

SEARCH FOR MISSING WINIFRED DE WOLFE

Young Woman Was a Pupil of
Theodore Kostoff of the
Russian Ballet.

AMBASSADOR APPEALED TO

Last Trace Was on April 26, When
She Packed a Bag Brought by
Kosloff to a Customer's Shop.

A search has been conducted for a month for Miss Winifred de Wolfe, 19 years old, who lived with her mother, Mrs. Edgar de Wolfe, at the Oregon apartments, Seventh Avenue and Fifty-fourth Street. Miss de Wolfe was last seen by her mother on April 26, and since then no trace of her has been found, although the resources of various agencies have been called into use. The young woman's mother has retained George Gordon Battle as her attorney, has employed private detectives, and has asked Senator O'Gorman of this State and Senator Phelan of California as well as George Bakhmeteff, the Russian Ambassador, to aid in the search.

Senator Phelan was appealed to because the de Wolfes formerly lived in San Francisco. The Russian Ambassador's help was sought because Miss de Wolfe was a pupil of Theodore Kosloff at his Russian dancing school in West Forty-third Street, and it is said the two were seen together a short time before all trace of the young woman was lost.

Kosloff denies all knowledge of Miss de Wolfe's whereabouts or that he was in any way responsible for her departure from home. He is a pupil of the Imperial Russian Ballet School and was one of the first of the Russian dancers to appear in this country.

Miss de Wolfe was educated in private schools in San Francisco and abroad, and thus protected, Mr. Battle said yesterday, she was unsophisticated for her age. Ever since she was a little girl she had been ambitious for an artistic career, and so in Paris she studied voice and later in London took up ballet work. When she came here last July with her mother to live the coming of the Russian Ballet held the centre of the artistic spotlight, and Miss de Wolfe immediately turned her talents to that type of dancing. Early in the year she informed her mother that she was going on the stage with Kosloff in a dancing act, but Mrs. de Wolfe, who was dissatisfied with some feature of the arrangement, finally dissuaded her from her purpose.

Before the young woman disappeared Kosloff sued Mrs. de Wolfe for a sum approximating \$2,000, which he claimed was due him in payment for dancing lessons and gowns furnished her daughter. Mr. Battle said that Miss de Wolfe told her mother that if she would pay the claim she would not see Kosloff any more, but that Mrs. de Wolfe remained adamant because she contended the claim was unjust.

The day the young woman disappeared she went to the costume shop of E. S. Freisinger, 127 West Forty-first Street, to try on some costume gowns. She was met there, it is said, by Kosloff, who brought with him a new traveling bag in which she placed some articles. The dancing teacher departed after a brief conversation, before Miss de Wolfe did, it is said. That is the last trace those who have been searching for her have been able to unearth.

After her daughter's disappearance Mrs. de Wolfe wrote Kosloff a letter inclosing \$100, which she asked the dancing master to give to her daughter in case he heard from her to insure that she would not be destitute. Mr. Battle said yesterday that the money had been returned with the offer of the teacher's assistance in the search if Mrs. de Wolfe would admit liability in the claim he had made.

Miss de Wolfe is a niece of Miss Elsie de Wolfe, the interior decorator.

Wall St. Men in Defense League.

Fifty members of the Wall Street Division of the Home Defense League met last night on the recreation pier, at the foot of Cedar Street, where they listened to talks on the work and scope of the league in time of internal or international trouble by Captain Walter Rouse of the Greenwich Street police station, and Lieutenant James J. Skeene, Chief Drill Instructor of the Police Department. Many prominent bankers, business and professional men are included in the roster of the downtown branch of the league.