed behind their backs. If I had recognised them as robbers I should have been able to give the alarm. The dog coolie was about ½ a house away from me. The dig cart was in Cunningham Rd about a house away from me.

[Insert signature 1]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Liang Hang Pah (Cautioned).

I am the dig coolie who goes out with the cart for catching dogs. I was in Elgin Road corner of Cunningham Rd yesterday about 2 a.m. with last witness.

I was about ½ a house away from the constable & I saw four or five persons came up & catch hold of the one of the constables & force him into the hole. When the constable refused to go into it they threatened him with a riffle. I was frightened so I went to the station. There I saw foreign constable No. 100. I told the Chinese Station Interpreter that there were some robbers in Elgin Rd & that they were going to shoot the Chinese constable. The Chinese Interpreter was there when I first got into the charge room. Just then I saw Foreign Constable 72 come into the station. I heard No. 100 speak something to 72 who ran up quickly. That is all I know.

After 72 had gone out I heard the shots. Constable 72 ran up quickly and 3 or 4 minutes after I heard the firing. The interpreter told me to go out with 72 so I followed him but after I heard the shots I stopped & did not proceed any further. Then I went back to the station and then the other foreigners came out bearing arms. I had gone about 10 houses up Cunningham Road when I heard the shots, but I could not see what happened. Then I went back to the station & when I arrived there I met them coming out.

I only saw four or five robbers because then I was frightened & ran to the station.

By Inspector Chilver.

I saw the robbers try to make 286 go into the hole then I ran away. None of the robbers tried to stop me. I ran down Elgin Rd East & through an alley way from Elgin Rd to Cunningham Rd.

+ H is mark.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Ling Ah Say (Cautioned).

I am dog coolie with dog catching cart. I was on duty, Elgin Rd Cunningham Rd at 2 a.m. yesterday with last two witnesses. I was away from them the distance of a house. I saw five persons who caught hold of constable by his cue & tried to force him into the hole. The constable refused & one threatened him with a rifle. I was frightened and ran away towards the East part the market & through an alley way. Then I went to the station. I did not get so far as Hanan Rd but when I came out of the alley way I went to the station. There I reported the attack to the station interpreter. I waited outside the station while the interpreter explained my report to the foreigners.

I did not see any of the men who attacked Constable 286 so as to recognise them. + His Mark.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 2.30 p.m. this afternoon. JCED. Coroner/

2.30 p.m. Adjourned from this a.m.

Wang Qua Wah (Cautioned).

I am a boy in opium shop in Elgin Road close to Cunningham Road next to a rice shop.

We were all in bed yesterday about 2 a.m. We thought there was a fire when we heard a lot of noise outside. After we heard the firing of rifles so we got up & opened the door. I saw some one taking a man by the arms & could not see distinctly whether they were Chinese or foreigners. I closed the door at once & heard more firing. I only heard a man groaning & making a noise. I do not know whether it was a Chinese or foreigner. I could not recognise any of the people I saw.

(Note. This man does not appear able to tell a coherent story. Probably too frightened.)

Zing Yuk Sun (Cautioned).

I am Aceh in shop at corner of Elgin & Cunningham Rds – the house broken into yesterday morning early.

They knocked the door first & then knocked the door off with axes. They knocked off three doors which they took away, and lighted three candles. Four of them jumped over the counter & caught hold of me. I was s, sleeping downstairs. I do not know hoe many of them went up stairs. They asked me for dollars. I gave them small silver coins as there were no dollars. They asked me again for dollars. I said I had none. They threatened me with a revolver. They then took me up stairs & there took all that was in the room up stairs. They took away the contents of the trunks, clothing silver ware, copper coins, also a gold pin & earrings from a woman. They took in all over \$1,000 worth. They then took me down stairs & left the place saying “go to the north” to one another.

I had not seen any of these men before. In the house there were six persons, four men & two women.

By Inspector Chilver.

I heard guns going off. This was when I was up stairs.

[Character signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Wang Mong Woo (Cautioned).

Native P.C. 732. I was on duty yesterday about 2 a.m. in Elgin Road. About 1.30 I stood at corner in front of shop that was robbed & met foreign P.C. 72 who signed my book. After that he went towards West (Chekiang Rd) whilst I went East towards Hanan Rd. When I arrived corner of Hanan Rd a little after 2 o'clock I heard the firing of a single shot. After a minute I heard another one & then I heard whistling. I went towards West as I thought there were some robbers. When I arrived at Market about 5 or 6 houses away from place I heard some one say “There is a constable fire cat him.” They did so but missed their aim. As I was unarmed I did not venture to proceed further. I returned towards the East & blew my whistle. I met a Sikh Constable bearing a rifle. I told him there were some robbers. I went with him to that place & found P.C. 72 lying dead. Then the Inspector and others arrived. I was instructed to fetch the ambulance.

[character signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

That Robert John Morrow was murdered at 2 a.m. on the morning of March 11 1907 by some person or persons unknown. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 66 – 83]

Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> 1907

An Inquest held this day at the Fearon Road Mortuary on the body of one Kalah Singh.

Putah Singh (Sworn).

I am Indian P.C. 77. I identify the body just seen as that of one Kalah Singh, whom I knew. I last saw him alive about 7 or 8 days ago. About 4 days ago I received a letter from home which I went to show deceased but found he was not there. I saw there Kokhum Singh who was there & returned back to station. Kala Singh & Kokha Singh were both living at 63 Broadway. They were both watchmen & were ordered by the British Consulate to stay there. This was the house of a man who has gone away & they were ordered to remain there to look after place & were to get their wages when the effects were sold. Kala Singh & Kokha Singh both belonged to neighbouring villages only about 2 miles distant & were friends. [signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Saint Clair Silva (Sworn).

I am employed in out door staff I. M. C. Customs. I am a Portuguese subject. I live at 64 Broadway terrace.

About two days ago about noon I smelt gas in my house. Yesterday I went up to the Gas Company & asked some one to come & see about it. At 9 o'clock to-day 3 Chinese came to my house to repair the metre. They worked till 12 o'clock to find out the place where it was leaking. They could not find anything wrong in the house so we went over to the next door house to see if there was anything wrong. At first we could not open the door. We found the glass in the door broken & we could smell the gas through there. We forced the door in & found the metre was leaking.

When I first went into the house I thought it was empty & no one living there. When I went upstairs I saw the man lying in bed. I only saw one at first, the other was covered up. The first thing I did was to open all the windows to let the gas off. Then I ran out for assistance. I went [alone] with the three Chinese from the gas company. The Agent for house is 13a Peking Rd. [Note in margin – China Land & Finance Co.] StClair Silva.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Thomas Foley (Sworn).

I am P.C. 61. I was informed by last witness when walking along Broadway at about 11.45 that an Indian was dying in this house, 63 Broadway Terrace. I went in with him & went up stairs. I saw one Indian breathing very heavily with froth on his mouth. When I went to take him out I found this man lying along side of him dead. I took the man still breathing down stairs to the open air doing all I could to restore life. I stopped there till the ambulance arrived & he was taken to hospital. Thomas Foley.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

John Chatham (Sworn).

I am employed in S'hai Gas Company. I went to house 63 Broadway terrace about 2.30 this afternoon. There is nothing in the house, no furniture or nothing. Also all the fittings have been taken and, as I have heard 3 weeks ago. The S'hai Gas Co. holds a deposit of \$10 agst Dr. Said Fraid who was the occupier of the house, but he seems to have given no information of his leaving. By taking the fittings away all the points have been left open so that if you turn the gas on at the metre you would fill the house with gas. Somebody must have been interfering with the metre since those fittings were taken down. The metre was underneath the stairs. As I understand all the effects went out 3 weeks ago these men should have gone too but they appear

to have been stopping in the house. I have not examined the metre myself but I understand that the screw and the washer of the tap from the supply pipe is missing. J Chatham.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow at H.B.M. Supreme Court. JCED, Coroner.

Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup> 1907

Adjourned inquest on the body of one Kalah Singh.

Neil Macleod (Sworn).

Registered Medical Practitioner. About 10 o'clock I received a telephone message with regard to 2 Indians who had been found in the empty house, one dead & other alive. I drove down Broadway & met an ambulance in which there was a Sikh at whom I looked. I told the Police Sergeant in charge to take him to the hospital where I afterwards treated him. He was unconscious & pulseless. He is still alive & conscious & may recover.

I afterwards went to the Mortuary where I saw the body of a man said to be Kalah Singh. I made a post mortem examination of his body this morning. It presented no signs of violence & was that of a well nourished man. The right lung was completely adherent to the chest wall. The kidneys & bladder presented signs of chronic disease which while insufficient to account for death would facilitate it from any other cause. The bright red colour of the post mortem stains independent & non-dependent parts of the body, the deeply congested state of the lining of the wind pipe & congestion of both lungs with some frothing fluid in these parts, in the absence of anything obstructing aspiration, the fluid state of the blood, are signs in my opinion compatible with death from coal gas poisoning. NMacleod.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Lee Tse Jeh (Cautioned).

I am employed as gas fitter in the Gas Co. Yesterday morning I went to house No. 64 Broadway terrace to see to gas fittings but found nothing wrong there. I went with the foreigner next door to No. 63.

There I found the house full of gas. I went straight to the metre & having closed it went up stairs to open the windows. The wooden door to the place under the stairs where the metre is was half open.

(Shows condition of metre showing that the tap had been tampered with, washer & screw off & plug partly out but tap also half open so that gas would escape directly through pipes into upstairs rooms.)

I could not find the washer or the screw anywhere about. [character signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Sergt Macgregor states that furniture & gas fittings were removed on March 4 by Order of Mixed Court by Messrs. Lewis Moore & Co.

Inquest adjourned till Monday next at 10 a.m. JCED, Coroner.

Monday March 18<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned Inquest on the body of one Kalah Singh, adjourned from Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>.

The Marshall of Court says other Indian is still too ill to appear. Cannot walk.

Asbyian Eek (Sworn).

I am Detective Sergt. I received an order from Mixed Court Magistrate & Mr. Burton[mercer] on application of creditors of said Friad to take possession of furniture & fixtures in house No. 63 Broafway Terrace & hand them over to auctioneer. On 2<sup>nd</sup> March I went down there with the representatives of Lewis Moore & Co. I broke the seals & handed the goods over. I took inventory & left them in their hands. They did not take it away till the afternoon I understand. I

saw the two Indians there. There is a watchman in the employ of the Consulate supposed to be living at the back there but I never saw him. I notified the landlord that I was doing this.

Asbyan Eek.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till Thursday next at 10 a.m. JCED, Coroner.

Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup> 1907.

Adjourned Inquest on the body of one Kalah Singh.

Anoks Singh (Sworn).

Unemployed. Kalah Singh was employed to watch 63 Broadway Terrace. I am his friend & I went to live with him. I remember a foreigner taking away the goods in that house. After that Kalah Singh & I remained on living in the house.

I and Kalah Singh came home to the house about 6 o'clock quite drunk & we slept on the bed. After that I do not know what happened.

We cooked our food downstairs in the kitchen. I do not know that there is a small cupboard under the stairs. I have never been there. I do not recollect noticing any smell of gas in the house. I do not know what a gas metre is. There was nobody else in that house. I do not recollect doing any thing else but going straight upstairs to bed when we came home. I remember locking the front door. Anoks + Singh.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

Accidental death. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

**For Inquisition see File. Thomas E. N. Rosser, Acting Marshall.**

[pages 84 -91]

Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held this day at the Mortuary, General Hospital, on the body of one Dahn Singh.

[Shinda] Singh (Sworn).

I am P.C. 231. I identify the body seen by you in my presence as that of Dahn Singh. I used to know him about 3 years ago when he was employed on the [Saly] blue Mill. [Signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Hanif Singh (Sworn).

P.C. 272. Some natives about 11 o'clock the night before last came & reported to me that one Indian drunk was laying down on the sampan wharf, Yangtsepoo Rd. I went along this way. I saw him lying down on the ground very drunk quite unconscious. This was beyond the last cotton mill. I got a light & looked at his face, then shook him but he did not move. I told two natives to look after him & went to look for a rick shaw. I had to come nearly back to Yangtsepoo station before I could find one. When I got one I went & fetched him & put him in the rickshaw & took him to the station getting there about 12.30. [Signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

John Campbell (Sworn).

I am P.C. 56, Yangtsepoo P.S. This Indian was brought to station about 12.30 on Monday morning, being drunk in Yangtsepoo Rd. I searched him & put him in the foreigners' cell at the station. I put blankets around him. I visited him frequently during the night. When I went in at 6 o'clock he had not recovered from the effects of the drink so I called Sergt. Bannker. He told me to send him to Hospital. He was sent away about 6 o'clock. John Campbell.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 10 a.m. JCED, Coroner.

Wednesday March 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned Inquest on one Dahn Singh. Adjourned from yesterday a.m.

Robert James Marshall (Sworn).

I am registered medical practitioner. I saw deceased Monday morning shortly after eight at the General Hospital. He was then in a profoundly comatose condition and pulseless. He had vomited shortly after admission. The vomited matter smelt strongly of alcohol. He did not recover consciousness & died in the afternoon.

I made a post mortem examination yesterday & found the organs in the condition one would expect in a case of alcoholic poisoning. There were no marks of violence found & no signs if any injury at all, and in the absence of any other sign or any reason of his death, I consider his death was due to alcoholic poisoning. The remaining chances of life would be decreased by exposure on a wet night.

By the Coroner.

I think it generally advisable where a man is found drunk and cannot be roused to have him seen by a doctor. It is of course a matter which must be left to the discretion of the Police, but I think it would be advisable in such cases to have him seen to. He could always be sent in to the Central Station. RJMarshall.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

Death due to alcoholic poisoning and exposure on a wet night. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 92 – 96]

Monday April 1<sup>st</sup> 1907.

Inquest held at the Mortuary General Hospital on the body of one Sindh Singh, a prisoner serving sentence in H.B.M.'s Prison Shanghai,

View body.

John Arthur Chandler (Sworn).

I am Chief Gaoler of British Gaol. I identify the body seen by me in your presence as that of Sundah Singh, who was a prisoner committed to my custody under sentence by the Judge of the Supreme Court. I produce the warrant for his detention. It is dated Sept. 4, 1905 & contains the record of the convictions of the deceased for wandering & then sentencing to 3 years imprisonment with hard labour.

I produce the Doctor's Report Book. This book contains the doctor's reports from the time of his admission to the Gaol. The doctor recommended that he should be removed to the Hospital on Feb. 16th 1907 & he was so removed. He has been attended here in the hospital ever since.

John Arthur Chandler.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow, Tuesday, at H.B.M.'s Supreme Court. JCED, Coroner.

Tuesday April 2<sup>nd</sup> 1907

Adjourned inquest on one Sundah Singh.

Robert James Marshall (Sworn).

I am a registered medical practitioner. The accused Sundah Singh first came under me charge in the middle of February and I attended him at the General Hospital till his death on March 31<sup>st</sup>. He was suffering from tuberculosis of the lung. He was very emaciated & weak when he came to the hospital. During his time in the hospital he had all the attention which the accommodation of the hospital can give for a case of that sort. RJMarshall.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

John Arthur Chandler (Sworn).

This is an entry in the Visitors' Book dated Dec. 28 1906 with regard to Sundah Singh. The next visit of the doctor was after the date of that entry, on the next day Dec. 29. This entry was [?????] from reception into Gaol. John A Chandler.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

Sundah Singh died on the 31<sup>st</sup> day of March 1907 from tuberculosis of the lung.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 97 – 102]

Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held this day at the Fearon Road Mortuary on the body of Charles Compton, 26 years, Stoker of H.M.S. "Otter."

Adjourn & view body.

William Harold Dinsdale (Sworn).

I am gunner of H.M.S. Otter. I identify body just seen by me in your presence as that of Charles Compton, Stoker of H.M.S. Otter.

I last saw deceased alive at about 4.20 yesterday afternoon. He was then going on leave. About 11.10 the Quartermaster came to wardroom & reported that man had fallen overboard. Inquired & found that Charles Compton was coming on board in company with three others. To reach his own ship he had to go on board the Fame & pass from the Fame to the Otter, in doing which he missed his footing & slipped between the two ships & fell overboard. He was not seen again. Two boats were lowered & a search made. No trace of him found. This morning about 10 minutes to seven a Chinaman dragging round ship brought the body to the surface, i.e. the River Police drag boat. WHDinsdale Gunner.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Herbert John Sadler (Sworn).

I am leading signalman on H.M.S. Otter. I knew the deceased. I was ashore with him yesterday with the football party. I came off with him in the same sampan. We got on board the Fame, he got out first out of the sampan. He walked across the Fame & started climbing over into the Otter, me and the other two that came off were over the other side of the Fame and we heard the splash. We looked over the side with lanterns but no sign of him could be seen. We sang out that Compton had fallen overboard. The Quartermaster then went away to tell the Captain. Capt. came on deck & ordered the whaler to be sent away.

The two ships are quite close together. The distance to be stepped is about 1<sup>st</sup> ½. It was about 7 minutes past eleven & quite dark. I did not actually see what happened, I only heard the splash. Came off from the Shanghai side and the ships are moored abreast & astern, head downstream. The tide was running out. Herbert John Sadler, Leading Signalman.

Arthur Davidson (Sworn).

I am doctor for flotilla, actually on the Whiting. I have made an examination of the deceased & death is obviously due to drowning. There was a small cut under the nose which might be post mortem but no other signs of his having struck any thing in falling.

Arthur Davidson, Surgeon R.N.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

W. H. Dinsdale Explains ships moved with berths touching & that he fell over abaft of part touching so that with tide running out towards bow he would be carried under the ships. JCED.

Finding.

Accidental drowning. (Note margin – See file.)

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 103 -122]

Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held at the Fearon Road mortuary this day on the body believed to be that of G. R. Multar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of S.S. Indranic.

Gustav Mariemus Gullicksen (Sworn).

I am Norwegian subject, Constable in the River Police. I received information yesterday at 12 o'clock that a body of a foreigner was lying on the foreshore below the flour Mill at the bottom of the Yaqngtsepoo Rd. I went straight down there and found the body of a foreigner lying on the foreshore about 700 yards below the flour mill. It was then 1.30 and about high tide. I found the body about 5 or 6 yards from the edge of the river. There is a small creek there which runs in from the river just wide enough to get a sampan in, and the body was about 3 or 4 yards from the edge of this creek. It is more of a cut in the ground than a creek & is only about 3 sampans long. There was about 2 feet of water in the creek, and it is all about 3 feet deep. I got a sampan up this small creek and put the body in the water & towed it behind the sampan up to the Yangtsepoo creek where I put it in an ambulance & brought it to the mortuary.

In very high spring tide the tide might come up to where the body was found but the tide yesterday was as high as it has been for some time and it was still some 5 or 6 yards from where the body was. Gustav Marimius Gullicksen.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. on Monday morning at H.B.M. Supreme Court. JCED PM

Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body believed to be that of G. R. Multon 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of the S.S. Indrani.

Robert James Marshall (Sworn).

I am registered medical practitioner. On Saturday afternoon I held a post mortem examination on the body of a foreigner at the mortuary. The body was in an advanced state of decomposition. The hands & lower part of the face were missing. I could not find any evidence of violence. The internal organs were in a state of decomposition but the right lung showed signs of considerable disease while the left was quite healthy.

Death had not taken place by drowning. I was able to tell this by the state of the lungs. The lungs are probably the last organs to decompose. The skin on the arms & legs was not very decomposed, in fact on the feet there was no sign of any decomposition of the skin. I think if there had been any signs of violence I ought to have been able to detect it.

I examined the clothes for holes etc but found none. I was unable to form any definite conclusion as to the cause of death. There was a belladonna plaster on the chest.

The state of the lungs did not point to strangulation but the neck was so torn that I could not have told from an examination of that. I exclude death from drowning by the absence of water from the lungs. There was no sign of any congestion of the lung such as one would find in death from suffocation.

I examined the heart but it was not in a condition to enable me to say much about it. The skull was intact. The stomach was full of food.

The man must have been dead at least ten days but not very much longer than that. Death might possibly have taken place as long ago as April 14<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>.

I took off the socks. They are marked clearly with the letter **M** and with a letter before it which looks like a **G** or a **J**. RJMarshall.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Thomas Mellows (Sworn).

I am Inspector of River Police. On the 17<sup>th</sup> inst it was reported to me that G. R. Multar 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of the S.S. Indranic was missing since the 134<sup>th</sup> inst. Last Thursday about 5.30 a telephone message from Yangtsepoo was brought to me that the Flour Mill had reported the dead body of a foreigner on the foreshore some distance below the jetty. I sent the [??????] Life Boat down in the morning at 4 a.m. & again at 9 a.m. I sent a Sergt down with a steam launch to look for this body. He met the [??????] Boat with a dead native that they had picked up below the point and he himself concluded that a mistake had been made as to the body as he himself picked up three dead bodies (natives) between 10 & 11. At 12 noon an officer from Yangtsepoo reported to the river police constable on duty there that the body was still lying on the foreshore. He found it & brought it to the mortuary, at 6 p.m. in Friday night. I had the body stripped, found part of the face was gone & both hands but no marks of violence any where on the body. The length of the body about 5 ft 9, dark brown fair with a slight bald patch on the front of the head. The body was that of a very strongly built man, fresh condition when I first saw it & very muscular. Found traces of a moustache & hair on the chin. The body was in a fairly fresh condition when I first saw it & I concluded that death had not been by drowning.

The clothes coat & trousers were of dark check suit very small check., light blue waistcoat with red spots, white shirt, with pearl sleeve links in the cuffs, merino singlet and linen drawers, blue woollen socks, braces, ordinary elastic with silk flowers over them. The mark on the coat is "East End Tailor, E. James, 124 Earl Rd., Liverpool" and a royal coat of arms on the tab. According to your orders I telephoned to Inspector of Yangtsepoo station giving him a description of the deceased for him to make inquiries about the case. He reported this morning that he could find out nothing at all about him.

The Mpl Police do not touch any bodies found on the shore below high water mark. The Indranic was lying in the stream abreast of the China Merchants East Wharf. Thos. Mellows, Inspector R.P.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till to-day fortnight. JCED, Coroner.

Monday May 13<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one supposed to be G. R. Multon 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of the S.S. Indranic adjourned from Monday April 29<sup>th</sup>.

This inquest is further adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10.

Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one supposed to be G. R. Multon 2nd officer S.S. Indranic.

Harold Walter Woollam (Sworn).

I am Chief Engineer of S.S. Indranic. I knew J. R. Multon 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer of the Indranic. I last saw him on the Sunday night previous to leaving Shanghai (April 14<sup>th</sup>). I met him just outside the Metropole Hotel. We took a rickshaw from there down Bubbling Well Rd down to St George's Farm. This was between 5 & 5.30 in the evening. We went into St George's & had a drink & when we came out we went along towards [Jenfield?] to look for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer. Multon stopped behind & when I had found the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineers we returned to St. George's farm to have diner & found him already having his dinner. He refused to join us at dinner but finished his dinner alone & paid for it & went out. That is the last I saw of him. He was not drunk. He had had a drink or two but was quite capable of taking care of himself.

Multon told me that he had very little money with him, only about a dollar or two, & I understood that he was going right away back to the ship. I myself went off to the ship being 9

& 10, going off by a sampan from Wetmore Road. When I got off to the ship Multon had not arrived.

I have examined these clothes in Court & I recognise them as the ones he was wearing when I last saw him. I know the deceased suffered from asthma & he used to wear belladonna plasters at intervals. I do not know if the deceased could swim.

Deceased name was John R. Multon. I do not know his second name but I know the first was John. H.W. Woollam.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Captain says ship lying in stream off Pooting Wharf. Deceased's correct height was 5ft 7 ½ .

Inspector Mellows.

Not found out any thing further. We only know of one sampan capsized about that time & that did not belong to that jetty. We have traced him pretty well & he appears to have been overturned on the way back from the Pooting side.

They had police at the jetties for about a year & then they gave it up. We have had sampans numbered for about 3 years.

#### Finding.

I find that John R. Multon was found dead on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of April 1907 and that he died between the evening of April 14<sup>th</sup> 1907 and the said 26th day of April but that there is no evidence to show when, how, or by what means he came to his death.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner

[pages 123 – 130]

Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 1907

Inquest Held this day at the Fearon Road mortuary on the body of a man believed to be that of J. Fuchs of S.S. Aberlour.

Thomas Mellows (Sworn).

I am Inspector River Police. I received a report this morning from the berthing officer at Woosung as to the body of a man who had fallen overboard from the S.S. Aberlour & at the same time that the body had been found. I told the berthing officer to tell the boat people who found the body to bring it to the Police Hulk. They arrived at 12.15. I brought it straight to the mortuary. That is the body just seen in your presence.

This is the report I received. The description of the body is: - length about 5 ft 5. Light auburn hair, alight auburn moustache. Very fair complexion. Absolutely no marks on the body. Not even any tatoo marks. Blue dungaree jacket, striped tweed trousers, blue striped cotton shirt. A sailor's clasp knife was found in the pocket of the trousers & a leather belt round the waist. There was some cotton waste in both pockets of the jacket.

There is only one body recently reported as missing & that is the body of a French sailor from the cruiser Brioux. He would be in uniform. There is another unaccounted for but that is some time ago & besides we have a description of his clothes. Thos. Mallows, Inspector R.P.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Chang Ah War.

I am boatman at Woosung. I found the body close to the Quarantine Station on Pooting side.

Inspector Mellows.

That would be just abreast of the inner bar.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow morning. JCED, Coroner.

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one believed to be J. Fuchs, A.B. S.S. Aberlour.

I read report from Harbour Master with report from master of S.S. Aberlour annexed.

H. Strave of Messrs. Tienshan & Co appears & states: Agents for Charterers of S.S. Aberlour.

The Charter is for cargo from Hamburg & Antwerp to final port Yokohama. The Charter expires at Yokohama & our connection with ship will cease. I think there is no likelihood of her returning to Shanghai.

Finding.

I find that the body shown to the Inquest is that of J. Fuchs, A.B. of the S.S. Aberlour and that in accordance with the written report of the Master of the said ship & of the Harbour Master based on information supplied by the Berthing Officer, the deceased appears to have accidentally fallen over board as the ship was crossing the bar on her way out from the port of Shanghai, but that there is not sufficient evidence on which the cause of death can be definitely certified.

J.C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 131 - 143 & 149 – 154]

Monday July 8<sup>th</sup> 1907.

An Inquest held at the Fearon Road Mortuary this day on the body of Frederick Alfonso Raad of the R.S. Lee Hsing'

View body.

Thomas Ernest Taylor (Sworn).

I am 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer of R.S. Lee Hsing. I identify the body seen in your presence as that of Frederick Alfonso Raad. I last saw deceased alive at about 8.50 p.m. Saturday evening.

The bosun came & reported to me that this man had given him a little tumble. I went to the ward Room to see this man. I saw him there & I asked him if he knew it was not the correct thing to have a tumble with the crew. He said he was not aware of that fact. I immediately went on deck again & spoke to the second boatswain & quarter master. I had been speaking to them probably for about 1 ½ minutes when the 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer's boy came & reported to me that Mr. Raad had gone over the gang-way into the river. I ran to the gang-way & looked over the side, saw no signs of the body. I instructed the Quartermaster to immediately get a sampan & to proceed up river in the direction the tide was running - it was flood ride at the time - & see if he could see anything of him & to make inquiries from the cargo boat & sampan over there. I then went to the after part of the ship & called the man's name as loud as possible but there was no response. The Quartermaster returned shortly after from his unsuccessful search.

I then wrote a chit to the Chief Officer & then Mr. [?????????] 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer returned on board & I told him about it & we then informed the River police of the matter. They came on board & got a grappling iron & started trying for the body along side the ship, but without success. They then left & the Chief Officer came on board & the matter was reported to him. The body was found the next morning at 5 o'clock by the drag boat man. I saw the body taken out of the water. It was found right under the after buoy, i.e. astern of the ship up river.

Deceased had just joined the Revenue [Cruiser] Service & had only reported for duty on Friday. He was going to the Ping Ting as 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer & was sent on board the Lee Hsing to wait till the Ping Ting's arrival. I only met deceased on Friday afternoon. He seemed dejected on Saturday afternoon when we were on board together. He talked very little, only when addressed. T.E. Taylor.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 9.30 a.m. to-morrow, Tuesday, at H.B.M. Supreme Court. JCED, Coroner.

Tuesday July 9<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one Frederick Alfonso Raad.

Tsang Hai Wang (Cautioned).

I am 4<sup>th</sup> Officers Boy. I knew the deceased. I saw him at about 8.50 on Saturday evening. I was down on the lower deck & was going up to the upper deck. As I was just coming up I saw deceased jump from the right hand side staircase into the water. I did not see where he came from. I had just got up.

When I saw this I called the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer but the man was already overboard. I did not run to the side first. I went immediately for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer. Deceased jumped over the rope at the top of the gangway. I did not see deceased come up from below just before. I was in the pantry. [character signature].

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Ling Koh (Cautioned).

I am 2<sup>nd</sup> Boatswain on Liu Hsing. I knew the deceased. He had only been 1 day on the ship. I was asleep on the forehatch & deceased passes that way to go to his cabin. The deceased slapped me with his hand as he passed. The deceased slapped me one two three times. I told the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer about it. The deceased then went to the wardroom. I did not see him again after that. After that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer called me & told me that as he was not the Capt. or the 1<sup>st</sup> Officer the matter did not concern him. I did not see the 4<sup>th</sup> Officers boy come up while we were talking.

Witness here very reluctant to say anything further. And a good deal of trouble caused & contradictory statements made before he began to continue.

While I was talking with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer the 4<sup>th</sup> Officers boy came up but the man was already over the side then. Then the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer told the man on watch to get a sampan & take a light. Afterwards the 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer came on board & we let down a small anchor & pulled it to try & find the body. The body was recovered next morning. [character signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Wang Ting Kang (Cautioned).

I am Quartermaster. I was standing talking with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer & 2<sup>nd</sup> Boatswain about v8.50 p.m. Saturday evening when the 4<sup>th</sup> Officer's boy came up & said the foreigner had jumped overboard. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer then told me to get a sampan ready immediately & I went to get a light & we got a sampan immediately & went to search for the body. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer then went to the stern of the ship & called out deceased's name. I went away in the sampan but I did not hear or see anything. It was strong flood tide at the time. [character signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow. JCED, Coroner.

Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one Frederick Alfonso Raad.

Inquest adjourned till 10 a.m. on Friday next 12<sup>th</sup> July 1907.

By Order. Thomas E. L. Rosser, Marshal.

[pages 149 – 154]

Friday July 12<sup>th</sup> 1907

Adjourned inquest on one Frederick Alphonso Raad, adjourned from Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Philip Henry Cecil Bowen (Sworn).

I am Boilermaker & Ship Builder at present employed in the New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works. I first met the deceased 2 years ago last April. He came out from home as 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer of S.S. [Sandra?] Mayo of which his brother-in-law was captain. I put him up in my house till he got a vacancy in the Revenue [Cruiser?] Service. After waiting 3 months, no vacancy occurring I got him a job in the S.S. Chefoo, of which he was 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer, trading between [????????] and Chefoo. He was there about 12 months. He then came back to S'hai & joined the Chinese Merchants as 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer. He was there till he received his appointment in the Customs Cruisers. I saw him last Friday night between 7 & 7.30. He came there to see me & seemed very depressed & I thought he wanted money but he did not ask me for money & he left in about 5 minutes. He had previously borrowed money off me in small amounts but always paid them back. Previous to coming to my house he had been to Mr. Brankston's house & borrowed \$100 so I imagined he wanted more.

Deceased was known to me as a man likely to be financially embarrassed & he was also a man of excitable temperament. I believe the deceased was partly Greek by descent.

P. H. C. Bowen.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Hugh Morrison Giffen (Sworn).

I am also employed in the New Engineering & Shipbuilding Works. I have also known the deceased about the same time as the last witness. I also lived for a short time in the same house with deceased & the last witness. Deceased was a passionate man over trifles. He was excitable & subject to depression. I saw him on the Friday. He seemed very depressed then but did not mention the reason. Prior to that he had talked about financial embarrassments. I do not know the state of his finances but I have no reason to believe his embarrassment was such as should have evidently depressed a man of normal temperament. Deceased was of a very generous disposition. He was extravagant in his generosity. H.M. Giffen.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

I find that Frederick Alfonso Raad came to his death by drowning on July 6<sup>th</sup> 1907 having voluntarily jumped overboard apparently in a state of mental excitement but that there is not sufficient evidence as to the state of Deceased's mind to enable me to say that he was insane at the time, nor is there sufficient evidence to say the exact intention with which he jumped overboard.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 144 – 157]

Thursday July 11<sup>th</sup> 1907.

An Inquest held this day on the body supposed to be that of Fritz Bradsch of British S.S. Tudor. Thomas Mellows sworn. I recd telephone message about 11.30 today from Sergeant Murphy of River Police that he had found the body of a foreigner [??????] to a Pontoon at International Dock – he also telephoned that a Sailor belonged to a Russian ship at International Dock & some coolies at the Dock that body floated up a short time before the Sergeant could [????????] of native body & S Launch ‘Silver’ [F. Dyer] & thereby saw one of men who they can identify steal a watch & chain & some none from pockets of deceased. Sergeant C. W. Condell there to await return of [????] to search her [??] launch & arrest whoever was concerned. Sergeant McGough [????????????????????] where received at 12 p.m.

When I got to Hulk Office at 11.30 a.m. after recg report [????] body [????????????????] a letter from Mr. Rose Vice-Consul reporting a man missing from S.S. Tudor Prince [????????????????????].  
Nativity: German

Occup. Donkey man

Age: about 50

Desc. Short moustache beard, sloping [???], turning grey believed to have been wearing blue serge suit.

Monday July 15<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body supposed to be that of Fritz Bradsch.

No further evidence from Police – description recd from Victor [??????] of Fritz Braasch put to Inspector Mellows. Agrees except that deceased was wearing lace-up boots made in Japan.

Charles Denis Murphy sworn. Sergeant in River Police – at 10.50 a.m. Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July I went on duty in neighbourhood of International Dock. I noticed a number of people on pontoon & on going there to enquire cause I found a foreigner floating face upwards. I made enquiries & found coolies had been robbing body- it was secured with a piece of rope. I brought the body to Fearon Road Mortuary. Charles D Murphy.

Inspector Mellows. The Tudor Prince was lying at Yangtse Wharf about ¾ mile above the International Dock.

Some parts here not legible.

Finding.

I find that the body on which this inquest is held was that of Fritz Braasch or Bradsch a seaman on board the “Tudor Prince” who met his death by drowning on the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. He was on this side of the River that evening, and probably left the Wetmore Road Jetty at between 10 & 11 p.m. to cross to his ship on the other side. How he got into the water there is no evidence to show, but I can find no evidence of foul play towards him.

I wish to commend the conduct of Inspector Mellows & Sergeant Murphy in detecting & prosecuting the Chinese who stole a watch & chain

From the body after it had risen to the surface.

F. S. G. Bourne, Acting as Coroner.

[page 158]

Tuesday August 6<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held this day at the Mortuary, General Hospital, on the body of one Vier Singh, No. 1 Watchman, 9 Seymour Rd.

For particulars of this Inquest see depositions on File. Two (2) men, Phula Singh and Sohen Singh, Police Constables, have been charged for that they on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 1907 in Shanghai did feloniously kill and slay one Vier Singh.

They were committed for Trial on Thursday August 8<sup>th</sup> 1907.

The preliminary examination being held at the same time as the Inquest.

Thomas C. M. Rosser, Marshall.

[pages 159 – 160 & 178 – 188]

Friday September 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held this day on the body of Arthur Greene, I. M. Customs.

Body viewed.

Donald MacLennan (Sworn).

I am Tide Surveyor in I. C. M. Customs. I identify the body just seen by you in my presence as that of Arthur Greene, known to me. Deceased was recently employed in the I. C. M. Customs outdoor staff. He left the Customs a couple of days ago. I last saw him alive about 10 or 10.30. He was then all right. I heard this morning at 8 o'clock that he was dead.

D. MacLennan.

Before me, C. J. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a. to-morrow at Supreme Court. JCED, Coroner.

[page 178]

Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body of Arthur Greene.

Ernest Louis Marsh (Sworn).

Registered Medical Practitioner. I held a post mortem yesterday afternoon on a body shewn to me as that of Arthur Greene. The body was that of a well built and properly nourished young man. There were no external evidences of violence nor anything to show that deceased had not died peacefully. The internal organs were everywhere apparently healthy, but it was noticeable that the blood was enormously fluid and in such excess in the lungs & cavities of the heart as to suggest the action of a narcotic poison. Examination of the contents of the stomach and of the urine by chemical tests confirmed this by showing the presence of traces of morphia. I also examined a tumbler which I was [told?] was near the bed where deceased lay & which had evidently been used by deceased recently. The remaining contents of this tumbler gave the tests for morphia. I am of opinion that death was due to an overdose of morphia.

There was no smell as if from any opium preparation & I saw no signs of hypodermic injections under the skin. Ernest L. Marsh.

Before me, C. J. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till Monday at 10 a.m. JCED, Coroner.

Monday September 30<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body of Arthur Greene.

William Lloyd (Sworn).

I am tide waiter in the Customs. The deceased was well known to him. I had known him the last two years. I last saw him alive about 7.30 on Thursday evening. He was then in his room & in bed. He had not been well for some time. He was worried and could not get any sleep at night. The room was dark when I went in so I struck a light & he woke up. Seeing he was asleep I told him I would come in later & so bid him good night & went out.

I know that for the last 2 months the deceased had been in the habit of taking sleeping draughts. He had a small Japanese bottle of morphia in his room & he had been taking this. I told him he ought not to as he did not know how much to take. It was not English morphia but had a Japanese stamp on it. William Lloyd.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Leif Due (Sworn).

I am tide waiter in the Customs. I knew the deceased. I had known him for about a year. I saw him between 4 & 5 on the evening before his death. He was then in his room. I had a long talk

with him about what he was going to do when he left the Customs. He told me he did not feel well & wanted to go to bed, so I left about 5 o'clock. I went to his room next morning about 6.30. I had been asked by some friends of his to give him some money & that is why I went in. As he was seemingly asleep I would not wake him up but left the money on the table in an envelope. When I came down to the Custom House at 7 o'clock I asked Mr. Lewis who was going off duty to go in & see Greene and if he was awake to give him the money.

The deceased had not been well lately. He had told me twice before that he had taken some morphia. He told me he could not get a proper sleep. I told him to be careful with morphia & rather to use something else. Lief Due.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Albert Ferns (Sworn).

I am Tide waiter in the Customs. I knew the deceased. I went into deceased's room on the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> about 10 minutes to 8. I went in on purpose to give him a letter that was on the table. Seeing him asleep & very bad as I thought I immediately to the Mess Room & asked Mr. Harris if he would go up & see Mr. Greene as I thought he needed medical attendance. Subsequently Dr. Cox was called & the man was found to be dead.

Margin Note: report by Dr Cox to Coroner – Found he was dead, probably 2 hours - no marks of violence. Body recumbent in position of rest. JCED.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Walter Kennerley (Sworn).

I am Det. Constable. I was calked in at 8.40 a.m. on the 27<sup>th</sup> inst. b y tel. I went to Room No. 24 in the Customs Quarters. Dr. Cox was there at the time. He pronounced the man dead. He was laying in a natural position partly on his right side. He was quite warm & the Dr. said he had not been dead more than an hour or so. I afterwards searched the room & found in the Wash[??] and bathroom a tumbler apparently been used very recently. I also found in a small box a small pair of scales as used by a chemist. That glass was the one taken by Dr. Marsh. On inquiry at O'Brien Twigg the Chemist I found that on Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> deceased had purchased a sleeping draught. W. Kennerley.

Before me, JCED, Coroner.

Age deceased stated to be 29.

### Finding.

I find that Arthur Greene came to his death on the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 1907 and that the cause of death was an overdose of morphia accidentally taken apparently as a sleeping draught.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 161 – 172 & 173 – 177]

Friday September 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held this day on the body of one Henry Edwards.

James Park (Sworn).

I am Engineer Draughtsman employed at the Shanghai Dock & Engineering Company. I identify the body just seen in your presence as that of Henry Edwards known to me. Deceased was employed as an Electrical Engineer at the Old Dock. I last saw deceased alive at 25 minutes to 5 o'clock. We went up in a launch to the China Imperial Paper Mill Co. he to test the efficiency of the electrical plant & I to take particulars of the steam plant, engines & boilers. I had as an assistant Mr. Clements. We started to come back about 5 minutes passed four. As we came opposite Tew Kadoo Dock the pressure from the bottom boiler in the launch dropped to 80 lbs. Mr. Edwardes was anxious to get back to Shanghai. He went aft to the boiler room & got the fireman to stoke the boiler to raise the steam to 110 lbs & open the engines fully but that time – a quarter of an hour after he left me – we were opposite the Kung lee Yuan wharf. Mr. Clements who was assisting me wanted to get off at the Kunglee Yuan Wharf. He wanted to get on to the Kiang yue. She was along side. He got off, when the launch again started, and at that time Mr. Edwardes came from the boiler room to the forward part of the launch. I did not see what happened nor did I hear any thing. In the fore part where I was with the laodah it is not possible to see what happens behind one. The first I knew that anything had happened was when the fireman & the electrical fitter came forward & told me “have gone downside.” I did not know what he meant. He did not call out to stop the boat. It took me about 30 seconds to find out what had happened. I then told the laodah to turn the launch round about. In the wake of the launch was a big sampan but I did not see anything though we patrolled up & down for about 10 minutes. We then went at once to the Police Hulk. The Sergt. Gave orders to get the [G????] with the grappling irons. I then went & reported to Mr. Mackenzie, the Manager of the Old Dock. He sent another launch & we patrolled the place & the body was recovered at quarter past six. When the body was recovered Mr. Turnbull in charge of the other launch directed it to be taken to Cadmus. During the journey we started artificial respiration & continued on our arrival at Cadmus for an hour & five minutes.

By the Coroner.

(Describes nature of launch). Plan out in. The free board round the side of the launch communicating between the fore part where the laodah is and the way down into the Engine room at the stern is about 6 inches wide & there is a rail along the top of the housing but there is a part where the housing comes down over the free board a breadth of about 5 inches. At this point it would be possible to fall over the part coming over the free board, if one had not a grip of the rail!

I had known the deceased for 3 years & 2 months. He told me that at home he could swim a little, a very little, but I have never heard of him swimming in Shanghai. He was about 27 years of age. James Park.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Alan Grant Eastment (Sworn).

I am the Doctor on board H.M.S. Cadmus. I got back on board my ship just about quarter past 7. I found that my Seward & four or five blue jackets helping him doing artificial respiration. I examined the body but could find no signs of life. They kept it up for about half an hour after I got there when I saw it was no good. The body had the appearance of one who had been drowned. I did not see any marks on the body. I took the blankets off and had practically

boiling water applied over the region of the heart on the chance that the shock might stimulate the action of the heart. I saw no marks on the front of the body or on the face.

A.G. Eastment.

Edward Joshua Wyse Clements (Sworn).

I am employed in the Old Dock. I have heard Mr. Park's evidence. I went up with him in the launch & got off on the way down on to the Kiang Yue at Kunglee Yue Wharf. Just before I got off I saw Mr. Edwardes sitting in the Engine Room through the small window from the fore part where the laodah steers. I went on board the King Yue & when I got up to the top deck (the launch had started by this time) Mr. Edwardes was coming out of the Engine Room. He was just coming out of the door coming round the corner to get up to the free board. I waved to him & he returned it. As soon as I waved I saw him start to walk along the edge going forward & I then turned to speak to one of the Engineers in the ship. As I was speaking to him the 2<sup>nd</sup> Officer came running to me & said my friend had dropped overboard. I immediately ran down stairs and there as a cangue boat close under the guards of the paddles. I thought he might have got under the paddles & looked out for him there. I opened my coat & vest ready to go after him if he appeared but he never appeared. I then joined Mr. Park in the launch & we hovered about for 10 minutes but there was no signs.

I have heard the rest of Mr. Park's statement & I confirm it. I would add that from the position where we found the body only about 20 feet from where he must have fallen overboard, I think he must have stuck in the mud. It is I should say about 17 to 20 feet deep there. He must have fallen off the port side of the launch, the side nearest the Kiang Yue. The body was found only about 40 feet from the Kiang Yue. Edward J.W. Clements.

Fritz Oscar Petterson (Sworn).

Sergt. River Police & I rook the drag boats & recovered the body. I did not see any marks on the body. F. O. Petterson, Sergt. R.P.

Inspector Mellows states that there are two small marks on the back of the neck but only slight ones. They might have been caused by the screw.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow at H.B.M. Supreme Court. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body of Henry Edwardes.

Chang Hang Chiang (cautioned).

I am foreman on Farnham Boyd steam launch. The day before yesterday went up river with the foreigners & in coming back launch stopped at the S.S. Kiang Yue at Kung Lee Yuen Wharf. One foreigner got off & launch started again. There was another foreigner who is now dead down in the engine room. As we left the Kiang Yue this foreigner went out of the engine room. I did not see what occurred as I was putting coal. All I saw was foreigner go out. He gave me \$20 cumshaw. X.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Pan Ah Yue (cautioned).

I am electrician. I was sitting in launch with fireman. After leaving Kiang Yue I saw foreigner who had been attending to steam go out of Engine Room. When he walked out of Engine Room he walked along the side to about amidships when he fell down. I did not see how he fell down. I only saw him in the water. Then I called out. I told engine to stop. At the same time there was a sampan astern & I called out to him to pick up the foreigner. The sampan man turned round & tried to get hold of the foreigner but missed him & he went down & did not come up again. The

sampan was only a short distance off. It was a loaded sampan. I only saw the foreigner in the water for a very short time. O+ (mark).

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

James Park (Recalled).

Deceased was fully dressed in a blue suit & with shoes on when he went over board. He never did any [?] in Shanghai. He mentioned an occasion to me at home when he fell into the water & swam a short distance.

Finding.

I find the deceased Henry Edwardes came to his death on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 1907 by drowning through accidentally falling over board from a steam launch.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 189 -203]

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1907.

Inquest held on the body of Sydney Edward Moutrie at 19 Yates Road.

Inquest opened. Adjourned to view body.

Walter Frederick Harris (Sworn).

I identify the body just seen by you in my presence as that of Sydney Edward Moutrie. I am uncle of the deceased. I live in this house with the deceased & his mother & I share a room with the deceased.

I was at home last night & so was the deceased. After dinner we came into this room at 9 o'clock. Mrs. Moutrie said could (sic) night to us & retired. I read here till 10.30. The deceased also remaining with me, but he was not reading which is rather unusual & I thought he looked a bit depressed but I made no comments at the time. I retired wishing him good night at 10.30. I saw nothing more of him till when I woke this morning at 7 he was sleeping in his bed as usual. I got up & had my bath & returned to the room & Mr. Moutrie must have left his bed by another door as I came in the room, presumably to take his bath.

I came down as usual at 8 to take breakfast & remarked to his mother that I had not seen Sydney to speak to. Whereupon we both went up stairs thinking there was something amiss. We found the spare bedroom & bath room door with both doors locked. On calling in we received no answer. I sent for a ladder, to see into the room through the windows over the door. The coolie looked through & said he was on the bed with plenty of blood. The coolie got into the room by that window & opened the door. We found the body on the bed bleeding from a wound in the right temple. He was lying diagonally across the bed with his legs over the side & with this revolver under the right knee, the right hand by its side. I at once telephoned for Dr. Jackson who arrived with his brother & subsequently also arrived Dr. Hanwell.

The deceased was 24 years of age. He has only been out from home not quite two years. The deceased has been here all the summer but he had not been ill at all, not so as to be attended by the doctor. The deceased frequently complained to me of suffering from depression. He has particularly complained of being depressed in the morning and more so frequently

I have ascertained from the boy that after I went to bed last night deceased went out & did not return till 12.30. [Margin Note. No. 1 Boy called & confirmed this.] The coolie let him in. This is a most unusual thing for him to do. It was raining heavily last night. Walter F. Harris.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. on Monday at H.B.M. Supreme Court. JCED, Coroner.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body of Sydney Edward Moutrie.

John William Jackson (Sworn).

I am registered medical practitioner. I was summoned by telephone to No. 19 Yates Rd on Saturday morning at a few minutes past 8 o'clock. On being shown into the room where Mr. Moutrie was I found him lying on the bed on his back slightly inclined to the right. He was lying obliquely in the bed with his legs projecting slightly over the right side of the bed. His head was resting on the pillow & turned markedly to the right. There was considerable quantity of blood showing on the right shoulder & round about there.

Examining the head I found a small star shaped wound situated 2 inches above the top of the right external ear & about ½ inch in front of that line. There was considerable haemorrhage coming from the wound, also some brain matter. On the other side of the head there was a rounded tumour situated immediately in front of the upper half of the left external ear. In this

tumour one could feel what might be sharp spiknals of bone. There was no external wound there. The patient was unconscious & made no movement whatsoever, & rapidly became worse & died within an hour. I saw the revolver there with which deceased was supposed to have inflicted the wound.

I have been the medical attendant of the family for the last year & occasionally before in my former partner's absence. I was acquainted with the deceased, but I never attended him officially. I should say deceased was of a neurotic temperament distinctly. I should say he was a man who would be likely to be subject to fits of depression. He was I believe a clever fellow of rather a refined artistic temperament. In my opinion with that sort of temperament things which are apparently most trivial to other people might disturb their nervous balance.

The general vitality of people is lower in the early morning than at any other time but I am not prepared to say that people who suffer from nervous depression or nervous disorders of any sort are always worse in the early morning.

I define insanity as "any variation of the normal mind." A man's mind & his nervous system are intimately connected & any serious disturbance of the nervous system affects his brain power & ultimately his mind. People of very high nervous temperament particularly when they are young are very likely to go off their nervous balance. In health as a man matures his nervous system become more staple.

I have had no personal experience of a case of suicide committed on the spur of the moment from no apparent cause, but such cases are quite common. JW Jackson.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Arthur Dallas (Sworn).

I am sole member of the firm of [St.] Kingon & Dallas. I was well acquainted with the deceased & he has been working in my office since April last. The office hours the deceased kept were from 9 to 5 with of course an interval for tiffin. The deceased was also studying Chinese in the early morning and was also taking part in the S. W. C. performance [????] "The Red Robe" and attending rehearsals after dinner. In the last few weeks deceased did not appear to be in his usual high spirits. He seemed rather depressed. I spoke to him about it & he said he was all right. It most certainly occurred to me that he was possibly over taxing his strength. I believe he dropped the Chinese while the rehearsals were going bon. Arthur Dallas.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Finding.

I find that the deceased Sydney Edward Moutrie committed suicide on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1907 whilst in a state of temporary insanity.

J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

[pages 204 - 283]

October 19<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Inquest held this day at the Fearon Rd Mortuary on the body of one Herkor, Indian Woman, wife of Surgan Singh. [alias Varian Singh]

View body.

Surgan Singh in custody present.

Harman Singh (Sworn).

Police Inspector. I identify the body just seen by me in your presence at that of one Herkor, wife of Surgan Singh. Surgan Singh entered the Police on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> & resigned on October 5th. He had a discharge with the name of Surgan Singh. Harman Singh.

Surgan Singh. No questions.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, P.M.

Harman Singh, Police Interpreter, sworn to interpret for information of Surgan Singh.

Douglas John Leiper (Sworn).

I am 1st Officer of the S.S. Shaohsing belonging to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire. I was on board yesterday afternoon between [1?] & 7 o'clock, the steamer lying at the French Bund. About 6.15 I received a report from the No. 2 Compradore. In consequence of that report I went down in the hold to see what was the matter. When I got there I saw the Chinese struggling with one of these two men (Isser Singh & Molah Singh). I think this is the man they were struggling with (points to Isser Singh) but I could not be sure. The body of the woman was then pointed out to me. I felt her & as far as I could judge she was dead.

I then went over to the office & telephoned for the police. Before going I put the man whom the Chinese were holding in irons. When I came back I saw the other of the two men there &\* I also put him in irons.

The French police came first & took these two men & on the way they met Det. Fitzgibbon & handed them over to him. My ship is leaving now & I will not be back for fourteen days.

D. J. Leiper.

Surgan Singh No questions.

Before me, C. J. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Cha Sing Chee (Cautioned).

No. 2 Compradore on the Shaosing. I went & made a report to 1<sup>st</sup> officer last night just about 6.15. I told him what the stevedore had told me. The stevedore told me that some one had been killed. I went first to the 1<sup>st</sup> Officer. [character signature]

Surgan Singh No questions.

Before me, C. J. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Kwok Ka (Cautioned).

I am stevedore. I was attending to the S.S. Shaohsing last night. I was in charge of No. 3 Hatch. At first I did not see the Indians but afterwards there were three Indians there. These were the three men (points to Molah, Isser & Surgan).

I saw Molah Singh bringing something out of where he sleeps, an empty water tub I think, so I caught hold of him thinking he was stealing. Then I went in & saw the woman lying on the bed with blood on the floor & then some other coolies caught hold of that Indian (Molah) and would not let him go. Then I told the second Compradore about it.

I did not hear or see any thing how the woman was killed, but when I caught hold of the man he was in a hurry to go away. I did not see that man (Surgan Singh). He had already gone away. Then the 1<sup>st</sup> Officer came down. [Character signature]

Surgan Singh No questions.

Before me, C. J. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Ching Sing Chee (Cautioned).

I went on board the S.S. Shoahsing yesterday afternoon about 3 p.m. to take a passage to Canton. I am a Wuchau man, and I am going down to Canton in the hopes of getting a post there with the Salt Commissioner.

I was sitting in a bunk on the lower deck last night about 6 o'clock. I saw three Indian men & one Indian woman opposite me. I was lying down in the bunk smoking opium. I saw that two of the Indians wore black clothes & one wore white clothes. These are the three men, those two in black clothes (Molah & Isser) and this one in white clothes \*(Surgan). These two went out (Molah & Isser).

[At this stage the witness practically declined to go on giving any intelligent story.]

Adjourned till 10 a.m. on Monday. JCED, Coroner.

Monday 21st October 1907.

Adjourned inquest on the body of one Herkor Indian woman.

Ng Tal Shang sworn to interpret [???].

Mullah Singh (Sworn).

I was Warden in Municipal Gardens & I was sick for some time & Dr. Stanley said I had better go back to India. I took a passage in the Shaoshing. I am very sick & I get fever every night. I went on board with my friend Isser Singh.

I went on board at 3 p.m. & asked some Chinese when the ship was going away. They told me it was going away soon so I took my food stuff with me & went on board. The place was full & I could not find any place. Then the Chinese pointed out a place where were some of my country men. So I went there. There was a crowd of Chinese there just at the time I got to the place. I saw the accused Surgan Singh striking something on the bed. I could not see properly what was on the bed. There was a crowd of Chinese there. I went back to the wharf to get my things. I went back then in a hurry. Nobody stopped me at that time. I went to the wharf & got my things & got them on board. When I was going back into the ship with a bag of flour this man, Surgan Singh, met me in the gangway. He was leaving the ship. He was running. I went on board & put that bag of flour where I had already put a tin. I intended to go back to the wharf to get my heavy box. Then the Chinese stopped me. I knew nothing about it. I only wanted to go on board. The Chinese got hold of me, stopped me & tied my hands at my back.

I told them that I had nothing to do with it, that the man had run away already but they would not hear me. I could not talk English or Chinese. About 8 or 20 minutes afterwards accused came back with Jemadar Warung Singh & Harman Singh. After this the French Police came on board & handcuffed me & the accused. When I told them that this man, Surgan Singh, had committed the murder they took the handcuffs off me & handcuffed the accused. Then I & the accused & Isser Singh were taken to the Central Station.

By the Coroner.

Q. When you came on board & saw Surgan Singh beating something on the bed, did you think anything serious was happening or did you think it was a matter of no importance.

A. It was dark & I could not see exactly what was happening. It did not enter my head that murder was being committed. I was only there about two minutes.

Q. Were there any cries?

A. No, there was no noise of crying.

Q. Could you see if Surgan Singh had any instrument when striking?

A. he had something black in his hand. I could not see if it was a bottle or a chopper.

Q. By the time Jemadar Singh & Narman Singh arrived had the first officer come down & put handcuffs on?

A. I do not recognise the officer. The first time I was tied up by the Chinese with my turban & after that the French Police .came & put handcuffs on me.

Witness continuing his reply to the Coroner.

Surgan Singh came back at the same time as Jemadar Warung Singh. I had no watch. I don't know how long it was. When I turned to one side they slapped me on one side of the head & when I turned to the other they slapped me on the other. I do not know how long it was before Surgan Singh came back again. I lost all my stores when they were beating me. I lost my head.

Q. Are you quite sure it was Surgan Singh you saw beating some thing on the bed?

A. I am quite sure. How can I tell a lie when I have already sworn on my good [word?].

Continuing.

I had never seen Surgan Singh before that day.

Q. How was he dressed?

A. When he was striking he had the khaki dress on, but when I met him he had on the same as he has on now. [Signature]

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Surgan Singh is asked if he has any questions to put. Is carefully warned not to say anything that may criminate himself.

Says: This man belongs to Amritsar & the people of Amritsar & I belong to Ferozepore & the people of Amritsar & Ferozepore always have spite against each other.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Isser Singh (Sworn).

I came here on the [1<sup>st</sup>] of this month to get employment & lived at the Gurdwara. I could not get any employment so I was going back to Hong Kong. I took a passage in the Shaoshing. I went on board at 5 p.m. I went with Mullah Singh. Mullah Singh went on board & left me with his luggage. Mullah Singh went on board first with a bottle & a bucket of potatoes & then he came back to fetch a bag of flour. When Mullah Singh was going on board I saw this man, Surgan Singh, coming away from the ship. After Mullah Singh had taken the bag of flour on board he did not come back. I waited a little time with the luggage & after a little Chinese came & took away the [????] & tied my hands behind my back. I had nine dollars in my pocket & they took it away from me. Then they took me on board ship. There were some foreigners there. Then I was taken to the Central Police Station.

Accused had no questions: - "I will make my statement later on. His + mark.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Bazzar Singh (Sworn).

I am employed by some Chinese in Foochow Rd as watchman. I do not know the woman Herkor. Whenever an Indian woman sees a man she covers her face with her veil.

I know Surgan Singh. I have met him some time on the Road & some time when I was on duty. One time he came to the alley way where I do duty with his wife but I did not see her face. At that time he asked me to get him some employ. I told him I knew of none but if I heard of any I would recommend him. I know Surgan Singh lives in Peking Road. I have never been to his house.

On Friday last (the 18<sup>th</sup>) I went about 8 o'clock in the morning to French Town to collect some rent. It was an opium shop & the rent was \$11. I came back about 9 o'clock & handed the

money to my master. After that I took my chair & lay down. About 10 o'clock I went out to get some milk. I went to get milk in the Chinese city. I could not get any so I came back in a rickshaw. When I was passing by the ship (the Shaoshing) the accused called me & told me to come over. I told him I had to go on duty at 2 o'clock. He said "oh! never mind. I am going back to India. Come take some char & take some drink." I told him I was sick & I did not drink. I stopped there two or three minutes. I went on board ship & went down below between decks to where Surgan Singh's wife was. I was there four, five or six minutes. Rickshaw coolie was asking me for the fare so I did not stop but I took the rickshaw & went back to my house. When I came back I found Sundar Singh & Harman Singh waiting for me. Sundar Singh went to his duty & I went to my duty & the other man stopped in the house. It was two o'clock or a few minutes after when I got back. I then went on duty walking about those lanes till 5 o'clock. At 5 o'clock I & Sundar Singh came back home & we had our char. We rook our food till about 6 o'clock & then we all three went to duty. I was going round the lanes & about 7 or 8 o'clock, I am not sure which, Harman Singh (Police Interpreter) came with a foreigner & told me that I had been accused of killing a woman & took me to the station.

Accused asked if he had any questions, says, "That is the man who killed the woman."

[Script signature]

Before me. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. Surgan Singh to remain in custody. JCED, Coroner.

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one Herkor, Indian woman.

Surgan Singh formally charged as follows: You, Varian Singh, otherwise known as Surgan Singh, stand charged for that you on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 1907 on board the S.S. Shaosing, at Shanghai, feloniously and with malice aforethought did kill & murder one Herkor.

Accused when charged admits that his name is Varian Singh & not Surgan Singh.

Yung Shi Chi continued to interpret truly.

Szeing Chih Sheng (Cautioned).

[Examination begun before under the name of Ching Sing Chee. Examination now recommenced.]

I am a Wuchow man & I am on my way down to Canton in the hopes of getting a billet under the Salt Commissioner there, who is also a Wuchow man. I went on board the S.S. Shaosing to take a passage down to Canton. I went on board about 6 o'clock p.m. When I went on board I chose a sleeping place. O took out my opium pipe & began to smoke opium. I saw some Indians there. I saw three Indian men & one Indian woman. There was a row between the men & one of the men took out a knife & stabbed the woman.

Q. Do you anywhere see the man who stabbed the woman.

A. Yes.

Q. Which is the one?

A. That one. (Points to accused in dock).

Q. Are you sure that is the man?

A. yes, I am sure.

Q. After he had stabbed the woman what did he do?

A. He lay down on the floor for one or two minutes & then got up & ran away.

Q. What did the other Indians do?

A. The other Indians went away before the man who stabbed the woman went away.

Q. Why did not some one attempt to stop the man stabbing the woman?

A. Some employees of the steamer tried to stop the man stabbing the woman but he refused to listen.

Q. What instrument did he use?

A. He used that knife there (Points ton chopper). **Exhibit 1.**

Q. What did he do with the knife (chopper) when he had finished stabbing the woman?

A. After he had finished striking the woman he through the knife in his box.

Q. You saw him lay down on the floor for a few minutes before he got up & ran away; you saw him throw the knife in the box; did you see him do anything else.

A. No. I did not see him do anything else.

Q. The corner in which this happened was a dark corner against the Engine room bulkhead, was it not? [Transacted side of the ship.]

A. (Does not understand.)

Q. Was the place where this happened light or dark?

A. It was very dark.

Q. When the man who did the striking went away did he pass by where you were lying?

A. Yes, he passed close by.

Q. Did you notice how he was dressed?

A. In white.

Q. Why did you not stop him?

A. He did like this (makes motion of blows quickly) and I did not realise what had happened as it was dark there. Afterwards I shouted out to stop him but he would not stop. I never expected at that time that he had killed the woman. [Character signature]

Accused had no questions.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner & P.M.

Tsung Yih Liang (Cautioned).

I am a petty officer of the Nanyang troops. I have just obtained leave & am on my way down to Canton. I went on board the Shaosing to take a passage. I went on board at 8 a.m. I was on board the whole day. I saw some Indians come on board. I first saw them come on board at 10 a.m. I first saw two men & then shortly after came another man, I am not sure if any other Indians came.

By the Court.

I told the Police that I saw seven or eight Indians on board. These were friends who came to see the others off.

Witness continuing: They sat down & had conversation. I did not see them have any thing to drink. Later they went away leaving on board the woman & the two men who came on board first of all. Those two men were drinking. When they had finished drinking they went upstairs to prepare some food. They came down stairs & had their chow & started drinking again.

The two men then started a row to-gether. T<here were only the three there. The woman then tried to run away. One of the two Indians then fetched the woman back, lifted her up & put her on the bed. That was the man who went to fetch her back (predicating accused). He then took up a cloth & tried to cover her feet but she would not let him do it. The woman appeared to be scolding the man & then the man drew out a knife & stabbed her. He then took out a piece of cloth, placed it on the floor & then lay down. Immediately afterwards he jumped up & ran away.

By the Court.

When the man was stabbing the woman the other man was standing there but I am not sure what he was doing. When the man stabbed the woman the other man ran away.

Q. When you say you saw the man stabbing the woman did you really realise at that time what was happening?

A. No. I did not know what was happening. I thought he only struck the woman with a shoe.

Q. Were there any cries?

A. No. She lay down after the first blow. She was sitting up when the first blow was struck.

Q. Did you see what the man did with the instrument with which the blows were struck?

A. He threw it on the floor by his side.

Q. You say you saw him take out a piece of cloth. Where did he take that piece of cloth from?

A. He took that piece of cloth from the bed.

Q. You saw him throw the instrument down, you saw him take out the cloth & you saw him lay down. Did you see him do anything else?

A. I saw him also clean his hands with a piece of cloth. Then he ran away.

Q. Did you notice whether after stabbing & before running away he took off his coat?

A. The outer Khaki jacket was taken off before he stabbed the woman when he was drinking. Then he was in white.

Q. How about the trousers?

A. He had the trousers on.

Q. Had he the trousers on when he went away?

A. Yes. After he stabbed the woman & ran away he had the pair of khaki trousers on. NOTE: On reading over depositions witness says: "I am not sure of the colour of the trousers. I only know that he had on a white shirt."

Q. Did you see where he put the khaki coat when he took it off?

A. I am not quite sure but as far as I can remember he just put it on the bed. [character signature]

Accused had no questions.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner & P.M.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow. Accused to be remanded in custody of Gaol. JCED, &c.  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one Herkor, Indian woman.

Isser Singh sworn to interpret truly for accused.

Kau Hai Tsuan (Cautioned).

I am a native of Peking. I booked a passage for Canton by the S.S. Shaosing. I went on board of her on the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup> & slept there that night and was on board the whole of the 18<sup>th</sup>. I first saw the three Indians on board in the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup>, two men and one woman, and then later a number of others but I could not say how many. Soon after they arrived they placed their luggage and then they chatted for a few minutes. Then one of the Indians in black with a red turban on called for some water, and another Indian also in black and who also had a red turban & who I thought was an employee of the ship brought some water. Then he handed it to the woman who washed her face & hands & then she went upstairs with an Indian in white. Then they came down stairs with some cakes which they put on the bed & eat. They also drank wine. Then the Indian in white appeared to be having a row with the Indian in black & he rose from his seat & tried to strike the Indian in black. Then this man in black, who was the same man who brought the bucket of water ran away.

Then the man in white scolded the woman & the woman cried & both of them went upstairs. A few minutes afterwards they came down stairs. The woman sat on the staircase & refused to move. The man in white then caught hold of her & put her on the bed. The man scolded the woman again on the bed & she put her hands over her face, & cried. Then the man took out a knife from his box behind the bed and struck the woman.

By the Court.

The knife appeared to be a little over a foot long & three or four inches across. (Witness is shown chopper **Exhibit 1**) It was like that.

Witness continuing.

Then he threw his knife away, took out a piece of cloth & put it on the floor. He lay down for a short moment & then jumped up & ran away. Then a lot of people came on the scene at that time. Then the stevedore & a lot of others caught the man in black & brought him back.

By the Court.

That man in black they caught was not the man in black who brought the bucket & who had the quarrel with the man in white & ran away. It was not the man at all.

NOTE: On reading over these depositions the witness wished to alter this statement, and now says, "it was the same man." From the following statement it is clear he is not sure.

I am not sure whether I should recognise the man in black who brought the bucket of water. All Indians have the same face.

My bunk was about 3 or 4 feet from the bed where the Indian woman & the man were. (Marks on rough plan an inside bunk where he was close to the head of the bed.) **Exhibit 2.**

There were some Indians present when the man in white struck the woman. I did not see what they were doing.

NOTE: On reading over witness adds: "I did not see what they were doing because I did not get up to see. I had not got my trousers on."

There were two or three. They ran away first when they saw the man stabbing the woman.

[Character signature]

Accused had no questions.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, P.M.

Thomas Dimnitri, detective Constable of French Municipal Police explains that all they know about the matter is that the two men Isser & Mullah who were arrested by mistake were handed over to the Constable on the beat on the bund & that they handed them over to the police of the International Settlement.

James Crickshank (Sworn).

I am detective Constable in the S'hai Municipal Police. I am attached to Lanzas Police Station. A few minutes before 7 p.m. on the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup> I was called to the charge room to hear a complaint from an Indian regarding an affair on a steam ship. Arriving there I found the accused & also the Indian interpreter Hernan Singh. I asked the interpreter to interpret this man's complaint.

The accused stated that he & his wife were leaving by the S.S. Shaosing that night & that an Indian by the name of Bazzar Singh came on the ship & treated him & his wife to liquor. That after that Bazzar Singh wanted to take his wife ashore & that she would not go. That then Bazzar Singh got angry & drew a knife & stabbed his wife on the neck.

I then questioned him as to what time this affair took place. He said he had just then come from the ship. I asked him why he did not detain Bazzar Singh & he said "he stabbed me on the wrist when I attempted to hold him, & otherwise assaulted me." I then examined the accused's

wrist & on his right wrist there was a slight scratch as if caused by a finger nail. There was very little blood. He was wearing a white shirt & both sleeves of this shirt were torn. That is the shirt (**Exhibit 3**). I took it off the accused later in the Central Police Station & it is in the same condition as it was when I took it off. The back was also torn.

I then proceeded with the accused, the Indian interpreter Harnan Singh & the Jemadar on board the S.S. Shaosing. I found Inspector Macgregor & Det. Sergt. Fitzgibbon, and two Indians already in handcuffs. On bringing the accused down between decks where the people were & where the dead body was I heard a Chinese repeat in the Chinese language "that is the man who killed the woman." That was the man who said it. (Szeng Chih Shing.) Accused was then handcuffed by Detective Sergt. Fitzgibbon & cautioned that he was arrested in connection with the murder & that anything he said might be used in evidence against him. At that time he made no statement.

[DELETION: but on the way to the Central Police Station he still maintained that Bazzar Singh killed his wife.]

We started for the station with the accused & Isser & Mullah in custody, the Jemadar being left in charge of the body. At Szechuan Rd corner Inspt. Macgregor instructed me to take the accused & start in quest of Bazzar Singh. I did so with Interpreter Harnan Singh with me. We searched all the alley ways round where he was supposed to be employed, between Foochow Rd & Canton Rd but could not find him.

I had information that he had been there at his house 20 minutes before. I then visited the shop in French Town which Bazzar Singh is supposed to frequent but did not find him. I then took the prisoner to the Central Police Station (It was there that I took his shirt off.) I left him there & went out again with the interpreter and at 9 p.m. we found Bazzar Singh in an alley way off Canton Rd doing his watchman duty. I told Bazzar Singh that I wanted him to come to the station in connection with the murder on the Shaosing & to be careful what he said as it might be used in evidence. He replied "I have not been on board that ship to-day? I saw the woman at seven o'clock this morning in a rickshaw. That is the last time I saw her."

I then took Bazzar Singh to the Central Police Station. I confronted Bazzar Singh & the accused & asked the accused if that was the man he said had done it. He said "Yes." I then searched Bazzar Singh's clothing & everything but could find no trace of blood or any thing suspicious. Later on I searched the house occupied by Bazzar Singh at 322 Canton Rd. I went over all his clothing & all his effects & could find no trace of blood or of anything unusual.

By the Court.

When the accused came to Lanzan Police Station he was dressed in that white shirt with a singlet underneath. His trousers were a sort of pyjamas, pink with a blue stripe. He had on just an Indian underclothing, no outside pants or coat. He had a turban on. He had boots on his feet.

Jas. Cruickshank.

Accused had no questions.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, P.M.

Accused remanded in custody till 10 a.m. to-morrow. JCED, PM.

Thursday October 24<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one Herkor.

Ernest Louis Marsh (Sworn).

I am medical practitioner in actual practice. On Friday evening, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, about 9.45 p.m. I examined the body of a young Indian woman lying on a frame bed in a corner between the decks of the S.S. Shaosing. The body was fully clothed & lay flat on the back in an ordinary attitude

except the left leg was bent at the knee & fixed in rigor mortis under the thigh so that the left foot rested under the hips. The foot of the right leg projected over the bottom of the bed. Death must have occurred several hours previous. The features were much distorted & covered with blood. The head & shoulders lay in a large pool of blood containing fragments of brain substance. The blood had saturated the clothing of the body & bed in the immediate vicinity and run through on the deck beneath in a considerable stream. The frame bed was placed across the blind end of a shirt passage way & there was just room to get round the foot to the far side of the bed. The confining walls were much besprinkled with fresh blood. The roof about 6 feet 4" high also showed several splashes of fresh blood & there were two distinct bloodstained indentations in an iron cross beam where it had been struck violently with some heavy metal instrument.\*

At a more detailed examination of the body in the mortuary nine distinct wounds were found on the head & face. There was complete smashing into many pieces of the bones of the face and of the skull in front and at the top. Four of the wounds penetrated the brain & its membranes and the brain itself protruded torn & bloody from between their edges. It was very evident that the deceased had been repeatedly struck on the face & head with a heavy, blunt, cutting instrument capable of causing deep wounds with edges partly sharp & partly rounded, and with the many co-existing fractures, and the blows must have been given with the exertion of considerable force. The indentations discovered in the iron cross beam already mentioned indicate the force and extent if the swing of the instrument used.

The position of one of the principal wounds into the brain on the top & right side of the head well back amongst the hair was such that it could not have been inflicted while deceased was lying down in the confined space where the body was found. This fact together with the way in which the left leg was bent under the thigh indicates that the deceased was sitting in the squatting posture common to Indians at the instant that the first blow on the head was received, and she must have at once fallen backwards & exposed the forehead & face to the other blows which she repeatedly received. After the receipt of such an injury deceased could have uttered no cry or made any struggle but must have lay as death struck.

Each of the wounds received was serious & of itself dangerous to life. The majority of them were on the left side of the face & head with an oblique direction across from left to right. All had the same characteristics, namely gaping cuts through the flesh with more or less sharply defined edges leading down to bone smashed into many fragments. The effect of the whole of these injuries in causing such a shattering of the cranial bones and such important blood vessels would produce so violent a concussion of the brain as to cause immediate unconsciousness followed by death in a short time, probably reckoned by minutes. There was no other cause of death found in the body.

By the Court.

Subsequent to my examination on the evening of the 18<sup>th</sup> & later in the same evening I was shown, at the Central Police station a shirt stated to have been taken from accused. This is the shirt. (**Exhibit 3**).

I found on that shirt 150 distinct splashes of blood on the front of the shirt and about 50 on each sleeve in front. These splashed were all fresh & varied in size from mere specks to distinct drops. The left sleeve had a blood smear of blood on the cuff & another across the upper part of the sleeve. On the back of the shirt near the right shoulder a small fragment of fresh flesh was adherent. Five small splashes of blood could be counted on the back of the shirt half way down & more to the right side.

I also saw the accused in the central Police Station at the time I was examining the shirt & I examined him carefully. On his person bloodstains were present on the thumb nail & the nails of the fore & middle finger of the left hand. A small insignificant scratch existed on the right wrist. The accused appeared to be considerable agitated & nervous in his manner but I did not detect any signs of alcohol.

I have subsequently been shown by the police a Khaki jacket (**Exhibit 4**) alleged to have been found with his effects. I examined it & found it was splashed with blood along the line of the buttons on the right side. The splashed had the direction from right to left upwards – that is from the right to the left as a coat is worn. The cloth on the right side of the buttons had blood on it under the buttons whilst there was no blood on the cloth under the buttons on the left of the buttons. There was a large splash on the right sleeve & the right shoulder strap. The fact that there is blood on the right sleeve of the coat would point to the fact that the coat was not being worn at the time it received the blood splashes. It might have been lying on the bed to one side or other of the body.

(Looking at Exhibit 1)

I also saw this chopper at the Central Police Station & found that it was covered with very evident stains of fresh blood. It is just such an instrument as might have been used to cause the injuries I found on the body.

I examined the body where it was lying by the light of a candle. There was an electric ceiling light about 3 ½ to 4 spaces away. The place where the body was found was in distinctly a dark corner. Down the side of the passage way at the blind end of which was the body there were open bunks. At the entrance to this passage way was a hold where cargo was being actually worked at the time I was there. Ernest L Marsh.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner.

Maurice Fitzgibbon (Sworn).

I am Detective Sergt, Shanghai Municipal Police. About 6.30 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. a telephone message was received at the Central Station from Butterfield & Swire, in consequence of which I proceeded on my bicycle to their offices where I saw Mr. J. H. Scott who informed me as to what had happened. Mr. Scott came out on the Bund with me where I met Douglas John Leiper, Chief Officer of S.S. Shaosing & French P.C. No. 25 having two Indians namely Isser & Mullah Singh handcuff red in custody & proceeding in the direction of French Police Station. I tried to explain to the French P.C. who I was but without success. He insisted on taking the prisoners to the French Police Station. I went with him as far as the entrance to the Rue de Consulat where I met the French Detective Thomas Dimitri who at once told the constable to hand over the prisoners to me. The detective said that his instructions were that the Police of the International Settlement were to be allowed to take any one in connection with this murder from the French Concession. Accompanied by the French Detective & the Chief Officer we took the two prisoners on board ship & down 'tween decks where the corpse lay. Inspt. Macgregor was the first foreigner I then met. Shortly afterwards the accused dressed in white & who was very much excited came on board. He was accompanied by the jemadar Naraain Singh & the Indian Teacher Harnan Singh, Det. Inspt. Gibson & Det. Cruickshank.

At the very moment when Singh appeared where the corpse was the Salt Commissioner Szeng Chih Sheng at once pointed him out as the murderer. It was then 7.20 p.m. whereupon I arrested the accused & charged him with murdering the deceased. I administered the usual caution through the school teacher Harnan Singh. The accused said "I did not kill the woman" & pointed at Isser & Mullah & said "they did." I also cautioned Isser & Mullah. They said they did not

kill the woman. Inspt. Macgregor then placed the jemadar to keep watch over the body. Inspt. Macgregor, Det. Sergt. Gibson, Det. Cruickshank & the Indian school teacher left with the prisoners. I stopped behind & tried to find out if any other man besides Szeng Chih Sheng witnessed the murder but owing to the excitement which prevailed no one would speak. Accompanied by the Chief Engineer of the Shaosing I brought Szeng Chih Sheng to the Central Police Station. I asked the Compradore to find out of possible what other persons witnessed the murder.

About 7.45 that evening the body was removed to the Fearon Rd Mortuary & the prisoners luggage was conveyed to the Central Station. I examined the luggage & made a list of everything=. I found amongst it that Khaki jacket (**Exhibit 4**). The accused was asked through the interpreter "whose is this tunic" & he said "it is mine." I have not found amongst the effects any khaki trousers.

I visited the Shaosing again next day & then found the two passengers who have given evidence. I have also made other investigations & have ascertained that there appear to have been a number of Indians on board in the course of the afternoon. I have taken a number of statements but none of them throw any light on the actual commission of the murder.

Maurice Fitzgibbon, Detective Sergeant.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, P.M.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 10 a.m. JCED, PM.

Friday October 25<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned inquest on one Herkor (Sikh woman); adjourned from yesterday.

James McGregor (Sworn).

I am Inspector in the Shanghai Municipal Police in charge of the Central Police Station. At 6.40 p.m. on the 18<sup>th</sup> I received the report of this affair on the Shaosing & I then went on board the vessel lying off the French Bund. I went down 'tween decks on the starboard side of the vessel in a small passage way close to a bulk head. I was shown the body of an Indian woman. The upper part of the body was covered with a blanket. I removed the blanket & satisfied myself that the woman was dead & then replaced the blanket. I made inquiries from a native passenger (previously called) as to who had done it. I procured a candle & searched about & found the chopper (marked **Exhibit 1**). It was lying on a bag containing cooking utensils quite close to the bed.

Shortly after that Det. Sergt. Fitzgibbon came on board with Isser & Mullah Singh in custody. About 7.20 p.m. Det. Crucikshank & the jemadar & the interpreter came on board with the accused. Both Mullah Singh & the native passenger (Dzeng Chih Sheng) identified the accused as the man who had done it. They were all three then taken from the ship as described by Det. Cruickshank.

By the Court.

Sergt. Fitzgibbon administered the caution to the accused. He attempted to make a statement but I told him he had better not as he seemed under the influence of liquor.

On searching accuser's effects at the station some papers were found. One is an Army discharge which bore the name of Surgan Singh but accused has attempted to destroy it & this is all that is left of it. (**Exhibit 5**). While we were looking through these other papers he must have managed to conceal that Discharge about his person, for when we were shifting him from one cell to another I found the remains of it.

This document (**Exhibit 6**) gives particulars which were on the discharge etc., & the accused admitted that it was used coach himself in case of being asked questions. He joined the

Municipal Police Force on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> 1907 under this Discharge & under the name of Surgan Singh. He was allowed to resign on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> 1907. He also had a certificate made out at this Consulate bearing the name Varian Singh (**Exhibit 7**). Accused has admitted that that is his real name. He used the other in order to make use of the discharge on joining the police.

In looking through his other papers to find a marriage certificate we found these four documents in Urdu. (**Ex. 8**). I hand in translations. From these it would appear that the deceased was originally a singing girl by the name of Atti or Banto. This is a photograph found in accused's box (**Ex. 9**) of him & of the deceased. (Exhibit 9).

Amongst other things brought to the station were 1 ½ bottles of whisky, one bottle of gin, 6 bottles of lemonade – 1 empty whisky bottle, 1 empty gin bottle & 4 empty lemonade bottles. These were all brought off the ship with the other effects.

James McGregor.

Accused had no questions.

Before me, J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner & P.M.

Case for prosecution closed.

Charge reduced to writing as follows:

You Varian Singh, other wise known as Surgan Singh stand charged for that you on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 1907 on board the S.S. Shaosing lying at the French Bund Shanghai feloniously and with malice aforethought did kill & murder one Herkor otherwise known as Atti or Banto.

Statutory Caution.

Accused says: "Since I have been locked up I have not been asked any thing by the court. I have simply been locked up. I am not guilty. It was done by another man. The Detective beat the Chinaman to give evidence against me & nothing has been asked of me. That is all I have got to say. If the Court asks me I will say something more. I am not guilty of any offence."

Committed for trial before Supreme Court. J. C. E. Douglas, Coroner & P.M.

[pages 283 – 301]

Monday December 9<sup>th</sup> 1907.

An Inquest held this day at the Mortuary, General Hospital, on the body of one Frederick Muller, late of the S.S. Port Maria.

Body viewed at the General Hospital.

George Saunders (Sworn).

I am the boatswain of the S.S. Port Maria. I identify the body I have just seen in your presence at the Hospital as the body of Fred Muller Lamptrimmer of the S.S. Port Maria. I have known the deceased for 18 years. On Saturday last at 5 past five I last saw him alive in the bedroom of the Sailors Home. I called and said "Jerry, come & have a cup of tea." I left the bedroom and went down to my tea & to my surprise the carpenter came running in & told me that the deceased had met with his death. I rushed outside & saw the deceased lying on the mat at the entrance of the Sailors Home with the blood coming from his ear. As well as I can recollect he was lying on the right side. The donkeyman & myself got rickshaws & got him to the Hospital as fast as ever we could – we put him in the lift and went up with him.

The doctor was sent for & arrived in two or three minutes – the doctor attended to him – the whole of the crew of the Port Maria are stopping in the home – we are going home – we have been four months together on the Port Maria – everybody liked him – he had no enemies amongst the men. The deceased was sober, he had been out for a walk with me that afternoon. He had been complaining of feeling queer all day. In my opinion he came over in a kind of faint & fell over the banisters. I myself did not see him fall. G Saunders.

Before me, G. W. King, acting Coroner.

Samuel Christopherson (Sworn).

I am the carpenter of the Port Maria. On Saturday last we went for a walk, the deceased, the boatswain & myself. We came back & went upstairs till tea time. When the bell rang, I went downstairs. I can't recollect whether deceased was in the room. On the stairs the only persons I can recollect were the policeman and Ericson. When I was on the last turning about 6 or 7 steps from the bottom I heard something heavy drop. I looked round & saw the man was lying on the mat. I first thought it was Ericson. He was lying on the right side, I could not see his face. When I ran to him & turned up his face I saw it was the lamp-trimmer. The blood was coming from his nose and ear. I ran for the boatswain. I called him. The boatswain & donkeyman took him to the Hospital. When I heard the thud I looked up, it would be to my left hand. There was nobody on the stairs above, if there had been I could have seen them. When I heard the thud I looked up so I don't know whether the deceased hit the banisters of the staircase I was on. There were one or two Chinese at the bottom of the stairs. S Christoferson.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Monday December 9<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned Inquest on Frederick Muller, adjourned from this a.m.

2 p.m.

John William Jackson (Sworn).

I am a registered medical practitioner. I was called on the telephone from the Sailors Home between 6 & 7 on Saturday last to the General Hospital. I went there and found the patient had arrived from the Home. He was alive, and breathing in irregular gasps; heart sounds were quite distinct, but he died within ten minutes. There was slight bruising on the right side of the head & the epidermis of his right cheek was stripped off showing a raw bleeding surface. There was bleeding from the nose & the mouth & from within the left ear blood was coming. There was

considerable evidence of bleeding into the tissues of the right orbit. There was no apparent injury to the body or limbs nor were there any signs of bruising. I am of opinion that deceased sustained a fracture of the base of his skull and that the actual cause of death was concussion of the brain. I should say the superficial injury was caused by grazing against something, it could have been caused by deceased falling, not necessarily from a great height. My examination was made at the time and also on the day following (Sunday) when the body was stripped.

\*The fracture of the skull was probably caused by a fall, his head coming into contact with whatever he fell over. A heavy blow from some weapon would have caused more external signs of injury. JW Jackson.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Thomas Foley (Sworn).

I am a Police Constable Shanghai Municipal Police attached to the Wayside Police Station. I was sent on Saturday last to the Sailors Home by the Sergeant to keep order amongst the sailors. I arrived there about 10.50 a.m. I was in the lower rooms during the day until 5.20 p.m. in the afternoon when I had occasion to go up to quiet one of the sailors. Whilst doing so (I was in the room door) I heard a noise on the stairs. I looked around. I saw the deceased with his feet upwards. I rushed to catch hold of him; before I got as far as him he had fallen to the ground. When I came down to where he had fallen there was the Superintendent & 3 or 4 sailors attending to him. I sent him off in the charge of 2 of his shipmates to the General Hospital. From where I was standing to the place where I saw deceased's feet was about 15 feet. There was no one at that spot. There could have been no one there without my seeing him. The men had behaved well during the day, except the one man; he was behind me, he was not near the spot where the man fell. Thomas Foley.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Joseph Henry Worth (Sworn).

I am the Superintendent of the Sailors Home. At about 5.40 on Saturday evening I was standing inside my door. I heard a thud. On going out I found the deceased lying on the ground. I saw blood coming from the mouth & left ear. Thinking he was seriously wounded I sent him to the Hospital & telephoned to the doctor. On Saturday there were 24 men on the books of the home; all except two (who are living in the Officers' quarters) were members of the crew of the Port Maria. They had not been quarrelling. They had been about 3 days in the Home. Some of them had not been sober, one or two had been noisy. I have been 9 ½ years in charge of the Home. I did not ask to have the Constable because there had been trouble, it was to prevent trouble.

Where I was standing I could have heard if there had been any quarrelling amongst the men while they were coming down the stairs. There has never been an accident on the stairs at the back of the building, that man was drunk. JH Worth.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Tan Hui Chang (Affirmed).

I am a watchman at the Sailors' Home. On Saturday evening about half past five as I came down from the dining room I saw a sailor drunk; the sailor put his 2 hands on his stomach and fell downstairs. I was standing at the door. The sailor I saw upstairs. I knew he was drunk because I saw him not walking properly at 4 o'clock when he came in. He came in alone. When I saw him fall he was on the second staircase; he fell not far from me. His feet first hit the staircase & then his body turned & hit the staircase on the other side and then he fell down. There were no other sailors present at the time. + his mark.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Tsay Lo (Affirmed).

I am a rickshaw coolie of the Superintendent of the Sailors' Home. I remember a sailor fell down from the staircase last Saturday. When the sailor fell down I saw him unconscious & blood was gushing from his head. I was standing at the door when he fell. He fell very close to me. He did not hit me when he fell. I did not see the sailor before he fell. I was standing near the staircase. His body hit the staircase before it touched the ground. I did not look up to see him falling. This was about half past five. + his mark.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Finding.

I find that Frederick Muller died from concussion of the brain, having fractured the base of his skull by a fall from the staircase of the Sailors Hone at Shanghai on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> day of December c1907 at about a quarter to six in the evening. That there is no blame to be attached to anyone for the death of deceased.

G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

[pages 302 – 314]

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 1907.

An Inquest held this day at the Fearon Road Mortuary on the body of one Dolah Singh,

Interpreter Narain Singh, Shanghai Municipal Police.

Bogah (Sworn).

I am a Mohamedan. I recognise the body I have just seen in your presence as that of Dolah Singh. I don't know what he did. I don't know where he lived. I only saw him once, on the Racecourse at a wrestling match, about a month and a half. I was with my friend Verdara, he is a watchman near the new rifle range. I had my box first at the Gurdwara. The deceased Verdara & I went there. The box was taken by the deceased & Verdara to deceased's house. My box still at deceased's house. I have the key. I am unemployed. I live with Verdara. I recognize him as Dolah Singh the man I saw at the Racecourse. + his mark.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Tan Hui Chang, Interpreter.

Hu Chang Chun (Affirmed).

I live at the back of the Native Bankers Guild, the road is called Tieh Malu. My husband is a barber. [Deletion.]

The Interpreter not being sufficient to get a coherent story from the witness I adjourn the Inquest. Inquest adjourned to Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> December 1907 at 2.30 p.m. GWK, A/Coroner.

Friday December 27<sup>th</sup> 1907.

Adjourned Inquest on one Dolah Singh; adjourned from Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> inst.

Tung Shi Chai interpreter.

Hu Chang Chun (recalled).

My husband has a shop. We live in the shop, at the back of the shop downstairs. I last saw deceased alive at about 8 o'clock on the day he died, when he sent my husband to deliver a letter to the fireman of the Municipal Council. The deceased worked in the Municipal Council. I saw him again about one o'clock when I went upstairs to dry some clothes on the verandah. I saw him lying on the bed with his head on bone side. I called out to him, he did not reply. I thought then he was dead. I went downstairs & told my husband, my husband went to call the Municipal Council foreman. The foreman came with a foreigner, they came about half past one. My husband came with them. The deceased had lived with us 4 or 5 months. Before the foreman & the foreigner came a man came to the house, an Indian man, he went upstairs. I remained downstairs. He stopped about a quarter of an hour, all the time upstairs. When he came I told him his friend was dead, when he came down he said nothing. He had nothing in his hands. He had been to the house frequently, he has not been back since. He is always in black; he is a fat man, tall, with a beard. I did not hear him moving about when he was upstairs. Sometimes he came to see his friend in the day, sometimes at night. He always came alone. He sometimes stopped a long time, sometimes not. When I saw deceased first dead he was covered up with the clothes to the mouth. + her mark.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Ernest Louis Marsh (Sworn).

I am a registered medical practitioner. On Monday afternoon (23<sup>rd</sup> inst.) I was called to a house in Haining Road. I arrived there about 4. I was taken through a Chinese barber's shop upstairs to a room over the shop & found on a trestle bed the body of an Indian, neatly clothed and evidently dead several hours, at least 3 hours. The body laid across the bed with the shoulders supported by the wall in a reclining posture. There was no evidence of a struggle or of external injuries. The body was in the reposeful attitude of one who had died quietly. The only thing unusual was the presence of some vomited matter mixed with bowel discharge & urine on the sheets covering the mattress. There was also some slight staining with vomited matter on the beard. Deceased would be about 28, well nourished. At a further examination I made at the mortuary I found there was well marked pleurisy with inflammation of the lung of the right side & evidence that the deceased had died suddenly of heart failure whilst suffering from acute attack of pleurisy with pneumonia. There is absolutely no evidence of foul play. EL Marsh, M.B. &

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Hu Chang Chun (affirmed).

I am a barber. I live at the back of the native bankers Guild. I am the husband of the woman who gave evidence. I remember the dead Indian. I saw him about 8 o'clock in the morning. He asked me to send a letter to the Municipal Council for him. I did not see him after alive. When he asked me to take the letter he said he was very sick, he looked very sick. My wife came down about one o'clock & told me he was dead. I did not go up. I went to the foreman, I knew where to find him. I did not see him, I only saw a watchman. The watchman told me to go to the station. I went there. Afterwards a foreign detective & native detective came with me to my shop. The foreman came to my shop about the same time. I saw no Indian come to the house that day. I heard nothing after 8 o'clock upstairs. I didn't go upstairs. I didn't go upstairs to enquire. I was working all the time. No one could get upstairs without passing through the shop. The deceased had many Indian friends to see him. + his mark.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Charles Craig (Sworn).

I am a Detective Sergeant Shanghai Municipal Police. About 1.15 p.m. on the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst a native came to the Station West HongKew & reported that an Indian had died in his house. I went straight away. I saw the Indian, he was on a trestle bed covered with a bed cover. I pulled the bed cover down & found deceased was leaning with his back to the wall. I out the cover over him again & left a policeman in charge. I then came to the Consulate & saw Mr. Bourne, he told me to get a doctor to examine the man before removing him. I then went & got Dr. Marsh who went to the house. When I first went into the room the bed cover was over deceased's head. I am making enquiries as to the man who went up after death of deceased. The body was removed to the mortuary under my direction. Charles Craig.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Verdict.

I find that Dolah Singh died at about 1 o'clock in the afternoon of the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1907 from heart failure whilst suffering from an acute attack of pleurisy with pneumonia.

G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

[pages 315 – 327] [328 blank]

Monday January 13<sup>th</sup> 1908.

Inquest held this day on the body of one H. Fadnaris, Fearon Road Mortuary, 2.15 p.m.

Donald Mennie (Sworn).

I am the Manager of Mesrs. Mactavish & Lehmann, I identify the body I have just seen in your presence as that of H. Fadmaris. He was a clerk in our employment, he had been with us 3 months. I last saw him alive on Saturday evening at 5 o'clock. He was then in ordinary health. During the past 3 months he has suffered from asthma, he has been away from duty, but never more than a couple of days. He was not on duty on Sunday. I first heard of his death this morning. I noticed it in the paper. In the paper he was described as of A. S. Watern & Co. He was with them before he came to us. Donald Mennie.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup> 1908.

Adjourned inquest on one H. Fadnaris.

Bernard Goldenberg (Sworn).

I live at No. 3 North Honan Road. I am the landlord of No. 3 Honan Road. I knew the deceased. He was living in my house, he had been living there nine or ten months. I last saw him alive on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> inst. just while I was going out, this was about 12 or half past 12. He asked me where I was going, we spoke together for about 5 minutes. He seemed in ordinary health. For about the last 2 or 3 months he has been ill. On Saturday he said he was not very good. I next heard of him when I was in the cinematograph on Chefoo Rd. They came & told me he was dead, this was about 4 o'clock. This was on the Sunday. I went home, upstairs to his room. I saw him there. I went at once to inform Dr. Krieg who had been his medical attendant. Dr. Krieg not being at home I ultimately went to Dr. Greingros, he came down & saw the deceased & found he was dead. I then went over & informed the West Hongkew Station. I also telephoned for the undertaker. I went to the doctor, Dr. Greingros. He couldn't give me a certificate. In the meanwhile the police had come & taken charge. I also told Mr. Franjee who was deceased's friend. B Goldenberg.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Nathan Barouche (Sworn).

I live at No. 3 North Honan Rd. I have known the deceased for 8 months. I last saw him alive on Saturday night at 20 minutes past eleven. I saw him in the verandah. I live in the attic. I was going upstairs, he came to the door of a room and spoke to me, we only spoke together for about 2 minutes. His room is on the first floor. I never saw him again alive. He seemed just the same as I have always known him. I heard nothing of him that night. He had refused to go to the cinematograph because he was tired. N. Barouche.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Lo Hong Fo (Interpreter) sworn.

Lok Tsung Wong (affirmed).

I am a boy at No. 3 North Honan Road. I remember someone dying there, this was a Sunday. I knew the deceased. I knew him for 7 months. He came in at 8 o'clock on Saturday evening, he had a bath, he had his dinner upstairs. I came down. He rang the bell, he told me he did not want his tea in the morning, he said he did not want his tiffin taken up, he wanted to rest. The next morning I did not take his tea up, after tiffin I went up at half past one. I went into the room, I saw he was still asleep, he was breathing heavily. He was covered except his head. I came down. At quarter past four I went up again and called him, he didn't answer. I went &

shook him. I found he was dead. He was lying in the same position. I went to tell my master, he was out. The previous day deceased did not complain of being ill, he said tomorrow being Sunday he wanted to rest. The deceased bought a bottle of whisky on the Friday, it was in his room. I did not notice it except at the dinner time. It was not near his bed. He had not taken much drink on Saturday, he only took a small quantity. [character signature]

Before me, G. W. King, Action Coroner.

Samuel Chilver (Sworn).

I am the Inspector in charge of the West Hongkew Station. At 6.20 p.m. on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant Mr. Goldenberg came to the station to report the death of one of his boarders. I told him as there was no doctor's certificate to get one from Dr. Krieg. I then went round to the house No. 3 North Honan Rod. I went into the bedroom & found deceased lying on his back, his left arm by his side, right arm across his chest. There was a slight whitish matter on his lips, a little on his chin. I examined the body, could find no marks or bruises. He had a woollen singlet on & a pair of pyjamas. I looked round there room, found a bottle of whisky about a third remaining, a glass near that had been used, a bottle of medicine near – prescription of Mactavish & Lehmann, a few other bottles. I noticed no stains on the sheets. I would not let the body be moved without a doctor's certificate, I locked the door, posted a native constable with orders to let no one in except the doctor. I made enquiries in the house. I heard a similar account to the one given in Court. S. Chilver, Inspt. of Police.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Ernest Louis Marsh (Sworn).

I am a registered medical practitioner. I first saw the body of deceased at a house in North Honan Rd where he was lying on a bed in a natural attitude of repose. There was no appearance of bed clothes having been disturbed, and evidence that deceased had died while in an attitude of sleep. The bed clothing near the mouth underneath the head was stained with fluid vomited matter which had a distinct smell of whisky. On gently disturbing the body a quantity of similar matter oozed from the nostrils & mouth.

At a further examination at the mortuary the stomach was found to contain a partly digested meal which smelt of whisky, and some vomited matter of a semi-solid consistency had found its way to the upper air passages. The whole of the air passages were deeply congested & otherwise the organs were healthy. In my opinion the deceased had retired to bed in an intoxicated state and had become asphyxiated while in this condition by the obstruction of the air passages by vomited matter.

There was no evidence of violence. A man would die such a death if in an intoxicated condition, he would not make much noise in dying. I certainly think he would have been intoxicated on retiring to rest. Ernest L. Marsh.

Before me, G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

Finding.

I find that H. Fadnares died at No. 3 North Honan Road Shanghai on Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> January 1908 between half past one o'clock and half past four o'clock in the afternoon of Asphyxia caused by the obstruction of the air passages by vomited matter.

G. W. King, Acting Coroner.

End of Volume 9.