

Q. I just want to be sure now that I understand you. You mean he said that the State of Washington made no provision to take care of their dead?

A. I wouldn't say that he said "no" provision, but he said they didn't make provision. I don't think he put the word in "no" provision.

Q. They didn't make provision.

A. Yes.

Q. And said that it was but for the generosity of the funeral home, this beautiful funeral service could not be held.

A. It was through the generosity of the Butterworth Funeral Parlors that they had that funeral.

MR. WHIPPLE: That's all, Mrs. Redenbaugh, and thank you very much for your testimony.

(Witness Excused)

MR. WHIPPLE: I believe that concludes the testimony we have to offer at this session.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: We will be at recess, then, until one-thirty o'clock.

(Noon Recess)

1:30 o'clock p. m.

CHAIRMAN CANWELL: Will you proceed, Mr. Whipple?

CARRIE A. MORDAUNT, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHIPPLE:

Q. Will you state your name, please?

A. Carrie A. Mordaunt.

Q. Where do you live, Mrs. Mordaunt?

A. 4352 Ninth Avenue Northeast, in the City of Seattle.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, your testimony is being recorded in a recording device. It will necessitate your speaking as loudly as you can, just so you don't strain your voice and sort of speak into that microphone, if you please. How long have you lived in the State of Washington?

A. About forty-two years.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, were you acquainted with Marie Redenbaugh during her lifetime?

A. I was.

Q. Ma'm?

A. Yes.

Q. How long had you been acquainted with her before she passed away?

A. I would say ten or twelve years.

Q. You remember the circumstances of her death and burial here in the City of Seattle, do you?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, if you will answer a question, instead of nodding your head, why, we will pick up the answer by the machine a little bit better.

Q. Now, did you attend her funeral?

A. I did.

Q. Did you attend her funeral in company with anyone?

A. Yes.

Q. Who did you go with?

A. With Mrs. Osborn.

Q. Is that the same Mrs. Osborn who testified here this morning?

A. It is.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, just describe the chapel when you first got there, as to whether it was filled or not.

A. Well, when we entered the chapel it was not filled, but it—the people commenced to come in rapidly and it was soon filled, so that they brought in chairs and there was people standing at the back.

Q. Well, what funeral home was this, or what chapel?

A. At Butterworth's, of Seattle.

Q. Are you familiar with the fact that they have a small chapel and also a larger one?

A. I am. They have.

Q. Now which of the two chapels did they use, the smaller one or the larger one?

A. The larger.

Q. And from the time the funeral service started, the larger chapel was full, is that your testimony?

A. It was not filled when I entered, but it filled rapidly.

Q. And by the time the service started, or the meeting started—

A. It was full.

Q. Was it full? I think you said there were—brought in extra chairs?

A. Yes.

Q. Now were those persons there all friends of the deceased who was being buried on that occasion?

A. Well, I wouldn't think so, because I had known Marie Redenbaugh for many years and I had met quite a few of her friends, but the majority of these people were people I had never seen.

Q. Mrs. Mordaunt, you heard the account of her—the newspaper account of her death that was read in the record by Mr. Houston this morning?

A. I did.

Q. In which reference was made to the fact that her death was directly caused by her suffering and want for lack of food, placing the blame on the Legislature for her starving to death and for her not having medical care. Did you hear that statement read this morning?

A. I heard that, yes.

Q. Now, were you a neighbor of hers?

A. I was.

Q. During the ten years of time that you knew her, did you have occasion to visit her at her home and she visit you in your home?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you have an opportunity to observe the manner in which she dressed, whether she had ample clothing to wear?

A. I'm sure she did.

Q. You're sure that she did.

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever have any opportunity to observe the—what she had to eat, or to know whether she had enough to eat or not?

A. Yes.

Q. All right, just tell us now something about her habits—her eating habits, as you know them.

A. Mrs. Redenbaugh had not been well. She had heart trouble, and she also had stomach trouble, and she had to be very careful of what she ate, and was careful in choosing her food, which she did. She was a trained nurse and knew how to do that sort of thing, and she bought her food accordingly, but she had plenty.

Q. You say she was a trained nurse?

A. Yes, she was.

Q. She knew what she needed and bought her food—

A. Yes.

Q. —plenty. Well, compared to what other people had to eat, what you had to eat in your home, and your other neighbors had to eat in their home, how did she fare in comparison with her neighbors?

A. I don't know about my neighbors, but I know that she bought food I did not buy, but I thought that was on the condition of her health.

Q. The condition of her health.

A. Yes.

Q. Well, Mrs. Mordaunt, was there any truth in that statement that was read into the record this morning, from that newspaper, about her dying for lack of food, and care?

A. Absolutely no truth in that.

Q. No truth in it.

A. No.

Q. Now, when you got to this undertaking establishment, who seemed to have charge of the meeting there?

A. Well, I didn't know at the time who it was, but I afterwards learned that it was a man named Pennock and he introduced a gentleman named Fisher. He introduced him as Doctor Fisher.

Q. Introduced him as Doctor Fisher.

A. I never had seen either one before.

Q. You didn't know either of those two persons before. Do you remember anything about the remarks of either of those two gentlemen?

A. Well, they—

Q. Which one spoke first?

A. Well, Mr. Pennock.

Q. Well, what was the nature of his talk, if you remember?

A. Well, I wouldn't be able to quote him—word—but the nature of the talk was that just, the departed, Marie Redenbaugh, the cause of her death was malnutrition, she had died because of lack of food and lack of medical care. And that seemed to be the trend of the whole talk, and that they were sorry for her and they hoped it would not be repeated, that this was the first case they had had.

Q. Did he at—on that occasion offer a prayer or attempt to offer a prayer of any kind?

A. Yes.

Q. What did he say in that respect?

A. Well, I couldn't quote the prayer, but he repeated again that this party had died of want in this country, and that he hoped that—I don't know whether it was in the prayer or not, but in his talk was that he hoped things would be changed in this country so that the elderly people and people who needed, would be better taken care of.

Q. Yes. Now, were similar remarks made by anyone else that took part in the funeral—

A. Well, they both made those remarks, Dr. Fisher and—

Q. Dr. Fisher and he also, made those—

A. Yes.

Q. —remarks.

A. They were sending to other countries and he felt that they should be taken care of at home before—

Q. Yes. Well now, Mrs. Mordaunt, was there anything—was there any lack of reverence—

A. Yes, I couldn't see any reverence to it. I was quite incensed about it.

Q. You were what?

A. Quite incensed because there was a lack of reverence.

Q. Did you stay in the room there until the meeting had concluded?

A. No, I couldn't stay.

Q. What did you do?

A. I listened as long as I could, and the meeting to me was not—it was a meeting; it was not a funeral service. To me it was, well, I had never been to a Communist meeting, but it certainly sounded that way, and I was so incensed when they commenced to talk of what we should get in this country and what the Legislature should do, that I just got up and walked out.

Q. Do you mean to say you just couldn't stand it any longer? And got up and walked out?

A. I did.

Q. Where did you go?

A. I went out one door and in the other to Mr. Butterworth's office.

Q. Did you have any conversation with anyone out there?

A. Yes, I did. There were the—

Q. Who did you talk to?

A. Well, there were several gentlemen, I didn't know who they were, they were—had something to do with the—

Q. Attendants there at the funeral home?

A. Yes.

Q. Well, did you talk to anyone there?

A. Whether it was Mr. Butterworth or an attendant, I don't know; but I—he asked if he could do anything for me when I came in the door, and I said, "No," that I had been in to the funeral service and I was so incensed over it and so agitated I couldn't stay. And he said that it was a surprise to them too, that they didn't realize or know that this was going to happen.

Q. What else did he say?

A. Well, that's all he said.

Q. Was anything said about changing the arrangements?

A. Yes, he said, "We had no idea this funeral was to be this size," that, "we had the body prepared in the smaller chapel, but when the people commenced to come in, then we had to change and bring the body into the larger chapel."

Q. But first they had made preparations for the use of the small chapel.

A. Yes.

Q. Then, due to the size of the crowd, they had to—

A. They had to change it.

Q. —change it over to the larger chapel. How many of her friends did you see in attendance there?

A. Oh, I wouldn't know.

Q. That you recognized.

A. Oh, there were a dozen I would say that I knew, but as I say, I was so incensed I didn't look around to see who was there.

Q. Did you later have any kind of a talk with Pennock or Fisher?

A. I did.

Q. Tell the committee what that conversation was and with whom you had the conversation.

A. Well, after the services the—Dr. Fisher came out into this room where I was, and a lady went up to him and told him that what he had told, what he had said in the other room, was not true, that Mrs. Redenbaugh had not died of malnutrition. I didn't know at the time who the lady was. So when she finished talking I said to Mr. Fisher, "I want to verify what this lady has said to you, that what you said was not true, that I'm a neighbor and I don't think that it was called upon anyway to say what you did."

Q. What did he say to that?

A. He didn't say anything.

Q. Well, look around the room now and see if you see this lady that had that conversation that you didn't know at that time.

A. Well, I know it was Mrs. Redenbaugh who—

Q. The lady sitting over here?

A. Yes.

Q. The lady who testified here just before lunch?

A. Yes.

MR. WHIPPLE: Thank you, Mrs. Mordaunt, that's all.

THE WITNESS: I also met Mr. Pennock outside.

MR. WHIPPLE: Oh, I beg your pardon. Tell us about that.

THE WITNESS: He was standing on the sidewalk talking to some of these people, and I couldn't help but to say to him that I thought he made a very fine address but it wasn't called for at a funeral of my friend, that it was a good Communistic talk.

MR. WHIPPLE: What did he say to that?

THE WITNESS: He didn't answer.

MR. WHIPPLE: He didn't answer. That's all. Thank you very much, Mrs. Mordaunt.

(Witness Excused)

MRS. J. R. HAMILTON, produced as a witness, after being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. WHIPPLE:

Q. Will you state your name, please?

A. Mrs. John R. Hamilton.

Q. Where do you live, Mrs. Hamilton?

A. 6214 Roosevelt Way, Seattle.

Q. Did you know Marie Redenbaugh during her lifetime?

A. About twenty-three years.

Q. Were you—would you put yourself in a class of being a friend of hers?

A. I do.

Q. Were you a close personal friend of hers?

A. I sure was.

Q. Did you visit her intimately during that period of time?

A. I did.

Q. Did you visit in her home, and did she visit in your home?

A. She did. She was in our home about once a week for dinner.

Q. What was the condition of her health during the last, oh, two or three years of her life?

A. Well, she wasn't any too well at times, but she never complained very much.

Q. What was the nature—did she ever divulge to you the nature of her illness or her trouble?

A. Well, she just said she had a bad heart. Outside of that, why—and her stomach, sometimes she couldn't eat everything.

Q. The newspaper record of her death, and the cause of her death, was read in the record this morning, in which it was charged that she virtually was starved to death.

A. Well, that's untrue.

Q. Ma'm?

A. That's untrue.

Q. That she didn't have the proper medical attention and that she suffered for lack of care.

A. Well, no, that isn't true.

Q. Do you know of your own knowledge whether that was true or not?

A. That was untrue.

Q. What sort of care had she had over the period that you knew her?

A. Well, she had the very best. She had everything she wanted. She bought everything that she liked to eat.

Q. Did you ever eat at her house?

A. I did.

Q. Did you ever observe the type of food that she had?

A. She had just as good or better than lots of people.

Q. You observed the manner in which she dressed, I presume?

A. Yes, she dressed—

Q. Did she ever lack for clothing?

A. No, she didn't.