



Hughes Acquitted In Federal Court On Perjury Counts

New York—(U.P.)—A federal court jury acquitted Paul H. Hughes early today on two counts of perjury that charged he lied before a grand jury about the activities of prominent Democrats.

The jury could not reach a decision on four other perjury counts against Hughes, but the prosecutor said the government would not ask for a retrial.

Hughes admitted that he fabricated a story he told the Democratic officials about being a disgruntled investigator for Sen. Joseph McCarthy. He said after hearing the verdict that he would "look up" McCarthy and apologize for "any trouble and embarrassment I have caused."

Hughes, a 36-year-old Air Force veteran, said most of his tales about illegal activities on the part of the McCarthy investigating subcommittee were false but maintained he told the grand jury the truth.

Charge of Lying

He was acquitted on a charge that he lied in saying he heard Attorney Telford Taylor and Joseph L. Rauh, national chairman of Americans for Democratic Action, discussing plans to aid recanting anti-Communist Harvey Matusow.

The other count on which Hughes was acquitted charged that he lied when he told the grand jury that he once heard Rauh and Alfred Friendly, managing editor of the Washington Post and Times Herald, discussing "coordination" between Matusow and James Wechsler, editor of the New York Post.

The grand jury was investigating the activities of Matusow, who testified for the government at the trial of Communist leaders but later recanted his testimony.

The jury at Hughes' trial took 11 hours and 15 minutes to arrive at a decision on the two counts.



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Couple Robs Medford, GP Hardware Stores

A man and woman yesterday lured clerks away from the safe and cash register at Siskiyou Hardware, 225 West Main st., while the man took an empty money bag from the safe and a billfold containing \$9.72 from a woman's purse, according to city police.

The man, about 40 years old, asked a clerk to thread a piece of quarter inch water pipe for him. While the clerk was cutting the pipe in a back room, the woman, about 30, asked another clerk to see sporting equipment in the front of the store.

City police said that the couple tried the same ruse in two Ashland hardware stores, but nothing was stolen. At the Hubbard Way hardware store in Grants Pass, however, about \$500 was taken by the couple yesterday afternoon. They are apparently travelling north, police said.

Medford Man Sentenced 45 Days In Yreka Jail

Yreka—Robert McCulloch, 20, Medford has been sentenced to 45 days in jail by Judge E. M. Axtell on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses.

He allegedly purchased tires and gasoline on a stolen credit card at a Yreka service station. McCulloch was extradited from Medford.

American Piano Trio Reviewed By Werner

By RICHARD WERNER

The American Piano trio, in the persons of Naomi Weiss, Esther Fernandez and Stephen Kovacs, performed last night to what certainly appeared to be the full membership of Jackson County Civic Music association.

Opening the program with the first movement of Bach's "Concerto in D Minor," for three harpsichords, it exemplified, as the program noted "his sternness of character." The key of D minor is also imposing and stern. Bach, a genius of the first rank, made his living as a practicing musician and composed much music on order. Not all of it is inspired, he having too often to draw on his tremendous technical knowledge to get the job done. As a consequence some of his music sounds to many people as dry, which it is. But he couldn't take time to wait for inspiration with 15 children to support.

Rare Gem

Mozart's rondo from the serenade, "Eine kleine Nachtmusik" is one of his rare gems. The arrangement played last night was well done and admirably played by three pianos can never equal the delicacy of four stringed instruments played with the bow.

The Spanish dance in A minor,

from "La Vida Breve" came off better, the percussion of the pianos being better suited to this type of music.

We were disappointed by the "Largo al Factotum" from "The Barber of Seville," by Rossini, the vocal part being most obscured. We would like to hear Mr. Kovacs' arrangement of the same composer's overture to this opera or the one to "Hailans in Algiers." Those we are sure would be delightfully brilliant.

Wagner's overture to "Tannhauser" failed to come off. When all is said and done, even such a master arranger as Kovacs can't make three pianos sound approximately near to a symphony orchestra. Even with his own singing tone he could not lift the Pilgrim's chorus theme away from the hammers. And Wagner's scintillating colors were entirely absent. But it was a good try and the audience enjoyed the worth of the musical content.

Solo Playing

The second part of the program was devoted to solo playing, an astute departure. All three artists displayed their fine abilities. Miss Weiss possesses a delightful delicacy whereas Miss Fernandez has more warmth and authority. But the real pianist is Kovacs. To him technique is not an end. He has all any pianist needs but he uses it to further the ends of the music and the composer. And he does so much with so little effort. Really a master of his instrument.

The third section of the program was designed to please the audience. After impressing the auditors with their fine capabilities, they proceeded to entertain and did so handsomely. Kovacs can build a program and also project it. The time for playing to the gallery had come and he did so with zest. May he bring his trio with him again soon.

Osteopathic Has 900 Patients During 1955

Medford Osteopathic hospital registered nearly 900 patients, not including laboratory or outpatients, during 1955.

The actual number registered for the 17-bed institution was 880 patients. Of these, 282 were medical cases, 334 were surgical, and 125 were obstetrical. There were 126 babies born at the hospital, including one set of twins.

Except stillborn and premature babies, there were no deaths reported of patients under 52 years of age.

Benson Decides To Sign Own Letters

Washington—(U.P.)—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra T. Benson, because of bitter personal experience, has decided that from now on he'll sign all letters bearing his name.

Until recently, Miller F. Shurtliff, an aide in Benson's office, had been signing the secretary's name to routine letters of acknowledgment.

But agriculture officials said yesterday an order was issued earlier this week asking that routine letters be written in such a way that they can be signed by Benson's subordinates in their own names. Benson will sign himself letters on which he wants to use his own name.

Road Crews Repair Rain Damage To City Streets

City road crews began repairs yesterday of rain damage on Sixth st., as part of patching work which has been underway for several weeks on city streets. Sixth st. probably will be resurfaced this summer, officials stated.

The city also has started the annual series of traffic checks which are made to study traffic and determine volume trends, density and other information.

Wickard Says Benson Should Check Returns

Hartford City, Ind.—(U.P.)—Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson could learn a lot by looking at some farmers' income tax returns, according to one of Benson's predecessors.

Claude R. Wickard, secretary in the 1940s and now a Democratic candidate for nomination to the U.S. Senate, said the tax returns would show Benson that "few farmers had any net income last year and many are showing a loss."

The returns, Wickard told a party meeting last night, refute Benson's claim that the individual farmer's income has declined very little.

"I have talked to several people who help farmers make out their income tax reports," Wickard said. "They say what you and I know to be true — few farmers had any net income last year and many are showing a loss."

"I would like to suggest to Benson that he take time to read the results of the farmers' income tax returns before continuing to make statements that the individual farmer's income hasn't gone down much."

County Teachers Attend Art Practice Workshop

An in-service art workshop at Medford Senior high school cafeteria Jan. 30, 31 and Feb. 1, was attended by 64 teachers from Medford elementary and junior high schools, and from 16 outlying county schools.

Teachers participated in a number of art projects involving work with crayolas, pastels, finger paints, power paint, tempera, water colors, paper mache, and clayola. The instructor was Miss Cilo Heller, Binney and Smith art supply company.

The "Learn by Doing" workshop was a cooperative program between county and city school districts.

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