

### NOT GUILTY IS PLEA OF MRS. PHILLIPS

Hammer Slayer's Trial Set for September 18.

### LONG DELAY REFUSED

Court Holds Business of Attorneys Is No Reason for Postponing Case.

BY EDWARD DOHERTY. (By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) LOS ANGELES, Cal., July 20.—The trial of Mrs. Clara Phillips, alleged "hammer murderer," was set for September 18 this morning after she had pleaded not guilty. She is charged with slaying Mrs. Bertha Meadows, who she believed was alienating the affections of her husband, A. L. Phillips.

Attorneys McDonald and Thompson, representing the prisoner, asked for delay, declaring they had so much business to attend to they could not properly prepare a defense until November or December. District Attorney Woolwine laughed at this. "We want to try this woman as soon as possible," he declared. "We are willing to grant a reasonable time in the interests of justice, but counsel might find himself so busy he could not properly prepare a defense for a year."

**Court Hearing Is Early.** Mrs. Phillips was taken into court early so that the deputies might not have to fight their way through the enormous crowds. The crowds were dispersed as they filled the courtroom, and the corridors and the lobby downstairs, and the sidewalk outside the building. One had to stand up in court to see the woman.

She was not smiling this morning. She was pale, but calm. She stood like a soldier at parade while her attorneys pleaded for her, but Woolwine demanded to know "from her own lips" what her plea might be. "Not guilty is my plea," she said. "I am not guilty," she said. "It was almost a sob. Her face took on an expression of violent anger, but the expression vanished in a moment and she was calm again."

In the courtroom was the girl who sold her 15-cent hammer with which it is charged she beat Mrs. Meadows. The girl identified her positively. "She asked me," the girl told the authorities, "if the hammer was heavy enough to kill a woman. I told her it was, if she struck hard enough."

**CROWD IS TREMENDOUS ONE** Woman Who Sold Mrs. Phillips Hammer Is in Court.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., July 18.—Mrs. Clara Phillips, indicted for the murder here last week of Mrs. Bertha Meadows, today entered a plea of not guilty and her case was set for trial in the superior court on September 18. The defense asked for a long delay, but Judge Frederick W. Houser, presiding, said he thought two months was long enough for preparation.

There was a tremendous crowd around the jail and all of records and the corridors on the eighth floor of the latter building, where Judge Houser's court room is situated, were jammed with curious people. The courtroom was crowded and the officers had difficulty in controlling the crowds.

District Attorney Woolwine again appeared in person and asked for the plea. One of the attorneys for the defense said "not guilty," but Mr. Woolwine asked that the defendant plead personally, so Mrs. Phillips repeated the words, "not guilty."

The court then asked when the attorneys wished to try the case. Mr. Woolwine said he was ready now and suggested that it be taken up next week. The defense objected vigorously, saying it was impossible to have their case in readiness so soon and asked that the trial be fixed for late November or early December. Judge Houser then said that in his judgment two months was long enough for preparation.

For the first time since her arrest, Mrs. Phillips gave evidence of anxiety in her demeanor. She was pale and the smile that has been habitual with her was missing. She was self-controlled, however, and composed in action.

A young saleswoman from a local store who had told the sheriff that she had sold a hammer like the one used in killing Mrs. Meadows to two young women a day or so before the murder was in court to see whether she could identify Mrs. Phillips as the purchaser. When the defendant was brought in the witness scrutinized her and then smiled and nodded to a deputy sheriff who accompanied her, but the latter requested her not to make any statement, and said that one would be issued later by the sheriff.

### AIN'T IT CUTE? IT'S A TIGER CUB.



GERTRUDE SHEEHAN AND HER PET.

Miss Gertrude Sheehan, shown here taking a stroll with "Spots," a pet tiger cub, brought here from Colombia, South America, has accepted it as her pet instead of an angora cat. The animal is at present stopping at the McAlpin hotel, New York city, and started the mauls at first, but they were assured that "it's as tame as a kitten and does not scratch."

In the state opened and the votes recounted, this will be re-stated strenuously by counsel for Mr. Olcott, it was indicated. To obtain such an order from the court, attorneys for Governor Olcott said, it would be necessary for the contestant to point out specific instances of fraud and furnish a list of the names of the alleged illegal voters. It was alleged by Mr. Hall in his petition that those illegal votes were cast in more than 1000 precincts in the state.

**Full Recount May Be Asked.** It also is probable, attorneys said today, that in case the contestant is successful in having the votes recounted in certain precincts of the state, an effort may be made by Governor Olcott to force a recount of the ballots in every precinct in Oregon. Governor Olcott's friends have declared that a recount of the whole state, in case there is any ground for fraud or erroneous

counting, is the only fair and just way that the issue can be settled definitely for all time. Actual recounting of the votes should be ordered, probably would be in charge of a referee to be appointed by the court. Whether the ballot boxes, if opened, would be brought to Salem for the recount or whether the referee would visit the various counties in which fraud was alleged, has not yet been determined, attorneys said.

**WHAT CONGRESS DID AS ITS DAY'S WORK.** Debated tariff bill, materially reducing the rates on cotton goods, insurgents cooperating with the democrats for the first time. Comprehensive bill for adjusting all American claims against Germany offered by Underwood, democrat, Alabama.

Ship subsidy discussed and defended by Randall, democrat, Louisiana. Majority of agricultural committee submitted report rejecting all proposals relating to the development of Muscle Shoals.

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**MR. OLCOTT WINS POINT** (Continued From First Page.) dents, aliens and voters residing in one precinct voting in another precinct, and the alleged refusal of the election boards to allow challengers to be present at the polls. Although every effort probably will be made by the attorneys for Mr. Hall to obtain a continuance of the trial on the answer court during the trial on the answer to have the ballot boxes in certain

### EVANGELIST'S WIFE JEALOUS, IS CHARGE

Girls at Rescue Home Suspected, Says Witness.

### HUSBAND DECLARED KIND

Ex-Maid in Trotter Home Takes Stand to Testify for Mission Chief.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., July 20.—Ethel Nelson and Ellen Landgren, girls of the City Rescue Mission, were "stuck" on Melvin E. Trotter, superintendent, in the opinion of Mrs. Trotter, according to Phoebe Marshall Haines for 13 years a maid in the Trotter home.

Mrs. Haines, who took the witness stand late this afternoon in the separate maintenance action, which Mrs. Trotter has brought, was for 13 years a maid in the evangelist's home. She was the first witness for the defense, the plaintiff having rested its case after reserving the right to introduce witnesses later.

**Husband Declared Kind.** The witness, who was only 15 years old when she first entered the employ of the evangelist, said she left the Trotter home in 1910 after she "had some words with Mrs. Trotter."

"Did Mr. Trotter do anything that caused you to leave?" asked attorney Starr of counsel for the defense. "No."

Mrs. Haines, however, worked at the Trotter home until 1915. She said Trotter was kind to his wife, that she never heard him use profane language toward her, speak harshly to her, nor saw him strike her.

It was about ten years ago, according to the ex-maid, that Mrs. Trotter's conduct toward her husband began to change. Then she began to watch the girls and Trotter at the mission and at their cottage at Macatawa park. Mrs. Trotter complained, it was stated, that the girls would come to the mission more regularly when he was there than when he was absent. Some times Mrs. Trotter would say the girls liked her and at other times she would have a contrary opinion, it was testified.

**Queerest Declared Frequent.** The evangelist's wife told Mrs. Haines, it was declared, that the girls would follow Trotter around and that they would talk to him in low tones that Mrs. Trotter could not hear.

Sunday night quarrels during the summers of eight and nine years ago at their cottage were frequent, Mrs. Haines added. They would begin, she said, when Mrs. Trotter would accuse the girls of following her husband around. Trotter would deny the accusations and then Mrs. Trotter would name them and include the Nelson and Landgren girls.

The story of the first love scene of Rev. Mr. Trotter with his secretary, Miss Florence Moody, was told in superior court yesterday by Mrs. Trotter, as she said it was told to her.

Under re-direct examination by her counsel, Mrs. Trotter said her husband and his secretary told her the story. It was on Christmas morning, 1916, that Trotter was at work in his private office at the mission, the witness swore.

"No merry Christmas for me; nobody loves me," Trotter replied. "Why, I do," said Miss Moody.

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"If you do, you've got to show me." "All right, I will," the girl asserted.

### Alleged Carresses Related.

"She went around his table and he took her in his arms," Mrs. Trotter said. She asked them, she said, when this story was told her several months later, if this relationship had continued since that time and was told by Miss Moody that it had not. Miss Moody added, Mrs. Trotter said, "only when you've been talking and we'd get careless."

The witness added that Trotter had repudiated his secretary after the birth of her child and her return to her work at the mission, for her failure to testify and that the girl did on occasions "testify" at the mission meetings, but that she never said she had given birth to a child or had committed a sin.

**Highway Paving Authorized.** SALEM, Or., July 20.—(Special.)—Paving of that part of what is known as the Pacific highway, from the state fair grounds to a point about 400 yards north, was authorized by the city council here today. The completion of this stretch of road will provide continuous pavement the entire distance from Portland to Salem. The improvement will be paid for by the city and will be completed by September 15.

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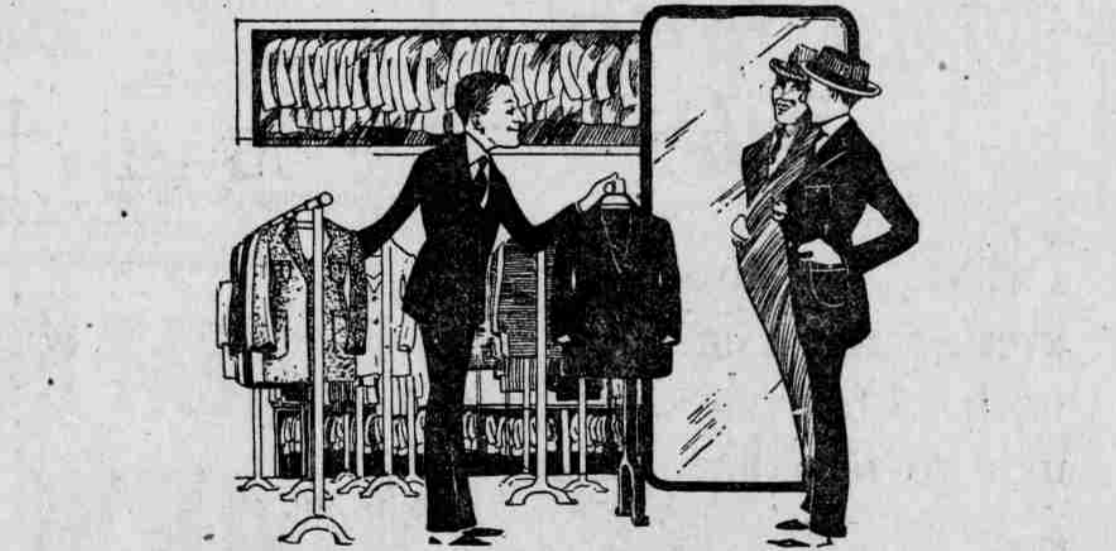
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