

BLACKMAIL CLAIMED IN SILICOSIS SUITS

Congress Probes Charge of
'Racket' in Connection
With Tunnel Job.

GAULEY BRIDGE, W. Va., Jan. 17.—(AP)—The head of the firm which drilled Hawk's Nest tunnel declared today 450 suits filed by workmen who claimed to have contracted silicosis constituted a gigantic "holdup and blackmail."

P. H. Faulconer, president of Rinehart and Dennis, contractors of Charlottesville, Va., came to this southern West Virginia city near the \$10,000,000 hydro electric development with the avowed purpose of "letting out the whole truth about this job" which a congressional claims caused the death of 476 men.

Faulconer said:
"The story of these silicosis suits has been under cover long enough. Only 48 men died during the work here. I don't know how many had silicosis, but most of them died of pneumonia. And during that epidemic of pneumonia, we had a lower death rate in our construction camps than the rest of this (Fayette) county."

"We paid into the state compensation fund \$166,000 but the supreme court of West Virginia ruled that silicosis was not covered in the provisions of the law."

"Since that time we have paid out over \$300,000 to the silicosis racket."

"The records show that men brought suits who had never been in this tunnel, and some others by men who actually were in the tube an hour, according to our workmen's time sheets."

A congressional sub-committee is hearing testimony in Washington on the charge of Representative Vito Marcantonio (R., N. Y.) that besides those who died, 1500 men contracted silicosis and are slowly dying.

DRUNK DRIVER SEEN RESTORING DRY ACT

BOULDER, Colo., Jan. 17.—(AP)—

From Prof. Carl M. Duff, University of Nebraska highway expert, came a prediction today that the drunken automobile driver will bring back prohibition.

"Drunken driving has increased appallingly since repeal, there isn't a doubt of it," said Duff, here for the 10th annual highway conference sponsored by the University of Colorado.

"It looks to me as if prohibition may be the only answer to the problem, and I think we are heading toward it. The question now appears to be: Will it be the automobile or prohibition?"

The professor expressed doubt that more rigorous patrolling of highways would do much to curb reckless driving.

"That might work if an officer knew just which motorist was going to get intoxicated and cause an accident," Duff said.

"Then he might be able to stop him. But most of the time the officer reaches the scene after the accident has happened and all he can do is help care for the dead and injured."

"But I think severe punishment for motorists convicted of driving while drunk would help. Those \$2 to \$25 fines are ridiculous."

TOWN DISCOVERS AIRPORT LAND SOLD

PRINEVILLE, Ore., Jan. 17.—(AP)—

The Central Oregonian, weekly paper, said today that Crook county sold most of Prineville's newly developed \$10,000 airport at 12 cents an acre.

Prineville's original airport consisted of only 160 acres. When the CWA program was launched the town decided to enlarge the landing field. Preliminary steps were taken to secure the land and the government spent \$10,000 for improvement of the airport.

However, final papers never were secured for the land.

Crook county, desiring to get as much of its land as possible back onto tax rolls, sold 12,000 acres of plateau lands. The sale included the additional land set aside for the airport, it was discovered after the deal with the Bonneville land company was completed.

Prineville never had obtained title to the land, but officials were hopeful of recovering the airport.

SPOUSE SWAP OF TWO COUPLES TOLD

MERCED, Calif., Jan. 17.—(AP)—

The unique spouse exchange of two Redwood City, Calif., couples neared a denouement today, with frank admission by two of the principals they soon would wed.

And for the first time, one of them removed the cloak of secrecy and told how "it all began."

L. M. Giannini Succeeds "Dad"



L. M. ("Mario") Giannini, who recently succeeded his famed father, A. P. Giannini, as president of the Bank of America, N. T. & S. A., at San Francisco. Another veteran banker, William H. Crocker, of that city, was succeeded simultaneously by his son, William W. Crocker, as president of the Crocker First National bank. Both fathers, long identified with banking in California, will, however, continue active in their respective institutions as chairman of the board of directors.

Grim War Protest



Before taking poison in Washington, D. C., Mrs. Capitola W. Koltz (above) wrote several notes asking mothers not to sacrifice their sons in war. She is said to have feared her son, Robert, 21, who joined her in death pact, would be forced into war.

Mrs. Roy Burnett, said she and William M. Werder, former Stanford university athlete, would marry "in a week or two."

"It came over us gradually," she said. "We were all living together there in the same apartment house at Redwood City, in separate apartments, of course."

"No one knows just at what moment I discovered I was in love with Desirée Werder's husband, and that she was in love with mine. . . . Gradually I began to realize that Roy and I were mismatched. I am domestic; I love a home—and Bill seemed to fit into the picture far more perfectly than Roy."

Without trace of regret or ill will, she then detailed plans for the "early marriage" and a home in San Francisco—in all of which Werder unqualifiedly concurred.

Miss Lounsbury and Werder left late yesterday for an unannounced destination.

In Redwood City Mrs. Werder was noncommittal and Burnett said plans are "very indefinite." He denied they had definitely planned marriage.

The two women obtained Reno divorces last week, both on grounds of cruelty.

STAVISKY SCANDAL CLOSED IN FRANCE

PARIS, Jan. 17.—(AP)—France's great Stavisky scandal closed today with conviction of only nine of the 20 defendants accused of complicity in the vast swindles which resulted in rioting in the streets of Paris and overthrow of a French cabinet.

Mme. Arlette Simon Stavisky, widow of the swindler, and ten others of the 20 defendants were acquitted of the charges of complicity in the \$10,000,000 frauds.

"Extenuating circumstances" were found in the cases of all those convicted except Gustave Tisser, manager of the Dayvonne municipal pawnshop. His confession broke the case and sent Stavisky fleeing to the mountain cabin where he died of a pistol wound, described by police as self-inflicted.

Madame Stavisky, a former mannequin, smiled broadly for the first time since the tragedy began, bringing with it one of the longest trials in French annals, when she heard the pronouncement of her acquittal.

Some of the convicted defendants wept at the verdicts returned by the jury after it received the cases yesterday and deliberated 1,525 questions concerning the charges that the defendants aided Stavisky in his swindles.

They will be sentenced later. All twenty defendants employed the same defense plea—misplaced confidence. All, even Stavisky's widow, pictured themselves as innocent victims of the swindler.

25-YEAR FRIENDSHIP TO LEAD TO ALTAR

OAKLAND, Calif., Jan. 17.—(AP)—

A family friendship which began 25 years ago will culminate here Sunday night in the marriage of Hans Nelson, 74, and Mrs. Nettie Moran, 71, both formerly of Woodburn, Ore.

The ceremony will be performed by Nelson's son, Rev. A. C. Nelson, and the couple will return to Woodburn to make their home.

An unusual series of coincidences made the Nelson and Moran families fast friends, but another trick of fate was needed before Nelson and Mrs. Moran became well enough acquainted to consummate their marriage.

A quarter century ago Miss Erville Moran, and five children of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Nelson, were fellow students at Walla Walla college in Washington.

A few years later A. C. Nelson, his wife and Mrs. Nettie Moran, mother of Miss Moran, were members of the faculty of Laurewood junior college in a suburb of Portland, Ore.

Still later, O. I. Nelson, another son, was head of the physiotherapy department at a Portland hospital. The assistant superintendent was Dr. K. P. Moran, a son of the Morans.

When the World war came, four Nelson brothers and Dr. Moran served together in France as members of the same unit, base hospital No. 46.

The Nelson and Moran families became fast friends. In the course of years Mrs. Moran's husband died. Then Mrs. Nelson died.

YANKEE HAS CLOSE CALL IN ETHIOPIA

DJIBOUTI, French Somaliland, Jan. 18.—(AP)—

A report from an American source at Addis Ababa which reached here today said the American military attaché, Captain John Meade, had narrowly escaped with his life in a recent encounter with shiftas (bandits) during a recent muleback journey in the interior of Ethiopia.

Captain Meade was en route from Addis Ababa to Desayye to join Emperor Haile Selassie at the latter's field headquarters when a score of shiftas, apparently mistaking him for an Italian officer, surrounded his party pointing cocked rifles.

Apparently a remark of one of Meade's 15 muleboys heightened the suspicions of the tribesmen and things looked bad until a veteran caravaner with the party explained the significance of the captain's uniform.

Meade was released and later won the friendship of his visitors.

VITAL STATISTICS

MARRIAGE LICENSES

MILLS-LAURENCE — William T. Mills, Roseburg, and Neva I. Laurence, Dillard.

BAKER-McCLURE — Albert Arthur Baker and Etha McClure, both of Grants Pass.

MARKETS

PRODUCE

PORTLAND, Jan. 18 — BUTTER — Print, A grade, 46c lb. in parchment wrapper, 37c in carton; B grade, parchment wrapper 35c; carton 36c lb.

BUTTERFAT — Portland delivery: A grade, deliveries at least twice weekly 36-37c lb.; country routes 34-35c; B grade, deliveries less than twice weekly, 33-34c lb.; C grade at market.

B GRADE CREAM for market — Existing price, butterfat basis 55c.

EGGS — Buying price of whole-salers: Fresh specials 26c; extra 19c; standards 17c; extra medium 15c; do medium firsts 13c; under-grade 13c; pullets 13c dozen.

POTATOES — Local \$1.40 central; Klamath \$1.55-1.75 central; Scappoose Netted Gems \$1.40 central; Deschutes Netted Gems \$1.50-1.75 central.

Cheese, milk, country meats, mohair, cascara bark, hops, live poultry, onions, wool and hay, steady and unchanged.

LIVESTOCK

PORTLAND, Jan. 18 — Hog receipts Saturday none, for the week 2830. Compared with week ago, market weak to 15c lower, packing shows strong.

Bulk 170-220 lb. drive-ins late 10.85, early sales to 11; similar weight carload lots early 11.25; week's bulk 220-300 lbs. 10-10.50; 110 to 155 lbs. 10-10.50; few early to 10.85; packing shows 8.85; smooth sorts to 8.75; feeders pigs 10-10.75.

Cattle receipts for week 3590, calves 315. Compared with week ago market mostly steady, some early sales stronger plain she stock closing weaker. Bulk fed steers 6.75-7.25; few 7.35 to 7.65; plainer steers down to 6, inferior down to 4.50; two loads feeders 6.25; bulk heifers 5.50-6.50, top 6.85, cutters 4.50-5.50, low cutters and cullers 3.50-3.75, common to medium grades 4-5, young fat dairy type cows up to 5.25, bulk good beef cows 5.25-5.90; bulls 4.50-5.35, beef kinds to 5.50, cutters down to 3.75, good to choice vealers 8.50-9.50, common down to 5; slaughter calves 4-7.

Sleep receipts for week 4750. Compared with week ago, market mostly steady; few loads choice 87-103 lb. fed lambs 5.85-10; good drive-ins 9.25-9.50, common to medium 7-9; best 99 lb. shorn lambs 8.50, plainer load 97 lb. 8; yearlings scarce, few 6-6.50; fat ewes 4.25-5; culls down to 2.

Investigations Started Into Crash of Airliner Which Took Seventeen Lives



Wreckage of luxury airliner.

Although exhaustive investigations were started into the crash of a luxury airliner near Goodwin, Ark., which took the lives of seventeen, it was believed engine trouble was the direct cause. Searchers were forced to penetrate woods and swamps in order to remove the crushed bodies of the twelve men, four women and a child from the demolished plane. The tragedy occurred a few

minutes after the airliner took off from Memphis, Tenn., for Little Rock, Ark. The above photos show remains of the plane; and Pilot Jerry Marshall; Co-Pilot Glenn Freeland; W. R. Dyess, WPA administrator for Arkansas, and Hostess Perla Gasparini, who were some of the victims in the disaster. Marshall was considered one of the best transport pilots in the country.

New First Couple of Cuba



The newly elected President of Cuba, Dr. Miguel Mariano Gomez, is shown with his wife at their Havana home as the returns assured his elevation to the highest office in the land. The President-elect is former mayor of Havana.

LIBERTY LEAGUERS TURN AWAY 4,000

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.—(AP)—With the \$50-a-plate Jackson day dinner of the democrats still a vivid memory, the American Liberty league announced today it has turned away 4,000 persons who want to attend its feast here January 25.

The league's publicity department reported that the 2,000 available seats were taken weeks ago, but that applications continue at the rate of 700 a day.

By coincidence the Liberty leaguers will hold their dinner in the same hotel ballroom where more than 2,000 New Dealers gathered recently to eat and hear President Roosevelt.

Whereas the Jackson day dinners heard but one speaker—the president—the Liberty league will hear three, Alfred E. Smith, former Federal Judge Charles L. Dawson of Kentucky, and Dr. Neil Caruthers of Lehigh university.

There is considerable difference in the menus too.

The league's meal will begin as did the Jackson day dinner with tomatoes stuffed with lobster and crab flakes.

But instead of following this up with diamond back terrapin soup, the leaguers will have mock turtle. Where the president and friends ate breast of capon, the Liberty league will serve filet mignon.

The vegetables, salad, dessert and demi-tasse will run about the same, but the real difference comes with the drinks. The \$50 dinner included no drinks, but the league will begin the occasion with Martini cocktails and serve white wine with one of the courses.

Arkansas Air Crash Victims



W. R. Dyess



Hostess Perla Gasparini



Co-Pilot Glenn Freeland



Pilot Jerry Marshall



Charles Altschul

Here are two of the seventeen victims of the crash of an American Airlines plane in the Arkansas swamps — Pilot Jerry Marshall of Fort Worth, Tex., and Charles Altschul, 23, of New York. Marshall and Altschul, along with the other fifteen, three of whom were members of the crew, including a stewardess, were instantly killed. The battered speed indicator revealed that the plane was traveling 180 miles an hour at the time of the crash. Young Altschul was a nephew of Mrs. Herbert Lehman, wife of the New York governor. Son of a wealthy family, Altschul was an aviation enthusiast.

Annual Display of Spring Hats



Milliners' bills. They're brimful with grief for husbands—and he feels it's a crowning achievement when they're paid. Anyway, Adrienne Marden, film player, is pictured as she has the time of her life trying on scores of new hats—more than she knows what to do with—created by southern California manufacturers for their annual spring showing, January 27-29, at the Biltmore hotel, in Los Angeles.