

# Tara's children—judge hears case



MRS. BROWNE  
Friends call her Nicky.

Evening Standard Reporter  
**S**olicitors were today considering new moves over the future of 21-year-old Guinness heir Tara Browne's two children.

Mr. Browne and his estranged wife, Noreen, aged 24, were engaged in a High Court action over the custody of the children. He was killed in a South

Kensington car crash early yesterday.

The children, Julian Clifford, aged three, and Dorian Dominic, aged one-and-a-half, are at present in Ireland at the home of Mr. Browne's mother, Oonagh, Lady Oranmore and Browne, at Lugalla, County Wicklow.

The High Court proceedings over their future continued today and were expected to last until the end of the term.

But Mr. Browne's death in his Lotus sports car at the junction of Redcliffe Gardens and Redcliffe Square, has put a new complexion on the proceedings.

A spokesman for Mr. Browne's solicitors, T. A. Veras Smith, Braithwaite and Co., of Thompson Avenue, E.C., explained: "The factor which must still

concern the judge is the welfare of the children.

"The proceedings are in private and nothing must be said about them. But it is possible that there may be a statement by one side or the other later today."

The legal battle over the children—Tara Browne was due to inherit £1,000,000 of the Guinness fortune when he was 25—began when Mr. Browne took them to his mother's home in Ireland for a holiday.

Mrs. Browne, her friends call her Nicky, flew to Ireland in a search for them.

She returned without them to her £20,000 mews cottage in Eaton Row, Belgravia, and on October 13 they were made wards of court, after she said they had disappeared.

The following day a High Court judge refused to order their return although he was told by counsel for Mrs. Browne that Oonagh, Lady Oranmore and Browne had "spirited them away."

## CHILDREN WILL SING IN THE SQUARE

Two hundred boys and girls will form a massed choir for a Service in Trafalgar Square on Friday evening, sponsored by the Evening Standard.

The service takes place between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., and a collection will be taken in aid of the Mental Health National Appeal.

The Band of the Coldstream Guards, conducted by Captain Trevor Sharpe, director of the music, will accompany the chorists, and the Rev. Austen Williams, vicar of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, will deliver a Christmas message.

**Hot supper**

The young singers will be brought by coaches to Trafalgar Square and after the service they will have a hot supper and receive a present.

Taking part will be the choirs of St. Martin's High School, Tulse Hill; the Ursuline Convent, Wimbledon; Archbishop P. Tenison's Grammar School, Kennington Oval; All Saints' Church, Harrow Weald; St. Paul's Covent Garden Choir School and children from Dr. Barnardo's Home, Barking-side.

They will be conducted by Mr. John Churchill, master of music at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Carol sheets are in short supply and, although there will be enough for people on the square, all the requests from schools and charitable organisations for the sheets cannot be granted this year.

Soloists will be 12-year-old David Leslie, from St. Paul's Covent Garden Choir School.

## £1000 FOR THE LOSS OF A WIFE AGED 43

Mr. Donald Richard Walter, 44-year-old manager, was awarded £1,000 agreed damages in the Divorce Court today against a managing director to compensate him for the loss of his 43-year-old wife, Diana.

Mr. Walter, of Hinton Crescent, Thornhill, Southampton, was given a decree nisi on the ground of his wife's adultery.



MR. THEAKER  
A former deputy mayor.

With Mr. Douglas Branshaw Theaker, managing director of a number of chemists' shops, and a former deputy mayor of Hastings.

Mr. Theaker was ordered to pay £500 of the damages into court within 28 days, and the remaining £500 within a year. He was also ordered to pay costs to Mr. Walter.

Originally the case was in the defended list, and Mr. Walter had claimed £3,000 damages. But when the case started today it was stated that it would not be contested, and damages had been agreed at £1,000. The wife, it was said, had now dropped any claim she might have over the matrimonial home, and the joint banking account.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter were married at Salisbury, Wilt., in 1946. There is a 17-year-old daughter.

## Treasure trove: Police move

Det-supt. Thomas McCullough, head of Nottinghamshire CID, said today that statements taken during the Mansfield treasure trove inquest last week would be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions "within the next few days."

At the inquest the jury decided that four of the five men who found the £300,000 hoard at Newstead Abbey had concealed coins.

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## LBJ's DILEMMA OVER ROCKET DEFENCE RACE

JEREMY CAMPBELL: Washington, Monday

President Johnson may soon set up an independent commission composed of government officials, eminent Republicans and scientists to decide whether the United States should begin work on an anti-missile defence system to protect its major population centres from nuclear attack.

Two former Republican defence secretaries, Robert Lovett and Thomas Gates, have been suggested as possible members.

This plan now under consideration at the White House is calculated to delay an agonising Presidential decision and also to take the sting out of Republican charges that America is placing herself in danger of nuclear blackmail from the Soviet Union.



PRESIDENT JOHNSON

precipitate another escalation of the arms race at fantastic expense and at no military advantage to either side.

No respect to this experimental probing has so far been reported. In Washington the signs are that Mr. Johnson will come under heavy fire by Republicans at the opening session of Congress next month for neglecting the development of long range weapons system in the United States.

Last week several Republican Party leaders met behind closed doors in Washington to discuss reports that the Soviet Union has already conducted test firings in its anti-ballistic missile programme, and the statements of Pentagon officials that the latest photographs taken by spy-in-the-sky satellites show such specific evidence of the progress as cleared construction sites and radar installations.

**The hints**

Especially alarming, according to those attending the meeting, are pictures of gantries for missiles much larger than any existing in the West today.

There is speculation that Russia may be testing an advanced missile using the same "cruise" technique as that employed by the new U.S. Poseidon missile, which carries several bombs in a single warhead.

By appointing some big Republican names to a bi-partisan commission of investigation, President Johnson may avoid an open clash with the political opposition on the anti-missile issue.

It is hinted by some officials that a direct approach will also be made to the Soviet Union before any decision is taken to start work on an American ABM system which could cost at least 30,000 million dollars and probably much more.

The State Department is not convinced that the Russians are committed to a massive, nationwide system of missile defence. Officials there say that the

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**A real danger**

But he thought: "There is a very real danger that the polytechnics will emulate the same high standards as the universities, and emulate also their commitment to research."

"But if the polytechnics do this, they will be duplicating, not complementing, the work of the universities. Indeed, they would themselves be a kind of university."

Dr. Sloman went on to recommend that research should be restricted to the universities—and that the more expensive types of research should be limited to particular universities.

"Only by this can we hope to be internationally competitive in research or in teaching."

However, Dr. Sloman felt that the polytechnics should not be isolated from the universities. He mentioned the possibility of sharing facilities and the "easy transfer of students from one kind of institution to the other."

## Polytechnics given warning on roles

VANESSA LEDERER

A warning that the proposed polytechnics might become the "emasculated universities" of the public sector, was given today by Dr. A. E. Sloman, Vice-Chancellor of Essex University.

In his report to the university court, Dr. Sloman recommended that the polytechnics should not try to imitate the universities or undertake research.

"They were needed to fill the gap between the universities and other colleges of further education."

**Smash—no grab**

A television thief was foiled after breaking through a glass door at Radio Rentals shop in Horn Lane, Acton, during the night—because the set he wanted was chained to the floor.

**'Hot line' repaired**

STOCKHOLM, Monday.—The "hot line" between Washington and Moscow was repaired today after a break of nearly 12 hours yesterday.

## 'I'M REALLY TERRIFIED'—CHICHESTER

SYDNEY, Monday.—Francis Chichester confessed today that he is "really terrified" of completing his round-the-world trip. It was quite possible, he could founder and disappear going round Cape Horn on his way back from Australia to Britain, he told the Sydney Daily Mirror.

He said the trouble was in the stern of his 53-foot ketch Gipsy Moth IV.

"I don't know what the devil to do about it," he admitted.

Chichester, 65, sailed single-handed from Plymouth to Sydney in 107 days. He is to rest in Sydney for a month before returning.

## Three hurt in Windsor crash

Three people were injured when three cars collided in Windsor Great Park, Windsor, last night. They are Mr. Clegg, of Rosstree Gardens, Iwerstead, 65, passenger, Miss Sandra Todd, of Collingwood Road, Hillingdon; and Mrs. A. Lane, of Rayners Lane, Harrow.

## British family die in crash

PERTH, Monday.—A young British couple and their 10-year-old daughter who had been in Australia only a few months were killed today when their Mini-car was in collision with a milk truck. Both vehicles burst into flames.

—Associated Press.

## Five killed in tanker blaze

INDIANAPOLIS, Monday.—A collision involving a petrol tanker and two cars, followed by a fire which engulfed six vehicles, left at least five dead and two severely injured today in a busy Indianapolis street.

—Associated Press.

## P-c killed

Pe William Wood, 27, married, with two children, of Police House, Ash Vale, Surrey, was killed today after he swerved to avoid a lorry at a road junction and lost control of his machine.

**Cleaner beaches**

Portsmouth cleansing sub-committee is to employ seasonal staff to work solely on the beach, and more litter bins are to be provided.

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## Money they left

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Miss Lucy Marion Heath Pearson, Park Avenue, Chiswick (gross £72,168)	Duty £27,627	£72,013
Miss Emma May Maron Sanders, Greenock Road, Ethos (gross £49,415)	Duty £10,069	£49,148
Mr. Ronald Harry Higham, Albert Hill Mansions, South Kensington, stockbroker (gross £48,456)	Duty £18,609	£42,292
Mr. Vera Mabel, Trade White, Brunswick Square, Hove (gross £39,111)	Duty £19,979	£38,834
Mr. Herbert Arthur Stock, High Road, Hackley, Essex (gross £26,986)	Duty £4,199	£26,928
Mr. Ernest Albert Smith, Old Manor Drive, Gravesend, baker (gross £25,635)	Duty £862	£24,986
Capt. Arthur Francis Newbold, Brook House, Surrey, Surrey Director of Recruitment, Colonial Service, 1948-54 (gross £22,871)	Duty	£19,346
Mrs. Kathleen Nellie Freeman, Thorney Court, Hyde Park Gate, president of the National Council of Women of Great Britain, 1951-54, first chairman of the United Kingdom Committee of the Save the Children Fund (gross £28,778)		£17,220