

EXPLOSION AT INDIANA OIL PLANT CAUSES 8 DEATHS

JOHN IRWIN EXPLAINS WHY HE KIDNAPPED HIS EIGHT-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER

New Agreement Drafted Calling For Annulment of Divorce Not Signed—Father of Kidnapped Child Produces Letters Justifying His Action—Mother Asserts "Non-Support" Was Cause of Her Divorce — Not Willing To Leave Her Present Husband.

Admitting that the facts given about the kidnapping of a little girl by her father at the C. P. R. depot on Saturday, in the exclusive story carried by The Advertiser yesterday, were quite correct with the exception of the fact that the mother's first married name was used instead of that of her present married state, John Irwin, the father of the child kidnapped, in an interview today, produced a letter purporting to be written and signed by his wife's second husband.

The letter, which is dated La Grande, Oregon, September 20, 1920, advises that he take the little girl away from the care of her mother, but makes no definite charge or stated reason for his doing so. The writer of the letter claims to be in a position to help him secure the custody of the child.

Made Voluntary Appearance.

Another letter produced by Mr. Irwin in justification for his action is from an attorney-at-law in Lincoln, Nebraska, written on July 3, 1919, when Mrs. Cora M. Irwin applied for a divorce in the courts there. The writer of the letter promises that if Mr. Irwin will agree to "enter a voluntary appearance" in reply to his wife's charges, "we will not ask any attorney or attorney fees in this matter."

"On legal advice here I complied with the request," said Mr. Irwin, "and my wife secured her divorce, later marrying a resident of La Grande, Oregon. Last week she returned to London and expressed a willingness to make friends, and we went to a local law office on Saturday, where an agreement was drawn up by which she was to leave one baby here and to take the other and go to her mother's home in Florida, and enter an application for an annulment of the divorce."

Did Not Keep Promise.

"She agreed to this, and the papers were to be put into proper shape, and she was to sign the papers, but she failed to do so. She took the children to the C. P. R. depot with the intention of getting away. In fact, she told the woman where she was staying that she was putting one over on me nicely."

In answer to a question as to the grounds on which the annulment of the divorce would be sought, Mr. Irwin stated that it was understood that his

AUSTIN NEAME



Of Niagara Falls, Ont., the new president of the Provincial Command of the G. W. V. A. in Ontario.

TRIP TO PORT WAS COSTLY ONE FOR PRINCIPAL

A. E. Mark of Parkhill Lost Wallet, Cash and Valuable Papers.

RECOVERS HIS GRIP

Hopes To Identify the Thief Amongst Prisoners At St. Thomas.

Dominion Day held no joys for A. E. Mark of Parkhill, principal of the Vienna High School, for on that day while boarding a London and Port Stanley train in St. Thomas he was robbed by pickpockets of \$237.50, and to make matters worse he lost a leather bag containing papers valued by him at \$500, which he recovered today after two days of ceaseless search and worry.

Mr. Mark was returning to his home in Parkhill from Vienna, where school had just closed. He carried with him a large wallet containing the money and a club bag containing certificates, which could be replaced only with the greatest of trouble, beside many other articles.

Just as the train due out of St. Thomas at 2:12 p.m. for London pulled in he was talking to a stranger, who stayed close beside him while he boarded the cars. Mr. Mark felt somebody at his pocket, and as he turned around the stranger jumped through the opposite door of the coach and ran, taking with him the money. Immediately after Mr. Mark dropped his leather bag and gave pursuit, but lost the stranger, however, after a short run.

Up to the present time he had had no information with the St. Thomas police, and on making inquiries he found that the grip and its valuable contents intact had been found. He was also told that the police in St. Thomas were holding four suspected pickpockets, one of whom had been found with a wallet containing a large sum of money in his possession. On receiving this information Mr. Mark left immediately for St. Thomas to see if he could identify the prisoner.

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ALBERTA NOMINATIONS

Edmonton, Alta., July 5.—Nominations for the forthcoming provincial elections reported last night are as follows: Ribstone, Charles White, United Farmers.

Victoria, Frank Walker, Liberal.

Didsbury, George Weaver, Liberal.

Pincher Creek, Earl Cook, United Farmers.

Brooks, Dr. Campbell, Liberal.

Western Grain Crop To Total 300,000,000 Bushels

[Special To The Advertiser.]

Winnipeg, July 5.—A revival of business in Canada is now assured. Western Canada's enormous grain crop has paved the way. Prospects in Manitoba and Saskatchewan could not be better. Wheat and oats are coming along fast and cutting will start in three weeks. Today the Canadian Pacific Railway started preparations to move this bumper harvest. The shops at Weston will operate five days a week, from Monday to Friday, beginning this week, officials announced today. These shops have been closed since June 24. Prior to that date they were running four days a week. About 1,400 men are affected. This order will go throughout the west. Prospects are for 300,000,000 bushels, a crop equal to 1915. Southern Alberta, the only dry spot last week, is now deluged with rain.

"Deliberate Untruth," Is City Clerk's Retort To McCullough's Charge

Retort Courteous Is Apparently Little Understood — Mr. Baker Says That He Can State Specific Cases To Support His Statements.

"This affair came up several months ago," declared City Clerk Baker today, commenting upon the reply Monday night of T. D. McCullough, secretary of the Social Service, that "he was at liberty to choose between the two terms, that the city was not a city, and that at that time I did not know that I was being attacked by McCullough."

The controversy hinges on the charge hurled some days ago that widows from the county were being "dumped" into the city, where they would receive benefits under the mothers' allowance act, inflicting considerable expense upon the citizens. T. D. McCullough stoutly denies the same, while the city clerk is equally confident that such has occurred at different intervals.

"A specific instance in particular," continued the latter, "how an aged and feeble resident was forcibly taken from his bed in the county and hurried under cover of darkness into the city and housed and fed here for twelve months and then told that he could look to the city for further assistance."

"McCullough is the wilful prevaricator," the clerk continued. "He says that he had not seen the mothers' allowance act, and yet on Saturday he called a reporter for some alleged mis-statements. He said that a number of people have moved into the city in order to secure assistance in the homes or hospitals. If McCullough is not a cad, he will apologize for his deliberate mis-statements."

"NOT POSING AS BOSS," ASSERTS SEC. TANNER

Utmost Harmony Exists Between Secretary and Architect Carrothers.

"It came as a decided surprise to me," commented W. E. Tanner, secretary of the board of education, today, "to hear that apparently there was a battle raging. It is simply a case of making a great deal out of nothing. One would suppose that Carrothers, who was attempting to run everyone else's department, but such has not been the case. I am certain not unduly anxious to be 'boss' of the situation, and with regard to the architect, Mr. Carrothers, there has existed always, and still exists, the utmost harmony between us."

From recent accounts the outsider might almost believe that we were in a constant turmoil of excitement, but everything is functioning smoothly as usual. The Carrothers situation, however, wishes to be insured that he does not exceed such financial approval as is made for his department. Up to the present time he has had no information with the St. Thomas police, and on making inquiries he found that the grip and its valuable contents intact had been found. He was also told that the police in St. Thomas were holding four suspected pickpockets, one of whom had been found with a wallet containing a large sum of money in his possession. On receiving this information Mr. Mark left immediately for St. Thomas to see if he could identify the prisoner.

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THE WEATHER

LOCAL TEMPERATURES.

Following are the highest and lowest temperatures recorded in London during the 24 hours previous to 8 o'clock last night: Highest, 100.5; lowest, 66.

The official temperatures for the 12 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were: Highest, 85; lowest, 69.

TOMORROW — SLIGHTLY COOLER.

Toronto, July 5.—8 a.m. Forecasts.

Light winds; fair today and Wednesday, with stationary or slightly lower temperature.

Temperatures.

The highest and lowest temperatures during the 24 hours previous to 8 a.m. today were:

Stations. High. Low. Weather.

Victoria. 84. 50. Fair.

Calgary. 84. 50. Fair.

Edmonton. 84. 50. Fair.

Winnipeg. 84. 50. Fair.

Regina. 84. 50. Fair.

Saskatoon. 84. 50. Fair.

Brandon. 84. 50. Fair.

Weyburn. 84. 50. Fair.

Swift Current. 84. 50. Fair.

Yorkton. 84. 50. Fair.

North Battleford. 84. 50. Fair.

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