

F. VAN RODEN, JR., ASKS CUSTODY OF CHILD

Overbrook Resident Tells Court Wife Is Unfit to Take Care of Girl.

Startling and sensational testimony brought by a vast array of legal talent featured the habeas corpus proceedings brought in the New Jersey Chancery Court in Camden today by Frank Van Roden, Jr., of 530 Drexel road, Overbrook, against his wife, Julia Van Roden, to obtain possession of their two-year-old daughter, Eleanor, whom the mother kidnapped from the Van Roden home in Overbrook on the night of March 12.

Represented by Congressman George S. Graham and Robert McCarter, former Attorney General of New Jersey, Mr. Van Roden, Jr., in his petition, maintains that Mrs. Van Roden, Jr., "is not a fit person to have possession of his daughter and that a life of gaiety makes her unfit to be a mother to any child."

The petition says further that Mrs. Van Roden is a member of the smart set at Atlantic City, and that she has been in the habit of receiving men there in her apartments there, where little Eleanor is now under the care of a Negro servant.

Mrs. Van Roden was represented by Joseph Handy Hall, United States District Attorney in Philadelphia, and the firm of Gaskill & Gaskill, of Camden. The proceedings were brought this morning before Vice Chancellor Learning.

After hearing the testimony, said the Chancellor, he has the general guardianship of all children in New Jersey, and that he would issue an order to have Mrs. Julia Van Roden appear with the child in court next Monday, and that if she refused to come he would order the child brought into court.

Detectives have been unable to serve papers on Mrs. Van Roden, and it is believed that she is in New York. That is also the belief of Sheriff Bartlett, of Atlantic City, who has been searching for her for more than a week.

Mrs. Van Roden, Jr., and her husband, who were married in 1913, in Ardmore, Pa., were separated in May, 1913, and the father, by agreement, was given custody of their daughter, Eleanor.

On one of the objects of the petition, it is said, is to place the child in an institution where it would be "given proper care and treatment."

PRESIDENT TO PLEAD HERE FOR CALMNESS

Continued from Page One ability for any loss of American lives through submarine attacks.

It is possible that there will be a semi-official announcement of policy at the White House today, but not probable, President Wilson, it is believed, will consult not only with his Cabinet, but many of the Admiralty and other officials, announcing the action he has determined to take.

Another, officials deemed it certain that several important questions of fact would have to be settled before an announcement could be made.

On this point officials could venture no guesses; they said the German communication alone could answer the question.

The commonest prediction was that the administration would not permit any indignity and assurances that such incidents as that of the Lusitania, involving American lives and property, would not be repeated.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT BEGINS RIGID PROBE

LATEST OFFICIAL FIGURES OF LUSITANIA DISASTER

Continued from Page One you learned that an attempt was to be made to sink your vessel" asked the Coroner.

ADMIRALTY WARNED LINER. FIRST LORD DECLARES

4000 NEW U. S. CITIZENS TO GET WILSON'S WELCOME

Mayor and President to Be Heard at Reception Tonight.

QUEENSTOWN CITY OF PATHOS AS VICTIMS ARE LAID TO REST

Throughout the long hours of Sunday and last night preparations were pushed for the largest funeral in the history of this little Irish coast city.

1149 MISSING, LATEST LIST, 115 OF THEM AMERICANS

With 764 survivors of the destroyed Cunard liner Lusitania safe on land and 144 bodies of victims recovered, the work of searching the sea for the missing, set at 1149 in number, was carried on vigorously today by a fleet of warships, tugs and trawlers along the south coast of Ireland.

PASS CIVIL SERVICE TESTS

List of Eligibles for City Jobs Announced by Board.

Intruder Starts Farm Fire

LANCASTER, Pa., May 10.—Fire this morning destroyed the house and barn on Kinzer Bender's farm near Mechanicsburg.

CITY TROOP HAS ESCORTED PRESIDENTS 43 TIMES

President, escorted. Dates.

THIRTY-TWO PHILADELPHIANS LOST LIVES ON LUSITANIA

Only Eight Persons From This City Reported Saved—Body of But One of the Missing, Stephen Crompton, Recovered—Despair Grips Relatives.

Thirty-two of the 41 Philadelphians who were on the Lusitania were probably lost in the submarine attack on the liner. Only eight are reported saved. The body of but one of the missing, Stephen Crompton, has been recovered.

ADMIRALTY WARNED LINER. FIRST LORD DECLARES

The British Admiralty warned the Lusitania of the presence of hostile German submarines on the Irish coast and also directed her course by wireless.

KESSLER SUGGESTED BOAT DRILL ON LUSITANIA

Told Captain Passengers Should Be Told What to Do in Emergencies.

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ADMIRAL BENSON, IN FAREWELL MESSAGE, PUTS TRANSIT FIRST IN NAVY YARD'S NEEDS

Rear Admiral William S. Benson, who vacated the position of Commandant of the Philadelphia Navy Yard at noon today, to become the active head of the navy as chief of the newly created Bureau of Naval Operations, gave the EVENING LEDGER the following statement:

One of the principal reasons that the advantages of the Navy Yard have not been more fully developed is that transit facilities for reaching it have been poor, being a constant source of discouragement to both officers and employes.

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QUEENSTOWN, MAY 10

After the German submarine had attacked the Lusitania, and the great ship was heeling over on her side and settling in the water with tumult rinding on her decks, there was one man on the ship who stood grimly at his task.

Alexander Harkins, of 21st street near Race, a waiter in the private dining rooms of Broad Street Station, who is believed lost, was on his way to England on the Lusitania.

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