

Special Agent in Charge M. H. Purvis, advised Special Agent in Charge E. J. Connelley, in connection with his conversation with Mr. Samuel P. Cowley, deceased, on the night of November 27, 1934, that at the time Mr. Cowley had been removed to his room at the hospital after the operation, the following conversation took place:

Mr. Cowley: "Oh, Melvin, I am glad you are here."
Mr. Purvis: "Rest quiet and you will be all right."
Mr. Cowley: "Do you have any doubt about that?"
Mr. Purvis: "No. Keep your arm under the covering."
Mr. Cowley: "I emptied my gun at them."
Mr. Purvis: "Who were they?"
Mr. Cowley: "Nelson and Chase."
Mr. Cowley: "Bring my wife up on the freight elevator."

At the time of the preparation of the trial of John Paul Chase at Chicago, it was further indicated that in the opinion of Mr. Purvis, insofar as he was able to tell, Mr. Cowley did not believe, nor was he of the opinion that he would die, and in view of this situation, and the difficulty of introducing this as a dying declaration, and the further possibility of the defense twisting this around to serve the self-defense plea they were attempting to show, Special Agent in Charge Purvis did not appear as a witness.

In connection with this, Mr. McCaulley of the Herald and Examiner, on March 18, 1935, telephoned Special Agent in Charge Ladd, advising that Attorney Henry, associated with W. W. O'Brien, had talked with him as to his appearing as a witness possibly in rebuttal to testimony of S. A. C. Purvis as to any dying declaration.

This reporter for the Herald and Examiner indicated he arrived at the hospital at Elgin between six and seven in the evening, and was there until after the death of Cowley, and that he believes Mr. Purvis told him Cowley had made no statements and was unconscious. McCaulley suggested that if we wished to confer with him we call the city desk and ask that he be sent over. U. S. Attorney Green and Special Assistant to the Attorney General McKahon were advised of the above for such action as they deemed advisable.