

Italy Declares War on Austria-Hungary

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Fair

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OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, MAY 24, 1915—TEN PAGES.

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JEALOUS LOVER IS SUSPECTED SLAYER OF SWANSON WOMAN

Letter Found Which Police Believe
Murdered Girl Showed to
Rejected Suitor.

POLICE INTERVIEW SUSPECTS

Woman Living in the House to the
East Sees Girl Admit Man
Just Before Noon.

LOCKS DOOR FROM INSIDE

Investigation of Chief of Detectives Maloney and his men into the killing of Ada Swanson, domestic in the residence of Joseph Sykes, 2023 Spencer street, Friday, has resulted practically in the elimination of all theories other than that she was killed by a jealous lover.

It is assuredly certain that Mrs. A. M. Dennis, 3017 Spencer street, about 11:30 o'clock Friday morning saw a clean shaven medium sized man wearing a soft black hat, blue suit, and light tan shoes enter the east gate, go to the rear of the house and ring the door bell. She thought it to be the same fellow that had visited there the Sunday before.

STRANGE ACTIONS.

At 12:15 o'clock Andrew Frederickson, the milkman, saw Ada Swanson take the bottles and place them on a ledge on the porch instead of taking them immediately to the icebox as was her unvarying custom. This indicated that she was evidently in a hurry and laboring under some mental excitement, the police believe, and also seems to bear out the theory that she had no fear of the man who was seen to enter the house or she would have asked the milkman for help. She wore a house dress when she came to the rear porch for the milk. The door opened to Frederickson was found locked Friday evening, and Chief Maloney believes it was locked by the girl after she had answered Frederickson's summons.

As no one actually saw the man "who came to fix the pipes" enter the house through the side door, and as this was found locked from the inside it is also the opinion of the authorities that this man in all probability did not get in, and the only person in the house with Miss Swanson was the fellow she admitted at 11:30 o'clock.

Letter Is Found.

A letter purporting to be written the girl from a suitor living near Banningle, is believed to have led Miss Swanson to tell her visitor that she intended to marry the writer and that the accused jealousy of the man caused him to follow her to the basement, when she went there to fix the fire and with the first weapon that came to his hand, killed her.

When the body of the girl was found she was dressed in street clothes, which in a manner proved that the fellow in the house was no stranger, as the girl would, assuredly not have allowed a stranger the freedom of the house, while she completed her preparations to go out.

One of Miss Swanson's men acquaintances, Axel Logroen, was questioned by the police Sunday morning, but apparently convinced them that he knew little of the affair. He was dressed in a manner which tallied with that of the fellow described by Mrs. Dennis, but was not identified by her as the man she saw.

Struck by Jealous Suitor.

Dr. Connell, city physician, who was called to the Sykes' home upon the discovery of the killing is of the same belief as the police. He thinks assault was not the object of the murder and that the girl was struck down by a jealous suitor, who in a frenzied zeal his victim recover and give him away, struck her repeatedly about the head with the hatchet to assure himself that no such event should come to pass.

Photographs of the bloody thumb prints on the girl's nose and limbs will be of little value, is the opinion of the detective department, after examining proofs of the same. It is more than probable that they were the outcome of handling the body upon its removal to the morgue.

Did Not Move After Fall.

That the girl after being struck the first time and falling face forward to the floor of the coal bin, did not move or that her body was not turned over is apparent from the fact that the back of the shirt waist, which she wore contains absolutely no sign of coal dust. Dr. Connell emphatically asserts his belief to this effect as evidenced by the even circle of blood about the body that bore no trace of being disturbed by any movement.

The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair.
For Iowa—Cloudy.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.

Hour	Deg.
5 a. m.	58
6 a. m.	58
7 a. m.	58
8 a. m.	58
9 a. m.	58
10 a. m.	58
11 a. m.	58
12 m.	58
1 p. m.	58
2 p. m.	58
3 p. m.	58
4 p. m.	58
5 p. m.	58
6 p. m.	58
7 p. m.	58

Comparative Local Record.

1915	1914	1913	1912	
Highest yesterday	72	86	89	84
Lowest yesterday	37	64	45	61
Mean temperature	54	75	65	74
Precipitation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:
Normal temperature for the day..... 65
Deficiency for the day..... 13 inches
Total excess since March..... 56
Normal precipitation..... 23 inches
Deficiency for the day..... .09 inch
Total rainfall since March 1..... 4.77 inches

CROWN PRINCE AND ROYAL UNCLE—Visit of Prince Henry of Prussia to the headquarters of the Crown Prince, with whom he is having a confidential chat.



NEW BOARD VIEWS THE OMAHA PARKS

Members of Recreation Board Surprised at the Way Playgrounds Are Developed.

NEW HOUSE FOR THE SWIMMERS

After taking a twenty-mile ride Sunday morning with Commissioner Hummel, through the parks and along the boulevards, J. P. Connolly, member of the recreation board, declared he had received a revelation and an inspiration. He had seen Omaha in spots during his forty years of residence here, but this trip of seeing Omaha just now, dressed in spring grandeur, prompted a new enthusiasm.

Mr. Hummel, who is chairman of the recreation board, took the members of the new board out on an inspection trip, to give them first-hand information regarding the recreational centers which they will manage in the days to come.

The itinerary started at the city hall and the first place visited was Kountze park. Entering the park one of the first things observed was a youngster swinging head down from a turning pole. Zoro D. Clark of the board said he felt like emulating the lad.

On the way to the municipal beach at Carter lake Mr. Connolly remarked that he intends to recommend to the city council that a bathing beach and tennis courts be placed in the Riverview park. Mr. Hummel said he favored tennis courts, but believed that recreation features of a more general benefit should first be established.

Another Bathing House.

At the Carter lake bathing beach Mr. Hummel said he expects to erect another house for bathers this season, so that the men may have one building and the women another place. The present building is used by men and women, although there are separate rooms.

It is expected that this bathing beach will be a popular place this season. Some of the more hardy swimmers already are taking plunges.

An observation made at the lake was the idea of making an effort to have some low land and water in that vicinity exchanged for Nebraska territory near Lake Manawa, action by congress perhaps being necessary to accomplish this.

Dressing Room at Miller Park. During the visit to Miller park the recreation board members watched the gold fish with much interest and surveyed all of the recreational activities.

Among the improvements to be urged by the board will be dressing rooms for women and children who wish to bathe in the summer and for skaters in the winter.

Golf at Elmwood.

A golf course in Elmwood park is among the possibilities. The members favor this improvement and if money will permit it will be started this season.

Members of the new board intend to make frequent trips to the various recreational centers and watch the young and old at play, that they may get into real touch with the situation and be able to act intelligently on their recommendations to the council. The recreation board proposes and the council disposes, but Mr. Hummel, being chairman of the recreation board and member of the council, believes the recommendations of the board will find favor with the council.

BORDER PATROLS CLASH FOR FIRST SKIRMISH OF WAR

Italian and Austrian Troops Meet in Mountain Pass Between Pont di Legno and Pejo.

AUSTRIANS CROSS THE BORDER

Alpine Chasseurs Meet the Rush and Drive Enemy Back to Own Territory.

PEOPLE WILD WITH WAR FEVER

ROME, May 23.—(Via Paris.)—The first engagement of the Italo-Austrian war occurred between Pont di Legno and Pejo today. An Austrian patrol crossed the frontier, but was attacked by Italian Alpine chasseurs and driven back over the border.

ON THE ITALIAN FRONTIER, May 23.—From end to end, Italy is in a state of highest tension and expectation. On both sides of the Austro-Italian frontier there is a constant movement of troops and munitions of war. Railway, postal and telephone services have been cut between Italy and Austria and Trieste and Fiume.

In Zara, Dalmatia, mysterious bands planted the Italian flag in the conspicuous towers of the city, and there were demonstrations of protest against the rigor of the authorities, the participants shouting in favor of Italy. These demonstrations were quickly suppressed by martial law, which prevails everywhere. The civilian population has evacuated Pontafel, Pontebba and other places on the Austrian frontier and gone into Venetia.

Austrians Retire.

Austrian soldiers in the mountains of the Ponto Caffaro district have retired toward the numerous forts which protect the Austrian frontier. All seem to be waiting with the keenest anxiety, it is said, for the spark from one side or the other which will start the conflagration and be the signal for the first hostile action between Italy and the central empires.

A report reaching here is to the effect that the Austrians have placed on the Kaust mountains three heavy cannon, ready to bombard Trieste in case of an insurrection or an advance by the Italians.

Crowds All Enthusiastic.

ROME (via Paris), May 23.—Reports from all towns in Italy say that the decree of mobilization is received everywhere with the greatest enthusiasm. Processions and demonstrations are being held in all towns, the people acclaiming the king and wishing victory for the country. In some places portraits of the king and queen were carried through the streets by crowds singing the national air and war songs popular with their grandfathers and fathers in 1848, 1859, 1860 and 1866, or who climbed scaffolds to meet Austrian executioners.

Rumored Plot to Kidnap von Buelow

PARIS, May 23.—Prince von Buelow German ambassador at Rome, will not leave the Italian capital until compelled to do so, according to the Rome correspondent to the Petit Journal.

A circumstantial story also is told by the correspondent of a report current in Rome that when popular agitation against former Premier Giolitti was at its height, a plot was formulated to kidnap Prince von Buelow from his residence, the villa Malta, but that the plan was abandoned when Signor Giolitti left Rome.

The Petit Journal's correspondent is authority for the statement that Prince von Buelow has installed his aged mother-in-law, Donna Laura Minghetti, in the villa Malta in the hope that the property will not be confiscated so long as it is occupied by an Italian woman. He is said to have offered her the use of the villa from the time he leaves Rome until his return.

Vessel Goes Ashore, But Crew Is Saved

MARSHFIELD, Ore., May 23.—The steam schooner Claremont went ashore just north of Coos Bay Jetty today, and tonight was considered a total loss. Its crew of twenty-seven were rescued by boats from the bar dredge Colonel P. S. Michie, except one sailor, who jumped overboard and was picked up by the steamer Saginaw. The Claremont carried no passengers.

BRYAN IS NEUTRAL IN ROOSEVELT-BARNES WAR

WASHINGTON, May 23.—When Secretary Bryan was told of the verdict in the Roosevelt-Barnes case, he said: "Well, it saves Mr. Roosevelt from the payment of damages; but this is one of those cases in which a victory either way gives some advantage. If Mr. Barnes had won it would have purged him of the charge of being a boss and this would have relieved the ex-president of the odium of having associated with him for so many years."

"Do you sympathize then with Mr. Roosevelt because they have given him the verdict?" one of the correspondent's asked.

"I have so accustomed myself," said Mr. Bryan, "to the position of neutrality that I do not like to make an exception in this case."

AUSTRO-ITALIAN FRONTIER—Austria so far has refused to give up the strip of land shown in shaded lines and known to all Italians as "unredeemed Italy."



FLEE BEFORE THE LASSEN LAVA TIDE

Boiling Wave Sweeps Countryside and Whole Population of Valley on Run for Lives.

SIDE OF VOLCANO BLOWN OFF

BULLETIN. REDDING, Cal., May 23.—Inky smoke clouds dropped from time to time today through rain clouds which circled Lassen Peak and contained its summit. No violent eruptions were indicated.

BULLETIN.

REDDING, Cal., May 23.—Hat Creek valley, which was threatened with destruction late yesterday by the eruption of Lassen Peak, has been saved. The flood which followed the disturbances, it was learned today, changed its course and flow being carried out into the old lava fields.

The entire valley was shaken by a strong earthquake just previous to yesterday's eruption. No damage from this source is reported.

Clouds hide the volcano this morning.

BULLETIN.

REDDING, Cal., May 23.—Lassen peak burst into a new eruption late yesterday, the greatest and most violent since the mountain awoke one year ago. Another flood of mud, triple the size of yesterday's, swept down the mountain side with three steaming streams of lava in its wake.

It covered the countryside like a tidal wave. Thirty-six families, nearly the whole population of Hat Creek valley, were reported tonight to be fleeing for their lives before the avalanche of mud and boiling lava.

Rescue Parties on Way.

A report from the power station at Cow Creek said that one side of the volcano had been blown off and toppled into the lake near the base of the crater, the water displaced adding to the flood.

So fast the volcanic flow has been confined to Hat Creek valley and adjacent valleys are considered impure from danger, unless the subterranean forces hurl rocks and lava over the natural barriers.

Fifteen rescue parties in automobiles were rushed from here to Cassel and Round Mountain to pick up the refugee women and children. Men mounted on horseback frantically rounded up cattle and live stock and endeavored to drive them to the highlands to escape the broad torrent of mud that submerged everything in its path.

Time of Eruption.

The eruption occurred at 4:30 p. m. Three almost simultaneous and titanic bursts of smoke and steam were followed by two lesser ones. A tremendous funnel shaped cloud shot skyward to an estimated height of miles, and spread out in a heavy pall almost as wide. The big mountain, 10,000 feet high, was dwarfed to insignificant size.

When the immense volume of smoke and ashes had lifted about the mountain's crest four blackened paths, each a half-mile wide, were revealed on the western slope. The visible rivers of mud and lava were lost at the timber line.

By 6 o'clock the people of Hat Creek valley realized that the snow-capped tides of Lassen's overflow was rushing upon them and they commenced a swift exodus. Word was received that a spray of volric (Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

Villa Troops Report Obregon Defeated

EL PASO, Tex., May 23.—An official Villa bulletin received here late tonight asserted that the Obregon army had been defeated decisively below Leon. The Villa troops were said to have captured Sillao, the Carranza base.

SEES DEFENSELESSNESS OF U. S. INVITING WAR

KANSAS CITY, May 23.—Ambassador States is inviting war by its unpreparedness, according to the belief expressed here today by President Arthur T. Hadley of Yale. President Hadley is here attending the convention of the Western association of Yale Alumni clubs.

WAR WORD GOES OUT IN ITALY AND TROOPS ON MOVE

General Mobilization of Men and Munitions is Taking Place in the Kingdom of Italy.

STATE OF HOSTILITIES ON TODAY

Baron Macchio Gets Passports and He Will Leave at Once for Austria.

FORMAL DECLARATION IS MADE

ROME (Via Paris), May 23.—Contemporaneously with the issuance of a general mobilization order the Italian government tonight officially announced that it had declared war against Austria-Hungary.

The Rome Tribune says that the state of war between Italy and Austria begins tomorrow, May 24.

Baron von Macchio, the Austro-Hungarian ambassador to Italy, was handed his passports at 3:30 o'clock this afternoon, the newspaper says, and will leave tonight or tomorrow morning.

The Italian ambassador at Vienna, the duke of Avarna Javarna, has been recalled.

Declaration Passed On.

LONDON, May 24.—The Italian ambassador at Vienna on Sunday afternoon presented a formal declaration of war to Baron Burian von Rajecz, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister.

This announcement is made in a Vienna dispatch to Reuter's Telegram company, sent by way of Amsterdam.

Vehicles Requisitioned.

PARIS, May 23.—A Havas dispatch from Rome says the king has also issued a decree requisitioning all vehicles and horses for transport services.

The Rome correspondent of the Havas Agency says that the Messagero's representative in Vienna sends the following dispatch:

Envoy Leaves Vienna.

"The Italian ambassador, the duke of Avarna, leaves today for Rome.

"Austria has asked the United States to take over the protection of Austrian subjects in Italy. The American government has transmitted instructions to its ambassadors in Austria and Italy."

BRESCIA, Italy (Via Paris), May 23.—Frontier incidents were reported today from several points where the Italian Alpine troops pursued Austrian soldiers who had crossed the frontier.

Barracks Blown Up.

VERONA, Italy, May 23.—The Austrian barracks at Rovereto, a town in the Tyrol with about 12,000 Italian inhabitants, was blown up today.

The police immediately placed under arrest many Italian citizens, although there was no evidence to show that the Italians were in any way responsible for the explosion.

BULGARS WON'T ATTACK ROUMANIA IF IT FIGHTS

GENEVA, Switzerland, May 23.—The Journal De Geneve states that Vassil Radostavoff, the Bulgarian premier, has announced officially that Bulgaria will not attack Roumania if the latter enters the war.

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