

# JURY CLEARS G. L. VAN BUREN

## Ferdale Receiver Not Guilty Of Criminal Acts, Hatchal Finds

George H. Van Buren, receiver for the American State Bank of Ferdale and the Ferdale State Bank, is given a clean bill by Justice Ferdinand S. Hatchal in the report on his one-man grand jury investigation of the receiverships of some of the banks in the district.

Justice Hatchal, who was called in to conduct the investigation by a petition filed with him last April by Prosecutor Arthur F. Boger, setting forth that evidence of criminality in connection with the receiverships had come to the prosecutor's attention, declares in his report that no such evidence has been substantiated by the investigation, and that although Mr. Van Buren may have been guilty of some errors of judgment, there is nothing that would justify his removal.

The jury's findings follow: "I am satisfied after a very careful and complete examination of the record in this investigation, that no crimes have been committed, and that the petition setting forth statements that crimes were committed, and could not be substantiated. It became apparent at an early stage in this investigation that there were many rumors circulating in Ferdale concerning the receiverships, and

it is, perhaps, quite normal that this should happen. Rumors are very readily circulated, and exaggerated at every step, and persons are very willing to pass them on with elaborations; they are not so readily stopped, however, and that is where the damage is done. I am satisfied, after hearing the testimony of witnesses, that many things were told the prosecuting attorney, as facts, which were based solely on hearsay, and which assumed an entirely different color when presented under oath before this grand jury. The business of spreading rumors, without first ascertaining their veracity, cannot be too highly criticized; there has been much of this in Ferdale.

"It is possible that the receiver has been guilty of some errors of judgment, but I do not feel that there have been any such errors committed as would justify his removal. All of the transactions of the receiverships were approved by the State Banking Department, and by the Circuit Court of Grand County; not one deal was made without this approval. There is no evidence whatever that Mr. Van Buren, or any person with his control withheld, or misrepresented facts before the courts. It was satisfactorily shown that the receiver acted according to his best judgment; if his judgment was wrong, then there is no recourse, for it is an adage of long standing that every human being is subject to error.

"Instances have come to my attention wherein persons owing the banks money have been paid for services to the receivership. It is not evidence that every human being is subject to error. It is not evidence that every human being is subject to error. It is not evidence that every human being is subject to error. It is not evidence that every human being is subject to error.

### Collectors Criticized

"Some of the collectors directed at the receiver in the matter of the collection of obligations owing are very deserving of criticism. It must be remembered that the matter of dealing with a large number of obligations is a very difficult proposition. Our laws are so drafted that for a comparatively small amount, a man may go to bankruptcy, and escape his obligations; the creditor suffers, in most cases, to the limit.

"There are many instances, in these receiverships, where present collectors have been appointed, and bankruptcy proceedings in many other instances, by cooperating with the receiver, much of an obligation has been collected. This, again, becomes a matter of personal judgment, wherein a hard and fast rule cannot be applied. The course to be pursued must be determined by the facts in each case, and by the individual who owes the obligation. I would recommend that the matter of collection be given less personal attention by the receiver, rather than leaving it to employees.

"The receiver instituted a plan of issuing certificates on a plan of a percentage of their face value. It became common knowledge that these certificates were being sold for approximately one-half of their face value. The redemption value was fixed by order of the Circuit Court, and the certificates would eventually be redeemed. I do not feel that I am bound to criticize the receiver's plan of liquidation, especially since it has its proponents among some of the best legal and financial minds.

### Expense Approved

"As regards the matter of expenses of the receivership, I am satisfied that they are now operating at a minimum expense. Figures now show that for the past three years, an attorney could be paid for his services on a percentage basis, for less than was actually paid out in attorney fees. It was suggested by the receiver when he entered into the contract with me that he employ an attorney at a yearly salary, there would have been no end to the expense. I am satisfied that there is no justification for the payment of a salary for an attorney, and that payment on the fee basis will result in a saving, inasmuch as the bulk of the legal work is now consummated.

"As stated in the opening paragraph hereof, the petition of Mr. Boger set forth that crimes had been committed, and that payment was appointed by the Circuit Court, and is responsible to that court for the removal of Mr. Van Buren as receiver for the Ferdale banks. With this in view, I am satisfied that the receiver is not responsible for the removal of Mr. Van Buren as receiver for the Ferdale banks. With this in view, I am satisfied that the receiver is not responsible for the removal of Mr. Van Buren as receiver for the Ferdale banks.

"I am frank to confess that I cannot find anything in this investigation which would justify the removal of Mr. Van Buren as receiver. In this regard, however, the committee, the receiver is a matter entirely up to the Circuit Court, and I cannot make any recommendation bearing on that phase of the case. My principal interest in this matter is to determine whether or not crimes have been committed, or are being committed, and as heretofore stated, no evidence whatever showing criminal conduct has been presented.

"As regards further dealings, and proceedings with reference to the receiverships, if the Circuit Court, after an examination of the report of my investigation, and of this report feels that some action should be taken, then that is a matter solely within the discretion of that court."

## Another Winner Of U-M. Scholarship

Robert Judson, a young man from the Birmingham area, has won a U-M. scholarship for the coming year. He is a member of the Michigan League and the All-County High School Band.

Judson, who, like Foley, was graduated from Baldwin High School in June, received the first three years of his high school education at White Plains, N. Y. His scholastic standing both in White Plains and at Baldwin, together with the part he took in extracurricular activities in both schools, were considered by the committee in making its recommendations.

Mrs. White said. Judson has his senior year. Judson was a member of the Baldwin High School Band and Orchestra, and in the White Plains Symphony Orchestra and the All-County High School Band. He was also president of the Camera and Science Club, and a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

The scholarship provides tuition for four years to students who maintain a high scholastic standing each year.

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### Birmingham Softball League

TWILIGHT LEAGUE (Including Tuesday's Games)			
Team	W.	L.	Pct.
Fuel Oil	6	2	.750
Williams' Boot Shop	3	3	.500
Muholland's	7	3	.700
Wilson's Drugs	3	2	.600
First Precinct	2	9	.181

COMMERCIAL LEAGUE (Including Monday's Games)			
Team	W.	L.	Pct.
South End	6	2	.750
Eastern Michigan	5	3	.625
Peck's	3	5	.375
Baptist's	1	6	.143

### Carey Held Again For Wife Beating

For the third time in three years, Patrick F. Carey, 33 years old, 1608 Webster street, was arrested last Thursday for assault and battery on a complaint filed by his wife. He pleaded not guilty when arraigned before Justice Forbes S. Hascall and a jury trial was set for 10 A. M. tomorrow. In default of \$100 bond, Carey was committed to the County Jail to await the trial.

## ASK TEACHERS TO BE LOYAL

### Board of Education Adopts Resolution Calling For 'Co-operation'

A resolution requiring teachers in the Birmingham schools to conform with definite principles of "co-operation" and "loyalty" and to give evidence of their skill by producing definite teaching results was adopted unanimously by the Board of Education last Thursday night.

The resolution, which precipitated a prolonged discussion, was recommended by Superintendent Charles W. Crandell, who said he believed "a definite statement of loyalty and of what is required in teaching results is essential from the Board of Education."

"I wouldn't want to be quoted in the press as saying we had any certain number of teachers who are disloyal," Mr. Crandell added, "but a statement from the Board will clarify the situation."

"Whereas: mutuality of understanding is essential to orderly and constructive achievement, and to co-operative teaching and planning, and

"Whereas: if the school program is to be most efficiently conducted, it is necessary that all members of the school personnel understand the necessity of professional growth and certain professional attributes, and

"Wherefore he it resolved that he or she must be able to work harmoniously with the children in the school, their parents, his or her colleagues, the principal and the superintendent."

"Loyalty. Loyalty is not to be confused with submission. A teacher's views and criticisms are constructive, objective, and frank presented, presented only to the proper source. Loyalty is to be considered from the standpoint of what is ethically right and professionally sound. Loyalty involves a teacher's attitude

toward and responses to the school system, the unit in which he or she works, the teaching staff, the principal, the superintendent and above all the children.

## Bloomfield Hills' New Postmaster

William Story, former clerk of Bloomfield Hills, has been appointed Bloomfield's acting postmaster, succeeding Mrs. Florence Stoll, postmaster for the past five years.



After serving continuously as clerk of the village since it was first incorporated in 1927, Mr. Story was dropped from the municipal payroll in December, 1932, as an economy move, and the title of clerk was assumed by one of the commissioners.

Mr. Story is a Democrat. He and Mrs. Stoll were said to be the only candidates for the appointment.

"Development, in pupils, of specific skills."

"Development, in pupils, of desirable personal qualities and character."

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Sylvia Sidney in "30 Day Princess" and George O'Brien in "Frontier Marshal" (Sue, Men. & Tues.)  
Joan Crawford in "Sadie McKee" (Also Donald Cook in "Yuk Guesst")  
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Black (Yellow Label) . . . . . 1b. 85c  
TEA POT — FREE

Imported NORWEGIAN SARDINES 3 cans 25c  
Dolly Madison PLUMS — No. 2 can . . . . 3 for 29c  
Q. P. FRESH LIMA BEANS . . . 3 cans 29c  
Merton's RED KIDNEY BEANS . . . 3 cans 29c  
Scarboro Castle EARLY JUNE PEAS. . . . 2 cans 25c  
Fancy Roasting Chickens... 1b. 22c  
Fresh Dressed BROILERS — 2 Lb. Av. . . . 1b. 27c  
Genuine Spring LEG-O-LAMB . . . . . 1b. 27c  
Baby Beef POT ROAST . . . . . 1b. 15c  
Sullivan's SLICED BACON . . . . . 1b. 23c  
SUMMER SAUSAGE . . . . . 1b. 18c  
SKINLESS WEINERS . . . . . 1b. 19c  
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