

Listen, World!

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY ELSIE ROBINSON



THIS TALK IS ABOUT LITTLE JIM'S JOB

You have done something. It is something which would be a blot on the most savage tribe in darkest Africa and which, performed here in the freest, most enlightened country on the globe, is a stench unto high Heaven. And YOU—YOU and I—have done this thing.

As soon as you read this article you're going to dispute that statement. You're going to say that you didn't do this.

"Why should I be blamed?" you'll cry. "The Supreme Court did it, not I. Personally I think it's detestable." Nevertheless, my friend, YOU did it. And I did it. You and I are responsible. For in the final analysis we are the Supreme Court.

The government of the United States isn't a mushroom growth, springing from some mysterious origin. It's YOU and I. If that government is glorious, YOU and I have made it so. And if it does aught that is shameful, YOU and I are responsible for that shame.

And so when today we discuss the Supreme Court's recent decision that the laws against child labor are unconstitutional, it is vain for you and I to crawl under the bed to escape notice. We can't escape it. If Little Children are working today anywhere in the United States, You and I are to blame. It's a sweet thing to be blamed for, isn't it?

Little children are working today. They are not doing those normal small chores which hurt no child. They are working as men and women work. Little tads, just like your Jimmy and Rose—small sprats with their hands still soft, and their noses still in a baby pug, and their front teeth still missing—working on eight-hour day shifts! Limping home to cry at night because they have "growing pains" in their poor little legs—crawling out of bed at six in the morning, heavy eyed, stupid. How do YOU feel about it? I feel like a dog.

"Just exactly what happened?" This:

We have in this country a thing called States' Rights. It is a good thing. It is the principle upon which our democracy is founded. This principle maintains that each state must legislate for itself in matters which are its own particular concern, and that the Federal Government cannot dictate in such matters.

The law forbidding child labor was a Federal law. Men and women had worked for 20 years to pass that law. But in certain sections it was strongly opposed because in such sections there was available much cheap child labor. This disagreement at last forced the issue into the United States Supreme Court, in the effort to test its constitutionality. And the Supreme Court has declared that the law is unconstitutional. It says that the United States

Government, as a Government, cannot protect the children. That matter must be left to the States to decide.

So the States have decided—by doing exactly nothing. Despite the frantic struggles of women voters and women's clubs, practically all restrictions against child labor have been wiped away. As a consequence, children are being worked in wholesale lot throughout this supposedly civilized, Christian country today.

The Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor has recently made a survey of the condition in the industries of the eastern states. This is a coldly impersonal survey. It is not conducted by sentimentalists or inspired by sob sisters. Here is what it found.

"A survey of conditions in 30 cities scattered all over the country shows an increase of 36.8 per cent, in the number of children working during the first six months of 1923 as compared with the record for the last six months of 1922.

"Of the 30 cities surveyed, all except Washington and Minneapolis reported increases in the number of 14 and 15 year old children taking out permits to go to work.

"The largest increase was in Waterbury, Conn., almost 800 per cent.

"Other Connecticut cities reported increases of from 98 to 178 per cent. Other cities reporting strikingly large increases are Springfield, Mass., 215 per cent.; Pittsburgh, 127 per cent.; San Francisco, 85 per cent.; Indianapolis, 75 per cent.; Birmingham, 63 per cent.; Baltimore, 56 per cent.; Philadelphia, 51 per cent.

In Manchester, N. H., Milwaukee and Louisville, from four to five times as many certificates were issued to children as formerly."

That is what happened when the Supreme Court of the United States declared that the laws regulating child labor are not the concern of Washington, D.C.

Now get these facts straight in your head. This does not imply that the

Supreme Court approves of Child labor, nor that Washington D.C. doesn't want it stopped. This decision simply states that at present we—YOU and I—have given Washington, D.C., no right to indicate to use in this matter, and that if the Federal government does attempt to dictate, it oversteps its authority. Which, I suppose, is really all the Supreme Court could say under the circumstances, and in no way reflects discreditably upon that body.

But it does reflect most discreditably upon YOU and ME. For, mark this—When YOU and I are sufficiently concerned with any great issue to desire its perfect enforcement, we very speedily put it under the protection of the United States Government. We're not satisfied to make it merely a State affair. We nail it right to the national masthead.

As an example, witness the Volstead Act of which you may have heard some faint rumors, particularly if the blue blood of barkeeps bubbles

in your veins. The Volstead Act is concerned with an article of diet which the majority of our citizens believe to be injurious to individual health and public welfare.

Now I am not about to discuss the rights or wrongs of that Act, but I am merely going to point out its legal significance. If there is anything on earth that would seem to be a matter for individual or state regulation, it is an article of diet. And yet the citizens of America consider this question to be of sufficient importance to call for Federal legislation, backed by state ratification.

We use the supreme power within our command to regulate the alcoholic content of our beverages, but we refuse to give even State protection to that most precious possession—Our Children!

That statement is not overdrawn. It is the literal truth. We have failed to put this issue under the jurisdiction of Washington, D.C., but that failure must have been of small importance if we had attended to the matter in our own State legislatures. But we haven't. Save for a few school laws, which are easily evaded and, for lack of funds, poorly enforced, our Children today have hardly more protection against human avarice and cruelty than our dogs! And the various women's clubs who are taking up cudgels in their defence and demanding decent legislation, are branded as "sentimentalists" and "cranks."

"Yes," you sigh, "of course it's all very terrible. Politics is such a dreadful thing. But, after all, it doesn't hurt the real American children. It's mostly Jap and Negro and Italian children who work and they're used to it and don't mind."

I could write about ten volumes on the sort of Christianity and humanity and common decency that is embodied in that reply. But I'll pass it over, leaving such matters to your conscience. Since nothing but personal gain reaches you, let me point out this little fact. Yes, the children worked are mostly of Jap and Negro and Italian origin. And they are worked because their parents are too poor to keep them idle, too ignorant to protect them.

But suppose that tomorrow you were reduced to the ranks of the poverty stricken—or suppose you died and left Little Jimmy and Rose to face the world without a penny?

Don't you see that the country which fails to protect Little Japs and Negroes, is also going to fail to protect your dearly loved Little Americans?

There—bang! I've dragged this beastly thing out of its obscurity and left it where it belongs—right on your doorstep. What are you going to do about it?

I HAVE LAWS PROTECTING POULTRY PIGS AND LEMONS, SHOES AND BEES, BOOKS AND DISHES, BIRDS AND FISHES, WATER RIGHTS AND APPLE TREES.

II IF A MAN WOULD BRIDGE A RIVER, CONGRESS HELPS TO PAVE HIS WAY, AND BY FEDERAL LAW OUR DIET'S GROWING DRYER DAY BY DAY.

III ALL THAT TOUCHES ON OUR POCKET IS SAFEGUARDED BY THE LAW, BUT FOR MANY KINDS OF DEAREST TREASURES WE DON'T SEE A TO CARE A STRAW.

IV COMMON CURS ARE SAVED FROM TORTURE— BUT A MAN MAY TAKE HIS CHILD, WORK IT AS A BEAST OF BORDEN AND THE NATION ISN'T RILED.

V FOR THE GREATEST JURISTS TELL US THAT THIS COUNTRY HAS NO RIGHT TO PROTECT ITS LITTLE CHILDREN FROM GRIM LABOR'S BRUTAL MIGHT.

VI WHEN AT LAST OUR RECORDS ENDED AND WE FACE THE JUDGMENT DAY, SIDE BY SIDE WITH OTHER NATIONS, WHAT, OH BROTHERS, WILL WE SAY?

VII WHAT WILL ALL OUR WEALTH AVAIL US IF WE FACE GOD'S AWFUL WRATH WITH THE BLOOD OF LITTLE CHILDREN STAINING OUR TRIUMPHAL PATH?

But whose shall offend one of these little ones... it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and he were drowned in the depth of the sea. St. Matthew—18:6

ELsie ROBINSON.

OBITUARY

Late Mrs. W. Leslie.
The death occurred on Saturday of Mrs. Adella N. Leslie at her late residence, 76 Lower Bagot Wolfe Island in 1858, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bullis, and had been a life-long resident of Wolfe Island and Kingston. Besides her husband, William Leslie, she is survived by one son, H. Leslie, Rochester, N.Y.

Late Mrs. Bertram Stirling.
Word was received in the city on Friday night of the death in Montreal of Mrs. Bertram Stirling, daughter of Dr. W. L. Goodwin. She had been in her usual state of good health and news of her sudden death came as a shock to her Kingston friends. Her parents and sisters, Mrs. Sweeney and Mrs. Cadenhead, went to Montreal Saturday afternoon.

CORNER STONE OF QUEEN'S WOMEN'S RESIDENCE

To Be Laid on Nov. 10th—Dr. Angrove New University Medical Officer.

The Board of Trustees of Queen's University met on Friday. Eighteen members were present, of whom the following were from out of the city: Hon. Justice Logie, Toronto; A. J. Meiklejohn, Montreal; H. A. Calvin, Toronto; Dr. T. H. Farrell, Utica, N.Y.; J. M. Macdonnell, Montreal; D. M. McIntyre, Toronto; Very Rev. Dr. W. T. Herdridge, Ottawa; Hon. W. F. Nickle, Toronto.

Reports were received from the principal, the finance and estates committee, and the treasurer. The trustees considered the possibility of an extended summer session and agreed to accept the decision of the staff in this matter.

The following new appointments were made:

Dr. Frederick Etherington, associate professor in surgery.
Dr. H. S. Angrove, university medical officer.

The following appointments previously made by the finance and estates committee were confirmed: Dr. Earle Whyte, lecturer in chemistry, to succeed the late professor Waddell.

Nathan Van Patten, librarian, to succeed Miss Lois Saunders.
Miss Catharine Tracey, head cataloguer, to succeed Miss Subers.

The plans for the Women's Residence at the corner of University Avenue and Alice Street were examined and approved. It was agreed that the corner stone should be laid on November 10th and should bear the following inscription:

"Erected through the efforts of the Alumnae Association for the Women Students of Queen's University, November 10th, 1923."

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD LAD HAD "SLEEPING SICKNESS"

In Juvenile Court On a Charge of Assaulting Play-mates.

In the juvenile court on Saturday morning a twelve-year-old lad was before Magistrate Farrell on a charge of assaulting some other boys with whom he has been playing. It is alleged that the accused has been attacking several lads and that in some cases he has choked them and it was feared that serious harm might come to some of the boys if the lad is not taken in charge. An endeavor will be made to have the boy placed in some institution where he will receive proper treatment.

It is stated that the lad suffered from "sleeping sickness" some time ago, and that since this illness he has had a mania for attacking boys.

CAPACITY HOUSE AT GRAND.

The Hastings Company is Drawing Large Crowds.

There was a capacity house at the Grand Opera House on Friday evening when Miss Jane Hastings and her players presented that delightful play entitled "Tess of the Storm Country." Since coming to Kingston this company has become very popular with Kingston audiences who hope that it will remain in Kingston for a long period.

This play will be presented at the Grand Opera House, Saturday matinee and night.

On Monday evening the company will present "East is West." This play has been running in New York for over two years.

The Correct Appointment.

Hon. G. S. Henry, minister of public highways, who spoke before the Canadian Club on Thursday evening, was evidently misinformed as to the portion of cost borne by public bodies in connection with the construction of the Collin's Bay diversion, which opened on Thursday afternoon. The following is the correct proportion made:

Canadian National Railway, 15 per cent.; Dominion Railway Grade Crossing Fund, 25 per cent.; Ontario Highway Commission, 35 per cent.; and the Kingston Suburban Area Commission, 24 per cent. The City of Kingston pays half of the amount born by the Suburban Area Commission, which amounted to \$3,000.

A Perth Man Honored.

Gordon A. Scott, Perth, graduated with distinction last spring after a full course taken at the agricultural college, Guelph. For a time he served with the Ontario Government in connection with the good roads system. More recently he has been associated with the Lanark district representative at the series of school fairs in the Ottawa Valley. Last week he was offered, through the governors of the Ontario Agricultural college, the honors of a post-graduate course and the use of a \$500 scholarship leading up to the degree of master in scientific agriculture. This honor is offered to but one man in each province in the dominion. Mr. Scott has left for the MacDonald College, St. Anne de Bellevue, Que., to take the course that associates him with the provincial and collegiate distinction. He is a son of Dr. A. H. and Mrs. Scott, St. Andrew's church, Perth, and a graduate of the Perth Public School and Collegiate Institute.

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT

Burial of Robert Southwick.
The funeral of the late Robert Southwick, who passed away on Thursday at the age of seventy years, was held on Friday afternoon from John Cornelius undertaking parlors to Cataract cemetery. Rev. A. E. Burgess conducted the service. The deceased was a well-known employee of the Grimsom Hotel and the Wharney House. He was a Presbyterian in religion. One sister resides in England.

Late John Quigley.
The funeral of the late John Quigley was held on Friday morning at 9 o'clock from his late residence, Wolfe Island, to the Church of the Sacred Heart, under the direction of the James Reid firm. The pallbearers were Thomas Hogan, James T. MacDonald, Joseph MacDonald, James Murphy, Thomas Casey and J. Murphy.

Mass for Late Mrs. Branigan.
A solemn requiem mass was sung at St. Mary's cathedral Saturday morning, by Rev. Father A. J. Hanley, for the repose of the soul of the late Mrs. D. P. Branigan, who died in this city five years ago today.

The Bishop of Keewatin, whose diocese extends from Lake Superior to the North Pole, will be the special preacher in St. George's Cathedral on Sunday morning, when the harvest thanksgiving will be observed. All interested in Northern Canada should hear him.

A drunk was the only offender in the police court on Saturday and he was fined \$10 and costs. He stated he had been drinking lemon extract.

Miss Madeline Greenwood, Wolfe Island, has returned home after spending the last three weeks in Clayton, N.Y.

TEN INCHES OF SNOW AT WHITE RIVER, ONT.

Sudbury, Oct. 20.—Ten inches of snow are reported this morning at eight o'clock at White River, Ont. The "beautiful" was still falling bountifully at that hour. The weather in Sudbury is clear, but the winds are cold this morning. Despatches from the Canadian Soo last night said that rain had been falling there almost continuously since Wednesday, with considerable damage to bridges and roads by floods.

POTATO CROP.

They are Growing Some Big Ones in That District.

Yarker, Oct. 20.—The potato crop is harvesting out far better than expected and some potatoes are far too large, running from 1 3-4 pounds to over 2 pounds in weight.

The farmers state the land is too dry to plough, and the work is being delayed. The hunters who make their annual trip to the north country are getting things in readiness for their hunt. Fresh eggs are hard to obtain at present. Mrs. Hartman has moved from Verona to Colebrook and will operate the hotel in Colebrook. He will run his stage route from Colebrook to Kingston, three days by way of Yarker, and three days by way of Harrowsmith, thus giving a good service.

Rev. Mr. Truscot will preach here Sunday, taking over Rev. Mr. Dow's work. Vernon Cord has returned home from Newburgh. Morris Wallace is home. He states that in the north country where he was located it rained very nearly every day for forty days. Mrs. Card, of Watertown, N.Y., is here for a few days' visit. William Storms is home from Rochester, N.Y. He states all who went from this section have obtained steady work.

The Old Fellow held a social "At Home," Thursday night. Charles Amey has received the appointment of fishery overseer, taking the place of Henry Purcell, who received this appointment from the Sir John Macdonald government. Camden township taxes are lower this year. C. Richardson goes to Tamworth and will take over the business of L. Way.

Pembroke Shows Increase.

The returns of the assessor's rolls for 1923 for Pembroke show an increase in population at the rate of a little over four per cent. Total population, 8,542, an increase of 332. In value on there is an increase of \$237,787.00; total assessment, \$5,711,250.

Phillipsville Personal.

Phillipsville, Oct. 19.—Mrs. D. J. Murphy, Toronto, is visiting her brother, Michael Kennedy, and will leave shortly for Kingston where she will visit her mother and sister, Miss Gelta Kennedy, Flint, Michigan, is spending a month's vacation at her home near Phillipsville.

Culled From the Whig's Many Bright Exchanges—Brief Items Full of Interest.

John J. B. Flint, Belleville, is leaving again for southern climes for the winter.

Timber wolves have been seen in the vicinity of Ormsby on the way from Maynooth.

The garage, stable and summer kitchen of R. H. Hogaboom, Hampville, were destroyed by fire a few nights ago.

Ernest Johnston, of the 7th concession of Rawdon, horribly burned on Monday morning when starting the fire with coal oil, is dead.

Margaret McCready, wife of Thomas J. McCready, Belleville, died on Friday. She was a daughter of the late Hugh Keyes, and was born in Tyenina, eighty years ago.

Fire, supposedly from a coal oil heater, left burning in the owner's absence on Wednesday, destroyed the house of Herbert Langstar, Oxford township, together with its contents.

A quiet wedding took place Oct. 19th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Coulter, Thurlow township, when their only daughter, Olive Anna, was united in matrimony to Russell Alexander, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Christie, Sydney township.

Pembroke Shows Increase.
The returns of the assessor's rolls for 1923 for Pembroke show an increase in population at the rate of a little over four per cent. Total population, 8,542, an increase of 332. In value on there is an increase of \$237,787.00; total assessment, \$5,711,250.

A crane operator was roasted to death in his steel cage and four other men were so badly burned that they died in a hospital when a cable slipped and spilled seventy tons of molten steel at the Farrell, Pa., plant, of the Carnegie Steel company.

The price of eggs took another jump on the market on Saturday morning. The prevailing price was 55 and 60 cents a dozen. The other prices were about the same as a week ago. Hickory nuts were sold at \$5.00 a bushel.

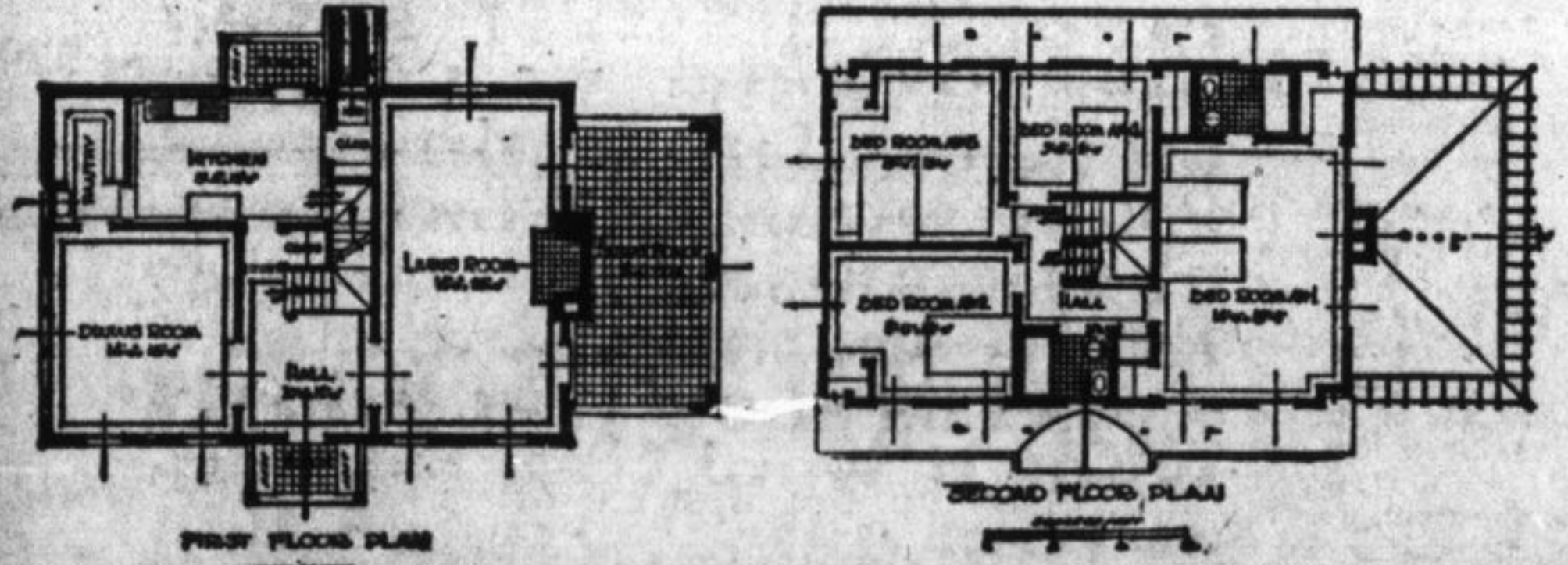
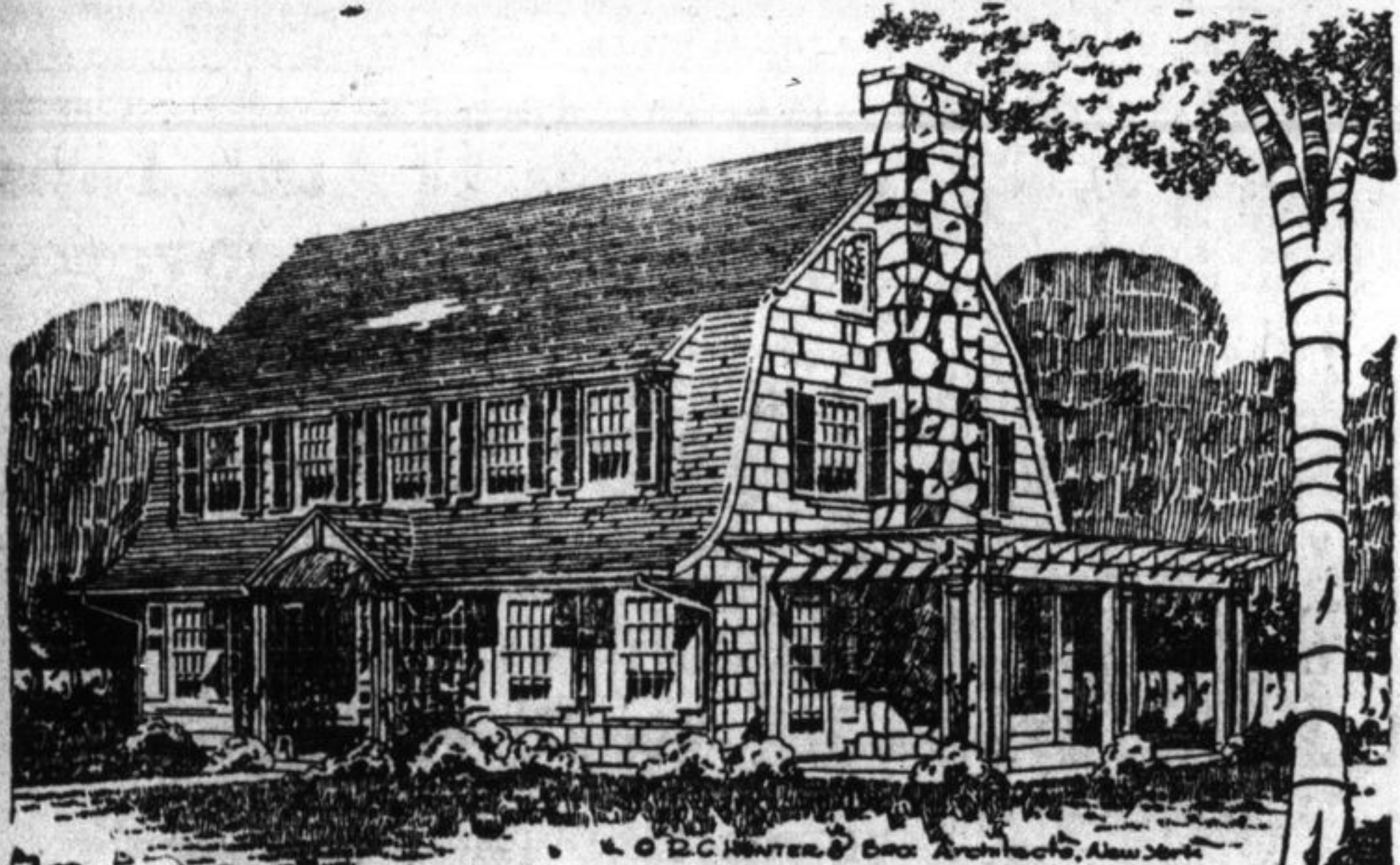
Two gunmen held up and robbed Mrs. Sadie Grapstein, Grange avenue, Toronto, of \$2,375 and Louis Rice, D'Arcy street, of \$750 and a gold watch near Toronto at midnight.

Premier Mackenzie King of Canada will spend the week-end at Chequers, the country residence of the British premier.

General Smuts: "Use the megaphone, Gen. He's very hard of hearing."

("We have no reason to speak with bated breath.")—General Smuts at the Imperial Conference.—From the News of the World.

A House With An Exceptional Plan



Here is a house that provides the maximum of room for the minimum of money, consistent, of course, with good design; even a "box" could not be built for much less and at the same time give the required room.

Nine rooms and three baths, with generous halls and ample closet space, all within a rectangular area of forty by twenty-six feet. Nor has anything been cramped to get this number of rooms, in fact, all of the rooms are generous in size.

The stairs are located in the centre of the house where they will best serve all of the rooms with but little hall space and the stairs themselves are of the reverse flight type so that they occupy a minimum of space. The stairs continue from the cellar to the third floor with doors at the first and second floor levels.

The third floor provides two livable rooms, with ample light and cross ventilation, and a bathroom.

On the first floor we find the rooms are well arranged about the centre hall and a generous living porch opens from the dining-room.

The pantry has plenty of cupboard space and a sink. The kitchen has complete equipment and good light.

Four bedrooms and two baths are found on the second floor. The large bedroom is served by a private bath, while the other bath provides for the other three rooms. All of the bedrooms have closets and a linen closet is also provided. Numerous large windows make the bedrooms bright and cheerful.

A cellar is provided under the entire house, and here is found the laundry, heater room, cold storage and such.

The exterior of the house is a pleasing adoption of the Dutch Colonial style. The walls are finished with wide white shingles and the roof of shingles stained brown. Blinds and shutters are painted a deep green.

Cost about \$10,700.

Complete working plans and specifications of this house may be obtained for a nominal sum from the Building Editor. Refer to House A-71.