

JUNIOR C. OF C. DENIES IT GAVE SHIDELER VIEWS

Character Witnesses Did Not Speak for Group, Says Letter to Nolan.

The Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce today stated a letter to U. S. District Attorney Val Nolan that the organization had made no statements in connection with the case of William Shideler.

Mr. Shideler yesterday charged a plea of guilty to a charge of violation of the Federal Securities Act to a plea of not guilty. District Attorney Val Nolan said that he welcomed the chance to try the case and remarked that "The Junior Chamber of Commerce went off half-cocked in this case." He said some members of the organization were characterizing the prosecution as a persecution.

Judge Robert C. Baltzell allowed the change of plea.

Falsely Statement Charged

The Junior Chamber's letter, signed by J. Russell Townsend Jr., president, read:

"Newspaper accounts of Thursday's proceedings in Federal Court in the William Shideler case indicate that you, as Federal District Attorney, made statements concerning the alleged activities of the Indianapolis Junior Chamber of Commerce in this matter. In particular you are quoted as stating, 'The Junior Chamber of Commerce went off half-cocked' in this case' and actually attempted to aid Mr. Shideler."

"This is an absolutely false statement which is the slightest foundation in fact."

"Mr. Shideler is a former member of our organization and resigned from our Board of Directors over a year ago, just prior to the State of Indiana proceedings against him."

"The fact that two of his friends who appeared as character witnesses are members of the Junior Chamber apparently has been construed by you to mean that they speak on behalf of the entire organization. This is a ridiculous assumption. From it one would gather that any statement you make is automatically the official view of any religious, fraternal or civic organization of which you are a member."

Think Chamber Harmed

"The Junior Chamber of Commerce has taken no action whatsoever in this case, nor will we. We are a group of younger men interested in the betterment of our City, States and Nation and neither the Indianapolis organization nor any of the 700 other Junior Chambers in the United States has any intention to obstruct processes of justice."

"If the statements are as reported in the newspapers, we regard them as an unwarranted attack upon the integrity of our organization. We are convinced that harm has been done to the Junior Chamber of Commerce as well as to the Federal District Attorney's office."

"This information has been given to you verbally, but we wish to give you this letter which is now being released to the newspapers and to the 25 member Junior Chamber organizations in Indiana."

Bond Is Raised

The father, who is 58 and has lived in Brendenwood, is now in Marion County jail. He was sentenced Saturday after entering a plea of guilty, but sentencing of his son, William, was postponed until yesterday pending a probation investigation's report.

After the change of plea, Judge Baltzell raised William Shideler's bond from \$7500, which had not been posted, to \$25,000. In order to meet this bond he would need the signatures of two persons each owning \$50,000 worth of unencumbered property.

The father and son, officials of Shideler & Co., Indianapolis, broke no new ground in their defense. They had been named together in a 17-count indictment by the Federal Grand Jury which charged they used the mails to defraud and violated the Federal Securities Act. The final count charged conspiracy to the violations.

On Nov. 4, 1938, they were indicted by the Marion Grand Jury on charges of embezzlement, grand larceny and false pretense. They had been arrested a few weeks previously on State Security Commission affidavits. They have not been tried on these charges.

'Never Delivered,' Says Nolan

District Attorney Nolan told the Court yesterday that he was prepared to try to prove that the Shideler's had defrauded investors of between \$75,000 and \$100,000. They promised to buy securities for persons, many of whom were widows. Mr. Nolan said, "I never delivered any of the stock" they were supposed to buy.

William Shideler's decision to plead not guilty surprised his attorney, George R. Jeffrey, who had advised him to plead guilty. Mr. Jeffrey immediately withdrew from the case.

The plea change followed a report to the Court by the probation officer, Capt. Adolph Kruse. It contained statements by Shideler & Co. customers, William Shideler's wife and others.

One was from a 60-year-old woman who sold magazine subscriptions by telephone and who said she turned over stocks and bonds for the Shideler's to sell and reinvest in other securities. She was always told Fred Shideler was out of the city when he called about it, the report quoted her as saying.

Capt. Kruse said Mrs. William Shideler, the accused man's wife, told him her husband earned only \$10 or \$12 a week while working for his father and that her earnings were needed for their living expenses. She said he later got a job at a hotel securing rental customers.

Mrs. Frederick Shideler, who was in court, said her son had changed his plea because "he wanted to answer things in that probation report which aren't true."

Mary Lou Brings 'Em Back Alive



BUFFER STATE OFFER HINTED

Moscicki Is Told by Nazis To Break With Allies First, Writer Declares.

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passage to one of their allied countries.

They are forbidden to exercise any governmental functions in Rumania and even their resignations, President Moscicki and the others might revert to the status of civilians and be permitted to leave the country by resigning but that the situation was so delicate they might be unable to resign.

Rumanian officials were said to have confined the 250 Polish Government refugees to a park surrounding their hotel at Sianik, canceling their permits to roam within a five-mile radius of the town, because of their overbearing attitude.

WARNING TO LEAVE EUROPE

LONDON, Sept. 29 (U. P.)—United States Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy, in a formal letter to all Americans still in Britain, today reiterated his warning that they return to the United States immediately unless their presence here is necessary.

Expect British to Spurn Peace Demand Based on Russo-Nazi Split of Poland

BOY IS INJURED; RUNS INTO AUTO

Goes With Father to Work, Then Heads for Home; Now in Hospital.

Twelve-year-old Ora Hight, 616 E. 15th St., was in City Hospital today with serious head injuries as the result of a traffic accident last night. He was on the way home after accompanying his father to work.

Ora was one of several persons injured in 19 overnight traffic accidents. Police arrested 37 motorists.

Ora, a 6B pupil at School 27, walked with his father, Garfield Hight, to the Nickel Plate Railroad signal tower at 15th St. and then started home.

As he started across College Ave. at 16th St., witnesses said, he saw a streetcar and stepped back to the curb. When the streetcar was nearly past, he started across again, running against the side of a car driven by Alvin Nutall, 1503 E. 52d St., police said.

At City Hospital, it was reported he had suffered a brain concussion, severe body bruises and a possible skull fracture. His condition was described as fair.

CARELESSNESS AT PARK BARED

Report in Board's Hands 24 Days; Results Are Not Made Public.

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it," one boy was reported to have said.

"Well, then, maybe it will burn," spoke up another of the boys.

Screams and Runs

The instructor then poured some of the shellac on the ground and tossed a match into it. When it blazed up he flung the can into the haze. The explosion followed.

Flaming shellac spouted onto the clothing of the victim, George Stewart, of 2017 Langley Ave. The boy screamed and started to run. The instructor caught him and tore off the blazing shirt.

The boy's left arm was severely burned and skin grafting on the burned parts of his arm and left side may be necessary, the mother, Mrs. Guy A. Stewart said today.

The investigation was requested originally by Recreation Director Walden H. Middlesworth. The report was turned over to the Park Board by Chief Morrisey on Sept. 5.

In the detectives' report, the 19-year-old instructor is quoted as saying: "I did not mean to hurt anybody. I just wanted to see if the shellac in the can would burn."

Decline Comment

Park Board members meeting yesterday leafed through the police report but declined to comment on it.

Jackie W. Joseph, Park president, said today he had not seen the report. He said he did not recall the accident.

"I haven't seen or heard of any report of this kind," he said. "I missed several meetings when I was away from the city. But nothing has been said about it to me."

Members of the instructor's family said the youth obtained the job after a City employee promised to intercede for him.

Earlier this summer, Mayor Sullivan and the Park Board declined to adopt a straight-out merit system in the selection of summer playground supervisors, instructors and other personnel. Criticism had come from many civic groups over abuses in past years.

Hold to Position

The City Administration declined to move away from its position that the jobs belonged to Democrats, but announcement was made that the positions would be given "only to well qualified" persons.

At that time, Mr. Joseph declared that the examinations which would be given by the Recreation Department would be "just as good" as a merit system.

3 NORWEGIAN SHIPS SUNK, 2 BY U-BOATS

OSLO, Norway, Sept. 29 (U. P.)—A spy scare swept Norway today as three Norwegian steamships, first of the war, were sunk—two by German submarines, the third by a mine.

The steamship Taktaas, 1830 tons, and Jern, were torpedoed in the North Sea. The Solas, 1638 tons, was sunk by a mine in the Skagerrak, entrance to the Baltic.

These sinkings, and the sinking of the Swedish steamship Nyland yesterday caused belief that spies were operating in Scandinavian ports and informing the German admiralty of ship movements.

Norwegian authorities tightened surveillance at all harbors.

The Taktaas, on its way to England with timber, was torpedoed at 8:30 a. m. today. The crews of all three boats were saved.

Bargain Frolic Offered Pupils

A SPECIAL MATINEE for benefit of schoolchildren will be held at the fourth annual fall festival of the West Michigan Street Business and Professional Men's Association Saturday in Coleman Park.

All rides and concessions will offer half-price rates to pupils between 1 and 6 p. m.

Entries in the baby contest are to close tonight and the winner of the contest will be declared tomorrow night when finals of the jitterbug contest also will be held. Officials announced that last night's attendance of 3500 set an all-time record.

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