

Governor's Charges Heard

WITNESSES AT HEARING MANY

Those Called First day are Mostly Discharged Prison Workers

(Continued from page 1)

he was ordered to prepare plans and specifications for a number of flax pullers, which he understood were to be sold to the Russian government. He also told of being ordered by Meyers to construct two copper shell boxes and a sinking box for the duck pond. Walker declared that these boxes later were loaded on a state truck and taken to the pond.

An alleged conversation in which Bartram was quoted as giving the details of the \$100,000 loan to take care of the 1929 flax crop also was repeated by the flax puller. Walker said he was discharged from the prison under the pretense of reducing expenses.

On cross examination, Walker was asked if there was anything wrong with manufacturing flax pullers for the Russian government.

"I thought it was wrong," replied Walker, "because of the stress of times in the United States and the fact that this country would be flooded with cheap flax products from Russia."

Walker denied that he had been discharged for looting.

"Didn't you tell Mr. Meyers that you were discharged?" queried Carson. "I did," replied Walker. "My nerves were shattered from the strain of my employment."

Walker admitted that he had engaged in a fight with a convict during his employment at the prison.

It was brought out that none of the flax pullers were sold to the Russian government, and if they had been, the state of Oregon would have realized a substantial profit.

"I want to inject a statement into this record," interposed Governor Meier.

"In obtaining flax pullers from the state of Oregon there is no doubt but that the state would be able to compete with the United States and flood our country with flax products manufactured by cheap labor."

Governor Meier continued that the time had arrived when the state of Oregon should employ some men at the penitentiary who are familiar with the flax industry.

Duck Pond Tale Told

A. C. Burke, guard at the prison on July 15, 1930, to April 4 of this year, testified that the duck pond was used exclusively by Roy Bremner, Meyers and Warren Edwards. Bremner is a game warden, while Edwards is employed as a guard at the penitentiary.

Burke further testified that ducks killed at the pond were dressed by convicts and delivered to Meyers's friends. He also testified that feed for the ducks was produced at the prison, and that it was hauled out of the yards on institution trucks. Testimony also was given by Burke that gravel was hauled from the penitentiary to improve the road leading into the duck pond.

Burke added that he personally had delivered turkeys from the prison to Hoss, Kay, ex-Governor Norblad, Carl Abrams, secretary of the state board of control, Iri McSherry, private secretary to ex-Governor Norblad, and other officials. These deliveries were made on the day preceding Thanksgiving, Burke said.

Carson asked if it was not a fact that James Lewis, warden of the prison, had used the duck pond. Governor Meier objected to bringing Lewis's name into the picture for the reason that he was considered one of the outstanding prison officials on the Pacific coast.

Meyers replied that the records show that Lewis and Bremner held the lease on the duck pond, and that he himself had been invited to participate in the shooting.

Kay then presented a receipt for \$20, signed by prison officials, covering an order for feed for the duck pond. This receipt was introduced in advance.

Burke admitted that he was discharged.

Weighed Feed for Ducks

Harry J. Brennan, ex-guard at the prison, corroborated much of the testimony offered by previous witnesses. Brennan testified that he had charge of the prison warehouse, and weighed all flax materials leaving the institution.

He said that he could not recall weighing any of the feed sent to the duck pond. Brennan estimated that the feed was worth from \$12 to \$20 per ton. He also testified regarding the collapse of a flax shed and the subsequent destruction of considerable flax material.

"I was discharged for failing to supervise the loading of flax after one of the officials had told me to go home," said Brennan.

Brennan also testified that the employed personnel turnover at the prison was rapid, and that convicts employed in other departments of the institution drew pay out of the flax funds.

"Meyers is too high strung for the position of superintendent of the prison," continued Brennan. At the time I last severed my connection with the penitentiary he jumped up and down, tore off the roof and raved. He used abusive language, and said he would meet me down the road for a fight. He did go down the

Charges Made by Governor Meier in Asking for Removal of Head Of State Prison

Governor Meier yesterday enumerated the specific charges, as follows:

"That the funds allocated to the prison were juggled. That there was stuffing of the payroll.

"That Bartram and Meyers acted arbitrarily and without the knowledge of the board of control in reducing the prices of flax products purchased from the state by the Miles Linn Mills.

"That the loss in the state flax industry has aggregated between \$250,000 and \$1,000,000, depending upon who made the audit and by whom the auditor was employed.

"That a suggestion by Governor Meier that wages paid to the convicts be eliminated and a more flexible merit system be established, was wholly ignored by the penitentiary management.

"That subsequently an order was issued by Meyers, without knowledge of the board of control, reducing the wages of the convicts 50 per cent.

"That Bartram and Meyers borrowed \$100,000 from the United States bank in Portland to tide over the flax industry, and secured the loan with state assets.

"That the interest paid on the loan was excessive.

"That Meyers improved his duck pond with convict labor, and provided feed for the ducks from the state penitentiary plant.

"That state owned turkeys were distributed by Meyers among his friends.

"That Meyers and Bartram made a trip to Canada, and came back with a lot of new fangled ideas which they placed in effect in the Oregon prison.

"That Meyers has usurped virtually all of the powers of the warden and other institution officials."

road, but I refused to halt my automobile."

Carson asked if the convicts were well treated. Brennan admitted that they were.

"Didn't Warden Lewis once inform you that you were a clock watcher?" queried Carson. Brennan answered in the negative.

Carson then brought out the information that Brennan had talked with Homer Foster regarding the hearing. Foster was assistant manager of Governor Meier's campaign in Marion county. He also later admitted talking to George Joseph, Jr., and that he went to talk things over with Joseph voluntarily.

Meyers Denies Stuffing

A record showing that a convict by the name of Stoop had been allowed 37 days compensation during a single month was then introduced in evidence. Bartram declared that this allowance was a stenographic error.

Mr. Meyers added that errors were so numerous at one time when a convict was employed as timekeeper, that it was necessary to employ a free man. Meyers said this man was employed with the consent of the state board of control. He denied any stuffing of the penitentiary rolls.

Governor Meier then asked the witness the title under which Edwards was known at the prison. "Little Son," replied the witness.

O. B. Chapman, also a former guard, said he was in charge of the truck that carried feed from the penitentiary to the duck pond. He also testified that plows, scrapers and other road machinery had been taken to the pond.

"Edward has more authority at the prison than either Lewis or Deputy Halley," continued Chapman.

Chapman testified that Edwards once took Mrs. Meyers to eastern Oregon in a state car, and that Edwards, Bremner and a convict later enjoyed a hunting trip in southern Oregon. This trip was made in Chapman's car, the witness said.

"I had to let him take my car and walk out of the prison," continued Chapman.

Governor Meier then asked jokingly when the convicts got their vacations.

Carson replied: "You were there to prevent bloody vacations were you not?"

Chapman testified that convicts had told him to "go to hell" and that they were taking their orders from Edwards. The witness said the receipt for \$20 offered in evidence would cover only a small part of the feed sent to the duck pond.

Meyers denied that state gasoline was used by Edwards or any other person in making a hunting trip to southern Oregon.

Roy Takes Stand

C. T. Roy, formerly employed as guard and farmer at the prison, testified to a conversation in which he said he was led to believe that 14 choice turkeys from the institution farm were to be delivered to state officials. He also charged that feed was taken from the prison to the duck pond, and that state machinery was used in improving a road used in getting into the pond area.

Roy admitted on cross examination that he was interrogated by attaches of the executive department prior to the hearing. The witness refused to reply to a question whether the penitentiary was conducted efficiently.

"Did you ever complain to Superintendent Meyers," queried Carson. "Not exactly," Roy replied. "I reported a lot of things and got nowhere."

Roy said he resigned his position, but later sought to be reinstated.

H. T. Hoare, employed at the prison from May, until March, 1930, charged that he had been led to believe that he would be promoted from the flax mill to field boss, but was discharged on five minutes' notice. He testified to loading three assignments of food for the duck pond. Hoare also alleged that there had been duck trapping on the prison premises in violation of the federal laws. This trapping, he said, was done by a convict named Thompson.

Turning to Mr. Meyers, the governor asked: "If we send for Thompson will he jeopardize any of his privileges if he testifies to the truth?" "Not in the least," replied Meyers.

celled for the loan, and that the money was repaid.

Kay Makes Protest

"It is unfair to inject technicalities into this transaction," continued Kay, "for the reason that the bank and not the state took any chance in connection with its repayment."

Attorney Veatch said he did not doubt that the loan was used legitimately, but that the governor objected to the procedure.

"If this transaction was illegal," said Attorney Carson, "the board of control and not Mr. Meyers was responsible."

Jones also testified regarding a reduction in the price of flax products sold by the state to the Miles Linn mills, and corroborated a previous witness that the wage paid to convicts had been reduced 50 per cent.

The witness admitted that persons employed in other departments at the prison had been paid out of the flax funds. He mentioned the name of Mrs. Eugene Halley, matron of the penitentiary, in this connection.

General VanWinkle testified that he had informed Bartram verbally that neither he nor any other person had authority to borrow money for the state flax industry on warehouse receipts or anything else.

In a later opinion, VanWinkle said he had advised the board of control had authority to enter into a contract whereby the linen mills would pay for their flax materials in advance.

Kay contended that the loan transaction was based on the latter opinion.

DeMytt on Stand

Leg DeMytt, foreman of the state flax industry since 1925, told of his experience in flax processing both in Belgium and the United States. He testified that the Oregon state flax plant was modern, based on fineness of products produced.

DeMytt admitted that he had been ordered out on a \$6000 a year offer by Bartram for five years service in Russia, but that these negotiations had been in progress for something.

"The production of the Oregon flax industry is far more efficient now than previous to the administration of Bartram and Meyers," the witness said.

DeMytt said the flax properties had been handled properly and that Bartram had not disrupted operations at the state plant since he filed his resignation sometime ago.

Governor Meier indicated that he would attempt to show a connection between the proposal to build flax pullers at the prison for the Russian government, and Edwards's plan to locate in Russia after he terminates his present employment.

PRACTICE TEACHER SYSTEMS QUERIED

Following request of the school board to that end, the city school superintendent yesterday mailed out letters to colleges and high schools in the state asking for information on arrangements for practice teaching.

The letter asks particularly who directs the supervision of practice teachers who are students in the colleges and who teach in high or grade schools as part of their work. It also seeks to know what salary is paid where there is a supervisor and to whom the salary is paid.

The questions arose when Willamette university notified the Salem school superintendent that it would pay \$500 a year toward salary of R. W. Tavener, secondary supervisor in the Salem schools, if Tavener would assume supervision of the Willamette seniors teaching in the high school. The school board desired further information on the practice in other places before accepting the offer here.

It was pointed out at the board meeting that Mr. Tavener is virtually doing this work now. Another question locally is whether the sum offered by Willamette should be added to the supervisor's salary or placed in the school board funds for the board to do with it as it sees fit.

INDEPENDENCE WINS FALLS CITY, April 17.—The Independence high school baseball team defeated the Falls City nine here today 14 to 2.

LARGE CROWDS OUT TO LISTEN

Hearing Will Take 2 More Days Indicated; on at 9:30 This Morning

(Continued from page 1)

other institutions and their administrators.

At the outset of the hearing Governor Meier said he had been advised that Mr. Meyers had refused to honor subpoenas issued by the executive department for the attendance of certain penitentiary employees, unless such subpoenas had received the indorsement of the state board of control.

Neither Hoss nor Kay made any objection to these subpoenas, provided that the witnesses attended the hearing one at a time.

Allan Carson, attorney for Mr. Meyers, then requested that the hearing be delayed for one week in order that all persons interested in the proceeding might be given an opportunity to prepare their case.

"I sought to have the hearing postponed for at least a week," Governor Meier replied, "but Mr. Meyers objected and demanded an immediate investigation. As a result of Mr. Meyers' demand, your point is not well taken at this time."

State Treasurer Kay then asked Governor Meier if he intended to conduct the examination of witnesses and at the same time act as a judge.

"I feel that the time has arrived when I should be governor," replied the executive. No one can deny that my efforts have been thwarted in the past. I feel that there should be a showdown, and that we should sit as business men and not as politicians in the interest of state business.

"I have entered this hearing with the cards stacked against me. By virtue of being governor I am chairman of the board of control and the state treasurer. This investigation in the interest of state rights. I intend to be fair."

Kay interposed the remark that if the governor was to prosecute the charges against Mr. Meyers, other members of the board of control should have equal rights.

Kay said he accepted Governor Meier's statement to mean that the governor was on the side of the investigation and the secretary of the board of control was on the other. Kay declared that this was not true.

"You have charged that the cards are stacked against you," interposed Hoss, in addressing Governor Meier. "Don't you think that an capable of listening to this testimony fairly and impartially?"

Kay then suggested that the charges be outlined. He added that the state flax industry, which apparently was under fire in the investigation, had been under direct supervision of Colonel W. B. Bartram, and not under the direction of Mr. Meyers.

"Bartram already has been removed," continued Mr. Kay, "and I am one of the three members of the board of control who voted for his ouster."

"We will prove incompetency on the part of Mr. Meyers and mismanagement of the state penitentiary and the state flax industry," Governor Meier said in outlining his charges against the prison official.

The Call Board

By OLIVE M. DOAK

THE HOLLYWOOD Today — Jack Oakie in "Sea Legs."

WARNER BROS. CAPITOL Today — Chester Morris in "The Bat Whispers."

WARNER BROS. ELSINORE Today — Norma Shearer in "Strangers May Kiss."

THE GRAND Today — Buck Jones in "Dawn Trail."

"The Bat Whispers" is an excellent show. It has suspense without being maudlin or overdone; it has plot; it has some excellent acting; it has humor and it has excellent photography.

Chester Morris does some character acting that gives the show an interest which it has never had before on the screen. He is not a pleasing character but he does rise to heights in acting.

Made Eburne as Lizzie Allen, the house keeper, gives the best interpretation of her role which has ever been given it, in my opinion. The audience fairly "whooped" with laughter Friday afternoon in some of the "spooky" places just because of "Lizzie." She alone is worth the price of the show.

You will enjoy this old mystery story made new and better than ever before with a new cast and sound.

AMERICANS ARE Fleeing From Puerto Cabezas

PUERTO CABEZAS, Nicaragua, April 17.—(AP)—R. J. Salas, local manager of Standard Fruit Co. here, tonight reported that all Americans in this district were evacuating their homes and businesses in consequence of Secretary of State Stimson's warning the American government

OPERETTA PLEASES PARRISH AUDIENCE

"The Ghosts of Lollypop Bay," a two-act operetta, was presented before a large number of interested onlookers Friday evening at Parrish junior high school.

The plot concerned affairs of the heart of three different couples; the principals of a girls' school and of a boys' school across the bay, a pupil from each of the schools, and the negro servant of each institution.

The following students comprised the cast: Miss Jennima Steel, principal of the girls' school, Joyce Phelps; Mary, leader among the girls, Frances Huston; her chums Midge and Molly, Mary Jane Adams and June Director; Dinah, girls' school colored maid, Clara Belle Burnside; Professor Alvin Flint, principal of the boys' school, Ward Elliott; Dick, leader of the boys, Ervin Potter; his chums, Harry and Tom, Robert Clark and Harold Beall; and Marcus Adam Johnson, a negro servant at the boys' school, Vernon Donagala.

In addition to these there was a girls' chorus and a boys' chorus made up of other members of the music department.

Miss Helen Franz, music director at Parrish junior high, produced a creditable operetta through her direction of its performers. An orchestra of nine students furnished music for the production.

HOLLYWOOD

Home of 25c Talks LAST TIMES TODAY Mickey Mouse Matinee Today 1:30 P. M.

JACK OAKIE IN 'Sea Legs'

Home of 25c Talks LAST TIMES TODAY Mickey Mouse Matinee Today 1:30 P. M.

THE INDIANS ARE COMING

Fables Comedy, News, and Educational Comedy FIRST TIME IN SALEM

RUTH CHATTERTON

THE RIGHT TO LOVE

MEIER TELLS IDEAS AS TO HIGH SCHOOL

Governor is Interviewed by Member of Senior Class Clarion News Staff

Feature of the senior class edition of the high school Clarion, off the press yesterday, was an interview with Governor Julius Meier, all questions asked the governor having direct bearing on high school and high school activities.

Governor Meier declared he did not think high school athletics, except in a few localities, were over-emphasized; that he believes extra-curricular activities are excellent for students; and that he didn't know whether the present course of study should be changed or altered.

Offering, at the reporter's request, advice for high school students, he said:

"First get a good fundamental education; then follow that up with higher education if possible. If not, make the best of the opportunities offered by your high school education. Make the best of every break you get and work it to the best for yourself. Work hard in every undertaking, and never say quit. When a man sets out to do a thing, he can usually do that thing, provided it is worthwhile."

Jean Eastridge was editor of the senior edition.

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CAMPUS Y. NOTES SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Willamette university Y. M. C. A. group summed up its work since Easter, 1930, and found that the most successful year in its history has just been completed, according to the cabinet officers led by Hayes Beall, president for that term.

The group of officers will start active work as soon as the budget is approved.

Work for last year is as follows: A budget twice as big as formerly was raised. A delegation was sent to Seabeck for the northwest Y. M. C. A. conference. Incoming frosh men were presented with a copy of the Intercollegian, national Y. M. C. A. publication. A stag mix and cooperative with the Y. W. C. A. freshman reception was staged.

Equipment was added to the clubhouse, Chresto cottage. Discussion meetings were held weekly. A series of meetings on social hygiene was held. Several speakers were brought to the campus, including J. Stitt Wilson and Owen Geer.

A Christian service team of men was available to all churches in the valley. Contributions were made to the northwest field council and to the national council.

Valsetz Choker Setter Killed

PORTLAND, Ore., April 17.—(AP)—Chris Kishoff, 50, of Valsetz, Ore., was fatally injured at Valsetz today while setting a choker for the Cobbs and Mitchell Logging company.

Kishoff suffered a fractured skull. He died here tonight.

MICKEY MOUSE CLUB
MEETS AT 10:30 A. M.
All Members 5 Cents
CARTOON COMEDY - CONTEST
FEATURE "BIG BOY" - CLUB SERIAL!

THE BAT WHISPERS
Thrills, Romance, Suspense!
TODAY ONLY!

SUNDAY! WARNER BROS. CAPITOL
ANOTHER BIG LAUGH SHOW!
POLLY MORAN
JAMES GLEASON — MARIE PREVOST
JOHNNY ARTHUR — LESTER VAIL

IT'S A WISE CHILD

TODAY THEN GONE FOREVER
NORMA SHEARER
In "Strangers May Kiss"

TOMORROW!
Back Again With A Brand New Bunch of Laughs

BERT WHEELER ROBERT WOOLSEY
"CRACKED NUTS"

RUTH CHATTERTON
"The Right to Love"

WARNER BROS. ELSINORE
Opening Day and Days With Portland

GRAND
LAST DAY
Buck JONES
in "The Dawn Trail"

Sun. - Mon. - Tues.
RICHARD BARTHELMESS
in THE LASH

25c Any Time

Comfort like this...

\$15 TO SAN FRANCISCO
ROUNDRIP... \$28

These low coach fares to San Francisco and Los Angeles save you many dollars. We invite you to compare their advantages with any other form of travel at a similar price...

\$24 TO LOS ANGELES
ROUNDRIP... \$45

...you have your choice of four fine trains daily, carrying comfortable coaches or the new reclining chair cars. No worry or strain. You ride in complete safety. Fifty pounds of baggage checked free on these tickets. For a few dollars extra, the additional comfort of a tourist sleeper.

Southern Pacific
City Ticket Office
184 N. Liberty, Tel. 4642
Passenger Depot, 13th and Oak Tel. 4408