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Oroville Mercury

—Register—

WEATHER FORECAST

SACRAMENTO VALLEY — Fair tonight and Tuesday; temperature above normal; gentle changeable winds.

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YUBAN FALLS INTO RIVER; BREAKS NECK

Husband of Oroville Girls Dies of Injuries in Marysville

By Valley News Alliance
MARYSVILLE—Claude G. Shepherd, 22, manager of the Western States Grocery company here, died last night of a broken neck and fractured skull sustained when he fell in a faint from the diving board at Marysville municipal swimming pool.

Pulled from the water by Kenneth Dempsey, lifeguard, Shepherd was revived and taken home, apparently recovered. Within an hour he collapsed and was rushed to a hospital, where death followed despite efforts of physicians to save his life.

Complained of Pain
Swimmers said Shepherd complained of a pain in his back a moment after mounting the diving board and that he suddenly collapsed and fell headlong into the deep water.

Shepherd came here from Chico four years ago. He was a native of Michigan. Surviving are his widow, one small child and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Shepherd of Sutter county.

Widow, Local Girl
An inquest will be conducted by Coroner Frank Lipp of Yuba county at 7:30 p. m. today.

Mrs. Shepherd, the widow, is the former Priscilla Edwards of Oroville. The couple were married over two years ago.

POLICE PROBE MURDER STORY

SAN FRANCISCO—(U.P.)—Police who have pursued a maze of false clues for five months in an attempt to solve the "honour slaying" of Paul Hanson, son of a prominent contractor, were skeptical today of "confession" volunteered by Robert McNeese, a truck driver.

McNeese came to headquarters and said he shot Hanson with a .22 calibre gun.

Story Held Hazy
Hanson was slain when he resisted the attempt of three thugs to mistreat his fiancée, Miss Alice Olson, at a lonely spot near Lake Merced.

Authorities said Hanson was shot with a .32 calibre bullet.

McNeese's story was hazy. He explained that by saying he was drunk when he shot Hanson. He confessed, he asserted, because he had been unable to sleep.

He was held on \$10,000 bail while officers searched for the companions he allegedly named.

Rotary Officers To Hold Meeting In Tehama County

By Valley News Alliance
RED BLUFF—Presidents, secretaries and chairmen of important committees of 15 Rotary clubs of upper California, representing territory north of Marysville and west to the coast are called by district governor Ed DeGroot of Los Angeles to meet with him in Red Bluff September 1 for an all-day conference. He will address the regular noon-day luncheon meeting of the Red Bluff club. The assemblies will be held in the Elks clubroom. It is expected 200 will attend.

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Some Saturday Scribblings



W. J. Johnson

Johnson Has "Whip" Over Coal Barons

By HAROLD O. THOMPSON (United Press Staff Correspondent)
WASHINGTON—Recovery Administrator Hugh S. Johnson held the whip hand today as he pressed for a code governing the holdout coal industry. President Roosevelt gave him a precedent for dealing with the unionization issue, crux of the coal code fight, when he placed the steel, lumber and oil industries under the Blue Eagle.

Johnson Confident
The customary NRA provision that no one be compelled to join a company union was in each code. Backed by these examples, Johnson was confident of quick action on coal.

The precedent may be applied also to automobile production this week. A code on which hearings have been completed contained an open shop provision, but it has been characterized as unsatisfactory by Donald Richberg, NRA general counsel.

Situation Seething
Also scheduled for action this week was a code for the retail trade on which hearings have been set for tomorrow.

Coal topped this week's list, and Johnson called back his former assistant administrator, Edward F. McGrady from his new post of assistant secretary of labor. McGrady warned the coal men that the situation "is seething with unrest."

Deputy Administrator Kenneth M. Simpson and Richberg also tried to whip the coal operators into line.

29 Coal Codes
Twenty-nine coal codes have been submitted and four days devoted to hearings. Both President Roosevelt and Johnson have indicated that the immediate job is to consolidate them into one master charter, and none of the dissenting groups was willing to take responsibility for the final draft.

The elimination of wage differentials was a stumbling block, in addition to the unionization issue. The administration aided with suggestions for settling the disputes.

Independents Protest
Aside from immediate code discussions, the NRA was faced with protests from independent oil producers against the code which the government drafted. An extension of the price-fixing provisions was sought, and the charge made that the present code would be disastrous to independents.

The national labor board turned to efforts to settle the Hollywood movie workers' strike. Judge Ben B. Lindsey, mediator, arrived by airplane from Los Angeles last night. He was to see Dr. Leo Wolman, acting chairman of the board today. Lindsey came at the behest of President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, NRA labor advisor.

National Campaign
An intensive campaign to put the Blue Eagle in the window of every shop in the country will start next Monday when local NRA workers, supported by nationally prominent speakers, will canvass every consumer and employer, and distribute 100,000,000 pieces of literature. Speakers will include John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Alfred E. Smith, Walter Chrysler, Speaker Henry T. Rainey, and others equally prominent.

Unable to Swim, Boy Drowns When He Steps in Hole

By Valley News Alliance
COLUSA—Funeral services were held here today for Kazuo Shiro, 11-year-old Japanese boy residing at the Poundstone ranch, who was drowned in the Sacramento river at Grimes late Saturday. The boy, unable to swim, drowned when he stepped off into a deep hole.

W. J. JOHNSON, LOCAL PASTOR, DIES IN S. F.

Death a Blow to Community; Was Minister Here 17 Years

Rev. W. J. Johnson, 87, pastor of the First Congregational Church in Oroville for the past 17 years, died at the home of his daughter, Miss Pauline Johnson in San Francisco at 8:11 a. m. today.

Death ended an illness that started last May after Rev. Johnson was injured in an automobile accident on Linden avenue. He was in the Oroville hospital for several months and soon after his release he went to San Francisco to spend the summer with his daughter. He had a relapse two weeks ago from which he did not recover.

Blow to Community
His death was a blow to this community where in the years that he held the pastorate of the Congregational Church he had made friends by the hundreds. Many were cheered by his philosophy of a brighter and better life which he preached from his pulpit and in his Saturday Scribblings which he contributed weekly to the columns of the Mercury-Register.

Rev. Johnson was born in Liverpool, England, and spent his early life in that country where he was ordained to the ministry. At the age of 25 years he came to Nova Scotia. Later he moved to the United States and successively held ministries in New Hampshire, Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Came Here in 1916
It was from Springfield, Ill., that he came to Oroville in 1916. He came here in the summer of that year and was accepted as pastor. He then returned to Springfield in October to settle his affairs in that city and returned to Oroville in December to take charge of the local church. He has been pastor here continuously since that time. He succeeded the Rev. R. D. Douglas, now pastor at Ferndale.

Rev. Johnson came to be known by everyone here. He was the friend of people in all walks of life and when they confided in him he listened with a sympathetic ear and gave friendly counsel.

Community Leader
He did not confine his activity to his church work. He was a leader of community thought and continually strived to make Oroville a better place in which to live.

He will long be remembered as a brilliant speaker and student in world affairs. His keen mind analyzed affairs of national and international scope and to talk with him and to listen to him expound his theories and beliefs from the pulpit was a pleasure many people enjoyed. He was a lover of good literature and good music and his public eulogies on the lives of the great men of American history, notably Washington and Lincoln were masterpieces of thought and study.

Fine Musical Programs
He was always striving to provide musical programs at his church that would be a credit to the community and on these occasions the church would be packed to the doors. Under his direction some of the finest Christmas and Easter church musical programs were given. And they delighted the community.

His birthday on April 13 was a community-wide affair in 1932. Church people of all denominations and a host of his other friends attended the celebration at the Congregational Church. Many tributes were paid to him. His birthday in 1933 was celebrated quietly at his own request because of his lower state of health. However, he received many tokens of congratulation in the form of letters and cards.

To his intimate friends he was known as Padre Bill. This was what his Rotary friends called him.

He always delighted in meeting

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Convict Escape, Woman Aide To Appear in Court Thursday

Preliminary hearing of Jack Wright, San Quentin convict, on a charge of escaping from State Prison Camp No. 24, and of Mrs. Irene May, alleged to have aided him, was set for 10 a. m. Thursday today by Harry S. Hills, justice of the peace.

The convict and the woman will be represented by C. I. Bennington of Oroville.

When they were brought into court last week they were given until today to obtain counsel.

Board Considers Budget; Votes To Reduce Salaries

The board of supervisors discussing the budget this afternoon at a public hearing voted to reduce the salary of the matron and caretaker at the detention home from a total of \$1,500 to \$1,200 a year.

The action came on a motion by Supervisor Mahon, seconded by Supervisor Marks after a long discussion during which friends of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hazen, recently appointed to fill those positions, defended the action of the probation committee in making the appointments.

Salary Attacked
Opponents of the action, some of whom were friends of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gravelle of Gridley, attacked the salary allowed in the budget. The Gravelles had understood that they were to obtain the appointment and had offered to fill the two positions at \$900 a year.

Members of the probation committee explained that Hazen is prepared to do all the work about the grounds and house for which last year \$250 was paid additional to the salary.

Not "Fair Play"
Supervisor Henry White said that members of the committee had informed him that the Hazens would be satisfied with \$100 a month but that later turned in a budget of \$125 a month.

"I don't think that was quite fair play," said White.

Committee members explained that when they mentioned \$100 a month they thought that \$25 was customarily allowed for automobile usage.

Wets Anticipate Repeal Complete By December 6th

WASHINGTON—(U.P.)—Repeal by December 6 was anticipated by wets today as Missouri was recorded as the 22nd state to favor taking the 18th amendment out of the constitution. Fourteen more repeal votes are required.

Elections are scheduled to be held in 15 states by November 7, with the likelihood that Virginia and Kentucky, where legislatures are meeting, and possibly other states will be added to this group. Formal repeal action cannot be taken until December, however, when conventions will be held to give effect to the outcome of the vote in Maine, Ohio, Pennsylvania and North and South Carolina.

STOCKS GAIN 1 TO SIX POINTS

NEW YORK—(U.P.)—Stocks gained 1 to more than 6 points today as sentiment improved in the financial district. Trading continued light and the rise came through reticence to sell rather than an enlarged demand.

Wet stocks made the best showing on the wet victory in Missouri and indications that the 18th amendment might be repealed before the end of the year.

SAN FRANCISCO—(U.P.)—Improvement was shown by market leaders in early trading on the San Francisco stock exchange today. Activity was restricted to a small section of the list and volume was light.

The best gain on the board was made by United Aircraft up 1 7/8 at 37 1/4.

Transamerica opened at 7 1/8, sold down to 7 and recovered to 7 1/8, up 1/8 on a turnover of 1,500 shares.

Baker To Speak At Quincy Road On Citrus Plan

D. H. Baker will speak at the meeting of Quincy Road Farm Center to-morrow evening at Quincy Road Community Hall. He will speak on the progress of the citrus rehabilitation plan. It is urged that everyone interested attend.

Mrs. May has not furnished bail, fixed at \$2,500 cash or \$5,000 property bond, and is being held in jail. Wright also is being held in jail.

LAMSON CASE STARTS; JURY BEING CHOSEN

Love Murder Laid To University Man By Prosecutor

SAN JOSE—(U.P.)—A hard-boiled state prosecutor will delve into the psychological theories of Freud in building a circumstantial case which he believes will hang David Lamson, Stanford University intellectual, accused of the murder of his pretty wife, it was indicated as the selection of a jury started today.

The sensational climax to the "perfect marriage" of Lamson and Allene Thorpe aroused such interest that a crowd gathered before the courthouse despite an order from Judge R. R. Syer barring spectators during seating of the jury.

The spotted white courtroom will accommodate few more than 100 persons and a jury panel of 100 was called.

Love-Murder, Motive
Prosecutor Allan P. Lindsay will build his network of evidence on a murder motive of love rather than hate. He will seek to show that the 30-year-old writer and salesman for the Stanford University Press struck down his wife as she stood nude in her morning bath.

To offset this theory and other prosecution evidence the defense staff headed by Edwin M. Rea will contend that as the entire campus believed the Lamsons led an ideal and placid married life.

LAMSON MAID, MOTHER-TO-BE, GETS LICENSE

FAIRFIELD—Deloris Roberts, former maid in the home of David A. Lamson, and Warren B. Sorenson of San Jose, obtained a marriage license here July 7, records revealed today.

It was not believed they were married.

The justice of peace at Fairfield and the county clerk said there was no record of the marriage being performed within the required 30 days.

News of the marriage license was reported at the same time it was revealed the former Lamson maid was an expectant mother.

When questioned Lamson denied he was responsible or that he had any knowledge concerning the report.

Truck Runs Wild Down Hill; Hits Parked Machine

Police reported today that a truck belonging to A. C. Strout had run down the hill near the high school, on Bridge street, Saturday, striking a car belonging to D. Dry, 1844 Third avenue. No one was injured.

Pierson Burt Bank Appraiser

Pierson Burt has been appointed Federal Land Bank appraiser. He will continue to make his home in Palermo, although his duties may take him into many parts of the west.

Red Bluff Woman Taken By Death

By Valley News Alliance
RED BLUFF—Mrs. Emma G. Crocker, 77, resident of Red Bluff for the past ten years, was found dead in bed here today due to a sudden heart attack. She was the mother of M. W. Crocker, local cafe owner and Logan Crocker, Antelope Valley rancher.

Will Rogers says: Chicago, Aug. 21. Editor, Mercury-Register: My friend Johnson, the code man, was going too fast for me, so I left him. His code for himself and staff is 35 hours (not a week, but 35 a day). If he ever goes to sleep he won't wake up till Christmas. Here is the best one happened in Washington. All the big oil men, of course, were there, and that of course meant a big poker game. Any time two oil men meet they don't open a filling station, they open a poker game. Then an oil man never travels without his big lawyer. In another game, the lawyers have a crap game. In the poker game room the first time it was all cash on the table, no checks. They didn't trust each other. That's their new code. The lawyers used their same old code, cash. They had never trusted each other. P. S.—Now for the big poker game to watch the west take the east, like Huey Long took Louisiana. Yours, Will Rogers.

Gridley Threatened By Workers Strike

LAMSON FIGHTS MURDER CHARGE

Walkout Called For Tonight Unless Demands are Met

35 CENTS ASKED Growers Are Given Last Chance to Raise Waegs Today

GRIDLEY—(Special)—A strike of several hundred peach pickers in the Gridley district was ordered for 7:30 p. m. today if ranchers refuse to meet wage increases demanded by representatives of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union.

The union with headquarters in San Jose recently established a branch organization in Gridley. The union seeks a minimum wage of 5 1-2 cents a box or 35 cents an hour for peach pickers. Present wages run from 4 to 5 cents a box.

Demands Refused
Grower's last night refused to meet the demands and another attempt was being made today on behalf of the workers.

If today's attempt to raise wages is successful the strike will be called off. If it is not successful the union declares its call for a strike will take effect tonight.

Pamphlets were being distributed in the Gridley district today calling the strike and stating that all pickers who go to work Tuesday "will be scabbers."

"Help yourself. Don't scab," the pamphlets said.

Would Avoid Strike
It was reported that Constable Tom Elliott of Gridley and Assemblman J. E. Frazier of Gridley were contacting several growers who were offering their pickers minimum wages today urging them to increase the pay and avoid the strike.

A volunteer committee was visiting peach pickers at the various orchards today in an attempt to interest them in asking higher wages.

The same committee was to present to growers a list of ten "demands" adopted at the mass meeting Friday night, with threat to call a strike if the demands were not granted. They included 5 1-2 cents a box or 35 cents an hour for pickers.

Factions To Meet
The committee offered its services at a meeting held last night in the De Heff airdrome on the state highway. It was estimated that approximately 100 of more than 200 persons present were peach pickers.

Plans to meet with the growers and pickers were outlined at a meeting of the executive committee of the local of the Cannery and Agricultural Workers Industrial Union, held Saturday night.

Close Grading Charged
The volunteer committeemen announced that they would first visit the large Silva Bergthold ranch, owned by California Lands, Incorporated. The ranch was reported by members of the committee as paying 3 cents a box with a 1 cent bonus if pickers remain throughout the season. They charged that because of the close grading few pickers remain throughout the harvest.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

We guarantee our merchandise We guarantee our prices We guarantee our service too Which do you think the nicest? You can buy with confidence Whatever's on our floor And we fully guarantee The price will not be lower.

Every piece of furniture Has a number or a name When you go out comparing prices Be sure you find the same. It's smart to be thrifty at HILL FURNITURE CO. "A DELIGHTFUL PLACE TO SHOP" Home of the Blue Eagle

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