

EASTLAND MEN FREE

FEDERAL JUDGE AT GRAND RAPIDS ABSOLVES OWNERS INDICTED FOR MURDER.

TO ESCAPE TRIAL AT CHICAGO

Jurist Clarence W. Sessions Rules Accused Men Need Not Leave Michigan and Asserts Charges of Conspiracy Were Not Proved.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Feb. 21.—Six men charged by the government with responsibility for the loss of more than 700 lives in the Eastland disaster do not have to go to Chicago to stand trial.

This decision was handed down on Friday by Federal Judge Clarence W. Sessions, sitting as a commissioner in the district court here. He denied the government's application for a warrant of removal for the defendants, all of whom live in Michigan.

The finding of the court means practically that none of the defendants will ever be placed on trial by the government. There is a possibility that if any of them journey into other states than Michigan they may be seized and another attempt at extradition made, but it is declared to be a remote one.

The men, indicted here, who fought extradition and defeated the government are William H. Hull, president of the St. Joseph-Chicago Steamship company; George T. Arnold, general manager; Harry Pedersen, captain; Joseph M. Erickson, chief engineer, and Robert Reid and Charles C. Eckloff, federal inspectors.

Judge Sessions, in his opinion, said the government had failed utterly in all attempts to show conspiracy and negligence.

In making his decision the judge said:

"The dead cannot be restored to life. The sorrows of the living cannot be lessened by claiming other victims. The majesty of the law cannot be upheld and vindicated by taking men from their homes to stand trial among strangers upon accusations which there is barely a scintilla of proof to sustain. The evidence in this matter wholly fails to establish the probable cause for believing any of these defendants guilty of any crime charged in the indictments."

HANS SCHMIDT IS EXECUTED

Former Priest Pays Penalty for Slaughtering Girl in Sing Sing Prison.

Ossining, N. Y., Feb. 21.—Hans Schmidt, the unfrocked priest who murdered his sweetheart, Anna Ammueller, was put to death in the electric chair in Sing Sing prison on Friday. His last words were:

"I send a hearty greeting to my mother. My last thoughts are of her. Good-by, all friends."

With a firm step he walked to his death, and on his way to the chair he asked forgiveness from all he had "offended or scandalized," and in turn forgave all who had offended him. Three shocks were necessary.

It is believed Anna Ammueller was murdered on September 2, 1913. It was on September 5, 1913, that part of her body was found floating in the river off Woodcliff, N. J.

When he was arrested the priest made a full confession. He said he had killed the girl and that he had cut her body into nine pieces.

RATIFIES NICARAGUAN PACT

Canal Route and Naval Base Treaty Is Approved by the Senate, 55 to 18.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The senate on Friday by a vote of 55 to 18 ratified the long pending and persistently opposed Nicaraguan treaty, whereby the United States would acquire a 99-year option on the Nicaraguan Canal route and a naval base in the Gulf of Fonseca for \$4,000,000.

Included in the ratification resolution was a provision declaring that the United States in obtaining the naval base does not intend to violate any existing rights in the Fonseca Gulf of Costa Rica, Honduras and Salvador, which had protested against the proposed acquisition.

Immediately after the senate had acted, Senator Chamorro, the Nicaraguan minister, said he expected ratification of the convention by his government would soon follow.

U. S. Refuses New Sea Order.

Washington, Feb. 21.—All diplomatic and consular officials abroad have been notified in a circular communication from the state department that the position of the United States is that merchant ships have a right to carry defensive armament.

Eloper Sent to Prison.

Madison, Wis., Feb. 19.—Charles Follansbee of Waterloo, Wis., at Superior was sentenced to two and a half years in Leavenworth prison for violation of the Mann act. Follansbee eloped with Mrs. Anna Kelly.

Flames Wreck Steel Plant.

Bridgeport, Conn., Feb. 19.—The plant of the Farist Steel company was almost destroyed by fire, with a loss estimated at about \$450,000. The company furnished steel for the Remington Arms company.

ENOUGH TO SHOCK 'MOST ANYBODY



RUSS TAKE ERZERUM

GRAND DUKE REPORTS GREAT VICTORY OVER TURKS

More Than 40,000 Made Prisoners—Two German Commanders May Be Lost.

London, Feb. 18.—Led by Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian army of the Caucasus has captured the great Turkish fortress of Erzerum, in eastern Asia Minor.

The following official statement was given out on Wednesday in Petrograd:

"Grand Duke Nicholas has telegraphed to the emperor as follows: 'God has granted to the brave troops of the army of the Caucasus such great help that Erzerum has been taken after five days of unprecedented assaults.'

"I am inexpressibly happy to announce this victory to your imperial majesty."

More than 40,000 Turkish troops were captured in Erzerum with the investment of the fortress, according to Tiflis dispatches. Two noted German leaders, Field Marshals von der Goltz and Limon von Sanders have recently been reported at Erzerum. It is not yet known whether they escaped.

Erzerum is the chief town in Armenian Turkey, and as the center of important roads and strategic lines is of vast importance. Its capture opens a new road to Constantinople.

It has a population of about 45,000, and lies at an altitude of 6,250 feet in the Caucasus mountains. It was first held by the Turks in 1517.

LUSITANIA CASE HELD UP

Lansing Satisfied With Revised Agreement, But Wants Assurances on Liners' Safety.

Washington, Feb. 18.—The Lusitania case is held up and the entire question of submarine warfare reopened as a result of the German and Austrian declarations that armed merchantmen shall be sunk without warning, it was declared on Wednesday by a high official of the state department. After a conference with Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, Secretary of State Lansing announced that the Lusitania case depends "upon how submarine warfare is to be conducted in the future." The revise of the Lusitania answer, submitted by the German ambassador, is satisfactory to the administration, and it was admitted that it would be formally accepted, provided the administration is told that passenger ships are not to be sunk without warning.

NINE DIE IN THEATER FIRE

School Children Lose Lives During Panic in Opera House at Mexia, Tex.

Mexia, Tex., Feb. 18.—Nine persons were burned to death and fifteen people injured when a fire here destroyed the opera house, where the public schools were holding an art exhibit. Several other stores and residences were destroyed by the flames which originated in a grocery store recently closed.

Missouri Stockman Killed.

St. Joseph, Mo., Feb. 21.—John Berryman, leading stockman and prominent here for some years, was shot and killed by William B. Richards, an employee. The two men quarreled over a business deal.

Woman's Estate \$1,674,054.

New York, Feb. 21.—Miss Catherine A. Bliss, a daughter of Cornelius N. Bliss, left an estate estimated in a state tax appraiser's report filed at \$1,674,054. She possessed a collection of jewels worth almost \$80,000.

21 PERISH IN MINE FIRE

FLAMES SWEEP COPPER SHAFT AT BUTTE, MONT.

Workers Are Suffocated While Attempting to Flee From Blast—Two Rescuers Lose Lives.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 17.—Twenty-one dead and missing sums up the extent of the fire that visited the depths of the Pennsylvania mine, one of the properties of the Anaconda Copper Mining company. Nine bodies have been recovered; for the missing, no hope is entertained. All were victims of a fire which started near the air shaft of the mine about nine o'clock at night. Two of the dead were rescuers, who were overcome while at work underground.

All others were suffocated while trying to escape. The disaster was the worst in Butte, with the exception of the powder explosion January 15, 1895, when nearly sixty persons lost their lives. Two hundred and twenty men were at work in the Pennsylvania when the cry resounded through the depths, "Gas has broken loose."

The dead: Zebina Bardwell, Bert DuLong, George Tippet, John Soderman, Jack Brennan, William Kelly, Nell Brennan, William Mitchell.

The missing: Fred Curlow, Frank F. Ferguson, John Inch, Frank McEnay, William F. Reynolds, Walter Steege, Leo Whitmore, Brance L. White, Ed Pfefferle, Charles R. Self, David Carlson.

All night rescuers went down the shaft at great risk to themselves. More than one hundred trips were made by parties of rescuers after the fire was discovered.

AMBASSADOR MARYE TO QUIT

Washington Report Says U. S. Diplomat at Petrograd Has Broken Down Under War Strain.

Washington, Feb. 17.—United States Ambassador George T. Marye, at Petrograd, Russia, has broken down under the war strain. He has decided that he must retire from the diplomatic service. Confidential advices received here on Tuesday say that the ambassador either already has resigned, or will do so in the immediate future.

Ambassador Marye's confidential secretary, Ray Baker, reached the United States Monday, and hurried to Washington. He declined positively to discuss the report that he had been commissioned by the ambassador to present his resignation to President Wilson. Ambassador Marye was born in Maryland, but has lived for many years in California.

FLASHES OFF THE WIRE

Copenhagen, Feb. 17.—The Swedish government has decided to ask parliament for \$6,200,000 to defray the cost of maintaining neutrality defenses, says a dispatch from Stockholm.

Atsterdam, Feb. 17.—According to the Echo Belge, three persons were killed and ten wounded at Assenede, Belgium, when German soldiers fired into a crowd assembled to protest against further German requisitions.

Alleged Train Bandit Taken.

Kentner, Wyo., Feb. 21.—James Cutler, aged twenty-three, a sheep herder, was arrested charged with holding up and robbing a Union Pacific passenger train at Rock Springs ten days ago.

Solons Throw Inkwells.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Feb. 21.—The greatest disorder prevailed in the house of representatives when the lie was passed between Nesbitt and Sams during a debate. Several inkwells were thrown.

TO INCREASE RATES

MODEST INCOMES MAY ESCAPE THE TAX.

URGES IRISHMEN TO FRONT

Raymond Makes Appeal to Available Young Men—Many Fatalities as Result of Mexican Troubles.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. Washington.—The proposal to amend the income tax law so as to include smaller incomes is virtually certain to be abandoned in favor of an increased rate on those already taxed, it is declared by democratic house leaders. Sentiment against lowering the exemption limit in order to provide additional revenue for the preparedness program crystallized, it was said, in the democratic caucus Thursday night, when Democratic Leader Kitchin declared against changing the present minimum of \$3,000. Since then protests against all reduction plans have become more outspoken daily. Leaders declare that virtually the entire preparedness revenue burden would be met with income taxes. Tentative bills looking to raising \$100,000,000 solely by an increased income tax rate are being discussed and will be offered soon in committee.

Data on Mexican Situation

Washington.—All of the state department's data on the Mexican situation asked for by Senator Fall has been transmitted to the senate by President Wilson, and was, under motion of Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee, ordered printed as a public document. In a letter from Secretary Lansing, accompanying the report, it is said that seventy-six American citizens were killed in Mexico in the years 1913, 1914, 1915, as against forty-seven in the three years preceding it and that twenty-six civilian Americans and sixteen soldiers were killed on American soil in the same three years, as a result of Mexican troubles.

URGES IRISHMEN TO FRONT

John Redmond Makes an Appeal to Available Young Men.

London.—"We must not and will not tolerate the idea of our British regiments being reinforced by any but Irish soldiers," said John Redmond, the Irish leader, in a manifesto to the people of Ireland, in which he appeals to the young men who are still available to join reserve battalions and begin training that they may be ready, if needed, to fill every gap in the Irish army in the field.

"Our gallant fellow countrymen at the front," said Mr. Redmond, "have commended me to make this appeal. In your name I promised them in France and Flanders that Ireland would stand by them. Will you fulfill that promise? Lou are under no compulsion, save that of duty."

Wants Messenger Sent.

London.—The Observer, in an editorial, says that only the events of the next few weeks can show how the new German program will affect the relations of Washington, London and Berlin.

"The possibilities are incalculable," says the Observer, "and we shall do very well indeed to restrain our tongues with premature judgment and any sort of evil speaking at President Wilson's expense. We earnestly hope that Sir Edward Grey will adopt the suggestion to send some sufficiently distinguished and authoritative statesman upon a mission to the American government and the American people. No one could compare with Viscount Bryce for such a mission."

Butte, Mont. — Twenty-one men probably have perished, according to the rescue workers at the Pennsylvania mine of the Anaconda Copper Mining Co., in a fire which broke out in one of the levels where 220 miners were at work.

London.—New votes of credit amounting to approximately 400,000,000 pounds, will be asked by Premier Asquith of the house of commons. The new votes will bring up the total of war appropriations to 2,662,000,000 pounds.

Big Decline in Birth Rate

Berlin.—The declining birth rate in Germany, which was attracting attention before the war is receiving more serious consideration at the present time, in view of the losses sustained in the field. This subject was brought up today in the budget committee of the Prussian diet. A representative of the ministry predicted that unless a radical change had been made Germany would soon be in the position of France, with deaths exceeding births. The speaker also referred to the high rate of infant mortality.

Washington—Out of the chaos

seemingly prevailing in the house of representatives over the preparedness program may come an unanimous report on the military bill. No military bill in recent years has been brought into the house without a minority report. It is agreed that if unanimity in the committee can be exhibited in the special measure now being framed, the most important that has been prepared in nearly twenty years, the advocates of preparedness, irrespective of party will have achieved a smashing victory.

THE STATE PRIMARIES

Tuesday, April 18, is Day Set By Law.

Governor Morhead has issued his proclamation for a primary election to be held Tuesday, April 18, for the following purposes:

To express a preference for candidates by each of the political parties for president and vice president of the United States.

For nomination-at-large of two candidates at large and one from each congressional district in the state for presidential electors by each of the political parties.

For the election of four delegates-at-large and two from each congressional district in the state to the national convention of the respective political parties and for a like number of alternates.

For the election of one national committeeman for each of the said political parties.

For the nonpartisan nomination of two candidates for chief justice of the supreme court to fill vacancy and six candidates for judges of the supreme court.

By each political party, the nomination of one candidate for United States senator.

One candidate for congress from each of the six congressional districts.

Also candidates for the following offices: One governor, one lieutenant-governor, one railway commissioner, two regents of the state university, one state auditor, one state treasurer, one secretary of state, one attorney general, one commissioner of public lands and buildings, one superintendent of public instruction, thirty-three state senators in twenty-eight senatorial districts, 100 representatives from the seventy-seven districts. District judge.

Objects to Commissioner's Figures.

The figures cited by the Nebraska railway commission to prove that the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad company can maintain a 2 cent passenger rate over its Nebraska lines and still realize a fair profit are not at all satisfactory to the Rock Island. The company has a lot of figures of its own showing that the rate is unreasonable and unfair.

In a thirty-page statement filed with the clerk of the federal court Thursday afternoon E. H. Smith, an accountant and rate expert employed by the Rock Island, makes an exhaustive review of the "volume of exhibits" prepared by U. G. Powell, rate expert for the state railway commission, and details wherein he believes Mr. Powell and the commission have erred in preparing their side of the case in the suit brought by the Rock Island to bring about a higher passenger rate. Some of the commission's figures, Mr. Smith maintains, should not be given serious consideration. Others, he argues, were reached without apparent basis of fact.

Form of Primary Ballot Uncertain.

Secretary of State Pool declines just at present to make any official ruling on the form of the ballot to be used in the state primaries, April 18. The last legislature changed the ballot law for general elections so as to have the names of the candidates and propositions printed in three columns, instead of one, thereby cutting down the length and increasing the width of the sheet. Mr. Pool is personally of the opinion, however, that the Blausler act relating to the ballot for general elections does not apply at the primaries, and that the party tickets should be made up according to the old style. Others at the capitol take a different view, pointing out that the legislature never intended to have two different ballot forms in use, that the primaries are governed by the general election law, except where there is specific provision to the contrary. An opinion from the state legal department will probably be secured by the secretary of state for his guidance.

Secretary Allen Resigns.

Secretary A. B. Allen of the state railway commission has announced his resignation from that position. Simultaneously he announced the appointment of Thorne A. Browne of Lincoln as his successor. Mr. Allen will retire to a farm which he has purchased in Johnson county, near Tecumseh. He will leave about April 1, and Mr. Browne will assume the full duties of secretary of the commission at that time. The retiring secretary was state oil inspector under Governor Sheldon, and was private secretary to Governor Mickey.

For Rural School Improvement.

With the object of making rural schools more efficient, a state conference of county superintendents and rural school board members will be called in the near future by State Superintendent Thomas. He has been asked to do this in a resolution adopted by the Farmers' Grange organization at Merna, and has replied that he will be glad to act on the suggestion when those who made it shall indicate what would be the most convenient time for people directly interested in the rural schools to attend.

Deputy Attorney General Barrett

has written County Attorney Don C. Founts, county attorney of Adams county, that a consolidated school district becomes liable for the debts of the various districts forming the consolidated district. School district 48 of Clay county had a bonded debt of \$3,000 when it consolidated with district 84 of Hamilton county, and district 52 of Hall county. Districts 53 and 59 also figure in the matter, but just how is not explained in the attorney general's opinion. He holds that the new absorbing district assumes the liability of the old districts.

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Free sample each by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Paper matches are built into a new paper cigarette box.

To Prevent The Grip Colds cause Grip—Laxative Bromo Quinine removes the cause. It is the only one "Bromo Quinine" E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 2c.

It is easier to thwart a villain on the stage than in real life.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the original little liver pills put up 40 years ago. They regulate liver and bowels.—Adv.

Naturally poets are born, but cooks are better paid. There's a reason!

KEEP YOUNG

As well be young at 70 as old at 50.

Many elderly people suffer lame, bent, aching backs, and distressing urinary disorders, when a little help for the kidneys would fix it all up. Don't wait for gravel, or Bright's disease. Use Doan's Kidney Pills. They have helped thousands, young and old, and are recommended by thousands.

A Nebraska Case

Mrs. M. M. Brown, Albion, Neb., says: "For several years weak kidneys troubled me and at times my back pained severely. I was miserable when I did any stooping or lifting. I had dizzy spells, my head ached and I got so nervous, I thought I would go frantic. I tried liniment and plasters, but nothing helped me until I used Doan's Kidney Pills. They fixed me up in good shape."

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