

RICH WIDOW ROBBED OF \$35,000 IN GEMS

Hand Bag To Acquaintance To Hold While She Tries On Gown

Thief Posed as a Doctor - Won Woman's Confidence by Showing Interest in Her Newly Acquired Business Interests

New York, March 31.—Mrs. Mary Strangmann, a rich widow of Buffalo, sued longly at one portrait after another in the Rogues' Gallery yesterday afternoon in vain hope of seeing "Dr. Carl Edwards, German physician and college professor," who, she says, fled from Lord & Taylor's store on March 10 with her handbag containing jewels worth \$35,000 and \$500 in cash which she gave him to hold, while she tied on a gown.

In getting to work was due to Mrs. Strangmann's reluctance to make public her loss and her consequent effort to find the jewels and the German through private detectives who have been looking for him in a number of large cities. Mrs. Strangmann's acquaintance with the well-tailored and rather handsome young German dates, she explained, from a little after the time she became possessed of valuable brewery properties upon the death of her husband, Carl A. Strangmann. Among the holdings which passed to her ownership upon the probate of her husband's will about a year ago was the German-American Brewery of Buffalo, which owns several large plants.

Edwards appeared in Buffalo soon after. Suave, plausible, and seemingly prosperous, he posed as a millionaire interested in brewery properties and opened up negotiations for some of those owned by the widow. While these negotiations were proceeding in desultory fashion, Mrs. Strangmann said, the supposed buyer, who was about 35 years old, appeared from time to time at social gatherings to which she was invited though at the same time she did not suspect that he was cultivating her acquaintance for any ulterior purpose. She said at one time the man suggested marriage and that though she refused him, they remained on amicable terms. Once Mrs. Strangmann showed "Edwards" a photograph of herself which displayed her wearing the now missing jewelry—a pearl necklace that was a wedding present from her husband,

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EXPERIMENTS WITH FLAX FOR FIBRE AT OTTAWA

(Experimental Farms Note) During the year 1915 plots of flax were grown at the Central Experimental farm, Ottawa. The seed was obtained from Holland. The samples were pulled at various stages of ripeness, retted under water and afterwards scutched by the Ontario Flax Co., Ltd. They were valued by an expert of the York St. Flax Spinning Co., Belfast, Ireland, but in no case could any of the samples be pronounced first class.

of 96 per cent, it was necessary to sow a somewhat larger quantity than two bushels of the latter—as a matter of fact 2 1/2 bushels. In some cases the average height of the seven plots first sown was 80 1/4 inches and the average of the last seven was twenty-nine inches.

something in the cupboard of his dressing room. He set the lamp on one of the shelves. When he shut the cupboard door, he forgot the lamp inside. He remained a little while quite still, wondering then he opened the door of his room and said to his wife in a solemn and distressed way: "My dear, God sends me a great trial. I believe I am blind!"

"I am sure I don't know. But don't you see the light?" "I see no more than you, but we must find the lamp. I hope you did not put it where it can set fire to something." She got up and found the lamp, which had already begun to char the upper shelf.

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NO REFORM OF PRUSSIAN FRANCHISE AT PRESENT SAYS IMPERIAL CHANCELLOR

London, March 30.—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent says that Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg in his address to the Reichstag yesterday referred to the events on the battle fronts and especially the western front where, he said, things had been accomplished for which warm thanks were due to the brave troops.

Repeating to domestic affairs the chancellor said the day's speeches had not convinced him that a reform of the Prussian franchise could be begun now. It would be a very serious matter to decide such a question while millions of men were in the trenches. The chancellor concluded by expressing confidence that the unity of the German people, who were without differences, would make them invincible.

ABSENT-MINDED MAN

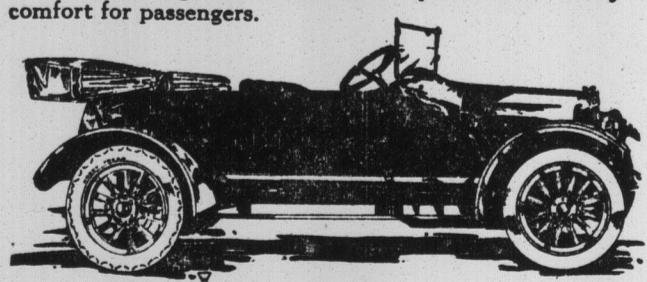
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