

WATER USERS TALK DRAINAGE

President Smith Says Sand is Filling Canals; Counsel Burr is Coming.

The most important subject discussed at the monthly meeting of the El Paso Valley Water Users' association Tuesday was that of lateral system of irrigation and drainage.

Counsel Burr to Discuss Drainage. E. W. Burr, of Washington, D. C., of counsel for the reclamation service, will be here Thursday to meet with us and discuss the question of organizing drainage districts.

Besides Mr. Smith eight of the 11 directors were in attendance.

DEPARTMENT OFFICER HARDEN HERE TO STUDY IRRIGATION

Fred G. Harden, of the office of public roads and rural engineering, United States department of agriculture, arrived in El Paso Tuesday night, and is studying conditions with respect to irrigation.

We are interested in legislation affecting irrigation, and are trying to cooperate with the farmers in the organizing of small companies, in the districts that cannot be reached by the larger irrigation projects.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

Insisted upon amendment to the house army drafting resolution and directed further conference. Senator Stone introduced resolution asking president for information regarding a commercial treaty being negotiated by the entente allies.

Considered urgent deficiency bill and bill providing for extension of current appropriations through July.

ANOTHER NEW MONTH AT HAND.

Saturday starts another new month. If your office equipment or supplies are not what they should be, telephone for our efficiency man.

The War At a Glance

THE notable advance of the Italians over the ground from which they were forced in the recent Austrian offensive shows no signs of a halt.

TRY LIEBKNECHT; CHARGE TREASON

German Social Leader On Trial For Wanting War To End.

Berlin, Germany, June 25.—The trial of Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the Socialist leader, began today before a court martial which will decide whether he was guilty of attempted treason in time of war in participating in a May Day peace demonstration in Berlin.

Dr. Liebknecht, whose criticisms of the government in speeches in the Reichstag, previously had led to his expulsion from the Socialist party in that body, was arrested May 1. He has been accused not only of taking part in, but of arranging the demonstration, at which it is alleged that cries of "Down with the war" and "Down with the Kaiser" were raised by the demonstrators.

GERMANS REPORT CAPTURE OF VOLHYNIA VILLAGE

Berlin, Germany, June 25.—The great battle in Volhynia, where the Russian German army has succeeded in checking the Russian advance, has resulted in further reverses for the Russians. Announcement was made by the war office today that the Germans have captured the village of Wamiewka, west of Sokul, and Russian positions south of that point.

GERMANY DEMANDS SWISS MUST EXCHANGE PRODUCE

Paris, France, June 25.—A Zurich dispatch to the Matin says that German demands on Switzerland for the exchange of commodities are in the form of an ultimatum which expires at 6 o'clock Thursday night.

ITALIANS FLING BACK AUSTRIANS IN TRENTO

Roma, Italy, June 25.—The Italians have flung back the Austrians a further distance on the Trentino front. The war office today announced the capture of Monte Giampolo, north of Fusine and Monte Cavallo. These positions lie between Pesina and Astico.

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CASEMENT TELLS OF HIS ACTIONS

Knight on Trial, Charged With Treason Testifies in Own Defence.

London, Eng., June 25.—Dramatic developments were expected at today's session of the trial of Sir Roger Casement for high treason. Chief among these is a statement in his own defence which Sir Roger made from the dock.

Francis P. Doyle, the Philadelphia attorney who is acting as solicitor for Casement informed the Associated Press before the opening of the court that no witnesses would be called for the defence but that the statements of counsel would be supplemented by a statement from the prisoner. The main defence will rest on the argument of counsel for quashing the indictment on the ground of lack of jurisdiction.

In reference to the decision of Casement's counsel not to call any witnesses, Mr. Doyle said: "Inasmuch as this trial affects not only the life of Sir Roger Casement but also the aspirations of the nation, it has been deemed advisable not to call any witnesses in this jurisdiction." He added that no witnesses were available in this country and that it would have been necessary to go to Germany for them, but that the government would not permit it.

Alexander Sullivan, chief counsel for Sir Roger Casement, argued that the indictment should be quashed on the ground that no man could be tried for treason committed outside the king's realm, was followed by an address by Sir Roger Casement, who entered into an argumentative discussion with the judges.

The court overruled Mr. Sullivan's motion. Mr. Sullivan said the prisoner desired to make a statement. This was postponed until afternoon.

Casement Refutes Charges. Sir Roger said: "My lords and gentlemen of the jury, I desire to say a few words only with reference to some allusions made by the prosecution."

"As to my pension and the honor of knighthood conferred upon me I shall say only one word. The pension I had earned by service rendered, and it was assigned by law. The knighthood it was not in my power to refuse."

Alleges Four Misstatements. "But there are in evidence four misstatements given in the evidence against me, which I must refute."

"First, I never at any time advised Irishmen to fight with the Turks against the Russians or to fight with the Germans on the western front."

"Second, I never asked an Irishman to fight with Germany. I have always claimed that he has no right to fight for any land but Ireland."

Denies Having Been Starved. "Third, the horrible insinuations that I got my own people's rations reduced to the starvation point so they would join the Irish brigade is an absolute falsehood. The rations were necessarily reduced throughout Germany, owing to the blockade. The other suggestion that men were sent to concentration camps at my instance for not joining the Irish brigade, is devoid of all foundation."

Denies Mention of Foreign Gold. "Fourth there is a widespread imputation of 'German gold.' I owe it to those in Ireland who are assailed with me on this very ground to nail the lie once and for all. It was published by newspapers in America, I think, originating in this country and I called to America instructing my American lawyer, Mr. Doyle, to proceed against those papers for libel. From the moment that I landed on the continent until I came home again to Ireland, I never asked or accepted a single penny of foreign money, either for myself or for any Irish cause or for any purpose whatsoever."

"Money was offered to me in Germany more than once, and offered literally and unconditionally, but I rejected every suggestion of the kind and I left Germany a poorer man than when I entered it. Should I continue always obtain from my own government, and I am not ashamed here to acknowledge the debt of gratitude I owe to many an Irish friend and sympathizer who did freely and gladly help me when I was on the continent."

"The attorney general of England thought it consistent with the traditions of which he is the public representative, to make a thinly veiled allusion in his opening address, to the rising in Ireland of which he brought forward no evidence in this case from first to last and which, therefore, you and I, gentlemen, as laymen, would have supposed that he would scrupulously refrain from mentioning."

Rebellion Not Made in Germany. "Since the rising has been mentioned, however, I must say categorically that the rebellion was not made in Germany, that it was not directed from Germany, that it was not inspired from Germany and that not one penny of German gold went to finance or assist it."

"Gentlemen, I have touched on these personal matters because, intended as they were to reflect on my honor, they were calculated to tarnish the cause I hold so dear."

Intended to Strike After War. Sullivan, in summing up, said the charge against Sir Roger was that he had aided Germany during the war. He declared Sir Roger was recruiting men for service in Ireland after the European war had ended and that there was no idea of giving aid to Germany. Sir Roger's trial, he said, had asked Irishmen to fight for Germany and not one atom of aid had been rendered to Germany.

Sullivan asserted the plan was that an Irish brigade was to be quartered in Germany until after the war if Germany was successful. The brigade was to proceed to Ireland to strike a blow for home rule. If Germany lost, the brigade was to be sent to America.

Sullivan's Colleague. Today's session of the trial was brought to a sudden and dramatic close. While summing up the evidence, Mr. Sullivan collapsed as he was in the midst of an impassioned appeal and the court adjourned until tomorrow morning.

LESLIE DRAPER IS CHARGED WITH THEFT; TWO COUNTS.

Leslie Draper, a 19-year-old youth residing on Texas street, was arrested Tuesday night on two different charges of theft and is being held in the city jail pending transfer to the county jail.

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Out today New Victor Records for July

Caruso sings "My Bride Shall be My Flag" A touching ballad that tells the story of a rejected suitor, who bravely resolves to forget his disappointment in the career of a soldier, and joins the army in the place of his more fortunate rival.

The charming "Non é Ver" by de Gogorza This beautiful sentimental ballad was immensely popular in the 80's and 90's. It is still a favorite encore number and is superbly rendered by this well-known baritone.

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Pryor's Band plays two inspiring marches Nora Bayes entertains with two witty songs Two "Dixie" songs by Kitty Cheatham and 86 others including

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SUPT. WILLIAMS LEAVING TUCCSON FOR OAKLAND PIER
T. H. Williams, superintendent of the Southern Pacific company at Tucson, is transferred, effective July 1, to be superintendent of Oakland pier, Calif. He will be succeeded by assistant superintendent Fitzgerald, at Dunsmuir, Shasta division.

TODAY'S AMUSEMENTS
"SAINTS AND SINNERS." Peggy Hyland, the English star, is appearing today only at the Alhambra in a return showing of Henry Arthur Jones' celebrated stage success, "Saints and Sinners." The story is of a girl who finds a visitor to the country house in which she resides very attractive. Her father warns her that they know very little about the stranger. Contrary to the promise she made her father, Letty consents to show him just one more. He tricks her and she finds herself in the city and her father is angry. However, a trustee of the church who wishes to use the minister to further a crooked business deal, forces the girl's father to resign his pulpit. However, the end brings happiness to Letty, who marries the now prosperous Kingmill, her loyal friend, and the minister is asked to return to his old pulpit. Miss Hyland, as Letty, is comely and engaging of manner and acts with much intelligence and natural restraint.—Advertisement.

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FALSE ALARM CALLS FIRE FIGHTERS TO EL PASO STREET
An alarm of fire turned in at 10:10 Wednesday morning brought the department to North El Paso street. The alarm was a false one, as the trucks were scattered from West Main to East Franklin. No fire of any kind could be located and it was impossible to learn how the alarm came to be turned in.

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