

MALCOMSONS ARE SEPARATED

Wife Is Given Settlement of \$235,000; Cruelty Is Basis of Suit.

A decree of separate maintenance was awarded to Mrs. Alice Malcomson, wife of Alex Y. Malcomson, one of the founders of the Ford Motor Co., in Circuit Court Tuesday by Judge Arthur Webster.

According to a property settlement made before the final disposition of the suit, Malcomson agreed to pay his wife \$235,000. Of this sum, \$25,000 was to be paid at once and \$12,500 April 1 of each year until the entire amount has been paid. Mrs. Malcomson was to pay \$10,000 to her attorneys, Lodge & Brown. The suit was not contested.

Mrs. Malcomson testified that her marriage took place Jan. 5, 1903, a few months before her husband with Henry Ford founded the Ford Motor Co. Before her marriage, she said, she was a stenographer in Toronto.

SISTER TESTIFIES.

Her husband treated her cruelly, she said, berating her frequently in profane language. She told of one occasion on which he struck her on the breast, causing an injury from which she did not recover for several years. Corroborative testimony was given by Mrs. Malcomson's sister, Harriet Phipps.

Mrs. Malcomson lives at 1318 Clairmount avenue and her husband at 7640 LaSalle boulevard. One daughter, Dorothy Jane, 13 years old, is with the father, and the other, Margaret Alice, 14 years old, with the mother. Mr. Malcomson's other children are by a former marriage. Aug. 30, Mrs. Malcomson was awarded temporary alimony of \$500

a month. She had left her husband's home four months previous to that date, according to testimony during hearing of the motion for alimony.

While an engineer for the Detroit Edison Co. in 1902, Henry Ford interested Malcomson in the proposed manufacture of an automobile which he predicted could be built more cheaply than any car then on the market. Malcomson was a coal dealer at the time, and his book-keeper was James Couzens, now United States Senator from Michigan.

INVESTED WITH FORD.

Malcomson told Ford that he would take stock in the proposed company, provided he could name a representative in the management. Ford agreed to this, and Couzens was the representative chosen.

Malcomson agreed to finance the embryo company up to \$3,000, and actually invested \$7,000. He assisted in selling stock and among those he interested when the company actually was formed on June 15, 1903 was Horace H. Rackham, then an attorney, who borrowed \$5,000 to put into the venture.

Malcomson withdrew from the Ford Motor Co. in 1908, and received \$175,000 for his original investment of \$7,000. A few years later, Rackham also withdrew with a total profit of more than \$16,000,000. Malcomson was given \$75,000 in cash and James Couzens' note for \$100,000, which was discharged a few months later from the profits of the company.

Mr. Malcomson was founder of the Malcomson Coal Co., of which his son, George W. Malcomson, now is president; and was one of the founders of the United Fuel & Supply Co. He is now president of the Harlan Gas Coal Co.

Thomas B. Long, appearing Tuesday as counsel for Mr. Malcomson, said that his client at present is seriously ill in Battle Creek.