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CASE UP TO JURY SATURDAY NOON

Comment on the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS.

COUNTY BLAMED FOR PRESCOTT'S DEATH, IN PLEA

Lonergan in Impassioned Argument to Save Banks — Daughter Paraded for Benefit of Jury Members

EUGENE, Ore., May 19.—(AP)—With little Ruth May, 12-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Llewellyn A. Banks, sitting between her parents as they faced the jury in the circuit courtroom, defense attorneys today pledged for the lives of the elderly defendants.

Remembering the way in which the League of Nations handled the Japanese conquest of Manchuria, one is tempted to laugh.

GERMANY threatens to re-arm, whereupon Great Britain, backed, of course, by France, prepares to haul Germany before the bar of the League of Nations for trial on the charge of violating the treaty of Versailles.

Remembering the way in which the League of Nations handled the Japanese conquest of Manchuria, one is tempted to laugh.

GERMANY threatens to re-arm. The other nations of Europe have refused to DISARM.

To an unprejudiced observer over on this side of the water, one looks about as bad as the other.

JUST as it begins to look as if the world might be beginning to pull itself out of the slough of depression, this familiar headline greets the eye: "War Clouds Hang Over Europe."

What a wonderful thing it would be if the nations of Europe could learn a little common sense.

BUT let us turn away from Europe, contemplation of whose affairs is inclined to inspire a fierce disgust among Americans.

The big wool pool of the Oregon-Idaho Wool Co-operative association is offered for sale at Portland, and on the first day of the sale about half of it is sold at prices unofficially reported to have ranged from 19 to 27 cents a pound, the highest prices yet reported.

That is better news than what is happening in Europe.

AND here is a note of optimism from Albany, up in the Williamsburg valley, contained in a recent issue of the Democrat-Herald:

"Yesterday cherry buyers visited Linn county farmers to contract with them for their cherry crop. For several years the farmers have not been able to attract the buyers to their farms. The canneries didn't want the cherries at any price."

"The reason for this new activity is the upward trend of the markets."

AND here is a market note from Portland, contained in a market page headline:

"Sensational Rise in Hogs and Cattle." Steers were up from 75 cents to \$1, and hogs advanced about 75 cents.

To us out in this country, that means a lot more than stock market advances.

BUT don't forget that the livestock markets have got to go up A LOT yet in order to recover the ground lost in the past four years.

The value of livestock on the farms of the United States was approximately \$8,600,000,000 in 1929. In 1932, it dropped to \$3,500,000,000.

After a drop like that, livestock prices are ENTITLED to recover.

GROSS income from the farms of the United States in 1929 was about twelve billion dollars. In 1932, it was about \$5,132,000,000, a drop of around 67 per cent.

Gross farm income last year was the lowest in 23 years. It's high time that farm prices came back.

HERE is an interesting figure: In 1929, the value of all farm land and buildings in the United States was placed at \$8 billion dollars. In 1932, the value of all farm land and buildings in the United States had fallen to \$7 billion dollars.

That is a tremendous drop. Still, it is no greater than the drop in values of other forms of property in the same period—for less, as a matter of fact, than the decline in values of stocks listed on the New York stock exchange.

That is to say, the value of farm real estate has held up better through the depression than the value of listed stocks.

WHATEVER you do, DON'T lose confidence in real estate as an investment.

FISHERMEN'S STRIKE
HOLDS ON COLUMBIA

SCORPION CAPTURED
IN APPLEGATE CAMP

It isn't a "gold bug found in a bottle," but a scorpion brought in from the Applegate civic conservation corps camp, that is in the window at Hebb's drug store. The scorpion is only one of a dozen found in the camp, it was reported.

Four Arrested for Robbery Aged Man

GERMANY AGREES TO BRITISH PLAN IN DISARMAMENT

World Conference Informed of Decision—Frenchmen Reject Further Cut in Nation's Military Expenses

GENEVA, May 19.—(AP)—Germany accepted the British disarmament plan today as a basis for an agreement to be reached by the world disarmament conference.

Count Rudolf Nadolny, the German delegate, informed the conference of the decision of his government.

Manifestations of approval greeted Nadolny when he said any German suggestions would dovetail with the British draft, which already had been accepted by all nations save Germany.

"I hope this will be regarded as new proof of German moderation," the Berlin delegate said.

He referred to President Roosevelt's disarmament message to the world as "another great manifestation of peace." His entire address was complimentary.

"They are the victims of circumstance," said Hardy. "Banks is a persecuted man. The 'elk stocking' group of Medford has hounded him to tragedy and now they're trying to crush him just as the power trust has crushed hundreds of others."

"It was an evil hour when Banks came to Medford. It was an evil hour when he purchased, of all things, a newspaper. His life since he came to Oregon has been one series of unfortunate circumstances, but Jackson county, and not Llewellyn A. Banks, is responsible for the death of George J. Prescott."

With an emotional ring in his voice, Hardy described the "beautiful devotion" of Banks' Medford friends, "not lawyers, bankers and power trust people, but scrubwomen, laborers, forasters, gardeners and just ordinary people who love liberty."

Hardy described Banks as an "unusual man," and told of the many unusual men of history who have fought against persecution and corruption and who have been martyred for their efforts.

"If Franklin D. Roosevelt had been in Medford in 1928 and 1929, he would have been convicted for criminal syndicalism," Hardy shouted.

"Give them back their freedom," he pleaded. "Let them go back to the scattered remnants that remain to them in southern California. Let them breathe the healing air of liberty. Don't convict them for a crime that should rightfully be laid at the doorstep of Jackson county."

"Do your duty as citizens and give this aged couple back their lives!"

Hardy reviewed the evidence and demanded to know what the state had done with the gun belonging to George Prescott, the slain officer.

"Because," Hardy cried, "it was probably from this gun, clutched in Prescott's hand, that Banks' bullet glanced and killed the officer."

Lonergan followed Hardy as the final defense speaker. Joe Hammarley, Portland attorney, will not appear under the revised plans of the defense. Ralph Moody, chief prosecutor, will follow Lonergan in the state's final plea before the judge gives his instructions and the jury retires to decide the fate of the ex-publisher and his wife.

Lonergan was not expected to complete the defense arguments before the end of today's session and the case will probably go to the jury about Saturday noon.

As Lonergan returned for the afternoon session, he opened a bitter attack on the various "interests" in Medford who had opposed Banks and planned to "get" him.

MAY COURT TERM
OPENING MONDAY;
MANY CASES WAIT

The May term of court will start Monday, May 22, with the drawing of a new grand jury and new jury panel, according to word from the court house.

Several cases await the grand jury, including that of Fred Wolfe, wanted for the killing of William Shelden, on Birdseye creek, in a three-cornered love affair. Bad checks, burglary and other minor crimes are also on the docket.

Trials in the ballot theft cases are expected to start as soon as possible after the return to Medford of District Attorney George Codding and Attorney Neilson. It is also expected that Attorney Ralph Moody, who has handled the prosecution of the Banks murder case in Eugene, will handle the ballot cases. Moody was appointed by Governor Meier after the death of William Levens. Levens was appointed to handle both the murder charge and the ballot theft cases.

CRIME IS PROVED

The state is not interested in the controversial matter, in which Banks may have involved himself. It has no interest in whether or not he was good to the orchardists. This is merely dust that has been injected to cloud the issue. THE ONLY QUESTION BEFORE THIS JURY IS WHETHER OR NOT LLEWELLYN A.

(Continued on Page Three)

20 Years for Boy



MANY SECTIONS AFTER HIGHWAY PROJECT MONEY

Demands Flood Commission at Session—Ashland Delegation Assured of Temporary Repair Work in City

PORTLAND, May 19.—(AP)—Demands for money from Oregon's share of the federal public works bill for road projects flooded the state highway commission at its session here today when delegations representing virtually every section of the state presented their pleas, and added new schemes for use of funds to hundreds already in the hands of the department.

But the groups were informed by Chairman Leslie M. Scott that their sights were too high, that the proposed \$5,768,000 federal funds available for the next two years would be only about half of what was expended last year, and that the commission did not yet have the funds nor information as to how they would be distributed.

MULTNOMAH EMPHATIC

While most of the delegations urged that their projects be kept in mind for consideration, George Buck, road master of Multnomah county, was emphatic in demanding money for county roads, where he said traffic was heavier on one mile than on any fifty miles of state highways. He criticized some of the state expenditures and declared "It was time Multnomah county was considered a part of Oregon."

Umatilla county presented an eight point program, while Union, Lane, Jefferson, Tillamook, Clatsop and Lincoln counties listed their pleas and indications the entire afternoon session would be devoted to hearing presentations of other counties.

Before the flood of requests was started the commission, bureau of public roads and forestry bureau jointly approved the expenditure of \$20,000 by the North Umpqua road district for survey of that highway to Diamond lake. The request was made by B. L. Eddy, A. C. Marsters and W. C. Hardin of Roseburg.

ASHLAND ASSURED

The commission answered the request of Ashland for improvement of the Pacific highway through the testimony of B. O. Stephenson, lumberman, who said that he met Wheeler in the courthouse three minutes before the shooting. He said he knew Wheeler, said "Hello, John," and proceeded to the district attorney's office. In that office he was advised by District Attorney Codding that Constable Prescott had been slain. He drove Codding to the police station, and then drove to the Banks home, where he saw Wheeler standing on the lawn of the Banks home with many others.

County Roadmaster Buck of Portland changed the tactics of delegations appearing before the commission and demanded funds for county roads not on the state highway system. He criticized the commission's action in improving the Salem-Portland highway while Multnomah county road, where the population is and where traffic is twice as heavy on any state road, "was still unimproved and the county unable to do more than patch holes in the dirt roads.

BUCK ENDORSES ROOSEVELT PLAN ON PUBLIC WORK

WASHINGTON, May 19.—(AP)—Endorsement of organized labor and a prediction it would provide four million new jobs helped speed today the administration's public works-employment control bill, while the Glass-Coleman reform bill was given a clear track in both Senate and House.

The stories were started through members of the so-called Good Government Congress. Mr. Millard stated, brandishing the late George J. Prescott's "vicious officer" statement that "he had killed three men before coming to Medford."

The stories were started through Lane county residents of Eugene told Mr. Millard when Eugene was first named place of the trial.

Proof of their statements was revealed to Mr. Millard on all sides, where he questioned people and found that unlimited groups had been contacted by the Good Government Congress, members of which are still in circulation in Eugene.

Arriving at a restaurant just as Mrs. Mae Murray, witness for the defense was departing, Mr. Millard said this morning, his wife was able to spike one of the false reports, which had just been imparted to the head woman, who was very surprised to learn of the true state of affairs existing in this county.

Country districts too, Mr. Millard stated, reveal that a thorough canvass of the county was made by the Good Government congress to create sympathy for Banks.

BASEBALL

National. R. H. E.

Boston 5 5 2

Pittsburg 3 8 1

Batteries: Zachary, Seibold and Hargrave; Hoyt, French, Smith and Padden.

R. H. E.

Philadelphia 5 15 0

Cincinnati 4 8 2

Batteries: Holley, Rhem and Davis; Lucas and Lombardi.

R. H. E.

St. Louis 5 6 1

New York 5 8 0

Batteries: Wells, Knott and Shee;

Brennan, Pennoch and Dickey.

R. H. E.

Detroit 7 11 1

Boston 5 10 0

Batteries: Marberry, Hogsett and Hayworth; Rhodes, Andrews, Welch and Ferrell.

R. H. E.

Cleveland 2 5 2

Philadelphia 9 13 2

Batteries: Brown, Connally, Bean and Myatt; Mahaffey and Cochrane.

BANKS WITNESS
STRICKEN AFTER
GIVING VERSION

EUGENE, May 17.—John Wheeler, Medford suburban gardener, who testified that he was at the Banks home, and heard the fatal shot, and saw a pistol drop from the hands of Constable Prescott, as he fell, was reportedly ill from a heart attack. A physician, Dr. Howard reported it would be dangerous for him to come to the court. Wheeler was sought to be recalled to the stand in an effort to refute the testimony of Oliver Rogers.

Wheeler was stricken Monday afternoon, a few hours after he testified. The state showed that Wheeler was in the courthouse at the time of the shooting, and was advised of the tragedy by his wife.

Wheeler's testimony was further refuted Thursday morning by the testimony of B. O. Stephenson, lumberman, who said that he met Wheeler in the courthouse three minutes before the shooting. He said he knew Wheeler, said "Hello, John," and proceeded to the district attorney's office. In that office he was advised by District Attorney Codding that Constable Prescott had been slain. He drove Codding to the police station, and then drove to the Banks home, where he saw Wheeler standing on the lawn of the Banks home with many others.

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Under cross-examination Jones said he was driven to Grants Pass by his wife, and in that city he secured a ride to Portland in the auto of a traveling salesman.

"And what was the name of the traveling salesman?" inquired Attorney Moody.

"I do not know," answered Jones.

"You rode from Grants Pass to Portland in an auto with a traveling salesman, and you do not know his name?"