

STATE RESTS IN MURDER TRIAL

DEFENSE IS CHARGING NO DEATH PLOT

Denies That Shooting of Amos Helms, State Police, Was Premeditated

JUDGE REFUSES TO GRANT MOTION

Cochran Asks That Jury Be Instructed Not to Return a First Degree Verdict.

John Owen took the stand in his own defense this afternoon and denied shooting at Amos Helms, testifying that he never intended to kill anyone. He also testified he was in a semi-conscious condition when he signed the confession.

A photostatic copy of a letter Owen wrote to a girl in which he said he killed an officer contradicted his testimony, but he testified he wrote that to shield Crosswhite.

Sheriff Breshears was recalled to the stand briefly by the defense.

Circuit Judge J. W. Knowles late this morning denied a defense motion that the jury in the Owen murder trial be deprived of the right to return a verdict of murder in the first degree against John Owen, charged with the slaying of Amos Helms, on the grounds that it was unpremeditated and without deliberation. George T. Cochran, attorney appointed by the court to represent the defense, presented an eloquent argument tending to show the shooting was hasty and unpremeditated, and that John Owen and his companion, Keith Crosswhite, were exercising their right of resisting an unlawful arrest.

State Rests Case

The state rested at approximately 10:30 and Mr. Cochran opened the defense with arguments against a verdict of first degree murder and both Carl Helms, district attorney, and Leland Finch, district attorney for

LEGION HEADS WILL BE HERE MONDAY NIGHT

A group of state officers of the American Legion and auxiliary are scheduled to arrive here the first of the week to hold a regular conference with posts of the seventh district, which includes Union and Wallowa counties. The meeting will be in La Grande next Monday evening. The visitors will explain plans for the national convention in Portland this year and what is to be expected of posts over the state. From here they will go to Payette for an interstate conference, and then to John Day, Ore.

Those in the group will include Commander Alex G. Barry, of Portland; Adjutant Carl Moser; Sid George, national committeeman; Jack Biggs, past state commander; Mrs. LaDoria Cobb, auxiliary president, and possibly Mrs. Polly McInturf, state secretary.

J. W. Stuchell New President of Bank

BAKER, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—J. W. Stuchell was elected president of the Citizens National bank here last night, succeeding T. G. Montgomery who becomes vice president and who will continue actively connected with the bank.

Stuchell came here from Harrisburg, Ore., in 1895, and has been in the wholesale grocery business since 1902, associated with Lang & Co., of Portland. He is president of wholesale groceries at Baker and Ontario, Ore., and at Weiser, Nampa and Boise, Idaho. He has been director of the Citizens bank for the past 12 years.

WEATHER FORECAST

Oregon: Fair and cold to night and Thursday; moderate north and northwest winds offshore.

WEATHER TODAY

7 a. m. 23 above.
Minimum: 2 above.
Condition: Clear.

WEATHER YESTERDAY

Maximum 32, minimum 8 above.
Condition: Partly cloudy.
Range—26 degrees.

WEATHER FEB. 17, 1931

Maximum 45, minimum 28 above.
Condition: Cloudy. Range—17 degrees.

Leslie M. Scott New Chairman Of Commission

Scott, Aldrich and Washburne Meet With Governor Meier—Scott Issues Statement.

SALEM, Feb. 17 (AP)—Costs of highway administration are to be reduced, but the highway system is to be carried on with energy in order to obtain the best possible results, Leslie M. Scott, chairman of the new state highway commission announced today in a statement of policy prepared for the press. "We shall avoid wrangles and politics, and at once get down to business."

The chairman however continued with the statement that "the time has come for retrenchment of the commission's affairs along lines of fewer projects and less overhead. Existing projects nearing completion will be completed." The state declared "economy and efficiency are the objective."

The statement was issued following an executive session in the offices of Governor Julius L. Meier at noon today. Prior to that time the governor held a conference with the new members, Leslie M. Scott, E. B. Aldrich and Carl G. Washburne, in which he laid out the policies the commission would follow.

Mercury Dives To 2 Above In This City Today

Sunshine continued in La Grande today but it brought no appreciable change in the present cold wave, with the mercury diving down to two above zero this morning and holding the low at 7 o'clock. With the rising sun, however, the mercury began to climb, promising probably 20 or more above during the day, although it was not expected the maximum would reach the freezing point except in the bright sunshine.

Residents are beginning to refresh their memories in an attempt to recall a winter as continuous and long as the 1931-32 season, and many declare there has been nothing like it in the last 35 or 40 years, although others recall a winter back in the 80s that rivaled the present one. Since the middle of November, the weather has been cold constantly, with snow on the ground continuously.

Union Prepares To Be Host To Game Officials

By Mrs. L. Z. Terrall (Observer Correspondent)

UNION, Ore. (Special)—Arrangements are nearly completed for the fifth annual claim feed which is to be held at the Sportsmen's clubhouse Thursday evening at 7 o'clock. Coverage will be paid for about 200 and all sportsmen are urged to attend and bring their friends who are interested in the hunting and fishing facilities of Eastern Oregon.

The meeting will be of special interest this year in view of the fact that members of the state game commission are planning to attend. Local officials have been informed that the following members will be present: H. L. Kelly, of Portland, game supervisor; Carl Silven, of Baker, game commissioner; Matt Corrigan, of McMinnville, Matt Ryckman, of Portland, superintendent of hatcheries; Art N. Fish, of Portland, research director; and Ernest Crockett, of Portland, educational director. Among the local game wardens who are planning to attend are C. C. Franklin, of Baker; George Rogers, of Wallowa; and Frank Osmond, of La Grande.

One dollar will pay for the clam dinner and give membership into the Sportsmen's club for one year.

Cook Funeral To Be Friday Morning

The funeral of Mrs. Carl Cook, who passed away Tuesday noon at her home 1218 Y avenue, will be held Friday morning at 9 o'clock at the Church of Our Lady of the Valley with Rev. Father Nooy in charge. The Rosary will be recited at the chapel of Walkers Funeral Home Thursday evening at 7:30. Burial will be in the family plot in the Catholic cemetery.

M. I. A. Basketball Tourney Tonight

The second round of the M. I. A. basketball tournament, with six teams from this state participating, will begin at 7:30 o'clock tonight at the L. D. S. Recreational hall.

The La Grande First Ward will play the Mt. Glen Quintet, Imbler will meet Baker and the La Grande Second Ward will play Union.

The first round was played at Union a few nights ago. A small admission charge will be made.

SENATE GETS MEASURE FOR RELIEF LOANS

With LaFollette-Costigan Bill Defeated 48 to 35, New Action Taken.

SUBSTITUTE PLAN GIVEN NEW LIFE

Democrats Hope to Pass \$750,000,000 Measure if Independent Republicans Will Help.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—With the senate now strongly in record against federal donations to unemployment relief, the Democratic members today renewed their proposal for jobs aid in the form of loans to the states.

The \$750,000,000 LaFollette-Costigan direct relief bill was defeated decisively in the senate last night. The vote was 48 to 35 against it, with party lines split in two. The most eloquent appeals of the measure's supporters failed to bar the majority determination that no precedent of direct aid be established.

The Democrats, however, immediately introduced their \$750,000,000 bill for loans instead of gifts, a proposal which previously had been rejected as a substitute for the LaFollette-Costigan measure. To succeed with this bill they must receive the co-operation of the independent Republicans who lined up with the administration forces to defeat the substitute.

Senator Black (D., Ala.) and Bulk-

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E. O. N. DEFEATS COLUMBIA 31-26

Mountaineers Never Relinquish the Lead After First Minute of Play.

The Mountaineers reversed the count on the Irishmen of Columbia university here last night to win the second of a two-game series of basketball 31 to 26. Incidentally, there was no stalling for the simple reason that the only time that Columbia held the lead was in the first minute of play, when McCormick's free throw made the score 1-0.

Then Bredow, sharp-shooting guard, came to the rescue not once, but twice, looping in long perfect throws from beyond the foul line to make the score 4 to 1 for the Mountaineers. And Belts, center, chalked up a free throw before Bredow again did his stuff, and the score was 7 to 1.

Possibly some of the Irishmen happened to look around and see the scoreboard. Anyway, they showed an immediate and intense dislike for the proceedings, and decided to make a change. So McCormick and McCarty added three points to the one, but Belts held the brief procession with another field goal.

First Half Fast

From then on it was a merry chase in the first half, with the score knotted seconds before the gun. 15

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NON-DECISION DEBATE HELD HERE TUESDAY

The women's debate team of the Eastern Oregon Normal school composed of Miss Lucille Huddleston and Miss Agnes Davis, engaged in a non-decision debate yesterday afternoon at the E. O. N. with the men's team from Nazarene college.

The subject was "Resolved: That congress should enact legislation providing for a centralized control of industry. Constitutionalality waived."

The Nazarene team is returning from a debating tour of Washington and Oregon, and left here for their homes at Nampa, Ida. They participated in the tournament at Linfield college last week.

Austin Dunn presided at the debate here.

Farm Cost In Oregon Relatively High As Compared With Income

CORVALLIS, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—Farm costs in Oregon were relatively high in comparison with income during the past year, and the cost outlook for 1932, although somewhat improved, is still not very encouraging, according to a report today by the O. S. C. extension service and the U. S. D. A. bureau of agricultural economics.

At present price levels, the report says, it requires about twice as much of farm products to pay such costs as interest, taxes, water and drainage assessments, hired labor, feed and seed, machinery and equipment,

Tumulty Levels Attack Today At Prejudice Appeal

Former Secretary to Wilson Assails Political Expediency in Talk in Newark Today.

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 17 (AP)—Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson and a leading advocate of the United States' entry into the League of Nations, today assailed political expediency and declared "the popular mode of the past few years has been an appeal to the prejudices instead of an appeal to the handsome passions of men."

Speaking before the Democratic Women's Luncheon club, Tumulty leveled his attack particularly against presidential candidates who "will not exchange opportunity and the applause of the crowd for freedom of action."

"Always with some candidates," Tumulty said, "in these days when great decisions have to be made affecting the peace and prosperity of the world, the main questions seem to be, 'how easily can I win an election?' . . . How can I shake hands with the enemy under the implacable foe of Woodrow Wilson, the league and world co-operation and at the same time stand in reverence before the shrine of Wilson?"

Tumulty charged that in the "diagnoses of those who have recently come forward in behalf of their own candidacy, to express their views on domestic and foreign policies, there has been nothing but halting fears—hesitation, and worse than all, surrender to the devil of expediency."

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Ralston Speaks At Rotary Club Luncheon Today

Dr. F. L. Ralston was the main speaker at the luncheon of the Rotary club this noon at the La Grande hotel and his audience was greatly interested in his account of conditions in Europe. Dr. and Mrs. Ralston left here last September, spent several months in Vienna where the doctor was taking various courses of post-graduate work, and then visited Italy and France before returning to this country.

Americans do not begin to appreciate their luxurious food and living conditions until they visit Austria, according to Dr. Ralston. He says that the Austrian people are suffering from poverty that is beyond belief of those who have not seen it at first hand. People cannot afford to heat their houses at all, food is expensive but none too good, and women are forced to do all kinds of heavy labor in the fields and building construction. Doctors cannot make a living in private practice, and unless they are paid by the government for certain services, must resort to spare time jobs in the evening in order to exist.

The Ralstons were pleasantly surprised upon visiting Italy. There they found a much higher class of people than they had anticipated, better living conditions, and good meals. The railway trains in Italy are always crowded, while in Austria they are practically empty except for foreign travelers. Dr. Ralston closed his talk by answering the questions of several Rotarians.

J. T. Myers, a parole officer from the state training school, spoke briefly to the Rotarians, asking their support and co-operation in helping the boys who have been released from the school.

Ralph Nelson, of Couer d'Alene, Idaho, was a visiting Rotarian.

Freeman Fortier Dies Early Today

Freeman A. Fortier, about 45 years of age, died at 2 o'clock this morning after an illness of one week. Death was caused by heart disease.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock at the Snodgrass and Zimmerman mortuary with Rev. Father Nooy, in charge. Burial will take place in the Catholic cemetery.

The deceased was a member of the La Grande B. P. O. E. and Elks will serve as pallbearers.

Mr. Fortier has been employed by the Standard Oil Co. in this district for the last 15 years. He leaves his widow, Mrs. Gladys Fortier, a daughter, Norma, and other relatives.

Students to Stage "The Sleeping Car"

With a cast entirely new to Eastern Oregon Normal school students this year "The Sleeping Car" farce by W. D. Howells, will be presented by seven members of the student body at an assembly March 2. None of the students has appeared in the plays given so far this year. This cast announced follows: Naomi Tidwell, Mildred Cade, Harold Boner, Dallas Norton, Robert Ragsdale, Waldo Gerads and Ray Robt.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 (AP)—A total of 29,404 men and women have been provided with employment in the national campaign to provide 1,000,000 jobs, Carl Byoir, director of organization of the campaign, told the advertising club luncheon today.

The campaign, which began Monday, was undertaken by the American Legion, the Association of National Advertisers, the legion auxiliary and the American Federation of Labor.

HOOVER ASKS SUPPORT FOR 4 NEW POSTS

Wholesale Reorganization of Government Planned By President.

CHANGES IN FOUR POSITIONS URGED

Authority Asked of Congress to Transfer and Consolidate Several Departments.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Asking support for a wholesale reorganization of the government, President Hoover today dispatched a special message to congress recommending the creation of four new federal offices.

He requested, simultaneously, the major alteration and changing in title of four other federal departments. Under the eight new and altered divisions he would consolidate present overlapping activities in an effort to subtract "millions of dollars annually" from the tax burden.

Authority also was asked for the chief executive to transfer and consolidate executive and administrative groups merely through the issuance of executive orders, each to be before congress for 60 days before becoming effective.

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ADVOCATES OF CASH PAYMENT MAKING PLANS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Preparing for their drive before the house ways and means committee for full cash payment of the soldier bonus, advocates of the legislation will shortly file with the house petitions they say carry more than two million names.

The ways and means committee will open hearings on the bill introduced by Representative Patman, Democrat, Texas, after it completes drafting a tax bill. Patman's bill would provide an issue of \$2,200,000,000 in United States notes to pay off the remainder of the bonus certificates, about \$1,400,000,000 already having been advanced in loans.

Haney Not To Run For U. S. Senate

PORTLAND, Feb. 17 (AP)—Bert Haney, Portland attorney and prominent Democrat, announced today "I will not be a candidate for the United States senate." There had been considerable speculation concerning what plans Haney might have.

"My decision is dictated by circumstances personal to my family and myself," Haney announced after expressing appreciation of "the widespread evidences of confidence and friendship which have urged me on."

Francis Hawes Is Pneumonia Victim

Francis Hawes, of Meacham, died here last night at 1003 Thirteenth street of pneumonia. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy D. Hawes.

The body is at the Snodgrass and Zimmerman mortuary. Funeral services will be announced later.

Miss Hawes was born in La Grande Nov. 19, 1919 and was 12 years, two months and 28 days of age. Besides her parents, she leaves four brothers, John D. Warren, G. Robert, and Charles Patrick, two sisters, Eleanor and Louise, a grandfather, John Casey, a grandmother, Mrs. Laura A. Oliver, and other relatives.

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SLUGGED



Charging that unidentified assailants had slugged him with heavy weapons, Waldo Frank (above), New York novelist, was confined with head injuries in a hotel room at Knoxville, Tenn. He said that the attack came after he and other New York writers, who went into the Kentucky coal fields to distribute food and clothing among needy miners, had been forcibly "deported."

Allan Tash, a New York lawyer, also reported that he had been attacked.

CLEVELAND PICKS MILLER AS MAYOR

Democrats Elect Ex-Notre Dame Grid Player—Violence Occurs.

CLEVELAND, Feb. 17 (AP)—After 17 years of a Republican regime, Cleveland today flew a Democratic flag over the door of its highest and most powerful office.

Although Republicans won a majority of its council seats in November, Cleveland yesterday elected a Democrat for mayor.

The new mayor will be Ray T. Miller, a former Notre Dame football player, who was opposed by former City Manager Daniel E. Morgan, choice of the Republicans.

Miller, the present Cuyahoga county prosecutor, a 39-year-old ex-doughboy, received 102,632 votes to Morgan's 92,929.

Voting Heavy

It was one of the greatest outpourings of votes in the city's history, and was considered a serious defeat for the local political machine of Maurice Maschke, Republican national committeeman, as in Cleveland the mayor has powers unusually wide.

Maschke's organization gave Mor-

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ODDIE SCORES HYDE REQUEST FOR REDUCTION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Chairman Oddie of the senate road committee said that Secretary Hyde, in recommending reductions in federal aid highway appropriations was "trying to contribute tens of thousands of men to the army of unemployed."

Oddie referred to a letter from the secretary of agriculture recommending reductions in the bill he has introduced to authorize the federal aid appropriations for 1934 and 1935.

Oddie's bill calls for the usual appropriations of \$125,000,000 for federal aid to the states in each of the two fiscal years; \$12,500,000 for forest roads and \$3,000,000 for roads in other public domain.

Hyde recommended the sums be cut to \$100,000,000, \$7,500,000 and \$2,000,000, respectively.

"It is a most ill-advised and short sighted policy," Oddie said. "It is unwise and dangerous."

Roundup, Mont. Is Hard Hit by Fire

ROUNDUP, Mont., Feb. 17 (AP)—Fire destroyed two buildings in the main business district here last night with an estimated loss to property and merchandise of \$100,000.

Zero weather added to the firemen's difficulties.

Because of broken transmission lines, the east side of the city was without light and electric power for more than an hour.

Garner Boom In Limelight Today As Major Drive

Speaker of House, However, Refuses to Take Any Part and Sticks "to His Job."

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—"The Garner boom came smashing out as a national drive today, but the sturdy Texan stuck to his job as speaker of the house, refusing to take any part in the movement that seeks to put him in the White House."

Formally, the two senators from Texas, Sheppard and Connally offered the speaker as a Democratic presidential candidate, not as a "favorite son" of the Lone Star state but as a statesman supremely qualified in national affairs.

They promised him the solid vote of the Texas delegation to the Chicago convention and forecast that his candidacy would gain wide support as Democrats all over the nation learned more of his service and character.

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6373 Banks Of Nation Report Their Resources

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Aggregate resources of 6373 national banks in the United States on Dec. 31, were \$24,662,286,000, a decrease of \$1,083,778,000 since Sept. 29 and a drop of \$4,173,398,000 in the year.

Deposits of the banks aggregated \$19,244,947,000 on Dec. 31, a decrease of \$1,135,037,000 since September and a decrease of \$3,627,269,000 in the year.

The figures were made public today by John W. Pole, comptroller of the currency, and compared those in the Dec. 31 bank call with the data compiled from the calls of Sept. 29 and Dec. 31, 1930.

Total deposits in the Dec. 31 report included banks due to correspondent banks and bankers and certified and cashier checks outstanding of \$2,301,081,000, United States deposits of \$281,441,000, other demand deposits of \$9,071,452,000 and time

STOCK BUYER KILLS FAMILY AND HIMSELF

STOBT, Iowa, Feb. 17 (AP)—Nanno Andreesen, a stock buyer and farmer, today shot and killed four members of his family and then committed suicide.

Mrs. Andreesen; a son, Elmer, 14; a daughter, Verna, 9; sister-in-law, Mrs. Hesselius.

Authorities believed financial worries were responsible for Andreesen's action.

H. A. Zurbrich Is Speaker at L. H. S.

It is a misnomer to say England is of the gold standard—England has simply suspended the settlement of international debts in gold. H. A. Zurbrich, assistant cashier of the La Grande National bank, told high school students this morning at 9:30 in the first of a series of four talks on banking to be given by local authorities before the student group.

Mr. Zurbrich, in a talk that was introductory to the remaining three, traced the development of banking operations, first describing the primitive methods of barter. He traced the evolution of trade up to the present system of credit.

At an assembly next Wednesday at 9:30 o'clock Paul Meyers, of the La Grande National bank, will discuss "The Federal Reserve Bank." C. L. Thompson, of the United States National bank will be the third speaker, with "The Federal Reserve System" as his subject. The final bank representative to discuss financial problems will be L. H. Bramwell, of the United States National bank, who will talk on "Investments, Stocks and Bonds."

Will Investigate Kidnaping Story

LAKE PLACID, N. Y., Feb. 17 (AP)—Without explanation, state police have announced they intend to check "very carefully" Harry H. Blagden's story that he was kidnaped here last Thursday night.

Their announcement last night revealed that a trooper had flown to Cleveland, where Blagden turned up late Monday night to remain with the wealthy sportsman until he was ready to return here.

Blagden disappeared Thursday night from E. Roland Harriman's cottage at the fashionable Lake Placid club. The family of the man then received a letter in his handwriting saying he had been kidnaped and that his abductors demanded \$1000 ransom.

A brother went to Tupper lake to keep a rendezvous and pay the \$1000 but no kidnappers appeared. Nothing was heard from Blagden until he turned up at the home of a friend in Cleveland. He said he had been taken to Cleveland by his captors and that he had escaped there.

CANNONADING AT SHANGHAI DURING NIGHT

Artillery Fire Halts Early Thursday—Japanese Offensive Awaited.

BRITISH SAILORS WOUNDED FATALLY

Shells From Chapei Area Fall on Shanghai Water-front Causing Death of Two Men.

By Glenn Babb (Copyright, 1932, By The Associated Press)

TOKYO, Feb. 17 (AP)—The Japanese government authorized the issuance of an ultimatum to the Chinese at Shanghai today threatening to drive the Chinese army away from the city by force unless it withdraws voluntarily.

At virtually the same time, the government received official advice from Washington saying Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson was preparing to protest formally against the landing of Japanese soldiers in the international settlement at Shanghai.

ADMIRAL TAYLOR REASSURED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17 (AP)—Admiral Taylor, commander in chief of the Asiatic fleet, has been assured by the Japanese that the firing of shells into the United States marine sector of the Shanghai international settlement would be stopped.

By Morris J. Harris

SHANGHAI, Thursday, Feb. 18 (AP)—Shaken by the guns which had bombarded Chapei all night, Shanghai was quiet early this morning as the cannonading came to an end.

More artillery was being brought up to the lines of Chapei and Wosung but there was no concrete indication that the expected Japanese offensive was ready to begin.

On the contrary, both sides had renewed their efforts to bring an end to the fighting. The Japanese indicated they would give ample warning before launching the thunderbolt, and leading Chinese officials were trying to agree on a basis for peace.

Until late last night T. V. Soong and other outstanding Chinese leaders were in conference but they had nothing to say for publication. The American, British and French ministers, who took a hand in the negotiations last week said they would not go back to Nanking until Saturday or Sunday.

Mayor Wu Teh-Chen said China was eager for an honorable, permanent peace, but every indication points to the determination of the Japanese militarists to aggravate the

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KLAMATH MAN FOUND FROZEN IN BLY AREA

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Feb. 17 (AP)—After having been missing since last Thursday, Andrew Larson, 43, a trapper, was yesterday found dead near the Sprague river in the Bly country. His body was frozen. Searching parties made the discovery.

Larson, who only a few days before had been released from a hospital, insisted in setting out on his trap line although friends warned him of the danger to his health. It is believed he dropped dead from exhaustion rather than from the severity of the weather. Neither his knapsack nor his rifle had been removed from his shoulder.

Astorian Indicted On Theft Charge

ASTORIA, Feb. 17 (AP)—Ray Keenholds, former officer of the Astoria Savings and Loan association, was indicted on an embezzlement charge here Tuesday, charged with having abstracted more than \$5500. He had been previously indicted on the same charge but in a smaller amount.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Feb. 17 (AP)—Lively tumbles in grain values took place today after wheat had overtopped yesterday's best figures and established a new high record for the season.

The downings came chiefly after President Hoover's special message to congress, but every indication expressed disappointment over the message, and gave as a reason expectation that he would refer to prohibition or some other factor likely to have considerable influence on the grain markets.

Wheat closed nervous, 1 1/4 @ 1 1/2 under yesterday's finish, corn 1 1/4 @ 1 1/2 down, oats 1/4 @ 1/2 off, and provisions varying from 5 cents decline to 12¢ gain.