

Trouble in Families

John Salvini and Mrs. Billi Arrested by Detective Perdue

A Theft Charge Being the Basis of the Runaways'

John Salvini, a typical representative of sunny Italy, and Mrs. Margharita Billi, also a descendant of the land of the Romans, occupied apartments at the Victoria city police station last night—Salvini in one of the common cells on the ground floor; Mrs. Billi in more comfortable quarters above. Little Alfred Billi, the bright-eyed three-year-old child of the woman prisoner sat (until sleep closed his tired eyes) on a chair

out in the upper corridor, munched candy, and wondered what it all meant—the strange men with the blue clothes and many buttons, the little dark rooms with the thick, thick doors, and the ugly bars across the corridor windows.

Neither the police nor their prisoners could enlighten the baby questioner very fully, although the Innocence of Mr. Salvin and Mrs. Billi may have been to a considerable extent superficial. All that the police know about the matter is that they were requested to arrest the pair. Chief of Police Crossan telegraphing from Nannette, who held a warrant and would send a constable to arrest her, was a sensation of all parties concerned. It was

Detective George M. Perdue who made the arrest, meeting the man, the woman and the child at the E. & N. railway depot on the arrival of the train from Nanaimo, and immediately escorting them to police headquarters, where they were locked up.

Then he wired to Chief Crossan for particulars of the charge and received the reply: "Stealing one hundred and twenty dollars"—presumably Bill's money.

Salvini certainly has it not, for he was carefully searched as soon as he reached the station, with a disclosure of just \$16.65.

Mrs. Billi declares that she has only a

It was only last night when one of the Colonist staff talked with her that she learned of the theft charge—she had formed the opinion that the arrest was in consequence of her being found in Salvini's company. The theft charge has from her an immediate, indignant and somewhat scornful denial.

"Bill's money!" she said. "Bill's? Hundred an' twenty dollar, you say? Why,

the farm by Nanase. May 1940
the law being set in motion. The
notes her to return to him. "They
won't get along well together. They
are all the time." May 1940
ing so till a month or two ago, when
Bill's great an undertaking not to be
the giving of his household. May 1940
second separate took place. Mrs. May 1940
until her time for the future should
matured.
the place of this more recent separa-
tion, she says, Bill told her if he had
he would give it to her to stand on

His plan when formed was to come to Victoria and get work, she says—staying at the home of a friend, and then going to tell Bill of this intention when he called upon her last Sunday; and she also assured him that she would not go to work, but to him as they "never could get along" together, and he should know it. When he took the train, she says morning, Bill came down to the depot and waved a farewell good humoredly through the window as the cars started. Then when she saw the train was gone, she said, "though doing no wrong." Otherwise she would have spent the night at the Anselmi's, and she would have stayed there, she says, if he were looking for work to do. Falling to sleep in employment here it had been her intention to go to the States or France, or Italy, possibly Black Diamond.

It was to this latter place that Salvini, who had been rudely interrupted by his trip, had been taken. He had been in the restaurant business there some times during the war. Besides, he hoped to get work in the mines, and go back to Namanto three or four months later.

As to the one hundred and twenty dollars, Salvini professed utter and profound ignorance. He said that he had never seen the money, and that statements were required to convince him that it was supposed to be Bill's money.

When the matter had been made clear to him, Salvini said that he had been glad to hear that he had been back, but that he had heard the news too late to see him. He said that he had heard that Bill had been hurt and that he had been in the hospital.

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Further, Salvini utterly repudiated any intention or desire to take Mrs. Bill.

[illegible]

before admiring friends, "I knew as soon as I came in there was folks visitin' here."

"Did you, darling?" said the fond mother.

"Tryin' to fix him with her eye; 'how did you know?"

"Oh, you had your company voice on."—
Tif-Bits.

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