

"GRANDFATHER CLAUSE" IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURTS HOLDS OKLAHOMA ELECTION LAW VIOLATES THE FIFTEENTH AMENDMENT

LITERACY TEST IS HELD ILLEGAL

Indictment of Blaine County Officials Upheld; Governor Reticent, Others Favor an Immediate Session of the Legislature.

Washington.—In probably one of the most important race decisions in the history, the supreme court annulled as unconstitutional the Oklahoma constitutional amendment and the Annapolis, Md., voters' qualification law restricting the suffrage rights of those who could not vote or whose ancestors could not vote to the ratification of the fifteenth amendment to the federal constitution.

Chief Justice White, a native of the south and a former confederate soldier, announced the court's decision, which was unanimous except that Justice McReynolds took no part in the case.

By holding that conditions that existed before the fifteenth amendment, which provides that the right to vote shall not be denied or abridged on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, could not be brought over to the present day in disregard of this self-executing amendment, it is generally believed that the court went a long way toward invalidating much of the so-called "grandfather clause" legislation of southern states.

The immediate effect of the court's decision was to uphold the conviction of two Oklahoma election officials who denied negroes the right to vote in a congressional election and to award three Maryland negroes damages from election officials in Annapolis who refused to register them. The court held that these election officials could not ignore the potency of the fifteenth amendment in wiping out of state constitutions the word "white" as a qualification for voting. In the Maryland case the court's decision establishes the point that the fifteenth amendment applies alike to municipal as well as to federal elections.

Exceptions Declared Illegal.
Discussing the Oklahoma cases, Chief Justice White said the suffrage amendment to the state constitution first fixed a literacy standard and then followed it with a provision creating a standard based upon the condition existing on Jan. 1, 1866, prior to the adoption of the fifteenth amendment and eliminated those coming under that standard from the inclusion in the literacy test.

Indictments Are Upheld.
The constitution and statutes not only guarantee the right to vote but require the vote to be counted, the supreme court also held in reversing the federal district court of Oklahoma which annulled indictments of two Blaine county, Oklahoma, election officials charged with conspiracy to omit from congressional returns in 1912 the vote in eleven precincts.

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Favored, To Pass New Laws Barring Negroes.

Oklahoma City.—Receipt of the news in state official circles of the decision of the supreme court of the United States, declaring unconstitutional Oklahoma's famous "grandfather clause" of the constitution, occasioned considerable comment, but no surprise. Such a decision had been expected by those who had made a close study of the case. In contemplation of an adverse decision the question of supplanting the famous section with statute enactment or constitutional provisions had frequently been discussed in the councils of the democratic party for more than two years.

In local official circles a unanimous sentiment favors the calling of an extra session of the legislature at the earliest time convenient, to enact new legislation which will have the same effect as the grandfather clause of the constitution, or to refer an amendment to the voters. Official opinion indicates that a special session will be held in the near future.

Governor Wallfama would not give a definite answer to the question of whether he would call an extra session of the law-making body. Other high in state and legislative official circles declared without hesitation that the legislature should be convened in extraordinary session to take whatever action that might be deemed necessary to continue the effect of the grandfather clause.

Speaker A. McCrory of the house of

ENORMOUS WAR LOAN IS AUTHORIZED

London.—The house of commons passed a bill providing the chancellor of the exchequer with a blank check which may amount, at a maximum, to 1,000,000,000 pounds (\$5,000,000,000).

The vote of credit for 250,000,000 pounds passed last week by the house simply authorized the government to spend that much for war purposes, but did not provide for the manner in which this sum should be raised. The new enactment was in the form of a

LEO FRANK ESCAPES HANGING



Leo M. Frank, the Atlanta Jew, convicted on the unsupported testimony of a negro, of the murder of Mary Phagan, and sentenced to hang June 22 has had his sentence commuted to imprisonment.

ANGELES DESERTS GENERAL VILLA

AND CARRANZA LOSES FOUR OF HIS CABINET.

Indications of a General Break-Up Among the Leaders of Mexican Factions.

Washington.—General Felipe Angeles, artillery expert and right hand man of General Francisco Villa, has left his chief and is now in the United States en route to Boston, Mass., to visit his family.

Officials were unable to throw much light on the reasons for the departure of Angeles at a time when his services to Villa in the military campaign would seem to be vitally needed. One explanation advanced was that Angeles was coming to the United States to confer with some of the many prominent Mexicans who have been living in exile, taking no part in the revolutionary activity but who lately have been planning to form a coalition with some of the forces in the field to enable them to



General Felipe Angeles.

get the "active moral support" which President Wilson announced in his recent statement the United States would soon give some group unless the warring factions could agree among themselves.

Until the exact effect of a break between Angeles and Villa—if it develops there actually has been a break—and the outcome of the differences between Obregon and Carranza are known, officials do not think it will be possible to forecast developments in the situation. No further information was received through official channels from Vera Cruz concerning the resignations of the four cabinet ministers whom General Obregon has insisted should be retained, nor was any explanation obtainable for the removal of Carranza to an isolated fortress in the harbor in Vera Cruz.

Negro Lynched Near Little Rock.

Texarkana, Ark.—Loy Haley, negro, was taken from Sheriff Boyett of Hempstead county, Ark., by a mob of fifty men in automobiles and taken to a point near Lewisville, strung up to a limb of a tree and his body riddled with bullets. The negro had shot in the back and killed Roy Lester, a young white planter, near Lewisville. He surrendered and Sheriff Boyett was trying to take the negro to Little Rock when the mob overpowered him and hung his prisoner.

Frauds in Oleomargarine.

Washington.—How violations of the oleomargarine law have defrauded the federal government out of at least \$27,000,000 due in stamp and special taxes was revealed by Secretary McAdoo in a statement based upon a preliminary report on a sweeping investigation conducted by Commissioner Osborn of the internal revenue bureau. Frauds committed as long ago as 1902 immediately after the enactment of the law have been uncovered by the revenue commissioner.

LEMBERG IS NOW DOOMED

GALICIAN CAPITOL CANNOT RESIST ONSLAUGHT OF TEUTONIC FORCES.

ITALIAN CAMPAIGN WILL BENEXT

British House of Commons Votes Another War Appropriation of a Billion and a Quarter Dollars, To Keep Up the Fight.

London.—The Austro-German rushing in Galicia is on again. Both Berlin and Vienna officially lay claim to progress along virtually the entire southeastern front and Lemberg seems again to be in danger.

Moscika to the east of Przemysl has been captured by the Austro-Germans and according to the German contention the Russians are falling back south of the railroad connecting Przemysl and Lemberg. All the Russian counter attacks have been repulsed with gains for the Teutons from a point north of Przemysl into Bessarabia.

General Von Mackenzen has telegraphed the German emperor that he hopes to capture Lemberg, the capital of Galicia, before July 1.

Far off as the front is from England and France it is being watched more closely than the western front because it would appear that these operations are being pressed in an attempt to clear Galicia of the Russians, preparatory to a breathing spell in the east, which is likely to be followed by a crushing blow aimed at Italy.

The fighting is growing harder daily along the Austro-Italian frontier and in view of past performances it is considered reasonable to assume that Germany will throw a great mass of troops on this front and endeavor to sweep into Italy and hold ground there just as she has done in Poland, Belgium and France.

Austrians Advancing on Italians.
Twenty-five thousand Austro-Hungarian troops left Trent and are now advancing against the Italians on the Riva Roverto front.

Near Gorz and Gradisca heavy fighting occurred recently. The Austrian casualties are reported to have amounted to 1,500 while the number of Italians killed or wounded totaled nearly as many.

A new ammunition depot at Tolmino has been destroyed by the Italians.

The Austro-Hungarian troops are employing dynamite in the Alpine passes, blowing up rocks and loosening avalanches on the advancing Herzaglieri.

The fighting in France around Arras while bitter and marked by daily attacks and counter attacks, has reached the stage where the German and French official communications flatly contradict each other. On the whole, it is believed here that the advantage has been with the French.

HENRY BEACH NEEDHAM KILLED

American Magazine Writer Falls in Military Aeroplane.

Paris.—Lieut. Reginald A. J. Warneford, who gained fame recently by blowing to pieces a Zeppelin over Belgium, was killed by the fall of an aeroplane at Buc, France. Lieutenant Warneford was piloting the machine which had as a passenger Henry Beach Needham, the American writer, who also was killed.

Lieutenant Warneford and Needham fell from a height of 500 feet.

The lieutenant had been spending a few days in Paris where he came after his Zeppelin exploit to receive his decoration of the Legion of Honor.

Needham's body was taken to the English hospital in Trianon palace Versailles. He had been in Europe about four months, acting a correspondent of magazines and a New York paper. He had received permission from the military authorities to make a flight in order to get material for a story.

COMMONS VOTES BIG WAR CREDIT

Billions Dollars Added, Making Total of Four Billions in Year.

London.—The house of commons voted another credit of \$1,250,000,000, making with previous sums, a total of \$2,310,000,000 already allowed for war purposes.

In introducing the measure Premier Asquith remarked that from April 1 to June 12 the expenditure had been at the rate of \$13,300,000 daily.

He estimated that the total daily expenditure during the currency of the new credit would be not less than \$15,000,000, for the reason that as the war extended its area, Great Britain's financial obligations to the allies would increase.

Denmark Pledged To Neutral Policy.

London.—A Reuter dispatch from Copenhagen says the Danish folkthing or lower house of parliament unanimously resolved to support the ministry in its policy of absolute neutrality. A dispatch from Copenhagen said that as a result of attacks by the conservative newspapers on the radical cabinet's policy of neutrality in the war, the government purposed to ask for a vote of confidence on its policy and that if this were not given it would resign.

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