

# H. J. HAGEN FOUND

## "GUILTY"

### FARGO BANK PRESIDENT IS FOUND GUILTY IN JUDGE ENGLERT'S COURT

While the people of the state and perhaps other states as well, had one eye on the work of the legislature at Bismarck, they watched the trial of H. J. Hagen, president of the Scandinavian American bank of Fargo, with the other eye.

Mr. Hagen was accused of having falsified his statement to a bank examiner. The trial was one of the most hotly fought in the state and, because of its involving again the now famous Scandinavian-American bank case, great effort was made to prove it a political play. Judge Englert, one of the new judges recently appointed by Gov. Frazier, who presided, refused to permit any political squabble demanding the case be tried on its merits.

Several prominent citizens were on the witness stand, and it took nine days before it was left to a jury of six farmers and six laborers and merchants of Cass county to give their verdict, which after over four hours' deliberation they announced to be "Guilty." A stay of sentence and a new trial on Jan. 15, was granted on the plea of council for defendant, Attorney Manahan, of Minneapolis.

The defence announced its intention to carry the fight to the state supreme court if necessary, and in that event several months will pass before it is ended, and then the verdict will depend to a large extent on the mood in which Justice Robinson is found.