

OREGON CLEANSED OF GOONSTERS IN HALF YEAR DRIVE

Over Forty Men Now Languish in Cells Through Confessions or Convictions; Few Yet to Be Tried

PORTLAND, Aug. 10.—(AP)—Union labor in Oregon treads a path today free of the racketeers who besmirched its reputation.

In the county jails and state prison languish more than 40 men who have pleaded guilty or been convicted since last February of an assortment of crimes ranging from simple assault to complex plots of arson and bombing.

A few remain to be dealt with, but for the most part the small gang of lawless individuals who attached themselves to labor's label and committed more than 250 acts of violence over a two-year period have suffered the laws penalties for their terrorism of employees, employers and even rival unions who failed to fall in line with their organization ideas.

Only Small Union Group. A salient fact in the six-month campaign of police and prosecutors to end the reign of terrorism was that the 100 or so men arrested comprised but a fraction of the thousands of union workers innocent of wrongdoing in the final washout. Only four of Portland's 118 unions figured in the violence—the teamsters, masters, mates and pilots, two dry cleaner groups and a scattering of grocery clerks, both A.F.L. Each of these speedily condemned the violent acts of a few leaders and soon installed officers replacing them.

The climax of the anti-terrorism campaign was the recent conviction of Albert E. Rosser, 44, the baldish former secretary of the A.F.L. teamster unions of Oregon and once a most powerful figure in the state's labor picture. A circuit court jury at Dallas, 60 miles south of here, pinned upon him the crime of complicity in the destruction by fire last November of a box factory at West Salem. The flames, spreading to a lumber yard, caused damage estimated at \$130,000.

Major Crime. This was the major crime of the racketeers and was the means employed to deal with the persistent refusal of the factory employees and management to accept union organization.

Of the five thus far declared guilty in the arson plot, Al N. Banks, former teamster business agent at Salem, drew a 12-year prison term; Ernest Carson, Cecil Moore and John Newlands, who like Banks pleaded guilty, have yet to be sentenced, and Rosser, who has filed notice of appeal, faces a possible sentence of five to 15 years. The fates of several others charged in the same crime remain to be determined, but two have been freed.

Rosser's conviction stood out because of the prisoner's exalted station in a union that had gained peculiar power because of its jurisdiction over a key trade and because of its traditional willingness to carry the torch for other unions in times of trouble.

The anti-terrorism drive was set off by the bombing last January of a cleaning establishment here and which, oddly enough, has never been solved. The testimony of a relatively minor figure who "sang" because of a grudge, started a trail of confessions. One man's story reached out and caught others and they involved new figures until at length nearly a score of men clothed with titles in certain unions found themselves in jail and crimes dating back as far as two years had been laid at the door of labor.

Crime Point Unfound. Officials of the State Federation of Labor, as well as police and prosecutors, were unable to trace the wave of vandalism, bombings, acid-throwing, assaults and arson to a definite beginning. District Attorney James R. Bain of Portland, a leader in the prosecutions, said the terrorism was not an outgrowth of the A.F.L.-C.I.O. jurisdictional fight. In fact, all agreed that the violence began before the schism in labor's ranks.

A more logical beginning, say labor federation executives, was the beer fight between the teamsters and the brewery workers. This dispute was national in scope at the outset and grew exceedingly bitter on the west coast about two years ago. Its crux was whether the teamsters or the rival brewery union should control beer deliveries.

The traditionally militant teamsters had grown rapidly prior to this dispute and they exercised jurisdiction over a trade that necessarily affected most other trades. Certain of their leaders, aware of their strategic position, used it in the general unionizing movement. They aided weak crafts in times of trouble and won a phalanx of friends through unionism, to say nothing of a formidable reputation.

Teamsters Dangerous. It was a catch-phrase in union labor that "if you have the teamsters with you, you can't lose."

Labor chiefs said they believed that as this rugged, militant union grew to great strength it held an understandable lure to a dangerous and undesirable type of men. There were some 12,000 teamsters in Oregon at the present start of the terrorism wave and among them, beyond question, were unprincipled adventurers who were looking for a chance to get in a fight.

In Play Tonight



Here is George F. Smith as Malvolio in Twelfth Night which will be presented at the Elizabethan theater in Ashland at 8:30 tonight for the first time in the current Oregon Shakespearean Festival. Mr. Smith has played Malvolio since Twelfth Night was first produced four years ago and is one of the great comedy favorites in the play.

When the beer war started they spurned the more potent methods and took to beatups and vandalism and other forms of "direct action." From this, federation chiefs believe, grew the Oregon "Goon" as the vandals were called.

Once the start was made, a few sincere, thoughtful unionists allowed themselves to be drawn in, on the mistaken belief they were acting for labor's good.

Ill Effects Seen. Federation officers deplored the vandalism because "we do not approve of violence, if for no other reason than because it doesn't pay" and because the inevitable anti-terrorism campaign hurt the morale of the unions, lost public support and made union labor timid at a time when clean, undefiled aggressiveness was badly needed.

A far cry from the daily accounts of violence of a few months ago was the conference held a few days ago at the call of a Portland union leader who got business men and labor figures together and organized a committee which will jointly seek the speediest, most practical course back to better times for both business and the working man.

FORMER IOWANS VISIT AT PICNIC

Former residents of Iowa from Medford were hosts Sunday to the Southern Oregon Iowa Picnic Association at Jackson Hot Springs. About 200 ex-Iowans were in attendance.

A picnic at noon, followed by a short program and informal visiting were highlights of the day. The program consisted of group singing of the Iowa state song; a duet by L. E. Stennett, Medford, and son, A. J. Stennett, Crescent City, Cal.; reading by Owen H. Barnhill, Ashland, violin solo by Harold Sundvik, Olympia, Wash., and comic skit by L. E. Stennett.

The association voted to meet next year at Riverside park, Grants Pass, and R. E. Blankenberg of that city was selected to head the group. R. C. Morris, Medford, was president the past year.

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FESTIVAL COMEDY SET FOR TONIGHT; ATTENDANCE GAINS

Largest Audience in Series to Date Sees Hamlet — Veteran Shakespeare Actor Praises Production

With another new attendance record established at last night's repeat performance of Hamlet, interest turned to the presentation of Twelfth Night this evening for the first time in the current Oregon Shakespearean Festival.

Twelfth Night will be given only once in this year's festival at the Elizabethan theater in Ashland. It has been one of the most popular of the Shakespearean comedies since the festival was founded four years ago. The curtain will rise on the play at 8:30.

Last night's audience was the largest at any of the plays in the current series to date. The attendance this year has been cumulative. With the exception of Saturday night, attendance has increased at each performance. Saturday's audience was the biggest for any Saturday in the four-year history of the festival.

Seat Sale Gains. With most of the sponsoring membership tickets already used, the sale of individual seats at the theater box office has been increasing steadily. Reserved seat and general admission tickets may be procured not only at the box office but in advance.

New Members. Medford sponsoring members not previously announced include Mr. and Mrs. Paris B. Bigelow, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Gates, Mr. and Mrs.

at the Pruitt Music and Radio Center, 111 West Main street, and at the Ashland Chamber of Commerce. Last night's audience saw another smooth production of Shakespeare's great tragedy. The play was presented with the professional finesse that characterized the production at the opening of the festival last Friday evening.

In last night's audience was William Greenleaf, retired professional Shakespearean actor who makes his home on the Old Stage road. Taking part in the informal backstage reception after the show, Mr. Greenleaf said the production was excellent in all its phases. He related that he had now seen 26 different companies present Hamlet and he ranked the Oregon Shakespearean Festival association high among them.

Receptions Popular. Incidentally the backstage receptions are proving a popular innovation. Anyone in the audience may go backstage after the performance to meet the players.

Copies of the illustrated souvenir programs sold at each show have been requested for their files by Harvard university and the New York public library. Figures disclosed today by Mrs. H. Chandler Egan, chairman of the Medford sponsoring membership committee, and Mrs. H. M. Schilling, chairman of the Ashland committee, showed a sizeable gain in memberships over last year's totals. The Medford total this year was 131 sponsoring members, more than double last year's 65. The Ashland total this year was 90 as compared with 70 a year ago. Receipts for the first three performances exceeded the entire proceeds of the festival last year.

Mrs. Egan said that the sale of sponsoring memberships this year was an easy task, the interest created by the festival in the past making a natural demand for tickets.

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MINOR INCIDENT

LIT WAR'S FUSE ONLY YEAR AGO

Fight Between Jap Sub-Lieutenant and Shanghai Air-drome Guards Marked Beginning of Onslaught

By MORRIS J. HARRIS SHANGHAI, Aug. 10. (AP)—One year ago Tuesday a fight in Shanghai transformed the north China conflict with Japan into a minor war.

The spark was struck when a Japanese naval sub-lieutenant and his chauffeur engaged in a gun battle with Chinese air-drome guards while motoring along the west borders of the city, near Hungjiao air-drome.

The two Japanese and two Chinese were shot dead, and central China was thereby doomed to the fate of war.

After the initial clash of troops one month earlier, on July 7 at Peking, there had been hope the fighting would be limited to the northern provinces.

Troops Rushed In. But for four days after the airfield incident, both Chinese and Japanese rushed armed forces into Shanghai.

On August 23 the storm broke, to continue until Shanghai was dominated by Japanese, the Chinese capital of Nanking captured, the center of the country ravaged by warfare. It continues with Japan fighting along the upper Yangtze river, 110 miles below Hankow, the present pro-

VISIONAL CAPITAL OF CHINA AND CURRENT JAPANESE OBJECTIVE

The August 13 fighting marked the first warfare in Shanghai since 1932. Fear August 14. August became "bloody Saturday." Chinese and Japanese air legions, the latter with the assistance of anti-aircraft guns aboard Japanese warships, battled over the heart of the city's foreign areas.

Nanking road, Edward VII avenue and other prominent streets were bombed. Thousands were killed and injured. Within a few days, the majority of foreign women and children had run a gauntlet of blazing guns to safer cities.

Today, with deadly seriousness, Shanghai launched a precautionary program to guard against disorder on the anniversary. An estimated 15,000 police defense troops and volunteer units of various nationalities were on duty, along with heavy Japanese forces, lest there be an outbreak of anti-Japanese terrorism.

ROSEBURG, ORE., AUG. 10.—(AP)

E. A. Frey, 45, San Gabriel, Calif., was drowned late Tuesday while fishing in the North Umpqua river near Jack creek. Mrs. Frey, who heard his calls for help as he was carried away by the swift current, was unable to find his body and drove to the nearby Steamboat CCC camp where more than 30 men searched and recovered the body 30 minutes later, about an eighth of a mile below Jack creek.

Frey had been camped with his wife, daughter and small son at Canton creek for the past week.

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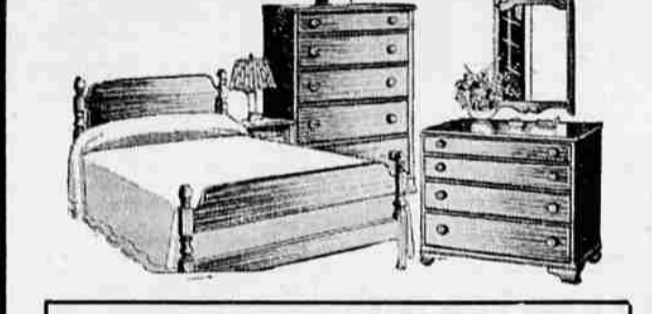
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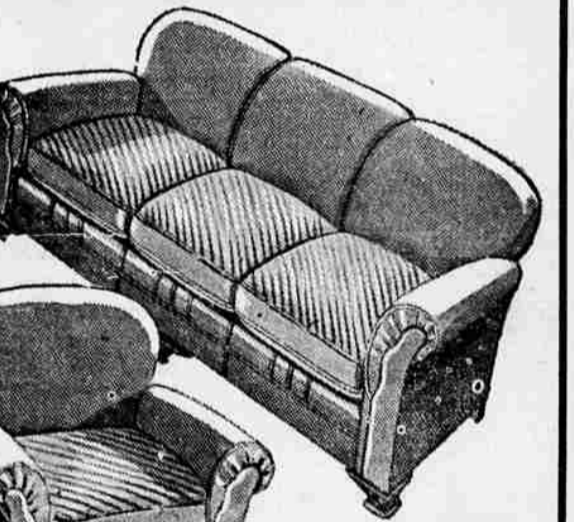
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