

Zion Minister Jailed by U.S. on Mann Act

(Picture on Back Page.)

Faithful followers of the Rev. Finis Jennings Dake met last night for the regular Tuesday evening services of the Christian Assembly church of Zion, but without the guiding hand of their pastor.

The Rev. Mr. Dake, who is 35 years old, married, and the father of an 8 year old daughter, spent last night in the county jail. He was held under a \$2,000 bond for a hearing this morning before United States Commissioner Edwin K. Walker and faces removal to Milwaukee on a federal charge of violating the Mann act.

Charge Names Girl, 16.

An indictment returned last February in Milwaukee charges that on April 23, 1935, Dake took Emma Barelli, 16 years old, of Kenosha, from her home town to East St. Louis for immoral purposes. According to Assistant United States District Attorney Raymond Drymalski, Dake and the Barelli girl registered in an East St. Louis hotel as "Mr. and Mrs. C. Anderson."

The minister, it is charged, picked up the young woman and a girl friend and told them he was driving to East St. Louis and that they could come along. The other girl, according to the charges, left the car at a small town in Wisconsin.

Seized at Home in Zion.

Department of justice agents arrested the preacher yesterday at his home, 620 Shiloh boulevard, in Zion. He was arraigned immediately before Commissioner Walker.

"I am holding services at my church tonight and I would like to be there so my parishioners won't know about this affair," stated the Rev. Dake as he pleaded not guilty. "May I be freed on my own bond?"

"This is too bad," said Walker. "But it can't be done."

Wife Believes in Him.

Dake's wife, Dorothy, expressed a firm belief in her husband's innocence last night and averred that she and their daughter Finette would stand behind him.

"I will conduct the services myself tonight," averred Mrs. Dake. "There is no truth to this charge against my husband. When they get to the bottom of it they will find he is in no way guilty."

The Barelli girl, a former high school student, is a fugitive from the Milwaukee Industrial school, where she was sent on her return from East St. Louis. While downstate she wrote her father not to worry "because I have got religion."

Two years ago Mrs. Dake and her husband conducted a Bible reading marathon at their church.