



# The Indianapolis Times

HOME

Fair tonight and Tuesday; no decided change in temperature, lowest tonight about 28.

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INDIANAPOLIS, MONDAY, JANUARY, 18, 1932

Entered as Second-Class Matter  
at Postoffice, Indianapolis, Ind.TWO CENTS Outside Marion  
County 3 Cents

## WITT COUNSEL FIGHT READING OF CONFESSION

Admission of Guilt Made  
Under Third Degree,  
Attorneys Say.

HEARING IS DELAYED

Ira Holmes Grills Sleuths,  
Fails to Substantiate  
Brutality Charge.

By Times Special

LEBANON, Ind., Jan. 18.—Charges that Charles Vernon Witt, on trial for the murder of L. A. Jackson, Indianapolis chain store owner, was subjected to police brutality and finally signed a purported confession to "save" himself from further mistreatment, halted the ex-convict's trial here today.

Ira M. Holmes, defense attorney, hurled the allegations in circuit court, when the state attempted to introduce the alleged statement during testimony of Detective John Marren.

When Marren prepared to identify the purported statement, Holmes protested, telling the court the defendant not only was mistreated, but forced to undergo rigors of many hours of questioning.

Judge John W. Hornaday excused the jury, the state halted presentation of evidence and Holmes was called upon to prove the charges.

Questioned on Brutality  
At the close of the morning session, Holmes had questioned Marren and Detective George Mueller, but had not supported his claims of brutality. Holmes and Eliza O. Rogers, of the defense, were to call numerous other officers and newspaper men late today, in an effort to support the allegations.

Holmes failed to bring out through Marren's testimony that the alleged confession was not voluntary. However, from Mueller, it was revealed that Witt, throughout the questioning, told the detective, "George, if I say anything, I'll spill it to you."

Mueller said he obtained cigarettes for the defendant and, as did Marren, denied he had struck or abused Witt during the quizzing.

Denies He Is Witt  
Both detectives related Witt refused to admit his identity for some time, insisting his name was Irwin. The officers said he continued his denials in the face of photos of himself and fingerprints.

Shortly after the defendant is said to have admitted his identity, Witt is alleged to have given Mueller the statement clearing himself of firing the fatal shot, and naming Louis E. Hamilton, who will be tried later, as the "trigger man."

Witt was arrested June 25, 1931, and police issued his alleged statement June 27. The murder was committed in Jackson's central Standard Grocery Company store, May 27, 1931.

Witt's alleged admission of his part in the crime stated that he met Hamilton shortly before the robbery attempt and that Hamilton had given him the sawed-off shotgun he is said to have carried when he entered the store. He is said to have admitted firing one charge.

Defendant to Testify  
Action of Holmes is expected to result in Witt taking the stand in his own defense, in an attempt to clinch the charge that he was "forced" to sign a statement.

Several police officers from Indianapolis and Chief Mike Morrissey were spectators in the jammed courtroom today.

Questioning of police and newspaper men may delay resumption of the trial before the jury until Tuesday, it was believed. Judge John W. Hornaday will rule on admission of the alleged confessions by the state after Holmes' efforts to prove his charges.

Chester Jackson, son of the slain grocery chief, will be the state's final witness. He stood beside his father when the bandits shot the aged grocer as he resisted their robbery attempts.

SEEKS FIVE BILLIONS

Father Cox' 'Jobless Party' Would  
Spend Sum on Relief.

By United Press

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 18.—A \$5,000,000,000 program of public improvements to provide employment for the country's jobless will be one of the chief planks in the platform of the proposed "jobless party," Father James R. Cox revealed today.

Father Cox reiterated his willingness to be a candidate for the presidency.

Dog Recovered  
That's what this little Lost and Found ad below has to say about the fact that Miss Marie Loyd, 530 W. New York street, dog that was lost and was returned to her. Liable to happen to any one. . . . If it happens to you. . . the surest and quickest way to locate the party who has found it is through The Times Lost and Found columns. To place an ad just phone Riley 5551. Special rates.

BOSTON BULL—Mother of 2, Owns 12 puppies, \$5 reward. Finder call L 1146.

## Reduce Water and Light Rates Today, Not Tomorrow

Today, and not tomorrow, the public service commission should reduce the rates on electricity and water for the city of Indianapolis.

The commission voted 4 to 1 to cut the rates for the city of Marion under the emergency clause.

If an emergency exists in Marion, it exists in this city and probably in most other cities of the state which have asked in vain for relief.

If the city of Marion is entitled to immediate relief, this city should receive something more than an invitation to plead with Clarence Geist and Harley Clarke to give it a bone of concession.

The basis on which the rates for electricity in Marion were reduced immediately was that the owners are receiving

a profit of 13 per cent a year. Last year Clarence Geist took 25 per cent on his common stock, his sole investment in Indianapolis, as dividends.

Last year Harley Clarke took for his holding company huge returns on the presumed investment in common stock fixed by the commission at the time of the famous merger of the two former competitors in electricity.

Last year he took much more for his holding company, through purchase of coal and fees for engineering, finance, and management.

The commission established a precedent that either must be followed in all utilities or repudiated. If the people of Marion are entitled to relief, the people of all other cities must have the same protection.

## America Wins Favor in Eyes of Vicki Baum

By United Press

NEW YORK, Jan. 18.—Vicki Baum, noted German author, who just has returned to her home in Berlin, today broadcast to the world the things she likes about America.

Her hearers in the United States were cheered up by hearing Miss Baum's praise of:

The American ice box.  
Slenderness of the girls.  
Politeness of the men.

Cartoons in the newspapers.  
Soft drinks.  
Perfect roads and high speeds.

American shoes.  
The possibility of getting "cute" dresses for very little money.

## RAGING FLOOD PERILS LIVES OF THOUSANDS

Many Rescued in Boats;  
Others Spend Night on  
House-tops.

By United Press

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 18.—A further rise of flood waters in the Tippecanoe basin added to the peril of more than 2,000 marooned on roofs, levee tops, and every available high spot as they awaited rescue today.

Hundreds of shivering and hungry families spent a night of horror clinging precariously to roofs or huddled together on high knolls as black waters slushed at their feet. Rescue workers, halted by darkness, marshaled forces for new excursions into the basin.

Of the 5,000 or more persons marooned in the basin, approximately half had been taken out in boats, skiffs and makeshift rafts at dusk Sunday night. Insufficient boats handicapped rescuers, although 250 paddle skiffs and fifty motor boats were rushed to the area Sunday.

Urgent appeals were made throughout the south for more boats. A break in the Tallahatchie river levee ten miles south of Lambert, Miss., Sunday night spread flood waters fanlike over the southeastern section of Panola county. More than 15,000 acres of lowland face inundation.

Food supplies were inadequate in many refugee camps. This, coupled with exposure in makeshift shelters, cause imminent danger of disease. Additional Red Cross workers have been summoned, with local chapters taking charge in their areas.

River Rise Halts  
Flood menace in Indianapolis and surrounding territory was lessened today, when height of White river was recorded as unchanged during the last twelve hours, despite heavy rains in several sections of the state Sunday.

Indianapolis Water Company officials said, although the river was high, it was "a long way from flood stage." Lowlands at Ravenswood were flooded, but residents said they believed the water rise was checked.

Farmers were heaviest hit, as water covered areas near Indianapolis. State roads south of Indianapolis were flooded and several thoroughfares were closed, state highway commissioners reported.

State Road 67 was blocked from Spencer to Martinsville and, because there is no detour, traffic was ordered on Roads 40 and 43.

Road 46 was closed, with a detour, between Bloomington and Spencer, and another section of the road from Bloomington to Nashville was expected to be closed tonight.

Road 31 near Seymour will be closed tonight, with traffic directed through North Vernon. Trucks were pulling traffic through sections of Road 3, near Vernon; Road 64, near Huntingburg, and Road 150, southwest of Shoals. The latter road was to be closed tonight.

Road 50, west of Medora, was closed and the detour was expected to be covered by water tonight, with traffic directed to Bedford via Salem and Road 60.

Hourly Temperatures  
6 a. m. . . . . 33 10 a. m. . . . . 33  
7 a. m. . . . . 32 11 a. m. . . . . 34  
8 a. m. . . . . 32 12 (noon) . . . . 36  
9 a. m. . . . . 33 1 p. m. . . . . 37

## STARVING INDIANS FED FROM 'FLYING BREADLINE'

By United Press

WINSLOW, Ariz., Jan. 18.—Arizona's first flying breadline took off today for its second ray of reclaiming several thousand all-but-literally vanishing Americans.

Loaded with 5,000 pounds of emergency rations, six big bombing planes cruised over three Navajo reservations in Arizona and New Mexico, inhabitants of which have been cut off from any considerable source of food since December snows.

Seldom finding landings possible on the rolling, frozen plateaus, riven with deep canyons, the pilots flew low over settlements and dropped burlap-wrapped packages of food.

They told how natives fell upon the packages, tearing them open and dancing for joy at the sight of such manna from the skies as

flour, sugar, beans and canned bully beef.

In one settlement, the package landed in a deep snowdrift and was driven down several feet by the force of its fall. Men, women and children, burrowed after it and ripped it open, paying scant attention to the departing plane, an apparition many of the children never had seen before.

In another, the friendly bomb "exploded" on a spur of rock and showered the ground with food. Over his shoulder, the pilot saw the natives scoop it up with their hands and a child putting what the pilot supposed to be sugar into its mouth.

Some 18,000 pounds of rations were assembled, of which half or more will have been distributed by nightfall. Army officers here, keeping in contact with the planes by radio, said they thought danger of actual starvation had been removed.

## Carmel Myers Is Robbed of \$20,000 Jewels

By United Press

HOLLYWOOD, Cal., Jan. 18.—Carmel Myers, motion picture actress, was robbed of jewels valued at \$20,000 today when she returned home and found two unmasked bandits hiding in her apartment.

Miss Myers and her maid, Mrs. Anna Moore, were backed against a wall, where one of the gunmen held them at bay while his companion rifled the apartment.

Told she would have to be bound and gagged, Miss Myers protested that her physical conditions would render such treatment dangerous and upon her promise to give the bandits half an hour in which to escape, they relented.

The pair apologized for the hold-up, declaring they were "badly in need of money."

LAWYERS BLOCK  
VEHLING ACTION

Abatement Plea Filed in  
Criminal Court.

Attorneys today reopened their attack on the state charge that Coroner Fred W. Vehling solicited a bribe and blocked his arraignment by filing a plea in abatement.

Defense counsel charged Prosecutor Herbert E. Wilson had no authority to return the second affidavit, now on file against the coroner, while the grand jury was in session.

The plea in abatement also charged the affidavit was not filed in good faith, because Wilson had taken previous steps to "whitewash" the case.

No date was set for arguments on the abatement plea and Judge Frank P. Baker tentatively has set the trial for Jan. 25. Defense attorneys are expected to seek another judge before the trial.

Bishop Gore Is Dead

LONDON, Jan. 18.—Bishop Charles Gore, 78, who attracted wide attention through criticism of Bible stories and aroused antagonism of allied nations by begging forgiveness for Germany after the end of the world war, died last night from influenza and pleurisy.

## INSANITY WILL BE TRIAL PLEA OF RUTH JUDD

Former Indiana Girl Will  
Face Court Tuesday on  
Murder Charge.

By United Press

PHOENIX, Ariz., Jan. 18.—Mrs. Winnie Ruth Judd is expected to plead insanity as one of her defenses when she goes to trial Tuesday charged with the murder of her two women friends.

Herman Lewkowitz, Mrs. Judd's local counsel, admitted today that he probably will attempt to show insanity, "among other things." Under Arizona law, insanity may be pleaded as one of several defenses.

The 27-year-old woman charged with killing Miss Hedvig Samuelson and Mrs. Agnes Leoni, and riding 500 miles with their dismembered bodies in her luggage, has been under observation of many psychiatrists and alienists, acting both for the defense and the state.

In addition, two sealed packets, addressed to the clerk of the court, have arrived by mail from middle-western cities. Though the contents were undisclosed, it was believed they related to Mrs. Judd's girlhood in Indiana.

It was thought not unlikely that her parents, the father an Indiana evangelist, will tell as witnesses what they know of the "burlap abduction," a sensational narrative of Mrs. Judd's adolescence.

As the story was printed at the time of her arrest three months ago, Mrs. Judd, when she was 16, was "found" in a barn, clad only in a burlap sack, and told a story of kidnapping and seduction that resulted in the arrest of a neighbor youth, a story she was said to have retracted later, confessing it was a fiction growing out of her passionate wish for a child.

Mrs. Judd's behavior since her arrest has been of the sort that would lend itself to the contention that she was insane.

Motorists anxious to end the depression by sweeping safety zones clean of pedestrians and making city ambulances over-work, met a Tartar today in front of Shortridge high school.

The Tartar—at least city officials hope it proves to be a Chinese wall—are the crossbars of steel shown in the above photo, with the danger sign and two lights that gleam red.

Just to show her fearlessness, Miss Marjory Zechel, 2918 Boulevard place, a Shortridge student, is leaning on the safety guard in the photo and giving passing motorists the "berry."

## Just Let 'Em Come On



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## HOOVER CREDIT BILL CAUGHT IN CONGRESS JAM

Senate and House Disagree  
on Important Points  
in Measure.

DEMOCRATS IN SPLIT

Republicans Are Annoyed  
by Differing Views  
of Rivals.

LYLE C. WILSON

United Press Staff Correspondent  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.—President Hoover's \$2,000,000,000 emergency credit project is in a legislative jam from which it is the task of senate leaders to extricate it today.

Both houses have passed the measure, the keystone of Mr. Hoover's domestic relief program. But the two houses did not pass identical bills. They differ materially in two economic features and in one important political matter.

The Republican senate passed the bill first, and sent it to the Democratic house bearing the name of one of Mr. Hoover's closest friends, Senator Walcott (Rep., Conn.), as sponsor. The Democratic house chucked the senate bill into the discard by referring it to a committee and proceeded to pass its own bill, bearing the label of R. I. Steagall (Ala.), a Democratic stalwart.

Concurrence Is Requested  
Now the house bill has been sent to the senate with a curt request for concurrence. The bill over which the senate labored so mightily languishes in a house committee, and senate Republicans are annoyed.

So far as the senate is concerned, the bill has reverted to the legislative position it occupied the day the banking and currency committee reported it favorably.

Republican leaders expect today to obtain a favorable vote for a suspension of the rules to enable immediate consideration of the credit program.

Republican annoyance is increased by the fact that the most important difference between the house and senate bills represents a difference of opinion between Democrats themselves.

Senator Glass (Dem., Va.) and Senator Bailey (Dem., O.) led the senate fight to keep the emergency credit scheme entirely separate from operation of the federal reserve system. House Democrats have enacted a bill which gives the proposed reconstruction finance corporation the privilege of discounting its paper with the reserve banks.

Fears for Bank  
Glass contends this discount privilege would overwhelm the reserve banks and seriously impair that primary source of commercial credit.

Senators are determined at the outset of the forthcoming conference between representatives of the two houses to stand fast for their version of the credit scheme. Republican leaders hope conferences may begin today.

The house appropriations committee today took up a discussion of concrete economy by reporting favorably on an agricultural department annual appropriation bill \$60,000,000 under funds allowed for the present fiscal year, and \$10,759,591 less than President Hoover's budget estimate.

The bill, which will receive immediate consideration, appropriates \$175,443,814 for activities of the department, including federal aid highways.

Agree to Cut Expenses  
This domestic economy action by the committee favors a close-up agreement of house Democratic and Republican leaders to cut expenses as far as possible without injuring governmental efficiency.

The greatest single saving effected in the bill is in federal aid highway appropriations, which are cut by \$9,000,000 under the president's recommendations and \$25,000,000 under last year's allowance.

In its report, the committee stated that an appropriation of \$100,000,000 for the highways will be sufficient to meet all payments until March 1, 1932, when a more definite knowledge of state road building program will be available.

Practically all bureaus and activities of the department felt the economy ax.

The \$150,000,000 appropriation for federal land banks probably will become a law this week. Vigorous opposition is developing to the proposal to extend federal aid to depositors in insolvent banks, but a hard fight should get that measure through.

A bill for creation of a system of home loan banks to take the place of mortgage assets is in the hands of a senate subcommittee.

Cop Rout 15, Seizes Liquor

COHASSET, Mass., Jan. 18.—A single policeman exchanged shots with a gang of about fifteen runners on the beach here early today, drove them away, and seized some 300 cases of liquor, valued at \$24,000.

Women! Bowl!

The Times free bowling classes for women will open Friday. Read details of your opportunity to learn this health-giving game on the woman's page, then prepare to enroll.



## How to Provide Proper Food and Care at a Minimum Cost

Every mother and father will be interested in a series of six daily features, prepared by The Times and NEA Service in co-operation with the American Child Health Association.

STARTING THURSDAY IN THE TIMES