

# Cottage Grove Sentinel

COTTAGE GROVE, LANE COUNTY, OREGON THURSDAY, MAY 22, 1952

NUMBER 41

## Douglas Shows to Open Engagement May 26th at C. G. Rodeo Grounds



One of the many thrill rides that will be at the carnival which opens a week's engagement in Cottage Grove Monday, May 26. The carnival is being sponsored by the American Legion of Cottage Grove. The carnival will set up at the Cottage Grove Rodeo Grounds. There will be a special matinee Friday, May 30, Decoration Day starting at 1 p.m.

## Forest Officers Get Promotions

Boyd L. Rasmussen, supervisor of the Siuslaw national forest, Corvallis, has been promoted to the position of assistant chief, division of fire control, in the Washington, D. C. office of the U. S. forest service, according to announcement by J. Herbert Stone, regional forester, Portland.

Rasmussen will take over his duties in Washington, D. C. on May 25.

Rex W. Wakefield, at present staff assistant on the Willamette national forest, Eugene, will succeed Rasmussen as supervisor of the Siuslaw national forest.

## INACTIVE AIR RESERVE POLICY IS SUSPENDED

Hamilton, Calif.—Suspension of a policy requiring transfer to inactive air reserve of Volunteer Air Reserve Officers who fail to meet participation requirements has been announced by Maj. Gen. William E. Hall, Commanding General Fourth Air Force.

Formerly an average of 15 points per year during the period 1 July 49 to 30 June 52 was required to prevent reservists being transferred to Inactive Air Reserve. Such transfer jeopardized retirement and promotion.

## H. S. PLACES NEAR TOP IN STATE MATH TEST

University of Oregon, Eugene, (Special)—Cottage Grove high school placed in the top 20 schools in competition in Oregon according to the results of the high school mathematics contest sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America through the University of Oregon.

Tigard high school won first place with 208 points. Salem high school was second and Cleveland high school of Portland was third. The mathematics test was given to 750 students in 35 Oregon high schools on May 1.

## TREATY LETS MOTORISTS TRAVEL WITH U. S. PLATES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

Planning a motor trip outside the United States? If so, you won't have to put up with so much red tape under a new treaty just ratified by this country, according to word received at Oregon State Motor Association headquarters, Portland.

The treaty, long advocated by the American Automobile Association, will make it possible for U.S. motorists to travel in foreign countries with their home state license plates and registration documents. Similar facilities will be extended to foreign motorists in this country.

## Belcher Boy Stuck To 'Grandfather Killed Her' Story

By Fred Schneider  
U. of O. Special Writer  
EUGENE (Special)—Fifteen-year-old Elmer Belcher took the witness stand for an hour Thursday, May 15, repeatedly denying his alleged confession to the killing of deaf-mute Mary Ellen Campbell last April 4 near her home in Cottage Grove.

The youth told Judge G. F. Skipworth's circuit court jury that he admitted the murder before because he was "fraid I'd get shot" by "the man" whom Elmer insists actually did the killing.

"He's got guns," Elmer said. "Have you seen him before?" asked his attorney, Frank Reid. "Yes," Elmer answered.

"Do you know him?" the attorney continued. "Yes," the youth repeated. "Who was he?"

"Do you want me to tell you?" Elmer asked.

"Yes,"

Names Grandfather  
"Howard," Elmer said. "I don't know his first name, but he's related. He's a grandfather or grandpa or something. I don't know. I've seen him around about two years."

Defense Attorney Herbert Lombard had contended in opening session that the dead girl's grandfather had fired the fatal shot.

Elmer told how "Howard" had approached him as he was working on his car near the Campbell home the day of the killing.

"I heard the limbs over in the brush a-poppin' and heard Campbell's dogs barkin', but I kept workin'," Elmer said. "Then here come a guy and asked if we had a gun. . . I said we did. . . He said, 'Go get it' . . . He frightened me."

Elmer told of going home and getting a .22 Colt pistol from his mother's bedroom. After returning and giving it to the man, "He said, 'Take off your boots' . . . He had me scart." The man put on the boots and went to the Campbell home, Elmer said.

Elmer claimed he watched the man motion Mary Ellen out of the house, and walk into the woods with her.

Heard Shots  
"I heard two shots and he came a-runnin' down the hill."

The man returned the gun and boots, Elmer said. "And told me if I didn't take the blame he'd shoot me."

Elmer continued working on his car after the incident. He said he saw the Campbell's return home as soon as the man left. He testified to seeing them leave just before the man appeared.

He confessed to the killing under police questioning April 6, he said, because he was frightened and confused.

Reid asked, "Did you think they'd let you go if you confessed?"

"That's what I was a-thinkin'," Elmer answered.

Reid then introduced the alleged confession, asking Elmer to read it to the jury.

Falters in Reading  
The boy faltered through the reading, with the attorney telling him the words he couldn't pronounce.

Reid asked him if he understood

the words "pregnant" and "family way," which were used in the alleged confession to refer to Mary Ellen's condition at the time of her death.

Elmer said he didn't know what they meant.

"Did you ever hear the word 'pregnant' before signing the statement?" the attorney asked.

"No," Elmer replied.

The youth testified that he had known Mary Ellen about two years, but had "never been around her." He said he often saw her on his way to school, but that she "played with little kids, four or five years old."

Poor in School

He admitted that his marks in school were failing, and that he hadn't made passing grades since the third grade. "I like football, pole vaulting, running, and broad jumping," he said.

"Were the boys at school teasing you about Mary Ellen?" Reid asked.

"We teased each other," Elmer replied. "It was just a joke. I took it that way and so did they."

The youth, wearing slacks, a sport coat and tie, remained calm throughout his testimony.

Mother Testifies  
His mother was on the witness stand for 45 minutes before he was called to testify.

Mrs. Belcher, wearing a blue print dress and clenching a handkerchief in her hand, told the jury how her son "never showed one bit of nervousness" after Mary Ellen was reported missing. "He was jolly and full of fun. He's always got a smile on his face," she said.

Under questioning by her attorney, Lombard, she said Elmer had not progressed well in school. "He's a little bit slow, but he reads some. . . But Elmer's not dumb by a long ways," she said.

She testified that she and Elmer sat up until 4:30 a.m. the night Mary Ellen disappeared, waiting for the searching parties to return. "Elmer was calm, and said, 'maybe someone in a car picked her up,'" she said.

Father on Stand

Elmer's father was first to take the stand in the afternoon session. He reiterated the testimony he made earlier in the day, describing the search for the missing girl, and Elmer's arrest. It was Belcher who discovered Mary Ellen's body.

Mr. Belcher was followed on the stand by his 18-year-old son Kenneth, who was with his father when the body was found. He testified that he had never seen Elmer play with Mary Ellen, or pay any attention to her.

Joe Metcalf, W. J. Hudson, Mrs. Hudson and daughter, Beverly, all of the Cottage Grove area, and guests at the Belcher home the evening of the killing, testified that Elmer was calm throughout the evening. They told how he baked a cake, made coffee, and later played a card game in the kitchen with Beverly.

Character witnesses Percy Dickerson, John W. Hooton, Porter LeLonde, Clayton Simons, and the Rev. C. B. Starkey all testified that Elmer has a good reputation in the community.

Schoolmates Testify

Witnesses at the morning session, besides Mr. Belcher, were Elmer's schoolmates, Gordon Glau and Donald Simons. They testified that Elmer was good natured about the teasing concerning Mary Ellen.

Al Grubb, Elmer's eighth-grade teacher, took the stand in repudiation of Elmer's written confession. He said Elmer's reading ability was the poorest in the class of 23 students.

Also testifying in the morning session was Gilbert Gardner, a Cottage Grove surveyor. He described the area around the Belcher home.

MARTIN TAPPED BY DRUIDS

University of Oregon, Eugene (Special)—Albert Owen Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Martin, Box 66, Cottage Grove, is a member-elect of Druids, junior men's honorary. The new members were tapped during intermission at the Junior Prom Friday, May 9.

Martin is a sophomore in journalism.

## MEMORY LANE

THE OLD BUTCHER SHOP

—Remember the old butcher shop where nothing but meat was sold? In those days a dollar would buy steak enough to feed the entire family. What's more, you often had change left over to pay for other food items you needed. And the butcher threw in a bone for the dog and liver for the cat. Remember?

SMITH'S FUNERAL CHAPEL  
115 No. 6th  
Ph. 101



# HERE'S WHERE YOUR DOLLARS HAVE MORE

## COFFEE

Chase & Sanborn

3 GRINDS lb. **79c**

### Catsup

Stockton, 12 oz.

2 for **29c**

It's dollars to cents you save more money when you buy all your food needs here because we make every price a low price every day. And to add still more to your saving, we give you the PLUS BONUS of SUPER SPECIALS resulting from our constant combing of the wholesale markets for the best food buys of the week — very week! You'll find that your food dollars have more good "cents" in them when you spend them at WOLFARD'S for famous top-quality foods.

### Tuna

Finer Albacore

Solid **29c** Can

### Snowdrift

The Big

3 LB. TIN

**79c**

### Snowdrift

The Big

3 LB. TIN

**79c**

### WESSON OIL

For Tasty Salads

Quart Bottle **59c**

### Wesson Oil

For Tasty Salads

Quart Bottle **59c**

### GREAT BIG LUSCIOUS STRAWBERRIES

SWEET...and LOW PRICED!

### FINE RED RIPE BERRIES

2 boxes **49c**

Lemons Large Sunkist doz. **39c**

Calavos Large 30 Size 2 for **25c**

Asparagus Long Green 2 for **29c**

Cucumbers Dandy Slicers 2 for **35c**

Radishes — Onions — Endive — Celery — Rhubarb — Turnips — Cabbage — Carrots — and many others

### KELLY'S MARKET

The Best in Meats

Fresh

Ground Beef All Beef lb. **59c**

Country Style

Pork Sausage You'll like the flavor lb. **49c**

Shoulder

Pork Roasts Center Cuts From Young Pork lb. **59c**

Sliced

Minced Ham Nebergalls Best lb. **59c**

Jowl Bacon Sliced at No Extra Charge lb. **19c**

Pork Liver Very Fresh lb. **39c**

Look for Armour Star Frank Ad in other section of this paper.

SAVE 15c

Clip coupon and bring it in to us!

### LOMA LINDA FOODS

Vegemeat Steaks 20 oz. **48c**

Vegemeat Burger 17 oz. **46c**

Proteena 14 oz. **41c**

Vegetona 14 oz. **38c**

Wieners 14 oz. **48c**

Gravy Quik 2 pkgs. **29c**

Fig Juice Quarts **41c**

Beans Rich Brown 14 oz. **21c**

Ruskets Biscuits Pkg. **19c**

### PUREX

Pure — Safer for Linens!

1/2 gal. **29c**

### PUREX

Bowl Cleaner or Pipe Solvent

**19c** can

### PHENIX OLEO

21c lb. 5 pounds **99c**

### PEACHES

WESTPEAK

ELBERTA NO. 1 TINS 3 bars **59c**

### LIFE BUOY

SOAP

REG. SIZE 4 bars **25c**

### RINSO

LARGE SIZE **29c** GIANT SIZE **55c**

# WOLFARD'S

YOUR FRIENDLY FOOD STORE

637 MAIN ST. - COTTAGE GROVE - PHONE 53

You'll Like Our Way

Low Prices Every Day

### Lasting Gifts for the Grads

### August Heinrich Jeweler

Next Door to Arcade Theatre

### AUTO INSURANCE TOO HIGH??

- No Increase in Rates for the Past 5 Years
- No Extra Charge for Ages 21 to 26!
- Over 2 Million Autos Now Insured With the Nation's Largest Full Coverage Company
- No Extra Charge for Licensed Minors Driving Family Car.

### STATE FARM MUTUAL AUTO INSURANCE CO.

BOB BAUDER

709 Main Ph. 100

### Merry Tiller

### Pat's Saw Shop

117 N. Lane Ph. 146

### SMITH'S FUNERAL CHAPEL

115 No. 6th Ph. 101