

## WIFE SUES NEW CULT LEADER

**Mrs. J. A. Sadony Seeks Divorce  
from Founder of Colony.**

### GIRLS TELL OF PRACTICES.

**Members Required to Turn Over All  
Their Wages Each Week.**

J. A. Sadony, founder of a spiritualist colony in Edgewater and in Montague, Mich., who was sued for divorce by his wife yesterday in the court of Judge C. M. Walker, is believed to be hiding somewhere in Chicago. He is wanted for kidnaping, having stolen his little daughter, Margaret, from his wife.

Mrs. Sadony sought a divorce on the grounds of desertion. She said that she had not lived with her husband for three years. It developed, however, that Sadony had "been around the house" within the statutory limit of two years.

So Attorney George D. Richey obtained leave to amend the bill charging other statutory offenses. The names of nearly a dozen women will be brought into the divorce suit.

#### North Shore Colony Driven Out.

Until the neighborhood got too warm for him Sadony had a colony at 432 Winthrop avenue. Then he established a summer colony on a farm at Montague, Mich., that had been given to him, it is said, by Mrs. Maris Hide, a rich Milwaukee woman, who had a yearning after strange religions.

Sadony's cult, which partook of some of the characteristics of the "spirit fruit colony" of Joseph Beilhart and the Mandaznan sun worshippers, as described by one of the women who no longer believes he is a saint, had these features:

Sadony would go into a trance and tell wives to leave their husbands and husbands to leave their wives.

The women were directed to cleave to the pundit and give him all their earnings.

#### Builds Throne Room in Attic.

Sadony had a throne room in the attic of the house on Winthrop avenue, where seances were held. The ceiling was painted with the signs of the zodiac and Sadony went into trances while reclining on a gilded chair upholstered in red plush.

The women were whipped by Sadony as part of the philosophy and the one who could stand the heaviest and longest beating from a rawhide lash were considered of the elect.

Seventy-five dollars a week was considered a fair estimate of the prophet's income. Every time he wanted money he would "throw a fit" and make his wants known.

No more than thirteen, including the high priest, ever were permitted to belong to the queer sect.

Four young girls, sisters, named Flossie, Flora, Pearl, and Edith Smith, who now reside in a boarding house at 62 Cass street, were members of the colony. They are waitresses. They said that they had to give practically all of their earnings to Sadony and they didn't have enough money to buy clothes. However, clothes were not considered essential at the colony.

"I had so little money," said Edith Smith, "that I would frequently be obliged to walk out to the colony for lack of carfare."

#### Get Track of Sadony.

Clarence Christian, employed in the advertising department of the Chicago Telephone company, who formerly was Sadony's business manager, also lives at the Cass street boarding house. It is believed that he knows where the "pundit" is hiding.

The "queen" of the colony, according to the ex-members, was Miss Elizabeth Daniels, 22 years old, daughter of Mrs. Hannah Daniels, 808 Erickson avenue, Pullman.

Sadony had the women so well trained, according to Mrs. Charles Wagner, who, with her husband, were at the colony for awhile, that he would simply whistle for them to do things instead of making his wants known.

Sadony was a fake spiritualist and also claimed to be able to heal persons by the laying on of hands. That was the way he became acquainted with his wife, formerly Miss Lola F. Meike. He secured possession of his child by means of a stratagem a year ago and since then Mrs. Sadony has been trying to find the little girl because she believes her husband is not a fit person to have the custody of her.