

NOVEL COURT EXCUSE

Man Who Wears Cap, Puts On Hat For His Wife

ADELAIDE, Thursday.

A NOVEL excuse for having a hat in his possession was given to the police by Edward Peter Cheney, laborer, of no fixed place of abode, when he was questioned in a city street, said the Assistant Police Prosecutor (Mr. Barrington) in the Adelaide Police Court.

Cheney pleaded not guilty to having had a hat unlawfully in his possession on October 15.

The charge was withdrawn.

Cheney told Mr. Muirhead, P.M., that he had bought the hat from the Myer Emporium.

"He told the police that he bought the hat from Cox Bros., but the name of John Martin is printed inside the hat," said Mr. Barrington.

"The police saw him carrying the hat under his arm, and he was wearing a cap. He said his wife did not like him wearing a cap, so he carries a hat with him, and when he sees her coming he puts the cap in his pocket and the hat on his head."

The case was adjourned to enable inquiries to be made.

BOUGHT HAT LAST YEAR

When the hearing was resumed, Mr. Barrington said that inquiries had been made at John Martin and Co. Ltd., and it had been ascertained that in February of last year Cheney had purchased the hat and other goods. For that reason he would apply to withdraw the complaint.

Cheney, who was wearing a returned soldier's badge, pulled a row of

Cheney, who was wearing a returned soldier's badge, pulled a row of ribbons from his pocket, and told Mr. Muirhead that he had won the Military Medal and the Croix de Guerre while serving with the Australians in the last war.

"I hate the squareheads because they killed four of my brothers in the last war," said Cheney.

"I believe this man was born in Siberia," said Mr. Barrington.

Well, he has two medals for bravery while serving with the Australians in the last war, so he's a good Australian, too," said Mr. Muirhead.

"It is fortunate that John Martin and Co. kept their records, which show that you bought the hat there. This charge is withdrawn," said Mr. Muirhead.