

STRASSBURGER HIT BY RED CROSS HEAD

Ambler Official Defends Interest Taken in Swiss Girl's Trial

CALLED PUBLICITY SEEKER

Inordinate love of publicity caused Ralph Beaver Strassburger, of Gwynedd, Pa., to criticize the American Red Cross for coming to the defense of Madeline Huerta Jeanneret, recently arrested for theft, according to Harold G. Knight, of Ambler, vice chairman of the Ambler branch of the Red Cross. Miss Jeanneret was charged by Mr. Strassburger with stealing a necklace which belonged to Miss Marjorie Bourne, of New York, a sister of Mrs. Strassburger.

In a statement which he made July 4, Mr. Strassburger expressed regret that the Red Cross had gone to the defense of a girl from a foreign country arrested for theft, and launched a criticism of the Red Cross at Ambler.

Replies to Attack
Commenting today on the criticism of Strassburger, Mr. Knight said: "I was very much surprised to read the unjust, unfair and unwarranted attack made by Mr. Strassburger on the Ambler branch of American Red Cross and its officials; an attack that can only be accounted for by Mr. Strassburger's inordinate love of publicity. Since Mr. Strassburger has so well advertised the Jeanneret case I believe that the public should know the undisputed and undeniable facts.

"This girl, seventeen years old, came from Switzerland about seven months ago to seek employment in the United States. She found work in New York and was later employed as a chambermaid in the Strassburger home at Gwynedd Valley.

"It was her duty to take care of the room of Miss Marjorie Bourne, who was on a visit to the Strassburger home. Miss Bourne was kind to the girl and gave her presents of money and wearing apparel. When Miss Bourne left the Strassburger home she handed Miss Jeanneret two dollars and said: 'There is something for you.'

"The girl, with her imperfect knowledge of English, testified that she thought there was something upstairs, and later, when she discovered the

jewels in an open bureau drawer, she thought that they were imitations and of little value and what Miss Bourne meant her to have.

Wore Jewels Openly
"She took the jewels and wore them openly about the Strassburger home for nine days. They were seen by the servants and when asked where she got them she told the servants that Miss Bourne had given them to her. She made no effort to leave, but when she learned from the butler that the jewels might be real she tried to return them to Miss Bourne's room.

"Miss Bourne, in the meantime, had returned and she could not get the jewels back. The girl then put them in a drawer in Miss Bourne's private bathroom. Later when questioned by the police she told everything she knew and took the officers to where the jewels had been placed.

"William Urban, a local justice of the peace, before whom the girl was taken, thought there was a grave question as to her guilt, and as she was a stranger in a strange land with no friends or funds, he brought the matter to the attention of the social service department of the American Red Cross, who asked me to take care of her interests. On hearing the facts from Mr. Urban I thought it was a case entirely proper for the social service department of the American Red Cross to be interested in. I gladly undertook the girl's defense without any compensation or thought of making a charge.

Wanted Justice for Girl
"I did not attack Miss Bourne who appears to be a very fine woman, and whose testimony did not hurt my client. Nor did I heap vituperation on any one. Mr. Strassburger knows this and so does every one who was in the courtroom, from the trial judge down. The accusation that my speech to the jury was Socialistic is too silly to dignify with a denial. It seems to me that Mr. Strassburger has received enough publicity from the predicament of this seventeen-year-old Swiss girl. When he wants to see his name in print and his picture in the paper again he should adopt a more worthy method instead of attacking the Red Cross and its officials, who are trying in a modest way to do a helpful work in the community and who are just as loyal American citizens as Mr. Strassburger is or claims to be."

FLIERS TO FOLLOW MODEL AIRWAYS

U. S. Army Service Plans National System of Landing Places

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ASKED

By the Associated Press
Washington, July 5.—A system of model airways covering the entire continent is planned by the Army Air Service for the use of all operators or owners of air craft. It contemplates various chains of well-organized landing fields, supplemented by frequent emergency fields and identification markers connecting the principal cities.

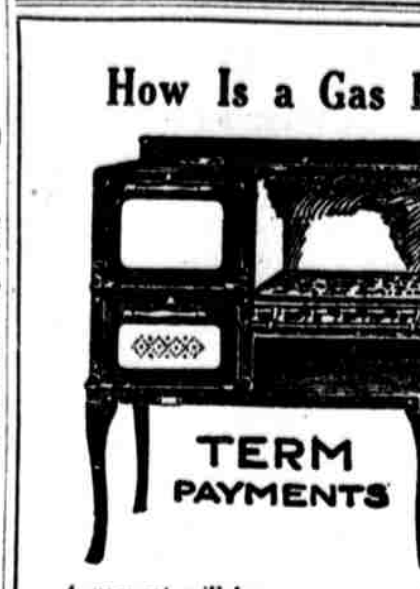
Because of the lack of appropriations from the Federal Government, air service officials said today it was their purpose to appeal to the Chambers of Commerce, arial clubs and civic organizations to assist in creation of the airways. The Boy Scouts organization already has pledged its co-operation, it was stated, and will construct identification markers, guard wrecked planes, submit monthly reports on emergency landing field conditions, and generally assist aviators in trouble.

The plan calls for the first of the model airways between Washington and Dayton, O., with five main stations, ten subsidiary stations and twenty emergency fields. These will be divided among Leesburg, Va.; Charlottesville, Pa.; Moundsville and Morgantown, W. Va.; Cumberland, Frontburg and Oakland, Md.; Point Marion, Smithfield and Waynesboro, Pa.; Pleasant City, Cambridge, Zanesville, Columbus, Springfield and Dayton, O.

Each main station will be provided with a municipal landing field, wireless and telephone equipment and a meteorological station which will forecast weather conditions and wind directions and disseminate such information to fliers along the route.

Other airways tentatively approved by the Air Service to be included in the national system of air trails include one from New York City to Langley Field, Va., connecting the principal cities between the two terminals; one from Jacksonville, Fla., to San Diego, Calif., along a general line of Mobile, Ala.; San Antonio, Tex., and Tucson, Ariz.; another from St. Paul and Minneapolis to Seattle, to be known as the Yellowstone trail, along the general line of Aberdeen, S. D.; Miles City, Billings and Butte, Mont.; Coeur d'Alene, Ida., and Spokane, Wash.; and another proposed to connect New Orleans, La., and Chicago, taking the Mississippi Valley route.

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