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PERCIVAL SMALL TESTIFIES BEFORE TORONTO HEARING

Witness Believes Someone Tried To Kidnap Missing Theatre Magnate.

ASKED FOR HUSBAND

Testifies That Mrs. Ambrose Small Was at Theatre on Night of Dec. 2, 1919.

Canadian Press Despatch, Toronto, March 21.—Percival Small, a half-brother of Ambrose Small, was the first witness called this morning when the hearing on Mrs. A. J. Small's application to declare her husband, who has been missing since December, 1919, as legally dead, was resumed by Judge Coatsworth. He told of Mrs. Small visiting the theatre the night of Dec. 2, 1919, asking if her husband had been down. Witness said that it was not for four days after that he became concerned at his brother's absence. He did not go to the police, he said, but was "looking out through the streets to see Mr. Small."

This statement caused A. G. Sligh, K.C., counsel for the sisters of the missing man, to ask witness: "You are not serious in that?"

Witness replied that all the employees at the theatre were on the lookout for him to present views, and that he believed Small never left that office upstairs alive, and suggested 6:30 p.m. as about the time of death, basing his belief on his own and police inquiries. He came to this conclusion about a year or so after the disappearance.

Would Visit Theatre.

Judge Coatsworth expressed a desire to visit the theatre where Small was buried. He admitted that "it Small was seen" at 7 o'clock on the night of December 2, 1919, it would shatter his theory.

The witness said the last time he saw Ambrose Small was when he was going from the box office to his private office in the theatre on the night of December 2, 1919, when he disappeared. Answering questions of counsel, he said that the caretaker and his family lived in the back of the theatre and downstairs some distance from the front office. Referring to the kidnapping charges that had been laid against John Doughty, now serving a sentence for theft of some of the Ambrose Small bonds, he said:

WENIGER WILL PROBE CITY HALL SALARIES

Question To Be Considered at Special Gathering of Council.

Mayor Weniger gave assurance today that city hall salaries would receive special consideration at an early date, confirming his pre-election platform statement. In December last, he declared that certain reductions were essential, while a more equitable adjustment could be made.

The entire wage and salary question will be considered, it is promised, at a special gathering of the council, which will be held on Wednesday, March 28.

Questioned today by Ald. John May, the city treasurer explained that provision was made in the estimates for a slight increase in expenditure in this connection, if such were needed.

The long-debated question concerning "bonuses" for officials is bound to arise, and the mayor has already insisted that these were included last year as a part of the salary, although granted the previous year, merely as a bonus.

IMPROVING UTILITIES BUILDING

Alterations are being made to the interior of the Public Utilities Building on Dundas street. A portion of the west wall of the main saleroom is being torn out and an elevated office or manager's office is being built in its place. The office will overlook the whole room and will facilitate the work of the sales department, it is expected.

"If Only I Had a Chance"

Don't dream if you are out of work or want a better job. The chance to "Go Ahead" is here. Employers keep an eye on "Situations Wanted" for men and women who have confidence to advertise their abilities and services.

London Advertiser Classified Ad Dept.

The Studio Photographers to Their Royal Highnesses "The Kiddies."

Pointed Opinion On Hospital Cut

It doesn't take brains or bravery to rob the sick.

This is the opinion today from James Gray, member of the Hospital Trust, relative to the further slash of more than \$20,000 from the City Hospital estimates at last night's session of the city council.

"The hospital estimates will stand in excess of 1922," replies Gray, "and the further slash of more than \$20,000 from the City Hospital estimates at last night's session of the city council."

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"Bonnyglenn" Fired in Erin, Saddens a London Home

Was Birthplace of Mrs. E. M. C. Maxwell, 74 Emery Street, and Her Daughter, Mrs. E. H. H. Mackey, Both of Whom Will Put In Claim to Irish Free State.

With the burning of "Bonnyglenn," Aranmore, County Donegal, Ireland, is revealed a sample of Irish irregularity, which touches very sorely three residents of London. "Bonnyglenn" was the home of William M. Sinclair, British consul-general in Philadelphia, and his sister, Mrs. E. M. C. Maxwell, her daughter, Mrs. Mackey, and her son-in-law, David Mackey, are living at 74 Emery street, South London.

"Bonnyglenn," it seems, was the birthplace of Mrs. Maxwell and Mrs. Mackey, and is not to be confused with the "manor" referred to in Tuesday's Free Press. The family residence of a past generation could be described as a "manor," but this "Bonnyglenn," it is situated in Ulster County, 30 miles from "Bonnyglenn," near Aranmore, County Donegal.

Mrs. Maxwell has not yet received a detailed account of the destruction of her brother's property, but says, judging from the conditions existing in Ireland today, such fires are never entirely unexpected. It is at the slightest sign of an Irishman showing any leaning towards the Free State authority or British rule, he can expect to lose his property, and in the case of a person of influence or position, even his life is not secure.

No Longer Sensation.

Mrs. Maxwell went on to say that a fire such as the burning of "Bonnyglenn" had long ceased to create a sensation in Ireland, because of the frequency of their occurrence. Speaking further on this matter, she said that property values in Ireland had followed the course of the German mark, so that today a little of the pre-war value in London, England, rather more encouraging news being passing through a time of strife and uncertainty, which Canadians can form no conception of.

As an instance of frightfulness, Mrs. Maxwell related the cause of her coming to Canada. She described a house-party or reunion of the Sinclairs at "Bonnyglenn" just prior to her departure for Canada a year ago last month.

Irregulars Enter House.

The family had gathered at their home, and had been having a quiet and enjoyable time for almost a week, just as they were about to leave the dining-room at night before the reunion broke up. A party of Irish irregulars forcibly entered the house and took charge of the proceedings. Orders were issued, and the family and household were subjected to a nerve-racking surveillance while the irregulars carried away much property, and Mrs. Maxwell and Mrs. Mackey have very vivid and painful recollections of this episode, and one day.

Mrs. Maxwell is a philosopher, however, for, turning to a dainty cot she said: "The loss of Bonnyglenn is really a small thing compared to the arrival of the first grandsons, Mr. John Sinclair Mackey arrived two days ago today, and came as it were to celebrate the anniversary of his parents in London, Ont."

The proud father, Mr. David Mackey, is an ex-servant, having served as an officer with Somerset's during the late war. At present Mr. Mackey is engaged in the service of the R. J. Dunn & Co., financial agents, in London.

"Sol" Jumps Over Equator Announcing Spring Is Here

Smiling Faces Welcome New Season—Golf Fiends, Gardeners and Grandmothers All Turn Out To Celebrate.

Out of the mists of forgotten months, a welcome stranger has returned. Spring, the adored of poets and housecleaners, has sprung into the world. Today the birds sing honor to the stranger, and a billion hearts palpitate with a thrill of joy.

All hail and welcome! After months of picking and shelling out of the kettle, and thawing out the cat's whiskers, spring is again with us. It is back on the balcony to stay—temporarily, from now on, it leads the procession.

Today thousands of golf-finders, gardeners and grandmothers poked their heads out of the bay window, and got the first sniff of spring, 1923. The first sniff was not as satisfactory as some could have wished, nor as it seemed that winter would never relinquish its strange hold on this section of the country. And now dear old spring has come to the rescue of citizens "fed up" with Esquimo life.

Nature's Triumph.

In celebration of nature's triumph, the crows barked loud and the owls hooted in chorus. Flossie, the flapper, conjured up visions of several ready planning to dig a cat in the play Indian; and the tired business man actually said "good morning" to his mother-in-law twice before breakfast.

From now on, seed catalogues will commence to come in with delight of exaggerated and glowing pictures of what will adorn its outside pages. Yes, spring is here! It took a long time coming, and its journey was fraught with danger, but it made the grade. It signals many important events. June brides will begin to think of trousseaus of gorgeous fashions and drive nests, while odes immortal regarding the daffodil.

"COME BACK, OLD PAL."

Here is a song with a universal appeal. Young and old alike acclaim it first place in the season's best vocal selections. You heard Harold Harvey sing it in "Carry On." Now hear him sing it on Victor record, 21894. Now on sale at Heintzman & Co., 242 Dundas street—Advt.

FACTORY PURCHASE BOOM FOR LONDON

Londoners are surely getting some wonderful opportunities to save money. Here is the best yet: A factory purchase of 500 white gold wrist watches, fifteen jewels, fancy shapes, fully guaranteed, easily worth \$25, to be sold for \$11.95. Money returned if you can buy a similar watch elsewhere under \$25. Order by mail from John A. Nash, My Jeweller, 182 Dundas street, "Where you will eventually buy."—Advt.

DIAMONDS PERFECT BLUE WHITE AT Johnston Bros.

Jewellers and Diamond Merchants. 208 Dundas St., Next Allen Theatre.



COUNT CALVI DI BERGOLA.

The Italian people look with favor on the coming wedding of Princess Yolanda, daughter of King Emanuel, to Count Calvi di Bergola. It is heralded as a real love match.

DECIDE FRENCH WRONG IN OCCUPYING RUHR

Presbyterians, After Heated Debate, Settle Troublesome European Problem.

An enjoyable debate was held last night in New St. James' Presbyterian Church Hall, in which it was resolved that France was justified in her occupation of the Ruhr, ended in the defeat of the resolution.

The debating parties were, for the affirmative, Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church; for the negative, New St. James' Presbyterian Church. The debaters were: Affirmative—Mrs. Edwin Burns and Angus Munroe. Negative—Miss Mildred Goldie and Neal Miller.

The judges were Messrs. Edw. Grange, Clark and Ferguson. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and refreshments were served afterwards in the church hall. These debating evenings are becoming more and more popular, and for a valuable adjunct to the attractions that the church is able to offer to the young people in the winter evenings.

For Colds, Grip or Influenza.

and as a Preventive, take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE Tablets. The box bears the signature of Dr. W. Groves. (Be sure you get BROMO.) 20c. Groves Canada—Advt.

ONE dollar awaits Vox Tremolo, who contributed the winning item today.

On Sunday evening a local clergyman announced: "On Sunday evening next the choir of this church will sing the sacred cantata 'From Olivet to Calvary.'—VOX TREMOLO.

A robin building its nest in my veranda Sunday.—EARLY BIRD.

A meadow lark, another one of our spring birds.—H. S. M.

An advertisement in a leading drug store for various straw hat dyes of various hues. Although the thermometer fails to bear it out, this advertisement is taken by many as a sure sign of spring being with us.—HOPEFUL.

A man with a cow on a sleigh, and a patchwork quilt rolled around her. When the man got to the railroad crossing he backed the cow off the sleigh, drove across, then came back after the cow, but she would not move. He finally unbitched the horse, tied the reins around her neck, and, with a couple of men helping, he got her over, and she walked up the plank on to the sleigh without any trouble.—J. S. I. C.

While visiting a friend's house, his small son came in so excited he kept hardly talking. However, he managed to blurt out that he had found a "swell" little dog, but his father, strictly refused to let him keep the canine, and the excuse he offered was: "No, son, I will not have a cooker spaniel under my roof. A fox-terrier is the only breed I like." The boy, very near broken-hearted, chased the poor little pup away, and his dad, thinking the matter closed, forgot it. But imagine his surprise when two nights later, in came the boy again with a wee foxterrier, and his first words to his dad were: "I tried to chase him away, Dad, but he wouldn't go. He said 'dad do?—HEARTACHES.'"

ANNOUNCING SPRING STYLE SHOW

THURSDAY and FRIDAY MARCH 22nd and 23rd

You are cordially invited to view our complete displays of Authentic Spring Fashions for Women and Misses—on

LIVING MODELS

Who Will Appear in Our Window and Store Tomorrow and Friday, Between 4 and 5 p.m.

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COMMITTEE DIVIDED ON INDUSTRIAL AREA

Difference of Opinion as to the Wisdom of Local Improvements There.

The board of works is by no means a unit when it comes to a favorable consideration of the proposed local improvements to the industrial area. "We can't touch it," advised Ald. Douglass, chairman, at last night's session. "Sell it if possible," commented Ald. May.

"You'll never get property like that as cheap again," warned Ald. McKay. "You'll never get any more industries there until you make the improvements, and you may as well make them now," advised Ald. P. J. Watt. "They paid \$1,000 an acre for it. Let them sell it," said Ald. Patterson.

"Well, you can't get that sum now," contended Ald. Douglass. "I would like to know definitely just how many prospective industries have looked at this property," explained Ald. Watt.

"But how many," persisted Ald. Douglass. "I don't know how many. I am not the Chamber of Commerce," retorted Ald. May.

"We have to get this place in shape," urged Ald. Hayden. "Well, you just start, and hear what the people on Brydges street will say," assured Ald. Patterson. "Well, if you stop at everything," well throw the monkey-wrench into the machinery and stop everything. We want more industries in this town."

After considerable discussion, during which the committee showed a sharp difference of opinion upon the question, it was decided to ascertain how many industries have visited the industrial area with a view toward location.

CONDUCTOR FNEED

For blocking the Richmond street Grand Trunk crossing for a period longer than five minutes early Friday morning, L. S. Ward, conductor of the passenger train which was causing the blockade, was fined \$10 and costs in police court this morning.

HEIFETZ SCORES

This gifted artist played his way into the hearts of musical London Tuesday evening, especially in his "Ave Maria," "Chorus of Dervishes," "March Oriental," and "Route des Lutins." These popular numbers have been recorded by this young artist for the Victor, and records are now on sale at Heintzman & Co., 242 Dundas street—Advt.

EVERYBODY'S "Apying!"

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Hobbs Manufacturing Co., Ltd., and Hobbs Hardware Co., Ltd., users of Ruggles Trucks for some time, recently placed a repeat order for trucks to run in Montreal, Toronto and London. These Companies now operate te

RUGGLES TRUCKS

RUGGLES MOTOR TRUCK COMPANY, LIMITED. Factories: London, Ont., and Saginaw, Mich.

THOS. A. TERRY, Distributor. 144-146 FULLARTON STREET. PHONE 5

IF GLADSTONE LIVED, WHAT WOULD HE DO? C.P.R. STEAMSHIP MANAGER IS NOW WALTER MAUGHAN

Canadian Press Despatch, Montreal, March 21.—The appointment of Walter Maughan as steamship manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway was officially announced today. The appointment includes the management of the company's passenger business on both Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Mr. Maughan is a native of Toronto and joined the C.P.R. forces there in 1892.

MENTAL PRISONER VIOLENT.

Associated Press Despatch, Boston, March 21.—Nicholas, convicted murderer, who is a patient at the Boston psychopathic hospital for observation of his sanity, after a month-long fast, became violent today and sustained several abrasions of the forehead and scalp.

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