

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 Lea, Brennan & Ebbett, with Michael Malone as counsel.



Lawyers 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, Mrs. James A. Calkett, the court room was comfortably

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.

Titled 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, 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.

"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 on the floor. He had tried to take the hose from Mrs. Pryor, the boy said. He added that Trustees 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 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 boy so many times," said Peter, "I testified that when Mr. Brennan asked me to have a detail of what I testified to."

He described three floggings, one over a spitting episode, one over slamming a door, for which he said, "my head was banged—so the boy."

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 behavior. Mr. Brennan pointed out that the charges only three are against the teacher, and at the hearing, and three are

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. Gawn 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 \$25,000 in loss in his Bleeker Street drug store at midnight July 29, were valued at \$6,750. 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 blackboard 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.

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.

The "core" is in hand. The heavy page for entry of much-needed 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.

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.

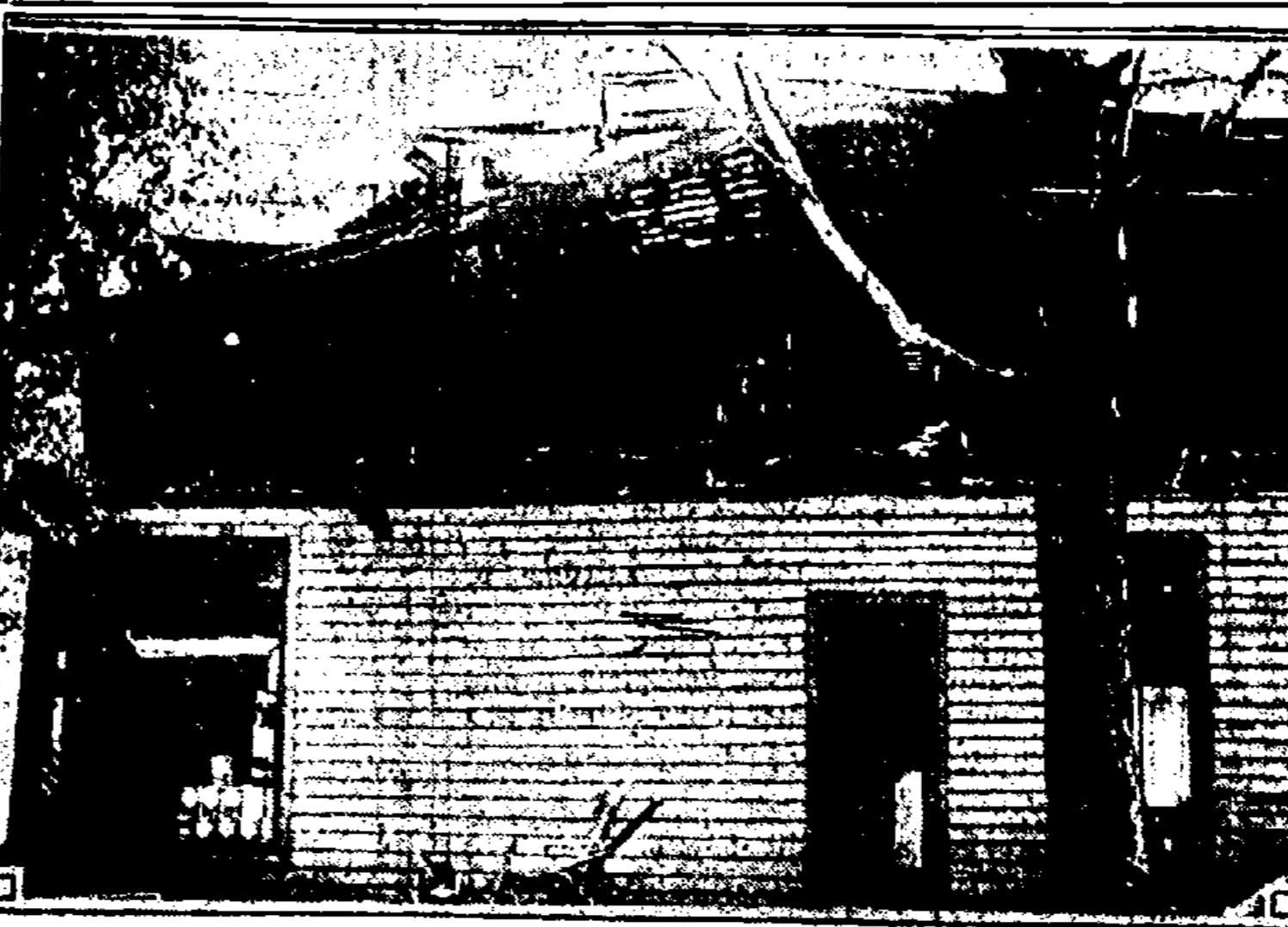
Variety of Dogs Awaiting Their Fate at Pound

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

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 111 Broadway Street. No transients

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.

Exploding which broke out windows in the Cifuentes Bakery across the street and work 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 person 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 \$4,000.

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.

The district attorney, fire and police officials are investigating the

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.

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.

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.

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.

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 Rome-Utica road about two miles east of Cary's Corners shortly after 11 o'clock yesterday night when two cars collided head-on.

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.

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.

Graves Decorated

Sons of Veterans took charge at New Forest Hill Cemetery, where Commander Frank P. Addy gave the address.

Parade at New York Mills

Notwithstanding the threatening weather, the people of New York Mills observed Memorial Day yesterday by having a street parade and holding exercises in Glenside Cemetery.

Whitesboro Woman Released to Society

Miss Katharine O'Brien, Whitesboro, was recently freed a member of the Forum Club Society of Russell Bay Colby.

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 founding of the G. A. R. members. They were escorted 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.

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.

Legion Pays Tribute

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.

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 soldier's flag flew over the grave of Maj. Joseph H. Remmer. The Rev. William J. Glyn was speaker. St. Agnes' choir sang. Wreaths were placed on the graves.

Graves Decorated

Sons of Veterans took charge at New Forest Hill Cemetery, where Commander Frank P. Addy gave the address.

In St. Peter's Cemetery, Deerfield, Sons and Daughters of Veterans, under direction of Mrs. Stella Grosjean, decorated graves. Miss Margaret DeWemy raised the flag. James DeWemy Jr. played drums. A ritualistic service, conducted by Richard Barnes and Frank Ritter, George C. Hayes spoke.

Funeral of Mil Ryan Held at Whitesboro

Funeral of Thomas Ryan was held from the residence of his daughter, Mrs. William H. Williams, 56 Main Street, Whitesboro, and 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 Holmer played the organ. Bearers were Robert Alexander, Leo Tobin, James Kinney, Peter McCarthy, James Redmond and James Wright.

Professor Honored at New Hartford

Prof. Henry Hopkins of the New Hartford High School was tendered a testimonial dinner by the faculty of the school Tuesday night in Hartford, Conn.

Whitesboro Woman Released to Society

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N. Y. MESA RESIDENTS RETURN FROM VISIT

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

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

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