

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 1936

MINISTER HELD FOR VIOLATION OF FEDERAL ACT

Charged With Having Taken Girl From Home In Milwaukee To East St. Louis.

CHICAGO, May 27—(AP)—United States Commissioner Edwin K. Walker ordered the Rev. Finis Jennings Dake, 35-year-old pastor of the Christian Assembly church of Zion, Ill., removed to Milwaukee for trial in the federal court there on charges of violating the Mann Act.

The six-foot pastor made no attempt to deny the charge in court, but afterwards told questioners there was no truth in the government's allegations that he took Emma Barelli, 16, from her home town of Kenosha, Wis., to East St. Louis, Ill., for immoral purposes.

The husky minister's eyes were bloodshot after a night in the county jail. He was arrested Sunday at his home in Zion by department of justice agents.

Commissioner Walker ordered Rev. Dake held in \$2000 bond and remanded him to the custody of the United States marshal.

Louis J. Portner of St. Louis and Stewart B. Krohn of Chicago, attorneys for the minister, said they would post bail this afternoon.

Mrs. Dake, herself an ordained minister, defended her husband saying Miss Barelli was a hitch-hiker whom Rev. Dake took to East St. Louis to give a home with his sister. Mrs. Dake said she had met the girl.

Rev. Dake and his wife are the parents of an 8-year-old daughter.

Raymond Drymalski, assistant United States attorney, charged that Dake had registered at hotels in Waukegan, Bloomington, and East St. Louis, with the girl under the name of "C. Anderson and wife."

Dake, the prosecutor said, admitted registering and that the girl accompanied him on the trip, but denied any intimacy.

Drymalska said Dake explained his interest in the girl to a desire to help her from an unhappy home life and to interest her in church work.

After registering at East St. Louis, Drymalski said, Dake went to Belleville, Ill., to deliver a bible lecture. Upon his return, he took the girl to the home of his sister, Mrs. Daisy Smith, at 4438 Swan avenue, St. Louis.

"There was no immorality involved," Dake told interviewers. "I wanted to help her get a job in St. Louis, that was all."

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