

55	WYATT	I swear by Almighty God that the evidence that I shall give shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. <i>(The CLERK puts the Bible and oath card on the ledge of the witness box)</i>
	MYERS	You are Dr. Wyatt?
	WYATT	Yes.
	MYERS	You are a police surgeon attached to the Hampstead Division?
	WYATT	Yes.
	MYERS	Dr. Wyatt, will you kindly tell the Jury what you know regarding the death of Miss Emily French?
	WYATT	<i>(reading from his notes)</i> At eleven p.m. on October 14th, I saw the dead body of the woman who subsequently proved to be Miss French. By examination of the body I was of the opinion that the death had resulted from a blow on the head, delivered from an object such as a cosh. Death would have been practically instantaneous. From the temperature of the body and other factors, I placed the time of death at not less than an hour previously and not more than, say, an hour and a half. That is to say between the hours of nine-thirty and ten p.m..
	MYERS	Had Miss French struggled with her adversary at all?
	WYATT	There was no evidence that she had done so. I should say, on the contrary, that she had been taken quite unprepared. <i>(MYERS resumes his seat)</i>
	SIR WILFRID	<i>(rising)</i> Doctor, where exactly on the head had this blow been struck? There was only one blow, was there not?
	WYATT	Only one. On the left side at the asterion.
	SIR WILFRID	I beg your pardon? Where?
	WYATT	The asterion. The junction of the parietal, occipital and temple bones.

56	SIR WILFRID	Oh, yes. And in layman's language, where is that?
	WYATT	Behind the left ear.
	SIR WILFRID	Would that indicate that the blow had been struck by a left-handed person?
	WYATT	It's difficult to say. The blow appeared to have been struck directly from behind, because the bruising ran perpendicularly. I should say it is really impossible to say whether it was delivered by a right- or left-handed man.
	SIR WILFRID	We don't know yet that it was a man, Doctor. But will you agree, from the position of the blow, that if anything it is more likely to have been delivered by a left-handed person?
	WYATT	That is possibly so. But I would prefer to say that it is uncertain.
	SIR WILFRID	At the moment the blow was struck, would blood have been likely to have got on to the hand or arm that struck the blow?
	WYATT	Yes, certainly.
	SIR WILFRID	And only on that hand or arm?
	WYATT	Probably only on that hand and arm, but it's difficult to be dogmatic.
	SIR WILFRID	Quite so, Doctor Wyatt. Now, would great strength have been needed to strike such a blow?
	WYATT	No. From the position of the wound no great strength would have been needed.
	SIR WILFRID	It would not necessarily be a man who had struck the blow. A woman could have done so equally well?
	WYATT	Certainly.
	SIR WILFRID	Thank you. <i>(He sits)</i>