

BOY IS STAR WITNESS IN TRIAL OF KIRKLAND TEACHER

Peter Peters Tells Story of Whipping In Kirkland School

Boy Is Star Witness in Trial of Mrs. Pryor, School Teacher, Accused of Flogging Pupils

In Court Today



Peter Peters, 11-year-old Utica schoolboy, told the story of alleged floggings while he attended Kirkland School District No. 2, at a hearing which opened in Children's Court this morning.

Peter was first and chief witness at a trial of Mrs. Mary L. Pryor, Kirkland teacher, on charges brought by Mr. and Mrs. Melton Peters, the boy's parents, who ask the State Department of Education to remove the teacher and suspend her license on the ground of cruelty and unfitness for instruction.

Mrs. Pryor's side was victorious at a recent school election at which it was indicated she may be re-elected.

Glean H. Steele, 125 Rose Place, district superintendent of schools, conducted the taking of evidence, in the Children's Court rooms. Beside him sat Charles F. Brind Jr., assistant counsel to the New York State Department of Education, Leo O. Couper of James and Leo O. Couper, appeared for Melton Peters, with O. Gregory Burns as counsel. The teacher was represented by Stephen W. Brennan of Leo Brennan & Brennan, with Michael Malone as counsel.



Lawsyer Clash

Verbal tiffs regularly punctuated the taking of testimony, between Mr. Couper and Mr. Brennan, and between Mr. Couper and Mr. Brind. Witnesses included young Peter Peters, with O. Gregory Burns as counsel, and Mrs. James A. Calkett.

The court room was comfortably

CHIEF CALLED TO TESTIFY IN \$25,000 LAWSUIT

Fire Department Head Takes Stand in Action Brought Against 11 Insurance Companies.

Fire Chief Joseph N. Sullivan and Inspector Arthur W. Gagne of the Fire Prevention Bureau were summoned as witnesses today in the \$25,000 insurance suit of Armando Micheli.

Both declared that the cause of the fire was listed as "unknown" following an investigation by the department. The chief stated that the fire was a small one and extinguished in seven minutes. These officials were among the last of several defense witnesses called upon to testify at the trial.

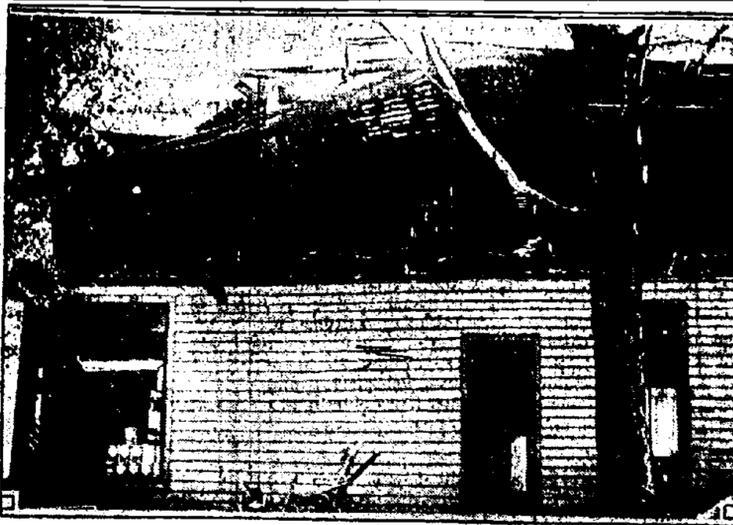
Mr. Micheli, who is suing 11 insurance companies, testified this morning that he incurred damages by a fire in his Bleeker Street drug store at midnight July 29 were valued at \$2,750. In a report filed with the insurance companies he placed the value of the fixtures at \$10,750, according to Edward L. O'Donnell, attorney for the insurance companies.

Mr. O'Donnell listed on a black-board in the courtroom various articles destroyed by the fire, based upon questions asked the witness.

In contesting the suit, the insurance companies claim Micheli's statement of loss was greatly in excess of the value of the stock and fixtures carried.

The trial is expected to end late this afternoon. This is the first case scheduled for trial before a jury at this term of court. Justice William F. Dowling is presiding.

Where Two Were Hurt in Mysterious Explosion



This is what remains of the grocery store and apartment at Second and Elizabeth Streets where a blast of undetermined origin started a fire early today and injured two men. One of the victims is under guard in the General Hospital for questioning by fire officials and the district attorney's office.

Hold Blast Victim Under Guard While Probe Gets Started

One of Two Men Hurt in Explosion in East Utica to Be Grilled by Fire Officials and District Attorney—Son of Storekeeper in Custody—Loss Estimated at \$5,000.

One of two men hurt when an explosion caused \$5,000 loss in an East Utica grocery store and apartment is under police guard at the General Hospital this afternoon.

Frank Bonadio, 535 Bleeker Street, who said he was passing the store at Second and Elizabeth Streets early today when the blast took place, suffered cuts and burns about the face, hands and neck.

Dominick Argento, 15 son of Jake R. Argento, proprietor of the store, is held by police as a material witness in their probe of the cause of the explosion. The proprietor is said to be in Oswego and police today were seeking him for questioning.

The second man injured was Vito Colangelo, Rome, who suffered cuts on his hands. Colangelo, Bonadio and Mrs. Grace Argento, wife of the store owner, who fainted, were all taken to the General Hospital. Colangelo and the woman were discharged and the former went to his home in Rome today.

The district attorney, fire and police officials are investigating the explosion which broke out windows in the adjacent bakery across the street and took persons within a half-mile radius.

Fire Chief Joseph N. Sullivan stated that evidence indicated to him that the blast "was a clear case of a touch-off." He will confer with District Attorney Charles A. DeAngelis and question Bonadio at the hospital late today, he said.

Deputy Chief James J. Donovan reported his men found gasoline-soaked rags in the front room of the apartment over the store, where the Argentos lived. Firemen said a man caught inside when the explosion occurred might be injured in the blast.

The chief said Argento carried \$2,500 insurance on his stock. The owner of the building, Salvatore Altavice, was insured for \$5,000.

The blast demolished the upper half of the building and flames crept through the whole structure. Mrs. Argento told firemen she was spending the day and night with a friend on Elizabeth Street yesterday.

MINOR HURTS FROM CRASHES OVER HOLIDAY

Score of Persons Figure in Accidents but No Serious Injuries Are Reported About Utica.

Holiday motor accidents checked up today revealed no serious injuries reported though a score of persons figured in minor crashes.

There were three persons injured in one accident on the Romeville road about two miles east of Cary's Corners shortly after 11 o'clock last night when two cars collided head-on.

Those injured were Gerhard Achille, 20, of 747 West Dominick Street, Rome; driver of an east-bound touring car. Riding with him were Harry Smith, 17, of West Dominick Street, Rome, and Ben Monaco, 22, of 226 Bleeker Street, Utica. Achille suffered a deep gash on his left knee and Smith was injured about the chest. Both were taken to St. Luke's Hospital in Falk's ambulance. Monaco escaped injury.

Woman Cut

Dominick Collea, 23, of 513 Elizabeth Street, was driver of the westbound car. Riding with him were his wife's mother, Mrs. Theresa Amarosa of 630 Lansing Street, and her daughter, Mary, 23; Vera, 15, and Fannie, 13. Mrs. Amarosa was the only one in the party injured. She cut her right arm on the left leg but was able to go to her home.

After the collision, Collea's machine continued on for about 200 feet and struck a tree. Troopers Kane and King of the New Hartford barracks investigated.

Eight persons escaped harm when one car sidwiped another going in an opposite direction on the Utica-Fronton road about midnight last night.

One of the cars, a new sedan, owned and driven by H. A. Putnam of Johnston, was practically wrecked. There were three other passengers in the car with him at the time.

Car Rams Pole

The other car also had four passengers including the driver, E. J. Roterdorff of 258 Elizabeth Street. This car struck a pole after leaving the road, and was badly damaged.

Philip Rosario, 2, of 1221 Rutger Street, was bruised on the leg when he was struck by a car driven by L. E. Bumble of 1219 Maple Street, yesterday. He was taken to his home by the driver.

The accident occurred near Culver Avenue and Rutgers Street.

Mrs. Ethel Waterman of Rome was bruised about the arm when the car in which she was riding collided with another machine Tuesday night at Orleans and Geneva Streets.

Brayton F. Hite of Whitesboro, driver of the car in which she was riding, was arrested by Patrolman Hite on the charge of passing a red signal light. He paid a fine of \$2 after pleading guilty in City Court yesterday morning.

Former Utica Pastor's Son in Yale Riot

Prof. H. H. Tweedy of the Yale Divinity School, former pastor of Plymouth Church and frequent preacher at Hamilton College, and his son stepped into the line of fire when Yale students staged one of the greatest riots ever seen in New Haven.

Five students, arrested and confined for a night in jail, were released in custody of Mr. Tweedy until their cases are disposed of Saturday, according to an Associated Press dispatch.

Students arrested in the dispatch case included Gordon B. Tweedy, 21, son of Mr. Tweedy, a junior, and Hamilton Allen, 19, of Ossida, a freshman. They are charged with general breach of the peace.

Saturday, Mrs. Hildebrand gave a sour milk formula for babies.

Parade and Services At Cemeteries Mark Utica Memorial Day

Living Veterans Honored and Graves of Dead Decorated by Organizations—Tribute Paid Few Survivors of Civil War in Line—Participants Escape Rain.

Music and marching in the streets, flowers and speeches at veterans' graves these were Utica's Memorial Day tributes to the heroes of war.

Though skies were leaden, and rain fell copiously much of the day, the weather was kind to those who did honor to veterans. No rain fell for the parade. Sunshine greeted participants at the cemeteries.

A handful of Civil War veterans, numbering a sparse 14, marked the beginning of the day. G. A. R. members, Past and present, then out to their children, taking occasion to remark that soon, soon, these would be no more.

Veterans in Parade

The parade started at 9 o'clock. It was led by police and firemen, all ex-service men, under direction of Joseph P. Ladd. Next came an automobile, in which rode Capt. J. E. Head, grand marshal; Mayor Fred J. Rath, and Louis G. Sunderhaft, general chairman. In another car were Senator Henry D. Williams, personal aide to the grand marshal, Capt. John Strain, and Samuel J. Holt of the Utica Free Academy, who delivered the Gettysburg Address.

Next, Thomas C. Dedell, chief of staff, was followed by massed divisions. In line were Utica Post Drum Corps, American Legion Auxiliary drill team and other bodies, especially auxiliaries in white uniforms. The procession disbanded at Hiker Monument.

At the cemeteries brief ceremonies were held with addresses. Taps were sounded, loud thunder and lightning and rain overcast cemeteries marked contrast to the colorful, peopled places of the morning.

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Senator Williams was speaker at Old Forest Hill Cemetery. The Rev. D. F. Pierce, chaplain of Bacon Post, offered prayer. Crescent quartet sang. Bugler Francis Corrigan sounded taps and a squad fired a salute.

In Calvary Cemetery, Utica Post drum corps, American Legion Auxiliary and the graves of James Furion, Mayor Rath was speaker. Bugler Edward Borek sounded taps.

At Holy Trinity Cemetery, Assistant District Attorney John J. McGilly was speaker. The Rev. M. J. Bialko offered prayer. The church choir under direction of Joseph J. Traska sang. Anthony Wawrzaszek, World War veteran, spoke in Polish and Koiko Filaretov choir gave a selection.

Squad Fires Salute

At the grave of Brig. Gen. James J. McQuade and Charles H. Adrean, in St. Agnes' Cemetery, Louis Hart Tent, No. 14, Daughters of Veterans, was in charge, under direction of Mrs. John McCoo. A salver of flowers from the grave of Maj. Joseph H. Remmer. The Rev. William J. Glyn was speaker. St. Agnes' choir sang. Wreaths were placed on the graves. William Charles Cottrell sounded taps. James D. O'Keefe, commander of Charles H. Adams Post, No. 25, Veterans of Foreign Wars, presided at ceremonies at the Adrean grave.

The Rev. Patrick J. Sloan, pastor of the Church of Sacred Heart, delivered an address in St. Joseph's Cemetery, where services were conducted by H. H. Winchell Camp, No. 41, Sons of the American Revolution, assisted by Richard Barnes was in charge. Apollo quartet sang. Louise Hart Tent, placed flowers.

Services at Clinton

Memorial Day was observed in Clinton yesterday with ceremonies conducted by veterans of the Civil, Spanish and World Wars.

The procession of automobiles carrying the veterans, members of the Women's Relief Corps, American Legion Auxiliary, about 25 Boy Scouts and the Clinton Band visited the Kirkland, Danaboro, St. Mary's and Sunset Hill cemeteries, where the graves of soldiers had been decorated with flags Sunday.

A firing squad in charge of Alton Anderson fired a volley at each cemetery. The service was furnished by the Clinton Band. Upon the return to the legion rooms dinner was served to more than 100.

Suburban News

Clinton - Yorkville - Whitesboro

NEW NOTES FROM NEW HARTFORD

Mr. and Mrs. Irving H. Howe, Denver, Colo. are guests of Mrs. Elizabeth Howe, Oxford Road, New Hartford.

George Lambert, Pearl Street, who has been ill, is much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Phineas Toolittle have received word of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Doolittle, San Diego, Calif., former residents of New Hartford.

Thomas Groves, Oxford Road, has returned home from a trip to Saratoga where he attended the D.M. day convention.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cookham of Albany have returned home after a week's visit with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. K. Krieger of New Hartford.

Guy Finney, Hillside Avenue, is at Eagle Day.

FUNERAL OF MIL RYAN HELD AT WHITESBORO

Funeral of Thomas Ryan was held from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. William H. Williams, 50 Main Street, Whitesboro, and from St. Paul's Church, yesterday morning. Assolom requiem high-mass was celebrated by the Rev. Edmund J. Codd of Florence and the Rev. James Bannan of Whitesboro. The Rev. H. Hillary as sub-deacon. Mrs. Edward F. Dunn and John Kenney sang and George Hillmer played the organ. Bearers were Robert Alexander, Leo Tobin, James Kinney, Peter McCarthy, James Redmond and James Wright.

The remains were taken to Florence by Undertaker John J. Ladner. In St. Mary's Cemetery, where final absolution at the grave was given by Father Codd.

PROFESSOR HONOURED AT NEW HARTFORD

Prof. Henry Hopkins of the New Hartford High School was tendered a testimonial luncheon by the faculty at the school Tuesday night in honor of his 40th birthday.

Thirty-two persons were present including Mrs. Hopkins. Red and white decorations were used.

A gold watch chain and knits were presented the guest of honor and Mrs. Hopkins was presented roses.

A musical program was given and those who participated were: Miss Harriet Beverly, soprano; Alan Devlin, tenor, and Mrs. Chester Gurley, accompanist.

Professor Hopkins retired in June, having completed 42 years of teaching, including 37 years as principal of New Hartford High School. Professor and Mrs. Hopkins will continue to live in New Hartford.

Mrs. Thomas Fitzgerald was chairman of the committee on the dinner, assisted by Mrs. Earl Rausbury and Mrs. Thomas, who were in charge of decorations.

WHITESBORO WOMAN ELECTED TO SOCIETY

Miss Katharine Quinn, Whitesboro, was recently elected a member of the Forum Club, a society of Russell Bay Colts.

N. Y. MESA RESIDENTS RETURN FROM VISIT

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd C. Brown, New York Mills, have returned from visiting friends in Pittsburg, Pa.

Saturday, Mrs. Eldred gives a sour milk formula for babies.

White Flannel Trousers, SKIRTS AND OTHER SUMMER WEAR

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TWO STANDBY HOTEL MARTIN UNION STATION

There's something of interest to you over in the

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Don't pass them up—read every ad. In addition you may find your name listed for two tickets to the

Observed-Dispatch Classified Ads

Don't pass them up—read every ad. In addition you may find your name listed for two tickets to the

Observed-Dispatch Classified Ads

Don't pass them up—read every ad. In addition you may find your name listed for two tickets to the

Here is Peter Peters, ex-Kirkland school boy, who was the chief witness in today's court proceedings here against Mrs. Mary Pryor, shown in the lower photo. The Peters boy recited his tale of alleged mistreatment by Mrs. Pryor while the teacher sat with her counsel to await her chance to give testimony when the trial gets further along.

Filled with about a hundred persons, mostly women and children, Principals present included Peter Peters, 12, who was "flogged;" Mr. and Mrs. Melton Peters, his parents; Mrs. Mary L. Pryor, teacher; Charles Davis, retiring trustee of District No. 2, Town of Kirkland; Mrs. Mabel Rouiller, Jess Rouiller and Charles Kelly; E. O. Folsom, secretary of the Board of Education, and Edward Dillon, buildings superintendent. Were among the spectators, as was also William R. Small, chairman of the Onondaga County Board of Supervisors.

In opening, Superintendent Steele pointed out the charges and the appearance, Mr. Brind pointed out that the commissioner of education is holding the hearing to get the facts, and the rules of evidence might not be strictly enforced. He asked the attorneys to stick to the charges as contained in the papers.

Peter's first witness said he now resides with a sister, Mrs. Nora Hanna, 339 Jay Street, and is attending Bleeker Street School.

The boy described his school career, first in Utica, and then three years ago at Kirkland, District No. 2.

He said that last Fall Mrs. Pryor asked him to clean out the ashes from the stove which he did for two or three weeks, when his clothes were soiled, and his mother told him not to carry ashes any more.

Boy Describes Whipping

It was this refusal that precipitated the beating, he said. He was directed to stay after school, when he said, William Pryor, the teacher's husband, told him with a hose.

He described the hose as about two feet long, garden hose variety, which was doubled up.

"She hit me hard," said Peter, "five or six times. She hit me as hard as she could. I ran home and my mother saw the black and blue marks on my back."

The boy described another beating he received, because a girl had complained of spitting by Peter. Peter was kept after school, when Mrs. Boyer and Mrs. Pryor, both teachers, held him by the feet and hand and bounced him on the floor. He had tried to take the hose from Mrs. Pryor, the boy said. He added that Trustee Davies was present and kicked him, then expelled him from school.

"She was always mean to me," the boy testified concerning Mrs. Pryor. "I could ask her if she could help me with an example and she would deny me. She asked me only one question in class, while others were asked five or six."

"She was cranky in her usual way," he declared the boy of Mrs. Pryor.

Attorney Brennan gave the boy a cross-examination.

Can't Recall All

"The way she treated me," said Peter, "I can't recall all the things she did to me."

When objection by Mr. Brennan was sustained, Mr. Couper complained "an attempt is being made to shut us out."

Mr. Couper sought to introduce conversation of Mr. Pryor at a hearing. Mr. Brennan objected vigorously, saying Mrs. Pryor is not responsible for her husband's words, acts or beliefs. Mr. Brennan pointed out that the charges only three are against the teacher, and at the hearing, and three are

Distribute Newest Telephone Books to Vicinity Subscribers

Distribution of the new Summer directory of the New York Telephone Company took place today.

The volume replaces the former directory for Utica and the address for Whitesboro are now listed under Utica in this vicinity are now listed under Utica.

The cover is in brown. The heavy paper for entry of much-used numbers is continued.

Lady of Lourdes School Drive Fund To Start Monday

The drive of Our Lady of Lourdes Church for \$100,000 to help defray the initial expense of building a new parochial school will be formally launched at a dinner of workers at the church Monday.

Team captains and their aides were selected at a meeting of the Men's Club of the church Tuesday night in the church basement.

LATE RUSH TO PAY UP TAXES DELAYS SALE

A last minute rush to the office of City Treasurer Thomas C. Hedrick caused postponement of the tax sale from this morning to this afternoon.

The city showed about 900 pieces of property up for sale because of delinquent taxes but City Treasurer Hedrick estimated that the number would be reduced to 150 before the time of the sale this afternoon.

Postponement of the sale was made necessary, the city treasurer stated, because of the fact that the list must be revised to eliminate those properties upon which taxes and penalties were paid today.

Under cross examination, Peter said he was kept after school, not asked for not taking out the ashes, but also because he failed in his English lesson.

"She didn't whip me for not having my lesson that night," the boy said. "It was on account of the ashes."

The boy said he declined to carry coals for the teacher after the first whipping, whereupon Mrs. Pryor said "Let Peter do it." When he declined further he was beaten a second time, while Mr. Pryor held him, he said.

Mr. Brennan introduced a note written by Peter's mother to Mrs. Pryor the day after the whipping, which he did not immediately enter in a divorce and would not disclose it to the other side.

Peter Speaks Rapidly

The boy answered questions, directly and quickly, his words falling from his lips so rapidly that the stenographer had to halt him. He wrinkled his brows, pondering questions. He leaned forward on the improvised table, holding his arms and resting his head on them. He coughed, he gasped, he whistled, and failure to set his trousers, but said confidently he was a good pupil.

Mrs. Pryor sat tensely attentive to the boy's testimony and to the tittle of counsel. She leaned over frequently to Mr. Brennan to discuss a current bit of evidence from the boy.

Mr. Couper quizzed the boy as to the size of the hose, and Peter gave him the information.

Attorney Brind asked Peter if a doctor had ever attended his bruises, and if he has been forced to wear any of school, trousers of them. He replied he had stayed out a day.

Presbytery Frees Whitesboro Pastor To Take New Post

The Rev. Charles F. Kittredge, pastor of the Whitesboro Presbyterian Church for the last 15 years, is free to accept his new charge as pastor of the Utica Presbyterian Church at Endicot.

Members of the Utica Presbytery met at their meeting in First Church House, Tuesday afternoon, voted unconditionally to release Mr. Kittredge from the Utica Presbytery. In his new charge he will be a member of the Binghamton Presbytery.

The Rev. C. M. Thomas, Forestport, was received into the Utica Presbytery on a letter of recommendation from the Western New York Association of Congregational Ministers, in session at Salamanca.

The Rev. George C. Frost, Orleans, was chosen to succeed Mr. Kittredge as clerk.

Variety of Dogs Awaiting Their Fate at Pound

Ernest Hill, 1001 Albany Street, dog catcher, has a variety of dogs looking for homes. It is announced by Harry Gourley, humane officer.

A board bill is due on most of these. Among those in need of a home are: Female Irish terrier, a year old; female white poodle, female poodle, hunting hound; female pointer, 3 months old; male pointer, 3 months old; wire-haired bull terrier, female; police dog, setter, male, and an ardele and police, mixed, female, 4.

Safe Downtown Parking Spot for Businessmen.

If you happen to be a busy man and want a safe, convenient parking spot for your car every day, call 11 Broadway Street. No transients

Newsboy Sleeping in Cellar Saved from Flames by Firemen

William "Charley" Mullen, veteran newsboy, was rescued by firemen from the burning cellar of the Robinson Motor Company, 261 Lafayette Street, this morning.

The newsboy had gone into the cellar to sleep and firemen answering an alarm to the building, just before 2 o'clock found him in the cellar not far from a pile of burning papers. He told the firemen that he was looking for a place to sleep.

The fire was caused by a cigarette or a match, firemen say.

A mattress and bedding, were destroyed at 7:45 last night in the apartment occupied by Joseph Conte, 619 Elizabeth Street. No one was home at the time of the fire. The apartment house is owned by Philip Graziano.

One hour later the men were called to a chimney fire in the garage at the foot of Gilbert Street. There was no damage. Firemen were called out Tuesday night when a rubbish caught fire in a box in a cellar at 160 Court Street. The box was carried to the street and there was no damage.

Arraignment of Vito Stagliano

Arraignment of Vito Stagliano, Rome, on two indictments charging first degree murder is expected to take place in Supreme Court here, late this afternoon, or tomorrow.

Henry J. Somo, attorney for the alleged slayer of Frank Cortese and James George, has recovered from an illness and is expected to be able to appear in court for the arraignment. Assistant District Attorney Frank S. Baker of Rome, announced this forenoon.

As the law will permit only a plea of not guilty, the arraignment will be held mainly for the purpose of deciding upon a date for the trial.

Mr. Baker stated that he wants Stagliano tried as soon as possible and said it will probably take place the last week in June before Justice William F. Dowling of Utica. Justice Dowling will conduct a term of Supreme Court in Herkimer County next month, but the assistant prosecutor said he believed the local jurist would be able to adjourn it so that he could return to Utica to preside at Stagliano's trial.

A panel of 150 jurors from which a jury of 12 men will be selected will be prepared immediately after the date of the trial is decided upon, Mr. Baker announced.

It has been indicated that Stagliano will plead self-defense.

The shooting which took place about a month ago in Rome was said to have resulted when Stagliano was said to have been reprimanded for annoying George's children. George is a non-in-law of Cortese.

Calvary Church Plans Communion On Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday will be observed in Calvary Episcopal Church Sunday with the celebration of Holy Communion at 9 o'clock and at 10:30. A service of baptism will take place at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

After the evening service there will be confirmation instruction for adults in preparation for Bishop Keck's visitation June 21, when he will officiate at confirmation.

ROMAN FACES ARRAIGNMENT FOR SLAYING

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