

Give the Jury More
Rope and Maybe it
Will Hang Banks!

THE JACKSONVILLE MINER

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L. A. BANKS MAY HANG

The Editor Speaking

BREATHED DOWN The DEFENDANT'S NECK . . .

A bit uncouth, possibly, but the title for this column was chosen for its description of the writer's position in the Lane county courtroom where Llewellyn A. and Edith R. Banks are on trial for their lives. The press table was immediately behind the defendants and our position was about 18 inches directly back of the stormy editor-orchiad.

Mrs. Banks, during court, seems intensely interested while her husband rocks slowly back and forth in his chair—not of the rocking variety. He remains inconspicuously alert and intent on proceedings, twitching facial muscles in his peculiar way unceasingly. Several times, when he tipped backwards at a precarious angle, reporters fully expected him to lose control and land smack in our lap.

Jailor Fred Kelly, who seems to remember that his charge, Llewellyn, once blusteringly walked out of Judge Skipworth's courtroom during trial screaming "I refuse to take part in this case," sits quietly near the door.

One of the interesting sidelights on the probable defense is Banks' claim that the power interests are prosecuting him, and seek his extermination, when Mr. Banks knows full well that condemned men are hanged in Oregon, not electrocuted. Probably it's the hemp trust that is after him.

Many of the male witnesses answer Clerk McDermont's challenge of "do you solemnly swear" with the two words, "I do." The circuit court clerk, a woman, seems to have suffered little from hearing the phrase, which has caused so many others of her sex much trouble.

One of the gleeful points in the trial was when Defense Attorney Lonergan attempted to cross up W. S. Walker, state policeman who found the rifle shell which had been used to kill Prescott. "And how do you know that is the identical shell?" boomed the Portland barrister. "Because I marked my initials on it," boomed back Officer Walker.

Charlie Clause, former Ashland police chief, unintentionally slandered the efficiency of the gumshoe fraternity while on the stand. He related how, since the first of the year, he had been privately hired to clear a burglary case. "And what are you doing now?" baited his cross-examiner. "Working on the same case," came the modest reply.

Customary means "Just customary" and nothing else to Keith Ambrose, stocky and muscular state policeman who took the stand Tuesday. Lonergan, who pursued rough-shod and bulldozing tactics during cross-examination, asked him why he and another guard stayed together while searching the Banks home following the killing. "It is customary, that's all," snapped back Ambrose in a complete (Continued on page two)

MINERS TO PLAY CENTRAL POINT RAIN OR SHINE

Wet Weather Halts Week's
Schedule; Expect Much
Competition Sunday

At last sensing a day of sunshine and dry weather, the Jacksonville Miners baseball nine has groomed itself for a trip to Central Point this Sunday. Still mindful, however, of past efforts at weekend play, the team plans to journey to the nearby city armed with bathing suits and water wings. "We'll play 'em if we have to use a ball that floats," declared one member of the team, restless after the enforced rest of the past week.

V. J. Beach, fairy godfather, or guiding light, of the local nine, announced that the game probably would start at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and that all players should meet in uniform at the local hardware store at 12.30 for transportation. A tough game is expected with the Central Pointers, who have worked up a lot of enthusiasm and spirit and the local gold diggers will be given an opportunity to show what they are made of, if any.

Friday night of this week a practice game with the Jacksonville Merchants, or married men, or anything, was scheduled to take the place of the game lined up for the previous evening which was drenched out, as usual. The ball field has been groomed for action and when the home towners return a week from Sunday for the second game of the series on the home field they will be greeted with what is conceded to be the best circuit diamond in southern Oregon.

Enthusiasm behind the team still runs high in Jacksonville and it is expected many townsfolk will go to Central Point Sunday to see their home talent in action. The local nine is made up entirely of Jacksonville players.

Baseball Aid Fund Continues to Grow

Financial aid, as well as moral support, continues to grow for the Jacksonville Miners despite the temporary lull in activity brought about by the wet weather of the past two weeks. Local players were assured of at least one more new ball this week when VV Beach, Chamber of Commerce committee-man in charge of the team, collected another dollar. He stated that a more diligent canvass would be made during the next few days when weather doubtless will permit a renewal of baseball.

The contribution, an addition to the already generous fund, was as follows:

- Fred Hoesley\$1.00
- Mr. and Mrs. George Dunham from Grand Junction, Colo., were looking over the country between Jacksonville and Applegate while searching for a location suitable for a home.
- Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Chapman and son of Grants Pass made a hundred mile tour of Jackson county this week visiting points of interest in and around Medford, and returned home by way of Jacksonville and the Applegate valley.

"I Have Committed No Crime"



Said Llewellyn A. Banks, above, as he stepped over the fallen body of George Prescott as it lay in a gathering pool of blood on his front porch the morning of March 19. The same attitude is still shown by the editor-murderer while on trial for his life in Eugene this week.

New Members Added to C of C Roster; Will Talk Jubilee Monday

Monday night, May 15, the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce will hold its regular bi-monthly meeting in the U. S. hotel. Preliminaries concerning the coming Gold Rush jubilee will be made, and the special committee appointed will get together for the purpose of laying definite foundation for construction of a celebration destined to become famous throughout the west.

Since the last meeting, first Monday in the month, many new members have been added to the roster. Those not included in the list published a few weeks ago are:

- Mrs. Lulu Saulsbury
- Georgia Cody
- Mrs. Alfred Carpenter
- Julia Carpenter
- Mrs. Clinton A. Smith
- Jack Thrasher
- O. M. Knox
- Chet Purcell
- Sam Evans
- Barney Cody
- Alfred Carpenter
- Harlow Carpenter
- Judge Frank L. TouVelle
- Paul Godward
- Robert Metzger
- Clarence Kasshafer
- Clinton A. Smith
- S. S. Randalls
- James Guin
- David Cronmiller
- Dave Dorn

Membership has increased to 65, while the Royal Neighbors lodge has intimated its entire membership will join the chamber in a body. There are more than 20 members of the lodge and their names will be published as soon as a complete list can be assembled.

Taylor Opens Milk Store in Medford

As a new achievement in the dairy business E. H. Taylor of the Applegate expected to have a fine modern store open to business Thursday morning at 109 West Main street, Medford.

"Cloverleaf Products store" is the name of the new establishment, which will handle strictly home-grown products, Mr. Taylor announced. The store will deal in poultry of all kinds, rabbits, dressed poultry, eggs and probably veal. Cloverleaf milk, cream, buttermilk and cottage cheese will be sold in addition to ice cream and bread. The store will have the distribution of Rogue River cheese made at the Central Point plant, for the city of Medford.

As a special Mr. Taylor is featuring in the new store buttermilk to be sold over the counter "at five cents for all you can drink." Later a churn will be installed for the production of Cloverleaf butter. The store, located in the building formerly occupied by the Ed Binns meat market, has been redecorated, having a white interior with green trimming. A green and white checked electric sign over the street displays the name of the store. The new establishment will be operated by John Taylor and Josh Geer. Mr. Geer is an experienced poultry man, formerly associated with the poultry department of the Jackson county creamery.

Mr. Saltmarsh of Ruch visited the Summit Service station Tuesday in connection with the telephone line which he was inspecting and repairing.

State Case Has Marks of Being Airtight Say Observers of Trial

Prosecution Piling Mass of Unrefutable Facts
While Many Links in Defense Lack
Strength; Banks Is Fearful

Although any speculation as to just what a first-degree murder jury will do is very uncertain, it is becoming apparent to many close observers that Llewellyn A. Banks, charged with the murder of Officer George Prescott, may hang for his crime, with a lesser sentence being passed on to his accomplice, Edith R. Banks.

This conclusion has been reached by many after watching State Prosecutor Ralph E. Moody build up what is termed an airtight case against the defendants while the defense' only arguments lie within the realms of imagination, accusation and speculation. There is no indication that concrete evidence can be produced in defense of the Banks' claim of persecution save that which might be given by such defense witnesses as L. O. Van Wegen, Ariel Burton Pomeroy, Henrietta B. Martin, Arthur LaDieu and others.

While Moody has been diligently and thoroughly welding a chain of matter-of-fact, proven evidence around the defendants, Lonergan, chief counsel for Banks and wife, has been unable to date to produce anything more effective than to continue along the same lines the stormy editor followed during his hectic newspaper days in southern Oregon. There are references to power interests, fruit marketing associations, gangs and cliques by the defense but, like in the old Daily News columns, nothing definite has been revealed.

Defense pleas of the editor and his wife follow along the same line of reasoning (or lack of it) which formed the foundation for his sensational attacks against mythical gangs and politicians in Jackson county prior to the actual murder. There is much speculation as to just how much sympathy such ethereal accusations will arouse among members of the jury. It has been pointed out, however, that to date the defense attempt to show that a feeling of persecution existed among state's witnesses has failed miserably.

The state of Oregon, in its effort to demand punishment of the murderers of an innocent officer, has definitely proven, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that George Prescott was shot and killed while attempting to serve an arrest warrant on Llewellyn A. Banks. The state has shown, and proven, that Banks not only fired the fatal shot, but that he admitted the act, as did his wife, Mrs. Edith R. Banks. Weapons and ammunition used have been positively identified and admitted as evidence. The jury knows the state's full case and has been shown conclusively that (Continued on page four)

Record-Herald Plant Is Taken from Fehl

Tuesday of this week, despite the rain, was a bright day for southern Oregon, declare many citizens who watched the Pacific Record-Herald plant being moved from the Fehl building by the sheriff's office.

The equipment, long the center of controversy, had been used for several months past—since the ousting of L. A. Banks from his newspaper plant—to print the Fehl paper and for a few weeks prior to the murder of Officer Prescott was used by Banks to continue his Daily News in weekly form. It was the last stand of the Good Government congress leaders and removal of the equipment may result in the discontinuation of the weekly, which has been the center of political war for more than 15 years.

Many citizens, although they felt the need of an opposition newspaper and one which would maintain a "watchdog attitude" towards graft and monopoly, resented the continual resorting to lies, half-truths and exaggerations in the Fehl paper. It had been credited by many with being the real foundation of all the political rumpus, crime and murder in Jackson county recently.

Replevin of the machinery by the legal owners, Niedermeyer, Inc., corroborated several statements made by The Miner a few weeks ago concerning the working agreement between the owners and the county judge. Niedermeyer contended, in the complaint for possession in the property which he filed Monday, that by an agreement entered into March 1, 1933, Fehl had agreed to pay \$20 a week rental on the property. The complaint further alleged that the \$20 a week rental has not been paid.

Days of Vigilantes Would Cure Local Mess Says Editor

Down at Medford, Oregon, a few weeks ago a carpet-bag editor-promoter shot and killed the officer who was sent to arrest him on a charge of ballot theft and conspiracy. This week he is on trial for the deed. The defense had planned to enter a plea of "insanity," but now changed to the cry that the murderer was a victim of persecution. It is costing the county a pile of money to set up a state idol idea. Too bad that the country has become so terribly law abiding. In some instances the old vigilantes are still needed.—D. W. Bagshaw in Zillah (Wash.) Mirror.

Dr. Peters Opens for Business Here Thurs.

Dr. S. C. Peters, formerly of the Jacksonville dental office Thursday of this week. Coming here because of the climate, Dr. Peters and family have installed themselves in the former Margaret Zell home, which they have purchased and are remodeling.

The dentist, graduate of North Pacific college of Portland, boasts a dental medical doctor's certificate which, at the time of his graduation—1908—was obtainable at but one other college in the United States, Harvard. He has engaged in 25 years licensed practice since and served a seven-year apprenticeship before that time. He comes here with highest recommendations from Drain, where he had been located for many years.

Both Dr. Peters and daughter, Mavis Elnor, had found the Drain climate unfavorable toward hay fever and spent many months searching for some new location where their health would be improved. Of all Oregon points visited the Jacksonville community was found most favorable. Both have enjoyed almost immediate relief in this city and have demonstrated their faith in the community by investing both time and money here, as well as casting the family lot with the opportunities of the valley's west side.

Since opening Thursday Dr. Peters has treated several patients and looks for a substantial business to be developed in this section, which has been without dental convenience for several years. Offices are located in the old Judge Roe building now owned by Bill Blair and are directly across the main street from the postoffice.

Beck Truck Burns on Applegate Monday

An unusual type of fire occurred on Applegate Monday when Beck's bakery truck burned near the Humburg road.

First indication of fire was noticed by Mr. Young, the driver, when smoke came through the floorboard. Upon investigating he found the under portion of the car aflame. The motor and running gears remained after the fire was put out by a fire extinguisher which a passing rancher had obtained from the Applegate school.

The charred remains were towed to Medford the following day, Mr. Young said the car had not pulled as it should on the trip here.

'I'll Tear That Swede Anderson to Pieces' Says Bellicose Belcastro; To Mix Wednesday Night

Knucks, blackjacks, baseball bats, gas pipe, tongue sticking out and spitting in faces doubtless will be resorted to before Pete Belcastro of Sacramento, Calif., gets his fill of Medford and southern Oregon pugs. At least that conclusion might be justified after observing the proclivities of the coming battle between Medford's towering "Swede" Anderson, who would rather fight than eat and who eats an awful lot, and Pete "Bulldog" Belcastro, Italian wrudge nurger, next Wednesday night at the Medford Armory.

Promoter Mack Lillard, who has decided to let the boys settle their differences before the house, and pack it thereby, declared this week he was considering dressing his main eventers in in football suits. Metal armor outfits were abandoned when it was feared Belcastro, who also bites, might cut his tongue and that Swede might try another of his Sonnenberg tactics with a canopener in his fist. Belcastro, a wrestler by trade, matched gloves with Swede's pal, Ray Frisbie, a couple weeks ago when they both suffered knock-outs. It was then that Belcastro's hatred for Anderson was uncovered when he attempted to send the towering Medfordite back to Sweden on a stretcher. The fray was one

not planned by Lillard, but which met with hearty cheers and near-participation of the crowd present.

Swede, so large his instep would garage an Austin, has made a specialty of football, street fighting and strong man demonstrations, and Lord help the fans sitting in the first three rows after they get going good! Three preliminary scraps are being lined up by Lillard to add flavor and variety to the evening's program and, in order to permit all Swede's friends and enemies to witness the classic of hatred, has refused to change from his policy of depression prices at the Armory smoker.

Last Wednesday's scuffles, an unusually good card, featured Herb White and Frankie Monroe, who mixed it for six rounds to a decision over Medford's pride, White. Monroe evidently was a bit too fast for the home talent for the first four rounds, but appeared to be equalled the latter two. Many suggested another two rounds might have seen a reversal of the decision.

In the curtain raiser Cort Mitchell drew with Neil Dunnott of Pelican City. Mitchell took one on the button a week ago but nevertheless has drawn much praise for his willingness to mix it up and for (Continued on page four)

Ruch Field Day Provides Sport, Fun for Many Applegate Youngsters Who Were Sans Track

A piercing cold wind and clouded skies failed to remove any of the vim and vigor from 87 school youngsters of the Applegate who assembled at Ruch Friday afternoon for community play day, which was in charge of Mrs. Marguerite Black, teacher of the Forest Creek school.

Pupils of Applegate, Beaver Creek, Ruch and Forest Creek enjoyed the thrill of getting together for track events which helped to atone for the absence of a county track meet this year. Pupils and parents assembled in the school building at 1:30 p. m., when Forest Creek pupils presented folk dances. A spelling match was waged between Forest Creek, Ruch and Beaver Creek, in which Beaver emerged victorious.

Spectators dodged "homers" and "fouls" for the next hour when Ruch won a 12-3 victory over Applegate in a baseball game which revealed commendable playing by both schools. Pupils and schools winning in track events are as follows:

- Beaver Creek**
Fifty yard dash—Robert and Audrey Fletcher, first; Carmoleta Lewis and Frances Port, third.
Relay—Robert Fletcher, third.
Sack race—Robert and Audrey Fletcher and Carmoleta Lewis.

first; Vonetta Ruprecht, second; Truman Lewis, third.
Three-legged race—Frances Port, Robert and Audrey Fletcher, Vonetta Ruprecht and Rosella Offenbacher, first.

Ruch
Fifty yard dash—Stanley Smith, Marjory Peebler, first; Fred Wiltzie and Bud Peebler, third.

Relay—Marjory Peebler, second.
Sack race—Frederic Wilson, first; Russel Mee and June Slater, second; Marlon and Paul Mathoney and Alice Hodges, third.

Three-legged race—Fred Wilson and Bob Hyde, first; Eveyn Wiltze, second; Donald Lynom and Joe Hodges, third.

Applegate
Fifty yard dash—Keith Mee and George Post, second.

Relay—George Post, first.
Sack race—George Post, second.
Three-legged race—Donald O'Brien, Keith Mee, George Post, Wayne Brewer, Barbara Mee, Stella Franzen, second; Loren and Lester S. John, third.

Forest Creek
Fifty yard dash—Alma Ayres and Mabel Carter, second.

Three-legged race—Norman and Wayne Meeds, third.
At the close of the afternoon assembly was called in the school house for presentation of ribbons.