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KEOKUK, IOWA, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1916

THE WEATHER

Fair. Warmer Tuesday. Local temp—7 p. m. 70; 7 a. m. 53.

TEN PAGES

ENGLISH TRAITOR IS NOW ON TRIAL

SAYS END OF WAR IS NEAR AT HAND

Sam Hill Was in Europe for Seven Days and Found Out That Germany is Beaten.

ENGLAND'S STRICT MAIL BLOCKADE

Americans in Berlin are Complaining Over the Way Great Britain Seizes Mail Bags.

NEW YORK, May 15.—Germany is beaten and the end of the war is near at hand, according to Samuel Hill, associated with his father, James J. Hill in railway enterprises, who arrived late last night from Liverpool on the liner Philadelphia. Hill made a record trip abroad. He was only seven days ashore, but in that time he traveled from Liverpool to London; across the channel to Havre; to the headquarters of King Albert of Belgium and back again. He had a long talk with King Albert and got a glimpse of the front, near Dunkirk. "Germany cannot struggle against the overwhelming financial strain and the economic conditions since the war," he said, explaining why he believed peace would soon come. "There will not be another winter campaign and peace will come just as suddenly as the war broke out. The French people have put their living on a practical basis—they eat only sufficient food to sustain them in health. King Albert, whom I have known for a score of years, is in splendid health and confident of early restoration to his people of the section of Belgium held by the Germans." Hill said he made his flying trip to get certain information, the nature of which was not disclosed.

Mail Blockade.

[By Carl W. Ackerman, United Press Staff Correspondent.] BERLIN, April 15. (By mail)—England today is maintaining an absolute mail blockade of Germany. Fewer letters and newspapers are reaching Berlin today than at any time since the beginning of the war. England's control of the cable censorship is becoming more severe so that Germany is gradually being cut off from communication with the United States and all other countries.

For several months Americans in Berlin have been receiving their mail marked "opened by the censor No.—." The letters have been taken from neutral steamers and held in England for examination. Some Americans had been receiving mail through Holland and Norway, but lately the English have been taking this mail from the steamers. This is producing a critical situation among the Ameri-

cans in Berlin and other parts of Germany who number in all over 700. During the past few days, letters posted in America between January 6 and 13 arrived, all examined by the censor and three months enroute. The English control of the news cablegrams from American correspondents is apparently growing more strict. For instance, in March the Berlin bureau of the United Press filed a cable to New York containing an interview with the editor of the Berlin Lokal Anzeiger on the Japanese situation. This interview did not reach New York, apparently having been held up by the British censor.

The latest order of the British government declaring paper money and checks absolutely contraband is also working hardships on Americans. Formerly these people received their allowances and incomes by drafts from New York. Now these drafts are confiscated. Most Americans received a good part of their incomes from the United States, but under new arrangements this may be impossible. It will not be feasible to wireless money, because the banks cannot send the receipts or checks by mail. This condition of affairs has aroused the Americans who are in business here and today the following note appeared in the weekly report of the American Chamber of Commerce and Trade: "Since last Christmas, Americans in Germany have been put to no end of trouble by the seizure and detention of the mails, to and from Europe by the British authorities. As a case in point, the writer received only the other day, a letter from the United States dated January 8, 1916, which had been censored in England and evidently had been lying there three months. According to the literal reading of Article 1, of the peace conference of 1907 at The Hague, "the postal correspondence of neutrals or belligerents whatever its official or private character may be, found on the high seas on board a neutral or enemy ship is inviolable. If the ship is detained the correspondence is for-

warded to the captor." (Continued on page 2.)

GENERAL HOUSE CLEANING IN MEXICO IS NECESSARY

What Texas People Think of Situation is Reported by Chief of Staff Scott.

[By Carl D. Groat, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Information, helpful to the administration, guiding its future course toward Mexico, was presented today to Secretary of War Baker by Chief of Staff Scott.

He informed him that while General Obregon at El Paso had refused to put down Mexican co-operation terms in black and white, he offered details that will be helpful, provided there are no outbreaks among detached Carranzista garrisons.

His report tended to confirm the optimism of the past few days, though he included in it the opinions of many El Pasoans that a general house cleaning by the United States within Mexico will be necessary ultimately.

Details of General Pershing's redistribution of troops south of Columbus, showed that the American expedition is in position to make a rapid cleanup of potential border raiders. It was assumed that Mexican Ambassador Arredondo would elect to see Secretary of State Lansing soon on pending diplomatic questions, though neither side has shown haste recently to discuss the Carranza suggestions

for American troops withdrawal. Much of the need for this was emphasized in the Scott-Obregon conference. Before the end of the week the recently added forces should be disposed of at various border stations. "General Scott is in a very optimistic frame of mind," said Secretary of War Baker in a brief conference with his chief of staff. "He seems to think that a general house cleaning has been created."

Because of his tiring journey, Scott returned to his home after the Baker session and postponed meeting Secretary Lansing until later. The war department was without confirmation regarding reported raids or attempted raids.

Villareal Defends Himself.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Antonio L. Villareal today denied in a letter to the United Press, charges of Mexican Ambassador Arredondo that he instigated the recent raids in the Big Bend district and that he is concerned in border plots to force intervention. Villareal called the accusations "slandrous and absurd. He counter-attacked the Carranza government charged the Carranza government with seeking "to suppress him at any

(Continued on page 2.)

GERMANY

BERLIN, May 15.—"British troops made unsuccessful attempts to reconquer positions taken by the Germans near Hulleuch," said this afternoon's statement from the war office. "These attacks either broke down in artillery fire or were repulsed in hand to hand fighting."

French attacks in the Meuse district, on the west slope north of Dead Man's hill and near Caillette forest, were easily repulsed. "Artillery and patrols have been active on many sections of the western front."

ZEPPELIN IN DISTRESS.

COPENHAGEN, May 15.—A Zeppelin airship, badly damaged, passed off the island of Fedje early Friday, settling slowly toward the water and disappearing in a bank of fog, according to the skipper of a Danish fishing vessel. A flotilla of destroyers were pursuing the Zeppelin which evidently had been damaged by a shell.

Explosion Killed Ten.

WILMINGTON, Del., May 15.—Ten men were killed in an explosion at the Repano chemical plant at Gibbstown, N. J., today, and four others, badly injured, were taken to a hospital at Camden. The explosion rocked the surrounding country for many miles, shaking suburbs of Philadelphia. DuPont officials hurried to Gibbstown from Wilmington and telephoned a statement regarding the casualties.

Chance for West Point.

MANHATTAN, Kansas, May 15.—Five Kansas Agricultural college men will have the opportunity to enter West Point as cadets, according to a telegram received by President Walters from the adjutant general of the war department.

The men will be selected by examination. Honor graduates are preferred. Every male student here takes two years of military training under United States army officers.

Preparedness Parade.

CHICAGO, May 15.—Chicago today planned to out-do New York's preparedness parade, in which nearly 150,000 marchers participated Saturday. William M. Lewis, secretary of the Illinois Navy League, issued a call to patriotic organizations for a similar parade here, to be held probably June 10, during the republican and progressive national conventions.

Sir Roger Casement Goes to Trial on the Charge of High Treason

[By Wilbur S. Forrest, United Press Staff Correspondent.]

LONDON, May 15.—Clad in a seedy dark suit with frayed sleeves, Sir Roger Casement, once a favorite in the British consular service, went to trial today in the Bow street police court on the charge of high treason, punishable by hanging.

Sir Roger entered the court room smiling and nodding to some of the men who knew him before he was knighted. His face was covered with a stubby, greenish-gray beard that gave his best smiles a ghastly look. He wore a pair of shoes requisitioned from the stock of the British army. Bow street was packed. It was the first high treason trial held in the old court room since Arthur Lynch was placed on trial as an aftermath of the Boer war.

Legal dignitaries, old friends of Sir Roger and newspapermen, filled the diminutive court room and jammed so closely about the prisoner that he could scarcely move. The seat assigned the United Press, for instance, was within three feet of Sir Roger.

Casement was accompanied to the prisoners dock by Daniel Bailey, a soldier arrested at Ireland Sunday, also on the charge of high treason. Sir Roger was calm when Attorney General Sir F. E. Smith began reading the formal charge against him and reviewing his life history. His eyes roved about the room, resting at intervals upon the presiding magistrate, and then turning upon the spectators.

In his opening statement, Attorney General Smith declared the crown would prove that Sir Roger plotted not only the Irish rebellion, but planned to land expeditions in Ireland and at several other places on the British coast. Several exchanged English prisoners will testify to this effect, he said.

As the attorney general proceeded, the prisoner became fidgety and twisted in his chair. When Smith referred to the fact that he had been knighted because of his service in behalf of the British government, Sir Roger hung his head.

The attorney general outlined in a brief way, Casement's arrival on the Irish coast with a German submarine and auxiliary, his landing and

RUSSIA

PETROGRAD, May 15.—Developing in the extreme south, the Persians of Lake Urumiah eighty miles of the communication of the Persian Gulf.

The Slavs have advanced the region of Romania, and the Turkish front, westward toward the Mesopotamian city of Mosul. Unless speedily checked by the Turks, within a fortnight they will be threatening to cut off the Turkish forces holding back the British at Kut-el-Amara.

No development of the grand duke's successful offensive in the Caucasus has brought such surprise as the news of the appearance of another Russian army near the Turkish line of communication. For several weeks the official communiques have been almost entirely silent on the progress of the Russian force operating in the lake Urumiah district of Persia. When the curtain of secrecy was lifted, the Russian army was disclosed well across the Turkish frontier and moving westward, apparently without serious resistance.

That the grand duke has outwitted the Turks and their German tutors, is the belief here. Following the victories at Erzerum and Trebizond, the Russians pushed on in the direction of Erzingan and Diarbek, as if to cut off the Turkish Bagdad armies by a drive through the latter city.

The Turks moved reinforcements eastward from Constantinople and strengthened their lines on the Erzingan-Bitlis front to meet the expected attack. Meanwhile the Russian left wing entered Mesopotamia at a point 300 miles southeast of the region in which the main Turkish force was concentrated.

Railway Men's Convention.

DETROIT, Mich., May 15.—To consider ways and means of furthering the fight for an eight hour day on all railroads in the country, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen opened its first triennial convention today in this city. A thousand delegates were in attendance.

Flight Is Postponed.

LOS ANGELES, Calif., May 15.—The cross continent flight of Oscar Brindley and A. J. Macy, scheduled to begin today in an aeroplane fitted with Macy's stabilizer, was postponed indefinitely because the machine was not ready.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY TEXAS MOB

Twenty Thousand People Took Part in Hanging and Burning of Convicted Murderer.

STORMED THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Judge Had Finished Pronouncing Sentence to Hang, When Mob Crowded Into the Room.

WACO, Texas, May 15.—Storming the county court house, a mob estimated at 20,000 today seized Jesse Washington, an eighteen year old negro, and burned him to death in City Hall square for the murder of Mrs. Elizabeth Fryar, 56, the wife of a farmer.

Washington had been sentenced to hang. As soon as Judge Munroe pronounced sentence and turned to record the case in his docket, the mob leaders surrounded Sheriff S. S. Fleming and forced him into a corner. The sheriff resisted, but was firmly pressed back and his prisoner taken from him. Washington, a pitiable object, trembled and begged for mercy, but was led to the court house steps where thousands surrounded him. Then the mob flowed through the streets three blocks to City Hall square. There was little shouting and strictest order prevailed until the negro reached the tree to which he was hung. Then a leader stepped forward and ran a rope about his neck. At a signal, Washington shot into the air high above the heads of the crowd and thousands of voices broke into the cry of "burn him! Burn him!"

As if rehearsed on his part, a second mob leader stepped forward and emptied an oil can on a heap of crates and cord wood below the tree. A match was applied and the pile leaped into flames. Some one cut the rope and Washington, shrieking and begging for mercy, dropped into the flames. The yells of the crowd drowned his cries and he burned for twenty minutes.

Started by Fire Bugs.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, May 15.—The two fires which started at widely separated points on Fort Bliss military reservation at El Paso Saturday night and did considerable damage, were probably incendiary in origin, General Funston announced today after receiving the official reports. Funston appeared disturbed. The fires broke out more than an hour apart and destroyed three stables and a storehouse. Tents and several machine guns were lost in the storehouse fire and in the other, four horses were burned. General Bell reported that civilians aided the soldiers in fighting the fires.

Police are in Control.

SANTO DOMINGO, May 15.—The rebel forces having retired from the capital under threat of American intervention, the Dominican congress was preparing today to elect a successor to President Jimenez, who resigned while a revolt was in progress. The police were in control today and the city was quiet. The rebels under General Elias evacuated early Sunday under warning by American Minister Russell, that marines would be landed from American warships at daylight, if the city was not cleared up.

Matched for Bout.

TULSA, Okla., May 15.—Jim Flynn, of Pueblo, Colo., and Jack Dillon, of Indianapolis have been matched for a fifteen round bout at Dewey, Okla., for July four, according to an announcement here today.

Wheels of Justice Turn Slowly at Start of the Sensational Murder Case.

WAUKEGAN, Ill., May 15.—The wheels of Lake county justice turned slowly today to separate the grist from the chaff in the mystery of Helms woods, where pretty Marion Lambert, high school girl, met her death and for whose murder William H. Orpet, Wisconsin university junior, went to trial.

While visitors, reporters and photographers hurried to Waukegan for the beginning of the trial, Judge Charles H. Donnelly, of Woodstock, Ill., the presiding judge, delayed his arrival, and it seemed likely the actual start of the trial will be postponed until early in the afternoon.

Facing nervously in his cell at the Lake county jail, Orpet, a youth of 21, was piqued at the delay. State's Attorney Ralph Dady, the array of counsel chosen for the defense and the special panel of 136 jurors were on their toes with expectation.

Autos, buggies, and bicycles sped into Waukegan from Lake Forest where Marion Lambert and the youth charged with her murder, lived. The Lake Forest high school roll call found several students, friends of Marian, missing this morning.

Leslie P. Hanna, one of Orpet's counsel, intimated today that the

FRANCE

PARIS, May 15.—French troops drove the enemy from a first line trench near Vermandevillers, south of the Somme, said an official statement issued here today. Around Verdun, heavy bombardment in the region of Avocourt wood constituted practically the only activity.

In the Champagne region, the French cleaned out a German work west of Mont Tetu, taking some prisoners.

Americans Released.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The three Americans held imprisoned at Acapulco, in connection with the burning of the American schooner Mariscal several weeks ago off Acapulco have been released, according to a navy department message today. Two of the Americans were Frank Horn and George LaVotter, both of Oakland, Calif. Senator Phelan of California took up their cases with the state department after learning that the Mexicans claimed the two men had part in firing the ship. Demands for their release were immediately made and were granted promptly, because the charge was apparently a pretext.

In connection with this case it developed today that the state department had requested the navy department to send a navy vessel to Acapulco to look after American interests.

Start Big Whale Hunt.

SEATTLE, Wash., May 15.—John Borden, Norris H. Bokum, Charles E. Knickerbocker and Rochester B. Slaughter, boy millionaires, of Chicago, left today on a whaling and big game hunting trip in the Bering sea and Asiatic Siberia. "The Big Bear," a newly built schooner, completely equipped with hunting and whaling paraphernalia will carry the party on its perilous expedition.

Skirts Too Short.

PATERSON, N. J., May 15.—Life is just one darned disappointment after another here. Orders today required Paterson's telephone operators to disrobe fashion dictates and wear skirts long enough to conceal ankles, which the company decried were too conspicuous.

Prayers for Sick Wife.

CHICAGO, May 15.—Demetro Munk went to church yesterday to pray for his "sick wife." He came home to find that she had eloped with another man.

COURT ROOM IS CROWDED WHEN ORPET TRIAL BEGINS

selection of a jury would be a tedious procedure. The defense feared that a predominance of men from the neighborhood of the Lambert residence, at the Kuppenheimer estate, would be prejudicial to the interests of their client.

The sentiment there, Hanna admitted, was strongly against the youth.

Hanna planned a brief conference with Orpet at his office in Waukegan before going to the court room. Whether the youth himself will take the stand, was a closely veiled secret, but Waukegan expected it.

Those who have followed the case closest believed that Orpet would reveal the mystery that surrounded his trust of death with Marion in Helms woods, that preceded the discovery of her body there on February 16.

Though State's Attorney Dady declined today to admit he would ask for the death penalty for Orpet, he announced that each prospective juror would be questioned regarding his belief in capital punishment and that none would be accepted by him who did not.

As counsel prepared for the start of the trial, rumors were current in Waukegan that an important letter had been discovered, strengthening the defense's contention that Marian committed suicide.

This letter, it was said, was answered by Orpet with one line, hastily penned as he prepared to leave Madison, Wis., to meet Marian in Helms

Helped by Germans.

[By Wilbur S. Forrest, United Press Staff Correspondent.] LONDON, May 15.—Part of the carefully laid plans by which Sir Roger Casement and his confederates plotted to set up an independent re-

Casement's attempts to seduce Irish soldiers imprisoned in Germany.

The letter showed that the German submarine in which Casement, Bailey and others made the trip to Tralee, Ireland, was the U-19.

The first witness for the crown was Police Inspector Parker. Parker testified that when Casement was first arrested, he made no attempt to save himself, but insisted that Bailey was innocent.

John Robinson, an Irishman, formerly a corporal in the British army, was the next witness. Robinson was a prisoner in one of the German military camps visited by Casement. He testified that Casement visited 300 Irishmen in his camp, offering \$50 to each one who would desert the British colors. Robinson said he refused.

About fifty of the 300 Irishmen accepted the offer and enlisted in the German army, Robinson said. His testimony was corroborated by that of John Cronin, another exchanged prisoner. Cronin said they were promised that if Germany emerged from the war defeated, the German government would pay their transportation to America.

When not engaged in making notes, Casement traced roses on his pad. It was noticeable that both Casement's and Bailey's shoes were without strings. The shoe strings were removed by guards in the Tower of London, who feared the Irishmen would attempt suicide.

Testimony that an American priest, Father Nicholson, aided Sir Roger in attempting to secure recruits for the German army from among Irish prisoners at the Limburg prison camp was offered by Daniel O'Brien, an exchanged prisoner. This afternoon, O'Brien said there were 25,000 Irish prisoners at Limburg but that few of them yielded to Father Nicholson's persuasion. Michael O'Connell, another exchanged Irish prisoner, gave similar testimony.

After concluding his preliminary outline of the case against the prisoner, Attorney General Smith read a statement by the second prisoner, Daniel Bailey, arrested in Ireland April 21.

The letter corroborated reports of

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