

# Beck's Multiple Troubles Apparently Stemmed Only From Love of Money

## Liquor, Gambling Or Other Vices Not in Testimony

Washington—The multiple troubles of Teamster Union President Dave Beck seem to stem from just one thing: his love of money.

There has been no public testimony before the Senate Rackets Committee that the 62-year-old president of the nation's largest union drank, gambled or chased blondes.

But there are volumes of testimony that on his rise from laundry driver to millionaire, he made free and easy use of union funds and the vast power of his union office to enrich himself and his clan.

**Dismissed by Committee**

The Rackets Committee dismissed Beck from the witness chair last week after charging that he looted union treasuries of more than \$322,000.

Committee counsel Robert F. Kennedy said Beck only started repaying the money when investigators got on his trail in 1954. Beck testified last week he has now repaid \$370,000 to the union, but insists it was all a loan—which would exempt it from income tax—and interest-free, at that.

Kennedy also charged—and backed it up with testimony—that Beck used the power of his union office to raise much of the money which he gave back to the union, and that some of the repaid money itself came from the union.

**Part of 52 Ways**

This was only part of 52 ways in which the committee charged that Beck misused his power.

Beck's career falls in two periods: before mid-1953, he was chairman of the 11-state Western Conference of Teamsters. It was in this era that he allegedly dipped with a heavy hand into the treasury of the Western Conference and of the Joint Council 28 Building Association, a Teamster subsidiary in Seattle which operates a union headquarters building.

Then he moved up to president of the international union, and two events followed in a few months; he came under income tax investigation, and signed an agreement with his successor, Frank W. Brewster, to repay the Western Conference \$200,000 as a starter and to determine how much else he owed.

**Main Charges**

The committee and its witnesses, setting out this story, included these main charges against Beck:

—The pertinent union records had been destroyed, but bookkeeper Donald McDonald testified that through 1953, they listed no loans to Beck. Neither did union financial statements filed with the Labor Department. Beck's own applications for loans from banks and insurance companies in this period did not mention that he owed money to the union.

—Kennedy charged that Beck used teamster funds to pay a contractor who built Beck's palatial Seattle home. The committee counsel said that later, when Beck was repaying his union, he raised \$163,215 by selling the same house back to the Teamsters, who had paid for much of it in the first place. Beck still lives there, rent-free.

**Paid Personal Bills**

—Nathan Shefferman, a labor expert with more than 300 business clients, testified he used Teamster funds to pay \$85,000 in personal bills of Beck and Dave Beck Jr.

Raymond Fields, a former American Legion official, said that Shefferman, acting as Beck's agent, tried to set up a dummy company to make a \$71,500 profit on the Legion's sale of a Washington headquarters site to the union. Kennedy said when the plan flopped, the union gave Shefferman a \$12,000 bonus for beating the price down.

Donal Hedlund, president of National Mortgages, Inc., of Seattle, testified that a relative of Beck bought one-third interest in the firm with Beck's money. Beck then used the company to invest \$9 million worth of Teamster funds in mortgages.

Hedlund said he, Beck and union lawyer Simond Wampold formed a brokerage company which took fees on the mortgage deals. Kennedy called this a kickback to Beck.

**Bought Mortgages**

Hedlund said he and Beck split a \$11,500 profit by using union money to buy mortgages at a discount and sell them at par to a memorial fund for the widow of Beck's best friend. Beck was trustee of the memorial fund, which had been raised by teamsters.

Hedlund said he and Beck bought land and sold it at a fat profit to a contractor who developed it with union loans.

A. M. Burke of Occidental Life Insurance Co. said his firm loaned Beck \$313,000 at a low rate because the firm got \$25,

## Teamsters in San Francisco Call on Dave Beck To Resign

San Francisco—Top Teamsters Union officials here have called for the immediate resignation of Teamsters President Dave Beck, whose actions, they charged "have made us the laughing stock of the country."

The demand Monday came close on the heels of the AFL-CIO Executive Council's expulsion of Beck for misusing union funds "for his own personal gain and profit."

Jack Goldberger, president of the San Francisco Labor Council and a vice president of the California AFL, said he will place a motion before the Bay Area Joint Council of Teamsters when it meets June 4 calling for Beck's resignation.

Almost the entire Executive Board of Local 85 declared Beck had "violated the trust placed in him by every teamster in the country" and demanded the union president resign "forthwith."

"Mr. Beck's intolerable actions," they charged, "have made us the laughing stock of the country. We do not intend to sit idly by and allow any individual or group to jeopardize



DAVE BECK Vast Use of Money

less he denies and disproves the charges, we must remove Mr. Beck."

## Regional Forester to Attend Meeting Here

J. Herbert Stone, regional forester of the state forest service, Portland, will attend a dinner-meeting of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association at 8 p.m. Friday, May 24, at the Medford hotel.

A social hour will be held at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting will honor Jack Wood, supervisor of Rogue River National forest, who has been promoted to a position with the division of cooperative fire control, Washington, D.C. Carroll Brown, who will replace Wood as supervisor, also will attend the meeting.

Curt Nesheim, district warden of the state forestry department, will speak on new rules and regulations which have become law during the recent session of the state legislature.

## Oregon Bar To Assist Thornton in Finding Portland Vice Prosecutors

Portland—Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton met today with Alan F. Davis, president of the Oregon State Bar, to seek a list of Oregon attorneys willing to act as special prosecutors in the Portland vice trials.

The state bar had informed Thornton it would accede to his request for a list of possible prosecutors even though such a list was against bar policy.

In a letter to Thornton made public Monday, the bar said "it is not likely that outstanding individuals would be willing to undertake the responsibilities of the task without correspondingly broad authority and the right of independence of action."

**Status Not Clear**

Status of two assistant attorney generals who had directed grand jury investigations leading to a mass of vice indictments was not clear today. Arthur Kaplan left to take a position with the Senate Select Committee studying labor rackets despite Thornton's insistence it was Kaplan's duty to see the indictments through to completion and prosecution. Ralph Wyckoff who worked with Kaplan and the grand jury said he had not been informed by Thornton about terms for acting as prosecutor in the vice trials. He said the attorney general had not made any commitments about fees for the work.

Referring to Kaplan and Wyckoff, Thornton said "we will carry on, we will be able to carry on—without them."

Kaplan's abandonment of the vice trials had been accompanied by a strongly worded attack on Thornton's handling of the vice probe.

Gov. Robert D. Holmes, meanwhile, agreed with Thornton that Kaplan should have finished

his job in Oregon before joining the Congressional probe. But the Governor added it was Thornton's responsibility to run the trials as he saw fit.

## PROSPECT Final PTA Meeting Slated

By GENEIL SPRULL

Prospect—The final PTA meeting of the year will be held May 28 at 8 p.m. in the high school science room. There will be installation of new officers. Mrs. Clarence Hedgepeth will give a short report on the state convention. Refreshments will be served.

Mrs. Anne Hillman, San Francisco, has been visiting at the home of her sister, Mrs. Bob Darrohn.

Harold Grant of Eureka, Calif., has been visiting at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. Grant.

Mrs. William Wheeler received word that her mother is seriously ill in Germany.

Mr. and Mrs. Deloy Gillespie and son were visitors in Grants Pass at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Dowless on Mothers Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Buchanan moved during the week. They are making their home at Eureka, Calif.

Bridge club 2 met Thursday, May 9, at the home of Mrs. Everett Shafer. Those attending were Mr. Paul Doe, Mrs. Joe Tinney, Mrs. Vic Chapman, Mrs. Ralph Goode, Mrs. Bob Lund, Mrs. Clarence Hedgepeth, and Mrs. Dar Bevens. High prize was won by Mrs. Chapman and consolation prize by Mrs. Goode.

Allen Winterowd, Portland, was week end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Archie McKillop.

Linda Downing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Downing, will leave during the week for Portland, where she will enter the Shrine hospital for surgery.

The Prospect Lions auxiliary will sponsor a Ground Observer post in Prospect. The post will be located behind the Prospect shopping center. Mrs. Glen Young will be the chief observer, and Mrs. Joe Josephson, supervisor.

The building has been given to the group, but will have to be moved from its present location, and the Air Force will furnish the telephone. Bruce Mathiesen is maintaining a post at the Ross mill at Cascade Gorge.

The senior class baccalaureate services will be held in the chapel in the Pines Sunday, May 26, at 8 p.m. The Rev. Dorlan Woods, pastor of Cascade Gorge Christian church, will speak.

Commencement exercises will be held Wednesday evening, May 29, at 8 p.m. in the high school gymnasium. State Representative Robert Duncan of Medford will speak.

May 15 students from the physics and biology classes spent the day at Crescent City. The remaining high school students spent the afternoon at the Twin Plunges at Ashland.

Prospect Lion auxiliary held elections of officers at Beckies cafe at Union Creek. Those elected are Mrs. John Gartman, president; Mrs. Dar Bevens, vice president; Mrs. Mel Rochester,

## Leg-Smashing by Convicts Blamed On Publicity

Buford, Ga.—State officials today said "publicity," and not abuse, caused a new incident of self-inflicted leg-smashing by inmates of Georgia's "rock quarry" prison for incorrigibles.

Six men tried, three successfully, to break their leg bones Monday by hitting them with 16-pound sledgehammers at the scene of two incidents last summer in which 41 men succeeded in breaking their legs.

"There were no complaints about cruel treatment," state Department of Corrections Director Jack Forrester said after investigating the new incident. Other investigators made the same report.

**Article Said Asinine**

Forrester said he believed the self-mutilation was inspired by a magazine article which he said gave a sensationalized account of the previous leg-smashing. He said the article was "asinine."

The men gathered at a spot unwatched momentarily by prison guards at the end of the 30-minute mid-morning rest period Monday for Operation Sledgehammer. They had been carting quarried rock to the crusher.

It was not immediately determined whether any man pounded his own legs, as several did last summer.

The men were taken to a private physician at nearby Lawrenceville for examination and first aid treatment before being returned to the prison and confined to the infirmary.



GETS SOUVENIR—R. E. Heysell of Medford (right) is shown receiving a clock board souvenir from W. E. Fish, Chevrolet general sales manager, to mark his participation in the 1957 spring meeting of the Chevrolet Dealer Advertising Council in Detroit. Heysell, of Courtesy Chevrolet, was one of 23 dealers selected from across the nation to attend the two-day session.

## Elkins Receives 20-Month Sentence

Portland—Racketeer James B. Elkins, whose disclosures touched off Portland's vice probe more than a year ago, today received a 20 months sentence and was fined \$2000 for his conviction on a federal wiretap charge.

Elkins' employee, Raymond Clark, received a six month sentence and a \$500 fine.

However, Federal Judge William East stayed execution of the sentences for the time being.

The pair was convicted earlier this month after a lengthy trial. They faced possible sentences of seven years in prison and fines of \$70,000.

## 4-H Officials Plan To Attend OSC Meeting

Francis Krouse, Applegate 4-H club leader, and Glenn Klein, county 4-H agent, will leave for Corvallis Wednesday morning to attend a special committee meeting.

Krouse and Klein were appointed last January to a 12-member state advisory committee for older 4-H club members. This is the first official meeting of the group. The session will be held at Oregon State college.

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## Contributions Made to County Museum Fund

Cave Junction—Two arrow shaft factories at Kerby have made a sizable contribution toward the Josephine county museum fund, Arthur Cribb announced this week.

Owners Mr. and Mrs. Claude Reineohl and Bob and Jack Nolan have given the newly formed museum association reject Port Orford cedar arrow shafts to be sold in local stores for use as plant stakes and garden trellises. All proceeds will go to the museum treasury.



They had never flown before. But early one morning Zdenek Machliner, 19, and Karel Kucera, 20, tied up a Czech guard and wobbled to the safety of West Germany in a stolen plane.

**Neither could fly... but they soloed to freedom**

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