

GIRL ONE OF FOUR HELD IN ARMS EXPLOSION PLOT

GERMAN MINISTER IN U. S. NET AFTER CONFESSION OF SCHEME TO BLOW UP EDDYSTONE PLANT

Man Arrested in Mount Vernon, N. Y., Said to Have Made Important Statement. Girl Had Maps of Defenses and Roads

A confession leading to three more arrests that may be connected with the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation disaster was reported today from New York, where Hans Ehret, a German, is being held by the Federal authorities.

Representatives of the War Department began today an investigation in cooperation with Samuel M. Vauclain, vice president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, to determine whether an accident or a plot caused the explosion and loss of about 120 lives on Tuesday.

Attempts were made today by German or Austrian plotters to blow up several buildings in Portsmouth, O.; the Elephant Butte Dam, New Mexico's million-dollar irrigation structure near El Paso, Tex., and the benzol plant of the Woodward Iron Company at Birmingham, Ala. Arrests were made in each case before damage was done.

CONFESSION AFTER LONG GRILLING

The confession of Ehret, which was not made public, came after several hours' grilling by Captain O'flay, of the Department of Justice, and Assistant District Attorney Knox. He was arrested by the Mount Vernon police while speeding through that town on a motorcycle. Of the three others arrested, one is said to be a German minister.

Another arrest on Ehret's confession was a young German girl, who had been employed as a companion by a wealthy Mount Vernon woman. In a false bottom of the girl's trunk maps of roadways and fortifications about New York city, together with papers, a code book and photographs of Fort Totten and Fort Schuyler were found. The young woman broke down and wept bitterly when taken by the police.

EXPERTS INVESTIGATE

The War Department men investigating the disaster are said to be experts in the manufacture of ammunition. They went to Eddystone at the personal request of Mr. Vauclain. The fact that Mr. Vauclain would be joined by Government officials was conveyed to him today through private channels.

What the War Department wishes to determine is if a conspiracy existed to destroy the plant and whether or not it was accomplished by depositing acid in the benzol shells before they were filled.

Whether the conference between Mr. Vauclain and the Government representatives would take place at the Eddystone plant or in Philadelphia could not be learned. Mr. Vauclain is not in Chester today, but is kept constantly informed on developments via telephone.

Yards of blueprints showing the buildings which were destroyed and where they were located, were taken to the Washington Hotel, where Fire Marshal G. Chalbert has established temporary headquarters for his investigation.

These blueprints are being viewed by officials and others. Assistant State Fire Marshal Theodore Wilkins, former fire marshal of Philadelphia, who is an authority on explosives, stated that as a result of his investigations he is convinced that the explosion was due to combustible gases contained within a metallic container of some kind.

Acting on this opinion, the Fire Marshal obtained blueprints of the buildings to determine whether or not an explosive of this sort was in the building. If the blueprints fall to show any existence of this then the suggestion is strong that either a bomb or an infernal machine was used.

STILL THINK IT WAS PLOT

Captain Walter M. Wilhelm, vice president and general manager of the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation, asked today by the Evening Ledger whether any late information had caused him to change his mind regarding the cause of the disaster, replied:

"No. We still think it was a plot." Captain Wilhelm said the guard force of the company did not have any one under arrest on suspicion of implication in the explosion, but he said he understood the Chester authorities were detaining several men.

Captain Wilhelm said the corporation early last week requested the Department of the East, at Governor's Island, New York, to send Federal guards to protect the docks and water front of the plant, as a result of several attempts of a mysterious motorboat to land at night. The United States authorities, however, declined to act until the State authorities had given their approval, and the matter was being considered by Governor Brumbaugh and Adjutant General Stewart when the disaster occurred. Captain Wilhelm explained that the request for Federal aid was made because under the law at present any land at the docks of a private corporation unless the Federal authorities have made a specific ruling to the contrary. As the water front

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LLOYD GEORGE SALUTES AMERICA ON ENTRANCE INTO WAR; SEES PEACE

I CAN see peace coming now—not a peace which is the mere beginning of another war—but real peace. I am the first Minister in behalf of Britain to salute America as one of our comrades in arms. I'm glad of it—I'm proud of it.

I'm glad not merely because of the stupendous resources that your great nation can render to succor the alliance, but I rejoice as a democrat that the advent of the United States gives the final stamp and seal to the character of the conflict.

We rejoice that America has won the right to be at the peace conference table when the terms are fixed. It would have been a tragedy to mankind if America had not won the right to be at the peace conference table, with all the influence and power she has now obtained.

The Kaiser promised that Prussia would be a democracy after the war. I think the Kaiser is right.

The United States has a noble tradition that they have never been engaged in war except for liberty. This is the greatest struggle for liberty on which they have ever embarked.

America's entrance means something more than waging of an effective war—she will insure a beneficial peace.

I am glad America has already sent naval and military experts to confer. America's enormous help is illustrated in the guns used in Monday's victory.

It was a bad day for the Prussian military autocracy when it challenged the great Republic of the West.

The road to victory is found in the word "ships." America already realizes this; hence the proposition for a thousand 3000-ton merchantmen.

For three years the British tried every blunder thinkable and got into every bunker, but a fine niblick has made our score. It will be worth while for America to study our blunders so as to begin where we now are, not where we were three years ago.

Two great facts clinch the argument that this struggle is for freedom. They are, first, America's entrance, and, second, the Russian revolution. At first it was hard for America to understand Germany's purposes, but when they were realized America acted promptly. When the Hindenburg line is drawn America is determined the Rhine and not the Atlantic will be the proper location.

In view of the history of past wars it is no wonder many thought the kings were up to their old tricks again. The fact that the United States finally entered, however, shows this is not that sort of struggle.

[Statement sent to America by the British Premier, Lloyd George, at a meeting in London today of the American Luncheon Club attended by scores of British notables and presided over by American Ambassador Page.]



LLOYD GEORGE

U. S. WILL SPAN ATLANTIC WITH FOOD "BRIDGE" CANADIANS WIN MILE LINE NEAR RIDGE OF VIMY

Huge Merchant Marine Will Be Built by Goethals

Dash Forward in Storming Assault South of Ridge

VESSELS WILL RUN THREE MILES APART

BRITISH AIM TO SEIZE ARRAS-CAMBRAI ROAD

Mammoth Merchant Marine Planned to Foil Submarines

THE United States would build in twelve months, beginning from November 1, 1917, a string of 1000 wooden ships totaling 3,000,000 tons. In 1916 the United States built 500,000 tons; Great Britain and her colonies 700,000; the rest of the world 600,000—a total of 1,800,000 tons.

Plans for the new merchant marine call for an additional 2000 ships with tonnage of 6,000,000, to be built in the second year.

The cost will be provided by the present \$50,000,000 already authorized by Congress and \$300,000,000 more to be asked.

General George W. Goethals will have complete supervision of the building plans.

One hundred and fifty thousand lumbermen and woodworkers are needed to build the ships.

Thirty-five thousand additional men needed to man the merchant fleet.

Sailings would be such that a boat every three miles would be in passage to England.

WASHINGTON, April 12. General Carranza has assured the United States that Mexico will not close the Tampico oil fields to the Allies, the State Department officially announced late today.

America plans the greatest merchant marine in the world to break the German submarine blockade and supply the Allies with food and munitions.

There are planned 3000 small wooden craft, to cost \$300,000 each, and to be operated on such a schedule that the boats, three miles apart, will stretch from America to England.

The President's request to General George W. Goethals, canal builder, to superintend construction of this vast merchant fleet has been accepted.

Every ship will be armed and will

LONDON, April 12.

The British have resumed their advance in Palestine, says a dispatch from Cairo today. Turkish territory has been penetrated to a depth of about fifteen miles by British cavalry. The British losses in fighting around Gaza are put at about 100.

BERLIN, April 12. British forces are suffering heavy losses on the western front and preliminary successes are balanced by counter-thrusts of German troops, today's official statement declared.

LONDON, April 12. The greatest battle of the war is coming soon. Germany has her reserves ready and is about to hurl her full forces against the Allied line on the west front, according to General F. B. Maurice, director of military operations, in an interview today.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES AFIELD, April 12.

Canadians earned new honors today in a storming advance on a mile front south of the Vimy ridge.

Dashing forward impetuously, they stormed and took nearly a mile of German trenches running south from the German commandant's house near the Farnus wood.

It is along this line of defense that the German forces have been clinging desperately since the first sweep forward of the Canadians cleared the top of the Vimy ridge.

Desperate fighting is in progress today over the eastern slopes of Vimy ridge. In the face of violent resistance British forces swarmed over a German entrenchment between the Coleu River and Neuville Vitasse, storming the position. The corresponding and adjoining position of trenches to the south of the river is today being cleared of its Teuton defenders by combined artillery fire in a concentrated deluge of steel and various attacks.

Hill 90 is firmly in British hands despite the fact that the German forces are still in possession of the summit.

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Brazil Notifies U. S. of Break

WASHINGTON, April 12.—The State Department was notified through its charge d'affaires in Rio de Janeiro today that Brazil has broken diplomatic relations with Germany.

LATEST SPORTS

BASEBALL SCORES

WASH'NGT'N 3 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 0—6 12 0 ATHLETICS 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0—2 6 1 Gallia and Henry; Myers, Noyes, Nabors and Schang.

PHILLIES . . . 0 0 — BROOKLYN . . 0 Called off — Rixey and Killefer; Coombs and Meyer. O'Day and Bransfield.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

BOSTON 3 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1—6 8 0 NEW YORK 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0—1 7 3 Leonard and Thomas; Shawkey and Walters.

CHICAGO ST. LOUIS Postponed—Rain and cold weather.

CLEVELAND 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0—2 7 2 DETROIT 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0—1 5 0 Bagby and O'Neill; Ehmke and Spencer.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

NEW YORK 0 0 0 6 0 0 0 0 0 6 11 2 BOSTON 0 0 2 1 0 1 0 0 0 4 9 1 Anderson and Bariden; Rudolph and Gowdy.

ST. LOUIS 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 3 1 CINCINNATI 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 X—1 7 1 Ames and Snyder; Toney and Wingo.

PITTSBURGH 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 5 0 CHICAGO 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 X—2 8 2 Cooper and Fischer; Douglas and Elliott.

PENN SCRUB 0 0 1 PENN VARSITY 2 1 0

ADDITIONAL RACING RESULTS

Fourth Bowie race, 3-year-olds and up, 7 furlongs—Kilmer, 103. McTaggart, \$5.90, \$3.10, \$2.30, won; Soony, 103, Robinson, \$15, \$3.40, second; Gloaming, 105, Butwell, \$2.20, third. Time, 1:27 4-5.

Fifth Bowie race, 3-year-olds and up, selling, 1 mile—Judge Wingfield, 107, Robinson, \$13.30, \$5.40, \$4.00, won; Fairy Legend, 106, J. McTaggart, \$3.10, \$2.30, second; Reno, 113, Haynes, \$5.10, third. Time, 1:43 1-5.

Sixth Bowie race, selling, 3-year-olds and up, 1 mile and 20 yards—Richard Langdon, 109, J. McTaggart, \$10.80, \$5.10, \$3.60, won; Brickley, 109, Robinson, \$4.50, \$3.00, second; Prim Harry, 111, Farrington, \$2.50, third. Time, 1:46 1-5.

Seventh Bowie race, 3-year-olds and up, claiming, 1 1/16 miles—Billie Baker, 112, T. McTaggart, \$7.50, \$4.50, \$3.40, won; Mnida, 104, oppleman, \$7.10, \$5.20, second; Carlton G., 112, A. Collins, \$7.00, third. Time, 1:52.

NORTHEAST INTERCLASS MEET WON BY D

D class won the Northeast High interclass track meet today with a total score of 46 1-2; A, second, 40 1-2; C, third, 19; F, fourth, 16; E, fifth, 8.

REPORT SERIOUS CRISIS BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SPAIN

By CHARLES P. STEWART Special Cable Service of the United Press and Evening Ledger.

BUENOS AIRES, April 12.—Indications of a serious crisis between England and Spain were contained in Madrid dispatches here today. They asserted that the British Ambassador at Madrid had been sent to the frontier on a special train. Despite denial of the Foreign Minister, it was said Spain was expelling him because of suspicion that he was fomenting revolutionary plots against the monarchy. The Spanish Ambassador to Argentina was informed by his Government today that Spain had withdrawn the bulk of her troops from Africa. It was stated that 29,000 men had already been landed at home ports.

ENLISTMENTS EXPIRE AT END OF EMERGENCY

All men who enlist in the regular army now will be discharged at the termination of the emergency. This fact was made known today in a telegram from Adjutant General McCain, at Washington, to Colonel Charles A. P. Hatfield, 1229 Arch street, who has charge of the recruiting for the regular army in this city. The telegram follows: "It is the policy of the War Department to discharge at the termination of the emergency all men who have enlisted in the regular army since the declaration of war or who now enlist. This policy also applies to the National Guard."

WHEAT REACHES \$2.41; NEW HIGH MARK

CHICAGO, April 12.—Heavy buying by commission houses and active short covering resulted in new high prices for wheat on the Chicago Board of Trade. The cash article sold as high as \$2.41. May soared to \$2.19, July to \$1.89 and September to \$1.71. The best prices were not held to the close.

FOLLOWER OF DAVE LANE SUCCEEDS MAGISTRATE CALL

Frank W. Neff, a personal friend and political adherent of David H. Lane, of the Twentieth Ward, who has taken an active part in Republican politics from the time he cast his first vote, was sworn in as Magistrate by Judge Wessels in the Court of Quarter Sessions today, to succeed the late Magistrate Joseph Call. Magistrate Neff will occupy Court No. 12, on Girard avenue below Thirtieth street. He was presented to Judge Wessels by Attorney Chester A. ...

ARSENAL WORKER KILLED IN BLAST

Another Man Dying in Frankford Hospital After Fuse Explosion

CARELESSNESS BLAMED



ARSENAL EXPLOSION VICTIM Philip McNally, who was killed today when a building used as a high-explosive shop was destroyed.

One man was killed instantly and one so seriously injured that he is dying in the Frankford Hospital in an explosion at the Frankford Arsenal early this morning.

The War Department announced today that the explosion was due to the carelessness of the man who lost his life and the man who was injured in violating a standing order regarding the reassembling of detonators. This announcement followed the department's receipt of an official dispatch from the commandant of the arsenal.

The dead man is Philip J. McNally, forty years old, who boards at 6748 Tully street, Tacony. His home is in Southport, N. C., where his father, L. Miller, has a right. He has been seriously burned on the right shoulder, the right arm, the head and neck. At the hospital it was said that his death is expected at any minute.

The explosion occurred in the RA shop of the fusing department, where detonators are made, at 10:40 last night.

CARELESSNESS BLAMED According to Major Bricker, the men were working in direct violation of the arsenal rules. They were taking primers from detonating fuses in order to reprime them correctly. One of the first rules is that fuses not properly primed must be thrown away.

McNally, whose chest was blown open and whose face was seriously mutilated, is survived by a wife, Mrs. Katherine McNally; an eight-year-old son, Bernard, and an aged mother.

The dead man's family was loud in its denunciation of what they called the carelessness of the arsenal officials in sending untrained men to work with Philip McNally.

"My boy was a skilled worker," said the mother. "He had been employed in the arsenal for three years. He often complained to us of the danger of sending green hands into the fuse department. Only the other day he said before he started out to work that if there was an explosion it wouldn't be his fault. Some time ago one of the men dropped a shell and he wondered then why something awful hadn't happened."

FAMILY SCORES OFFICIALS The entire neighborhood is indignant over the accident and "sides with" the McNally family in its charges of carelessness of the arsenal officials.

James Nulty, former State Senator, who declared that he had worked unceasingly in 1913 for the passage of an act that would make conditions for workers in munitions factories safer, was particularly aroused.

"If I was in Congress," he said, "I would try to have a bill passed to reduce the speed of the workers. The people should wake up to the danger of the work and more precautions should be taken. We have been after an appropriation to safeguard the work of the arsenal for years, and it has taken years to get it. The men work at only just been awarded. The men work at tables with the powder in front of them unguarded in any way. There should be shields and many other safeguards. Colonel Montgomery does all he can under the circumstances."

According to Mr. Nulty, two men working under the same conditions as McNally and Miller were similarly killed in the arsenal more than ten years ago. They left widows and orphans who have not yet received any provision from the Government.

They were Patrick Glancy and Peter McColligan.

"These men were dependent on what they made," he said, "to support their families. When they were killed and the widows and children were left behind destitution faced them. The Government did nothing and has done nothing yet. All of these things should be looked into."

Frankford Arsenal was established in 1814. Its importance as a supply center was realized when the Mexican war was fought during the Folk administration, and more than ever in the Civil War.

Colonel George Montgomery, its commandant, in the last few years has conducted a persistent campaign to gain from Congress enough money to enlarge its capacity.

Many forms of ammunition are manufactured at the Frankford Arsenal. Since the European war larger ammunition plants have sprung into existence, but up to 1914 the plant in the northeast had no peer in this country.

With the additions that have been made to it since 1914, the arsenal now commands several score acres. The industry has had the enthusiastic support of all the business men's association in Frankford, Tacony and Torresdale for many years, and explosions or other accidents there have been rare. The last major one was in August, 1915, when three men were killed.

WHAT MAY HAPPEN IN BASEBALL TODAY

Table with columns for Club, Won, Lost, Pct., etc. for National League and American League.

LOGAN SQUARE AWARDS FAR BELOW CLAIMS

Jury Makes Heavy Cuts in Damages Asked by McNichol and Blankenburg

The Jury of View today in Common Pleas Court No. 3 handed down verdicts in the damage cases of State Senator J. P. McNichol and ex-Mayor Rudolph Blankenburg.

By the McNichol award at 222 North Eleventh street, the award is \$100,000. McNichol asked between \$138,500 and \$153,000, while assessment is \$65,000.

For the Blankenburg home at 214 North Eleventh street the award is \$59,000. Blankenburg asked \$23,000. His assessment is \$45,000.

The arguments before the Board of View today took many hours with the claims of both as to why they were entitled to the sums they claimed.

The decision, however, is right in line with what has been done in most cases of this nature. The award is far below the claims and far greater damages than the city can pay.

Allow Allies to Recruit Here

ORLEANS, April 12.—The public school directors of New Orleans, at the instigation of a New Orleans newspaper, have unanimously a resolution ordering the address of President Wilson to be read in all the common schools of the city.

THE WEATHER

FORECAST Philadelphia and vicinity—Generally cloudy and slightly colder tonight; tomorrow, fair and colder; moderate to fresh breeze from the north.

LENGTH OF DAY 12:57 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 1:33 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 1:33 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. 1:33 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.