MURDER CHARGE

Mental Condition Of Accused Girls

MEDICAL WITNESS CROSS-EXAMINED

The first witness for the defence, Dr. R. W. Medlicott, was still in the witness box when the trial of Pauline Yvonne Parker, aged 16, and Juliet Marion Hulme, aged 15 years and nine months, on a charge of murdering Honora Mary Parker, mother of the accused Parker, at Christchurch on June 22, was adjourned last evening until this morning.

Dr. Medlicott had then been seven hours in the box and will return there this morning to be further cross-examined on the mental condition of the accused girls by the Crown Prosecutor, whose questioning of the witness has already lasted three hours.

Yesterday was the third day of the trial, which is being heard before Mr Justice Adams and a jury in the Supreme Court.

The public gallery was full yesterday from the time the Court opened and all the seats in the grand jury box were occupied, several women being seated there throughout the day.

When the Court adjourned after 5 p.m. several women crowded close to where the prison vehicle was backed up to a doorway to see if they could catch even a brief look at the two accused as they left the building.

The Crown Prosecutor (Mr A. W. Brown), and with him Mr P. T. Mahon, is appearing for the Crown. Parker is represented by Dr. A. L. Haslam and Mr J. A. Wicks, and Hulme by Mr T. A. Gresson and Mr B. McClelland.

Dr. Reginald Warren Medlicott, continuing his evidence for the defence yesterday, referred to Parker's 1953 diary. In an entry for March 17 she spoke of school and then said no-one could fully appreciate the genius of her and Juliet Hulme. Dr. Medlicott said the views they had expressed to him were consistent with that entry. An extract for March 20 showed they were taken to Lancaster Park, but when there they looked for a quiet spot where they could write poetry, as neither was interested in the school sports. When Parker went home she wrote another poem.

The first mention of a fourth world and the extra part of the brain they claimed to have was in a diary entry for April 3, 1953, said witness. That notion was delusional. In his first interview with them Hulme said they had their own religion; their god was not a Christian god, and in their religion all people were not equal. She said she thought there were only 25 people on their own level. He was unable to find out whether these people were all living or some belonged to the past.

"Hulme said: 'I don't wish to place myself above the law. I'm apart from it,'" said Dr. Medlicott. "Pauline Parker said the fourth world was their idea of paradise. She said the girls had known the fourth world for six months before the diary entry for April 3, 1953. Their experience at Port Levy, she said, merely clarified the idea. I asked her if she thought she had been picked by God, and she said: 'We just knew.' When questioned about the extra part of the brain she said she was not certain how many people had this. When questioned about the key she said: 'We see it now whenever we wish to.' In an entry for June 15, 1954, Parker refers to a beautiful day dream, and includes Deborah and herself in it. Port Levy, she says: 'It was so heavenly I am determined to make it come true.'

"Parker described to me how to a reverie she heard a small child's voice saying she could not die, and she said: 'I was thinking of my mother.' She pointed out that she had heard this before her mother's death," said the witness, "and she thought many of the things that came to her in these reveries were real and did predict what was going to happen. She said: 'I know it's real.' She said she was particularly conceited the day she wrote the poem, 'The Ones That I Worship.' She said it was so obvious that she thought she was wonderful. 'I do seriously think I am so wonderful,' she added. She said: 'There's nothing about ourselves we don't approve of.' She reaffirmed that the paradise was their world, that they had their own religion, and ordinary things did not apply to them.

World of "Pure Enjoyment"

"Juliet Hulme said: 'The fourth world is ours definitely. It is a world of music, art and pure enjoyment. It is metaphorical in the sense it is not exact, but it is definitely there. I do believe it exists,'" said Dr. Medlicott. "She went on to say: 'What was God doing before the Creation? If He was omnipotent He would not tolerate something He was dissatisfied with.'"

"On all the occasions she gets on to this material she becomes excited and ecstatic and it is hard to follow every word she says," said witness. "She said that everything Parker had written was true and added: 'except that we do believe we are geniuses.' She said the only way to describe their extra part of the brain was that because of it they could appreciate the fourth world, and nature and the whole of everything. In a diary entry for April 4, 1953, Parker records a good deal of bloodshed among her fictional characters," said Dr. Medlicott.

His Honour said that entries appeared to begin by referring to material matters and then went on to imaginary matters.

Dr. Medlicott said that was so and in some entries the words were those of imaginary characters. From a medical point of view the significance of the entry for April 4 was tied in with delusions and murderous impulses. It was so violent that reading a year ago one would have feared that some day it would break through into action.

"Disturbed Sleep Pattern"

"Other entries in the diary disclose a very disturbed sleep pattern," said the witness. "In certain conditions you find patients who sleep only a very few hours at night."

His Honour: Do the diary entries about that time show disturbed sleep or that she was going out at night? The entry for April 18 shows the spending of hours out of doors at night. Are there not similar entries about that time?

Witness: That is so, your Honour.

"There are a number of references in the diary to nocturnal activities in the garden at 'Iam.' On May 15, 1953, the fact that Hulme had developed tuberculosis is recorded," continued Dr. Medlicott. "It says: 'Poor Juliette. It is only now I realise how fond I am of her. I nearly fainted.' The following day Parker records: 'It was a relief to see Juliet looking so well.

"We agreed it was a great pity I had not T.B. too and it would be wonderful if I could catch it. We would be in the sanatorium together and would be able to write a lot. . . . We have decided we are the most incredible opportists.' In a record that she had a brain wave that Juliet and she should write to each other as Charles and Lance," said witness. "That was the start of the correspondence referred to yesterday. . . They corresponded in character and also directly in their own names. On May 29, 1953, Parker records that she is pleased she had a letter from Juliet, who has entered into the spirit of the thing greatly. On June 12, 1953, Parker records: 'The school went to see the film 'A Queen is Crowned.' I thought the picture was rather boring as a picture, but I picked up useful information for Charles's coronation.' This Charles was the Emperor of Borovnia in the story the girls were writing. The December entries show that Parker and Hulme attached inordinate importance to this coronation of Charles.

"In June, Parker records that the Christian religion has become too much of a farce and she and Hulme have decided to introduce one of their own," Dr. Medlicott said. "The diary entry for August 9, 1953, makes it clear that Parker visited Hulme at the sanatorium and they discussed these imaginary characters and had a play acting scene. They appeared to have discussed Diello's various females.

"Seeking Experience"

"Over this period Parker formed an association or two with young men. One has the impression the whole time that Parker was seeking experience, but she never gives you the impression she was erotically involved. At the end of the year her interest in the opposite sex petered out," said Dr. Medlicott. "In an entry for October 29 Parker records that she told Nicholas she was no longer very much in love with him. She gives her reason as: 'because of her imaginary characters.' It is clear from an entry for November 28 that Parker and Hulme are planning a coronation which is to take place in a fortnight. In December they busied themselves planning that coronation. The diary entry for December 10 says that Friday is coronation day for Diello of Borovnia, and they are busy setting imitation stones in a crown. They appear to be studying ritual for the ceremony."

His Honour: What it amounts to is that they were preparing to stage a very elaborate play for a coronation, does it not?

Witness: Yes, sir.

"Parker records on December 24, 1953, that she does not feel very Christmasy. The real events of life are not so important to them as the life of their imaginary characters," the witness continued. "On December 29, 1953, Parker records that her mother made a threat that if her health did not improve she would not see the Hulmes again. Parker says that would be unbearable. She says: 'I wish I could die. This is not a temporary impulse. I have thought over the last two or three weeks that would be the best thing that could happen. The thought of death is not fearsome.'"

His Honour: Was not the threat made for an entirely different reason than her relationship with the Hulmes? Were not her parents worried about her relationship with Nicholas? Was not that the dominant thought at the time?

Preoccupation with "Saints"

Dr. Medlicott said that by late January of 1954 Parker and Hulme were associating freely again. "They had a group of saints, or gods, to whom they attached a great deal of importance, and seemed to spend a great deal of time in their company. In an entry for January 24 Parker says they had worked out how much prostitutes earned and wondered how much they could earn in this way. She also said they talked a good deal of the fun they would have out of their profession. Parker writes of a 'He' who changes from time to time throughout this period.

"In an entry for February 6 Parker says Deborah and she wore black in honour of 'Him.' In entries for February 12 and 13 there are the first references to the possibility of Mrs Hulme's death."

His Honour: That remains the only reference for a considerable time?

Dr. Medlicott: The next reference is in April.

Mr Brown: I think the only references to the moider or death of Mrs Parker are in the diary excerpts which have been photographed and have been put in as exhibits. There are seven of them.

"The entry for February 28 refers to an acceleration of the girls' programme. It says they had a marvellous time discussing the flight and how they would raise the money. Their plans were to complete their books and get away together," said Dr. Medlicott. "In March Parker visited the shipping offices to inquire about the possibility of getting overseas. Entries for March 8 and on show they decided to construct a Temple of Minerva in the garden at 'Iam.' They told me Raphael was their favourite angel and Pan was their favourite god."

Mr Gresson said that in the next phase of the evidence a woman would be mentioned. Her name was not relevant to the case and his Honour might give permission for the name not to be used.

His Honour directed that the woman's name be not mentioned.

Dr. Medlicott said that an entry in Parker's diary for April 7, 1954, said that: "Mrs X is coming to be light fingered. This pleases us very much as we will be able to take things and Mrs X will be blamed. She will be the scapegoat." Parker also referred to trying to get to Hollywood and getting into films that way.

"On April 11 Parker again records: 'We are so brilliantly clever,'" said Dr. Medlicott. "On April 15 she records that she and Hulme were greatly impressed with each other's books. The entry for Good Friday says: 'We had the most intriguing conversation about what Juliet's parents would think if they knew she had changed into a man. It would explain so many things to them.'

Reference to Shoplifting

"If Parker and Hulme learned that the home front at 'Iam' was breaking up it would make them so much more insecure," witness said. "On April 25 Parker records: 'Deborah and I are sticking to one thing. We sink or swim together.' The entry for April 30 records: 'I told Deborah my intentions. She is rather worried . . .' From entries in May it appears they began shoplifting and were desperately anxious to get money. They had previously discussed blackmailing Perry as another way of getting money. An entry for May 27 shows that Parker rose early and went to her father's shop with the intention of getting money from her father's safe, but that was thwarted because a policeman was on watch.

"Parker says in her diary that she and Hulme were very telepathical," said witness. "On June 6 she records that she and Hulme are stark, staring, raving mad, and that Dr. Hulme is as mad as a March hare. The diary is rising to a crescendo. As reflected in Parker's writing, the girls are becoming more and more excited. She says the following day: 'We rose realising how mad we are. Dr. Hulme knows and he is mad, too.' The diary for June 8 says: 'We both behaved in the same way in each other's dreams so I put it down to telepathy.' The thought that she is mad recurs on June 9. On June 12 Parker is back at 'Iam.' She writes about 'It,' one of the more evil characters. They put film actors' faces on their fictional characters. She writes of the saints making love in bed. On June 17 she records that they had a marvellous time and were definitely mad. On June 13 they had given themselves two new saints, Onward Heel and Buster. Parker records that they had very amusing discussions about God, Christ and the Holy Ghost. They were then almost completely under the sway of all the material I have mentioned previously. On June 15 there is a reference to what I have referred to as the revelation at Port Levy. On June 16 it appears they did not go to sleep until 5.30 a.m. There was more discussion about the saints on June 17 and 18 and on June 19, Parker records: 'We did not misbehave last night.' On June 19 she records: 'Our main idea for the day was to moider mother.' On June 20 they discussed plans further to moider mother and make them clearer. In the evening all the writing goes on as if nothing was happening. Parker goes on to diary the intended murder as if it were a happy event.

Mr Gresson: What impresses you from the medical viewpoint about the diary entries in May and June?

"Fantastic Crescendo"

Witness: "The whole thing rises to a fantastic crescendo. It would be difficult for anyone to read the 1954 diary and not feel that rising tension and exaltation. As the diary goes on, evil becomes more and more important and one gets the feeling that they ultimately become helplessly under its sway. A lot of their irregular hours would be symptomatic of their increasing exaltation. By June, 1954, both accused were grossly insane, I would say.

"The blackmail and shoplifting have two significances," said Dr. Medlicott. "The simplest one is they were just carrying out their delusional plan. The second is they began to play with evil; it went on, overcame their natural defences and had to be acted out in real life.

"They suffer from paranoia; a systematised delusional insanity. In this exalted type it is coupled with an exaltation of the mood and a general sense of grandeur. Ordinary people could rise for a short time to a state of exaltation. But the accuseds' state of exaltation arises at the time of the crime and has gone on up to the present," said witness.

"In my Monday's interview Parker said: 'We are both sane. Everybody else is off the mark. Our views are normal and logical and reasonable.' There is also intolerance, a failure to appreciate the rights of other people, even to live.

"The paranoic considers it a sacred duty to further what he believes right," said Dr. Medlicott. "In this present case this paranoia is associated with communicative insanity. The mental instability of one has acted on the mental instability of the other. They act as restrainers. Even now they show no remorse whatsoever. The nearest thing I got to remorse in Parker was that when she slept on her right side her mother came back, was only there and was rather nice. She could not stand that and turned on her other side.

"They have no appreciation that the natural result of this matter will be their separation for many years at least. They have no idea anyone could be so illogical as to separate them.

Diagnosis Difficult

"Paranoia is difficult to diagnose because of this apparent lucidity. Paranoics can go round with the weirdest ideas for years without even their relatives knowing. It is understandable that Mrs Hulme did not know Juliet's condition, though she did notice she was becoming more withdrawn.

"In my opinion they were insane when they attacked Mrs Rieper," said Dr. Medlicott. "It is my considered opinion they would know at the time that they were killing her. I think they know, in the sense of being aware at times, of the rightness and wrongness of what they do. This awareness is so temporary that they switch from what they know about the law and back into their fantastic ideas at a moment's notice. Paranoia affects the judgment of the subject. Everything becomes subservient to the predominant delusional theme. Always the delusional theme drives them. Not on one occasion have I been able to get either of the accused to acknowledge that what they did was morally wrong to them.

"Paranoia is a form of insanity in which there is a surface of apparent normality. If you can probe that you find this emotional and delusional disturbance. Paranoia affects the whole mental life of the subject.

"I consider Parker and Hulme certifiably insane. I would not have the slightest hesitation in certifying them," said Dr. Medlicott.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

Mr Brown: You are in charge of Ashburn Hall, Dunedin, are you not?

Dr. Medlicott: Yes.

How many patients have you?—We only have 74 at a time but we have a large admission rate.

You have been there how long?—I have been there seven years with the exception of a year in the United States.

The cases you take are curable ones?—Yes. We consider they are curable.

You will agree that Dr. Hunter, Dr. Saville and Dr. Stallworthy are psychiatrists of great experience and considerable standing?—Yes.

And they have examined thousands of mental cases?—Yes.

Do you know that when a person is convicted of murder he or she is examined by psychiatrists before being executed?—Yes.

And the persons who examine them are the doctors I have mentioned?—Yes.

So that their medico-legal experience is great?—Yes.

And if I may say so without offence, greater than yours?—I was eight years at Porirua, where there was provision for 1500 patients.

They must have had considerably more experience of this work than you?—Yes.

Have you ever examined a convicted murderer?—No.

You realise this is a murder trial?—Yes.

And as the defence has been shaped, the girls must be convicted of murder or found not guilty but insane?—That is so.

And there is no other alternative?—No.

Are the accused insane from a legal point of view?—To my mind they are.

Your opinion has been based on your observation of their behaviour, your conversations with them, and the literature they have written?—Yes.

During your interviews they tried to impress you that they were insane?—Only on several occasions.

Why did they want to be held insane?—I don't know clearly.

Have you formed any theory?—They did say they were either be evil, or insane—Hulme said that. I think it quite possible they thought being insane might lessen their time of detention.

Also that they'd be better off in a mental hospital than in gaol?—They changed their minds later on. At the third interview they were definite they were sane.

Mention of Penalty

Mr Gresson: I've always understood any mention of penalty was out of place.

His Honour: In this case there is an obvious relevance in their wanting to be one way or another.

Mr Brown: They have told my doctors why they want to appear insane.

Dr. Medlicott: Irrespective of that, their emotions are just the same and they know what is happening.

Mr Brown: Did the girls tell you they knew the penalty if they were convicted?—They told me they had been informed of the penalty They also told me one doctor who visited them told them they would be better in gaol than in a mental hospital.

Did they know the penalty before they killed Mrs Parker?—Yes.

Did they tell you they knew what the maximum penalty for them would be before they killed Mrs Parker?—I don't think it they knew the penalty for them, but they knew the penalty for murder.

What was said?—At my first interview with Parker on June 27 she said she knew murder was considered wrong.

Mr Brown: Well, that is one admission anyway.

Mr Gresson: That is comment, your Honour, and my friend knows quite well he should refrain from comment while evidence is being given.

Mr Brown: I am sorry, your Honour. I should not have made it.

Mr Brown then asked the witness: "Did she know it was considered wrong before she did it?"

Dr. Medlicott: I would think she would.

Is it your considered opinion that Parker knew before the killing of Mrs Parker that it was considered wrong in law?—Yes.

Did Juliet Hulme know it was considered wrong in law?—At my second interview she said: "I don't believe we've done wrong. I know we've broken the law." She says nothing about the penalty.

Is it your considered opinion that Hulme knew before she was a party to the killing of Mrs Parker her action was considered wrong in law?—In law, yes.

At the beginning of your evidence you said paranoia is a form of systematised delusional insanity?—Yes.

If these girls felt it would be better to be in one institution rather than another would they not say to you what is best suited them to say?—Their attitude changed from being sane and wanting to be insane to wanting to be sane, but there was no change in the symptoms on which I base my opinions.

If what they said furthered their desires would they be likely to frame their answers in that way?—They did give me reasons why they wanted to prove they were insane. When they wanted to prove they were sane they showed the same symptoms.

If Mrs Parker had not been killed would you still consider them insane?—Yes.

Is not your reason for considering them insane because they committed the murder?—No.

Would you consider they would have killed Mrs Parker if a policeman had been standing by?— No, because a paranoic plans his actions.

Does that not show further that they realised their action was wrong in law?—I have already accepted they did know that.

Is there anything else Juliet says on this point?—She says: "There is no right and wrong. If I ran a country I would make laws for other people to stick to. As king, of course, laws would not apply to me." She said: "If I had been old enough to be hung I would not have cared. It's a nice thing to go to paradise." She said she was not above the law but apart from it.

Do you say they did not know it was wrong from a moral point of view?—That is my conclusion.

A moral wrong is a wrong against the standard of morality set by the community?—Yes.

And these girls knew what that standard was?—Yes. But they did not recognise it.

They considered themselves outside the law?—That is so.

They knew they would be punished?

Text Book Quoted

Dr. Medlicott, in reply, quoted the following from a text book on forensic phychiatry by an accepted authority:

"Perhaps no evidence concerning the insanity of an accused person is so convincing in a court of law as that of systematised delusional insanity, but it may fail to satisfy the requirements of the legal definition of insanity. For the offender often knows both what he is doing and that what he is doing is punishable by law. He may, however, be convinced that his act is morally right."

Mr Brown: Do you think the girls were convinced that battering Mrs Parker over the head was morally right?—I think they are. I've discussed it with them many times.

His Honour: Do you mean they would not know what theft is?—Yes, sir. But they would not know it was morally wrong for them.

Mr Brown: They would know adultery was looked on as morally wrong?—By members of the community.

They would know that murder was looked on as morally wrong by the community?—Yes, by the community, but not by them.

They were permitted to commit murder but nobody else was?—That is so.

Why then did they not want to be caught?—Because they had a plan and did not want to be frustrated.

Why did they lie to the police after they were caught? Their plan was frustrated then.—At one stage Juliet believed that Parker would be declared insane; the Hulmes would be able to take responsibility for her and Dr. Hulme would be able to take her out of the country.

Mr Brown read a diary entry about Mrs Hulme reprimanding Deborah for taking a record from Perry's flat and said: "She would know then it was wrong to take a record?"

Witness: Yes, but not for her.

There is a diary reference to them writing out the Ten Commandments so that they could break them. So they knew what the commandments were?—I think they got Mr Perry to look up the Commandments for them.

Do you mean they felt they could break any of the Commandments with impunity?—Yes. So long as it furthered their plans.

They felt it was right for them to break the Commandments?—Yes.

But isn't that what criminals do?—Yes, but in a different way. Criminals don't have their own paradise and don't believe that they are geniuses.

You know there are safebreakers in the community?—Yes.

You know they have no qualms of conscience?—Yes.

Are they insane?—No.

Why then do you consider the accused insane?—Because all the accused girls' actions are in a delusional setting.

"Insidious Onset"

When was the first point in time that either of them became grossly insane?—The onset of paranoia is insidious, but I feel the Port Levy incident in April, 1953, was the time they became actual paranoics.

Can you give any reason why nobody noticed it?—One of the characteristics of paranoics is that they are apparently lucid.

Their disease is one of systematised delusional insanity?—It is.

Would you define a delusion?—It is an erroneous belief which cannot be corrected by reason and is out of keeping with a person's culture.

What was their delusion?—They considered they had their own paradise and an extra part to their brain because of which everything was clear.

They were conceited?—Conceit was a secondary part of it.

Did they think they were wonderful people?—They did.

They considered themselves very intelligent?—They did.

Was that a delusion?—Not in itself. But there was nothing to support their belief that they were geniuses.

But their belief that they were highly intelligent was not a delusion—No.

Do not lots of people have the delusion they are more intelligent than they really are?—A person who has the belief that he is more intelligent than he is, is not suffering from a delusion as a psychiatrist uses the term. It would be an incorrect belief.

His Honour: Perhaps we should differentiate between a delusion and an insane delusion.

Mr Brown: There is clear evidence in this case that Mrs Parker was doing all she could to prevent Pauline Parker going away with Juliet?—No. Not any evidence of that.

The evidence is that she was in their way?—That is so.

Their thought that she was in their way was not a delusion?—No.

Their thinking Mrs Hulme's not to get her out of their way was not a delusion?—Partly, most definitely. Indirectly it was the result of a delusion.

Was not their main plan in life to remain together?—It was.

Was not Mrs Parker's interference doing something to their plans?—It was.

And their doing away with Mrs Parker would remove that interference?—That is what they thought.

Mrs Parker's interference was real?—It was.

So where was there any delusion in that thinking if the fact remained they could carry out their plan?—Simply because if they did not have a delusion they would not have had this plan.

Did they wish to remain together?—Yes.

Was their desire not to be separated insane?—It had an insane basis.

Where was there anything not clear cut about their plans for getting away?—I don't think they saw anything beyond that.

They made a plan to murder mother?—Yes. But that did not give them a way to get away.

If Mrs Parker had died a natural death or by accident she would have been out of the way and they would not be in the dock?—That is so.

Plan Miscarried

The plan to make her death appear an accident was clear cut?—It was.

And the plan miscarried?—It did.

And they knew they were in a difficult situation?—Yes, but they never responded to it emotionally though they knew it intellectually.

Mr Brown read Juliet Hulme's statement to the police about the killing of Mrs Parker, and said: "That was an emotional response, was it not?"

Witness: It was. Later the emotion was one of exaltation. I think there was some quite definite emotional response to the deed. I think blood shocked them. Previously they had written about it. Now they saw it. I doubt if normal girls of their age could eat a meal within such a short time of committing a murder.

Mr Brown: I still ask you whether you agree that they behaved immediately after the deed as you would have expected two people to have done?—They showed signs of shock.

They also gave false accounts of the happening?—They did.

They were in some respects cleverly false?—Undoubtedly.

All you can say is that if they did it, it was not wrong?—They did not recognise it. They knew what they were doing was wrong by the community standard.

When asked about his evidence on Parker saying she had a period of religious mania, Dr. Medlicott said he was not sure whether Pauline Parker had used the words or whether her sister Wendy had told him. He had looked up his notes to verify his evidence, but could not.

Mr Brown: You said: "I consider that Parker's background raises a query about the stock from which she came?"—I did.

Was not that unjust to the Riepers?—I don't think so.

Could not your statement give the impression there was hereditary insanity in the Rieper family?—No. There is no evidence of hereditary insanity.

What did you mean by it?—Simply, out of a family of four the first one died, the second one is normal, the third one suffers in my opinion from paranoia, and the fourth one is in Templeton.

But what did you mean by it?—Just that it suggested defective stock.

Does it not mean hereditary insanity?—No. I have not suggested that.

Well, what else can it mean?—I can't answer any further.

His Honour: Do I understand that the fact that one child died and another is a mongolian imbecile has no bearing on the accused Parker's sanity or insanity?—I think that they did. I think it bears significance that a family has just one normal child. I will agree that the fact that there was a blue baby and a mongolian imbecile has no bearing on a suggestion of hereditary insanity.

To Mr Brown he said: "A blue baby is one suffering a physical disease and not a mental disease. Regarding a mongolian imbecile, the general theory is it is congenital and is something which occurs during pregnancy, particularly where a woman's change of life is approaching."

Mr Brown: You knew that when you gave your evidence yesterday?—Yes.

The deleterious effect of a child being away from its parents would be to make the child difficult?—Yes.

But not to drive it mad?—I did not say so.

Adolescence is a difficult period, isn't it?—Yes.

I take it you were an adolescent once?

Mr Gresson: We can all agree on that. So was I and so was Mr Brown.

Mr Brown: Did you have a difficult period, Dr. Medlicott?

Witness: I refuse to answer questions about myself.

There was laughter and comments by the public in the gallery, quickly stopped by calls of "silence" by the Court crier and constables.

His Honour: I think, Dr. Medlicott, you need not answer that question.

Adolescent "Pashes"

Mr Brown: You referred to adolescent "pashes"?—Yes. The girl wants to do the type of things the person she is fond of does.

You say there was no proof of any physical relationship?—Absolutely none. Homosexuality means love between persons of the same sex which may be platonic only.

To ordinary persons like myself homosexuality is taken to mean physical relationship between persons of the same sex?—Well, it is a completely erroneous point of view. I know many people who are homosexual and they have no physical relationship at all.

To the ordinary man in the street you know a homosexual means a person who has physical sexual relations with a person of the same sex?—I know that.

Your reading of the diaries showed these young people played about with each other sexually?—It is very suggestive, but there is no clear evidence of it.

There is also very plain evidence so far as Parker is concerned that she had sexual intercourse with a boy?—We already said as far as I can glean from the diary there is no evidence she got any erotic involvement out of it.

But she did have intercourse with a boy over and over again?—No. Only once.

Over and over again?

Mr Gresson: No. Only once.

Mr Brown: I stand corrected. I've misread my notes.

Intercourse took place only once then?—Yes.

But she attempted to have it more than once?—It would appear so.

According to the diary Nicholas was in bed with her to 3 a.m.?—Yes.

And the following night he was in bed with her again and was caught by Mr Rieper?—That is so.

There are other references to them attempting to have intercourse?—That is so.

So she had a good deal of knowledge of the other sex, didn't she?—She had.

You have said the relationship of the girls tends to prevent normal adult relationships. Was Parker not having normal adult relationships?—No. I think she was making an attempt to break away but she went back and described all these events to her religion.

But she was with boys a good deal?—Oh, certainly.

They told you they were telepathic. What did they mean by that?—They explained that they meant. They said there would be another record in put on and out of all the records they had they would think of the same one to put on.

But many people have the same thought. Does that prove they are not insane?—I believe they were not insane. It is not uncommon for the sudden shock of the killing?—I think it is an aspect of their condition.

Many killers have been unemotional after they killed?—I did not say they were not emotional. They were excited.

You said they thought they were good lookers?—They thought more than that. They thought they were most beautiful.

Do not many people think that?—They do.

Is it a sign of insanity?—Not by itself.

Was it insane to think they were highly intelligent?—As far as I can find out neither was outstanding at secondary school and I did not think their meetings were of outstanding brilliance.

But it gives the impression of that of persons of high intelligence?—Only good.

They said you were an irritating fool and displeasing to look at. Do you think they were mad when they said that?

There was laughter from the public, quickly silenced.

Dr. Medlicott said that was only one of many things that added up.

Mr Brown: They knew quite clearly the difference between right and wrong?—Only in the simple verbal sense. They have never given any indication they thought it was wrong for them.

Do not criminals behave antisocially and consider they are right?—Not in the same way.

Day-Dreaming

Mr Brown: Have you ever day-dreamed, doctor?

Mr Gresson: He's not had much chance today.

Witness: I think all people day-dream.

Mr Brown: But it is not insanity?—No. But this is not a day-dream. They believed they saw these things.

People who are sane have markedly different ideas about God and the after life?—Yes.

Are all these people mad?—No. In my definition of delusion there was reference to the culture in which the person lives. If you take each of these things by themselves I could imagine a sane person having one of them but not in association with the others.

Is not the alleged revelation the main peg on which you hang your theory?—It is one. If the other factors I have observed were not in keeping I would have tossed it out. But I am not putting forward a theory. It is an opinion. "Port Levy revelation" is my term. It played a large part in forming my opinion.

Mr Brown: We come to the poem, "The Ones That I Worship." Which line of it helps you to say they are insane?—The whole of it.

Mr Brown: Why?—Because of its terrific exaltation. "I think that is extreme," he said, quoting some lines.

They wrote double sonnets, did they not?—Yes.

"Let me read you another sonnet," said Mr Brown, who then asked Dr. Medlicott what he thought of it.

"Is it original?" asked witness.

"It is," said Mr Brown.

"It is not abnormal," said witness.

Mr Brown read another passage and asked if it showed evidence of a diseased mind.

Witness said it did not.

Dr. Medlicott said that as paranoics they were mad all the time but apparently were lucid.

Mr Brown read from a paper and said it described a vision.

What have you to say about it? Is it evidence of insanity?—No.

The last vision came from the Revelation of St. John the Divine. Would you say he was mad?—That is outside the question.

These girls had one vision which they have pictured up to at any time. Does that make them mad?—I have not said it alone did. It was only one of a number of things.

Mr Brown then said his first quotation was from a sonnet of Shakespeare and the second was the beginning of a poem by Walter de la Mare.

"They were difficult to understand, weren't they?" he asked.

"It was the way they were read," interjected Dr. Haslam.

His Honour said that Dr. Medlicott appeared to recognise the Shakespearean sonnet at any rate.

Mr Brown said there were seven pages of the girls' poems, but witness said: "The Ones That I Worship" was the only one showing extreme exaltation.

Mr Brown said that Dr. Stallworthy would say that Juliet Hulme said if the penalty was death they would have thought of something else.

Accuseds' Main Desires

Dr. Medlicott said the remark did not show a great fear of death, only to a degree. Their main fear of it would be that it would mean separation. To be together was one of their main desires in life. It was intensely important for them to be together but he did not know if it was the most important thing for them.

Mr Brown: You say Parker said she does not believe in God. A great many rational people ask themselves such questions.

Dr. Medlicott: It was abnormal in that it fitted in with their idea of a fourth heaven. The ordinary adolescents do not have the idea of making a religion of their own.

Have you read any anything about rewriting the Bible?—Because of what was brought up yesterday.

Would it not give a wrong impression?—No. The idea I was trying to express was that here were two adolescents who thought they were geniuses and were founding a religion of their own.

Mr Gresson: In referring to an incident in the diary I used the words "rewrite the Bible." Dr Medlicott corrected me and said "founding a new religion."

His Honour said the jury would understand that counsel had used the phrase metaphorically and it was not intended otherwise.

Dr. Medlicott in reply to a question about what was wrong with a plot for one of Parker's stories called "Plenty." It was abnormal to find so much violence in so few lines by an adolescent. The other deaths in the story were accidental but they were violent and even the horse was treated as an actual personality.

Mr Brown then referred to the following books and asked witness if he had read them: "Dark Duet," "I Claudius," "Lord Hornblower," "The Devil's Cup," "These Old Shades," "The Prisoner Of Zenda," "Cage Me A Peacock," and "I Will Repay."

Dr Medlicott said he had read the second and sixth named ones.

Mr Brown: They contain a good deal of violence?

Witness: Yes.

They are books a great many healthy youngster might read?—I suppose so.

You do not suggest the writers were mad?—No. I have not suggested a single entry makes anybody mad.

You referred to a diary entry of December 24, 1953, about "A Queen Is Crowned." Isn't it common for young people to play act these things?—I don't think many young people would be so outside the community feeling at such a time as to be preoccupied only with using the picture in relation to their own imaginary characters.

Didn't these girls act sex matters with their saints?—I asked Juliet about that and she denied any actual sex matters.

Did you believe her?—I was very doubtful.

You know she has not told the truth on a number of occasions?—Yes. She has told me a hundred of things that have been contradictory.

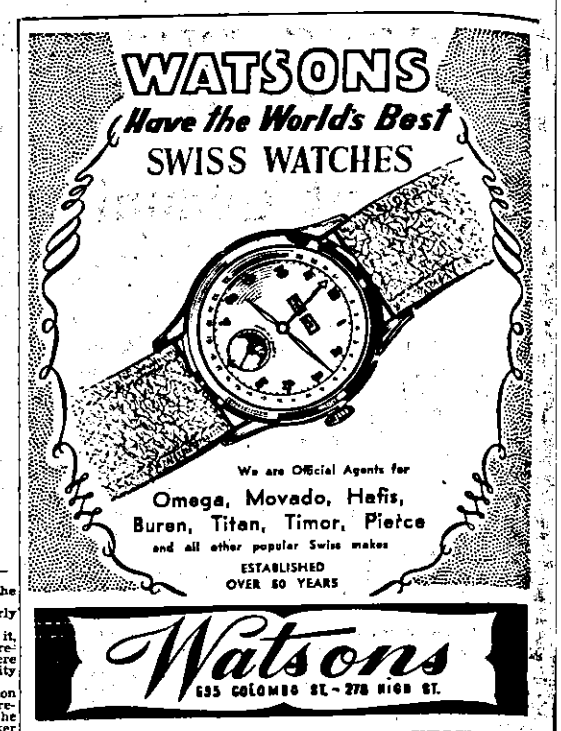
You based your opinion on what she told you?—And from my observations.

How can you tell when she was speaking the truth?—If in different circumstances different approaches one gets the same answer and it is in keeping with other observations one can form the opinion it is the truth.

At this stage the Court adjourned until this morning.

Passing-Out Parade.—Because the Deputy-Chief of Air Staff (Group Captain T. F. Gill) was unable to come from Wellington to present pilot badges at a passing-out ceremony at the R.N.Z.A.F. station, Wigram, yesterday afternoon, the presentation was made by the station's commanding officer (Group Captain F. R. Dix).

ENGLAND V. PAKISTAN TEST INCIDENT.—A Pakistan player throws up his arms with joy as Compton is caught behind the wicket after scoring 53, during the fourth cricket test match between England and Pakistan at the Oval, recently.



POWER SAVINGS IMPROVE

M.E.D. RESTRICTIONS MAY BE EASED

With better voluntary savings and the prospect of snow melting, the electricity committee of the Christchurch City Council today may modify its power restrictions. It is possible that a reversion will be made to compulsory cuts in one area each evening, instead of in two as at present.

Consumers in the M.E.D. district were 3 per cent. within their quota on Tuesday.

The State Hydro-electric Department also reported a small slackening in the inroads on power storage, but the amount available had dropped from 40,060,000 units to 39,730,000 units in the 24 hours ended 9 a.m. yesterday.

North-west winds were reported over the catchment areas yesterday, and it is hoped that these will improve the flow into the lakes.

OBITUARY

MR E. F. HEALY

(New Zealand Press Association)

BLENHEIM, August 25.

The death occurred this morning of Mr Edward Francis Healy, a former member of Parliament for Marlborough, at the age of 84.

Mr Healy was born at Tua Marina in 1870, and in his youth followed several trades, including blacksmithing, cycle-dealing, and land and estate auctioneering. He was elected member of Parliament for the then Waimea electorate in 1928 as a United Party candidate, and held the seat until 1931.

He lived in retirement for several years. Outside his main sporting interests was trotting, and he was patron and past-president of the Marlborough Trotting Club.

He is survived by his widow and a family of five sons and one daughter.

MR D. J. LATTIMORE

Mr D. J. Lattimore, a former Deputy Chief Postmaster in Christchurch, died this month at the age of 68. He joined the Post and Telegraph Department in Christchurch as a messenger in 1900.

During his service Mr Lattimore held positions at Dunedin, Wellington, Blenheim, Palmerston North and Wanganui, and later was supervisor of postmen at Auckland.

Mr Lattimore was secretary of the Canterbury and Westland Superannuitants' Association. He was a member of the board of management of St. Giles' Presbyterian Church, and took a prominent part in all church activities. For a time he was a member of the committee of the Presbyterian Social Service Association.

For many years, Mr Lattimore was a member of the St. Albans Bowling Club. He acted as secretary, and at the time of his death was a vice-president.

Mr Lattimore is survived by his widow, five daughters, and one son.

MEMORIAL BUILDING AT RANGIORA

CONTRACT TO BE LET FOR CONSTRUCTION

On the recommendation of its works committee and the War Memorial Building Committee, the Rangiora Borough Council at its monthly meeting last night agreed to a contract being entered into with Messrs Kelly and McKie for the erection of the memorial building, which is to stand on the corner of High and Albert streets.

The works committee recommended that, after examining various alternative prices submitted by the firm for the erection of the building in alternative materials and upon receiving from the Department of Internal Affairs approval of subsidised items of furniture, a contract be made which should not exceed the sum of £11,753. This provided for the following alterations: extras, £185; lowered price for alterations, £165.

The committee reported that besides the contract price of £11,753 and £658, for the section, there would be brass plates, quantity surveyors and architects fees and subsidised furniture, making a total of £14,157. The cost would be subsidised £1 for £1 so that the council contribution would be £7078. The council's total funds amounted to £7785, which would leave £708 for furnishing, which would not be subsidised, and contingencies.

Commenting on the report, the Mayor, Mr C. W. Tyler, said that the money for the erection of the war memorial was not only ratepayers' money. It had been subscribed by the whole of the district, he said, and Rangiora was fortunate in getting such an asset without being rated for it.

Councillor L. S. King said that alterations in the plans would not in any way effect the structural efficiency of the building.