

March 4, 1957

missing and four or five teeth were loosened and sensitive. He stated that the prognosis was poor. It is important to note that in spite of this condition, Dr. Anderson has done nothing outside of examination to Mr. Mitchell's teeth, although over five weeks have elapsed since the incident. Outside of the patient's claim to continued sensitivity, Dr. Anderson's explanation of this lack of treatment or repair was noticeably hesitating and not impressive.

Dr. Dickson testified that Mr. Mitchell's scalp wound from which he removed 8 sutures, was his most serious damage. He testified that Mr. Mitchell sustained a chipped bone in his right hand, unnoticed on the first x-ray and barely discernible on the second. He testified also to a number of contusions and abrasions, although lengthy in their list, comparatively minor in their nature.

Dr. Anderson saw Mr. Mitchell on Sunday following the Friday incident, and Dr. Dickson a day or two later. On personal examination, the Chairman of the Board observed a small scalp scar on Mr. Mitchell, not over two inches in length and almost completely healed. On request, the only other physical evidence displayed to the Board by Mr. Mitchell was a small laceration in the process of healing, just under the knee cap, and not over one inch in length. In addition, Mr. Mitchell carries his right hand in a bandaged cast. There appeared to be no other physical evidences of damage, although the Board is cognizant that five weeks could have eliminated some.

Contradicting the extent of the injuries claimed is the testimony of Dr. Felix Engel of Receiving Hospital, who treated Mr. Mitchell not much more than an hour after the incident. He stated that the only and most serious damage sustained by Mr. Mitchell was a scalp laceration, one and one-half to two inches in length. This he sutured with 8 to 10 stitches, although he stated that two or three would have been sufficient.

In addition, he stated that Mr. Mitchell suffered a small bruise or contusion on his forehead and an even smaller or less noticeable one under the eye. He questioned Mr. Mitchell in the hospital about the other injuries, but Mr. Mitchell complained of none. He examined his mouth but found no lacerations or bleeding. The only bleeding came from the scalp wound, part of which had dropped on his clothing. He denied observing any swelling of the lips, eyes or face. Mr. Mitchell made no complaint of his hand to Dr. Engel--or any other portion of his body--and while in the hospital, used his hand normally and freely. X-rays indicated no other damage to the skull. The total treatment of Mr. Mitchell at Receiving Hospital did not consume more than five minutes. Mr. Mitchell was relaxed and required no anesthesia.

Dr. Engel's medical observation was substantiated by Miss Marcine Davies, a Wayne University medical student and an assistant to Dr. Engel. Both Dr. Engel and Miss Davies expressed considerable amazement at the injuries complained of by Mr. Mitchell

as subsequently reported in the press. In attempting to question Mr. Mitchell at the hospital, Dr. Engel stated that Mr. Mitchell told him, "I am not going to give you any information if you are one of them." Miss Davies likewise states that Mr. Mitchell was uncooperative and hostile.

It is significant for this Board to note in this opinion that although Mr. Mitchell claimed to have been suffering from extremely serious and extensive injuries, which if true would have naturally made medical aid his first concern, he continually and repeatedly, both in the precinct station and in the hospital, requested the services of a photographer before he would submit to medical treatment. This attitude was substantiated by several police officers as well as hospital attendants.