

'LEGS' DIAMOND RULE IN CATSKILLS TO BE SMASHED

MOUNTAIN FOLK RISE TO CRUSH REIGN OF GANG

Want Chief of Hoodlums
Thrown Into Prison
by Officials.

LIFE TERM THEIR GOAL

Attorney-General in Charge
of Law's Drive at
Beer Czar.

Follwing is the second story by Harry Ferguson, a staff correspondent whom the United Press sent into the Catskill mountain summer resort region to report conditions arising from a bootlegger invasion and the shooting of Jack (Legs) Diamond.

BY HARRY FERGUSON
United Press Staff Correspondent

CATSKILL, N. Y., May 5.—The most varied assortment of men ever assembled in the boundaries of one county in this state are directing the war against racketeers who have deserted the clamor of city sidewalks for the white roads that curve into the hills.

Not all of them have the same immediate goal; in fact, they agree on only one item: That the profitable tourist trade of the Catskills shall not be disturbed by allowing the region to achieve a reputation for lawlessness.

Attorney-General John J. Bennett Jr., who took charge of the investigation at orders of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, proposes:

"Get an indictment against Jack Diamond, charging violation of the Baumes law, convict him and send him to prison for life as a fourth offender."

Depends on Beer Traffic

State troopers, subordinate to Bennett, but with definite ideas on means of combating gangsters, say: "Break up the beer traffic and no gang can survive. Beer is the way Diamond's men make their money, and without money any gang is powerless."

Frank H. Cooke, president of the Chamber of Commerce, has faith in the power of public opinion and is sponsor of a resolution stating:

"The citizens of this community pledge their utmost co-operation in keeping gangsters out of Catskill and vicinity."

Catskill's two policemen say: "We are keeping our noses out of this, unless we are needed." Sheriff Harold Every, Yale graduate and father of an Olympic fencing champion, also is waiting the word that he is needed.

Farmers Unorganized

There remain only the farmers, descendants of men who lifted their muskets from the racks and went forth to battle the British at Saratoga. As yet, they are a disorganized, belligerent group. Diamond, to them, is a dangerous character, a man whose career is aptly expressed by the name Diamond—hard, glittering and costly.

"What can we do?" asked one of them, who lives on the Saugerties road. "Diamond had things organized up at Acras and could about run the county as he saw fit. All we could do was pass resolutions."

"Now that Mr. Bennett and the troopers have stepped in, they ought to be able to do something. If they can't, well, later will be time enough to talk about what we are going to do. Don't publish my name."

Bennett, in the opinion of the farmers, is the man who will drive Diamond's gang out of the county, if it is done. Young, alert and enthusiastic, he moves quickly about the county, gathering information and presenting a strange figure in his immaculate clothing contrasted to the rough overalls of the farmers.

Witness Under Guard

The attorney-general puts especial faith in the testimony that Grover Parks will give if Diamond lives and is brought to trial. Parks is the man who accused the gangster of torturing him in a garage at Acras because he was delivering a shipment of hard cider.

So important does the attorney consider Parks to the state's case, that two troopers are on constant guard at the farmer's house.

What will happen if Bennett's case should fall through is, of course, conjectural. In the background there remains the possibility of an uprising of vigilantes, with the crash of rural rifles ringing through the hills again. For, as the Saugerties farmer, said:

"It ain't that we're afraid of these Diamond fellows. It's just that we ain't organized."

7 BANK BANDITS TRIED

State Bureau Reports Total of 106 Years Imposed in Month.

During the month of April, seven bank robbers in Indiana were sentenced to serve a total of 106 years in prison according to figures of E. L. Osborne, chief of the state bureau of criminal identification.

Four other alleged bank bandits are in jail pending trial. Building its identification files, the bureau now has on file 65,247 sets of fingerprints, Osborne said.

RITES FOR FIRE VICTIM

Forrest Sample, 5 Burned at Play, to Be Buried Wednesday.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday afternoon at the home for 5-year-old Forrest Sample, 606 North Hamilton avenue, who died in Methodist hospital Saturday night from burns suffered while building a bonfire with two companions several days ago.

Illness Causes Suicide

BY WASHINGTON, Ind., May 5.—Despondency over ill health was given today by relatives of William Marsh, 47, machinist, as the cause of his suicide by shooting at his home here. He had not worked for three weeks because of illness, relatives told Coroner W. C. McKittrick.

Methodist Bishops Gather in City for Semi-Annual Session



Top—Bishop H. L. Smith, Bishop Frederick Keeney, Bishop Charles Mead, Bishop Charles Edward Locke and Bishop Adna Leonard. Lower Left—Bishop James Baker and Bishop Edgar Blake. Lower Right—Mrs. Edgar Blake and Mrs. H. Lester Smith.

TWO ARE HELD AS 'SLUG' USERS

Face Federal Charges of Cheating Phone Co.

Use of slugs, instead of \$41.25 in making long distance calls, resulted in Edgar G. Allen, 28, of 910 North Meridian street, and John Rodgers Atwood, alias Burton, 27, of 802 North Illinois street, being bound over to the federal grand jury today.

They face counterfeiting charges and were placed under \$2,000 bonds each by Howard S. Young, United States commissioner.

The long distance calls were used for talking to their sweethearts in Kentucky and Michigan, the two said.

They were traced by private experts of the telephone company and arrested by Detectives Hubbard and Davis, Harry Gates, deputy federal marshal.

Police recall that last November two bandits escaped in Allen's car after a robbery here in which J. H. Free, Hook Drug Company messenger, was shot.

Allen declared that he found the slugs in his car after it was recovered in Dayton, O., and returned to him. When arrested, he had 105 quarter slugs, 87 nickel slugs, and 14 dime slugs, police say.

STATE PAVING BIDS OPENED BY BOARD

OBJECTS TO PENSION

City Fireman Loses His Fight to 'Stay.'

Records of the State Bureau of Social Security and a family Bible were weighed against each other today by the safety board, and the Bible lost.

As a result Captain Frank Aldrich of Fire Station 2, will be retired on pension by the state board Sunday.

Aldrich, in applying for a fireman's post gave his year of birth as 1861. Records in his family Bible, which he showed the board in fighting the order for retirement because of having reached the age of 70, gave 1866 as his birth date.

Board members decided the birth recorded in the Bible, extending over a number of years, all were entered at about the same time by the same person. Aldrich said he first gave the wrong birth date to obtain a position with a railroad, as a youth, and later continued to use 1861 as the date to be consistent.

ROBBER SUSPECT HELD

Tim Harris Bound Over to Grand Jury on Banditry Charge.

Suspected of robbing Emery Bryant, Schnell & Co. warehouse manager of \$400, April 24, Tim Harris, 36, of 1422 Delos street, today was bound over to the county grand jury on auto banditry and robbery charges.

He has been held by police since the robbery on a vagrancy charge. Bryant was bound by two men in the firm's warehouse at 2202 West Michigan street. The thieves ransacked the place to obtain the money.

Visiting Clergy Greeted by Bishop Edgar Blake at Breakfast.

FOKKER DENIES PLANES WEAK

Asserts Rockne Crash Was Not Ship's Fault.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Anthony Fokker, head of the company that made the thirty-five transport planes temporarily barred from passenger service by the commerce department, issued a statement today denying that there was any structural fault in Fokker planes.

He said he could not make a detailed statement on the situation "as this policy was agreed upon in a joint conference between the operators and the executives of the Fokker Aircraft Corporation, pending action to be taken by the department of commerce after a joint conference today."

"The world-wide reputation of Fokker planes, with their unequalled record of safe operation without any accident due to structural failure is my answer. The Knute Rockne crash was not caused by a failure of the airplane."

BY UNITED PRESS

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 5.—Seven Fokker tri-motored planes of the F-10-A series remained grounded on the western division of the Transcontinental-Western Air Express lines today in compliance with a department of commerce order.

Ford tri-motored all-metal planes or other types were put in use in their place. The western division extends from Kansas City to Los Angeles.

BY UNITED PRESS

WICHITA, May 5.—Isms' Are Denounced by Fred Schortemeier.

Tax reduction and denunciation of the various social "isms" featured the address of Frederick E. Schortemeier, former secretary of state, Monday night at the Irvington Republican Club.

In pointing out various taxes that could be reduced, Schortemeier declared that the gasoline tax could be cut from 4 cents to 3 cents a gallon and still bring in sufficient revenue.

"It is all right for the people to discuss Socialism, Fascism, Communism and other 'isms' for in that way they will see the fallacy of these movements and get them out of their systems," Schortemeier said.

Bert Morgan, president of the club, appointed Harold Kealing, Homer Lewis and Arthur Renwick as a committee to make arrangements for the Hoover dinner here June 15.

BY UNITED PRESS

WAR MOTHERS WILL TURN SALESWOMEN

Proceeds From Flowers to Go to Aid of Ill Soldiers.

Mothers who spent long hours in Red Cross rooms during the World War, who went from door to door selling Liberty bonds, will be marshaled in a new drive Saturday.

Red, white and blue coin boxes in one hand, carnations in the other, they will visit office buildings, stores, hotels and patrol the streets selling the flowers to be worn Sunday in annual observance of Mother's day.

Combination bids were: State Road 43, Green castle to Raccoon, Putnam, 41.19 miles, Swords McDonald, Knapp Company, Peoria, Ill., \$227,208.71.

State Road 43, Raccoon to Crawfordsville, Putnam and Montgomery counties, 11.851 miles, Burns Construction Company, Indianapolis, \$198,567.36.

State Road 22, Kokomo to one mile west of Howard, Howard county lines, Howard county, 11.285 miles, P. B. Putnam, Ft. Wayne, \$161,204.38.

State Road 22, one mile west of Howard-Grant county to State Road 9, Howard and Grant counties, 10.891 miles, Putnam, \$154,738.04.

State Road 29, two miles south and east of Thorntown to Logansport, Cass county, 11.21 miles, Deaconess Construction Company, Elkhart, \$179,924.26.

State Road 2, Elkhart to Valparaiso, Porter county, 13.740 miles, Reith-Riley Construction Company, Goshen, \$208,144.90.

Combination bids were: State Road 43, Green castle to Raccoon to Crawfordsville, Putnam and Montgomery counties, \$485,561 bid by McDonald Construction Company, Noblesville.

State Road 22, 32.192 miles in Howard and Grant counties, \$305,892.78 bid by Roger Daust, Delance, O.

BAKER SPEEDS UP JUSTICE IN MARION COUNTY

'There Will Be No Delays in This Court,' Says Says Judge.

Criminals will get their dues and that swiftly in Marion county, for there will be no vacations in criminal court so far as Judge Frank P. Baker is concerned.

"At least the aim of the court is to take no recesses when cases are pending and prisoners lying in jail awaiting trial," Judge Baker announced today in re-emphasizing his "speedy-justice" policy.

Baker said today that he has asked county commissioners for a utility court room for use when cases with special judges are being tried in the regular court.

This room would make it possible for Judge Baker to continue court almost without recess. It also would prevent the clogging of the criminal court calendar by jury trials; for a jury trial could be handled in one room and the regular routine cases in another.

Court records reveal that since taking office in January more than six hundred criminal cases have been disposed of by Baker. The criminal docket has fewer cases now pending than for any time in twenty years, court attaches.

"We want to keep the docket clear as possible for there is no use keeping men laying in jail awaiting trial," Baker said.

In keeping with the policy, Judge Baker will retire to a temporary utility court room Wednesday while Special Judge L. E. Slack hears the case of James Trout, charged with robbery.

Attorneys spent this morning impaneling a jury in the Trout case. First degree murder charges against Trout, who was the companion of William C. Hill, former Indianapolis policeman, March 12, 1930, when Hill killed Charles Zeller, lottery operator, in a holdup, are not being pressed by the state. He will face trial this week only on the robbery charge.

BY UNITED PRESS

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