

"TO END THINGS."

EARLY MORNING SHOOTING.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

Richard Mitchell Gregorenko, a middle-aged man, was committed for trial at the Supreme Court on July 5, by Mr. W. Harris, P.M., in the Police Court yesterday, on a charge of having discharged a bullet with intent to maim his wife, Vera Elizabeth Henrietta Gregorenko, at Agnes-street, Valley, on June 17. He was allowed bail in a sum of £80, with two sureties of £40 each.

Sub-inspector Coman prosecuted; Mr. W. T. King (Messrs. Delaney and King) appeared for the defendant, who pleaded not guilty, and reserved his defence.

Plain-clothes Constable Hogan said that when he questioned the defendant Gregorenko said: "I did not want to shoot my wife; I wanted to shoot myself."

Acting Sergeant Hogan said that he had a conversation with the defendant at his bedroom in Martin-street, Valley, on the morning of June 17. He said to the defendant: "Your wife complains that you went to her room about 2.30 a.m. to-day, getting in through the window. She told you to leave, but you refused, and drew a revolver. You pointed it towards her and fired." "That is not true," said the defendant; "I went to my wife's room," he added, "and when she told me to leave something came over me, and I thought I would end things. I took out my revolver and placed it towards my temple. My wife struck at me, and screamed. As she did so the revolver went off. She continued to scream, and some man came into the room and told me to quit. I sat on the bed and cried. I said to my wife: 'I cannot live without you, dear.' The man told me to leave, and I did so, going home to bed." Witness then took the defendant to the Valley Police Station.

In answer to Mr. King, witness said that the impression he gained from his conversation with the defendant was that Gregorenko meant to shoot himself in his wife's bedroom.

"YOU'RE GONE!"

"YOU'RE GONE!"

Vera Elizabeth Henrietta Gregorenko, wife of the defendant, living apart from him, said that her husband in May threatened to put five bullets into her and two into himself. He was bound over for six months by a Summons Court order. Early in the morning of June 17 he came to the window of her room in an Agnes-street residential, and got through. She told him to go away or she would get the landlady. He put his hand in his pocket, saying "You're gone!" and pulled out a revolver. He pointed it at her, and she ran at him. She did not know what happened next, but heard a report. She pushed the defendant into a corner and opened the door, and called for the landlady. She took the revolver from the bed, where her husband put it, and gave it to the landlady. She then dressed, and went for the police.

Witness told Mr. King that the bullet went into the wall.

Sub-inspector Coman opposed the defendant's being allowed bail, stating that Mrs. Gregorenko was living in dread of being killed by her husband.

Mr. King said that the defendant assured him that he would not use violence towards his wife.