LOVE LETTERS BRING TROUBLE TO RENO DIVORCE SALESMAN

DECREE SOUGHT BY COLBERT'S WIFE IN COURTS

Don Juan Confronted With Missives Written to Many Women Clients.

WAS AMBITIOUS LOVER

Washington Society Woman Named As Co-Respondent. Says He Admits Guilt.

By HARVEY L. COBB.

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Caught in a web of his own weaving, Edward M. Colbert, head of a Washington detective agency, serving in the capacity of Little Reno's "divorce salesman," was sued for absoute divorce yesterday by his wife, Eva M. Colbert, who alleges misconduct.

The Don Juan of Alexandria and Washington divorcedom must also answer charges Wednesday of a criminal nature, filed against him by a Washington society woman, who charges that he mortgaged her automobile.

Reveals Own Story.

The suit for divorce followed publication last Sunday of a series of love letters exchanged between Colbert and his clients.

The propensities of the Don Juan's ability to make his clients fall in love with him is revealed in a diary, written in the detective's own handwriting, covering a period of more than two years.

Most of it, however, is unfit of print, being jottings of the detective's jaunts with his women clients to nearby summer resorts, giving their names, dates and the hotels at which they stopped.

According to the suit filed by the wife for absolute divorce and alimony, Mrs. Colbert was living happily with her husband until a week ago, when she learned of her husband's alleged infidelity.

According to the wife's suit, her husband admitted his relations with the co-respondent named. The Colberts were married at Alexandria, April 12, 1915, and have no children.

So bitter has become the fight of the divorce ring to hide its unenviable record that one of the women who sought "legal" advice from Colbert complained to the Washington police more than a week ago of an attempt to "frame" her.

She had been told, she says, that unless she ceased her efforts in exposing the divorce ring she would be named co-respondent in a divorce suit.

The filing of the suit yesterday was the outcome of the report, it is declared, and an attempt on the part of members of the divorce ring to vent their spleen on those they can reach who are active in cleaning up the divorce ring.

Love letters exchanged between the gum-shoe Lothario and his clients reveal him as the irresistible lover. This would also seem to be proved by Colbert's diary, detailing the trips taken by the detective and his women clients.

One of the letters, written by one of the detective's clients, following the expose of the divorce scandal in "Little Reno" expresses "reverent thanks" that her divorce had not gone through the mill, and that she was spared the odium attached to the scandal. This letter also throws some interesting light on the divorce ring, linking up Mary L. Baggett, the Divorce Queen of "Little Reno," with the gumshoe Lothario who played upon the frailities of his women clients.

The Times presents exclusively herewith more of the love letters exchanged between Colbert and his clients. The letters follow:

"My Dear Big Boy: I open my letter with the happiest words I can say (I love you), and I think you are a great, big, wonderful boy. I venture to criticize you now that I have said you are wonderful.

"You have, as you say, the destiny of mankind in your hands. You have brains, possibilities, the viewpoint, the vigor and the courage, the ambition and the foundation of good looks; but pardon me, you do not know as yet how to make the most of your personal advantages.

"Dear boy, you will not feel hurt or offended by my telling you this, for I talk to you from my heart's gratitude and appreciation for what you have sacrificed—your wife's love—to love me.

"You have qualities that only a girl of my experience can find and appreciate. My mission is to tell you how a wayside rose can become and shall become the American Beauty, choicest and most beautiful of all flowers.

"I only pray to God if ever you are transformed into this wonderful flower I will be able to hold a permanent charm as sweetheart, wife and household manager and soulmate.

"I want to float right through the windows of your soul and become a part of your life and its these delightful things I call, love, ideals and happiness.

"I hope you can find interesting, binding qualities in me, but not until you shake away the shackles of mistakes I have made and will make clear to me just what part of my past is perplexing you.

"Dear lover, you can make me the girl you wish me to be, as you seem to have placed me in bondage and there is no escape, or desire to escape your compelling love.

"It is you dear heart that can transform my stumbling blocks to stepping stones to heaven. Feed me with thoughts, but don't treat me as one who has stepped willingly into the forbidden road.

"Address me as if I knew no wrong, address me as one all-powerful to overcome. Don't scold, blame, condemn me; treat me as a nice, clean, sweet, lovable girl, for when I am with you, lover mine (how the thought thrills me) and I say it from the bottom of my heart, I feel that you are the only man I ever knew. * * *

"I feel that I own you, I feel I am responsible for your whole welfare. I feel when you are sick, that I am responsible, even for your business.

"Now don't I think I am important—a little spitz like me, but the most valuable treasurers usually come in smallest parcels. So does passion. * * * I am struggling for freedom.

"Darling, please be specific in dealing with the errors that appear to face me in my journey out of ignorance into the realm of good.

"Your darling, ———."

Then They Quarreled.

Then the lovers quarreled and the Don Juan of divorcedom grew poetic, as follows:

"Dear ———. After you left I was thinking of the mean things I say and do to you, for which I am sincerely sorry. I thought, also, that if you and I had decided to part, the following would apply to me—

'The sun is like our present joys,
That fill life's day with light:
The moon is like past memories,
That shine upon life's night.
My sun has set with all the joy,
That once with gladness shone,
And gazing at the moon I dream
With memory all alone.'

"Lovingly,
"E. M. C."

She Answers Him.

Following the receipt of this note, the recipient, a Washington society woman, wrote her "Boy" the following confession:

"I only ask you to forgive me for all the mean things that I have said. * * * but, really, in the core of my heart I am not a bad girl. I am not the enraged, wild, crazed girl you have witnessed * * *.

"I acted so because I loved, because I lost, because I am scarred and branded * * * but think of me as the good girl you know I can be and was. I prefer you to think of me that way, rather than as * * *

"The loss of your love means ruin for me, but what was between you and me is a holy thing which I shall reverence always and when you are gone you will leave me lonely. I have only my remembrance. * * *"

Never Got Divorce.

The records of the Little Reno divorce mill show that the divorce was never granted. Then came The Times' expose of the wholesale divorce business conducted in Alexandria, and the following letter throws some interesting light on the activities of the Reno divorce ring:

"My Brown Eyed Baby—You are angry with me, I know, but after reading the Alexandria divorce scandal I just had to write you and tell you there is only one thing I am thankful for in my three years of blind love for you, and that is that I didn't let you and Mrs. Baggett talk me into getting a divorce, as you did for the two other women you took over with me that time.

"I remember how she tried to impress on me that I wouldn't have to stay there a day and that no one else ever did and that the other two got their divorce in three months.

"That was the time she mentioned to me about your other two sweethearts and that was the reason I raved, because I was overwhelmed with jealousy and you kissed me and said I was the only wife, sweetheart and soul-mate you ever wanted.

"I had to laugh at Old Lady Baggett running up and down the street with pen in one hand and that paper in the other and refusing to sign the affidavit because you owed $5 on the room rent.

"It was that trip that I learned that there was another woman, and when I looked into those brown eyes and you would tell me I was your soul mate, how little did I know it was a dream that could never come true.

"When I met you nothing else mattered for I thought nothing in the world could come between us, and how you would take me up in your arms and would kiss and love * * * for it was you who awakened in me * * *

"But a quiver of pain races through my very veins when I learn you live with your wife. It was then I realized it wasn't a great love I had experienced, but that I was the victim of a man of lust and here I am as one lost in a desert * * *"

JURY HOLDS FATE

MRS. MADALYNNE OBENCHAIN.

Accused in Los Angeles of conspiring to kill J. B. Kennedy, her former lover. The jury now is deliberating over her fate.

LITTLE PROSPECT OF OBENCHAIN VERDICT

Disagreement is Seen in Plan for Jury to Spend Night In Hotel Again.

By International News Service.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., March 18.—Indications that the jury in the case of Madalynne Obenchain, charged with murder, has hopelessly disagreed were seen when several of the jurors made arrangements to spend another night at their hotel under guard of deputy sheriffs.

The jurors requested their families be notified they might not return to their homes tonight.

After the sixth ballot had failed to result in an agreement, it was reported that a compromise verdict had been proposed and debated by jurors.

The compromise proposed, it was said, was made in an effort to effect a satisfactory agreement at once.

This morning the balloting was reported to be 8 to 4 for acquittal.

One More Juror Needed In Fatty Arbuckle Trial

SAN FRANCISCO, March 18.—The jury venire called to secure a jury to try Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle the third time for manslaughter was exhausted shortly before noon today with only one of the two necessary alternates selected.

Adjournment was taken until Monday to select the fourteenth juror. A new jury panel will be called then.

Eleven talesmen were examined today. Christian L. Wold was the thirteenth juror selected.

Liquor Possession No Law Violation in Tenn.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., March 18.—Possession of liquor in the home is not a violation of the Tennessee prohibition laws, the State supreme court ruled today in reversing the decision of a lower court that had convicted W. T. Hayes of illegally possessing a quart of corn whiskey.

Bare possession, the court held, was not an offense.

ALASKA CHIEFS HONOR GUESTS AT D.C. BANQUET

Gov. Scott Bone and Colonel Mears Dined by Notables at Racquet Club.

"Alaska's greatest handicap today is the lack of a coherent system of government. The present bureaucratic administration is unworkable, inefficient, and impossible," declared Scott C. Bone, governor of Alaska, who, with Col. Frederick Mears, chairman, Alaskan Engineering Commission, were honor guests at a dinner given by the Alaska Boundary Commission at the Racquet Club last night.

The governor emphasized that he was making no criticism of the many bureaus operating in Alaska or their personnel, but simply condemned a system which had been tried and found wanting and has been completely discredited by years of costly experience.

Favors Alaskan Trip.

The visiting Alaskan official expressed confidence in the adoption of a more favorable and keener interest on the part of Congress to be developed through a proposed trip to the northland this coming summer. Gov. Bone said every effort was being made to have President Harding, Secretary Fall, Senators and Congressmen, to personally inspect the recently completed Government railroad, which he described as a monument to the credit of army engineers and Col. Mears in particular.

"Our new railroad," said Gov. Bone, "would have commanded world-wide attention had its completion come at any less restless era in international affairs. Its only rival as an engineering feat is the Panama Canal. It cost the Government $56,000,000, but it is worth it. The dividends will not be immediate, not in dollars and cents, but will be the lasting benefit brought to the country and the world.

"Despite the fact that Alaska has been in the hands of the United States for the past fifty years, it remains unknown today. Alaska is not in the grip of biting elements—it is liveable the year round. I have seen more snow in the United States during my visit here than I had seen in Juneau up to the time I left. In summer we have flowers and berries. Fairbanks is a floral bower in summer. This new railroad penetrates three fertile valleys producing wheat as good as that of Minnesota.

"The outstanding development, in addition to the railroad project, is the increasing production of coal. There are millions of tons of coal in Alaska, but up to the present late only one shipment of coal has been made from Alaska. Most of the coal, up to this time, has been imported from Seattle."

Tribute to Bone.

Colonel Mears also spoke, paying high tribute to the administrative energy and far-sightedness of Governor Bone. Col. E Lester Jones presided and acted as toastmaster. Moving pictures showing the reindeer herds in Alaska were shown.

The elaborate menu of the dinner preceding the addresses contained many names of interest to the distinguished guests. Included were Sita fruits, Chincook salmon, Fairbanks potatoes, Seward Peninsula reindeer, Forty-ninth State dressing, Alaska glacier, and Arctic cakes.

The guests included: Senators Reed Smoot, Wesley L. Jones, Atlee Pomerene, Key Pittman, Bert M. Fernald, William H. King, Harry S. New, Howard Sutherland, Hiram W. Johnson, Selden P. Spencer, Henry W. Keyes, T. Coleman du Pont, Congressmen William S. Greene, Frank W. Mondell, Julius Kahn, Rufus Hardy, Joseph W. Byrns, Alben W. Barkley, Louis C. Cramton, Charles F. Curry, Albert Johnson, Patrick H. Kelley, George H. Tinkham, Milton W. Shreve, R. Walton Moore, Zebulon Weaver, Dan A. Sutherland, Chief Justice McCoy, Gilbert Grosvenor, Col. Clarence O. Sherrill, William E. Lamb, Dr. O. H. Tittmann, J. Harry Covington, Courtland Smith, G. Logan Payne, Cliffopd K. Berryman, Dr. Hugh S. Cumming, Col. Robert N. Harper, John Bell Smallwood, John Oliver La Gorce, Stephen T. Mather, Col. C. R. Forbes, Roswell F. Easton, J. M. Vandergrift, Col. James A. Drain, S. W. Stratton, Dr. E. W. Nelson, Capt. Robert Lee Faris, Maj. William Bowie, Col. E. Lester Jones.

More Trouble Looms In Rand Mine Fields

CAPE TOWN, Union of South Africa, March 18.—The threat of further troubles in the Rand mine fields was seen today in an editorial in the newspaper "De Burge," organ of the South African Nationalists. The newspaper criticised the government for recent bloodshed. It urged the people to be quiet and orderly, but to protest against the government's policy.

It was reported from Johannesburg today that the government is maintaining martial law in the mine fields and in Johannesburg.

IN STEERAGE

PHOTO BY INTERNATIONAL.

Maj. Gen. Jean Koles and wife, who arrived in New York aboard the Steamship Constantinople. He was in command of a division in the Wrangle army. They arrived in steerage and went to Ellis Island.

FOCHT'S LOAN ACT IS HIT BY CITIZENS

Indorse Instead Pawnbroker Bill Sponsored by District Commissioners.

Sentiment in local civic circles is decididely for the enactment of the Commissioners' "pawnbroker bill" rather than the Focht measure now before the House, according to a statement issued yesterday by Evan H. Tucker, of the citizens' committee on remedial loan law.

After an investigation which he made and a careful study of the comparative merits of the two bills, Mr. Tucker says it is the Commissioners' measure that is wanted here in Washington. His statement reads:

"Mr. Focht is in error as to this universal indorsement of his bill, for on April 28, 1921, the Board of Trade, at a largely attended meeting and with only one dissenting vote, adopted the report of its law committee, which approved the Commissioners' bill, S. 7-H. R., 5015, and disapproved of Mr. Focht's bill.

Chamber for Bill.

"On May 12, 1921, the Chamber of Commerce, which Mr. Focht lists among the associations which favor his bill, unanimously approved of the Commissioners' bill and on May 17, 1921, its secretary, Mr. Seymour, advised Mr. Focht of this. He called attention to the fact that the action was unanimous at a largely attended meeting, and that it had been based on a favorable report of its law committee, of which James T. Lloyd was a chairman.

"On April 25, 1921, the West End Citizens' Association, which Mr. Focht lists also as favoring his bill, indorsed the Commissioners' bill, and the secretary advised Mr. Focht of this action. By this action the subject came before the Federation of Citizens' Associations, and the Focht bill was also brought before it bill was also brought before it. The federation approved of the Commissioners' bill with practically no opposition.

"These three, the leading civic organizations of the District, comprise more than 21,000 members, and the federation is made up of forty organizations alone. The Citizens' Committee called Mr. Focht's attention to their action in a letter on October 5, 1921, a few days before the date of his report to the House, asking him to give their wishes some consideration.

Approval Not Unanimous.

"That with these figures before him he should claim a "universal indorsement" for his bill, with organizations made up of more than twenty times the number he says "might be" against it, shows that his arithmetic is no better than the legislation he is trying to put through."

GANDHI SENTENCED; CRISIS DUE IN INDIA

British Name Tory as Secretary and Prepare to Crush Possible Uprising.

By DAVID M. CHURCH.
International News Service.

LONDON, March 18.—There were two events today of tremendous importance that indicate that government is to adopt a more drastic attitude toward the Indian Nationalists. They were:

1. Appointment of Viscount Peel, a Tory, to the post of secretary of India.

2. Imposition of six-year prison term at Ahmedabad, India, upon Mohandas K. Gandhi, chief leader of the Indian nonco-operationists, or Nationalists.

The fact that Premier Lloyd George appointed a Tory to the post of secretary for India instead of a Liberal was generally accepted as a sure sign that the government's Indian policy would be stiffened. The Tories in Parliament have made their greatest fight against Premier Lloyd George on the grounds of his treatment of Ireland was too liberal. It held probably tonight that more drastic measures would be taken to put down the agitations of the Indian Nationalists of all factions, the Moderates, who were directly behind Gandhi, as well as the Extremists, who demand vigorous measures against the British.

Military precautions have been taken to put down any disorders that may arise from protests against Gandhi's sentence. The Indian office does not deny that the political situation in India is most serious, despite all efforts to check outbreaks.

Mississippi Legislator Says Drys Go Too Far

JACKSON, Miss., March 18.—"If there's a man on the floor of this House who doesn't like a drink of liquor occasionally, I'd like to see the color of his eye," declared Representative Williams, of Noxubee county, in a speech today objecting to the bill to make it a felony to have, control, or knowingly possess a still or any portion thereof.

"We're going too darned far in this prohibition business," he said. "Every man ought to have some rights, but it's got so that mighty few are left us."

Japanese Diet Votes to Uphold Government

TOKIO, March 18.—The government's position today was much stronger as a result of the defeat along strict party lines of a vote of non-confidence introduced in the lower house of the diet by the Kensekai and Kohuminto independents.

The defeat of the motion came after six hours' debate, mostly over the Washington disarmament conference, the opposition giving the United States, and not Japan, credit for success in the negotiations.

Masked Men Feather and Beat Two in Florida

MIAMI, Fla., March 18.—Julian Prewitte, middle-aged, and Jay Gibson, a young man, were badly beaten and given a coat of tar and feathers Wednesday night by a band of masked men, it became known here today through warrants issued for four men said to have been recognized by the pair. No arrests have been made.

The two told officers that they were ordered to leave town, which they apparently did. They said the charges against them were "trivial."

DODGE WILL SERVE HIS FIVE-DAY TERM

Millionaire Weary After Working on Jail Coal Pile, Sleeps Soundly.

DETROIT, Mich., March 18.—After rubbing elbows all day with burglars, hold-up men and murderers, John Duval Dodge, Detroit's $1,600,000 "coal heaver and storeroom helper," tonight slept on a cot in the north corridor of the Detroit House of Correction, after serving the second day of a five day sentence imposed on him for speeding. Dodge is a son of the late millionaire automobile manufacturer.

"What do you think about all of it?" asked a guard at the institution, as he made his way past Dodge's cot tonight before the lights were ordered out.

"I can think of only one thing right now," replied the young millionaire, "and that is a song I heard long ago:

"'Please go 'way and let me sleep.' It is a great song and I—'

"Never heard of it," interrupted the guard, failing to take the hint. "How does the cot feel."

"Oh, fine, I enjoy"—and that was all. For right there John Dodge, exhausted from his unaccustomed labors, went to sleep.

Efforts to secure his release from the jail on a writ of habeas corpus failed, and he was put to work on a coal pile until it was discovered that he had a high temperature. He was treated at the infirmary and assigned to lighter work in the store room.

"Prisoner Dodge worked so hard shoveling coal that I had to advise him to slow up a bit," a guard told Superintendent Stutsman.

Suggestions from other prisoners that he go on a hunger strike were ignored by Dodge.

"They'll put you in a dungeon if you go on a strike and you can loaf out your sentence," some of the prisoners suggested.

"Not me," said the millionaire. "I'm going to work."

Dodge will serve out his five-day sentence, his attorneys declared tonight, all efforts to secure his release having been abandoned.

Smallest Cop on Force Laid Up For Repairs

IT'S open season for speeders on Sixteenth street.

If you don't believe it try jazzing the old accelerator up a bit. If you lose out the District jail isn't really such a bad place after all.

Private M. D. Smith, of the Third precinct, sure death to Sixteenth street speeders, is off the job for a few days. Smith, noted as the smallest cop on the force, is at home nursing a swollen nose and bruised chin as the result of a bit of rough and tumble with Edgar Allen, colored, Newport place northwest.

At that Smith would have been all right only he had such a bad cold he couldn't shout to brother officers to help him subdue the fractious prisoner.

Petition for Soldier Bonus and Sales Tax

WE respectfully petition Congress to pass the Soldiers' Bonus Act without further delay and also to levy a Sales Tax to obtain the money to pay the Bonus.

Name .....

Address .....

Paste additional paper here for more signatures and addresses. Forward petition when complete to PETITION EDITOR, The Washington Times, Washington, D. C.

Quality and price

—combined in these Hart Schaffner & Marx Spring suits. Oxford greys in single and double breasted models . . $35

Raleigh Haberdasher

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MONARCH

TRADE MARK

Coffee Salesmen Wanted!

Reid, Murdoch & Co., internationally known as Coffee Importers and Food Manufacturers, announce—on their 70th anniversary—a further expansion in the opening of a new Eastern plant with headquarters in New York.

Splendid Opportunity for Retail Clerks

If you are one of the best retail grocers in your community and can advance no higher in your present position, this announcement offers an unusual chance to make a worth-while connection where you will enjoy a wide field of endeavor and a splendid opportunity for growth. We want capable, ambitious, energetic salesmen in the following cities:

Maine: Augusta, Bangor, Biddeford, Calais, Lewiston, Portland.
New Hampshire: Berlin, Concord, Dover, Keene, Lancaster, Manchester, Nashua.
Vermont: Burlington, Bennington, Brattleboro, Montpelier, Rutland, St. Johnsbury.
Massachusetts: Boston, Brockton, Fall River, Gloucester, Milford, Northampton, Salem, Springfield, Worcester.
Rhode Island: Providence, Bristol, Pawtucket, Westerly.
Connecticut: Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown, Norwich, New Haven, Putnam, Waterbury, Windham.
New York: New York City, Albany, Auburn, Binghamton, Rochester, Schenectady, Utica, Syracuse, Canandaigua, Elmira.
New Jersey: Jersey City, Newark, Camden, Atlantic City, New Brunswick, Paterson, Phillipsburg, Trenton.
Pennsylvania: Bethlehem, Johnstown, Lancaster.
Pennsylvania: Philadelphia, Reading, Williamsport, York.
Delaware: Wilmington, Dover.
Maryland: Annapolis, Baltimore, Cambridge, Hagerstown, Frederick, Salisbury.
Dist. of Columbia: Washington.
Virginia: Alexandria, Danville, Norfolk.
Virginia: Lynchburg, Richmond, Roanoke, Petersburg.
North Carolina: Asheville, Durham, Charlotte, Greensboro, New Bern, Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Wilmington, Winston-Salem.
South Carolina: Charleston, Columbia, Anderson, Greenville, Florence, Spartanburg, Sumter.

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MONARCH COFFEE

Over 2,000,000 lbs. sold by our Chicago House during December, 1921

MONARCH TOMATO CATSUP — MONARCH SWEET PICKLES
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MONARCH BAKED BEANS — MONARCH MILK

None Better At Any Price

Two hundred successful salesman now travel out of our Chicago House. These men, our executives and department managers served an apprenticeship in retail grocery stores. We want 200 more like them in the East. Preference will be given to men with records of success in retail stores, and under 35 years of age. References required from present employer. Only applications made in person will be considered. If you are a "comer", looking forward to a future with great possibilities, come and see us. We start New York shipments May 1.

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