

ASTORS DIVORCED BIG STRIKE NOW ON

FINAL DECREE MADE BY JUSTICE MILLS.

Terms of Settlement Said To Be \$300,000 a Year—Judgment Not Sealed.

By the terms of a final decree of divorce which Justice Mills, in the Supreme Court, at White Plains, granted yesterday to Mrs. Ava Willing Astor from her husband, Colonel John Jacob Astor, Mrs. Astor gets the custody of their daughter, Ava Alice Muriel, while Colonel Astor retains their son, William Vincent.

Justice Mills' order was filed in the County Clerk's office at Poughkeepsie in the afternoon. The order says regarding the custody of the children:

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that the custody of William Vincent Astor, the son of the parties, be and the same hereby is awarded to the defendant, but the plaintiff shall be permitted to see him at all reasonable times and to consult and advise as to her education, and to consult and advise as to his education, and that he, the said William Vincent Astor, shall be permitted to visit and remain with the plaintiff for some definite period of at least one month in each year, and that the custody of Ava Alice Muriel Astor, the daughter of the parties, be and the same hereby is awarded to the plaintiff, but the defendant shall be permitted to see her at all reasonable times and to consult and advise as to her education, and she, the said Ava Alice Muriel Astor, shall be permitted to visit the defendant from time to time.

By the terms of the decree Mrs. Astor may marry again during the lifetime of the defendant, but the defendant shall not marry again until the death of the plaintiff, unless this court shall in this respect modify this judgment.

Crowd in Courtroom. The courtroom was crowded with spectators, as many thought that Mrs. Astor might be there, not knowing that she is in Europe.

It was the fourth case on the calendar of the Special Term, which Judge Mills convened at 10 o'clock. At 10:15 o'clock Hugh Bayne, of the firm of Strong & Cadwalader, moved for the confirmation of the interlocutory decree which Judge Mills granted to Mrs. Astor at New City, in Rockland County, on November 8. Mr. Bayne told the court that he had an affidavit from a clerk in his office and the clerk of Dutchess County that an interlocutory decree had been granted on November 8 and filed in the Dutchess County Clerk's office.

He went on to say that the necessary three months which must elapse before a final judgment could be granted expired on February 10, and that the thirty days extra allowed by statute thereafter applied to the final decree must be supplied by the court up until March 12. He then moved for a final decree, and said that a notice of the motion, together with a copy of the form of the order, had been served on the defendant's attorneys.

Commodore Lewis Cass Ledyard, representing Colonel Astor, said that the proposed form of final decree conformed with the provisions of the final judgment. The papers were then handed to Judge Mills, and the lawyer for Mrs. Astor expected that he would sign them immediately, but instead he said he would look them over and sign them before he left the bench.

An hour later Justice Mills affixed his signature and gave the final decree to Mr. Bayne, who went at once to Poughkeepsie to file the judgment.

Secrecy About Alimony. There was a surprise for the lawyers when they examined the judgment, as Justice Mills had determined there should be no more secrecy about the case. He indorsed on the paper these words: "The Clerk of Dutchess County is hereby ordered not to seal the above final judgment."

The lawyers connected with the case would not say a word about the settlement which Colonel Astor had made with his wife. Commodore Ledyard said: "I don't talk about private affairs. If you had any private secrets you wouldn't reveal them, would you?" Colonel Astor and Miss Ava Willing were married in Philadelphia on February 17, 1891. William Vincent Astor was born on November 15 of that year and Ava Alice Muriel Astor on July 7, 1892. Mrs. Astor's intention to sue for a divorce became definitely known in October, 1907. It is not known what was the basis for the action, as the papers were ordered sealed when the interlocutory decree was granted.

MORE MONEY FOR MRS. GOLDING Allowance for Doctors' Fees, but No Mere Alimony.

Justice Gerard granted yesterday to Mrs. Mabel C. Golding, wife of John N. Golding, the well known real estate man whom she is suing for a separation, an additional sum of \$500 and an allowance of not more than \$2,000 for medical attendance for herself and children. The court denied Mrs. Golding's application for an increase of alimony from \$500 to \$1,000 a month.

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and inconvenience. Word was received at headquarters that practically all drivers of bakery wagons, milk wagons and teamsters of fruit and produce dealers would stand by the order to the letter, threatening a food famine. This union, it is claimed, comprises at least 75 per cent of all drivers in the city. These drivers, after serving their customers to-morrow morning, will quit work; it is stated, and not return until the general strike is called off.

Word was also received at headquarters that six hundred waiters stopped work at midnight. The waiters' union is strong in this city, its members being employed in all of the leading hotels and restaurants. This body of men had notified their employers of their intention and the latter are doing all in their power to secure competent substitutes.

If the reports which are being received at the strike headquarters are correct, the Philadelphia city authorities have greatly underestimated the proportions of the strike. It was stated by Director of Public Safety Clay late this afternoon that he had ascertained by a careful canvass that not more than thirty thousand union workmen would respond to the general order, but this estimate falls 50 per cent below the number that has already stopped work, according to union figures.

The city authorities announce that they are ready for trouble. They have learned much during the last two weeks in the handling of unruly crowds, and Director Clay says he is confident the police department can handle the situation if any trouble starts. The police force has been recruited to six thousand men.

The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company late this afternoon issued its reply to the strikers' proposition to arbitrate, in the form of an ultimatum, proposing a committee of nine employees to take up the grievance of the men. The strikers are not recognized unless they return to work.

The statement, after offering to take back the men up to midnight, March 7—that is, those the company had room for—offered methods of treating with the employees, as follows: That a committee of nine employees be selected, three from those re-employed from the men now on strike, three from those who have remained in the service of the company during the strike and these six to select three more from the whole body of employees. This proposition was rejected by the strikers.

C. F. U. SENDS SYMPATHY. Will Also Give Financial Support to Philadelphia Strikers.

The members of the Central Federated Union here sent a telegraph dispatch to the strikers in Philadelphia last night, assuring them of their united moral and financial support. The dispatch was sent through the interference among the different labor organizations in this city, and is said to express the sentiment of every labor union here.

Harry De Vaux, president of the Actors' National Protective Union, also issued a statement in which he said that the members of his union would stand themselves on the side of the strikers in Philadelphia. This means that every moving picture theatre in the Pennsylvania city will be affected should the order for a strike go into effect.

ALDRICH ON FINANCE. Hopes to See World's Financial Centre Here.

Providence, March 5.—"I hope to live to see New York, Boston or Philadelphia the financial centre of the world," Senator Nelson W. Aldrich, chairman of the National Monetary Commission, told an audience of bankers and professional men, representing an aggregate wealth of \$30,000,000 here tonight, in an address before the Economic Club.

"From Mexico to Cape Horn," he said, "there are great nations that ought to be allied to us. You cannot imagine the possibilities of trade in the Orient and in re-awakened China. But we can never trade successfully with them until the United States, by virtue of its great resources, becomes the financial centre of the world."

Senator Aldrich throughout his speech let it be inferred that he strongly favored a central bank. He predicted that a settlement of the question of a financial system for this country at large would be a compromise between the advocates of the various plans.

"The worst blow to the prestige of the United States would come if we admitted that we could not settle this question without the influence of politics," he added.

FIRE DESTROYS STOCK. Lofts Occupied by Shirt Company and Tailors' Supply Firm. Fire which destroyed \$10,000 worth of stock and fixtures in the loft occupied by the Hub Shirt Company on the second floor of the five-story building at No. 49 Lispenard street caused firemen almost an hour of hard work last night before it was brought under control.

NEW BILLS AT ALBANY Merritt Measure Provides \$27,000 for Telephone Inquiry.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.] Albany, March 4.—An additional appropriation of \$27,000 for payment of the expenses of the legislative committee investigating the question of extending the jurisdiction of the Public Service commissions to telephone and telegraphs is provided in a bill introduced to-day in the Assembly by the majority leader, Mr. Merritt. The bill creating the committee appropriated only \$10,000. The committee will hold several more hearings, either in New York, or in this city, and while there is no provision in the original bill as to when it shall make its final report, it is the hope of the members to report to the present Legislature. The work of the committee has been delayed because of the Allds investigation, its chairman being Senator Davis, who is the presiding officer in the investigation.

A concurrent resolution introduced by Assemblyman Murray provides that proposed constitutional amendments shall be adopted by both houses of the Legislature only after receiving a two-thirds vote instead of a majority, as under the present constitutional provision.

A bill by Assemblyman Murray would require the Secretary of State to include in the general notice of elections an abstract containing a concise statement of the meaning and purpose and legal effect of constitutional amendments and other proposals to be submitted to the people.

Senator Newcomb at Albany would require the Assembly to amend the law relating to the sale of land in New York City, to the Boulevard Lafayette.

REAPING PENALTY. Expelled Columbia Student Ends with Forgery.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.] Kansas City, Mo., March 4.—It took Frank R. Hiller, nineteen years old, but three months to spend \$3,000 and get himself expelled from Columbia University, New York. The small fortune was left him by his grandfather when he was a child. A year ago he induced his uncle, Milton Dreyfus, of Mine Bluff, Ark., who is also his guardian, to put the money in a bank to his credit. A round of pleasure in New York ended in his expulsion from Columbia.

W. A. CLARK LOSES CASE. Assessment of Franchise Tax on Realty Company Upheld.

COBB'S MEN ACTIVE WAINWRIGHT TALKS.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.] Albany, March 4.—To head off manifestations of public disapproval of Senator George H. Cobb because he is supported by the Woodruff-Barnes-Ward combination for temporary president of the Senate, the Cobb men are working hard to show that their candidate is as good a Hughes man as his opponent, Senator Davis, of Buffalo. They have been driven to this by scores of telegrams and letters which have been sent to some of the less vigorous Cobb Senators urging them to support only a Hughes man for leader.

Senator J. Mayhew Wainwright, who comes from National Committeeman Ward's ballwick and is one of the most active Cobb supporters, today declared that Senator Cobb on his record was a better Hughes man than the Buffalo Senator. He said: "If it is to be considered that the attitudes of Governor Davis and Cobb upon measures advocated by Governor Hughes reflect upon their respective claims with regard to progressive legislation, I think that their attitudes should be closely scrutinized. Senator Cobb has been, I believe, a more consistent supporter of the Davis, if that is the issue. With the exception perhaps of the Hinman-Green bill, he has supported all the Governor's recommendations, as I understand it. As an exponent of the right kind of political reform, I feel confident that Senator Cobb stands far ahead of the people as temporary president of the Senate as his opponent for that office. He is a man of strong character and fine ability."

Little Choice Personally. This statement undoubtedly is true and just and there is very little choice between the two men personally. The point made by the Davis men is that Senator Davis in his candidacy for leader is committed to the Hughes policies, his political leader is committed to them in general, and the men who are supporting him in the Senate are supporting him because of Governor Davis. Senator Cobb, on the other hand, was picked up by Messrs. Woodruff and Barnes, it is said, on the assumption that he, a clean, able man, could be elected by their political influence and would then be subservient to them politically. This is the organization of the Senate as they have on the Assembly through Speaker Wadsworth.

In this line of reasoning they probably did not do Senator Cobb an injustice, but the fact remains that most of his support in the Senate has come from the Woodruff-Barnes-Ward combination. A few personal friends, Holden, of Syracuse, was at first a Davis man, but Francis Hendricks and Ray B. Smith are understood to have switched him to Cobb. Grattan, Barnes's man, is for Cobb, as are Meade and White, Aldridge's men, and all the Brookline Senators. Woodruff's men, except Senator Travis Emmons, a "race-track Republican," is Cobb's campaign manager. Allan, of Troy, Collins's man, is counted for Cobb, although on Hughes legislation he has always voted with the Governor.

Cobb Men Outgeneralled. At the recent conference the Cobb Senators numbered seventeen to the Davis side's sixteen. They were distinctly outgeneralled by the postponement of action at the time. Now a couple of them are circulating very quietly a call for another conference next week. Up to date they have not the requisite number of signatures, and they are going about their work so quietly that they have not approached one or two Senators counted for Cobb last time, who are understood to be wavering now. They say among themselves that if they do not elect Cobb very soon they will be unable to hold their men because of the protests which are coming in against the renewed activity of State Chairman Woodruff.

TAKE OUT 61 BODIES AT CHERRY. Peoria, Ill., March 4.—Richard Newnam, state mine inspector, reported by telephone to-night that sixty-one bodies of miners were brought out of the St. Paul mine, at Cherry, Ill., to-day. A few more are expected that will probably will be all the bodies that will ever be recovered. Identification is impossible.

ALLDS WINS POINT (Continued from first page.)

highway bill of 1901, which has figured so prominently in this trial. Mr. Stevens is a newspaper proprietor of Malone, N. Y. He declared that his bill was introduced solely to meet local conditions in his district. "Are you sure you did not hear of that corruption [fund in 1907]?" James W. Osborne asked Stevens.

"Yes, I'm sure," replied Stevens. The witness said he tried to get his bill out of the Rules Committee, where Allds is alleged to have killed it, and that he expected to be successful. Osborne asked Stevens if he did not know "there was treachery in the Assembly Committee on Internal Affairs and that the purpose of amending the bill there was to kill it?"

"I thought the amendment was peculiar and not made in good faith," replied the witness. Senator Allds returned to the stand at 11:39 a. m. Mr. Littleton offered in evidence an Albany savings bank book, dating from January, 1909, to December 17, 1909. Surprise was exhibited when he pointed out a deposit of \$1,500 on April 22, 1901, and asked Allds to explain it. The Senator said that the deposit represented a check from his stock brokers in New York. Osborne, however, remarked that as the money was deposited on April 22 his side could not hold that any of it was received with the alleged bribe on April 22.

Littleton then went into Allds's personal finances and his connection with corporations. Regarding a certain island in the Adirondacks, which it was supposed the "prosecution" would allege was controlled by Allds through the favor of the Forest, Fish and Game Commission, the witness explained that it was owned by the Loon Lake Club, of ten members. He was a member of this organization and his assessment was \$25.

"All the real estate I own," continued Allds, "is 120.00 acres of the Beaver River, which I purchased for \$10." He asserted that all his possessions together were worth between \$24,000 and \$25,000. Allds said that the firm of Allds & Follett, of which he was a member, received a monthly retainer from the New York Central and the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad companies for looking after the business of these companies in the vicinity of Norwich. At times his firm also represented the Ontario & Western Railroad Company. He also declared that he had done some business for the Bell Telephone Company and the United States Express Company, at Norwich; but this employment was trifling, he said, and after Governor Hughes advised the Legislature that the telephone companies should be put under the Public Service Commission and the question seemed likely to come before the Senate he had given up the

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MURDER CONVICTION UPHELD.

Executive Clemency To Be Asked for Earl Hill.

Albany, March 4.—The judgment of conviction in the case of Earl Hill, twenty-two years old, charged with the murder of Edwidge Davis, a farmer, who resided in the town of Rainbridge, Chenango County, on August 28, 1908, was affirmed to-day by the Court of Appeals. Hill, who was indicted jointly with David H. Borst, was convicted on circumstantial evidence, it having been shown that he pawned his alleged victim's watch.

It was alleged that the father encouraged him to make a confession of the crime for the purpose of securing a reward that had been offered for the apprehension of the murderer, and it was argued that before confessing Hill had not been advised as to his rights. The opinion of the court says there is nothing in the case to indicate that the father was influenced by any such unnatural motive as was ascribed to him or that Hill was in any way improperly induced to speak. The court further holds that the defendant's rights were protected during the trial.

[By Telegraph to the Tribune.] Norwich, N. Y., March 4.—Steps will be taken immediately to secure Executive clemency for Earl Hill, under sentence of death, whose appeal was denied by the Court of Appeals to-day.



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