

C. T. Smith Cleared on Serious Charge in Criminal Court

Smith and Marie Stone Charged With Adultery; Smith Wins Without Introduction of Evidence

Marie Stone Was Not Placed on Trial

(Staff Correspondent of the Gazette) Wentworth, Jan. 24.—G. T. Smith, Stoneville and Maydam ball player, was acquitted on a charge of fornication and adultery in Superior Court today. Smith and Marie Stone were charged jointly in the indictment issued on complaint of Sgt. Stone, former husband of Marie Stone, who was Miss Marie Newberry before her marriage to Mr. Stone.

Smith and Marie Stone had been seen together a number of times. It was shown that Mrs. Stone had taken Smith riding in her car a number of times. It was said that at one time she called for Smith near or at Stone's store; that Smith boast of his relations with her; that on one occasion Smith was at the Stone home when Mr. Stone came home and finding him there, fired a pistol shot at him, which took effect. Smith was said to have went to Roanoke after that, returning to this State about the time officers were sent there for him. This was about twelve or fifteen months after the shooting affray at Stone's.

There was no direct testimony to sustain the charge. The nearest approach to it, was the testimony of two witnesses who had said that Smith had publicly stated, or boasted about his relations with her. Mrs. Stone was not on trial and her side of the story was not revealed. It was said by Stoneville people outside the courtroom that Mrs. Stone has married again and is living happily in Reno, Nevada.

Mr. Glidewell, one of Mr. Smith's attorneys, who always fights like a bulldog, insisted the question of the operation of the statutes of limitation be a great issue of the evidence. He argued that the date in which the complaint was filed. This may have been the turning point for the jury in acquitting. For the jury came into court and asked for additional instructions along that line.

MILD WINTER DRIVES NOMADIC BIRD LIFE INTO STRANGE PATHS

Boston, Jan. 24.—The combination of an unusually dry summer and early autumn and an uncommon and in some cases disastrous conditions for the wild life of New England and eastern Canada. Edward Howe Forbush, director of the division of ornithology of the Massachusetts State department of agriculture, in a summary of early winter bird movements in New England, says that the feathered friends of man are facing a serious food shortage.

FANE REGRET LOSS OF MATTHEWS TO BIG LEAGUE

(By Associated Press) New York, Jan. 23.—Major league baseball has witnessed with regret the passing from American League ranks of "Spanky" Matthews, outfielder sent by the Athletics to Milwaukee in the American Association in a deal including Al Simmons to the Philadelphia club. Matthews proved the most colorful player in Connie Mack's line-up last season. He became a sensation overnight, and his great fielding and shrewd hitting played a prominent part in the early and mid-season sport which carried the Mackmen well up in the first division and, for a time, caused them to be considered as serious pennant contenders.

A penchant for playing to the crowd and the resentment of his fans were some of the reasons, it is said, why he was not held responsible for his own undoing. Matthews' sensational play was marred by disagreements with Connie Mack, Philadelphia manager, who refused to have signed in new terms, reported to be in line for the minors.

Franklin Draws 6 Months Sentence in Superior Court

(Staff Correspondent of the Gazette) Wentworth, Jan. 24.—This morning when the case of B. R. Franklin, for murder and speeding was called, the court was notified that the mother of Mr. Claybrook, one of the jurymen, died last night. Mr. Claybrook was excused from duty. The attorneys for the State and the defendant, after a conference, agreed upon a sentence of six months in jail, and Judge Bryson passed sentence accordingly.

Franklin has been in jail four months awaiting trial.

Wentworth, Jan. 24.—State vs. B. R. Franklin, calendar, No. 7-8, came on for trial before Judge T. B. Bryson and jury in criminal court here today. Franklin is known as the barber who worked in Strong's barber shop, on Washington Street, Leaksville.

When the case was called the day before, the defense was not ready for trial because of the absence of an important witness, Tom Jeffries, who was in the car with Franklin when the accident occurred on Church Street, Spray, resulting in the death of Sadie Saunders, for whose death Franklin was indicted for murder and speeding.

Solicitor Graves, for the State, announced that he would not ask for more than a verdict of second-degree murder, or manslaughter. It appears that on July 2, 1921, Franklin went to a ball game at the Leaksville Ball Park. After the game, Tom Jeffries and Sam Redman asked Franklin if they could ride with him. Franklin consented and they started west until they reached Church Street. Franklin stated that he had never seen Jeffries and Redman until this time. Jeffries sat in the front seat, Redman in the back seat. On the way to Church Street, Jeffries swore, Redman had cautioned Franklin about the speed limit.

The State placed a Mrs. Byer on the stand as their first witness. She told about seeing the car coming east on Church Street as she was going west. She said the car was going very fast and it went by with three men. Mrs. Byer told about looking around after the car had passed her, and of going to the spot where the car struck the child, stating that the child died a few minutes afterwards. She told about a truck on the north side of the street, and a little footbridge across the ditch on the south side of Church Street. She also indicated where she was when the car passed, where the child was when the car struck it, and where the car stopped after striking the child. She testified that she pointed out these places to J. S. Trogdon, Civil Engineer who two or three days later made a blue print of that section of Church Street.

Mr. Trogdon was then called on the stand and produced the blueprint. After explaining the distances, width of the street, the grade, etc., Mr. Graves asked him if he would make a drawing on the courthouse floor during the noon recess. He did so.

After the Court reconvened Trogdon again took the stand and explained the floor drawing that he had made. From where the child was struck to the east side of the Holly house where the car stopped, the distance was about seventy feet. From the Holly house to where the child was crossing the street when the car ran into her, was given as eighteen feet.

A number of other State witnesses who were eye-witnesses to the affair, told about the great speed of the car. A Mr. Noels stated he thought it must have been going at forty miles an hour. Five or six others told of seeing the accident, there being no material difference in their testimonies. As to the Defense Franklin took the stand as the first witness for the defense. He swore that he did not believe his car was going over eighteen or twenty miles an hour; that he did not see the child until she was in front of his car; that he was going east on Church Street, meeting a two-horn wagon just as it passed between his car and the truck; that it was then the child came from behind the wagon and struck him in front of his car. He said he did not know how he happened to see

British Railway Strike Continues Much Longer

(By Associated Press) London, Jan. 24.—The proposed conference between railway managers and engineers for the discussion of issues involved in the present strike has fallen through. The secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen announced he "regretted" that the strike must continue.

MRS. AUSTIN ENTERTAINS PHILATHEA CLASS

Mrs. N. B. Austin delightfully entertained the Philathea class of the Baptist Church, on Tuesday night at her home, on Boons Road.

The subject for the evening was "Service," and an entertaining program having been arranged by Mrs. Hedrick and Mrs. Whit was rendered as follows: Song by the class. Scripture reading by Mrs. Hedrick. Prayer by Mrs. Ivie. Readings by Mrs. Darlington, Mrs. Claude Jones and Mrs. Matlock. Poem, "The Hidden Christ," by Mrs. Foster.

Reading by Mrs. P. P. Wilson. Song by the class. Reading by Mrs. Treadway. Solo by Mrs. Kelly. Reading by Mrs. Wimbush. An inspiring talk was given by Mrs. Ivie, teacher of the class. Closing prayer by Mrs. Barksdale. At the conclusion of the program, Mrs. Austin, assisted by her daughter, Miss Katharine, served sandwiches, pickles, cake, moulded jello with whipped cream and cherries, coffee and mints to the members of the class and a few invited guests.

PILOTS PREPARE FOR SPEED BOAT RACES

(By Associated Press) Miami, Fla., Jan. 24.—Entries already have begun to come in for the speed boat regatta to be held at Miami and Miami Beach March 7 and 8, and at Havana March 16 and 17, 1924. C. F. Chapman, secretary of the American Power Boat Association, in announcing the list of entrants, reveals the fact that Gar Wood, of Detroit, will not compete this season. His physicians have ordered him not to race.

LOOKING FOR A HOME

(By Associated Press) Manila, Jan. 23.—The insular legislature is house hunting. An imposing edifice has been started for its use but the contractor ran out of funds and the legislative home, pending the sale of building bonds to finance further construction, remains an uninhabitable pile of gray concrete and rusty iron. In the meantime the legislature has been renting a spacious building which belongs to the City of Manila. This building rejoices in the title of "The Ayuntamiento," and the City of Manila heretofore has collected an annual rent of 1,000,000 pesos from the insular government. But last year the legislature voted to give the city only \$25,000 as rent for the building. Now the city authorities say the city treasury is hard up also. The city wants the million pesos rent, including back rent, or it wants possession of the building. The city proposes to turn the Ayuntamiento into a school building and cut down the city's annual rents for school buildings scattered about the city.

The legislature hasn't the million pesos, and it has no place to go if expected. And there the matter rests. He did not know if he applied the brakes, as he should. In explanation of being absent from the State when his case was called at the last court, he said he got a letter from his mother at Huntsville, Ala., and he took his wife with him and went to his mother. He then went to Nashville, Tenn., and went to work in a barber shop there, where he was when his bondsmen sent for him. His wife returned home and was to let him know when court was to convene. He said that it would not be before October.

On cross-examination he stated that he was not drinking; did not have a drink that day or week. That he would not have killed the child for all of Spray. Tom Jeffries corroborated his evidence in all essential parts. They had not been drinking on the ball grounds, or elsewhere. Sam Redman was not in court.

A number of character witnesses were called who testified to Franklin's reputation, all of them declaring it was good. The evidence was all in before time for adjournment and Mr. Glidewell started his argument for the defense, speaking about fifteen minutes. Atorneys in the case are P. W. Glidewell, of Leaksville, and A. W. Dunn, of Hillsboro. S. Foster Graves is the State's attorney.

Expect Recognition of Soviet Government in England Soon

(By Associated Press) London, Jan. 24.—Prime Minister MacDonald's recent denunciation of the "Pompa folla" of withholding full recognition of soviet Russia, has prepared everybody for early action by the new government in that direction and it is stated unofficially that James O'Grady, a member of parliament, is already being considered for the position of British Ambassador to Moscow.

LEAKSVILLE HIGH DEFEATS DANVILLE

Last night at the Central "Y" the Leaksville High boys defeated the Danville High boys, 51 to 12.

The game started very slow as not many goals were made. The Leaksville boys did fine pass work. The first half ended in a score of 12 to 4 in favor of Leaksville.

In the second half the game started fast, as Leaksville begin to pile up their score.

Field goals for Leaksville: Reynolds 6, Chambers 3, Baughn 2, Barksdale 8, Hamlet 4, Crutch 2, Emery 1, Jones 1, Martin 1. Foul goals: Reynolds 1, Baughn 1, Barksdale 2, and Emory 1.

Field goals for Danville: Cook 1, Holt 1, W. McCubbin 2, Kushner 1. Foul goals: Cook 2.

You should come out and cheer for your home team and watch them make good.

SIXPENCE A MEASURE A STANDARD PRICE FOR DANCING COMPANION

(By Associated Press) London, Jan. 23.—Greater London is going dance crazy. The whole city, from its foggy heart to its standardized suburbs, abounds with public dance halls, an supposedly private dance clubs, where anybody with a clean shave and evening clothes can pay the price and become a member on a moment's notice.

Hammermith, which begins where the fashionable West End ends, is perhaps the greatest rendezvous in the world for dancers who are middle class but happy. Its "Palais de Dance" has provided rooms for hundreds of youngsters nightly for years, and now a few blocks away at Olympia there has been opened "the biggest dance floor in the world." It is big enough to keep 2,000 couples off one another's feet simultaneously. The opening night 5,000 people rushed in before 9 o'clock and the doors had to be shut on 1,500 more men and maids and matrons who wanted to come in out of the mist.

Just north of the theatre district, where there are many dancing clubs for those who can ignore the expense and do not mind having their style cramped by encroaching tables adorned with champagne bottle, there is a dance club with several thousand members. Every night, Sundays as well as week-days, it is crowded. Tea-time is dancing time in the West End for hundreds who have nothing else to do with their afternoons, and in many of the hotels the afternoon dancers have hardly left when the night crowd begins to arrive.

East of the East End dance clubs are springing up on almost as large a scale as west of the West End. The inhabitants of East Ham will soon have a ballroom for 800 couples, and Cricklewood already has a similar place to satisfy its rhythmic impulses. So has Wileton and Wilsden Green and many others.

About nine-tenths of all the times danced to in these private and public ballrooms of London come here from America. Usually it takes several months for a fox-trot or blues to make the voyage but, at that, London can laugh at the Continental capitals, for in some of them the dance orchestras still satisfy the patrons with "Anderson's Ragtime Band," while every flapper in England has known about the scarcity of bananas for months. American musicians make up most of the better known dance orchestras, for somehow Europeans have never learned to play jazz music well enough to satisfy the discriminating.

It is not necessary to take a girl to most of London's dance halls in order to dance. Nearly all of them have their own "shimmy sirens"; profession partners they call themselves. One simply walks over to an enclosure ornamented by these young women, picks out the partner one wants; dances with her, and when the music stops she gets her sixpence and returns to her enclosure. Such haired dancing men are available to women patrons who want partners at same price, half a shilling a dance.

Weather

Cloudy on the coast and rain or snow in the interior Thursday, Friday.

Ford Motor Co. Turned Out Two Million Cars 1923

Detroit, Jan. 24.—The Ford Motor Company made 2,200,682 automobiles, trucks and tractors in 1923; 775,059 more than in any previous year, according to production figures announced today.

The figures were coupled with the announcement that the company expects to exceed this in 1924, and that it plans to start early this spring on its program of 10,000 cars daily.

THREE KILLED DURING RELIGIOUS FESTIVITIES

(By Associated Press) Manila, Jan. 24.—One constabulary soldier and two fanatics were killed in a clash on Buacasin, off the coast of Mindanao where members of the religious society of Coturum have been causing trouble according to advices received from Surigao.

MANY COLLEGES NOW TEACH REAL ESTATE

(By Associated Press) Chicago, Jan. 24.—The growing importance of real estate as a vocation is evidenced in the establishment of real estate courses and curriculums in leading universities and colleges, many of them pointed toward degrees, declares the National Association of Real Estate Boards here, which has just completed a survey.

Y. W. A. MEETING

The Young Woman's Auxiliary of the First Baptist Church held its regular meeting last Sunday afternoon. The program was as follows: Subject—"Mexico."

Bible reading and prayer. Readings: "The Story of the Mexican Flag," by Miss Lottie Wade.

"Difficulties in Making Christian 'Missions in Mexico,'" by Miss Inez Wade.

"Missions in Mexico," by Miss Florence Flanagan.

"Christian Heroes," by the leader.

"Education in Mexico," by Miss Katherine Austin.

"Opportunity in Mexico," by Miss Mildred Osborne.

"Out of Darkness Into Light," by Miss Kate Hedrick.

After the program the officers for the New Year were elected as follows: President, Miss Hayze.

Vice-President, Miss Katherine Austin.

Secretary, Miss Mildred Osborne.

Treasurer, Miss Lottie Wade.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

BLIND MOTHER LOVE

(By Wickes Wamboldt) We had a Jersey cow once. She was a very rational creature as cows go except when she had a young calf. She was just as unmanageable then as she was tractable at other times.

I remember once her calf was sick. A storm came up and it was necessary to move the little animal to shelter. It took two men to keep off the old cow while a third put the calf where the storm would not kill it. A naturalist said he had a time once keeping an old mother bear from tearing him to pieces while he rescued her little cub from a cleft in the rocks where it had fallen and was caught.

We quite rightly excuse the mother cow and the mother bear on the ground that dumb animals have no better sense. But there is many a human mother whose senseless maneuvers parallel those of the mother cow and the mother bear. I knew of a mother, for instance, who refused to have her children's teeth fixed because it would hurt. She was told by her physician that if the first teeth were not filled and retained until the second teeth were ready to come, a child's jaw would not develop properly. But the children objected, so she let their teeth go, jaw or no jaw.

Mellon Proposal for Revision of Income Taxes Been Tabled

Ways and Means Committee Proceeds to Miscellaneous Tax Rates

Motor Output in U. S. in 1923 Highest Ever

(By Associated Press) Washington, Jan. 24.—The output of motor vehicles in the United States during 1923 was placed in the commerce department announcement as a total of 3,638,599 passenger automobiles and 376,257 trucks.

NET INCOME ON OFFICE BUILDINGS AVERAGES OVER EIGHT PER CENT

(By Associated Press) Chicago, Jan. 23.—The average office building in the United States has a population of 1,054 and is a little more than eleven stories high, according to a survey made by the accounting and exchange committee of the National Association of Building Owners and Managers.

Office buildings in themselves were shown to be little cities with fire departments, police forces, transportation systems, cleaning departments, lighting systems, sewers, water departments and other facilities similar to those of modern cities. The average taxable valuation is \$9.94 a square foot of floor space, which means a valuation on the building averaging more than \$1,000,000. The average net return to the owner is a little under \$85,000 a year.

DECLARE COMMUNISM MAY DEVELOP INTO A RELIGIOUS DOCTRINE

(By Associated Press) Moscow, Jan. 23.—Rituals and ceremonies for christenings, marriages and funerals are gradually creeping into the life of the Russian communists, and some students of Russian affairs see in this tendency a drifting of Communism into what they say it inevitably must become, a religion.

Leon Trotsky, the Soviet war commissar, wrote some months ago that Communism must provide something to take the place of church ceremonies. These had held on the people, and were enjoyed. The people, he said, would not be content with marriage bare of ceremony. Some weeks ago the first public Communist christening occurred in a big Moscow theater. The tiny baby girl of a young working couple was held up in the arms of N. Bokharin, a communist leader, and solemnly dedicated to the service of Communism.

Items Right Off the Telegraph Wires

(By Associated Press) Washington, Jan. 24.—W. S. Hill, banker and farmer, of Michell, S. D., has been selected by President Coolidge as a representative of the interior states on the shipping board.

(By Associated Press) Philadelphia, Jan. 24.—Mexican naval officers under a commission from the Obregon government have arrived in Philadelphia to take south a vessel for use in the present trouble in Mexico. The Mexican consulate admitted that men arrived today and some of them were later found at a hotel but strict secrecy was observed by all of them.

(By Associated Press) Indianapolis, Jan. 24.—Insurgents within ranks of United Mine Workers of America renewed their attacks on President Lewis when its biennial convention was reconvened and credentials committee reported in favor of unseating Joseph Chiccolini, of Pennsylvania. The charge was made before a committee by the secretary-treasurer of the district that Chiccolini is an officer in a dual organization, the "progressive mine workers." Amid considerable confusion three standing votes were taken. After the third, Lewis declared the report adopted.

(By Associated Press) Washington, Jan. 24.—A bill designed to stimulate voluntary consolidations of railroads into a limited number of systems with competition preserved as fully as possible was introduced by Senator Cummins, of Iowa, ranking Republican member of the Interstate Commerce Committee and one of the authors of the present transportation act.

Propose Working Out a Non-Partisan Bill

(By Associated Press) Washington, Jan. 24.—The House Ways and Means committee proceeded to the consideration of miscellaneous tax rates, leaving the fate of the Mellon proposal for revision of income taxes undetermined; while Democratic members await definite terms for a compromise which they suggested yesterday when Chairman Green proposed that the committee work out a nonpartisan bill.

MRS. HOLMES ENTERTAINS THE NEW CLUB

Mrs. J. E. Holmes, president of the new club in town, called the ladies together Wednesday afternoon for a business meeting. At this time the name of the new organization was decided upon and will be known as "Idlewild," the name of the home of the founder of the club, Mrs. D. F. King. After transacting all business Mrs. Holmes assisted by Mrs. Luther Hodges served a salad course.

DECLARES MOVIES HARMFUL TO CHILDREN OF TENDER YEARS

(By Associated Press) Stockholm, Jan. 23.—Studying the effect of moving pictures upon the young particularly under 10 years of age, Dr. David Lund, of the prisons board, has reached among others the following conclusions: That the average movie drama is harmful to the young child. They can not distinguish between fact and fancy on the screen. Their imaginations are confused, and they are likely to mistake falsehood for truth. The distortion of reality and the frequent discrepancy between cause and effect tend to warp the child's reasoning power; and the spurious emotions in the average photoplay are disturbing to the soul-life of the child. Dr. Lund approves of educational films, however, and believes, also, that many of the fairy tale films are valuable for children.

Theatres

COLONIAL TONIGHT Corrine Griffith in "Woman's Sacrifice," is one of the rare stories of the great Northwest. You will be the loser if you fail to see this one.

AT THE BOULEVARD TONIGHT The Spanish Dancer—Here's Pola Negri in the kind of character part that made her famous. In an American-made production a thousand times bigger than all her other pictures combined.

You won't know what real screen entertainment is 'till you've seen vital, flashing La Belle Negri as a Gypsy dancing girl in this romantic melodrama of seventeenth century Spain—a Paramount Picture made to the highest known standard without regard to cost.

BOULEVARD FRIDAY

One of the finest screen dramas of the current picture season is said to be George Melford's Paramount production of "The Light That Failed" based on Rudyard Kipling's celebrated story. Jacqueline Logan, Percy Marmont, Sigrid Holmquist and David Torrence are featured. The story deals with Dick Helder and Maisie Wells, two children in England who love each other. When they reach their majority, Helder is a failure as an artist in Port Said and Maisie lives in a land of dreams in England. Although he loves Maisie Wells, played by Sigrid Holmquist, Dick, played by Percy Marmont, will not return to England. An uprising among the tribesmen in the Sudan gives Dick an opportunity to send home a series of sketches which made him famous.

Returning to England after the campaign, Dick discovers he is a great figure in art circles. He finds the girl he loves and is on the eve of doing something really worth while in art when his eye-sight fails as the result of wounds received in Egypt. The effect of Dick's blindness ramifies through the lives of several persons. The story shows how each meet the situation which has developed. The action of the picture includes battle scenes in the Egyptian desert, night life in Port Said and many interesting events in London.