

# Ex-WAA Official Tells Probers Of 'Probable Negligence'

## DENIES GIVING SPECIAL FAVOR TO 'EXPEDITER'

Blames Help Shortage for Laxness Regarding Fields Order.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—A discharged war assets administration official admitted today that he probably was negligent in handling an \$8000 order for scarce wire screening by Benjamin F. Fields, ex-convict and contract "expediter."

But he denied giving the order any special consideration.

The testimony was given by William J. Gildrein, recently dismissed as sales manager of the Philadelphia administration office of the WAA.

Mr. Gildrein blamed a shortage of help and heavy business for the fact that Mr. Fields' order was separated from others and went through without the certification required by law.

**No Reason' for Special Care**

He said he had "no reason" for holding Mr. Fields' order on his desk until after bids were closed instead of putting it through in routine fashion with the others.

He said that Glenn A. Dies, a former employee of Mr. Fields who had visited his office as often as twice a month since last March, handed him the wire screening order.

Mr. Fields testified yesterday that Dies formerly was employed by him but has since quit.

"It was customary for Mr. Dies and Mr. (John) Brunner to come into my office and give me their orders," Mr. Gildrein told the committee. Mr. Brunner has been identified as having been associated with Mr. Fields in several enterprises.

### Placed in Desk Drawer

Mr. Gildrein told the house surplus investigating committee that he tossed the order on his desk and told Mr. Dies "It would be thrown in the hopper" with other orders.

Mr. Gildrein said he put the order in his desk drawer, probably a few days later, and eventually handed it over for processing to the sales department. Testimony yesterday indicated it had not been processed until after the bids had been closed.

He admitted, under questioning, that it would have been simpler if he had put the order through in the routine fashion. He commented that he was operating under "hell of a lot of pressure" and that it was "probably negligence on my part."

### Failed to Notice Lack

He admitted that he "did not notice the order was not properly certified," but added that Mr. Fields had submitted many other orders with proper certification.

The required certification calls for the bidder to set forth his intended use of the material and to certify himself as a wholesaler.

Mr. Fields testified yesterday that he sold the 539 rolls of screening to an Oklahoma City contractor, collecting a \$4412 fee on the \$8085 sale.

Mr. Gildrein said Joseph Deller, a regional director of the office of surplus property, suggested that he talk over with Mr. Dies and Mr. Brunner "what I had to sell." Mr. Gildrein denied, however, that Mr. Deller gave any indication that Mr. Dies or Mr. Brunner "were to receive special favor."

## DIAMOND MERCHANT SEEKS HIDDEN GEMS

NEW YORK, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—Jack M. Werst of Dayton, O., the second largest diamond dealer in America, said today he was on the trail of \$1,000,000,000 worth of precious gems hidden in Europe.

He also told the "inside story" of the Vanderbilt diamond—which Mrs. Gloria Vanderbilt, senior, sold to Mr. Werst for \$35,000 when her daughter, Mrs. Gloria Vanderbilt Stokowski, cut off her allowance.

The Dayton diamond dealer said that his brother-in-law, Maj. Joseph Stern, with the American military government in Frankfurt, was hunting down the traces of gems in his spare time.

### Will Go to Brussels

Mr. Werst said he intends to go to Brussels soon to close a \$500,000 deal for the 43 carat Le Kheive, a champagne colored diamond once owned by the Empress Eugenie.

He said he hoped to obtain the Hesse crown jewels, which were recently recovered from an American army colonel and his WAC bride. Mr. Werst said he would bid \$3,000,000 for the gems.

The diamond merchant was very proud of his purchase of the 16½ carat Vanderbilt diamond.

He purchased it for \$35,000 and valued it at \$155,000.

"It's like hiring a trick dog out to the movies," he explained. He rents the stone for exhibition at \$250 a day.

"But I wouldn't sell it for half a million for the publicity value," he said.

## HOOVER SAYS RUSS DELAY WORLD PEACE

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—Herbert Hoover asserted today that all nations but Russia want to make peace.

"There is universal desire in all nations except Russia to make peace," the former president said.

"My own impression is that Russia is obstructing to gain time for elimination of all non-Communist elements and thus consolidation and practical absorption of those areas behind the 'iron curtain' and

## Park Board Sponsors Teen Chorus



## PLEA PREPARED FOR SANITARIUM

### Company Undaunted by Nursing Home Trouble.

Despite the adverse reports surrounding the operation of "independent" nursing homes throughout the state, officials of the Langdon Hospital, Inc., today still planned to appeal the case before the court.

A request to convert the existing residence at 3423 Central ave. into a sanatorium is one of 39 cases to be heard by the city zoning board next Monday.

"We know we'll have a tough time presenting our case now, but the need for a decent sanatorium in the city is present more than ever," declared Mrs. Olive M. Langdon Evans, secretary-treasurer of the corporation.

### Formerly in Operation

Mrs. Evans stated that graduate nurses and competent doctors would nurse her patients. She said that the sanatorium would have 20 beds for invalid, chronically ill persons.

"Patients will only be admitted by their physician's orders and consent," she said.

The Langdon hospital formerly operated for 19 months at 41 W. 22d st., from where the hospital was "illegally evicted," Mrs. Evans claimed.

She said that the building was sold to operators of the Retreat Sanitarium, Inc., although her lease on the premises continued until April, 1946. At present a case

is pending by Mrs. Evans' attorneys.

In other appeals, the zoning board will hear cases requesting variances for the construction of four new houses, six new buildings and the conversion of eight residences into larger dwellings.

Frank E. Worley of 15 W. Washington st. will request the construction of a two-family house at 5653-5 Winthrop ave. at an estimated cost of \$13,000.

Authorization to erect a \$9000 four-unit apartment building at 2524 Webb st. will be sought by Emmett O. Bandy, 1306 Leonard st., while Joseph W. Selvage, realtor at 840 Consolidated blvd., will seek permission to construct a \$7500 house at 6469 Central ave. and a \$10,000 dwelling at 6435 Riverview dr.

**Sales Building Asked**

The request of Lee L. and Gladys Masters, 3509-17 W. 16th st., to construct and operate a \$20,000 retail and wholesale sales building at 3509-17 W. 16th st. tops building variances.

Others include a request by Elmer T. Mark to erect a \$3000 retail store building at 3025-39 English ave. and authorization from Crown Products Co., 3302-24 Newton st., to build a \$14,000 addition to their present factory.

**Precision Sheet Metal & Manufacturing Co., 734 S. Emerson ave., will seek a variance to construct a \$6000 plant on ground now occupied by the Wayne Burial Vault Co., while Gerald W. Baker of 19 N. Sheridan ave., will ask permission to build a light sheet metal manufacturing plant at 1454-58 S. Keystone ave. for \$4000.**

Request for construction of another new building will be asked by Margaret L. Skaggs. She desires to erect a restaurant building at 854 W. 11th st.

**SOUP COMPANY PLANT STRIKE IS AVERTED**

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—A strike scheduled to begin today in the Campbell Soup Co. plant at Camden, N.J., was averted by a compromise settlement reached one minute before the strike deadline.

Company and union representatives accepted U.S. conciliation service proposals for strengthening

## Rites Are Set for Bobby Nall

### 3d Indianapolis Polio Victim

Indianapolis polio death toll stood at three today, as funeral arrangements were prepared for the latest victim, 10-year-old Bobby Nall.

The youth son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Nall, 732 S. Irvington ave., died Sunday, after being stricken with infantile paralysis one week ago. His death was the third resulting from polio this summer and the 16th case reported in the city.

The boy's death brought to a halt preparations for a birthday party for his 5-year-old brother, Michael Nall, Friday. Bobby had planned to buy his brother a toy jeep, a piggy bank and marbles, the presents he wanted "as soon as I get out of bed."

The polio victim, a pupil in the fifth grade at School #2, was wanted to be a musician and was known as an accordionist at school and Meadowlark Christian church. The boy also was a tap dancer and was a member of Cub Scout Pack 28 and Den No. 3.

Private funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Meyer & Abdou funeral home. Burial will



Bobby Jean Nall

be in Floral Park. In addition to his parents and brother, the boy is survived by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Nall and Mrs. Ida Roth, all of Indianapolis.

The action was taken to enable members to "elect the friends of labor and defeat its enemies," the board said.

In announcing the new "intensified" political program, A. F. of L. President William Green said that the program would not be rejected in any way with the C. I. O.'s Political Action Committee.

"We will carry out our own political program," he said.

## AFL WILL ENTER POLITICAL RING

### Raises Voice Against Dismal Record of Congress.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—The American Federation of Labor, the nation's largest trade union organization, added its full strength today to labor participation in political activities.

Raising its voice against the "dismal record" of the recent congress, the organization's executive council yesterday ordered A. F. of L. political activities expanded on a local and national scale "far beyond their scope" in previous political campaigns.

The 15-man council directed that full information on the voting records of each member of congress seeking re-election be prepared and distributed to the A. F. of L.'s 7,000,000 members.

The action was taken to enable members to "elect the friends of labor and defeat its enemies," the board said.

He gets ready to say what he doesn't want a lot of bore him to remain.

Folks here in conversation like the people.

"Of course he's been long time."

**BUT THE** **W**ish and the about any legions pour years ago.

Lured by Hertfordshire home of one about a few men's main.

"I hear that's the black and foot high, snuffed at me.

"I want one for my chaise."

I'm a tea for my word for terrier, saider, "I want one."

I WAS son Dennis himself ushers parlor sat me.

"That's the terrier heard his mother. At meetings I took from my munc one.

Ben, noticing something edible for my chaise.

"I want one."

I gave no wonder he can refuse a privy dog?

Mr. Briss of the tale.

Ben began speech over easily heard him stated it with himself in mind dog in Roys.

**MR. BRIS** dog picked vocabulary has a privy.

Recently wrote an item from fairs —including purchase.

Yesterday the Royal Dr. D. R. W. H. R. of the trust, examined.

They suggest and brain tumor after he died.

According a delight we speak.

He frightened nearly—but the pledge, in the local into dropping and stating.

"I want one About my Ben. Royston base. Mr. Ben, it but his western acc.

**2 16-YEARS HELD** **GOSHEN** Two 16-year boys were in day with more with northeast.

The youth Richard Creditor, 16, clothing H. A. C. to a from a farm.

Both boys series of bread and grocery Etna Green Wayne and said.

**OPA RA OF RUE** **WASHING** —OPA total ceiling price protective cloth lieve financial dustry. Reliance centage man.

OPA also carpet lining per cent for earnings have peacetime will be raised centage.

## Curious Jap Crowds Watch GI Babies

### TOKYO, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—American G.I.'s and generators no longer draw curious crowds of Japanese, but their babies do.

Thirty Tokyo residents were found flocking around a parked vehicle on the Ginza. The object of their curiosity was blonde William Franklin Swope Jr., 3, of Bethlehem, Pa.

"It's this way every time I park," said the aby's father. "Junior has gotten to expect it."

## 1,700,000 G.I.'S EMPLOYED

### WASHINGTON, Aug. 13 (U.P.)—Approximately 1,700,000 veterans were employed by industry during May in jobs that paid them at least \$42 a week, the bureau of labor statistics reported today.

Don't Forget . . . TOMORROW!

Ayes'

"Young Woman of the World"

Fashion Shows

Wednesday—August 14th

2.00 and 5.30

Ayes' Auditorium, Eighth Floor



Suitable Blouses by Adelaar . . . designed to take you

through your busy day with a fresh and pretty perfection.

A. 3.98

B. 5.00

C. 5.00

D. 5.95

Fashions for the Life You Lead . . .  
On and Off the Campus  
On and Off the Job

L.S. Ayres & Co.

Blouses, Street Floor