

COVERT FLAYS CRIME LAWS

Cure, Not Punishment, Needed, Judge Tells Police Chiefs

Outspoken disapproval of Michigan's criminal procedure was expressed here Thursday by Judge Frank L. Covert of the Oakland County Circuit Court in an address before the Southeastern Michigan Association of Police Chiefs in the Community House.

Referring particularly to lack of provision for segregating habitual criminals from first offenders and curable delinquents in penal institutions, Judge Covert said:

"I have been engaged, in various capacities, in the business of law enforcement for 40 years, and I'm more dissatisfied with our criminal procedure now than ever before. With all our improvements, we're getting nowhere."

The meeting was attended by about 40 police department executives, all members of the association, and several guests, including Village President Harry Allen, Commissioners Fred L. Tucker and Walter Connolly, and Village Manager James W. Pardy.

Punishment Not a Cure—Asserting that the police officer's principal duty is not to make arrests, but to encourage people to obey the laws, Judge Covert pointed out that the most effective means of reducing crime is to

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

Hills: "All this talk about world peace and prohibition is pretty much the same old course, some day man may develop to a point where he is more cooperative and decent, but for a while at least the old way of getting along will be necessary. It is my opinion that our country needs to forget the rest of the world and pay attention to its own business. We should develop its own industries, help its own people. Charity begins at home and decent behavior we learn that lesson well. We are able to go out and help the remainder of the world."

prevent it before it happens, not to punish criminals afterwards. "We've been trying to cure crime by punishment and we haven't done it yet," he declared. "I believe in punishment for crime. It is necessary, and it sometimes does good, but it is not a cure."

The trouble is that we try to devise ways and means of curing it after it happens. In this respect, I don't think the primary duty of the police officer is to run down and punish criminals, but to get people to obey the laws. "Most people, I believe, want to be law-abiding citizens, and if the police can help them achieve this aim they will be doing a great work and earning more than their salary."

Individual Disregarded—He deplored the fact that modern criminal procedure does not take into account the individual in each case, and advocated strict segregation of habitual criminals from lawbreakers who have not displayed criminal tendencies or who can be reformed under proper conditions.

"He pointed out that there is no institution in Michigan where treatment can be given to such persons who commit crimes because of delinquent tendencies which could be cured by strict supervision and guidance. Such persons, he said, under the present procedure are imprudently placed with confirmed criminals, and the contact aggravates rather than cures their delinquencies."

Characterizing himself as "a firm believer in probation," he indicated this practice as a decided benefit in dealing with first offenders. About 85 percent of the lawbreakers whom he has placed on probation have "made good," he said.

He urged closer co-operation between the police, the prosecutor's office and the courts, and pleaded for courtesy on the part of police in dealing with the general public. "The police officer has a definite responsibility in the existing situation," he declared. "Its police department can give any community a good reputation or a bad one, depending on whether or not its members are courteous to visitors."

A Very Boy—The parents of a young son who had been deeply moved by the film "Skippy," took him on a Christmas surprise to the square to see the picture called "Soaky." On their way home the boy was enthusiastic about "Soaky," "Better'n 'Skippy' even," he observed, "it's ender happier."

"It doesn't ender happier," James, said his mother, "Doesn't Soaky's mother die?" "Oh, sure," said James, "but in 'Skippy' the dog died."

—The New Yorker.

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Borah's Attack On Fess Brings Candidacy To Fore

Will Idahoan Permit Followers To Support Him For Presidency?

By CHARLES P. STEWART
WASHINGTON—It is a little more than a year since the effects of the fearful lambasting administered by Senator William E. Borah to the administration of President Simeon D. Fess' shoulders in the course of the debate concerning the La Follette-Costigan \$17,000,000 bill for direct relief of unemployment.

The Idahoan state legislator, who is now in the United States, has been provoked by the character of the attacks of the Ohio lawbreaker into doing what he has intended and the popular reaction to it. Should he decide to take such an action, it would be a most unusual one. He would be the only senator to admit that the Idahoan is a capitalist. He would be the only senator to place few folk can be found on a hill to deny that he can launch a formidable presidential campaign in his own behalf in opposition to Mr. Hoover's claims for a renomination.

Hitherto the most ardent progressives have been able to argue would stand that he at least would stand outside chance of stampeding the Republican campaign in his favor if he would come out definitely as a candidate against the Californian. Today they actually are Hooverites who admit that the Idahoan is a capitalist of rendering the outcome doubtful provided he will proclaim his presidential availability.

HOOPER SUPPORTERS recognizing that Senator Borah has won enormously in the number of his own supporters. His suggestion is advanced, indeed, that should Senator Borah seek the regular G. O. P. nomination and fall to get it his prestige nevertheless has been so much enhanced as to justify considerable confidence in his success as head of a third party ticket.

Were the half or a quarter of Senator Borah's opportunity offered to any other man in public life, politicians laugh at the idea that he would not grab it. The reluctance of the Idahoan, however, to reach for too much and risk losing his beloved senatorship, so well known that his case much skepticism is expected despite the proportions of the prize dangled in front of him.

THE CIRCUMSTANCES of Senator Borah's speech left nothing to be desired if it stands out as a clean-cut attack upon the administration. Senator Fess in his post of national committee chairman, for which he was the deliberate and of the White House, president of the Mr. Hoover's personal spokesman. He also was the first speaker against the policy of direct unemployment relief and the understanding was general that his task was a major disaster when at first was no worse than an unfortunate attempt on his part. Naturally maladroitness, with every succeeding sentence his utterance Senator Fess gave the impression of seemingly more and more al-

WE HEARD IT SAID BY—

Messrs. Meikle, Kelly & Gordon, after many printing presses in The Eccentric's office were named: "We like to gather into our bosoms sheets of paper, upon which we can fashion messages, as well as the various forms used by business everywhere. The Eccentric is well equipped with members of our family ready to care for your printing needs."

Exchanges Hear Houghton, Averill

Birmingham Exchanges Tuesday noon, in the absence of a scheduled program, were given brief talks by Allan Houghton, connected with the Oakland County Fair Commission, and George R. Averill, publisher of The Eccentric. Mr. Houghton, who has spent many years with the American Red Cross in rehabilitation work, outlined the activities of Oakland County's welfare department, and praised it for its efficiency and economy.

"We hope it will become a model for the rest of the country to follow," he said. Mr. Averill, at the request of Oscar F. Peterson, president of the club, briefly told of the plans presented to Governor Brucker in Lansing last Monday by the special Covert Relief Committee, appointed last December by the Governor to aid distressed counties in their efforts to meet special assessment road obligations.

He stated that the plans under consideration resulted from the idea of diverting some of the gasoline and weight tax money to disburse counties by loaning from the state highway funds without interest. It was pointed out that the Governor is against any additional tax levies on the matter, and will oppose such when the special session of the legislature is convened in Lansing next month.

Use Want Ads for quick results.

When to Be Nonchalant

By CLIFFORD McBRIDE



Spelling It

Rich Uncle (strict Sabatarian)—I am extremely sorry to learn that Eustace is in the habit of visiting a golf club on the Sabbath.

Wife (brightly)—Oh, but he doesn't play. He only just pops over for a few drinks and a game of bridge.—Humorist.

100 Per Cent Dry

She (watching her friend disport on the beach)—Maud allows nothing to dampen her spirits. He—Or her bathing suit.

No Back Seat Advice
"Your studies are suffering. Do you need a coach?"
"No, Dad, a roadster will do."

Entirely Out Of Place

While two Jews were out sailing, a squall upset their boat. The one who could swim held up the one who could not until he thought he could do it no longer. He said: "Can you float alone, Abe?"
"Well, the sense of talking business at a time like this cried Abe."
—Boston Transcript.

Types of Beds—and Printers

IT IS ALL right to lie in a bed—but the successful hotel man never lies about his beds. It isn't restful. For instance, recall a recent Starliner Hotel advertisement:

"Oh, what a difference there is in beds! There's the stern kind—about as restful as a park bench. The sad type—with a dismal hollow in the center. The lumpy affair whose mattress is like a shell-torn field. And then there's the Starler bed—buoyant, restful. 'What a bed!' you think, as you yawn and stretch and spread yourself in lazy content."

It's the same way with printers, too. There's the kind that rushes in and rushes out of your place of business, and then rubs the job through his own printing shop in such a manner that you get "a rush job." There's the kind of printer who is good at fancy letters and nice colors, but who doesn't know anything about sales argument and merchandising appeal in type—he's like a fellow who knows lots of words in a dictionary, but can't group them together in proper sentences.

Of course, then there's the kind of printer who knows quite a bit about proper type arrangement, suitable colors, correct paper stock, and the art of sales and merchandising appeal. He's the kind of printer that it pays to tie to. That's the kind of printing that The Eccentric likes to do. We are equipped, mechanically and mentally, to give you the kind of printing that, like the Starler's restful bed, allows you to stretch out in the sweet and restful assurance that your job of printing, whether it be a simple calling card, invoice, or a color catalogue, will be completed correctly.

We'll be glad and we'll be grateful to serve you, whoever and wherever you are.

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REGISTRATION NOTICE

Saturday, March 5, 1932

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that in conformity with Act 126, Public Acts of 1917, I, the undersigned Village Clerk, will upon any day except Sunday and a legal holiday, or the day of any regular or special election or official primary election, receive for registration the name of any legal voter in said Village not already registered, who may apply to me personally for such registration, except that I can receive names for registration on the day of the meeting of the Board of Registration.

Notice is further hereby given that the Board of Registration for Precinct 1, will meet at the Voting Booth at the Corner of Harmon Avenue and North Woodward Avenue, and the Board for Precinct 2 will meet in the Adams School, and the Board for Precinct 3 will meet in the Municipal Building, and the Board for Precinct 4 will meet at the Wyle Bell garage, east side of Elm St., 150 ft. south of Maple Avenue, and the Board for Precinct 5 will meet at the Voting Booth at the S. W. Corner of Lincoln and Woodward Avenues, on Saturday, March 5, 1932, from 7:00 o'clock A. M. to 8:30 o'clock P. M. (Central Standard Time) of said day for the purpose of completing the list of qualified electors of said Village.

PRECINCT 1, is all that territory bounded on the north by Village Limits, on the east by Woodward, on the south by Maple Avenue, on the west by Village Limits.

PRECINCT 2, is all that territory bounded on the north by Village Limits, on the east by Village Limits, on the south by Maple Avenue, on the west by Woodward Avenue.

PRECINCT 3, is all that territory bounded on the north by Maple Avenue, on the east by Woodward, on the south by Lincoln Avenue, on the west by Village Limits.

PRECINCT 4, is all that territory bounded on the north by Maple Avenue, on the east by Village Limits, on the south by Lincoln Avenue, on the west by Woodward Avenue.

PRECINCT 5, is all that territory bounded on the north by Lincoln, on the east by Village Limits, on the south by Village Limits, on the west by Village Limits.

The name of no person but an actual resident of said Village at the time of registration, and entitled under the Constitution, if remaining such resident, to vote on the next election, shall be entered in the registration book.

REGISTRATION OF ABSENTEE BY OATH

If any person whose name is not registered shall offer and claim the right to vote at any election, and shall UNDER OATH, state that he or she is a resident of said Village TWENTY DAYS next preceding such election, designating particularly the place of his residence, and that he or she possesses other qualifications of an elector under the Constitution; and that owing to sickness or bodily infirmity of himself, or some other member of his family, or owing to his absence from the Village on public business or his own business, and without intent to avoid or delay his or her registration, he was unable to make application for registration on the last day provided by law for the registration of electors preceding such election, then the name of such person shall be registered, and he shall then be permitted to vote at such election. If such applicant shall, in said matter, wilfully make any false statement, he shall be deemed guilty of perjury and, upon conviction, be subject to the pains and penalties thereof.

WOMEN ELECTORS

The names of all qualified women electors not already appearing on the registration list will be registered provided personal application is made in conformity with the foregoing provisions.

IRENE HANLEY
Clerk of the Said Village of Birmingham, Mich.

February 11, 1932.