

DRAFT OBJECTORS SPURNS OFFER OF PRISON RELEASE

County Farmer Declines Offer To Appear For Trial Of His Own Accord

Daniel W. Hoover, twenty-five, New Holland R1, a conscientious objector, Wednesday spurned an offer of U. S. District Judge Guy K. Bard at Philadelphia to release him from prison and permit him to go home to his wife and baby if he would appear of his own accord for his trial Sept. 11, on charges of failing to report to a public work camp.

"I cannot accept your offer with a clear conscience because I am not guilty," Hoover replied as his five Wenger Mennonite companions, facing the same charge, posted bail for their court appearance.

DECLINES BAIL

Hoover declined an offer of bail when he was arrested in July and has continuously refused efforts to release him.

Hoover, Elam S. Shirk, East Earl R1, David W. Shirk, New Holland R1, and George M. Zimmerman, New Holland R1, pleaded innocent when they were arraigned before Judge Bard on Wednesday. Their trial was set for Sept. 11.

The other two, Isaac S. Eby, New Holland R1, and Isaac M. Risser, Bareville R1, pleaded "no defense," and will be sentenced on Wednesday, Sept. 6.

SECOND TIME IN COURT

This is the second time that the six objectors will appear in Federal Court to answer charges of failing to report to work camps.

They first failed to report in the latter part of 1942 and in January, 1942, Federal Judge Harry Kalodner suspended a two-year jail sentence and sent them to the Sideling Hill work camp on probation for three years.

They refused to go voluntarily but said they would offer no resistance if "taken by force." A U. S. marshal loaded them in an automobile and hauled them to the camp.

After serving a little more than two years of the three-year sentences they were discharged April 9 from probation by the Federal Court, but were advised to remain at the work camp.

Instead, they chose to return to their Lancaster county homes. County Draft Board No. 4, with which the youths are registered, reclassified them as objectors and National Selective Service headquarters ordered them to report June 15 to the Grottoes, Va., camp.

They failed to report and were arrested.

The case of a seventh Lancaster county draft board registrant is scheduled for Federal court in September. He is Weidler Solomon Groff, Jr., Leola, who failed to report for induction May 13, 1944. He is free on bail.

Groff, twenty-five, also a registrant of County Board No. 4, was arrested on May 29. His case is scheduled to appear before the Federal grand jury on Sept. 11.

The delay in his case appearing before the Federal Court in Philadelphia was explained Wednesday by officials, who said that there had been no criminal sessions held since his arrest.

Objectors Begin New Prison Fast

LEWISBURG, Pa., Oct. 16 (A. P.).

—A new hunger strike among conscientious objectors at the Lewisburg Penitentiary developed today immediately after another group called off a three-week-old food-refusing demonstration.

Warden William H. Hiatt said the remaining five of the first group accepted food but that a new group of the same number began refusing it.

The demonstrations, Mr. Hiatt said, were in protest against being disallowed good behavior credits off their terms for refusing to work. The original hunger strike began on Sept. 24 with seven men. One of them was released last Friday upon expiration of his term. Another called off the demonstration over the week-end.

INDICT OBJECTORS FOR FAILURE TO GO TO WORK CAMPS

Philadelphia — (AP) — A group of Lancaster County youths were indicted by a federal grand jury here Wednesday on charges of violating the Selective Service Act by refusing to report at work camps for conscientious objectors.

They are: George Martin Zimmerman, Daniel Weaver Hoover and David W. Shirk, all of New Holland; and Isaac S. Eby and Isaac Martin Rissler, of Denver.

YOUTH WHO FAILED TO REPORT TO WORK CAMP SENTENCED

Floyd Elam Fox, Nineteen,
Ephrata R3, Given Four
Year Term

Floyd Elam Fox, nineteen, Ephrata R3, was sentenced to four years in prison Friday by Judge George A. Welsh in U. S. Federal Court at Philadelphia, on charges of failing to report to a civilian work camp at Powellsville, Md., Nov. 21, 1944.

Fox, who was arraigned Wednesday, pleaded no defense to the charge.

ARRESTED DEC. 6

The youth, registered with County Draft Board No. 4, was arrested by the FBI Dec. 6 and was taken before U. S. Commissioner Marshall M. Cohen. He posted \$500 bail for his court appearance.

Fox, the record of his case shows, wrote his draft board that if it needed men "put me in Class 1-A. I am listed as a conscientious objector but I am none."

The draft board reclassified him as 1-A, available for general military service. He then appealed that classification but the Area Board of Appeals upheld Lancaster County Board No. 4 and kept him in Class 1-A.

REVIEWED DECISION

The Pennsylvania Director of Selective Service, who reviewed the case, asked the appeal board to review its decision. The review decision put him in Class 4-E, a conscientious objector.

National Selective Service headquarters then assigned him to the Powellsville, Md., work camp but Fox failed to report.

Two other men were sentenced to prison terms Friday for Selective Service violations. Kenneth D. Wage, twenty, Pottstown, was sentenced to four years for refusal to go to a conscientious objector camp. Littleton Thomas Brittingham, forty, Chester, was sentenced to a year and a day for failure to register for Selective Service.

until 5 p. m.: City-Democrats, 75; Republicans, 101

COUNTIAN ACCUSED OF FAILING TO GO TO CAMP FOR CO'S

John W. Hoover, New Holland
R1, Facing Same Charge Of
Which Brother Was Convicted

John Weaver Hoover, twenty-three, New Holland R1, failed to report Thursday to a conscientious objector public service camp and his case was turned over to the U. S. Attorney's office at Philadelphia, for possible prosecution, County Draft Board No. 4, announced.

Less than a month ago his brother, Daniel W. Hoover, was convicted on the same charge for a second time and sentenced in U. S. Federal Court at Philadelphia by Judge Guy K. Bard to a two-year prison term.

The brothers are members of the Wenger Mennonite church.

In his first appearance in Federal Court in Dec. 1940, Daniel was sentenced to the Sideling Hill work camp for an indefinite period. Released last spring, he again failed to report to a work camp.

From the time of his arrest in October until he was sentenced on Sept. 18, he refused offers of bail. He also declined an offer of Judge Ganey at his arraignment of release on his own recognizance until his trial so that he could be with his wife and small child.

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