

MAY CLOSE UP HOUSE OF DAVID

Michigan Ask Court to Take Action—Ben's Woes Multiply

BENTON HARBER, Mich., May 12 (AP)—Benjamin Harber, 37, of the House of David, withdrew at 4:30 p.m. from the state of Michigan to avoid the subpoena to testify in the case of a religious cult.

Down already by criminal charges and a \$1,000 fine, against his colony, "King Ben" Harber, founder, leader and spiritual teacher, must now face prosecution initiated by the state to force the House of David into receivership and dissolve completely to break it up.

Hearing May 16

The receivership hearing is set for May 16.

Colony leaders insist that the cult is a religious association, but amenable to receivership action.

The state reports that it is now building and a trustee will be named to manage the property.

The colony was founded when Harber, born in Kentucky in 1882 and married at 12 as a "boy preacher," gathered a following in Eastern Ohio, and brought his converts to Benton Harbor.

In the heyday in 1925 he numbered 1,600 men and women eager to share in the "magisterial" of the "cult"—the 144,000 persons who were to become immortal.

Benjamin taught that those who died had discovered his teachings, but death played no favorites. It took Roy Purcell, his son, the corpse was carried from the colony unharmed.

John Hessel and his wife, accused from the cult, were for accounting of property and for labor compensation in 1923, asking \$40,000. They were awarded \$18,000 and from the suit came evidence on which the pending civil and criminal actions are based.

Three young women cult members filed charges of criminal attack against "King Ben" and he disappeared. A worldwide search ended with his capture last November 16 in a midnight raid on his room at the colony, brought to court, he was not the cult with long black hair and beard whom Benton Harbor had known, but an aged and feeble figure on a stretcher, his struggling body turned gray.

The House of David promises other picturesque figures in the courts beside Benjamin, "Queen Mary," his wife, H. T. DeWard, cult member, legal practitioner and former justice of the California supreme court; William J. Barnard of Paw Paw, Harber's personal lawyer; and Myrtle J. Tubb, an elder woman cultist, who, when cult members charged, accused them as girls of 11 to Benjamin's chambers in British temple.

Lorraine At Court



Lorraine Hunter, 3-year-old daughter of Mrs. Ruth Snyder, is pictured here, escorted by a deputy, as she appeared at the court in New York, N. Y., court house, where she was held in custody to testify in the trial of her mother and Henry Judd Gray for the murder of Albert Snyder.

PARK PERSONALS

THE PARK (Special)—Grande (Special) of Burley, Idaho, is starting with his daughter Mrs. A. C. Lee this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. William Pierson, of Medical Springs, were dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Vanorder Sunday.

Marie Miller, Ben Lloyd, Eda Hunter and Lester Miller attended the baseball game between Haines and Stone at Cove Sunday.

Harvey Vanorder sold fourteen large hogs in the Baker Packing company Sunday.

Mr. Hunter had returned to his home on Catherine creek after a week's visit with Mrs. Lee.

The Hunter, Lester Miller, Marie Miller, Ben Lloyd, Laurel and DeWard Jay, Howard Wolfe and some others attended the dance at the home of Lester Miller at Cove Sunday night.

John Hunter Jr., is in La Grande on business this week.

Several families from Perry are moving into the cottages of the mill on Big creek this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Vanorder drove to Tucker Monday afternoon.

If you keep chickens or rabbits, plant a row of "chicken" netting.

Iowa Institutions Win Milk Contest; Michigan Second

DES MOINES, Ia., May 12 (AP)—Iowa and Michigan have won a contest in milk production, and Iowa has won.

The state and penal institutions of the two commonwealths have been added against each other for a number of years in a friendly competition organized by the Institute of Nutrition.

The Hawkeye state came in second in 1926 by showing a milk production of 18,641 pounds per cow on state farms, against a production of 18,041 for every bushy in the Wolverine institutions.

What pure-bred herds and superior care can do in milk production is shown by comparison of institutional figures with those of milk cows on farms in general.

The average milk production for Iowa cows, outside institutions in 1926 was but 4,051 pounds, with that of institutional herds while the per cow production in Michigan was 2,828 pounds.

Iowa's best showing was at the state farm, where each cow made milk, some averaged 13,528 pounds. Lower in Michigan was the "Three" where 637 state hospital ward an average of 12,825 pounds.

The Hawkeye victory is credited to A. Merall, manager of the board of control, who had directed the institutional farms and has made them show a profit in every year since the war.

Form already claim the highest state institutional production in the country of corn, pork, cattle, and eggs.

Woman Indexes Farming Lore For Students of Agricultural Economics

Students of agricultural economics the world over have a valuable friend in Miss Mary G. Lacy, Benedict's biographer of farm facts and fancies.

An librarian of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Miss Lacy, daughter of an Episcopal minister of Richmond, Va., and for many years a reader of sources of farm information, has completed for the benefit of present and future generations an index of documents in government's custody from 1817 to '27.

The owner of this economic work, after the being able to keep up in date in living contact with the published and unpublished material, and establishing a vital contact with sources of information in order to provide the demand, it is a national agricultural service, and any taxpayer has a right to expect results from it.

Miss Lacy has a "well-kept team" of 17 assistants, the selection of whom she says is like looking for a specialist in industry. Besides doing their comprehensive research work, they are kept as busy as a swarm of bees showing some-thing as busy as a day's work, making information as to when and where this report and that speech, was made and how it may be obtained.

The library is working on a series of studies of farm economic conditions, a work that has been in hand since the beginning of the war, and other lines. These

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completed embargo government control of exports and imports in foreign countries and price fixing by governments, the latter going back to Biblical times. Those on which work has begun relate to control of production, tariff in relation to agriculture, bananas and dumping.

An index to state official sources of information also has been started, as well as a legislative service which has enabled the workers to keep abreast of hundreds of requests by students for material to be used in debating the farm relief question.

Three Ohio high school boys were arrested for blowing a wire, perhaps they were only kidding.

NORTH POWDER PERSONALS

NORTH POWDER (Special)—The agricultural class of the North Powder high school, accompanied by the teacher, Mr. Hollenbeck, returned from Corvallis, where they attended a convention at the Oregon Agricultural college this week.

Several of the boys of the class plan to attend college there next fall.

Norval G. Olson has closed his barber shop here for a few days. School will close here May 20. The eighth grade state examinations will be given this week.

The parent-teacher association of the city held a social meeting Tuesday night. An interesting program was given after which refreshments were served.

The new brick building, belonging to Chris Peterson, is nearly completed. There will be a meat market in part of the building and the other part will be used for drug store. There will be two more tenements on the second story.

The foundation of the North Powder M. and M. company's new grain elevator is completed. The farm house of L. M. Moore is being remodeled this week.

James Kincaid has accepted a position as assistant postmaster here.

Bertha Simmonds and her sons, former residents here, were visiting friends here over the week end.

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Table listing various grocery items and their prices, including SUGAR, COFFEE, GRAPE FRUIT, BUTTER, PABST-ET-CHEESE, BACON, DATES, and CORN FLAKES.

Spring Vegetables and Fruits

Radishes, Bunch 5c; Green Onions, 3 Bunches 10c; Rhubarb, per Lb. 5c; Carrots, Bunch 5c; Oranges, 2 Doz. 55c; Asparagus, 2 Lbs. 23c; Grape Fruit, 3 for 35c; Strawberries, box 18c.

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- Saturday Specials: FLOUR—Hard Federation—money-back guarantee. 49 Lb. sack \$1.72; CHOCOLATE—Baker's Premium, No. 1 23c; RHUBARB—Home grown, finest quality Lb. 4 1/2c; ARGO GLOSS STARCH—1 Lb. pkg. 10c; ARGO CORN STARCH—1 Lb. pkg. 10c; TOILET PAPER—6 oz. wt., 4 rolls 24c; ONION SETS—Lb. 8c

- SPECIAL PEETS BROS. CO. SOAP DEAL: 10 bars Crystal White Soap \$ .45; 6 bars Creme Oil Toilet Soap .50; Peet's Granulated Soap .45

- 1 package Peets Granulated Soap Free .45; ALL FOR \$1.85; You Save \$ .46

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