

# Knife blade, handle, linked at trial

The knife blade found under the body of Gail Miller and a knife handle found by a boy in the yard of 227 Ave. N. south, were today reported to belong together by an RCMP officer from the crime laboratory in Regina.

Staff Sgt. Shane Kirby, the 34th witness to testify at the non-capital murder trial of David Edgar Milgaard, said that he had conducted tests on the blade and the handle by a microscopic technique. He said, "It is my opinion that the blade was, at one time, part of the handle."

Milgaard is on trial in Queen's Bench Court before Mr. Justice A. H. Bence, in connection with the stabbing death last Jan. 31, of Miss

Gail Miller, a nursing assistant, Richard Hounjet, 8, of 227 Ave. N. south, gave evidence Monday of finding a handle of a knife in the back yard of his home on March 2. The boy said he was kicking the snow when he kicked out the knife handle.

Staff Sgt. Kirby also testified that he could find no fingerprints on a woman's handbag, boots, a knife blade or handle. These objects, he said, had been sent to him by the city police.

Det. Sgt. Raymond Mackie of the city police testified to receiving a wallet last April 4, from Gils Beauchamp, 8, of 1505 20th St., west.

The police officer said he went with the boy to the

front of 330 Ave. O. south, where the boy reported finding the wallet. He said he also found two hospitalization cards at the edge of the sidewalk. These, he said, had the name of the Miller family on one and the name of Gail Miller on the other.

Under cross examination by defence counsel Cal Tallis, the police officer said it appeared that the cards had been buried in the snow at one time, and as the snow melted away, they became visible.

Mrs. Helen Gerse, 330 Ave. O. south, who testified to being a neighbor of Albert Cadrain, said she found a blood-stained touque in front of her house on the first Saturday of February last year.

She said when she picked it up she saw it had a cut as if a knife had been wiped through it. Mrs. Gerse said she threw it into her back yard at that time. It wasn't until police called upon her in April to see if she had found any clothing that she told them of the touque, the witness said.

Earlier testimony was that Milgaard had been at the Cadrain house on the day of Miss Miller's death. (Earlier report on Page 4.)

042109