

MINER, FRIENDS WERE FRAMED, REPORT STATES

Harlan County Sheriffs Planted Evidence, Mer. Testify.

This is the fourth of a series on conditions in the Harlan county (Ky.) mine strike zone, where terror conditions have prevailed for months. It is written by John Moutoux, a staff writer of the Knoxville (Tenn.) News-Sentinel, a Scripps-Howard newspaper, barred from courtrooms because of an editorial in his newspaper dealing with the verdict in a murder trial in the district.

BY JOHN T. MOUTOUX

FRANKFORT, Ky., Jan. 8.—"A bad case of official misconduct" which "should be brought to the attention of a federal grand jury" was the report of the Governor's commission in one of the many cases of abuse it found in Harlan county.

The case was that of J. W. Freeman, 32-year-old miner and father of seven children, who reported his home was raided at 11 one night for literature, but that nothing was found.

There were eleven in the raiding party, including the city judge," he said. "They took me out in the yard. They had a searchlight. 'The policeman said, 'We have to search him; he might have a gun.' He searched me. There was a fellow behind me. He snatched at my left hand coat pocket.

Planted "Marked" Money

"He missed the pocket and dropped two \$1 bills at my feet. He claimed it was marked money and that he got it off of me. I didn't have a penny in my pocket. They took me in a room and chained me by both legs to a radiator.

"The next day (Oct. 7) they took me to Harlan. A justice of the peace bound me over for trial Oct. 27 before United States Commissioner Rollins at Pineville. Rollins threw the case out of court.

The Governor's commission commented:

"This is a bad case of official misconduct and should be brought to the attention of a federal grand jury and the officers indicted for perjury, etc. If this man's statements are true, the law acts rather unlawfully in Harlan county. The witness impressed us as truthful."

Liquor Charge Faked

A similar case found by the commission was that of L. P. Fuson, 31-year-old property owner, contractor, and father of seven children.

"Mose Middleton (Evarts policeman), Frank White, George Haywood and Ek Cox (deputies) came to my house one night and raided it for liquor," Fuson told the commission.

Q—Did they find any?
A—They found what they brought with them. Frank White took a bottle out of his pocket. He said I had thrown it out of the window. That was not so. I do not drink liquor and do not deal in it.

Q—What happened to you?

A—They took me to Harlan at 12:30 at night and turned me over to the jailer. The jailer wouldn't put me in jail. I got a cat and went to see United States Commissioner Rollins at Pineville.

Q—What did he do?

A—He dismissed the case.

Q—Your belief is that your arrest was made because you were friendly to the strikers?

A—I am not a miner and did not belong to the union, but I did go on some bonds for some of the men.

Fuson is treasurer of the Baptist church.

Cause Wife's Relapse

Asked if he had anything more to say, he added:

"At the time the deputies came, my wife had been sick for more than a year. Dr. Ramsey and Dr. Burns had been treating her. They advised me to keep her quiet. Dr. Burns said he thought within six months the danger of high blood pressure would be over.

"Fifteen minutes after the deputies left, my wife had a stroke of paralysis, which Dr. Burns said was caused wholly by the excitement of the raid. She has not yet recovered."

The examining commissioner made this comment:

"This commissioner and Captain Barrett examined and photographed the window through which the liquor was allegedly dumped. There was no sign of any hole in the screen or its removal; it is solidly nailed in and screened like the others. Notice the growth of vines into the screen."

Sheriff in Michigan

The commission, in a report which accompanied the nine volumes of testimony, called attention to the Fuson case; also to that of a man named Simpson, "who was found drunk in Evarts, arrested by Murl and Dillard Middleton, and put in the lockup. Later, while Simpson was on a couch in the jail, he was shot to death through the bars and was found there the next morning. It is claimed no one knows who committed this murder."

Next: "Conditions Almost Too Horrible for Belief" in Harlan County.

TRUTH ABOUT DOPE

SOME cough syrups rely on dope (opiates, chloroform, morphine, ether). Smith Brothers' Triple Action Cough Syrup contains no dope. Instead "Triple Action" stops coughs quickly, pleasantly and—SAFELY.....35¢

THEY TELL ME

BY BEN STERN

IF you have been listening in on the radio and have been too lazy or tired to turn to another program, no doubt you have heard several exhortations to support a retail sales tax law.

The eloquent effects that come from the loud speaker are those of Charles Parker, the one-man lyceum bureau.

"Chiseling Charlie," as they now call him over at the statehouse, is clerk for the state banking department and his efforts along lines not connected with his duties have given rise to much caustic criticism among his colleagues.

As soon as he was appointed to the post a couple of years ago, after working as a salesman, he hustled around and organized the Statehouse Republican Men's Club, or something like that. His experience as an organizer and salesman in another order, it is said, stood him in good stead.

The club flourished a couple of months and then died, mainly because of Charlie and his oratorical proclivities, it has been unkindly said.

Then during the last session of the general assembly, when several vain efforts were made to take away from loan sharks their annual 42 per cent interest, Parker appeared as a pleader in their behalf before the house committee.

"What business have you appearing as a lobbyist in this matter when you are a public employee?" members of the committee indignantly queried and then verbally burned him down. But not one whit abashed, Charlie has continued using his oratorical and sales talents for various and sundry causes.

He used them to such effect when it was seriously considered slashing governmental salaries, Parker got a raise in his annual salary from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

It was felt that now he would be quiet, but imagine general astonishment when he was introduced as "a tax expert" over the radio and spoke in behalf of a retail sales tax. Again state officials are asking by what authority Parker speaks on this controversial question, when it has been an unwritten rule that no employee has a right to appear either on one side or the other of a matter of this type.

The retail sales tax speeches are sponsored by the organization formed by Bert Fuller, manager of Leslie's campaign for Governor in 1928.

EYE MEN TO MEET

Speaker Announced For City Session of Optometrists.

The thirty-fifth annual convention of the Indiana Association of Optometrists will open here Sunday.

Leading speakers of the three-day session will include Dr. G. S. Grubb, Dr. O. I. Crawford, Dr. H. Riley Spittler, Dr. W. A. Springborg, and Dr. John Glazier.

Election of officers will be held Monday.

MAN ADMITS HE STRUCK WOMEN; GIVEN SENTENCE

Alexander Wins First Bout, but Loses in Final Decisions.

A previous knockout decision was held by Henry Hobart Alexander, 510 Sheffield avenue, when he appeared in municipal court today to renew his battle with Mrs. Frances Baynes, 1548 Astor street, and Mrs. Bertha Edney, 3332 North Sherman drive.

But, after the hearing before Judge William H. Sheaffer, Henry

Hobart lost his fighting crown, and a decision of the court decrees he must spend five days in jail and pay \$1 fine and costs.

Mrs. Baynes and Mrs. Edney exhibited face wounds and body injuries to prove that Henry Hobart had struck them when they appeared at his home Dec. 2.

The women were searching for "Baby Dog," the 6-months-old pet of Mrs. Edney, they told the court. The bout opened, according to testimony today, with the women demanding custody of the dog, which they charged Alexander had stolen.

The second round consisted of Alexander demanding why "they wanted to cause me trouble."

When they came out of their corners for the third round, Alexander

was alleged, in testimony, to have left-hooked Mrs. Edney and then swung a right from the floor on Mrs. Baynes. Both women fell, they told Sheaffer, and Alexander fled.

"I'll say I hit them," Alexander admitted. "All Mrs. Edney is doing is trying to cause me trouble. I used to be married to her. She had five husbands already."

"That's not true—just two husbands," Mrs. Edney interposed. "Why, Henry Hobart has served time in Virginia."

Alexander admitted this as readily as he did his attack on the woman, asserting the sentence was for criminal assault.

"I lived with her for six months and now she trails me wherever I go," Alexander added.

Sheaffer believed the assault and battery charge was substantiated by the testimony and Alexander's admission, and meted out the sentence.

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Paramount's swift drama of exciting love featuring
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Plus
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Kiddies' Publix Free Dancing Class Indiana Ballroom Tomorrow 10 A. M.
TODAY!
Two Happy Hooligans of Hilarity Making Ha! Ha!
WHEELER WOOLSEY
World's Greatest Clowns in their Greatest Laugh Spree...
PEACH O' RENO
RKO-Radio's Whopping Big Fun Hit with
DOROTHY LEE—ZELMA O'NEAL
DOUBLE STAGE HIT
CHARLIE DAVIS
And His Joy Gang Keeping "OPEN HOUSE"
Fanchon-Marco's Colorful Mexican Idea
La Plaza
featuring LES GELLES, Brancel & Pals, Skeeter & Ray, Nelly Fernandez, Lucinda & Ricardo, Chinita, Eduardo Delgado, Augustin Palafox
INDIANA 25¢ TO 1 P.M.
NEXT—Barbara Stanwyck in "FORBIDDEN"

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GRETA GARBO—RAMON NOVARRO in "MATA HARI"
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