

## LOW WAGES CAUSE OF MORE THAN FIFTY PER CENT OF DIVORCES, SAYS STATISTICIAN

Cook county reports the divorce epidemic as becoming alarming. An average of 5,500 divorces are being recorded yearly.

In an effort to reach some solution of the problem County Clerk Robert M. Sweltzer recently appointed Patrick J. J. McCarthy to the newly-created position of marriage and divorce statistician.

McCarthy has made a careful study of the problem and he has come to the conclusion, based on research, that more than 50 per cent of the divorces are caused by low wages.

"The average American laborer is a well-paid man to those of other countries," said McCarthy. "But his wages reach a very small way in paying for today's necessities—which were luxuries ten years ago."

"There are 5,500 divorces granted in Chicago every year, and only one group out of every hundred own their own home. The average family can not live within its income and for this reason in many of the cases no alimony is all allowed."

McCarthy also made the startling declaration that it was the first baby that usually made the newly-wed family bankrupt.

"Marriage boosters who constantly quote that 'Two can live cheaper than one' seem to forget the amendment that 'three cannot live cheaper than two.' The added expense frequently forces the father in debt. The wife urges him to make more money. They quarrel and divorce.

"Let us hope that some day a law will be passed which will grant the mother a pension for every child instead of investigating to see if she is destitute first—as the Illinois Mothers' Pensions law provides."

In compiling the report the marriage license clerk's office it was found that the licenses had fallen far short of the normal increase. There is usually a gain of 3,000 a year, but

from present appearances the number issued this year is likely to fall below the average.

"In the history of this office there has been only one year in which the licenses issued fell below those issued the preceding one," said Louis Legner, chief of the marriage license bureau. "This was in 1908—the year following the panic—when the number issued was 3,000 less than the preceding year. The number issued in 1907 was 26,724 and in 1908 23,755. The business conditions today are somewhat similar to what they were then."

### EDDIE JACKSON IS TALKING— —O—O— AFTER POLICEMEN

Eddie Jackson, well-known pick-pocket, is talking. This information which was told in The Day Book several days ago is now announced definitely. He is said to have told Hoyne about giving protection money to coppers in Barney Bertsche's old saloon in the temporary City Hall.

He is also reported to have given Hoyne the names of several detectives who are claimed to have been taking money from crooks and letting them work unheeded. Jackson is now in Joliet penitentiary.

Att'y Charles E. Erbstein, representing Bill Egan, appeared in Judge Gemmill's court this morning and demanded a change of venue for both Egan and his partner, Serg't Skip Monahan. Gemmill refused Erbstein's request, but advised the lawyer to put the proposition up to Chief Justice Olson.

State's Att'y Hoyne announced today that he would make out complaint against twelve policemen attached to the detective bureau. They will be accused of collusion with crooks.

—O—O—  
George Ruckanski, 1637 N. Wood st., suicide. Gas. Out of work.