

June 7, 1926.

On oath I depose and say that my name is Elisha H. Cohoon; that I am a physician and am now superintendent of the State Hospital for the Insane at Medfield, Massachusetts. That on April 8, 1926, I, in company with Dr. Albert C. Thomas, examined one Celestino Madeiros to determine his sanity, and that during said examination I, or Dr. Thomas where indicated, asked the following questions, and Celestino Madeiros made the following answers at the Norfolk County House of Correction:--

Why did you want to make a statement of that kind?

I rather not talk about it.

You must have had some purpose one way or the other for giving out that information.

Maybe it is true.

Would you want to go further and say may be or that it is true?

Yes.

It is true?

Yes.

Why did you keep silent and let these two innocent men be accused?

I never knew they was accused.

You hadn't been reading the papers to learn about the Sacco-Vanzetti trial?

No.

How did you know you were the man who committed the crime?

I knew I was the one who committed the crime in South Braintree.

But you hadn't known it all these years?

No.

No one had ever told you?

No. I never heard about Sacco and Vanzetti until I came here.

What year did that take place?



Quite a while ago. I don't remember just what year. 1918 I think.

When was that in the press? (Dr. Thomas)  
About five or six months ago.

After your trial?  
Yes.

Who was it you told that to?  
I had Mr. Thompson, Sacco's lawyer come down.

You sent for him?  
Yes.

You told him the details?  
Yes. I gave him a statement.

You remember distinctly the episode at the time you shot this man in South Braintree?

No not distinctly. It was quite a while ago.

Did you get away with some money?

The others got away. I didn't get any.

How much?

I never knew. I got double crossed in it.

Do you know who killed this man?

No. I didn't do no shooting.

I thought you said you did?

No. I simply said I was there.

Did you tell Mr. Thompson the names of the other parties?

I told him the names they used.

Did you go there with the intention of that robbery?

Yes. I went there with the party with the intention of that robbery. I didn't know what robbery it was.

You must have known their names?

I did, but it wasn't their right names.

Had you known them long?

Not for long. Two or three months.

Was that plan in mind?

Yes. These men, they had Boston connections. Used to come to Boston quite often. Used to hang out at South Boston and Rhode Island. Before they went on that job they went to South Boston first. Went from Rhode Island to Boston and from Boston to Braintree.

After all these years you weren't interested to find out



whether anyone was arrested?

No. I wasn't interested. I couldn't learn much.  
I got arrested myself in a short time.

For what?

Breaking and entering.

What did they do with you?

I served five months.

It was simply that your conscience made you feel you ought  
to make this statement?

Yes.

You hadn't been reading the newspapers at all?

No.

Elisha H. Cohoon

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

Norfolk

ss

June 7 1926.

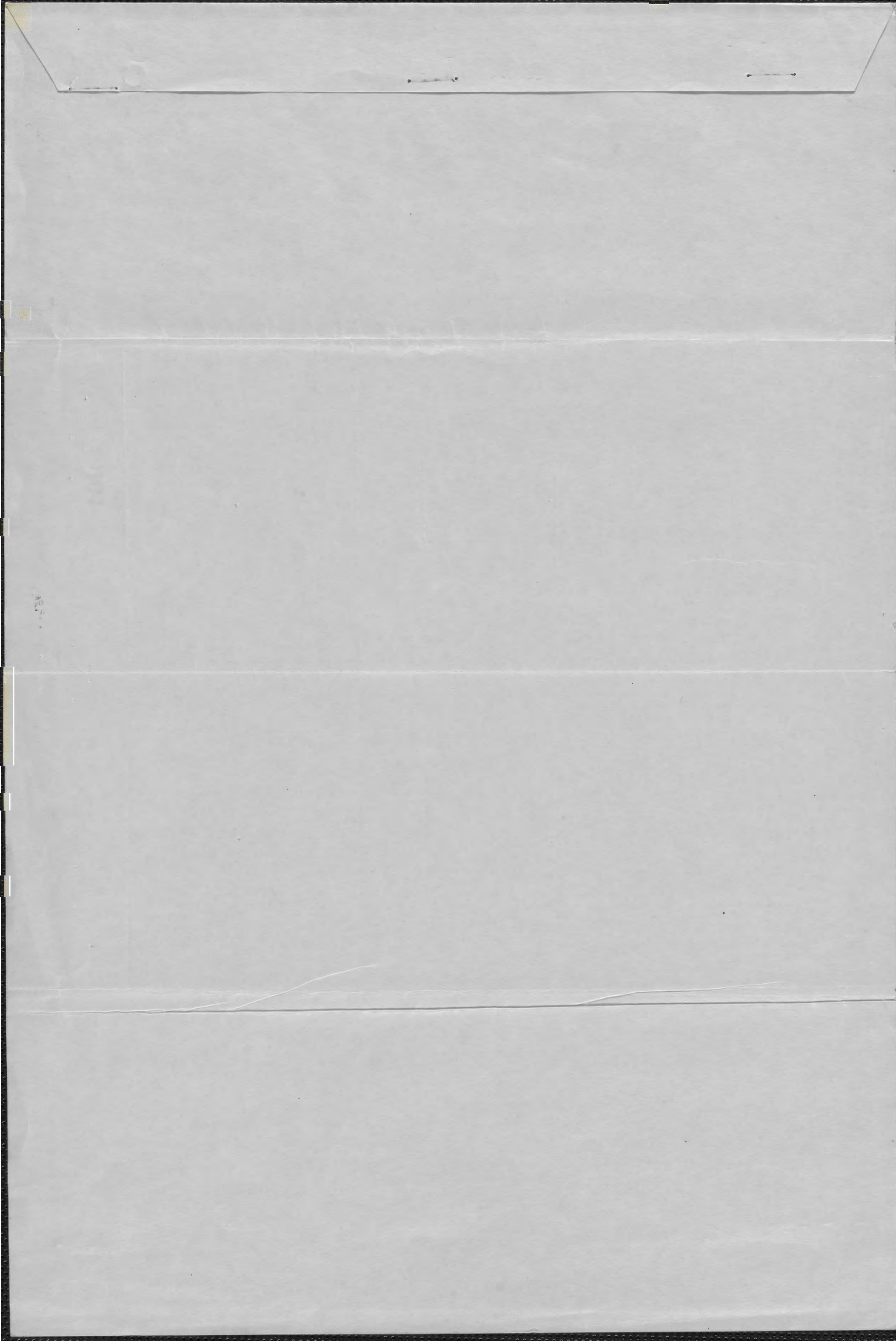
Then personally appeared the above named Elisha H. Cohoon  
and made oath that the above statement subscribed by him is true.

Before me,

Louis A. Hall  
Justice of the Peace  
~~Notary Public.~~

My Commission Expires Dec. 28, 1928





201  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

NORFOLK, ss. SUPERIOR COURT.  
Nos. 5545-6 CRIMINAL SESSION.

201

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

vs.

NICOLA SACCO and BARTOLOMEO  
VANZETTI

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AFFIDAVIT

OF

ELISHA H. COHOON

RECEIVED & FILED

JUN 21 1926

OFFICE OF CLERK OF COURTS  
NORFOLK COUNTY.

Filed by the Commonwealth.