

Complete unofficial returns from Lane County's 153 precincts were tabulated this afternoon by the county elections department. A table on Page 26 shows how we voted.

Eugene Register-Guard

LANE COUNTY'S HOME NEWSPAPER

EUGENE, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 1952

CITY EDITION

★ ★

Phone 5-1551

The Weather

Forecast: Mostly cloudy with showers Thursday afternoon.
Temperatures: High Tuesday, 66; low Wednesday morning, 42. Predictions—Highs Wednesday and Thursday, 65; low Thursday morning, 45.

Knocks
man Stand
rain Inquiry
Manipulating
Prices Down

WASHINGTON — (AP) — (R-V) charged that political forces forced grain down a billion dollars and declared "they're going to do it again this year."

Secretary of Agriculture as the cabinet officer advising before the Senate Committee to criticism of his department.

played a dirty trick on them. They lost a billion dollars purely political reason.

er Case
Retried

Supreme Court granted a new trial for the case of the convicted man.

Heart Ailment Causes Death Of Movie Star

NEW YORK — (AP) — John Garfield, 39, stage and screen "tough guy," died of a heart ailment Wednesday in the Gramercy Park apartment of an actress friend, Iris Whitney.

Today



THE RACING GREYHOUND appeared on Oregon highways again Wednesday as drivers of Pacific Greyhound and of Northwest Greyhound buses went back to work with contracts that mean pay increases and eventually shorter work weeks. Above, passengers board one of Eugene's 21 northbound buses. Sixteen regular buses leave Eugene southbound. Driver Bruce Peterson, Portland, brother of Ralph Peterson, successful Florence candidate for nomination as county commissioner, grins at wheel of bus.

Allied Guard Kills Progress Made Chinese Prisoner

KOJE ISLAND, Korea — (AP) — A Chinese prisoner was killed by an Allied guard Saturday in the third prisoner of war incident reported in a four-day span on this riot-ridden rock.

The other two occurred at a woman's POW camp and a prisoner hospital. The shooting of the Chinese prisoner—announced only Wednesday—was the first fatality reported from the tough Kojé stockade since Brig. Gen. Haydon L. Boatner took command a week ago.

Boatner said a preliminary investigation indicated the prisoner was shot when he resisted search on his return from a work detail outside an enclosure holding 5,000 Chinese Communists.

On the camp commander's order Wei returned to the barbed wire enclosure and within 35 minutes halted a demonstration begun by Chinese POWs within minutes after the shooting.

Boatner said Wei and 11 other prisoners were permitted to visit the cemetery where the slain Chinese was buried.

We had a "lot of demands that had no reference to the incident," Boatner told a news conference. The American general added: "I answered him in Chinese and his teeth almost fell out. I told him I could make no statements until an investigation had been completed."

The camp commander said about 400 prisoners had been brought to Kojé Tuesday from the POW enclosure near Pusan where Allied guards quelled rioting prisoners.

THE U.S. Eighth Army at Seoul said combat-wise American infantrymen used concussion grenades and a show of force to put down violence Tuesday at the Pusan POW hospital.

The Army said the Red rioters were armed with makeshift spears, barbed wire flails, rocks and similar weapons. Concussion grenades are designed to stun their victims. They do not burst into many small, sharp flying pieces as do deadly fragmentation grenades.

One prisoner was killed in the vicious fighting at the hospital in Camp No. 10. The Army did not say how he died, but correspondents in Pusan said he may have been bayoneted. Eighty-five POWs were injured. Half their injuries were minor. One American guard suffered a minor injury.

THE ARMY said segregation of prisoner orderlies from prison patients, which touched off the outbreak, is proceeding "without incident."

Life Imprisonment Faces Belcher Boy

European Allies Plan on Arming 4 Million Men

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Rep. Richards (D-SC) told the House Wednesday that America's European Allies will "raise and support" about four million soldiers and will produce \$3½ billion worth of weapons next year.

Richard's said Allied forces already have over 5½ million men under arms or quickly available throughout the world.

THE ACTIVE armies of the Soviet Union, including satellite forces, total around four million men, according to recent estimates.

Richard's, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, opened the fight for House support of \$6,880,100,000 in foreign military and economic aid for the year starting July 1.

THE BILL, already one billion dollars less than President Truman requested, faced strong demands for further cuts.

Reductions of another \$1 billion have been predicted. Committee officials said Richard's outline of European troop strength included Greece and Turkey, which have a total force of around 500,000.

Richard's said in a prepared speech the active forces of Western Europe, excluding Greece and Turkey, totaled 1,800,000 in January, 1952.

THEREFORE a buildup to four million men would mean an increase of about 1,600,000. The total worldwide force of active and mobilizable troops, Richard's said, has increased about 1½ million in the past two years.

"It seems to me," the chairman added, "that only the most stubborn defeatist could fail to be immensely encouraged by the increase and improvement in Allied military strength over two short years."

Budget Group to Meet

BASEBALL NATIONAL LEAGUE

MANILA — (AP) — The government has awarded contracts for importation of 123,000 tons of rice, mainly from Burma, to help relieve a shortage of the staple food.



ELMER BELCHER Found Guilty of Murder

Approval Given To McGranery

WASHINGTON — (AP) — A lopsided Senate vote cleared the way for James P. McGranery to walk into the Justice Department Wednesday and take over as the boss.

By a 52 to 18 vote, the Senate Tuesday night confirmed President Truman's nomination of the 56-year old Philadelphia jurist to succeed J. Howard McGrath as attorney general.

ALL THE VOTES against the appointment were cast by Republicans, but 14 other Republicans joined 38 Democrats in voting for confirmation.

Pennsylvania's two Republican senators, Duff and Martin, were among those voting approval. McGranery, a former House member, has been a federal judge in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania since 1946.

During the war he served as the No. 2 official in the Justice Department, as assistant to the attorney general.

MR. TRUMAN sent McGranery's nomination to the Senate last April 3 in a lightning aftermath to McGrath's resignation after firing Newbold Morris as government clean-up man.

McGranery told the Senate Judiciary Committee he would expose and prosecute corruption wherever he found it.

He also pledged to fire any incompetent, disloyal or dishonest Justice Department employees.

Sens. Ferguson (R-Mich.) and Watkins (R-Utah), who led the fight against McGranery, said he did not believe his performance would match his promise.

1 Killed, 3 Hurt By Falling Log

SWEET HOME — (AP) — One man was killed and three critically injured Tuesday when a car was crushed under a log which rolled off a truck.

Murder in First Degree Is Verdict of Jurors; Leniency Recommended

Elmer Belcher in a hushed court room Tuesday evening was found guilty of first-degree murder with recommendation for leniency—four hours after the jury of 10 women and two men received the case. The verdict was read at 8 p.m.

Fifteen-year-old Elmer, youngest defendant ever tried in Lane County on a first-degree murder charge, sat stoically beside his mother while the verdict was read by Judge G. F. Skipworth.

Defense Attorney Herbert Lombard would not comment Wednesday "one way or the other" on whether the case would be appealed.

Judge Skipworth set time for sentencing at 10 a.m. Friday. According to law, first-degree murder with the recommendation means life imprisonment. A person sentenced to the penitentiary for life is eligible for parole in seven years if his behavior in custody has been good.

Mrs. Harlan Belcher, the boy's mother, gripped her son's hand when the verdict was read and held back tears until she reached the rear of the court room. There she broke down and sobbed loudly as her husband and other children tried to comfort her.

Harlan Belcher, the youth's father, sat at the rear of the court room. He bowed his head and fought to keep back tears. Mr. and Mrs. Dana Campbell, parents of Mary Ellen Campbell, walked slowly from the court room. They left without speaking to the Belcher family.

No Emotion Detected

If there were emotions seething within the youth, they could not be detected. His expression remained unchanged. He did not cry. His face and jaw remained stern. He left the court room without help. The six-day trial was over. Solemn-faced jurors went home.

Just before the jury returned its verdict, a University of Oregon Law School mock trial was in progress. Several students were in the audience and twelve student jurors were sitting in the jury box.

They apparently weren't aware of the tense drama that was about to unfold. Rather than dismiss the group, Judge Skipworth allowed everyone to remain while the Belcher verdict was read. The mock trial continued after Elmer was led away.

During the trial an estimated 250,000 words of testimony were recorded. Numerous witnesses testified for the state and the defense. At least 20 exhibits were introduced into evidence.

From the maze of conflicting statements the jury had the arduous task of sifting fact from fancy and weighing the testimony of each witness. Finally, jurors had the final and heavy responsibility of rendering a verdict.

What were some of the contentions presented by the state and defense? What were the main points on which the trial revolved? What, in effect, seemed to be the vital factors influencing final outcome of the case? On what did the jury base its decision? By sifting through testimony and evidence presented in the case, it is possible to evaluate the key points of the trial.

The Case of the Defense

First, what of the defense's case? On what ground was Elmer Belcher's position defended? Here, in general, is the case for Elmer: Defense Attorneys Frank Reid and Herbert Lombard contended the youth didn't fire the fatal bullet that killed Mary Ellen Campbell, that the bullet was fired by William Howard, the girl's grandfather.

Here is the scene on the evening of April 4—shortly before Mary Ellen was killed—in an area about four miles south of Cottage Grove: Elmer was working on a Model A Ford which was parked in a neighbor's yard a short distance south of his own home. He had been helping the neighbor haul some dirt and when the car stalled he was trying to fix the starter which apparently stuck.

It was about 6 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Dana Campbell, parents of Mary Ellen, left their house a short distance to the north and drove down the road past Elmer on their way to milk the family cow. They left Mary Ellen alone in the house. The Campbells saw Elmer as they drove past.

A few minutes later, according to the defense, William Howard, the grandfather, suddenly emerged from some brush just west of Elmer and asked him if his father had a gun.

Elmer testified he was scared "and jumped two feet." Elmer at Howard's "harsh command" then went to his home, got a .22 caliber automatic pistol, took off his shoes and put on a pair of rubber boots, and returned to the grandfather.

Elmer testified he then took off his boots at Howard's command and that the grandfather put the boots on, leaving his own shoes in the Model A. Elmer said the man then went toward the Campbell home and motioned for Mary Ellen, who was looking out the window, to follow him.

Elmer said he saw Howard and the girl walk in a westerly direction up a hill past a pump house and disappear. In two or three minutes Elmer said he heard two shots.

The youth testified he then ran to a fence nearby and saw Howard come running down past the pump house. The grandfather then gave Elmer back the gun and told him to get rid of the boots, Elmer testified.

"He said he would shoot me if I didn't hide the boots. I was scared," Elmer said. "He also told me to keep my mouth shut if anything came up about Mary Ellen."

Elmer said he then went back to working on the car and that the grandfather disappeared into the brush.

Shortly the Campbells returned from milking the cow and saw Elmer still at the car—approximately 20 minutes after they left home to go milking.

According to the defense, Elmer returned home shortly and put the gun secretly back in a bedroom dresser. He then started polishing his shoes for the family was getting ready to visit some friends.

However, according to testimony, several people stopped at the Belcher place shortly thereafter, so the family decided to stay home. Elmer went into the kitchen and baked a cake and made coffee for the visitors and then played some table game in the kitchen with a girl whose family had come to visit, according to the defense.

Search Party Formed

About 8:15 p.m. Mrs. Campbell came over and said Mary Ellen was missing. A search party was formed and Mr. Belcher, Kenneth Belcher, Elmer and other neighbors started combing the area. Elmer did not participate in a second search later in the evening when the body was found. He stayed home with his mother.

This, in essence, is the story presented by the defense to account for Elmer's action at the time the girl was killed—admittedly sometime between 6 and 6:30 p.m., April 4, according to testimony.

In contrast, here is the state's case for contending Elmer killed the deaf-mute girl: The state claimed Elmer left the Model A Ford after the Camp-

LIFE IN PRISON (Continued on Page 8)



U. S. GUARDS at Compound 76 on Kojé Island where Communist prisoners of war are held, man a machine gun and quad 50 caliber machine guns while behind the barbed wire fence a Communist prisoner stands atop a building as a lookout (to left of telephone pole). Note North Korean flag flying in background.