

GRAPE GROWERS ASK LEGALIZING OF LIGHT WINE

Industry Charged Betrayed by Government; Public Use Is Sought.

By United Press
SAN FRANCISCO, April 25.—Charging that their \$300,000,000 industry had been "betrayed" by those who should have been its friends, leaders of California's grape industry today demanded that light wines be legalized for use in homes, hotels and restaurants.

Donald D. Conn, managing director of the California Vintners' Association, today issued a 10,000-word report authorized by the industry's board of directors. In this he charged that the government "has morally outlawed the grape growers after supporting them since 1920."

Hits Concentrate Ruling
The sudden turn of the heretofore protected grape industry was caused by the government's action in blocking "grape concentrate." This action, Conn declared, was based merely upon the single ruling of Federal Judge Otis of Missouri, who reversed the twelve-year-old interpretation of Section 29 of the Volstead act, and declared concentrates illegal.

In adopting the Otis ruling, the government, Conn charges, has "cast a slur" upon a big group of law-abiding farmers whose efforts had been directed toward enforcing prohibition and preventing grapes from going into bootleg and racketeering channels. And this reversal was made in spite of the fact that another branch of the government, the farm board, has loaned them government funds. They owe the government \$12,272,889.

Conn a Dry for Five Years

Conn admitted he has been a "dry" for the last five years and fought efforts to put the grape industry on record for repeal. Now he is for moderation. In his committee of industry leaders, he demands light wines and modification of the eighteenth amendment to permit naturally fermented beverages.

Pending a change in the eighteenth amendment, Conn urges an amendment to the Volstead act to permit home-made non-intoxicating wine made from fruit juices.

VOTE MARKET QUIZ

Senate to Press Probe of Stocks Operators.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, April 25.—The senate banking and currency committee today decided on a thorough investigation of all stock market operators and ordered creation of a "board of strategy" to conduct it. Chairman Norbeck of the committee announced after a two-hour secret session of the committee, that he had been authorized to appoint the board or steering committee and that it would meet Tuesday to decide matters of future procedure and the employment of additional investigators and counsel.

Hearings will be resumed Wednesday.

DIES IN BLIZZARD

Teacher Is Found Frozen in Mountain Cabin.

By United Press
TRINIDAD, Colo., April 25.—A blizzard brought death to Mrs. B. E. Snowden, 58, rural school teacher, it was revealed today. She was frozen to death when she set out from the lonely schoolhouse, where she lived and taught, for the ranch of her nearest neighbors, during a blizzard last Thursday.

She walked in circles in and out of canyons while the storm raged on. Finally she found a deserted cabin, where, tired from her struggle and numbed by cold, she died. Searchers found the frozen body after a three days' hunt.

RAIL HEARING OPENS

Commerce Commission Studies Four-System Consolidation Plan.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, April 25.—Argument in favor of the four-system plan of consolidation of all eastern railroads, exclusive of New England lines, opened before the interstate commerce commission today. It is the first time the full commission has heard the carriers' proposed modification of its own five-system plan.

ACCEPTS NEW QUARTER

Government Approves Design for Washington Coin.

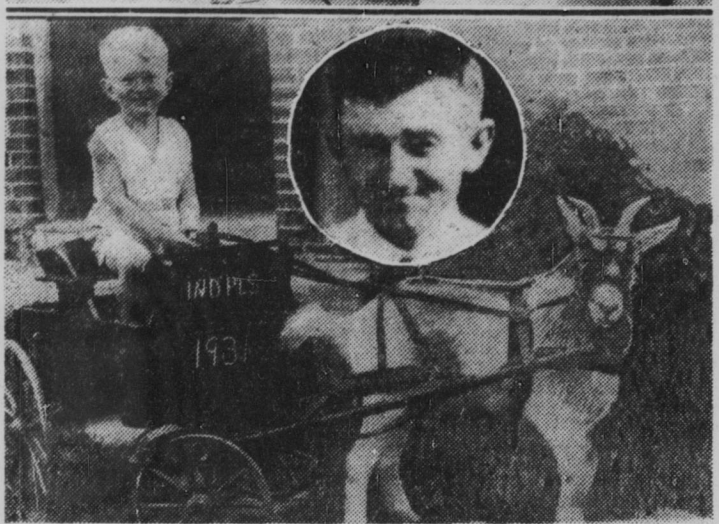
By United Press
WASHINGTON, April 25.—The treasury today announced that it had accepted the design submitted by John Flanagan, New York, for the new quarter-dollar authorized by the act of March 4, 1931, in commemoration of the bicentennial of Washington. It bears a portrait of Washington.

THIEF GETS \$700 MEAL

Hungry Transient Is Blamed for Homing Pigeons' Disappearance.

By United Press
ST. LOUIS, April 25.—Police expressed the opinion today that a hungry transient stole nine homing pigeons valued at \$700 belonging to Thomas Helle, and ate them, unaware of their value.

GIVES LIFE TRYING TO SAVE HER SON



Upper—Mrs. Mora B. Merriman (left) who lost her life in the canal Saturday in a futile attempt to rescue her son Joseph, 8, (right). Lower—The surviving son of the picnic tragedy, Roger, 4, and (inset) the father, Justin H. Merriman, 236 Hampton drive.

Mother, Boy, 8, Are Swept to Death in Canal Near Butler.

A pall of sadness darkened an Indianapolis home today as a mother and her small son lay dead—victims in a week-end picnic tragedy. The mother, Mrs. Mora B. Merriman, 39, and her son Joseph, 8, of 263 Hampton drive, were drowned Saturday afternoon in the canal near Butler university. Disregarding her own safety, the mother plunged into the water to rescue her son, who slipped from the canal bank while playing. Both were drowned in the swift current. Their bodies were recovered twelve hours later nearly a mile from the scene.

The tragedy occurred as the father, Justin H. Merriman, was in Evansville. Son, 4, Watches Tragedy
A second son, Roger, 4, who had stood nearby as Mrs. Merriman struggled to rescue her other son, watched hundreds of mourning friends and relatives pass through the Merriman home today, hardly aware that death had claimed his best playmate.

Double funeral services will be held at 11 Tuesday morning in the All Souls Unitarian church, with the Rev. Frank S. C. Wicks officiating. Burial will be in Warren, Ind., Mrs. Merriman's birthplace. Mrs. Merriman and her sons went to the canal bank Saturday afternoon for a picnic luncheon. The boys were playing near the bank. Joseph slipped and fell in and was swept away by the current.

Lad Unfolds Story

Plunging after him, Mrs. Merriman too was swept into mid-stream. Within a few seconds both sank, as Roger stood puzzled. Finally the boy ran for help. He found Donald S. Morris, 524 Buckingham drive, safety board member. Morris calmed the boy and drew from him the story. Morris summoned aid and went to the scene.

Couple Well Known
Mr. and Mrs. Merriman, well known in the city, came to Indianapolis from Bluffton six years ago. Mrs. Merriman attended De Pauw university and was a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan. Both she and her husband attended Columbia university. She was active in the work of the All Souls church and taught Sunday school there. She was a member of Psi Chi and Alpha Omicron Pi sororities.

Merriman, a state representative for Houghton, Mifflin & Co., book publishers, formerly was county agent in Bluffton, where he taught school for several years. Roger, the surviving son, was born in Indianapolis. Surviving, besides the husband and son, is Mrs. Merriman's mother, Mrs. Amanda Beck of Warren, and a brother, Winton Beck of Pittsburgh, Pa.

STABBED DURING FIGHT

William Blake Injured as Result of Five-Year Grudge.

Stabbed twice in the back in a fight climaxing a five-year grudge, William Blake, 22, of 236 North Temple avenue, today is in a critical condition at city hospital. As a result of the fight, William Blake, 26, of 246 Leeds avenue, Blake's assailant, is sought by police. He fled after stabbing Blake during a quarrel in the rear of 2405 English avenue, early Sunday morning, police were told.

In the Air

Weather conditions at 9 a. m.: South southwest wind, 16 miles an hour; temperature, 62; barometric pressure, 29.53 at sea level; ceiling, scattered clouds, unlimited; visibility, 7 miles; field good.

BANDITS SLAY COP, RUN AUTO OVER HIS BODY

Ovid McCracken, Ex-Minor League Pitcher, Killed in Theater Holdup.

By Times Special
MUNCIE, Ind., April 25.—Two bandits who shot and killed Ovid McCracken, 35, city patrolman here, and former minor league baseball pitcher, while robbing managers of two theaters late Sunday night, are sought by police.

McCracken, satrolling his beat, walked into an alley in rear of the Rivoli theater as the two gunmen stepped from the darkness and accosted F. S. Norton, manager of the Grand theater, and Howard Webster, assistant manager of the Rivoli theater, both carrying receipts of the day. As one of the bandits ordered both victims to drop their money bags, the second bandit saw McCracken approaching. The gunman began firing over Norton's shoulder, two bullets piercing the patrolman's chest. He died almost instantly. The bandits fled in an auto with a total of \$747. In making their escape, the bandits drove their car across McCracken's body.

Probe City Clew

Indianapolis police today are investigating clues that one of the gunmen in the Muncie robbery left Indianapolis two hours before the robbery after commandeering a taxi driven by Elmer O. Kingery, 27, of 430 North Alabama street. Kingery reported to police that he picked up the "fare" at Sixteenth street and Central avenue, from where Kingery was ordered to drive to Fountain Square. There, Kingery said, the man talked to friends on a street corner, then entered the cab again.

Kingery said he was told to drive to the northeast part of the city where the "fare" drew a revolver, commanding Kingery to drive to Muncie. They reached the city shortly before the theater robbery occurred, Kingery said. The gunman admitted to Kingery that he looted a store near Shelby and Raymond streets, recently, detectives were told.

REPORT PREMIER 'FIT'

Ramsey MacDonald's Physicians Scoff at Rumor of Failing Sight.

By United Press
GENEVA, April 25.—Condition of Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald's eyes is being studied by the state today as the state of health of the premier is being studied by the state today as the state of health of the premier is being studied by the state today.

STEEL PRODUCTION UP

Increased Automotive Demands Expected to Maintain Gain.

By United Press
CLEVELAND, April 25.—Increased automotive demand from Ford, General Motors and Chrysler is expected to maintain recent improvement in steel-making operations this week, the publication Steel said today.

CONSTIPATED?

Take DR-NATURE'S REMEDY—tonight. Your eliminative organs will be functioning properly by morning and your constipation will end with a bowel action as free and easy as nature at her best—positively no pain, no griping. Try it. Mild, safe, purely vegetable—no drugs—only 25c. FEEL LIKE A MILLION. TAKE NATURE'S REMEDY DR-NATURE'S REMEDY

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Court Saves Youth From Chair Death



Russell McWilliams

Threat of Execution Is Still Over Boy, 17, After High Tribunal Ruling.

By United Press
ROCKFORD, Ill., April 25.—Though the state supreme court has reversed the sentence of death against Russell McWilliams, who at 17 became the youngest person ever sentenced to the electric chair in Illinois, threat of capital punishment still hangs over the youth.

State's Attorney William D. Knight said today he again would demand the death penalty at a rehearing of the guilty plea entered by the slim, blue-eyed stripling whose case drew the interest of Clarence Darrow, Jane Addams and other famed liberals.

McWilliams confessed he shot and killed a street car motorman while committing a gun-inspired holdup. The state board of pardons and paroles refused to modify the death sentence, but four days before McWilliams was to be executed last December a stay was granted to allow an appeal to the supreme court.

Knight declared there was nothing in the high court's order to prevent reimposition of the death penalty. The court held an error had been made in failure to include testimony at time of sentencing showing McWilliams' reputation for industry and support of his mother. Darrow had argued that execution of a 17-year-old was a backward step after the constant modification of the law in the last 100 years to permit special consideration for juveniles.

KIDNAP SUSPECT TRAILED AROUND WORLD, CAUGHT

Sailor Held in Africa Is Wanted in Abduction of Kansas City Woman.

By United Press
KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 23.—The hunt for Martin Depew, alleged leader of the gang which abducted Mrs. Nell Donnelly, millionaire garment manufacturer of Kansas City, and held her for ransom, has ended.

Trailing half way around the world, a man identified positively as Depew was under arrest at Johannesburg South Africa, according to United States Press dispatches from Johannesburg and New York. The suspect, who gave the name of John M. Long, deserted the freighter City of New York at Durban, South Africa.

He was arrested after Kansas City detectives, who had followed the trail of the alleged kidnaper unflinchingly, obtained information that Depew had shipped on the freighter under the alias of John M. Long.

Assessor Will Go Before Jury to Testify.

John C. McCloskey, center township assessor, was to go before the Marion county grand jury this afternoon and make charges against a group of alleged tax valuation fixers who, McCloskey alleges, have promised tax valuation reductions to business firms and industrial corporations for a 20 per cent fee of the amount saved. The jury will make a thorough investigation into McCloskey's charges, Herbert E. Wilson, prosecutor, announced. "If the charges are substantiated, we will attempt to bring about the arrest of the person or persons guilty of the act," said Wilson.

WILLIAM HERT DIES

Rites to Be Held Thursday for Veteran Printer.

William A. Hert, 60, lifelong resident of Indianapolis, who had been engaged in the printing business thirty-two years, died today at his home, 2546 Union street, after a long illness. He leaves his widow, Mrs. Mollie Hert; a daughter, Miss Velma, and two sisters, Mrs. Robert Holler and Mrs. William Miller. Funeral services will be held at the home at 2 Thursday afternoon. Burial will be in Crown Hill.

Officer Dies



William Rugenstein

Death today ended the long career of William Rugenstein, 49, retired city detective and member of the Indianapolis police department, who succumbed at his home, 2915 Highland place.

TAX VALUATION PROBE SLATED

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ALFALFA BILL OUSTER HELD VOID BY COURT

Oklahoma Governor Loses Fight on Highway Chairman.

By United Press
OKLAHOMA CITY, April 25.—Governor William H. (Alfalfa Bill) Murray, presidential aspirant, lost a political battle today when a district court ruled against his order ousting Lew D. Wentz, wealthy Republican oil man, as chairman of the state highway commission. The court held that Murray's ouster was "null and void" and that the Governor's appointment of Miss Maud O. Thomas as Wentz' successor was without legal basis.

FIGHT TO OUST MANN DROPPED

Circuit Judge Rules Road Workers Must Be Paid.

Ordered by Judge Charles B. Staff of Johnson-Brown circuit court, to pay wages due Marion county highway employees from Jan. 1 to Jan. 16, county commissioners today indicated they will drop their fight to oust Charles W. Mann, county highway superintendent.

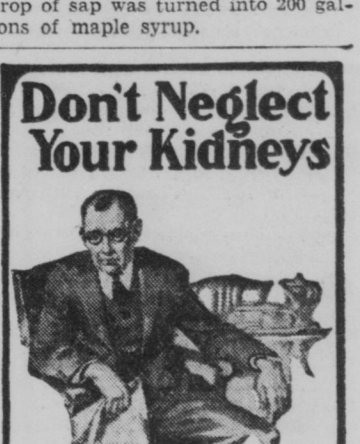
The commissioners, striving to fire Mann, resorted to "starving out" his employees as a method of driving him out. "I think we'll drop the whole case," said Dow W. Vorhis, president of the board, when informed of Staff's mandate ruling. "I see no reason for going any further into the matter."

"The judge ruled fairly and his decision should be final," asserted George Snider, Republican minority member of the board. "The workmen have the money coming to them and should get it at once."

Sap Has Run at Coolidge Farm

PLYMOUTH, Vt., April 25.—The maple sugar season has closed at the old Coolidge farm. This year's crop of sap was turned into 200 gallons of maple syrup.

Don't Neglect Your Kidneys



Heed Promptly Kidney and Bladder Irregularities

If bothered with bladder irregularities; nagging backache and a tired, nervous, depressed feeling due to disordered kidney action or bladder irritation, don't delay. Users everywhere rely on Doan's Pills. Praised for more than 50 years. Recommended the country over. Sold everywhere.

Doan's Pills

A DIURETIC FOR THE KIDNEYS

Smokers..here's a "break!"

AND what a break! The finest of fine tobacco—the kind that smokes best in a cigarette. Made to lay right in the paper and cut to roll right. Sparkle—flavor—good taste—aroma—everything you want in a smoke—that's what you get in Velvet. And a 15 cent tin makes 50 good cigarettes.

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