

COURT LETS CHILD STAY WITH FATHER

Boy of 8 Twice Flees From Mother and Judge McGinn Changes Award.

LAD'S CHOICE RESPECTED

Jacob A. Webber Gets Custody, but Court Says in Time Boy Will Learn Mother Is Best Friend.

Attorney Draws Rebuke.

"A child of his age is mamma's boy when he is with his mother and papa's when he is with his father, but a while he will learn that a boy's best friend is his mother."

It is what Circuit Judge Henry E. McGinn said to Jacob A. Webber and Mrs. Grace Webber when they appeared before him yesterday afternoon each seeking the custody of 8-year-old Kenneth Webber.

But the boy, asked to choose between his parents, went to his father. The judge's choice ruled the court, and the order of Judge McGinn was that the father, to whom the boy had twice fled after being legally taken by the mother, who originally had custody of the boy, was to keep Kenneth.

Boy's Choice Respected.

"When the boy wants to go to his mother, as he no doubt later will, he will have that chance," qualified Judge McGinn. "She ought to be able to keep him, and the boy ought not to be weaned away from his mother."

In time to come he will know what his mother has done for him. He doesn't know now, but when he is about 14 or 15 years old he will surely understand his mother's sacrifices for him. At this time it would be all wrong to induce him, against his will, to go to her.

"I wish he would spend half the time with his mother and half the time with his father. I would like that better than anything else. If he will not, he shall not be forced to."

The judge further said that one reason the boy wanted to be with his father was that he wanted to be with his 14-year-old half brother, a promising chap.

Mr. Webber desired to keep a piano that the wife wanted. Judge McGinn asked which of the two played the piano, and Mr. Webber admitted that his wife did. The court awarded the piano to the wife.

Court Rebukes Attorney.

Attorney Harold W. Strong's petition for Mr. Webber's personal property brought forth a rebuke from the court.

"Mr. Strong, you are too small," said Judge McGinn. "Get in and become a little larger. You can always find trouble if you go around with a microscope looking for it."

In the decree of Judge McGinn on October 1 the custody of the child and \$2500 permanent alimony were granted Mrs. Webber. Since that time the child refused to stay with his mother or in the Holy Cross school, where she placed him, but ran away to his father and went to the Buckman school with his brother. Twice, the last time Thursday, Mrs. Webber legally "kidnaped" the youngster from the school.

The boy returned to his father's home, 675 East Irving street, yesterday afternoon.

ALCOHOL THEORY IS HIT

Manufacture From Cider in Cream Separator Held Impossible.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Harry White, of Camas, is at the Eaton. E. S. Prouty, of Seaside, is at the Oregon. H. J. Shesher, of Astoria, is at the Oregon. M. Seufert, of The Dalles, is at the Oregon. P. M. Scroggin, of Lebanon, is at the Perkins. E. A. Harris, of Hillsboro, is at the Seward. C. S. Frank, of Eugene, is at the Imperial. John H. Lewis, of Salem, is at the Imperial. A. N. Orcutt, of Roseburg, is at the Cornelius. A. J. Abela, of Goldendale, is at the Cornelius. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Edwards, of

TIRED ALL THE TIME

It is good to feel tired sometimes, when you have exercised sufficiently to cause a healthful feeling of fatigue. But you should be refreshed by rest. A tired feeling which does not disappear even after a night's sleep is abnormal. It means that you are anemic or debilitated, that you need a tonic to build you up and fortify your system against such a condition. If you do not you are inviting disease because thin blood means that the body's defense against the inroads of disease is lowered. Thin blood is largely the sufferer's own fault. It results from neglect, because the blood can be built up. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills supply the elements that the blood needs to make it rich and red, and to enable it to carry more oxygen. Building up the red portion of the blood is simple but because thin blood does not call attention to itself is often neglected. Have you seriously considered taking a course of treatment with these blood-making pills? If you are in doubt write for information. Your own druggist sells Dr. Williams' Pink Pills or they will be sent by mail, postpaid, on receipt of price 50 cents per box; six boxes \$2.50 by Dr. Williams Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y. Write now for the free booklet "Building Up the Blood."

Woodland, are registered at the Cornelius. Ray H. Clarke, of Spokane, is at the Portland. H. Murphy, of Eugene, is at the Portland. H. H. Wilkoff, of San Francisco, is at the Seward. A. C. Wheeler, of Hall, Wash., is at the Eaton. W. P. Ely, of Kelo, is registered at the Imperial. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Arnold, of Salem, are at the Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. N. Selig, of Falls City, are at the Eaton. J. P. Livingston is at the Nortonia from San Francisco. O. A. Petersen, of Petersen's Landing, is at the Perkins. B. M. Rowney is registered at the Nortonia from Seattle. Mr. and Mrs. D. Nimrock, of Fargo, Wash., are at the Eaton. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Barnes, of Astoria, are at the Portland. Dick Smith, a Corvallis merchant, is registered at the Perkins. Mr. and Mrs. P. L. Waismith, of Calgary, are at the Portland. Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Johnson, of Corvallis, are at the Seward. James Bernard, of Wilson, Idaho, is registered at the Nortonia. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ritch, of Baker, are registered at the Imperial. Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Shannon, of Walla Walla, are at the Seward. George P. Putnam, of Salem, Govern-

YOUNGSTER LEGALLY 'KIDNAPED' BY MOTHER AWARDED TO FATHER, WITH WHOM HE IS HAPPIER.



LEFT, KENNETH WEBBER, AGED SEARS; RIGHT, JACOB A. WEBBER.

or Withycombe's secretary, is at the Perkins. Mr. and Mrs. E. I. Youman, of Vancouver, Wash., are at the Nortonia. Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Berg, of Hood River, are registered at the Cornelius.

STORE OWNER VANISHES

OREGON CITY MAN LEAVES 'WILL' WITH HIS EMPLOYE.

Fulfillment of Threat to Take Own Life Doubtful Because of Report He Was Seen After Set Time.

OREGON CITY, Or., Feb. 15.—(Special.)—Where is Elgin Helmer? Sheriff Wilson is inclined to think that he is well and sound, despite his "will," given to Miss Laura Green, of Canemah, in which he said that by Monday morning he would be dead, and that the man now is probably in Marshfield.

Helmer, who is 23 years old and a Swede, has been complaining that he was ill and Sunday gave Miss Green, who works for him in his confectionery store on Seventh street, a "will" in which he said that by midnight Monday morning he would be dead. In the "will" he left all his personal property to Miss Green. She now has the paper, which is attested by Miss Violet Murray.

Patrolmen Cooke and Woodward saw Helmer get on the 2:30 o'clock southbound Southern Pacific train Monday morning, after buying a ticket to Eugene and declaring that his ultimate destination was Marshfield. He has been in correspondence with a woman at Marshfield.

BERLIN ACCEPTS CHANGE

(Continued From First Page.)

It was placed before the Cabinet was acceptable to the United States. The changes suggested at the time were described as being for the purpose of clarifying the language used. Now it is said that the document is just as the United States suggested it be with the one exception noted.

Nature of Exception Not Told.

Just what the nature of the exception was, was not disclosed tonight. It was believed, however, that the wording used in connection with the reference to the conduct of reprisals had been modified.

Germany also is understood to have authorized Count von Bernstorff to declare specifically in the communication that it is in answer to the last American note on the Lusitania, so as to direct attention to assurances which have been given previously in connection with the Arabic case.

Insertions of these provisions was informally requested by Secretary Lansing. With them included, the formal document will in itself be a complete record of the assurances given, the concessions granted and the agreements made.

End Believed at Hand.

Officials in a diplomatic said tonight that if the communication as submitted tomorrow by Count von Bernstorff contained the statement that Germany recognizes the liability for the lives of neutrals lost in the commission of an act such as the sinking of the Lusitania, probably the last cause of contention had been removed and that the Administration could well proclaim having achieved recognition of all the high principles for which it has contended.

BERLIN, Feb. 15, via London, Feb. 16.—Germany's reply to the American Government's latest representations regarding the sinking of the Lusitania was forwarded to Washington yesterday.

The reply accepts one of the two changes suggested by Secretary of State Lansing, but proposes a new wording for the other.

AMERICA CONCEDES RIGHTS OF ALLIES

New German Policy Not to Be Approved Unless Entente Formally Consents.

LAW NOT TO BE CHANGED

State Department Now Considers Whole Issue as Turning About Question What Constitutes Defensive Armament.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The United States, it was said by high authority at the State Department today, con-

Early Inquiry to Be Made.

State Department officials now are engaged in trying to determine just what will happen when the commanders of German and Austrian submarines begin to put their new instructions into effect. It is said, too, the United States in the near future may make some inquiries as to how the central powers intend to determine whether merchantmen encountered by their submarines are armed.

In response to inquiries regarding this aspect it was said tonight on Tuesday that the German and Austrian governments under no consideration would disregard the assurances which have been given to the United States in regard to the conduct of submarine warfare. Attention was called particularly to the fact that the German government had assured the United States that liners would not be attacked without being warned. These assurances, it was said, had not and would not be repudiated, and that the United States in service between the United States and Western Europe would not be attacked without warning, even if they have defensive armament aboard.

Teutonic officials were inclined to believe that such an issue would not arise, as Great Britain has agreed that its ships and merchantmen, as well as those of other nations, shall not be armed. In both diplomatic and official circles doubt even was expressed that the new policy would affect commerce on the Atlantic, although it was admitted that should the Italian government persist in arming its merchantmen difficulty might arise in the Mediterranean. State Department officials recognize that the action of the German and Austrian governments is a development of the recent American suggestion. The department, however, does not feel obligated to take any action in regard to the broad questions involved, at least until it has received replies to its own memorandum to the entente allies regarding the disarming of merchantmen.

Consideration is being given to the advisability of amending the instructions to port authorities in regard to the rights of merchantmen to arm for defensive purposes and the limitations of the armament.

Law Not to Be Changed.

The State Department repeatedly has allowed it to become known, as it did again today, that it had no intention of changing the law on the subject of arming merchant ships on its own account, and that such a move could be made only by treaty with the powers affected. But the United States, in consideration of the changed conditions of naval warfare, can amend its instructions to the port authorities. It might, it was suggested, revise its instructions so as to permit merchant ships to clear with guns of a caliber useful solely for defensive purposes, and yet not large enough to be effective against submarines at a distance from which warning could be given safely. Under the existing regulations merchant ships may carry guns mounted on the stern of a caliber up to six inches. It was suggested that to reduce the caliber limit to, for instance, two inches.

LIVELY DEBATE IS EXPECTED

Senator Views German Order With "Anxious Concern."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Spirited debate is expected in the Senate Friday on a resolution introduced today by Senator Sterling, of South Dakota, which would put the Senator on record as viewing with "anxious concern" the recent order of the German Admiralty that after February 29 armed merchant ships of the allies, whether armed merely for defensive purposes or not, may be sunk without warning.

Senator Lodge, ranking Republican member of the Senate foreign relations committee, and Senator Sterling already have given notice they will address the Senate on the subject and it is expected that their remarks will again arouse general debate over problems growing out of the war.

Administration leaders, however, hope to limit such a discussion as much as possible.

Senator Sterling's resolution referring to the German order, sets forth: "Such an order, if put into effect, will constitute a more serious menace to the legitimate commerce of all neutral nations, and particularly to that of the United States, than any act of the belligerents in the present European war, and will be in contravention of a right long recognized by the principal commercial nations of the world, including our own."

The resolution further asserts that "any recognition on the part of the United States of the contention that the necessities of war in general or the exigencies and conditions of modern submarine warfare are warrant for the order of the German Admiralty would be a step backward and an abandonment of our contentions for the freedom of the sea."

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Eugene Has Warm February Day.

EUGENE, Or., February 15.—(Special.)—Yesterday was the warmest February day for Eugene in 14 years, according to Weather Observer Mayo. He also says it was the warmest day since October. The maximum was 70 degrees.

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