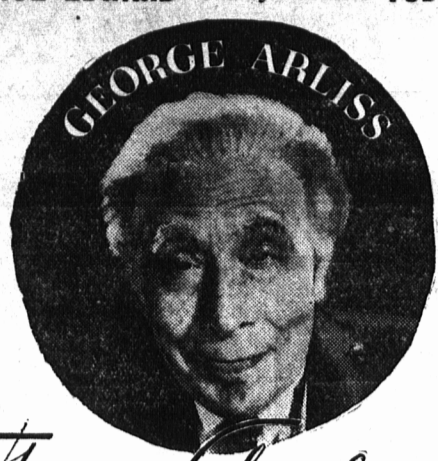


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Makes Charges Against Mary Pickford

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.—Mary Pickford's attorney went to court today to keep allegedly scandalous charges out of a \$250,000 breach of contract suit against "America's Sweetheart." The result was delayed. Federal Judge Robert P. Patterson reserving decision on the petition for an order to prohibit Edward Hemmer, who claims he was Miss Pickford's manager, adviser and protector of 3 years, from presenting sensational evidence in his suit. Hemmer's latest amended bill of particulars, the issue at court today, related alleged events that preceded Miss Pickford's marriage to Douglas Fairbanks while she still was the wife of Owen Moore. Fairbanks and the golden-haired actress from Toronto now are estranged. Hemmer's bill portrayed the athletic Fairbanks in a characteristic movie role in 1919—leaping a fence a flight from a set near Hollywood—with the manager purporting to pursue him with a pistol. The reason for this incident, Hemmer alleged, was a "tip" from the actress' mother that Fairbanks was on his way to the dressing room. Miss Pickford, then Mrs. Moore, asked him to try to persuade Moore to refrain from giving Mary a divorce or obtaining one until "the defendant should have had an opportunity to overcome her infatuation for Fairbanks."

Members Of Staff Transferred

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire) QUEBEC, Dec. 1.—Members of the Immigration Department's port of Quebec staff are being transferred to Halifax and Montreal, and most of the officials have already taken up their duties at the winter posts. Mr. C. Cormier, Immigration Inspector-in-charge, is remaining at Quebec. Transferred to Halifax are: Inspectors J. Huck, A. Sylvain, A. Quinn, interpreter J. Dandik, and Mr. A. Amos, matron. Those who go to Montreal for the winter are: Inspectors E. J. Murphy, J. Good and L. Leullier.

"Ghost of Paris" Has Reappeared

(A.P. By Guardian's Special Wire) PARIS, Mo., Dec. 1.—The "ghost" of Paris, smaller but with a larger wardrobe than in former years, is stalking again. Official opposition to the "ghosts" 70 year nocturnal prowling has never been manifest in the past, but recent bold actions have aroused City Marshal Edgar Rogg. If complaint becomes strong the Marshal avers, steps will be taken to "catch the thing, whether man or woman." The original "ghost of Paris" according to tradition, was the jilted sweetheart of a Confederate soldier. On her deathbed—according to the story—the luckless maiden vowed to haunt forever both her sweetheart and the entire town, in the melancholy autumnal days. The "ghost of Paris" has never been known to harm anyone but more than one strong, brave man

CAPITOL—TO-DAY



STUDENT TOUR

"New Moon Over Mahal," "The Carol," "From Now On," "You'll sing these songs of love and laughter in a few days of the world!" JIMMY DURANTE CHARLES BUTTERWORTH MAXINE DOYLE PHIL REGAN NELSON EDDY ADDED... SPORT THRILL "THROWING THE BULL"

Mixed Salt and Sugar

Managers of Thrift Stores occasionally met together and "discussed mixing," said Sair. When he was manager, he sometimes mixed salt and sugar. It would usually mix five or 10 pounds of salt with 100 pounds of sugar.

Firemen Perish In Blazing Ruins

(A. P. By Guardian's Special Wire) DENVER, Dec. 1.—Several firemen were feared to have perished tonight in the collapse of the walls of a blazing trunk factory. Ten of 15 firemen were reported killed in the burning. Five were taken from the wreckage by companions. The rescued were identified as Captain Woods, firemen Verham Cassels, and Sullivan and an unidentified fireman.

IN MEMORIAM

REV. ALEXANDER S. STEWART At Montague, P.E.I., on Saturday, Nov. 17th, there passed on to his eternal reward the Rev. A. S. Stewart, at the advanced age of 77 years. The funeral was on Tuesday, a brief service being held at the home, conducted by the Rev. R. H. Stavert, and in which the local ministers of all denominations took part. The remains were conveyed to the Presbyterian Church at Wood Islands, the congregation of which Mr. Stewart had at one time served as a devoted pastor for fourteen years. A crowded congregation had gathered at the advanced age of 77 years. Mr. Stavert based his timely discourse upon the Scriptural injunction, "Teach us to number our days, etc." while Mr. Griffiths spoke words of deep tribute to the memory of Mr. Stewart, as a gifted and devoted Minister of the Gospel, and it is evident that all present, because of their knowledge of the high spiritual character of the departed minister, were deeply moved and while the large concourse filed out, after a last glance at the remains of the "Dead March" was effectively played on the organ. Hymns befitting the occasion were sung, and during the service Mr. Dave E. Griffiths rendered the gospel solo "I've found a Friend," and while the large concourse filed out, after a last glance at the remains of the "Dead March" was effectively played on the organ.

Former Manager Chain Store Tells Of Short Weighing And Short Changing Customers

(C. P. By Guardian's Special Wire) OTTAWA, Dec. 1.—Examination of R. A. Sair, former manager of Thrift Stores shop in Montreal, continued this afternoon before the mass buying commission. Giving evidence on how managers balanced their stock he instanced short weighing and "short changing customers." A purchaser would in a rush hour tender a \$5 bill and would be given change for \$1. When the customer returned for correct change the cash would be balanced and shown accurate, said Sair. Another method of "balancing" would be overcharging customers. People would be charged for more than they bought. More articles than actually purchased were rung up on the cash register. Sales slips were not tendered unless specifically asked for. Otherwise these slips were thrown on the floor. "Did you follow these practices all the time you were with Thrift Stores?" asked Chairman Kennedy. "Yes, we had to." "Is it your evidence you received instructions covering all these practices during your period of training?" "All these tricks I knew during the period of my training." "Were you instructed in them?" "Yes, I was instructed by my manager."

Mixed Salt and Sugar Managers of Thrift Stores occasionally met together and "discussed mixing," said Sair. When he was manager, he sometimes mixed salt and sugar. It would usually mix five or 10 pounds of salt with 100 pounds of sugar. "Had you a mixing table?" asked Mr. Young. "No, I just dumped it into a tub." "There wasn't any formula," suggested Mr. Stevens. "No." "Did you ever get instructions from your supervisor to give full weight," asked D. M. Kennedy. "No, rather to the contrary," was the reply.

One day, he continued, he was weighing cheese and his supervisor, a Mr. Landry came in. The cheese, supposed to weigh 16 ounces actually weighed 13 1/2 ounces. Landry said, according to witness, "Sair, don't kibitz too much on the cheese. Go easy. Don't do it too glaringly. Don't do it too much."

The commission discussed the exact meaning of the word "kibitz," which, W. A. Merrill, Thrift Stores counsel, said, was a queer word for a French-Canadian to use. Sair was asked if his superior knew of short weights and other unethical practices. He told of one which, he said, according to him in his store the head office knew all the tricks that were going on.

Sair told of a meeting of Thrift Store managers in the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, which was addressed by John Schafraan, general manager. Sair quoted Schafraan as opening his speech in these words: "Every damned man in this crowd is a crook and we know it."

When appointed manager of a store, Sair said he was called to the general manager's office. He quoted Schafraan as telling him "you now know most of the tricks and from reports my inspectors give me, I think we will put you in a store as a manager." He also quoted Schafraan as saying "you have had your training with a good man and there is no excuse for you having short stock."

Mr. Schafraan told Sair, declared witness, that he had had good training and the company would now give him a store. Schafraan had told him he was a "good man."

"How many managers were at that meeting?" asked J. L. Barbeau. "About 75."

"Were they all 'good men'?" witness thought so. Asked if all parcels of sugar were weighed short, witness replied that the front row of bags was weighed correct and the back rows were short. This was done in case government inspectors came around, Sair said, when they would "always have the front row right."

At his own first stock-taking he was short, \$1.58. He himself had figured out he should have been over between \$30 and \$40. Witness gave examples of his operations as follows: On Nov. 11, 1933, he was credited "by commission" with \$7.35 and his shortage was \$1.58. On Nov. 28, 1933, his stock shortage was \$1.95. Following that there had been three weekly stock re-takes.

On Dec. 5, his stock average was \$1.16. "Did you make up your stock shortage at that time?" Sair was asked. "No," he replied. On Dec. 9, 1933, he was credited

"by commission" \$22.64. Three days later his stock shortage was \$30.44. On Dec. 18, Sair was credited "by commission" with \$6.63 and his stock shortage was \$22.38. "After I received notification that my stock was \$195.81 they sent a man down to take charge of my cash register," said Sair. "He was there in these three stock re-takes and during the whole time he was there I came short every time."

"And he was punishing the register?" a commissioner asked. Witness assented. "I saw him taking money out of the register, and my clerk saw him, too," said Sair. "I also saw him eating out of the store and not paying for it." Witness did not remember this man's name, but he was "short and chubby." Sair was not certain if he was still in charge of the store and asked Landry. "This official replied "certainly you are," said Sair.

"I told him what his man was doing and Landry replied 'You damned fool, you should go down and see Schafraan.' I've a big stock shortage," I said, Sair declared. "And now you're getting another one." Schafraan told him not to mind. "We will see how the final stock comes out."

Sair said he had been willing to pay one-half of the expense of a full enquiry if the company would pay the other half. Sair said stock was checked in his presence and he was satisfied the check was fair. It was the headoffice, however, which figured out whether the stock was over or under and over the check. Headoffice gave no particulars of the shortages.

Was Dismissed Sair said he was let out on Dec. 18, 1933, when his stock shortages totalled \$212.53. "Why," asked Hon. H. H. Stevens. "Stock shortages." "In spite of all these tricks."

When let out, Sair said he went to Schafraan trying for any job in the chain. Schafraan, Sair related, he could have his job back if he paid cash for the shortages but this was impossible. Sair said he was willing to sign a note for the shortages in fact did so, but Schafraan wanted cash. "Has there been any attempt made to collect on that note you signed," asked E. J. Young. "No, you didn't get all your training in the Thrift Stores?" "Not a cent."

Replying to W. A. Merrill, Sair gave a list of grocers in Western Canada where he had been employed, chiefly in Brandon, Man. He would not sign a note for the shortages in the Thrift Stores. "Not in merchandising." "But you knew the grocery business before." "I thought I did."

"Your evidence to the commission that you first became a thief when you entered the Thrift Stores." "You have to be a thief to manage a store of the Thrift organization." Sair said he would give the name of a Thrift Store employee who was told he would be let out if he wouldn't do what the manager told him. This was a man named Paul Ledger. Prior to joining the Thrift Stores he was employed by Steinberg's. "Was there anything happened before you left?" "What do you mean?" "Was there any money missing?" "I resent that, mister."

He was not "fired" by Steinberg's. He left of his own accord because of long hours and a cut in pay. When he went to Thrift's he was promised \$16, he earned \$12 and finally received \$14. Counsel continued to ask Sair regarding his first stock shortage and the smallness of it. "I suggest you supplemented your means by other ways," declared counsel. "I suggest that your suggestion is all thoughtless," said Sair. At this Merrill protested against the character of Sair's answers.

Witness Upheld "I think counsel provoked that answer by the question he asked," said Chairman W. W. Kennedy. He had brought up the matter of a robbery at Steinberg's and, said Mr. Kennedy, he had expected counsel to follow that up. "He made mention of a robbery at Steinberg's and tried to lay me open to public criticism with it," said Sair, defending his answers. "I was never accused or even questioned about it." "I suggest to counsel such implications should not be made unless substantiated," the chairman said. "Had you any connection with it?" "No." "No, you accused of it?" "No. Not in any way, shape or form."



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"You were not manager of the store." "No." Sair said he doubted if any store manager could look over the books of Thrift Stores, Limited, and be able to tell anything about them. He said he looked at them after his dismissal but could not follow them.

Thrift Stores, Sair said, did not give their managers full details of their stock although they were held responsible.

Since leaving Thrift Stores, Sair said he had been a freelance newspaperman. Now he is employed by Jack Canuck of Toronto. Pressed by the Thrift Store lawyer, Sair said he had written a letter to Hon. H. H. Stevens offering his assistance in determining the facts about chainstores soon after his dismissal. "Did you make it your business to find other disgruntled managers who would come before the commission?" Merrill asked. "The commission employed me to go down to Montreal and round up present and past managers."

"Then you have been acting as an employee of the commission to get well you were paid for it." "Yes."

Afraid of Losing Jobs Pressed by the lawyer, Sair said: "I spoke to many present employees of Thrift Stores and they said they would gladly come before the commission but they were afraid of their jobs."

Gordon Grodinsky, another employee of Thrift Stores at 1225 St. Catherine St. West, was next witness. He was a full time employee, part as delivery boy and part as clerk. His salary was \$6 a week. His hours were from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 8 p.m., Friday until 9 p.m., and all day Saturday until 3 o'clock in the Sunday morning. He was 19 years old. During the 16 months he was at the Thrift Stores there were four managers. Two were fired for short stock and two were transferred. He was ordered to leave a week after R. A. Sair was dismissed, business not having been good. He did not try to get a job with Thrift because he did not want to work with them any more. He got a job a month later.

He had worked at packaging goods and was instructed to weigh one ounce short to the pound. This was to balance shortage of stock, which was made up by giving short weight. All four managers had told him to do this. He started the practise of short weighing the second week he was there. Only the last packages were given full weight "because we didn't want to throw out the rest," said Grodinsky. The full weight packages were put on the front of the shelf. This was in case a government inspector came in to check the weights. He always took the packages in front. "What happened with cheese?" "The manager used to weigh that."

Grodinsky repeated the incident of the company's supervisor coming into the shop and checking up on Sair when the latter was weighing cheese and requesting him not to "kibitz" too much. "What else was done to balance your stock?" "We used to put water in the vinegar."

The proportion was less than one-third of water to the remainder vinegar. Large oranges were taken from boxes and sold at a higher price than the smaller ones.

On Saturday nights there would always be something left over. On Mondays the supervisor would take this residuum away for distribution to other stores, giving him a credit slip of about 50 percent the original value.

"But what happened to that meat?" Why wasn't it sold in your own store, asked chairman Kennedy. "Well, mine was a cut-rate store and the customers want fresh meat. In the high class stores they don't question your judgment," said witness.

To make up the loss he had to resort to the "usual practice of shortweighing the customers," said Smith.

He was transferred from his store to another as second man at \$11 a week. Later he was called off and periodically worked part-time for other Dominion Stores. At Bloom St. he had instructions to pay delivery boys \$3 for 70 hours, the boy to provide the bicycle. He himself paid the boy \$5, of which \$2 came from his own pocket. He never sent a pound of round steak minced out of his store yet, Smith said. "I always sent steaming meat."

Asked by Arthur Ellis, counsel for Dominion Stores, if in his first store the manager used the string to depress the scales, Smith said "no, he just used his thumb. He was not told directly to cheat the scales, but one, he said could get 26 percent out of it without being dishonest."

Asked by Ellis the difference between a cut rate store and a high class store, Smith replied "you can't go down to King St. and get as much money out of them as you can in Rossdale."

He might have made a success of his store if he had had "Forest Hill purchases coming up in him-ousness," said Smith.

In the second store he was employed at 526 St. Clair St. W. the manager had increased prices above the list price and underweighted poultry, said Smith.

In the Bloom St. store when he went back, the manager was using the string and the "wiener." This method was to put a "wiener" under parchment paper on the scale. This gave added weight of 1 1/2 ounces.

"Parchment paper on scale was a sign of cleanliness," said witness. "Do you consider yourself very honest?" asked Ellis. "No, I don't," replied witness. "but I was before I went to the Dominion Stores."

Asked why he turned dishonest, Smith replied he had to do so to keep his job. "What did you do with potatoes selling at 15 cents a peck?" "We sold the big ones for 19 cents."

"What else did you do?" "We mixed milk and cream." This proportion was three bottles of cream and one bottle of milk. It was then sold as table-cream. "Mr. Merrill then took the witness. "Did you rehearse your story?" asked counsel. "No."

"You almost use the same words as he did." "I worked with that man." Witness affirmed he had not been coached by the previous witness.

Why hadn't witness told his employers these things were going on, asked Merrill. "I was afraid of losing my job." "Well, his manager knew of it didn't he?" asked Mr. Kennedy. "You mean why didn't he tell the supervisor?" "He should have gone up to the president of the company, I sup-

pose," said Mr. Stevens. "I suppose he should have gone to the president of the company, a delivery boy at \$5 a week," Mr. Stevens almost snorted.

John J. Smith of Toronto, formerly an employe of Dominion Stores, was the next witness. In a year and a half he worked in six stores and when he left in June, 1934 was assistant manager at \$11 a week less \$1 or \$1.25 a week for cleaning aprons and coats. His last store was at 1294 St. Clair Avenue West although for six months Smith had been manager of the meat department at 2298 Bloor Street West at \$17 a week.

Meat was delivered to the store at wholesale prices, Smith said and he was expected to make 28 percent margin. He said there was no allowance for trimmings or waste and the only way to maintain the mark-up was through short-weight.

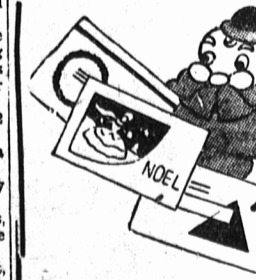
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