

International Teen-Age Romance Runs Afoul of Speed Law; Senate Page Boy, Swedish Girl Caught

(Picture on opposite page)
WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., June 20—A teen-age romance that transcended international boundaries ran afoul of the speed law today.

The 16-year-old daughter of a Swedish air attaché and the Senate page boy she met at a school dance in Washington—hiding from their parents for 11 days—emerged today only to be snared by a pair of Pennsylvania State Police troopers as they sped back home.

Pretty blonde Christina Wennerstrom and 15-year-old Hwa Williams disappeared from their Washington homes on June 2. For 11 days they were the principals in a search with transatlantic overtones.

The girl's father, Col. Stig Wennerstrom, had to return to his native Sweden for diplomatic reassignment. Her mother remained in Washington to keep in close contact with the search for her daughter.

Patrolling Highway
 At 5:30 a.m. today, trooper Norman and Clifford O'Neill were patrolling U.S. 15—a scenic roadway running down the West bank of Williamsport to Harrisburg, the state capital.

A dark convertible shot past traveling an estimated 45 miles an hour in a 30-mile zone. German and O'Neill gave chase—as they have so many times in the past.

The convertible pulled over in response to their signal. The attractive girl at the wheel and the boy beside her submitted to routine questioning without argument.

A Senate Page boy answered. Recalled Disappearance

A bell rang in the troopers' minds. They recalled the published accounts of Miss Wennerstrom's disappearance at the same time young Williams was reported missing.

The couple was taken to Montoursville, Pa., barracks and Sgt. Leroy Faulkner started making telephone calls to the Swedish Embassy in Washington. The U.S. State Department, the teen-agers' parents, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Reporters and photographers poured into the police barracks in the small central Pennsylvania town.

Shaves Photographer
 Things went smoothly until Williams apparently became annoyed with the seemingly endless procession of popping flash bulbs. He and one photographer engaged in a shoving match but were separated without damage to either party.

Christina appeared far more resigned. "I'm glad we're caught and I'm not sorry about any of it," she said.

Mrs. Wennerstrom received the

news by telephone from a Washington Star reporter while staying at the Washington home of Capt. and Mrs. Eloi von Celsing, also attached to the Swedish Embassy.

Oh, my God, that's wonderful! I'm so glad," she kept repeating. Mrs. Williams was reached

while working in the Senate typewriter repair room. She took the news with little outward display of emotion.

The major point at issue immediately seemed to be—had the diplomat's daughter and her page boy gotten married. Both the

young people told reporters and police they had gone through a marriage ceremony June 1 or 2 at Charles Town, W.Va.

No Marriage Performed
 A quick check showed that the girl and Williams had applied for

a marriage license at Charles Town May 16 but were refused on the basis of their age. Mrs. Wennerstrom also said Christina told her by telephone this morning that no marriage had been performed. Christina said she and Hwa had been together for the past two weeks was spent

near Ontario, Canada. As the longest, most trying day in the lives of the young couple wore on, Mrs. Wennerstrom arrived from Washington by plane, with a diplomatic and advisory party.

and Christina was free to leave with her young man. She left, but not with Hwa. Her mother took her in tow to the airport for the flight by commercial plane back to Washington. Hwa was handed the keys to the convertible—a car he says he

owns but which is registered in his mother's name—and drove off alone.

Still to be settled is the issue of Christina's status in the United States. Her father, when he left for home earlier this month, said he was taking her passport with him so that, when she was located, she would be forced to return to Sweden.

And, perhaps of more importance to the two people most involved, was the question: "What is young love's next move?"

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Solons Allow Post Office Extra Cash

WASHINGTON, June 20—The House Appropriations Committee voted today to give the Post Office Department 89 per cent of the extra money Postmaster General Summerfield says it needs.

Whereas Summerfield had asked for 140 million more than the \$3,192,000,000 appropriation set up for the fiscal year beginning July 1, the committee recommended 133 million.

The 16 1/2 million the committee cut in Summerfield's request would be made up as follows: 11 1/2 million in operating funds, 3 million for transportation and 1 million for facilities.

Summerfield has said he needs 140 million extra because of a large increase in volume of mail which exceeded expectations of just a few months ago.

The House is expected to go along with the committee's recommendations when it considers the supplemental money bill next week.

Threatened Service Cuts

Summerfield has said he would have to reduce services if he did not get the money he asked for. The committee suggested today the department could trim here and there and live within its budget adequately and effectively.

On the question of cutting down on Saturday deliveries of mail in cities, the committee suggested that the department effect such reductions as are in keeping with the pattern of business industry and suburbs generally.

It said other savings might be possible to suspend money order sales in some offices and by holding star route deliveries to one day, where practicable. On star routes, mail is transported by contractors between larger post offices and smaller ones and between post offices and rail terminals.

On Distance Basis

The committee also said the department could well increase its revenue by charging for third class, bulk mail on a zone or distance basis. It said this would bring in an extra five million dollars.

Summerfield has already ordered postal rate increases in fields where he rather than Congress sets the rate, amounting to 20 million dollars. However, postal revenues go to the government's Treasury and the Post Office Department's spending is limited to what Congress appropriates.

Postmaster Appointed

WASHINGTON, June 20—Appointment of Kenneth V. Richards as Cottage Grove, Ore. postmaster has been recommended by Rep. Norblad (R-Ore). Richards has been acting postmaster since Jan. 21.

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