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Michigan Mirror INTERPRETING THE NEWS

By GENE ALLEMAN
Sensitive over the implied fact that corruption arising from the Lansing one-man grand jury investigation, the state legislature received a shock Friday (Jan. 12) when newspaper headlines blazoned the slaying of State Senator Warren G. Hooper, Albion Republican.

Hooper had previously implicated William Burns, executive secretary of Michigan State Medical Society, with having offered him \$25,000 to California. (Hooper) would drop opposition to a medical society bill. Hooper was the executive secretary of the Michigan Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

The murderer of Hooper, whose body was left in a burning automobile near Springtown, revealed for the first time that Hooper had made a confession and had accepted immunity as a state witness in a graft conspiracy case involving Frank D. McKay, Grand Rapids Mayor, Floyd Fitzsimmons, Green Harbor, and Rep. William Green, Hillman.

To say the slaying started the state capital was to underline the fact Hooper's murder was the most sensational development up to that time, since the Carr-Sigler inquiry began.

During the early months of the grand jury investigation, indictments fell by chance upon more Democrats than Republicans. They centered, also, on Detroit and Wayne county legislators for the most part. Upstate virtues were unnoted.

There came the bribery confession last December of State Senator Chester M. Howell, Republican from Saginaw, who turned state's witness in a grand conspiracy case involving a bill recognizing naturopathy as a healing art.

Within 12 hours came the news that former State Senator Earl Munshaw, Republican of Grand Rapids, had been the victim of catnip monoxide poisoning in a struggle at his country farm.

To say the indictment of State Senator Carl L. DeLano, Kalamazoo Republican, who has been accused by a former lobbyist for Michigan naturopaths with having accepted \$1,500.

Hooper's slaying, revealing another confession, capped the climax.

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West Coast Race Question

The West Coast seems to be somewhat agitated over the possible return of Japanese, who were removed in the early days of the war and sent into Government relocation settlements. For many years, the race question has been somewhat intense along the Pacific Coast.

The Japanese, we understand, have been, for the most part, thrifty, intelligent, and well-behaved citizens. The same can be said, we presume, about the white residents of the coastal states.

The practical difficulties that face the people of the West Coast are not explained away by referring to the fundamental rights of men or the guarantees of the Constitution. The differences that exist between races is more fundamental than the proclamations of freedom that have come to men.

The question is not one of good Americans against bad Japanese; it involves the slow development of entirely different peoples into a state of mutual respect and esteem.

"The American people should never achieve a 'forget and forgive' attitude after the war," declares Lieutenant Samuel E. Belk, speaking from his bunk aboard a hospital ship which recently arrived at Charleston, S. C., from Europe.

The Lieutenant was wounded in the invasion of Normandy, and captured by the Germans. He is bitter about the treatment given some wounded Americans, two of whom, he reports, were given hypodermics by German doctors employing euthanasia, or "mercy killing," which is not recognized in our Army.

"The words of the Lieutenant represent the judgment of a man who has suffered for his country and who had, at first hand, an opportunity to judge his enemies. They should be remembered by every American when soft-headed sentimentalists beg to talk about 'mercy' for the Germans."

ASIDE FROM THE RECENT GERMAN military successes on the western front, which should be left out of this comment: Had the domestic scene of ration points, food scarcity, cigar shortage, lost Atlantic Charter, imminent increases in man-power and maybe drafting of 4-Fs, been with us early in November, would Roosevelt have won?

"OUR OBJECTIVE IS TOTAL VICTORY," patriotically announces Henry Morgenthau, Jr., Secretary of the Treasury. Great words, Henry—and now how's about some victory over ever-increasing bureaucracy at home?

Flyer Casualties

It may have escaped observation, in connection with recent figures about the Army Air Force, that more aircraft have been lost in this country in almost three years of war than in combat overseas.

According to the report, 14,600 planes have been lost in combat and 17,500 have been lost at home. In addition, 9,900 have been lost overseas outside of combat. At home, 6,500 of the 17,500 planes lost were worn out or abandoned because they were no longer fit to fly.

The War Department emphasizes the magnitude of the training program and other activities in this country, saying that 4,342 hours were down "for each airplane lost or worn out." For each wreck, it declares, there has been the equivalent of forty global trips.

Admittedly, the "dangerous business of preparing young men to fly very hot combat planes" involves risks but the fatal rate is down to 20 in 1,000. This means that of every 100 trainees, only two are killed and 95 complete their training "without so much as a sprained ankle or a bump on the head."

Bitter Experience

Not every mother who makes it a practice to lock her small children in the attic has the bitter experience of a woman in another state, who recently returned to find her home in ashes and three small children burned to death.

The fact that such a tragedy does not result from the practice upon many occasions does not diminish the risks that all parents take. Small children, under the age of six, are hardly capable of taking care of themselves and every parent knows that, even under supervision, the little tots run many risks in the process of growing up.

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Happenings of Long Ago

50 YEARS AGO January 17, 1895
An chopping wood for G. W. Hunt cut his foot severely last week.
"50. Michigan has also received evidence of sprouting Presidential timber."
The Detroit Exposition grounds have been sold to a company who will bore for salt.

20 YEARS AGO January 16, 1925
Richard Haliburton, in the second round of the high school debate course, appeared Thursday night in the Baldwin auditorium before almost a capacity audience, the subject of his lecture being, "The High Road to Romance and Adventure."

5 YEARS AGO January 18, 1940
A new motion picture theater closed when you go there to eat, the Restaurants listed here are publishing their operating times. Knowing that you do not want to waste time, gasoline and tires, they are letting you know what days they are closed and what hours of other days they will be open to serve you.

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PROMOTED TO SERGEANT AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND BASE, India—William E. Hopkins, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Hopkins, Trust Building, 1040 East Exchange Street, recently reported to the Air Transport Command as a pre-aviation cadet. As an applicant for training the Air Transport Command is examining his qualifications as a pre-aviation cadet.

THE NORMANDY LUNCHES—DINNERS S. W. Corner of Woodward and 10-Mile Rd. PLEASANT RIDGE Daily Hours, including Sunday Breakfast 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dinner 12:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. CLOSED ALL DAY ON TUESDAYS. CORNINGS' EL PATIO Woodward Ave. at Coalfield Highway. "It's always Dinner time at Cornings!" Champagne and All Served Open Every Day and Holidays Closed on Mondays. BHOOK'S COFFEE BAR Closed Until Further Notice. FOX & HOUNDS INN JOHN INGLESON, Prop. 1360 S. Woodward, Birmingham. MINTS ICE CREAM CO. 1360 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

Men In The Service

Combat Infantryman Badge Presented To William J. Watson, Jr.

Pfc. William J. Watson, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William J. Watson, 736 Wallace street, has been awarded the combat infantryman badge for his performance of duty in action against the Japanese when on Bougainville.

On Bougainville, Watson's regiment distinguished itself in the body battle for Hill 260, where 541 Japs were killed in a fanatical attack on the American perimeter. Commanded by Maj. Gen. William H. Arnold, of St. Louis, Mo., the "American" is the only combat division in the United States Army bearing a name instead of a number.

OLD FRIENDS MEET

In a recent letter to his fiancée, Nancy Richard, of Townsend street, Col. Ken. Duff writes of a recent meeting with Cpl. Al Valley, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Allen Valley, of Baldwin street. Both boys are with the 3rd Army. Ken writes, "A touch of old today."

IN ENGLAND

AN AIR SERVICE COMMAND in England—Cpl. Harry E. Richardson, the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Richardson, of 585 Pleasant avenue, Birmingham, Mich., recently completed an orientation course designed to bridge the gap between training in the States and combat soldiering against the enemy in Germany. His next station will be one from which America's fighting planes cover our advance into Germany.

WHEN OUT FOR NEW RECORDS LOOK FOR THE NEAREST DEALER IN PHONOGRAPH RECORDS IN THE YELLOW PAGES OF THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY. It Makes Good Sense to consolidate miscellaneous bills under one personal loan. And dealing with the Wabek State Bank is the sensible way to take out a personal loan.