

President Puts Price Tag on Legislative Program Due Congress

Both Sides Rest on 40th Day of Sheppard Wife-Slaying Trial

Cleveland — (U.P.) — Both sides rested in the Sheppard murder trial today. Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, on trial for his life on a wife-murder charge, may know his fate before the week is out.

The testimony ended on the 40th trial day in the middle of the ninth week of the sensational case in which the young osteopathic brain surgeon is accused of beating his wife to death after quarreling with her about his attentions to other women.

The jury of five women and seven men was excused by Judge Edward Blythin, who told them he and the attorneys "will now discuss among ourselves just how we shall close this chapter."

As they left the room, the jurors had fresh in their minds the picture of the handsome, 30-year-old defendant weeping while his slain wife's aunt read to them a letter Marilyn Sheppard had written four days before her bludgeon death last July 4.

The letter was read by Mrs. Mary Brown, a sister of Marilyn Sheppard's mother, who died when Marilyn was six. In it, Mrs. Sheppard, 31, had announced she was expecting a baby.

Judge Blythin told prosecution and defense attorneys he wanted to charge the jury at 9:15 a.m. Friday. Under the law,

the charge must now closing arguments by both sides, and the jury must begin deliberating after the charge.

Expected Baby

That would give the attorneys the rest of today and all day Thursday for their summations.

Dr. Sheppard sobbed as his slain wife's aunt read to the jury a letter she had written just four days before she was bludgeoned to death in her bed last July 4.

Marilyn had informed the aunt, Mrs. Mary Brown, that she was expecting a baby and had written "You'll have to bone up on my baby book—I'll really need a sitter."

After both sides had rested finally, at 10:15 a.m., the defense renewed various motions for a mistrial and a directed verdict of acquittal. Judge Blythin overruled them.

Antique Dealer's Torture-Murder Being Investigated

San Francisco — (U.P.) — Police examined the litter in a small three room apartment today in the hope of finding a clue to the torture-murder of an elderly antique dealer.

The victim, whose body was found last night in the apartment behind his shop at 171 Valencia Street, was Albert Clark, about 70. He had been dead between 16 and 24 hours.

Officer Francis O'Leary, called by neighbors who had not seen Clark since Monday, found Clark's body sprawled over a bed, his arms bound tightly behind him. Two black cocker spaniels covered beside the bed.

The slayer or slayers had slashed and stabbed Clark with two swords found nearby. One of the death weapons was a 3-foot saber, the handle of which was covered with blood. The other was a badly bent sword, found across the room.

Police theorized robbery was the motive and that two or more persons took part. They based this theory on evidence of torture.

They believed numerous cigarette stubs found on the floor probably were used to burn Clark's foot. It also appeared that a small bonfire was made out of newspapers and the elderly man's foot was held over it.

The chances were, officers said, at least one person held Clark down while another tortured him, probably in an attempt to get him to reveal where he hid his valuables.

Actress Pays Fine On Drunk Charges

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Actress Abigail Adams, arrested on a drunk charge with actors Broderick Crawford and Myron McCormick, paid a \$10 fine rather than spend two days in jail.

Crawford, academy award winning actor, was fined \$250 Monday by a judge who called him a "drunken bum." He had a record of previous drunk arrests. McCormick was fined \$50.

\$63 Billion Bill Would Leave Deficit for Year

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower has put a \$63,000,000 price tag on the 1955 legislative program he will send Congress next month, congressional leaders said today.

This is about the same as the estimated bill for this fiscal year which ends next July. And it means a deficit of \$3,000,000,000 in 1955-56 even if Congress postpones the corporation and excise tax cuts scheduled for April.

Legislation Outlined

The leaders disclosed the budget estimates after a two-day White House conference in which Mr. Eisenhower outlined the legislation he will recommend to the Democratic-controlled 84th Congress.

Initial reaction of the Democrats was favorable with one flatly ruling out any "cold war" with the White House. Senate Democratic Leader Lyndon Johnson said, however, that the President's constructive program may need "some improvement." Republicans emphasized their harmony with the administration.

Although the White House meetings were secret, the congressmen who attended have gradually revealed most of what went on. From their piecemeal statements, the basic planks in the President's program emerged today. The highlights:

1. A new Asian aid program: Sen. Styles Bridges disclosed that this will be "modest in amount" but big enough to do the job. Another source said it tentatively calls for several hundred million dollars. Considerable debate is expected.

2. New military reserve plan: Young men would have option of six months basic training plus 9½ years in reserves, or two years active duty and six years in the reserves. A key source said today that Mr. Eisenhower put great emphasis on this and Johnson conceded some such program will probably be adopted. Sharp debate is expected, however.

3. Liberalized trade program: This urges presidential authority to cut tariffs sharply over a three-year period. A congressional leader said that Mr. Eisenhower gave this extremely high priority. Johnson is said to have told the President the Democrats were ready to back this last year but that Republicans sidetracked it. Considerable controversy is expected.

4. Pay raises: Informed sources said the administration will propose 5 to 6 per cent increases for both the civil service and the military. But it wants mail rates hiked to pay the cost. Sharp debate is expected.

5. Minimum wage: One of the conferees disclosed that the administration is considering a recommendation to hike the present minimum wage rate from its present 75 cents but has reached no final decision.

6. Mail Rates: The administration wants first, second and third class mail rates hiked. Sen. Olin D. Johnston (D-S.C.) who will head the Senate Post Office Committee, said, however, that he will order no action on the proposal until the House acts. And House Democratic Leader Sam Rayburn, who opposes the



LARRY BAIRD
Evangelist at Phoenix

Evangelist Conducting Meetings at Phoenix

Phoenix — Larry Baird, evangelist, is conducting nightly meetings in Church of Christ, Phoenix. The meetings open each night at 7:30 p.m. and will continue through Dec. 20.

Evangelist Baird has just returned from a stay in Jamaica, and shows pictures of mission work there. The current meetings in Phoenix are the fourth series held in this area.

Mr. Baird is a nephew of W. R. Baird, former pastor of First Christian church, Medford, and now of Modesto, Calif.

Everett McGee and Lee Shaffer are associate pastors of the church.

Guderian Takes Over NEPH Committee Job

C. A. Guderian, apprenticeship councillor, presided over his first meeting since assuming chairmanship of the National Employ the Physically Handicapped committee, held at the Oregon State Employment office last night.

The committee discussed ways and means of getting its message to employers and decided to invite several employers to discuss the problem with them at a meeting scheduled for Jan. 17.

Those attending the meeting, besides Guderian, were Earl Sterigere, the Rev. Perry Johnson, John Duffy, Harry Chipman, and John Patton, manager of the employment office, who sat in for Vic Newman, who is ill.

Lower Gas Bills Seen for Customers

Portland — (U.P.) — Charles H. Gueffroy, president of Portland Gas & Coke Company, said today that commercial customers may save as much as 25 per cent on their bills a few years after conversion from manufactured to natural gas.

Gueffroy said part of the rate reduction is expected soon after the firm switches over to supplies from the San Juan basin of the southwest and the Peace river area of British Columbia. This could be within two years, he said.

Other items on the President's legislative agenda, include postponement of the scheduled corporation and excise tax cuts, statehood for Hawaii, revision of the Taft-Hartley law, and a vote for 18-year-olds.

Low Turnout of Cotton Farmers Favor Controls

Washington — (U.P.) — A record small turnout of the nation's cotton farmers have voted overwhelmingly for the tightest acreage controls in history next year.

Unofficial returns compiled by the Agriculture Department from yesterday's balloting show 92 per cent of the 340,696 farmers voting favored Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson's plan to reduce plantings by 15 per cent in 1955. This was well above the two-thirds margin needed to impose controls.

With returns from all but one state in, 313,561 voted for the controls, which will insure relatively high government price supports, and 27,135 voted against them. The missing state was Nevada where only 10 votes were cast last year.

In 1953, 94 per cent of the 487,453 farmers voting favored controls. Last year was the first time since 1949 that acreage controls were placed on cotton in an effort to cut down on surpluses.

The decline in the number of farmers voting in yesterday's referendum continued a downward trend which has followed the first such referendum in 1938 when the total vote was 1,527,028.

In two other elections yesterday, farmers approved the second consecutive year of controls on extra-long staple cotton and three more years of controls on dark air-cured and fire-cured tobacco.

College Students Named in Directory

Ashland — Names of nine Southern Oregon college students have been listed in the 1954-55 edition of the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Announcement of the honor came from H. Pettie Randall, editor of Tuscaloosa, Ala. where the book is published.

Among those honored at SOC were: Phyllis Cannell, Simi, Calif.; Shirley Chaney, Myrtle Creek; Donald Ferguson, Ashland; Mary Lee Ford, North Bend; Mary Ellen Holbrook, Roseburg; James Kennett, Medford; Glenn Nelson, Ashland; Janet Petrequin, Milwaukie; and Neil Richardson, Central Point.

Adlai Will Return To Private Practice

Chicago — (U.P.) — Adlai E. Stevenson said he will return to his private law practice Jan. 1 in partnership with Northwestern University law professor W. Willard Wirtz.

The 1952 Democratic presidential candidate said yesterday two other associates in the firm will be William McCormick Blair Jr., a long-time aide, and Newton N. Minow, former legal secretary to the late Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson.

Miami — (U.P.) — Three persons were injured last night when two cars, both returning from a Safe Driving Day rally, collided.

Financial Independence

does not just happen. It is built over a period of time, bit by bit. Your savings or investment account is the place for your fund of the future.

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN ASS'N of Medford
27 North Holly
An Institution Dedicated To Those Who Save

OPEN TONIGHT
TIL 9 P.M.

Pre-Christmas Sale

DRASTIC REDUCTIONS TO CLEAR BEFORE INVENTORY!

Give Her Clothes This Christmas THE BEST TIME for YOU to Profit!

PRICES SLASHED 20% to 30% OFF on...

- COATS • SUITS • DRESSES • SKIRTS • BLOUSES
- CASHMERE SWEATERS • JEWELRY • SLACKS AND PEDAL PUSHERS
- FORMALS & COCKTAIL DRESSES • SLIPS & NIGHT GOWNS (sizes 46-52 only)

Bert Pree's Fashions

JUST ACROSS THE BRIDGE — 526 EAST MAIN STREET

Columbus Memorial Bill Said Not Paid

Ciudad Trukillo — (U.P.) — The Dominican Republic said today the United States was among 11 nations which have failed to pay their assigned quota for construction of a lighthouse monument here to Christopher Columbus.

Work on the project began in 1948 and was suspended in 1952. The United States voted an \$871,655 appropriation in 1938 but has never made the sum available, the official lighthouse committee said.

Coit Tower, on Telegraph hill in San Francisco is 210 feet high.

**Why Drive Around
DRIVE
RIGHT
IN
At
Johnston
Stores**

BIG Y WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIALS

PRICES EFFECTIVE FROM 6 P.M. TO 9 P.M. TONIGHT

OCEAN FRESH
JUMBO CRABS
Heavy Meated
Air
Expressed
LB. **25¢**

**BIG
SURPRISE
SPECIAL**

WATCH OUR TOYLAND
TV SHOW
TONIGHT

SNOWDRIFT
SHORTENING
Deal Pack
3 LB. CAN **69¢**

**FOR THE BEST BUY ALWAYS
SHOP AT YOUR FRIENDLY BIG Y**

Housewarming GIFTS for CHRISTMAS and AFTER



PLATFORM ROCKERS

A Large Selection to Choose From

PRICED AT **\$39.95** And **\$44.95**
— \$5.00 Down —

FOAM RUBBER PLATFORM ROCKERS

Choice of Colors and Styles. These Large, Roomy Rockers Will Retain Their Shape and Comfort.

Priced **\$59.95** and **\$71.95**
At

CHOOSE NOW!

ROTO-ROCK

It Rotates — It Rocks!

As comfortable as it is smart! Perfect for Picture Windows . . . for TV Viewing. Your choice of Spring-filled or Foam Rubber.

PRICED AT **\$74.95** — **\$79.95**
\$84.95 — **\$89.95** AND **\$94.95**

Gates

BUDGET TERMS ARRANGED

341 NORTH CENTRAL

furniture

MEDFORD • GRANTS PASS • ASHLAND

FREE
Customer
Parking