

Brewster Says Charges Linking Him With Rackets 'Fantastic'

Washington—(U.P.)—West Coast teamster boss Frank W. Brewster told the Senate Rackets committee today that charges linking him with hoodlums are "absolutely fantastic and completely untrue."

Brewster was the climax witness in the committee's sensational three-week investigation of activities by racketeers and Teamsters Union officials in Portland.

He swore in a statement to the committee:

"I have never conspired with anyone at any time or place to engage in any way or control in any manner any racket in the city of Portland or anywhere else. Nor do I know of any official or employee of the teamsters who has."

Brewster, a tall, distinguished looking man of 60, is chairman of the powerful 11-state Western Conference of Teamsters.

He faces a contempt of Con-

gress citation for defying another Senate committee that checked into teamsters activities on grounds it lacked jurisdiction. Says 'Elkins Lying'

But he talked today, saying he would not invoke the Fifth Amendment against testimony that might be self-incriminating. Presenting a detailed denial of testimony against him and his union, Brewster said it "consists mainly of hearsay, rumor and insidious innuendo," derived mostly from "gangsters and gamblers and various other underworld characters."

Brewster charged that Portland racketeer James B. Elkins, the committee's star witness, "is simply not telling the truth. He has either manufactured his fantastic story himself, or someone else has done it for him."

He said he was never closely associated particularly with Seattle gamblers Joseph P. McLaughlin and Thomas E. Maloney. He has been accused by Elkins of sending the two men to Portland to organize gambling and vice following election of District Attorney William M. Langley with teamsters backing.

"Of these three men, Elkins, Maloney and McLaughlin, I have never spoken to any one of them about political activity or racketeering activities in Portland," Brewster said.

Denies All Charges

The West Coast teamster boss made "categorical statements under oath" that:

—He knows of no conspiracy on the part of the teamsters or any racketeer official to engage in any racket in Portland or elsewhere "in collaboration with any public official or anyone else."

Elkins had charged that teamsters officials and the Seattle gamblers conspired to run Portland's rackets.

—He never authorized anyone to engage in any racket. Liquor Commission

—He knows of no conspiracy or plan on the part of the teamsters or any of their officials to place anyone on the Oregon Liquor Control Commission. Morgan testified that he heard through an intermediary that Brewster and the late John J. Sweeney, secretary of the West-

ern Conference, were willing to contribute \$10,000 last year to the successful campaign of Democratic Gov. Robert Holmes for this favor. Morgan said Holmes spurned the idea.

—He never authorized Elkins, Maloney or McLaughlin, directly or indirectly, to represent himself or the teamsters.

—He never authorized anyone to engage in any racket. Liquor Commission

West Germans Going Fishing With Radio

Bonn, Germany—(U.P.)—West German fishermen are going fishing by radio, the Bonn government's official bulletin reported today.

North Sea and Baltic fishing fleets are being equipped with submarine radio-sounding devices enabling them to spot schools of fish several miles away, the bulletin said.

Schrunk Called by Multnomah Grand Jury

Portland—(U.P.)—Mayor Terry D. Schrunk, back less than a day from Senate hearings into labor racketeering in Washington, was called to appear before the Multnomah county grand jury investigating vice yesterday.

Also called before the jurors yesterday was City Commissioner Stanley Earl, who also was a recent witness in the Washington hearings.

The jury presented a written questionnaire yesterday to Circuit Judge Charles W. Redding requesting advice. The nature of the questions was not revealed.

Judge Redding said he wished more time to study the request before acting on it.

Witnesses before the jury yesterday included Mrs. Phyllis Detrick, secretary to Teamster Organizer Clyde Crosby; Mrs. Lulu Miller, foreman of last summer's marathon grand jury vice probing body and Herb Alden, a photographer for the Oregon Journal.

The thermometer at Azizia in Libya registered 136.4 degrees Sept. 13, 1922.

Spring Planting Of Tree Seedlings Starts in District

Spring planting of forest tree seedlings is now underway in the Applegate district of Rogue River National Forest, and soon will begin in other local ranger districts, according to Supervisor J. H. Wood.

Plans have been completed to plant 430,000 trees on the national forest during the spring season.

Seedling species include Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, sugar pine, Jeffrey pine, and a few knobcone pine which are to be set out on an experimental basis in the Applegate.

Logged Areas

Tree planting is planned for logged areas when natural regeneration shows evidence of being inadequate. In certain types of timber, brush competition, seed source or other factors preclude establishment of a second forest crop from natural seed fall, Wood said.

Seedlings being planted this season were grown in forest service nurseries at Wind River, Wash., Bend, and Mt. Shasta, Calif.

In addition to the national forest planting, 50,000 trees will be planted by the forest service on city of Medford watershed lands above Butte Falls, Wood said. The Medford Water commission has a cooperative forest management plan with the forest service, under which tree planting and other phases of forest operation are conducted.

Molalla Boy Killed When Struck by Car

Molalla—(U.P.)—A five-year-old boy was killed instantly yesterday when struck by a car in front of his home here.

Police identified the child as Gary Anderson, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Anderson.

Ray Moran, a Molalla lumberman, was the driver of the car which struck the child, police said.

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