



Bazaar Workers—Mrs. Douglas Fairbanks (left) and Bebe Daniels sell goods at a teen-age stall of the London Christmas bazaar for the National Girls' and Mixed clubs fund.

Reveal 'Confession' Forced By Reds to Involve Ward

By RUTHERFORD POATS
Aboard Lakeland Victory off Taku Bar, Dec. 14 (AP)—A member of the American consulate party from Mukden said today a "confession" incriminating Angus Ward was extorted from him by hours-long questioning in an unheated jail while he was critically ill.

The account of the confession was given by Franco Cicogna, 31, former Italian marine in the Tientsin Italian concession, who was arrested by the communists in their sweeping campaign against westerners in Mukden.

The trial in which the confession was used was that of nine Japanese and Chinese accused of serving with an American spy ring in Manchuria. It was separate from the main trial of Ward on charges of assaulting a Chinese employe of the consulate.

Vice Consul William N. Stokes, 27, Staten Island, N.Y., said the spy trial last month followed a pre-arranged plan. He was an enforced witness at the trial.

Cicogna's confession accused Ward and others of guilt in the spy case. He said the use of the public confession device familiar in other communist trials was the basic part of the proceedings.

"I began suffering chills and fever October 28—the fourth day of solitary confinement," Cicogna said. "That day, a series of two to seven hours grillings began."

"They used threats, mainly. No physical violence."

"They said 'you are a prisoner. If you don't cooperate, we'll never let you out. We know your wife (a white Russian) is anti-Soviet. China is the most powerful country in the world with 460,000,000 people. We are afraid of nobody.'"

"They tried to get me to write an accusation of Ward," Cicogna said.

The second day the same grilling continued, Cicogna said, without food or medical attention, and in a cold room.

Cicogna said he finally was persuaded to sign a "mild criticism" of Ward's conduct.

The next day, Cicogna said he learned the paper was destroyed and a strong accusation of Ward and others of the Mukden consulate staff was substituted.

On December 1st, Cicogna said he broke down and copied the statement in his own handwriting and signed it.

Cicogna and Ward both reported they were not allowed to speak in their defense or have counsel.

The federal government's telephone bill for calls in the city of Washington alone amounts to more than \$3,500,000 a year.

Bug Chasers Study Insects

Six different kinds of insects were identified by the newly organized Salem 4-H "Bug Chasers" entomology club Saturday morning, according to Jim Bishop, city 4-H extension agent.

The group met under the leadership of state entomologist F. P. Larson, in the agricultural building annex in Salem. Officers elected were president Bill Reaney; vice president, Layton Webb; secretary, Richard Grim; news reporter, Douglas Gallo-way; song and yell leader, Max Reaney. Bill Durig is also a member. Johnny Morris and Homer Ding members of a second entomology club lead by J. E. Davis, state entomologist, were also present.

The "Bug Chasers" plan to hold their next meeting at 10 a. m. Saturday, January 7. The second club led by Mr. Davis and consisting of Lee Golden Jerry and Ronnie Simmons, Johnny Morris and Homer Ding plan to meet at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, December 17. Both meetings will be held in the state agricultural building annex.

Boys and girls in Salem between ages of 9 and 21 and interested in entomology are cordially invited to attend these meetings and become members, Bishop said.

Pegler Tags Claim As 'Preposterous'

New York, Dec. 14 (AP)—Westbrook Pegler described as "preposterous" today Drew Pearson's claim that the two columnists once agreed not to talk against each other in public.

"No newspaperman... ever made such an agreement with anybody," Pegler said in an affidavit answering Pearson's libel suit.

Pearson said last week, in moving to increase his suit from \$500,000 to \$1,200,000, that he and Pegler agreed in 1946 "to make no public statements, oral or written, commenting adversely upon the other."

In his motion, Pearson said Pegler violated the agreement by attacking him in several recent columns.

State Supreme Court Justice Thomas A. Aurelio reserved de-



Claude Jarman Jr., as Chick Mallison, and David Brian, in the role of Lawyer John Stevens, in "Intruder in the Dust," at the Elsinore Theatre today.

Illness of East German Premier Said to Have Political Tinge

Berlin, Dec. 14 (AP)—East German Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl's illness has a political tinge, a western-licensed newspaper reported today.

The American-licensed Tagesspiegel said Grotewohl is under a strict police guard in a Russian military hospital, and that a Russian secret police agent is supervising the guard detail.

Last week the east zone government said Grotewohl was in a Soviet hospital for treatment of a "light case of influenza."

Tagesspiegel said Tuesday that Grotewohl had declined a suggestion by the Russians that he go to the Soviet Union for treatment.

Rumors which have filtered out of the east zone since Grotewohl's illness was made known pictured Grotewohl's sickness as a combination of a heart condition and a nervous breakdown.

These reports said Grotewohl may be preparing to resign with ill health as an excuse. American sources have speculated that Grotewohl may be high on the list when expected purge trials begin under the recently-established east zone supreme court.

The British-licensed Sozial-

democrat charged Tuesday the Russians have cracked down on any east zone mention of the return of German prisoners of war from the Soviet Union.

Sozialdemocrat said Soviet Ambassador Pushkin had warned east zone "bourgeois parties" that the prisoner of war question is one that concerns Russia alone.

Pushkin apparently referred to the Christian Democratic union and the liberal Democrats in the east zone. These parties collaborate, but are not synonymous with the communist party, as is the Socialist unity party.

Western Germans claim the Russians still hold about 400,000 prisoners of war.

St. John Re-elected
Gervais—David L. St. John has been reelected to serve another five-year term as director of the Woodburn rural fire protection district.

Where Does Census Bureau Get Right to Ask Questions?

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—The government, which has been taking a national census every 10 years since 1790, starts the 1950 census April 1.

At that time 140,000 census-takers will start knocking on all American doors, asking a number of questions. Of every fifth person they'll ask this:

How much is your income a year? For refusing to answer, you can be fined \$100 or jailed for 60 days, or both. For giving false information, you can be jailed for one year or fined \$500, or both.

If the census-taker or anyone else reveals the information you give, it's a felony and he can be fined \$1,000 or jailed for two years, or both.

And, census bureau officials say, the bureau cannot reveal information about you to any other government agency, such as the FBI or the internal revenue bureau which collects income taxes.

This same question about income was asked in the 1940 census. Then, if your income was over \$5,000 you could say simply "over \$5,000" and give no exact amount. If it was under \$5,000, you were expected to say precisely how much.

In 1950, if your income is over \$10,000, you can say "over \$10,000" but if it's less, you're expected to say exactly how much.

In 1940, if you didn't wish to give your personal income figure to the census-taker—perhaps because you feared he'd tell the neighbors—he provided you with a printed form and stamped envelope. In that way you could send the information directly to the bureau.

About 130,000,000 people were involved in the 1940 census. Only about 115,000 mailed in their income information. Can people answer by mail in 1950 if they don't want to tell the census-taker?

Census bureau officials say: They hadn't planned on it, because such a comparatively small number wanted to answer by mail in 1940 and printing the forms and envelopes is expensive. But—

They said that, because of the storm kicked up about the income question by republican congressmen, they'll probably provide for mail answers in 1950.

Twenty-three republicans blasted the census bureau. They said the Truman administration "is perpetrating an outrageous discrimination against small-income people in the 1950 census."

One of them, Rep. Clarence Brown of Ohio, has demanded of Phillip Hauser, acting director of the bureau, where he gets "legal authority" for the income question.

So far Hauser has not answered him. I could not reach Hauser. But I did talk to a number of census bureau officials. This is their explanation:

Q. Where does the census bureau get the right to ask the questions?

A. In 1919 the republican congress, under President Herbert Hoover, passed a census law. While it did not specifically say census takers should ask such a question about income, it said:

"The number, form and subdivisions of the inquiries used to take the census shall be determined by the director of the census, with the approval of the secretary of commerce." Hauser decided the question should be asked.

Q. Did Hauser decide that all by himself, on his own?

A. No. This question about income was asked in 1940 before Hauser was in his present position. It is being asked again now, say the officials, because income information is important in a number of ways: or a knowledge of the American economy; so businessmen can learn where their best markets lie; and so on.

The bureau was asked to ask it by a number of business groups which include the National Industrial Conference board, the National Association of Motor Bus Operators, the U. S. Savings and Loan league, the Institute of Life Insurance.

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