

OPPOSE FARMERS AS HERRIN JURORS

Attorneys See Bias Against Defendant Miners in Rural Districts

VENIRE REDUCED RAPIDLY

By a Staff Correspondent of the Evening Public Ledger

Marion, Ill., Nov. 23.—Attorneys for the defense will wield a ruthless scythe among the newest venire of farmers reporting at the courthouse today for the first of the Herring massacre trials before Judge Hartwell. Only four jurors have been selected so far.

This venire of fifty ordered to report today, having been served by defendant's attorneys in the morning, was reduced to thirty-eight after Judge Hartwell heard many excuses.

If defense continues its slashing of farmer's names, as specifically it did today, the new venire will last about two days.

Of the seventeen veniremen examined and excused today by the defense, only one was a farmer. Fourteen of these were excused for cause on the ground that they admitted they could not be "fair and impartial" jurors, and three were excused for other reasons.

Refusals to serve were made by a farmer, who seemed to be a misundestanding caused him to say that he was prejudiced against union men.

The later venire was reduced to twenty-five after the State refused to pass him to the State at first refused, then questioned him.

Turner told the State he had a prejudice against the Herring massacre defense then challenged him for cause.

Acquainted With Veniremen During the afternoon session, Rufus Neeley, a long, jovial old-school farmer, assisted the defense examining veniremen. He knew most of them by their first names and hastened to the question of "prejudice."

During the morning session George H. Stone, another defense assistant, dragged the process by legal fencing with State's Attorney Harry H. Kessler.

Stone challenged Louis Kessler, a farmer, for cause because he admitted to "an opinion based on rumor and newspaper reports as to the right and wrong of the Herring massacre."

The next venireman, Ed Yano, a farmer, admitted to the same state of mind as Kessler, but Yano has four brothers who are union miners and he worked in a slope mine eleven years himself.

Chester, Miss Gertrude Mackinop, of Butler, and Mrs. Rose S. De Young, of Philadelphia, are taking part in it. The subject of their addresses to the delegates in this district is the convention is "Candidates and Their Relation to the Organized Women of the State."

Mrs. Clarence Henshaw's discussion on the subject of the League to the political parties follows. Then Miss Henrietta Baily Lyon will tell how the League can assist women officers of the parties to increase their influence.

The crux of the battle will center in a debate which, significantly enough, is scheduled to follow all of this, on the subject: "The League of Women Voters should endorse party candidates for office."

The affirmative will be argued by Mrs. Carroll Miller and the negative by Miss Marion Bentley.

Following this debate will come the vote and the question of party politics settled one and for all in the platform of the League.

This is the "minister issue" about which the delegates have been in groups and talked in loud voices. It is that introducing those words, "Democratic" and "Republican" into the subject of the League, a matter which, the turn of which is now theirs. Here assert depends its life or death.

At noon Delaware County delegates, fighting almost single-handed on the side of partisanship, assembled at the subject in a hall at Skirmish at Luncheon.

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players and their coach and handlers to Green Hill Farms, Overbrook, where luncheon awaited them. Late in the afternoon, after due time for a rest to promote digestion, the players will be taken to Franklin Field for a secret drill.

The Army second squad, consisting of thirty-six players, will come here tomorrow. The entire cadet corps, 1250 in number, will not extrain for Philadelphia until Saturday morning, arriving just in time for the game.

The members of the first squad, who came to Philadelphia today, are: Ends, Don Storck and White; tackles, Goodman and Mulligan; guards, Breidster, captain; center, Grading; halfbacks, Timmerlake and Dodge, and fullback, Wood. All of the players are pronounced in first-class condition.

The Navy team will arrive at Twenty-sixth and Chestnut streets tomorrow. They will have a special train. They will follow the Army on Franklin Field tomorrow for a bit of muscle-limbering practice.

Philadelphia is on its toes for the game. Last-minute preparations are going on apace. The stadium, focal point for the crowds of Saturday, is being made ready to hold the greatest and most distinguished gathering perhaps that ever attended an athletic event here.

The city will outfit itself to entertain the spectators. A special train will be run from the city to the stadium. The stadium will be crowded to the last seat on the highest tier.

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Brokers Are Held in Embezzlement Case

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They represent, and asked that they be placed on deposit with the Federal Reserve Bank in that city to the credit of the Pennsylvania Company for Insurance on Lives and Granting Annuities, of Philadelphia. The latter firm was a client of Borden & Knoblauch.

"Kean, Taylor & Co. followed in instructions and after they had placed the certificates in bank notified the brokers here. Knoblauch then informed of the Pennsylvania company that the deal had been consummated and advised of that concern, after verifying that by telephone, paid Knoblauch the \$400,000 by check. This check was deposited to the credit of Borden & Knoblauch.

"Then Knoblauch forwarded his own check to Kean, Taylor & Co. for the amount due. This check was found to be worthless.

"At the time this check was issued, Knoblauch had only \$20,000 on deposit. "We will be able to make out a prima facie case against the defendants. From what we know of the case, the firm did not represent the Pennsylvania Company in all the transactions with Kean, Taylor & Co., which they represented to be for that customer's benefit. They had had a number of transactions with Kean, Taylor & Co. since July and were only waiting for a big deal such as the present one, to be made in all health for the country.

"Besides the worthless check for \$450,000, which was issued, there is another offense which involves the disappearance of the \$400,000 in cash. "Mr. Gray's statements," said Mr. Young, representing Borden, at the conclusion of Mr. Gray's address, "Mr. Borden has been in all health for the last three years and only three months ago returned to his office. Things that he saw upon his return led him to immediately employ accountants to look into the firm's affairs.

"Monday, the accountants had proceeded far enough with their investigation to inform his client positively that the firm was insolvent. He is in good faith and innocent of any wrongdoing, he notified the Stock Exchange committee as soon as he learned the true condition of the firm. He offered a voluntary petition in bankruptcy to protect creditors."

"Mr. Gray interrupted at this point and pointed out that as the transactions which were the subject of the case were made in the firm name, Borden should be considered equally guilty with his partner.

Knoblauch's attorney, Commissioner Knoblauch, at his address in court, asserted that his client did not challenge the assertions made by Mr. Gray in his opening address.

"But in making bail," he said, addressing Judge Hartwell, "I should like to remind you that my client has a family and that I don't believe he would be able to furnish a heavy bail for the time being. He is in New York yesterday, that is true. He was accompanied by counsel, however, and was there for the purpose of obtaining out this tangible with Kean, Taylor & Co."

"I will hold each in \$50,000 bail for a further hearing next Wednesday," Magistrate Coward announced, abruptly ending the hearing.

Knoblauch appeared stunned at the heavy bail demanded and dropped limply into a seat. Borden, however, took the amount of bail as a matter of course.

Efforts to get bail for Knoblauch were immediately begun by his wife. With Commissioner Long the two hurried from the room, behind a well-known professional 230nd-street man.

Beaten Senators Stated for I. C. C.

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railroad legislation. This includes the consolidation of railroads into larger systems than now exist, so that weaker roads may be grouped with stronger roads, increasing the Interstate Commerce Commission's discretion in making rates, the prohibition of strikes by railroad employees, the making of living wages, the basis for the pay of railroad employees, and the granting of a bill of rights to railroad labor.

The latter two proposals aim to compensate railroad labor for the loss of the right to strike.

It will be observed that this program goes to the base of the railroad and industrial problems. Labor would have a legal status under it with defined rights and clear restrictions. Rates could be made to please the farmer. The problem of the weaker roads could be solved. Many hold that such a program as this is the only alternative to Government ownership and operation of the roads.

Progressives Opposed to Program The progressive bloc in Congress are bent upon defeating this Administration plan. Their weakness is that they have no constructive to offer in its place. All their campaign was devoted to attacks on the Eech-Cummins law. The farmers have been taught to believe that all their troubles spring from that law. If their crops rot in the ground, because high freight rates preclude their profitable shipment, it is all the fault of the Eech-Cummins law.

An aged woman collapsed as she greeted two sons after several hours of anxious waiting at the entrance, fearing that both had lost their lives. The boys, meeting rescuers in the mine as they were making their way out and learning that the workings were again safe from poisonous gas, turned back to aid in the search for other men.

Stories of heroism, common in coal-mining districts, began to trickle to the outside early today as begrimed rescuers came to the surface after long hours of work in the mine.

One rescuer told of an unidentified mine foreman who assembled about him thirty workers soon after the blast occurred, ordered all to remain with him and work on fixing up brattices with stones and canvas to shut off the dreaded after-damp.

While this work was going on, one miner objected to remaining, and began to fight his way outward. The rest remained and completed the brattices. When the fans started up again and the air cleared, the foreman led his men out only to stumble over the body of the man who refused to stick a few feet away from the temporary brattices.

Tales of miners who hurriedly built walls across niches and hollows in the workings, stopping the chinks with parts of their own clothing, and thus saving their lives from the gas, were numerous as rescue squads reached the surface.

Forteen men were working within the mine about one mile from the entrance when the explosion occurred. All felt the force of the blast, entered a pocket in the fall of the mines, and were rescued uninjured. At 7:30 o'clock last night, of the known dead only eighteen had been identified early today.

Fire, which followed the explosion, believed to have been responsible for many deaths. The injured among the first men rescued were removed to Bessemer hospital.

According to one of the first miners to be taken out alive, the explosion came with little warning to the men working deep in the entries. He said that the first warning was when the concussion of the big blast hit him, turned his body about. He started to make his way toward the mouth of the mine and was joined by other miners, he said.

Alabama Mine Blast Kills 84, Injures 60

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thorities and officials turning all of their attention to caring for the injured.

The jam of automobiles about the mine during the late hours last night caused several collisions, no one being badly injured, but property damage was heavy. The arrival of State troops finally relieved this traffic jam.

The force of the explosion was felt in Birmingham, nine miles distant, the concussion being distinctly heard in the South Highlands residential district.

Throughout the night joyous reunions occasionally relieved the sorrowful scenes. One small girl gave a cry of delight as a grimy miner emerged, his face smoke blackened and his clothing bearing mute signs of his struggle to reach the surface in safety. As the man came out the little girl threw herself into his arms and the pair hurried off before his name could be learned.

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Jones led his men in the work and soon the little band was safely outside the mine, having passed through the main way to Mine No. 2 and thus reaching safety.

Delomay Mine No. 3 is operated on a sixty-inch Pratt coal seam and has one slope opening. According to the report to the State Mine Inspector the ventilation and other safeguards were maintained for it to be regarded as safe.

Would Give Authority to Punish Rescuer Witness Washington, Nov. 23.—(By A. P.)—Further legislation to broaden the authority of the Federal Coal Commission in its investigation of coal production and distribution was suggested by President Harding today at a White House conference with Chairman Starn, of the Senate Labor Committee, and Chairman Winlow, of the House Commerce Committee.

The President is understood to have urged that the law be so amended that those who refuse to supply information requested for in the investigation shall be subject to heavy penalties. As it now stands the act gives the commission power to "compel" production of evidence, but imposes no penalty for refusal.

The committee chairman indicated after they left the White House that an effort would be made to comply with the President's suggestion and that special legislation also would be passed to permit Federal Judge Abscorder to sit as a member of the commission.

JAMAICA RAILMEN STRIKE Kingston, Jamaica, Nov. 23.—The staff of mechanics of the Jamaica Government Railway line have gone on strike against a 25 per cent reduction in salaries.

Army's Grid Squad Is Rushed to City

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lockers were overflowing on the open top. Mrs. Lewis made the wires and cables, clearing a way for the army squad.

Clemenceau Pleased at Congress Attack

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the Republican. His party was small, consisting of himself, Colonel Borden, his secretary, stenographer and valet, and a Secret Service man.

Six Girls Rescued at Wilmington Fire

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Dr. William Wertenbaker gave medical assistance to several of the young women whose nerves were unstrung by the ordeal of the fire.

Women Are Urged to Settle Questions

Continued from Page One

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Continued from Page One

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