

# DEED IN VERMILYEA TRIAL

## OVERACTIVITY IS DANGER SIGNAL

Should be Regarded as Symptom And Not Disease

New York, Feb. 23 (AP)—A child's overactivity is not a sign he is a little dynamo physically, as parents believe, but a danger signal.

Studies of such children showing physical causes were not chiefly responsible, were reported to the American Orthopsychiatric Association here today by Dr. Asher T. Childers, psychiatrist at the Central Clinic, Cincinnati.

Overactivity he said should be regarded as a symptom and not a disease. It appears in about 10 per cent of children admitted to Child Guidance Clinics.

It reveals itself in such things as over-talkativeness, boastfulness, distraction, attention-seeking and restless sleep. More rarely as fighting, destructiveness and cruelty.

Col. Greer took the witness. "Just answer my questions," warned defence, as he took up the questioning.

Q. Would syphilis affect the brain? A. Yes, it would in time.

Q. And it would affect the lower end of the body about the lower part? A. Yes.

Q. Then what do you mean, that they (the jerks) would be far removed from the brain?

Witness replied that the progression of the disease would be through the whole body.

### Examination of Vermilyea

Witness on the stand told of strapping accused and examining him, but did not remember if he had tested for knee jerks. Persons with no knee jerks are unusual, but the cause for their absence in the case of accused was not known.

Q.—How often do you appear in court? A.—Quite often.

Q.—Constantly? A.—No, not constantly.

### 52 Times in Court

Q.—Say in 1934, how often were you in court?

A.—I don't know. Later he added he had in one spring been in the court 52 times between January and June. Generally he had testified on mental cases. He admitted that often there was a disagreement between men versed in his study.

Q.—Yes, you might even get up and appear against each other? A. Yes.

Q. And these points of difference are generally settled by the court? A. As they should be. "yes", agreed Col. Greer.

### Opinion of Doctors

Q. You heard Dr. Mitchell's evi-

## SEVEN VESSELS IN DISTRESS WITH ONE DOWN AT SEA

Four Trapped by Gale in Stormy Bay of Biscay

### AEROPLANE IS LOST

Might be From Squadron of British Ships at Manoeuvres

New York, Feb. 23 (CP)—Seven vessels were in distress today, with the possibility one of them had gone to the bottom after its crew was rescued, and an aeroplane was reported to have crashed in flames into the sea.

Four of the ships were trapped by a gale in the notoriously stormy Bay of Biscay and two on shoals off the coast of Japan. The plane, unidentified, was said to have plunged to destruction in the Dutch East Indies. An oyster sloop went aground in a gale off Delaware.

The 5,590-ton British steamer Catherine Radcliffe was the biggest victim. It struck a reef a mile and a half off Bosso Peninsula, outside Tokyo Bay.

Fishing boats and larger craft, including a Japanese destroyer, hurried to answer its cry: "Lying in dangerous position—Need immediate (Continued on Page 7, Col. 4)

## ENGLISH FOOTBALL

London, Feb. 23—(CP Cable) —Results of soccer games played in the Old Country today follow:

### English League Div. 1

- Birmingham 1; Liverpool 3
  - Everton 2; Aston Villa 2
  - Grimsby Town 1; Derby County 3
  - Huddersfield Town 3; Chelsea 0
  - Manchester City 1; Arsenal 1
  - Middlesbrough 3; Blackburn Rovers 3
  - Preston North End 2; Leicester City 0
  - Sheffield 1; Leeds United 0
  - Stoke City 1; Portsmouth 2
  - Tottenham Hotspurs 1; Sunderland 1
  - West Bromwich Albions 5; Wolverhampton Wanderers 2
- English League, Div. II
- Bolton Wanderers 2; Port Vale 0
  - Bradford 1; Hull City 2
  - Brentford 2; Bradford City 0
  - Burnley 3; Swanssea Town 0
  - Fulham 2; Notts Forest 1
  - Newcastle United 3; West Ham United 0
  - Norwich City 1; Blackpool 1
  - Notts County 0; Sheffield United 1
  - Oldham Athletic 3; Manchester United 1
  - Plymouth Argyle 3; Bury 0
  - Sheff. Wednesday 0; Barnsley 1

## Vermilyea Defence Rests Doctors Give Testimony As to Accused's Sanity

Dr. Mitchell for Crown Calls Accused Sane at Time

DEFENCE SAYS 'INSANE'

Dr. Robertson Swears Vermilyea Admitted 'Trip East'

Dr. W. B. Mitchell, of Montreal, giving rebuttal evidence in the trial of Harold W. Vermilyea on the charge of murder of his mother here last October, today stated that accused was not insane at the time of the slaying. Dr. Mitchell had examined Vermilyea on October 28th in the jail here.

Dr. Mitchell declared that Vermilyea was emotionally unstable, impulsive and very egotistical.

Dr. J. J. Robertson for the defence had previously stated his belief that Vermilyea was insane at the time of the death and testified that in January while he was making an examination of Vermilyea, the accused man told him he had been worrying over a "conspiracy" and that he came east to rectify this conspiracy and that "you know what I did."

### Trial Moves Rapidly

The trial today moved rapidly to its conclusion Saturday as the defence called but a single witness, Dr. Robertson, a schoolmate of Vermilyea's. Dr. G. Howland, of Toronto, was the only other witness for the defence, he was heard Friday.

Vermilyea did not go on the stand to testify in his own defence.

The Crown at once began the introduction of rebuttal testimony.

### Defence Rests

The defence in the trial of Harold W. Vermilyea, charged with the hatchet slaying of his aged mother last October 4, rested its case at 11.02 a.m.

Dr. J. J. Robertson, school-year acquaintance of the accused man, was the sole defence witness today. He testified Vermilyea was insane.

Dr. Robertson, a school year acquaintance of the accused man, said he felt his family held a conspiracy against him.

Dr. Robertson said Vermilyea had set about to rectify this conspiracy, thinking he was acting upon "divine guidance." Vermilyea had not used this phrase in describing his motive, but the doctor said he had come to that conclusion after examining him.

### Accused's Business Life

The medical witness said Vermil-

just as a casual friend with no outstanding traits.

Dr. Robertson had seen him once 10 or 11 years ago at the time of the funeral of the father of the accused.

Dr. Robertson referred to accused having an impediment in his speech during earlier school days. This was not so noticeable when he had seen him 10 or 11 years ago.

Q.—Any reason for the absence of it? A.—No.

Witness testified that on January 7 he had given accused a clinical examination. Witness said accused had told him of having a form of spinal arthritis. "So I took an X-ray. I could find no destruction—no signs of arthritis, except for an area near the hip joint which might produce pain."

### Doctor's View of Brace

Witness told of the brace worn by accused. "I told him this brace was more of an inconvenience than a benefit. He told me then that only certain doctors were competent to deal with this condition.

Witness, sitting in a chair provided for him, told of further tests taken for examination. "The reflexes taken disclosed that a pupil of the eye reacted to light in a normal condition. "His arm reflexes were normal. But I was unable to detect a reflex in either the knee or ankle."

Q.—These were negative? A.—They were absent.

### Second Examination

The second examination of accused had been made on January 28 in the County jail. This had been (Continued on page 8, Col. 4)

## WEATHER

Toronto, Feb. 23.—(CP)—Light to moderate snowfalls have occurred in Southern Districts of Saskatchewan and Alberta pressure and cold weather is extending over the western provinces from the north. Pressure is high over the Maritimes and Eastern Quebec.

Kenora and Rainy River—Fresh southwest to northwest winds; partly cloudy and mild; probably snowflurries at night with lower temperature.

Manitoba — Northwest to north winds mostly fair and becoming somewhat colder; local snowflurries.

Saskatchewan—Partly cloudy with somewhat lower temperature; local snowflurries.

## PICTON DRUG STORE IS GUTTED BY FIRE

varying moods in his trial. "He is not any other man"

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Letter

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