

Pastor's Wife, Fleeing to Des Moines, Refuses to Talk of Divorce Suit



Mrs. Irene Loomis Brown.

Mrs. Irene Loomis Brown, who left Omaha for Des Moines Thursday night shortly after her suit for divorce from Rev. Edgar M. Brown, pastor of Dietz Memorial church, was filed, refused to comment on the suit in Des Moines yesterday. "I left Omaha to get away from the publicity and scandal," said Mrs. Brown. "I have nothing to say regarding my suit."

Mrs. Brown is staying at the Des Moines home of her brother, Walter L. Loomis, 1240 Thirty-fourth street. He is manager of the B. L. McClelland & Co. insurance adjusters, having left Omaha a year ago.

Left No Note.

Rev. Mr. Brown's first intimation of the divorce suit was when he was telephoned by reporters, he said. "I left her in apparently a happy mood at 2 p. m. Tuesday when I went calling," Rev. Mr. Brown said. "When I returned, about 6 p. m., she was gone. There was no note, no suggestion of anything wrong. I'm just simply heart-broken over the thing."

Mrs. Brown, in her suit, asserted her husband had demanded that she leave home on several occasions, and that she suffered mental anguish from his cruelty.

Rev. Mr. Brown denied he and his wife had any real quarrels.

Helped in Church Work.

Mrs. Brown is described by members of her husband's congregation as being a "sweet, retiring, timid little person." She always helped her husband in his church work, although she is in frail health, members of the congregation said.

The first intimation members of the church had that all was not well



REV. EDWARD M. BROWN

in the Brown household was when Mrs. Brown's father, J. H. Loomis, who had made his home with them, left to live in a local hotel, it is said. "The father and daughter were quite attached to each other and we thought something to make it unpleasant for him must have happened," said one active worker in the Dietz Memorial church.

Mrs. Brown was raised in the Baptist church, but changed to the Methodist when she married. Mrs. Brown graduated from Central High school in 1911.

Mrs. Brown's suit will have no

bearing on the Rev. Mr. Brown's ministerial position unless it is shown that he was guilty of conduct unbecoming a minister, members of the church said this morning.

Pastor Here Four Years.

Rev. Mr. Brown has been pastor of the Dietz Memorial church for the past four years. Since he has assumed the pastorate the church has grown, having moved from Tenth and Pierce streets to the present building at Tenth and Washington streets.

Mrs. Brown's father, who is a chemist at the Richardson Drug company, declined to discuss his daughter's marital unhappiness. The couple were married at Plymouth, Mich., July 20, 1918. No children were born to them. The minister is president of Epworth league and is prominent in Chamber of Commerce work.

Callaway Plans to Enlarge Present School Equipment

Callaway, Neb., Jan. 13.—(Special.)—A mass meeting was held at Callaway to discuss the subject of additional school room. It was brought out at the meeting that in order to maintain its present rating as class A, it will be necessary to have more room before the beginning of the next school year. Steps were taken to have the school board circulate petitions for the calling of a special election to vote more bonds.

School Students Strike When Six Boys Suspended

Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—Twenty-five North Loup school students went on strike when six of the boys were suspended for having violated a rule against class flag rushes during the school hours. The squad of strikers paraded the streets and gave class yells.

Disabled Vets Demand Bureau Head Be Ousted

Former Soldiers, Attending Omaha School, Deliver Ultimatum in Regard to Assistant Manager.

Washington, Jan. 13.—(Special.)—Disabled service men who are attending the rehabilitation school at Omaha will refuse to attend further if C. M. McCarger, assistant manager of the Omaha bureau, does not replace L. A. Crandall, manager, according to a wire received today by Congressman Jeffers from W. C. McMahon, commanding the Disabled Veterans' league of Omaha. This ultimatum came as a complete surprise to Jeffers, as he had assumed that affairs in the bureau at Omaha were entirely satisfactory.

Appointment Made.

Some two months ago R. Beecher, Howell, national republican committeeman for Nebraska; the Disabled Veterans' league and several Omaha business firms wrote the congressman from the Second district asking that in consolidation of the Omaha and Lincoln offices of the veterans' bureau, C. M. McCarger, manager of the Omaha office, be named manager of the consolidated office. Mr. Jeffers took up the matter with Col. G. S. Hays, manager of the district offices of the veterans' bureau at Washington, who directed M. E. Head, district manager of the bureau

at St. Louis, having jurisdiction over Nebraska, to make an immediate investigation of the ability of both McCarger and Crandall, manager of the Lincoln office.

On December 12 last Colonel Hays reported that, according to Mr. Head, Mr. Crandall would be made manager and Mr. McCarger assistant manager of the Omaha bureau.

Investigation Ordered.

In his report to the Washington office Mr. Head said:

"It was on Mr. McCarger's recommendation that we first considered Mr. Crandall for the position. I had an interview with Mr. McCarger last Saturday, when he told me that he was very glad to have Mr. Crandall assume responsibility for the administrative work in order that he, McCarger, might devote his entire time to training."

In view of the wire today from McMahon, Mr. Jeffers again has taken up the matter with Colonel Hays and has requested that official direct Mr. Head of St. Louis to summon both McCarger and Crandall to his office in an effort to ascertain what the difficulties are and take such further action as facts warrant.

Former Nebraskan Dies From Wrestling Injury

Norfolk, Neb., Jan. 13.—William Kreuch, who died in Chicago after his spine had been fractured in a wrestling bout, was a former assistant athletic director of the Y. M. C. A. He was attending the Y. M. C. A. college in Chicago intending to take up association work. It was announced the body would be brought here for burial. His widowed mother lives here and a brother, Paul, attends the University of Nebraska.

Reavis Explains Stand Against 'Anti-Lynch' Bill

Declares Measure in Present Form Unconstitutional—Will Offer Amendments Changing Some Parts.

Washington, Jan. 13.—Representative Reavis, who stated today that it was quite impossible for his office to answer personally all letters and telegrams constituting the Washington-inspired propaganda antagonistic to his position on the Dyer anti-lynching bill, to make clear the reasons for his opposition gave out the following letter:

"Mr. John Albert Williams, Editor of the Monitor, Omaha, Neb.: Replying to your wire of recent date expressing surprise that I am opposed to the so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill, I regret the misunderstanding relative to my position that apparently prevails in Nebraska.

Says Bill Unconstitutional.

"It should be unnecessary for me to express my opposition to lynching and mob law. My abhorrence of the offense is inspired not alone by the cruel invasion of personal rights, but is founded on the more fundamental proposition that to permit mob violence is to weaken and ultimately destroy the fabric of our civilization. Entertaining such views I naturally am interested in the enactment of legislation that will severely punish those guilty of the

offense, and to place the administration of the law in the hands of courts and law officers.

"The Dyer anti-lynching bill has in it several sections which are palpably in violation of the constitution, and which, if permitted to remain in the bill, will invalidate the entire measure as soon as the courts are given the opportunity of construing it. My opposition is confined to such sections and my efforts are being directed to amending them so as to make them in harmony with constitutional mandates.

Two Courses Open.

"If I were to support the bill as drawn I would be assisting legislation which I know cannot be of service because of its invalidity. To insist upon the amendments I intend to offer is to contribute to the passage of a bill that will be constitutional and which will aid in eliminating the offense.

"I do not favor a public servant willfully violating the constitution any more than I favor a mob willfully violating the law. On this legislation I have the choice of conduct which will leave the impression of service by supporting a bill that I know to be void, or of a course of action which seems to leave the impression of opposition, though its ultimate effect will be legislation of real rather than apparent benefit in ridding America of its most hideous offense. I have chosen the latter course."

Plan Better Babies.

Scottsbluff, Neb., Jan. 13.—(Special.)—The civics department of the Laura M. Woodford club of this city is planning motion pictures for Russian mothers to be shown in connection with a better babies contest for the better care of the children of the foreign-born of this region.

Grand Island Shooting Affray Case Settled

Grand Island, Neb., Jan. 13.—(Special Telegram.)—Prosecution and civil litigation growing out of the shooting of Policeman James Buswell by ex-Chief of Police Maloney were concluded in district court when Buswell requested the state's prosecutor to accept a plea of guilty by the defendant on a minor charge and showed that the \$10,000 suit for damages by Buswell against Maloney had been settled by the latter and a brother.

The shooting took place after a raid of the Savoy hotel by the present police force, the ex-chief being an occupant of the hotel and a reputed companion of the woman who conducted it. Maloney was severely wounded by the officer, and was arrested and confined in the local county jail for five months.

Buswell was paid \$400 in cash and \$2,000 in notes today. Maloney was sentenced to three months more in the county jail on the charge of assault and battery, to which he pleaded guilty.

J. A. Doremus Re-Employed to Head Aurora Schools

Aurora, Neb., Jan. 13.—(Special.)—At an adjourned meeting of the school board of Aurora Supt. J. A. Doremus was unanimously re-elected superintendent. He is now serving his fifth year. The salary was fixed at \$3,000. In a short report rendered the board, Mr. Doremus showed that the percentage of boys finishing the eighth grade in the Aurora schools has increased from 43 per cent to 77 per cent during his superintendency.

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