

WITNESSES INTIMIDATED BY AGENTS, BARRETT'S LAWYER CHARGES; SLAYER ON STAND

U. S. Attorney Admits Questioning of Kentucky Man After Testimony; Bad Man Tells of Feud Blamed in Killing.

(Turn to Page Three)

had known Barrett as a roomer at her home under the name of James L. Black.

She described him as a congenial man who played with her granddaughter. Then, she said, he suddenly changed last summer and became irritable and stayed closer to his room.

She said that he left her home in June and did not return until some time in July.

Newspaper Evidence Barred

He left again Aug. 10, at night, she said, and later she found some Kentucky newspapers.

Mrs. Ecker produced the papers, dated April 23, and April 24.

Testimony about what the papers said was excluded and the papers were not allowed in evidence.

Barrett then took the stand in his wheel chair.

Q—Where were you Sept. 18, 1932?

A—Manchester.

Q—Who was with you?

A—Frank Baker, John Brockman, John Barrett and Gilbert Barrett.

He talked in a clear, easily heard tone that conveyed by inflections some boredom.

Baker's Wife Along, He Says

Q—You stopped at the Baker Hotel?

A—Yes.

Q—Were any of the womenfolk of the Bakers along?

A—Frank Baker's wife.

Q—The next morning, where were you?

A—We got up about 6.

Q—Where is the hotel situated?

A—Across from the Courthouse.

"I Could Hear Bullets"

Q—What did Frank Baker say?

A—He said "Let's go over and sit on the Courthouse wall and get the morning sun."

Q—What happened?

A—We started to walk toward the Courthouse. When we had crossed the sidewalk and neared the center of the street I saw three men throw rifles to their shoulders in one of the Courthouse windows. I hollered "Run!" I made a dive to get behind my auto. I could hear bullets hit the auto. I could see Brockman had fallen face down on the sidewalk.

Q—Did you hear any more shots?

Sheriff "Promised Protection"

A—Yes, volley after volley. I laid there, it seemed like ages—until the crowd gathered. "I could hear moans of a man inside the car who was wounded. About 11 or 11:15 I could see two women walking up the street and one of them saw the body of Brockman.

One said, "Lord have mercy on us," and then in a moment they went in the house. They returned later and pretty soon the sheriff came and promised us protection. An ambulance arrived at about 2 and the bodies were taken away.

They gave us protection. A man was assigned to each car. A man rode on the running board of my car carrying a shotgun as far as Burning Spring, Ky., and there he stopped, saying we would be safe.

Stayed Only Few Days

Q—Did you stay around Berea for a while?

A—Yes.

Q—How long?

A—Only a few days and then I moved north of there.

Q—Then where did you go?

A—Hamilton, O.

Q—Do you recall being in Great Hawk, Ky., some time after this shooting?

A—Yes. In the spring of 1932, I drove up and blew the horn. I saw a large car coming from toward Manchester. As it drove up it came to a stop and I recognized the driver. I saw two men who I previously had seen with rifles in the Courthouse at Manchester. I drove away and they followed but I lost them.

Dealt in Diamonds

Q—What did you do for a living?

A—I dealt in watches and diamonds.

Q—What about revolvers?

A—I bought revolvers when I could find them high grade—something of a gun fancier.

Q—Where you ever in McKee after the feud?

A—Yes.

Q—Did you go to Hamilton?

A—Yes. At Brother Gilbert's.

Q—How long did you stay there?

A—I don't know, but eventually I went to 317 Park-av., Hamilton, under the name of Frank Black.

The witness said he received on June 25 two Kentucky newspapers relating the killing of Bobby Baker and that he left that night for El Paso, Tex., and Mexico because of this news.

"I thought I was the next one," he said.

Came Back on July 18

He said he came back to Hamilton July 18, having first bought a revolver.

Rice took the gun that killed Klein and handed it to Barrett.

Q—Is that the gun?

A—Yes.

Q—Is it a valuable gun?

A—Yes.

Q—Why did you buy it?

A—I was dealing in rare guns.

He said that he had received information in a letter Aug. 10 that "certain Manchester parties" were coming after him and that "if I fell into their clutches I knew what it meant."

Left Rooming House

On the same day, he said, he was sitting on the porch in Hamilton when he recognized two Clay County (Kentucky) enemies drive by in a car. He said he left the rooming house that night and checked in at the Hotel Hamilton because he felt it was safer.

Q—On Aug. 15 you and Irvin Brockman were together and went to Cincinnati?

A—Yes, to the home of George Baker, whose wife was a first cousin of Frank Baker, who was killed in Manchester.

Q—Did you see Mrs. Baker?

(Note: She was a Baker and married a Baker.)

A—Yes. I asked her if she knew

TAKE LEADING PARTS IN FANTASY DEC. 13



'BIG BUSINESS' OUTLINES WAR ON NEW DEAL

1500 of Nation's Wealthiest Men Pledged to Fight Roosevelt.

By United Press

NEW YORK, Dec. 6—More than 1500 of the wealthiest and most powerful men of the country left a four-day convention today pledged to use politics, propaganda and personal influence to defeat President Roosevelt in next year's elections.

The industrialists declared war without quarter on every deviation in government from "the American system," and asserted an intention to enlist their stockholders, employees and the general public.

Closing the annual convention of the National Manufacturers' Association and the congress of industry last night, the executives of more than 1000 corporations adopted a "platform for industry" that declared the New Deal a hindrance to recovery and menace to freedom.

Few Dissenting Voices

Not more than half a dozen voices dissented from the program of the belligerent majority of an organization which only a year ago urged all industry to "co-operate in every feasible way" with the government.

The platform adopted by the convention demands immediate and complete abandonment of attempts to control or plan production, distribution, wages and employment and asserts that private industry is amply able to deal with 10,000,000 unemployed if left unhindered.

It defines "the American system" as one restricting in no way the liberties given by the Constitution, encouraging individual initiative, protecting the rights of individuals to hold property and the private ownership of means of production and limiting government to minimum functions.

FOOD INDEX STEADY

Prices Hold at \$2.79, Highest in Last Five Years.

Times Special

NEW YORK, Dec. 6—Dun & Bradstreet's weekly food index for the week ended Dec. 3 continued unchanged at the highest point reached during the last five years, according to figures released today. The current price stands at \$2.79, compared with \$2.45 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Price changes during the week included seven advances. They were corn, hams, dry salted bellies, butter, cocoas, peans and hogs. Declines numbered 11. They included wheat, rye, oats, barley, lard, sugar, eggs, potatoes, steers and lambs.

Old Town Has First Holdup

MARBLEHEAD, Mass., Dec. 6—This 300-year-old seacoast town has had its first holdup. Stuart Eynon, a salesman, was held up at gun point by two youths and robbed of \$15.

City Officials Withhold Decision on Natural Gas While Report Is Studied

\$750,000 WPA Loan Could Be Used to Put Equipment in Order If Change Is Made, Kern Points Out; Loss of 350 Jobs Is Denied.

By GEORGE H. DENNY

Several weeks' study may be necessary before action is taken on an engineer's report indicating rate reductions as high as 36 per cent could be made possible by use of straight natural gas, city and Citizens Gas and Coke Utility officials said today.

The report, prepared by W. E. Steinwedell, Cleveland engineer, proposes a shutdown of all existing plants except the Langside plant, Fall Creek and Northwestern-av. Substitution of straight natural gas is advocated as the method promising the best chance for lower rates to consumers and greater profit to the utility.

Such a move, gas company officials point out, necessarily would result in loss of employment for 350 persons at the Prospect-st plant.

Objection to reduction of employment at the plant is said to have been dissipated considerably by an explanation Mr. Steinwedell made in a conference with utility officials.

The engineer said that the reduced rates likely would bring an increase in business of such proportions that many of the plant employees would be absorbed in other work.

It also would mean conversion of customers' appliances at an estimated cost of \$150,000 plus a new investment of \$160,000. It contemplates, however, a saving of \$204,270 yearly over present operations even with no increase in sales.

Kern Issues Statement

"This report" Mayor Kern said today, "indicates that we should give consideration to what we all have felt would be necessary sooner or later; that is, the use of natural gas in some form by the municipal plant. We should get right down to work considering the \$750,000 WPA loan as a means toward putting the plant and equipment in condition for introduction of natural gas if we decide to use it."

"The report boils down to this," commented Thomas L. Kemp, general manager of the utility: "That plans for using a mixture of natural gas and manufactured gas are unsound and we must continue our present methods of turning to straight natural gas."

Property Survey Awaited

"Much will depend on the property appraisal now being prepared by Ford, Bacon and Davis of New York City. We expect it in three or four weeks."

Mr. Steinwedell's 29-page report, complete with a number of charts and graphs, begins with a review of present methods of operation of the Citizens Gas and Coke Utility, formerly the Citizens Gas Co.

Cost of the mixed coke oven and water gas for the first nine months of 1935 was about 30 cents per 1000 cubic feet in the company holder and about 80 cents per 1000 cubic feet delivered to the consumer, the survey reports. The average price per 1000 cubic feet obtained by the company in 1934 was about 91 cents.

B. T. U. Rating Is Higher

By contrast, the average price paid to the company per 1000 cubic feet of natural gas as estimated at the end of five years under the proposed lower rates and resulting higher consumption would be \$1.10.

The estimated cost to the company per 1000 cubic feet of natural gas is 33 cents, a rate comparable to offers made to the Utilities District by natural gas companies in the last few months.

ADD 100 WPA ROAD WORKERS IN CITY, COUNTY

Construction Represents an Outlay of Million in Federal Funds.

Additional today of 100 more workers to WPA road construction gangs brings the total number of men employed under government highway grants in Indianapolis and Marion County to 17,000, officials announced.

These men are engaged in road and street improvement projects representing an outlay of \$1,008,324 in Federal funds.

Work under the Marion County Highway Department now has virtually ceased due to lack of funds and new work will not start until after Jan. 1, when money will be available in the new budget, according to Herbert Bloemberger, county surveyor.

WPA construction work on county highways includes:

Widening of High School-av. from 34 feet to 50 feet from 10th-st south to Rockville-av.

Laying of 1500 feet of drain tile, sloping ditches and finishing berms in Post-av. from Brookville-av. to 10th-st.

Construction of a new roadway with a 50-foot right-of-way including grubbing, grading and graveling, on Lyndhurst-av. from W. 10th-st north to W. 16th-st.

Preparation of 60 miles of highways for black-top surfacing including setting back of fences and grading.

Reconstruction by grading, grubbing, draining and shaping of 75 miles of highways.

Widening and reconstruction of E. 56th-st from Arlington-av. to Fort Harrison.

About 44 miles of streets in Indianapolis already have been improved by grading and graveling. Other streets on which work now is being done include Arnolida-av., Vernon-av., Pershing-av., W. St. Clair-av., Croft-av., Sharon-av., Gent-av., 24th-st., Crown-av., Millersville-av., Bolton-av., Gale-av., E. 36th-st., Butler-av., E. St. Clair-av. and La Salle-av.

Two gravel pits are being operated by WPA to supply materials for road projects.

Operating costs of the utility could be decreased, the report proposes three methods whereby natural gas could be mixed with manufactured gas. One of the methods is dismissed as impractical and savings on the other two methods are estimated at much less than might be realized by use of straight natural gas.

The report criticizes the 99-year lease of the main plant and equipment of the Indianapolis Gas Co. as "too high for the best interest of the consumers," and recommends a readjustment.

The estimated cost to the company per 1000 cubic feet of natural gas is 33 cents, a rate comparable to offers made to the Utilities District by natural gas companies in the last few months.

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