

MRS. LEN SMALL STRICKEN

DOCTORS HOLD OUT NO HOPE AFTER STROKE

Collapse Comes at Homecoming.

(Picture on back page.)

In the midst of the jubilation over the acquittal of Gov. Len Small at Kankakee, Ill., his home town, yesterday, Mrs. Small, wife of the governor, was suddenly stricken with what is feared may be a fatal stroke of apoplexy and paralysis. She was reported dying early today.

Following the stroke, Chicago physicians were summoned, and within a few moments were racing to her bedside. At 5 o'clock in the evening they issued this bulletin:

"At this hour we find the patient in a deep coma. She is in a dying condition; but, by means of stimulation, her heart and respiratory organs are still functioning. Neither her family nor her physicians have any hope for her recovery."

When she awoke hand on the forehead, without another word she sank unconscious into the governor's arms. These were her last words. She sank from then on deeper and deeper into the coma which enveloped her when the physicians issued their bulletin.

Governor in Tears.

Gov. Small was heartbroken. He burst into tears when the physicians told him there was no hope.

Mrs. Small's sons, Bud and Claude, and her daughter, Mrs. A. E. English, with the governor, were at her bedside. Leslie Small, another son, who had remained in Waukegan after the governor's trial, is rushing to Kankakee.

In attendance were Dr. E. G. Wilson of Kankakee, Dr. Stoker, superintendent of the Kankakee State hospital, and Dr. Julius Grinker, specialist, from Chicago.

Kankakee is assisting in an heroic attempt to save Mrs. Small. Friends of the Small family, following the report of the stroke, spread the streets with straw for several blocks in the vicinity of the home, to prevent noise. Inside the home not the slightest noise was permitted.

Police lines also were thrown about the house. As news of Mrs. Small's serious condition—reports that she was dying—spread about the city, a silent crowd waited for the end just beyond the police zone. To add to the solemnity all shades in the house were tightly drawn.

Immediately following Mrs. Small's collapse, Dr. Wilson was summoned. Then came Dr. Stoker.

Sent for Dr. Grinker.

Following an examination the two physicians advised sending for Dr. Grinker, chief of the department of brain diseases for Northwestern university.

It was Dr. Grinker who gravely announced after his examination that Mrs. Small could not recover. Until then hope had been held out for her recovery.

Anxiety over the long trial of Gov. Small, just closed with his acquittal on Saturday, is given as the cause for Mrs. Small's stroke. It is said she has been in an extremely nervous condition for some time, but when the governor's acquittal came it was believed this nervous condition would be relieved. Instead, matters took an unexpected turn. The exultation—the relief from the strain—the physicians said, was too much for her.

Given Gala Reception.

The homecoming Saturday night of the governor and Mrs. Small was a happy occasion. The lawn about the Small home was strung with Japanese lanterns and festooned with flowers. A reception was attended by scores of friends. The streets were lined with automobiles, and the sidewalks with friends and neighbors. And just at the end of the cheering, band-playing and hilarity came the stroke. Before the last friends had departed Mrs. Small had lapsed into deep unconsciousness.

Gov. Small and Mrs. Small were married in 1892. They have lived in Kankakee ever since. Mrs. Small was born in Livingston county, Ill., Dec. 17, 1861. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Moore.