

SHOCKING MURDER.

Lawrence P. Brown Robbed and
Shot Dead in His Own Store.

DEED DONE BEFORE DAYLIGHT.

Perpetrators Get Several Hundred Dollars and

Then Make Their Escape.

WHAT RAY CROXALL KNOWS OF THE CASE.

Was sleeping in an Adjoining Room

When the Murder was Committed—
Theory of the Crime.

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Half Lake has another murder mystery—one that promises to be as difficult to solve as the Hitler tragedy on South Tanager street a year and a half ago.

The hapless victim this time is Lawrence Peter Brown, a charity and generous youth, frequent, who was at home at the corner of Tanager and Second East streets, At 12 o'clock

last night, after attending a lodge meeting, he went home and retired to a room in the rear of the store and went to bed. This morning a few min-

ates part 2 of a book he was robbed of several hundred dollars and then, despondently depressed, presumably while in pursuit of the man or men who had taken his money. The bullet that ended his life was from a .45-caliber revolver and went directly through his heart.

The case is one of mystery and may never be cleared up. Only one thing is certain: That is, that robbery was the motive. Briefly, the circumstances are these: For the past five years Brown has been conducting a vice and a place named, Connected with the slums

is a rear room in which Brown slept at nights. Paralleling the stage on the east is a tier of rooms occupied by Mrs. J. Gresham in whom the property

belong. Mrs. Croxall heard one shot fired; three of her children heard two. John Croxall, a young man who has earned prominence in a number of thrilling escapades, composed a violent note to that in which Brown shot. The two teams were ordered to a door, but the door was locked and called him from Brown's side. Croxall was the first person, it appears to have been thoroughly startled by the shooting.

He was not through a rapid course of questioning by a representative of the "News" and also by the officers. His

FIORZ was not a copious or an consistent as it might have been, but that may be accounted for to a certain extent by reason of his own past record and apparent knowledge of a case so

What is the one under investigation. What is the end of the crime was considered in substantially the following language:

"I had been awake and was dozing. I heard one shot and rained up in bed. My brother Ernest, who was fifteen years of age, was with me. When the shot rang out mother, who was sitting in the room next to us with my little sister, called out, "Here, here, the mother". Then another shot came and I jumped out of bed, and with a match that mother handed me, I searched a light and lit the lamp. After the second shot, I heard some one fall. Then I heard a groan. I laid slowly the same time I heard a burglar being driven out in a hurry. I rushed into the front room, drew the blind, drew the door open, and looked out but saw nothing. Mother

and
The
back
y in

just ten minutes past five. I ran over to M. Lawrence's and he went over to my place where I started after the police. I found an officer at the Knickerbocker corner and the captured wagon was a telephone car. When it was brought to the Knickerbocker, the Detectives, officers, Powell, Chase and myself jumped in and hurried down home where we found Mr. Leeman. When he saw any of the folks had gone in to the stove, they fell over that Brown was dead and went away until the officers got there."

WHAT THE OFFICERS FOUND.

When the officers arrived those unfortunate victims of the store and by means of a lamp soon found that not only were the two men dead, but that

A hurried glance showed that he had

He said that three times and that the boy was really screaming and crying. He was dead sure it was the underwear and hose. Shortly over his heart was an angry ponder turned toward him from which the blood flowed in a stream. Over the wound was his left hand firmly grasping the body as though he wanted to be a doctor to stay the pains of impending death. Between his feet lay a small, simple section. Cade's revolver. Examination proved that was dead and had just been fired and that before long it was known that the murderer had rested on an empty chamber.

In the rear room, under the pillow of the dead man, he was another fatal, a paper bag containing pills. Had he evidently knew the danger he was in and that he had desperate character he would not have done that.

the larger and more densely wooded. There were reasons why he kept himself well armed. First of all he had considerable money on or about his person. The two had

person all the time. Recently he had once before been the victim of burglars and had also been held up. This was near the point building something over a year ago, but he was a large

man, weighing 170 pounds, and his condition was strong, active and muscular. He attacked GALT, knocked the football down, and disarmed him of his gun.

THEORY OF THE MURDER.

Just how the murder was committed is problematical, of course, but the most reasonable theory is that the assassin entered the store through the front door after having broken the glass making it possible to put a hand

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