

# THEFT PLOT IS DENIED BY SIX IN AUTO TRIAL

Defendants Testify in Trial Being Held in U. S. Court.

Complete denial of any complicity in the interstate motor theft conspiracy case was made Thursday by ring members on trial in federal court here.

Edward Traugott, 36, senior partner of Edward Traugott & Co., clothiers, 215-17 West Washington street, whose store was wrecked the night of Aug. 26 by a blast of mysterious origin, was the last witness of the day.

Traugott made a general denial of knowledge of any transaction concerning any stolen cars.

He admitted knowing Harold Libowitz, who died of burns received in the Traugott store explosion. He testified Libowitz was salesman for the Rosenberg Cap Company, New York, and kept his samples and received his mail at Traugott's store.

**Denies Meeting "Palmer"**

He said he never owned or had knowledge of a stolen car, having purchased his own car, a Hupmobile, from a local sales agency.

He denied ever having met "Robert Palmer," to whom Wolf Sussman is alleged to have loaned \$1,000 on a LaSalle coupe, later learned to have been stolen.

He denied also having signed the name, "Edw. Jones, 4209 Euclid," to a bill of sale for a stolen car.

Traugott admitted having met but once "Charles Medcalf," alleged by government witnesses to have been Leo Baldwin, defendant in the case not yet apprehended.

**Admits Indorsing Check**

Medcalf, he said, brought a \$1,100 check, issued by Mortimer Wohlfeld, in part payment for an alleged "hot" Cadillac coupe, to his store to be cashed. Not having the cash to spare, he said, he took the man, as an accommodation, to the West street branch, Fletcher Savings and Trust Company, where he indorsed the check for the stranger.

He said he made no attempt to identify Medcalf other than to call Wohlfeld and ask if he had issued the check.

Traugott denied Wylie McGregor's testimony that McGregor had gone to Traugott's store asking for a "Mr. Russell," from which he sought return of \$300 paid by his brother, Clayton McGregor, Terre Haute, as part payment to "Russell" for a Packard coupe, later sold to Elmer Sussman, defendant in the case, and discovered by state police to have been stolen shortly after its sale by Sussman to Max Goldberg.

**Borrowed Money for Checks**

He admitted cashing a \$1,500 check for L. A. Wilkerson, Vincennes advertising man who was an acquaintance of ten years. The transaction was merely an accommodation, through friendship, he explained.

Here Traugott testified that in order to cash checks of working men, of which the store made a specialty, he said, he or his partner, Harry Sussman, would borrow large sums from Harry's father, Wolf Sussman. Sometimes they obtained cash and other times checks to be cashed at their bank. They would repay the loans with Traugott company checks, sometimes the same day and sometimes a day or two later.

The store also borrowed money for cashing pay checks from William Laffey, proprietor of a cigar store on West New York street, also a defendant in the case, and from other business houses.

Traugott said he did not know either Leo Baldwin or Ted Baldwin, both defendants. The first time he ever saw Ted Baldwin, he testified, was in the court room Tuesday. During cross-examination by Albert Ward, district attorney, Traugott identified a photo of Leo Baldwin as Medcalf.

**Testimony Contradicted**

Elmer Sussman, earlier in the afternoon, in his testimony directly contradicted testimony of Wylie McGregor that McGregor's brother, Clayton, had paid \$300 down payment on a Packard car to Leo Baldwin, under the name of Russell, and that Wylie later went to the Traugott store where he obtained his \$300 back from Harry Sussman.

Elmer Sussman testified he bought the car for \$1,700 cash from Wylie McGregor, at that time agent for an insurance company here. Later, after two accidents, he testified, he sold the car to Max Goldberg 567 Highland drive, for \$950.

About an hour after he sold the car, it was confiscated by state motor police as a stolen car, he said, and his uncle Wolf Sussman, returned Goldberg's money.

**Took Coupe as Security**

Wolf Sussman, who followed Elmer, told of loaning \$1,000 to a "Robert Palmer" taking as security a La Salle coupe. The loan was reported to the police department that day together with other trans-

## Duncan Sisters Charge Ruin Plot



Left, Rosette Duncan; right, Vivian Duncan

LONDON, Nov. 16.—The Duncan sisters' show, "Topsy and Eva," has been suspended for several days because of the nervous breakdown of Rosette Duncan, according to a statement today by Vivian Duncan.

Rosette's breakdown was caused by the efforts of "certain American interests" to wreck "Topsy and Eva," Miss Duncan said. She charged that the "certain interests" had wanted the Gaiety theater for presentation of their own show.

Wednesday night there was loud talking and rustling of newspapers in the orchestra pit, she said. The disturbance necessitated halting the show. Rosette finally stepped to the front of the stage and rebuked the noise makers. The audience cheered her.

Although the heat of the campaign caused a brief exchange of criticism between Settle and Brown, the latter professed allegiance to the farm organization and declared his committee was in no wise fighting the bureau, but advocating an even stronger organization, while working in Hoover's behalf.

Brown's department members and field men were his guests at a "jubilation luncheon" at the Clayport Thursday. Discussion of the farm bureau problem made the affair an all-day meeting.

"Indiana's overwhelming support of Hoover in the recent election should prove to the farm bureau federation that it owes an apology to the Hoosier farmer," Brown said.

No definite plan of action was devised at the session, but it was the sentiment of the twenty-five attending that every effort should be made to strengthen and perpetuate the work of the farm organization, while insuring that there should be no repetition of "mistakes it made in the campaign."

Politicians have been keeping an eye on the situation, wondering how reconciliation can be effected. They believe the bureau's management finds itself in an embarrassing position, although fully able to retain the reins.

The Republican members who policed the ranks to support Hoover, they assert, hold the advantage so far as political victory carries any reward, and at the same time find themselves in no position to dictate what the bureau's policy shall be.

Several hundred bureau members, loyal to Settle, stormed a recent directors meeting to voice their indorsement of his policies, occasioning a charge that the demonstration was staged as a pro-Smith play.

## INDIANA FARM LEADERS URGE. END OF STRIFE

Campaign Wounds Healing as Annual Convention Approaches.

With the annual convention of the Indiana Farm Bureau Federation only ten days distant, farm leaders of the state are wondering how to heal the political wounds inflicted in the national election.

The bureau's future influence is periled unless the groups that took sharp issue on the farm relief argument in the election get together, is the frank admission of farmers of Republican and Democratic complexion alike.

Re-election of William H. Settle as farm bureau president generally is predicted. Delegates who will elect the president at the convention opening here Nov. 28 were named in county conventions in the course of the campaign, when the farm bureau warmly was espousing Democratic national platform pledges for farm relief of the McNary-Haugen type.

**Brown Leads Opposition**

Opposed to the farm bureau forces fighting Hoover's election were some thirty Republican farmers, mostly bureau members, who rallied to the G. O. P. cause as members of the agricultural department of the Republican state committee, headed by John G. Brown, as director.

Among high clergymen who will be here for the ceremony are Bishop Chartrand, Indianapolis, who will confer the order; Bishop Smith, Nashville, Tenn.; Bishop Gallagher, Detroit; the Rt. Rev. James H. Ryan of the Catholic University of Washington, D. C.; Rt. Rev. Francis P. Ryves, Evansville, and Rt. Rev. Rollinson, St. Mary-of-the-Woods.

The brothers will be honored at Evansville Tuesday which, has been designated Graham day. A breakfast will open the program, and a parade will follow. A public reception will be held in the afternoon. At 8:30 p. m. there will be a banquet. Among those from out of the city who will attend are the following:

Allen Jackson, Amos Ball, R. H. McElroy and E. J. Bullock, vice-presidents of the Standard Oil Company, Chicago; Harry Chambers, president of the Washington Chamber of Commerce; F. M. Beagle, Cleveland, O., president of the Cleveland Varnish Company; John F. Coult, New York, director of the Blount Plow Works; H. E. Brache, New York, official of the Westinghouse Manufacturing Company; T. C. Powell, C. & E. I. railroad president, and B. J. Breckenridge, Louisville, Ky., official of the Illinois Central railroad.

## Graham Brothers, Noted Hoosiers, Await Honors



Left to Right—Robert C., Ray A. and Joseph B. Graham.

Order of St. Gregory to Be Conferred at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Ind., Nov. 16.—Three noted men who call this city home—Robert C. Ray A. and Joseph B. Graham, Detroit automobile manufacturers will be honored here Monday morning when the honors of the order of St. Gregory the Great will be conferred them in an elaborate ceremony at St. Simon's church.

This will be the first time that the order has been bestowed upon three members of one family. The order is a papal honor given but few persons. It was established in 1831 by Pope Gregory XVI, in honor of Pope Gregory I, who was head of the Catholic church from 590 to 604 A. D.

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## 'MISFIT' MOBS WITH DIPLOMAS VEX EDUCATORS

'Who to Educate and How Long' Problem, College Deans Agree.

BY FOSTER EATON  
United Press Staff Correspondent  
ST. LOUIS, Nov. 16.—Probably the outstanding educational problem of the country is "who and how long to educate," spokesmen of five great American universities said here today.

They were the deans of Harvard, Chicago, California, Virginia and Toronto universities, attending the annual convention of the Association of American Universities.

Mass education of the American type, they indicated in interviews with the United Press, is producing a crop of "misfits" who better might enter business.

The solution, they said, lies in sterner qualifications for advancement beyond the sophomore year in college. Students who enter "solely for athletics and the life" should be weeded out at that point.

"It unquestionably is the outstanding problem," said Dean George H. Chase of Harvard.

"We think, of course, there is much to be said for the university as we know it, but no doubt practical, technical schools into which such students could be guided should be developed."

Dean Gordon J. Lang of Chicago Graduate School of Arts and Letters believes the junior college may be the solution.

"Under such a plan," he said, "the university proper would consist only of the last two years of college work. Before that point is reached a comprehensive test should be given so that only those students would survive."

Junior colleges already are making themselves felt in this direction, according to Dean A. O. Leuschner of the University of California.

## CHEAPER TURKEYS IS ROSY OUTLOOK

Prices for Holiday Feast Bird to Range From 50 to 55 Cents.

When father takes out his purse to give mother the money to buy the Thanksgiving turkey this year he probably will repeat that little sentence: "I can remember when turkeys were 5 cents a pound, and

that was a darned good price for 'em, too."

But the wise father will be the one who says: "What! Turkey 53 cents a pound this year. That's better than the 60 we paid last year."

For turkeys, as near as can be ascertained from market indications, will be from 50 to 55 cents a pound. For a family of four the components of the Thanksgiving dinner, according to a survey at retail stores, will run approximately like this:

Turkey, ten pounds	\$5.30
Onions, for dressing	.40
Irish potatoes, mashed	.25
Sweet potatoes, candied	.25
Green beans, two pounds, sugar added	.25
Cabbage salad	.25
Celery, for table	.25
Butter, half pound	.25
Bread	.08
Pumpkin pie	.35
	\$7.84

If mother has been planning for this day ever since canning time last summer, she will go to the pantry to select quince honey, sweet or maybe mustard pickles, yellow tomato preserves, strawberry jam, or clear apple jelly. On the way out from the pantry, too, she may reflect that brother like stuffed mangoes, and that sister is fond of chili sauce on her meat.

### OPPOSE TOLL BRIDGES

Indiana Man Helps Frame Written Request to Congress.

Opposition to the construction of privately owned and operated toll bridges was voiced in a resolution of the American Association of State Highway Officials meeting at Chicago this week.

John D. Williams, director of the Indiana highway department, was a member of the committee framing the resolution. The Indiana commissioners attended the meeting. They said the resolution expressed their views.

A "thorough investigation" of the toll bridge situation was recommended to congress by the gathering.

### BANK QUITS BUSINESS

Mechanicsburg Institution Is Defunct; Depositors to Get Money.

Announcement of the voluntary liquidation of the Mechanicsburg bank, a private institution, was announced today by the state banking department.

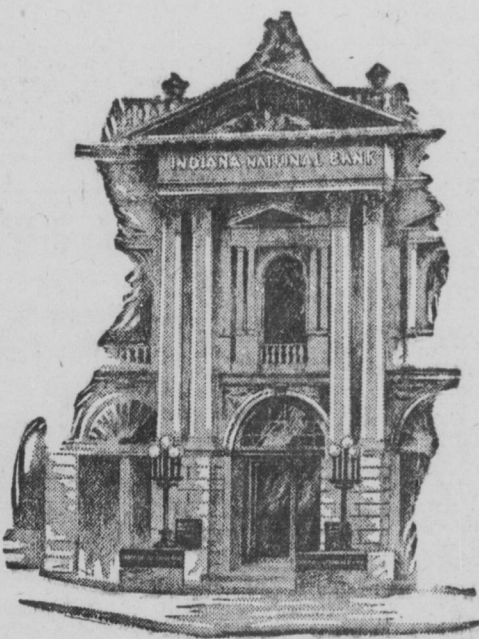
The Citizens Loan and Trust Company of Lebanon have taken over the assets and a 50 per cent dividend will be paid depositors within two weeks, it was announced.

According to Thomas D. Barr, deputy state banking commissioner, the bank has sufficient assets to pay all deposits.

W. J. De Vol is president and Buren De Witt cashier of the defunct institution.

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