

SAMMONS GUILTY OF ROBBING THE POSTOFFICE SAFE

Jury in the Federal Court Returns Verdict Against Former Sheriff of Buffalo County.

COLONEL IN NATIONAL GUARD

Package Disappeared Last Christmas and Contained Money from an Omaha to Kearney Bank.

GIVES NOTICE OF AN APPEAL

Is Found Guilty on Four of the Five Counts Charged.

JURY IS INSTRUCTED ON ONE

Sealed Verdict is Returned After Four Hours of Deliberation and is Read in the Morning in Open Court.

Walter Sammons was found guilty on four counts out of five by a jury in federal court yesterday on the charge of having robbed the Kearney postoffice of a \$5,000 registered package of currency last Christmas.

The jury reached its verdict after being out only four hours, most of which time was consumed in organizing and then going to supper.

On the third count, to the effect that Sammons had abstracted currency from a mail package, the judge instructed a verdict of "not guilty," no matter what the verdict might be on the other counts.

As the verdict was read, Sammons did not bat an eye or show any evidence of the shock which the adverse outcome of the case must mean to him, especially on Thanksgiving day.

The penalty for the offense is a fine of not more than \$5,000, or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both.

Expected Acquittal. It is known that the verdict of "guilty" must have been a severe surprise to Sammons.

"I'm feeling mighty good. I have been expecting to be acquitted, and the short time taken by the jury in reaching a verdict leads me to think I shall go free."

Smith, Back Home. Neither was Delbert Smith, the former Kearney postoffice clerk, whose confession was the chief basis of the prosecution of Sammons.

Smith has sold his little home, and he spent the summer working from daylight to dusk raising potatoes and garden truck on irrigated land which Kearney business men attacked him to.

He is said to be anxious to atone for his part in the robbery and is ready and willing to go to prison if so sentenced.

BATTLESHIP MICHIGAN AGROUND NEAR NORFOLK

NORFOLK, Va., Nov. 26.—The United States battleship Michigan went ashore on the tail of the Horseshoe near the lights just off Cape Henry today, according to a radio message to the navy yard.

ment found in Brussels, which proves the existence of an Anglo-Belgian military convention.

"In the western arena of the war the situation remains unchanged. The French opened an attack in the region of St. Hilaire with strong forces.

"We have made progress at Apremont and there is no change in the situation in East Prussia.

"Our troops under General von Mackensen at Lodz and Lovicz inflicted heavy losses on the first and on the second and on a portion of the fifth Russian armies.

"Yesterday we repulsed their attacks everywhere and the final result is still pending."

Included in the information given out by the German press bureau is the following: "The German government has published...

FRENCH GOUMIERS—These Algerian cavalrymen have distinguished themselves as fighters in the campaign along the Franco-Belgian frontier.



ROY MILNER KILLED ON NEW SPEEDWAY

Second Man to Try the New Track Is Hurlled to His Death Against the Heavy Uprights.

SPEED TESTS ARE CALLED OFF

Birdmen Give Some Thrilling Exhibitions, Art Smith Looping the Loop Fifteen Consecutive Times.

Roy Milner, motorcycle racer, was killed at the Omaha Automobile Speedway yesterday afternoon when he lost control of his machine, crashed into the pillars at the top of the track and was thrown against a 4x8 upright.

Speedway officials said Milner was traveling at a fifty-mile pace when the accident occurred.

Milner was 23 years old, unmarried. His home was at Cleveland, O. The body was taken in an ambulance to the undertaking parlors of N. P. Swanson.

Large crowds saw Arthur Smith and Ralph McMillan in thrilling aeroplane flights in the afternoon.

Smith in his second flight looped the loop several consecutive times.

At Kearney he believes his story, it is said. Thirty normal students there have offered to board with Mr. Smith all winter, in order to help him make a living, if Smith is sent to prison.

Berlin Reports Indecisive Defeat of Three Russian Armies in the East

BERLIN, Nov. 26.—(By Wireless to London.)—An official announcement given out in Berlin today is as follows:

"In the western arena of the war the situation remains unchanged. The French opened an attack in the region of St. Hilaire with strong forces.

"We have made progress at Apremont and there is no change in the situation in East Prussia.

"Our troops under General von Mackensen at Lodz and Lovicz inflicted heavy losses on the first and on the second and on a portion of the fifth Russian armies.

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BRITON BATTLESHIP BLOWN UP WHILE BAND IS PLAYING

English War Vessel Bulwark Destroyed Off Sheerness by Accidental Explosion.

OVER SEVEN HUNDRED VICTIMS

But Twelve Rescued Out of Entire Complement of Craft When It Goes Down.

ADMIRALTY SURE JUST MISHAP

Shock of Terrible Blast is Heard for Seven Miles.

EYE-WITNESS DESCRIBES SIGHT

Person on Boat Short Distance Away from Ill-Starred Ship Describes the Disaster as He Beheld It.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—The loss of the battleship Bulwark, according to a Central News dispatch received this evening from Chatham, was due to an accidental explosion while ammunition was being loaded on the warship.

The explosion which destroyed the Bulwark occurred at 7:55 a. m. A vice admiral and a rear admiral who were at Sheerness reported that they were convinced that the disaster was caused by a magazine explosion.

An inquiry will be held tomorrow and the admiralty believes that it may throw some light upon the occurrence.

Shock Felt Seven Miles. The force of the explosion aboard the boat was so great that houses in Sheerness, and even in South End, seven miles away and on the other end of the Medway, were violently shaken.

When the great ship blew up dense clouds of smoke and flames shot into the air. The vessel disappeared beneath the waves in three minutes.

When Explosion Occurred. The explosion occurred while the Bulwark was lying at anchor off the naval port of Sheerness, near the mouth of the Thames, but the officers of the port could not see the vessel.

Although almost fifteen years old and no longer on the first fighting line, the Bulwark was a useful unit. The loss of the ship, however, was nothing compared with the heavy loss in trained officers and men, with whose relatives Mr. Churchill expressed in the House of Commons his deep sympathy and sorrow.

The figure on the medal is a reproduction of the statue of Christ, erected in the Andes mountains on the boundary between Argentina and Chile, to commemorate the peace between those two countries.

At the luncheon following the ceremony, Cardinal Gibbons proposed a toast to the Americans.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Nov. 26.—Federal aid may be asked to check the spreading forest fires that today were sweeping through the whole southeast portion of Arkansas and northern Louisiana.

"Today was the eighth day on which the sun has been obscured entirely in Little Rock by dense clouds of smoke.

"The most serious individual losses occurred at Helena last night when the Central Distilling company plant and the Dining Furniture company were destroyed with a loss of \$150,000.

"In northern Louisiana, concern is felt for the safety of many big oil plants in the Caddo parish, the largest oil field in the state.

"Mississippi river traffic south of Memphis is said to be almost at a standstill because of the difficulty in operating steamers through the dense smoke.

"According to weather forecasters no relief is in sight.

"A special dispatch received in Berlin says that the Russian harbor at Archangel, in spite of the efforts of the ice-breakers, is completely frozen up.

"The Turkish embassy at Rome says that the Egyptian advance guards on the Suez canal deserted to the Turks.

Wholesale Murders and Executions of Austrian and Hungarian Troops

LEMBERG, Galicia, Nov. 26.—(Via Petrograd and London.)—A committee, appointed to investigate conditions in Galicia, reports that there have been wholesale murders, executions and excesses of every description in war-wreathed Galicia.

The Russian population, the committee says, suffered most severely, less from natural consequences of war than from the cruelty of Austrian officials, who always suspected the loyalty of the Galician populace and have acted with marked severity since the beginning of the war.

The committee reports it established the fact that in seven counties 238 men had been shot or hanged, including two priests. Throughout Galicia it is estimated 10,000 arrests have been made and 1,000 executions have taken place.

In five counties, the committee states, its members counted 400 burned homesteads. In the county in which Przemysl is located there are 2,630 families with 3,900 children under 5 years of age who are homeless.

KITCHENER TELLS LORDS OF VICTORY

British War Secretary Says Germans in Poland Have Been Defeated by Russians.

REVIEWS EVENTS IN THE WEST

Britons Fighting with the Allies in France Giving Good Account of Themselves—More Men Will Be Needed.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—"The Russians have defeated the Germans with the heaviest losses yet suffered; the Germans have made no advance since I last addressed this house," and "The British are in touch with Turkish forces thirty miles east of the Suez canal," were the salients of a speech made by Field Marshal Earl Kitchener in the House of Lords this afternoon when the British secretary of state summarized the military operations.

Pays Tribute to Belgians. Lord Kitchener paid a tribute to the gallantry of the Belgian army and to the king of the Belgians, who he declared had no intention of quitting Belgian territory.

Regarding recruiting Earl Kitchener said he still had room for men and he was confident that the men would answer the country's call and see that the war was brought to a successful conclusion.

Further Appeal for Aid in Caring for the Wounded in Europe

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 26.—Urgent appeals for aid in caring for the injured in the European war were received in this city yesterday.

The hospital which is being maintained by the women's relief fund is located at Paignton, near London, and until recently was the residence of E. Paris Singer, a New York manufacturer, who turned it over to the American women.

Transporting Bearing Funston's Army Are Now Off Galveston

GALVESTON, Tex., Nov. 26.—The army transports, Cristobal, Kansas and Sumner, bearing General Frederick Funston and part of the Fifth brigade troops, which have been at Galveston for seven months, arrived off Galveston bar at 11:30 o'clock this morning and were expected to reach docks about 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

Persians Massacre 2,000 Russians

LONDON, Nov. 26.—Telegraphing from Amsterdam, the correspondent of the Reuter Telegraph company says the Berlin Tageblatt has published a dispatch from Constantinople to the effect that 2,000 Russians have been massacred at Tabriz by Persians.

Little Human Interest Stories of the Big World War Now Raging

British and Teutons Swap Tobacco. LONDON, Nov. 26.—An account from the front speaks of the trenches of the opponents as being at some points only forty yards apart.

Must Be Lifted From Trenches. LONDON, Nov. 26.—A dispatch from the front in Belgium says: "Cold weather has frozen the slush, improving the conditions in trenches in one sense, but the drop in the temperature makes the men so stiff that many have to be lifted out of trenches when relieved, and others are sent, partly frozen, to hospitals."

Kaiser's Coat Captured. PETHROGRAD, (Via London), Nov. 26.—The Army Messenger asserts that among the trophies taken by the Russians at Czenstochowa was Emperor William's carriage, which contained one of the emperor's coats.

Cholet in Antwerp. LONDON, Nov. 26.—Cholet is reported to have broken out in Antwerp, according to a dispatch from Rotterdam to the Evening Star.

German Use Silent Gun. LONDON, Nov. 26.—A report from British army headquarters says: "In our center the enemy employed a silent gun, which may be pneumatic or worked by some mechanical contrivance. There is no report of the discharge, the projectile travels through the air without any of the warning made by an ordinary shell, and the first notice to be received of its arrival is the bursting of the shell. So far the weapon has done no damage."

German Report Received in London. Tell of Great Victory by Czar's Forces in Poland.

FIFTY THOUSAND PRISONERS. Correspondent of Mail Says Teutons Abandoned Artillery Maxims and Transport Trains.

GERMAN ARMIES ARE DIVIDED. Russians Succeeded in Isolating Forces of Von Hindenberg from Army of Crown Prince.

VIENNA REPORT IS DIFFERENT. It Tells of Capture of Thousands of Russians and Many Guns.

GERMAN ROUT IN EAST COMPLETE, SAYS PETROGRAD

Official Reports Received in London Tell of Great Victory by Czar's Forces in Poland.

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RUSSIANS ARE NEAR CRACOW

Civil Population of City Demands Its Surrender and Military Government Orders Expulsion of All Civilians.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—Official news received in Russian circles in London today declares that the rout of the German and Austrian forces in Poland has been complete.

BULLETIN. BERLIN, Nov. 26.—(By Wireless to London)—It is officially announced in Vienna that the fighting in Russian Poland continues.

Twenty-nine thousand prisoners have been taken in this battle, as well as forty-nine machine guns and a quantity of war material.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—"It is now clear that the Russian victory in Poland is decisive," says the Petrograd correspondent of the Express.

"The Germans have begun a retreat along the entire front," the correspondent continues, "and in many places the flight is a disorderly rout, marked by the abandonment of artillery, maxims and transports."

"Berlin meanwhile is beginning to talk about repulsing Russian attacks, which (Continued on Page Two, Column Five).

Ruling Made on War Tax on Lading Bills

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—A ruling of interest to all railroads was issued today by the bureau of internal revenue interpreting the provision of the war tax law relating to the levy of 1 cent on all manifest bills of lading of other evidences of the receipt and forwarding of shipments.

The ruling provides, however, that in case of shipments of perishable nature or in other cases where such receipts cannot be given by conductors, the shipments may be accepted and transported in advance of the affixing of the stamp.

The receipt in such cases is to be delivered to the "destination agent" and the stamp required of the consignee. Baggage checks for the transportation of bicycles, dogs, baby carriages, etc., will be regarded as evidences of receipt and should be stamped.

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