

critical condition of her nine-year-old daughter, which is thought to be an artifice on the part of the husband to lure her to her home. These telegrams tended to make her condition more serious. One telegram read that the daughter was about to die, and requested that she return home at once.

The Hall family originally lived near Courtenay, and while residents of that district they made application to the Children's Home of Fargo for the adoption of a three-months'-old baby boy. That was three years ago.

Rev. F. D. Hall, superintendent of the North Dakota Childrens' Home, in Fargo, made an investigation and when Mr. M. A. Hall went before Judge Coffey of Jamestown, to get the decree of adoption, the court refused to grant it on the ground that he personally knew the man to be of improper character to have custody of the child.

After the court's refusal to grant the decree of adoption, Hall took his wife and family, and the little three month's old baby, which was provisionally placed in their care by the home, to Montana. Authorities were unable to locate the family to recover the child. Having "starved" out in Montana, the family recently returned to North Dakota, and rented a farm near Tolna, Nelson county.

A month ago the wife and her 9 year old daughter and the three-year-old child fled from their home and came to Fargo.