

# Tragic Shooting

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and brought him to the police station single handed. No comment was made on the affair by deceased on the trip to the police station, although when nearing it he pleaded hard for Toumi to turn his car and drive him to Sudbury, offering him every cent on him, and failing which he took the vial and arsenic contents from his pocket and placed it in his mouth.

Mrs. Hays has an ugly wound and the bullet is still in her knee. It may find a location there that will not seriously cripple her, and unless complications set in she will recover. If the bullet has to be extracted it will require an intricate operation.

Hays was a man about 40, while his wife is about 35 years of age. He was about 5 ft. 10 inches in height and weighed about 180 or 190 pounds. In his struggle in the police station to prevent medical assistance to save his life, he gave three of the biggest men in Copper Cliff, including Chief Clark, a terrific tussle. He was obviously determined to end his life. Before the effects of the poison showed any signs on him, he persisted in stoically crunching the contents of his mouth, being the broken glass bottle and arsenic. Blood trickled out of his mouth from the cuts of the glass but he would not respond to any efforts to empty his mouth of the contents which he crunched and crunched. He bit the stomach pump and incapacitated it in the first attempt to apply it. He was finally overpowered, but nothing could be done to save his life. Two quarts of egg and milk were poured down his throat as an antedote, without avail.

## MESSAGE IN PURSE.

That the affair was fully premeditated by Hays is evidenced from a note, written in Finnish, found in his purse. Translated at the coroner's inquest, it states:

"Amanda is my legal wife and I cannot live without her. The Finns of Copper Cliff have caused her to become insane and on account of that I have to lose everything. You may take the results. I do not hate her. I am doing everything that is possible from love.

(Signed) Adolphe Hays

Otto Heinanon (old name)

P.S.—My tool chest is to be found in the barn at Leonard's, at Victoria Mine—suit case is at Sudbury railway station.

Hays carried with him a leather club bag, in which was a complete set of draughtman's instruments and rules. His passport to America is dated 1892. He has a letter from the Chief of Police at Oshawa, and from the letter it is evident he resided there some fifteen or sixteen months. The letter is a splendid reference to his character and citizenship while a resident of Oshawa. Among other effects are pieces of fresco work carved in wood, giving every appearance that the man has been more or less cultured.

The remains of the deceased were taken charge of by the authorities and will be buried in Copper Cliff.

## CORONER'S INQUEST

A coroner's inquest, Coroner Doan presiding, and Crown Attorney Miller appearing, returned a verdict of suicide by poison. The jury comprised Dan McKinnon (foreman), Geo. Hudson, Wm. McKeen, Wm. Jacobson, Jno. Wilson, R. Gegear, Geo. Millen, W. J. Wilson, Harry Sargent and Jos. Graham. The evidence in the affair was substantially as related above. The presence of the poison is explained as most likely to be from the fact that the arsenic was a kind used by trappers in seasoning and tanning furs, and that Hays had done more or less trapping along the Vermillion River and thus had it in his possession.