

A STRANGE STORY.

HOW BERLIN FIRM IS SAID TO HAVE MANAGED THINGS.

Witness Makes Some Remarkable Statements—Allegation is That There Were Several Bankruptcies and Fraudulent Means Afterwards Adopted to Obtain Goods from Toronto Firms.

Toronto, July 16.—"I have heard many extraordinary stories in this court, but this is the most extraordinary one I have ever heard," exclaimed Magistrate Kingsford in the police court yesterday at the conclusion of a story told by Mr. R. G. Baillie, of West Toronto, the principal Crown witness in a conspiracy trial against Messrs. A. O. Boehmer and C. M. McCarthy, of Berlin. Boehmer was arrested recently, but the police have been unable to locate McCarthy.

The case arises out of a recent assignment of the dry goods firm of R. G. Baillie & Co., of Berlin. The business, which had changed hands frequently of late, was once known as Boehmer, Erb & Co., and was bought by Mr. Floyd Boehmer, a son of the defendant, for \$1,400.

The Crown's case is that the two defendants put through a bogus sale of the business to R. G. Baillie & Co. on the representations that Baillie had paid over \$7,000 for it, and had \$3,000 cash besides, induced several Toronto wholesalers to ship large consignments of goods to them.

The answer of the defence is that Mr. Baillie is romancing, and that the sale was a genuine one. Cheques and notes for the alleged sale have been produced, but Baillie says that these are worthless, and were only used in order to obtain credit. He told a long story of acknowledged deception, and when twitted with having been merely an automaton, replied: "I am ashamed to say I was."

Not the least startling feature of the evidence was the acknowledgment by Mr. John Creighton, a Toronto barrister, that he had written several letters in the name of J. A. Rogers, of Buffalo, acknowledging an indebtedness to Baillie of \$3,000, and making repeated promises to pay. These letters were shown to bankers in Berlin as evidence that Baillie had \$3,000 coming to him, and credit was sought to be raised.

Boehmer's investigation will be resumed next Wednesday.

R. G. BAILLIE'S STORY.

Mr. R. G. Baillie, who was called at the opening of the morning's proceedings, said he was the man who had traded in Berlin under the name of R. G. Baillie & Co. He said he got into touch with it by answering an advertisement in a Toronto paper for a manager for a dry goods business for a thriving western Ontario town. He was visited at his father's home in West Toronto by Mr. C. M. McCarthy, who offered to put a business in Berlin into his name. He was taken to the King Edward Hotel to meet Mr. A. O. Boehmer, and was appointed to the position at a salary of \$15 per week. Mr. Baillie said he went to Berlin two days later with Mr. McCarthy, and was introduced to the store assistants and Mr. Floyd Boehmer. An agreement between the parties was in readiness in the office, which witness said he signed. The agreement, dated February 1, 1909, was produced in court and filed as an exhibit. It set out that Mr. Floyd Boehmer was to sell the business to Baillie for \$7,314.48, \$3,000 being in cash and the balance in notes. The notes and cheque purporting to be for the payments were in readiness, said the witness, and he merely signed them. Despite the agreement, witness said he did not look upon himself as a purchaser, and was only to get a salary of \$15 per week.

NO ACCOUNT TO MEET CHECKS.

The cheque for \$3,000 was drawn upon a Toronto bank in which Baillie said he had no account, and he had never been asked to pay it.

There were present at the time, he said, Mr. A. O. Boehmer, Mr. Floyd Boehmer, Mr. C. M. McCarthy and himself. Two sight drafts, one for \$700 and one for \$1,200, were payable to J. A. Rogers, of West Chippawa (South of Buffalo), and signed by Baillie as "R. G. Baillie & Co." were produced. Baillie said he did not know Rogers and did not know why he signed them. Mr. A. O. Boehmer had brought them to him to sign, and told him that Rogers was a man who owed him \$3,000, which he was unable to pay at the time, but that it would be paid by Rogers later on. Mr. A. O. Boehmer, he said, gave him several letters purporting to come from Rogers, saying that he had on the \$3,000, but would pay as soon as he could. These letters were shown by Baillie to several bank managers at Mr. A. O. Boehmer's request.

"Did you ever know any man in Buffalo named J. A. Rogers?" inquired Mr. Kingsford.

"No."

"Who suggested the name, you or Mr. Boehmer?"

"Mr. Boehmer did."

"Mr. Dewart resumed his examination. "Did you ever discuss with Mr. Boehmer the purpose of these drafts?"

"No."

DID NOT EVEN GET SALARY.

"When we came to Toronto early in March to buy stock from the wholesalers," said Baillie, "Mr. A. O. Boehmer and Mr. McCarthy told me I was to say that I had bought the business at 75c on the dollar for \$7,500, paying \$3,000 in cash and the balance in five notes, and that I had \$3,000 due me from a friend in Buffalo."

"And were you doing all this for them for \$15 per week?" inquired Mr. Kingsford in surprise.

"I haven't even got the \$15 a week. They never paid me," replied the witness.

He told of visiting the warehouse of Robinson & Dale, Mr. A. O. Boehmer introducing him, and telling the tale agreed upon. An account was opened and goods purchased. Next they went to Bradshaw's, Mr. McCarthy introducing him and telling Mr. Bradshaw the story agreed upon. From there they visited Gordon, Mackay's, Money Penny's and S. F. McKinnon's. At each place Mr. McCarthy introduced him, and said Baillie had purchased the business of Floyd Boehmer for \$7,500, paying \$3,000 in cash and the rest in notes. Accounts were opened at some of the places, and next day Baillie, at Boehmer's instruction, went and bought goods. Later, at Mr. A. O. Boehmer's order, he went to wholesale houses, making representations that the business cost him \$9,750.

"And all this time did you know that not a cent of that \$3,000 cheque had been paid?" inquired Mr. Dewart.

"Yes."

"Who prepared the statements for the mercantile agencies?"

"Mr. Floyd Boehmer prepared them and I signed them."

A letter from Flett, Lowndes & Co., inquiring if the Boehmers had a lien on the business of R. G. Baillie & Co., was answered in the negative by Mr. Floyd Boehmer, and signed by the witness as "R. G. Baillie & Co."

HOW BAILLIE MANAGED.

Asked by the Magistrate how he lived during his stay in Berlin, if he received no wages, Baillie said he drew \$5 for his board and about \$1 for pocket money from the cash each week. The books of the firm showed him to have received an average of \$8.50 a week.

The signature of A. A. Pike on the back of the \$1,200 draft, witness said, he knew nothing about, and denied having negotiated it with Mr. Pike.

"This is the most astounding story I have ever heard in this court, and I have heard many extraordinary ones," remarked Mr. Kingsford at the close of the witness' story.

"I am instructed that this man is romancing," said Mr. J. W. Curry, K. C., in rising to cross-examine.

He at once plunged the witness into a searching examination of his business history from his 13th year up. Baillie told of serving six different firms during a period of 35 years until he went to Berlin.

He denied having discussed the agreement with Mr. Boulbee, the solicitor, who drew it up before signing it. He said he realized that under its terms he became the purchaser of the business, but denied that he had hired Floyd Boehmer as his bookkeeper, or that he had opened the bank account in the firm's name. The business, he said, was managed by Mr. Floyd Boehmer. He admitted signing many cheques, but never knew what they were for.

ACTED AS OWNER.

"You exercised the right of ownership when you assigned that business to Mr. Martin, didn't you?" inquired Mr. Curry.

"I did it at the request of the creditors," replied Baillie.

"But you exercised the privilege of ownership when you handed this business over to Mr. Martin, didn't you?"

"Yes, I did."

"You want us to believe that you were a mere automaton, doing this thing and the other just as you were told?" inquired Mr. Curry a few minutes later.

"I'm ashamed to say that's what I did," replied Baillie.

He said that had he been making a genuine bid for the business he would not have given nearly so much for it as the agreement mentioned: \$5,500 would have been a fair price for it.

Baillie admitted that the reason he practised economy was because he wanted to meet the notes, and he hoped to get the business in time.

"But how could you hope to ever pay the \$3,000 cheque?" inquired the Magistrate.

"Mr. Boehmer told me, 'You do your part and leave the financing to me. You'll never be called upon to pay anything,' and I believed him."

JOHN CREIGHTON WROTE LETTERS.

Mr. John Creighton, barrister, of Toronto, was called, and showed the "J. A. Rogers" letters. In a scarcely audible voice he admitted that they were in his handwriting.

"Do you know any man named J. A. Rogers, of Buffalo?" inquired Mr. Dewart.

"No."

"Then how did you come to write them?"

"Mr. McCarthy came to my office with Mr. Boehmer, and asked me to copy the letters. I asked Mr. Boehmer if it was all right, and he said 'yes,' so I copied them."

"Prior to that you didn't know Mr. McCarthy?"

"And you had known Boehmer for a long time, and done work for him?"

"Yes."

"When Inspector Duncan saw you, did you tell him that the letters were dictated to you by Mr. A. O. Boehmer?"

"I may have done so."

"Surely you can remember that. It was all done within a week."

"I can't say for sure."

"Probably they frightened the witness so at the time," suggested Mr. Curry, smoothly.

"Mr. I was pretty badly scared," asserted Mr. Creighton.

This concluded the evidence for today. The investigation will be resumed on Wednesday next, when Mr. Baillie is to be again cross-examined about entries in the firm's stock book.

TYRRELL DEAD.

He Was Famous For His Modernist Sympathies.

London, July 15.—Father George Tyrrell, whose sympathies for the modernist movement in the Catholic Church caused him to withdraw from the Society of Jesus and brought him into conflict with the Vatican, died this morning, after an illness which began on July 6th. M. D. Petre, in whose house he died, states that the priest of the Diocese of Southwark was called in, because both M. Petre and Baron Friedrich Von Hugel, one of his friends, were convinced that Father Tyrrell would wish to receive all the rites of the Catholic Church. He apparently made a confession to this priest, and received a conditional absolution, the extreme unction usually administered in communion being out of the question owing to the absence of the powers of swallowing.

Father Tyrrell's intimate friend, Abbe Bremond, was present at the end and had the opportunity in a moment of very clear consciousness the evening before his death of speaking to Father Tyrrell as to his accepting such confession as he could make by sign and giving him the last absolution.

The Provincial Government warns captains of excursion steamers that they must not sell intoxicating liquors on their boats.

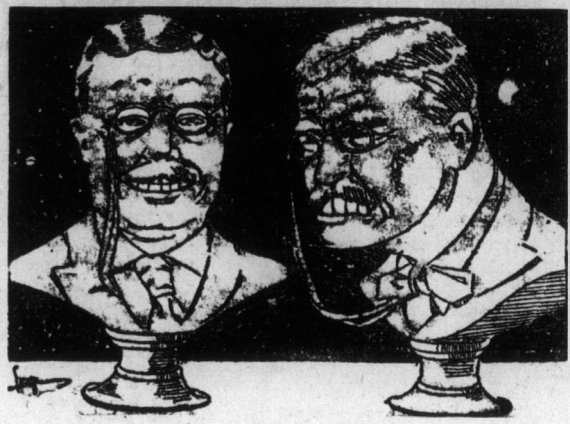
To Extradite Dirhn.

Chatham, July 15.—Crown Attorney Smith has wired the Los Angeles authorities authorizing extradition proceedings against Fritz Diehm, alias Frank Chapman, arrested there in connection with the theft of \$1,575 from Sovereign Bank. Messenger McArthur two years ago. Diehm's wife is wealthy, and will fight extradition to the limit.

Chatham, July 15.—Lloyd Ross, son of Wm. Ross, of the communication road near Blenheim, met with a serious accident while working a hay rake in a field on his father's farm. When found he was lying on the ground in an unconscious condition. The team and rake were found a short distance away. The cause of the accident is unknown, as young Ross has not recovered consciousness. It is thought he will recover. There were two large gashes in his head which required several stitches.

The Toronto Board of Education has decided not to sell the Bloor street east property for an arena site.

Roosevelt on a Bust



WITNESS

Washington, July 15.—A marble bust of ex-Vice President Theo. Roosevelt is soon to be placed in a niche in the senate chamber alongside all the other vice presidents of the United States since John Adams. The sculptor, Jas. L. Fraser, of New York city, has modeled two busts and it only remains for the committee of the library to choose.

The trouble is that the two busts are so different. One shows the calm, pleasant Roosevelt and is said to be

perfect in its way. The other portrays him as the senate knew him best, with fiery eye, protruding jaw and tense facial muscles, the real strenuous Roosevelt. This one is regarded by all who have seen it as a splendid likeness also.

While Senator Wetmore, chairman of the library committee, has not committed himself in favor of either one, it is rumored that he and the other members of the committee are disposed to award the palm to strenuousity.

Hubby, Home and Baby are Woman's Best Joy!



They look much alike, and are often mistaken for sisters.

"Being a grandmother doesn't make one a day older. I am in favor of early marriages," said young Grandma Blamey. "Both my daughter and myself married our first beau. There were never any quarrels about previous sweethearts, which so often make trouble."

The University of Oxford has conferred upon Chief Rabbi Adler the honorary degree of D. C. L.

The translations into pure Biblical Hebrew of the Arabic gospel, the Koran, and of the gospel of Buddha has been ordered by the greatest Hebrew publishing house in Russia, namely, the Lushchik of Warsaw.

An inheritance tax of \$183,844, on the estate left by Nelson Morris, of Chicago, will result from an order entered in the county court by Judge Rinkner. The appraiser's report gives the total value of the estate as \$167,032.

A cable from London contains an official declaration made by Mr. Zangwill that he is willing to give up the leadership of the "Lito," if the other organizations that are interested in colonization in Mesopotamia do not wish to work with him.

At the age of 88 years Mr. Charles Simon, of New Orleans, a contemporary of Judah Touro, with whom he was associated in establishing the Touro Infirmary, is dead. Mr. Simon was an active worker against the dread mounds of yellow fever during the epidemics in the early fifties.

Miss Stella Schanfarber, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Schanfarber, of Columbus, O., has been appointed statistician in the office of the commissioner of labor by Governor Harmon. This is the first time in twenty years that a Jew has been appointed to a State office, although there are upwards of 75,000 Jews living in the Buckeye State.

The recently deceased landed proprietor and banker at Arad, Herr Ignatz Spitzer, bequeathed nearly \$200,000 for humanitarian purposes.

The Turkish Government, in order to demonstrate its good will toward the Zionist movement, has announced to the Zionist leaders that hereafter Jews will be permitted to purchase land in Palestine without any interference.

The sale of Anglo-Palestine shares continues to increase at a highly satisfactory rate. Mr. Simon Goldman, the founder of the St. Louis Achunath Nachla Company and newly elected chairman of the Palestine Committee of the Federation, has undertaken the raising of a million dollar fund for Palestine land development during the coming year.

The election of former Senator Joseph Simon to the office of Mayor of Portland, Oregon, recalls the fact that that city has had two other Jewish citizens who have served in the same capacity.

MRS. ALBERT BLAMEY, HER DAUGHTER, MRS. WM. J. GER. 16, AND GRANDSON, 3 MONTHS OLD.

Cleveland, O., July 15.—Here's a young woman who's a grandmother at 33, and doesn't care who knows it.

Mrs. Albert Blamey married at 15, and became a mother on her seventh birthday. Her daughter, now Mrs. Wm. Rutger, married at 15, too. Baby Rutger, another William, is 3 months old. He rules over a mother and father, two grandmothers and grandfathers and two great-grandmothers and great-grandfathers.

Both mother and grandmother are unusually happy in their home life.

"We grow alike in tastes and ambitions when we marry young. And especially when there are children—as there ought to be—the family sort of grows together."

"In a home, a husband and a baby are much better for a girl than working in an office, where she learns to envy other girls their fine clothes, and gets discontented, and thinks altogether too highly of these things."

"I taught my daughter housework so that she could make her husband's home happy and peaceful."

"And my husband likes my pie and bread," spoke up 16-year-old mother Rutger. "He don't have the baker's stuff in the house." There was a little emphasis on the "my husband," and Mrs. Rutger still blushes a little when she says the words.

WOMEN'S CLAIM.

Have the Legal Right to See the King.

London, July 15.—Secretary Gladstone has written to the Women's Freedom League informing them that he submitted to the King their petition asking for a personal audience, but that he could not advise his Majesty to grant it. If, however, the league would present a petition setting forth their grievance and plea for redress he would submit it to the King.

Mrs. Despard replied that the law entitled petitioners to a personal audience of the King, although custom had transferred the duty of receiving from the King to the Prime Minister. As the latter refused to receive them and as Mr. Gladstone used his own official position to shield the Prime Minister, there was no way out of the difficulty but to insist upon their legal right of seeing the King.

DRUNKEN DEBAUCH.

An Aged Woman Found Dead in a Toronto Cottage.

Toronto, July 16.—As the result of a debauch lasting two days, Mrs. Catherine Bruce was found dead yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Mary Rocks, 366 Lippincott street. The dead woman lived at 218 Albany avenue, and Mrs. Rocks, as well as her husband, are under arrest on a charge of drunkenness, but principally to be held as witnesses.

It appears that the three were drinking for some time, and that they went to the cottage on Lippincott street yesterday. They apparently all went to sleep in a drunken stupor, and when Mrs. Rocks awoke she tried to rouse the other woman, but could not. The police then came in, and the two people were placed under arrest. The doctor's examination revealed the fact that death was due to alcoholic poisoning.

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PIMPLES

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AMONG THE JEWS

The situation of Judaism in France, as indicated by the latest sitting of the Consistory of Paris, the representative communal body of the French capital, is far from encouraging.

The Zionists of the world are preparing to celebrate the sixtieth birthday of Dr. Max Norden on July 24.

The Order Brith Abraham has more than 340 lodges and boasts a membership of more than 65,000 brethren. It has disbursed since its organization over \$10,000,000 in sick and death benefits. Samuel Dorg is the Grand Master and Congressman Henry M. Goldfogel is counsel of the order.

An amusing reference to Jewish activity in the manufacture of Christian devotional articles is made by the British consul in Poland. According to the consul, devotional articles, such as pictures of saints, medals, relics and rosaries have hitherto been chiefly made at Czestochowa, by Jews. The Archbishop of Warsaw has frequently protested against this, but no Christian manufacturers would compete with their older established rivals.

A slight move forward in the direction of liberty of conscience in Russia has been made by the emancipation of the "Old Believers," which was voted upon by the Duma at a recent session.

The Emperor has conferred the Wilhelm Order on Frau Emilie Mosse, wife of the well known bookseller, Rudolf Mosse, in Berlin, in appreciation of her useful philanthropic work. This high distinction confers on its possessor the right to be invited to court festivities and is only held by three other Jews—Herr James Simon, Baroness Mathilde de Rothschild and Frau Georg Speyer.

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CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Dr. J. C. Patterson

Clinton Hotel Men Fined.

Clinton, July 15.—Before Police Magistrate Andrews here to-day David Crawford, of the Commercial Hotel, was fined \$40 and costs for selling liquor after hours on July 12. Reuben Graham, of the Graham House, was fined \$50 and costs for selling on Sunday last. The conviction was secured by private detectives working under Provincial Inspector Morrison, and the prosecution was conducted by Inspector Asquith and Crown Attorney Seager.

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