

NEW REPRIEVE IS HINTED BY GOV. HOFFMAN

Willing to Grant Bruno Stay
If Legal, Says
Executive.

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Hunterdon County and any representatives of their departments who may have participated in any way in the Lindbergh case.

The investigation should also include an examination of the costs of this case from the date of the commission of the crime down to the present moment. I am sure that if the Attorney General and prosecutor joined me in a request for this investigation, there would be no difficulty in having a resolution adopted by the Legislature and in having this investigation started immediately.

The remainder of the Governor's statement follows:

"I am somewhat amazed and amused at the statements attributed to Prosecutor Hauck, particularly his expression that I am trying to make a 'laughing stock' of the courts.

Labels Hauck "Incompetent"

"Mr. Hauck is the young man who tried the Hunterdon County jury that he was going to prove that John Hughes Curtis actually had contact with the gang that kidnapped the Lindbergh baby. He proved it, and then he later participated in the trial which 'proved' that Bruno Richard Hauptmann committed this crime single-handed.

"Mr. Hauck was so confused and so incompetent that the latter trial, although conducted in Hunterdon County, was taken out of his hands and conducted by the Attorney General, for whom he was permitted to act only as an errand boy.

"With preference to the Hauptmann home, may I say that I do not consider that it was at all outrageous for a Governor, who is concerned in seeing that the full measure of justice is done in this case, to simply ask that the ladder rail and the boards supposed to have been taken from the Hauptmann home, should be examined upon the premises.

Scores Wilentz, Hauck

"I would say that the action of the Attorney General and the prosecutor, in acting as a personal attorney to a member of the State Police, and other witnesses from whom it is desired to secure honest information, is far more reprehensible.

"I wonder what prompts the sudden and jealous protection of the famous ladder and floor boards. Every one knows that this ladder has been pulled apart a dozen or more times; that certain sections of it have been replaced; that it was sent to Washington for examination and that it was mauled around by every police officer and reporter who visited Hopewell; that hundreds of fingerprints were found upon it; the fingerprints of nearly every one but Hauptmann.

"It is bad that Prosecutor Hauck did not have sense enough to see that what might have been important evidence was protected at a time when his protection was necessary.

Earlier today, a Federal government employee, Archibald Loney, engaged by Gov. Harold G. Hoffman as a wood expert, told Atty. Gen. Wilentz today that he could prove that Hauptmann was "framed." He asked Mr. Wilentz to prevent Hauptmann's execution Tuesday, to permit development of his evidence.

Mr. Wilentz refused. He told Loney he had had more than a year to study the wood.

He and Prosecutor Hauck declared open war with Gov. Hoffman, who accompanied Loney, a Department of the Interior employee, in an examination of Hauptmann's old home in New York yesterday.

Mr. Hauck indirectly accused Gov. Hoffman's own investigators of faking the evidence upon which Mr. Loney based his claim.

"I'm sick of the Governor's actions," he said. "If he tries to postpone Hauptmann, I'll fight him in court. I think the Legislature should investigate."

Hoffman's Position Unenviable

A feeling grew in Trenton that Gov. Hoffman might nevertheless attempt to stay the execution. He is in so unenviable a political position as a result of sponsoring Hauptmann's cause that he might well take a gambler's last-straw chance to pull the fat out of the fire.

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