

11 PERSONS MEET DEATH IN FLAMES

TWO FAMILIES BURN IN KENTUCKY FARM HOME.

BLAZE STARTS AT MIDNIGHT

Neighbors Find Bodies Charred Beyond Recognition—Evidence Hints at Foul Play.

Mayfield, Ky.—Charred beyond recognition and with only parts of limbs, trunks and skull recovered, the bodies of eleven persons, representing two families, were found burned to death at the home of Ernest Lawrence, six miles north of this city, near Hickory Grove.

The fire, which destroyed the log and frame three-room farm house, started about midnight and lasted until nearly 4 o'clock in the morning. When the fire had subsided enough for neighbors to reach the victims, there was hardly enough flesh and bones to identify the dead.

Neighbors residing north of the almost isolated little farm home stated under oath at the coroner's inquiry that they heard the screams of women and children and heard six or seven shots. The discovery of a .32 caliber rifle, a pistol, a shot gun, an ax and an oil can all in the front room where the families were sleeping hints of foul play or the work of some mad-mad maniac. After searching far and near not the remotest motive for the action could be gleaned. Neither family, so far as is known, had a single enemy and scores of people attested to their genteel relations.

Sheriff Marion McCain said after spending the day working on the case: "There is no doubt every person in the house was murdered. A dress of one of the bodies was drenched in blood which prevented the clothing from burning. An ax was found in a bed with one of the women. A five-gallon coal oil can, usually kept in the kitchen, was found just inside the room where the eleven were sleeping. "The only plausible theory I have is that Lawrence, who was struck a blow on the head several years ago and since has been addicted to occasional spells, became insane. He never had shown violence when he was delirious before, however."

Irish Peace Move Made.
London.—Premier Lloyd George has sent a letter to both Eamon de Valera, the Irish republican leader, and Sir James Craig, the Ulster premier, declaring the British government to be deeply anxious that King George's appeal for reconciliation in Ireland shall not have been in vain. The letter appeals for a conference between representatives of the government and southern and northern Ireland.

Fight for Liquor Begun.
Chicago.—More than a half million dollars worth of liquor now in government warehouses in Chicago will be released if the mandamus and injunction asked of the district court are granted. Former Senator J. Ham Lewis, representing a hundred owners of this city, is the leading member of the law firm making this new attack upon the Volstead act.

Woman Swims Around Manhattan.
New York.—Miss Amelia Gade, 22, swam around Manhattan island, a distance of about forty miles, in 15 hours and 57 minutes. She was the second woman to perform the feat, Miss Ida Ellonsky having been credited with doing it in 1915 in 11 hours and 35 minutes.

Tulsa Police Chief Indicted.
Tulsa, Okla.—Chief of Police John A. Gustafson, of the Tulsa police department, and other members of the department, were indicted by the grand jury in connection with the recent race riot and on charges of permitting vice.

Earthslide in Corinth Canal.
Corinth, Greece.—A serious earthslide has occurred in Corinth canal, blocking all shipping. Vessels sailing for Piraeus, Constantinople and Asia Minor ports are forced to go around Matapan, involving a delay of thirty-six hours.

Not to Halt Near East War.
Athens.—Greece declined the offer of France, Great Britain and Italy to mediate with the Turkish nationalists for the purpose of putting an end to the hostilities between them and the Greeks in Asia Minor.

A. F. of L. Reflects Gompers.
Denver, Colo.—President Samuel Gompers, America's veteran labor leader, overwhelmingly defeating his first serious opposition since 1894, was returned to office with his entire administration for another year by the American Federation of Labor. Daniel J. Tobin, of Indianapolis, was re-elected treasurer and Frank Morrison, of Washington, was re-elected secretary. Jacob Fischer, of Indianapolis, and Matthew Wolf, of Chicago, were re-elected seventh and eighth vice presidents, respectively.

Our City Guests Have Departed



EQUAL RIGHTS ARE DENIED WOMEN BY THE A. F. OF L.

Convention Takes Stand that Affiliated Organizations Cannot Recognize Negroes.

Denver, Colo.—The convention of the American Federation of Labor voted down a constitutional amendment designed to give women "equal rights and privileges of membership in the union of their trade or industry."

All affiliated unions, however, were urged not to discriminate against the woman wage earner and admit her to membership.

Efforts to wipe out the "color line" in organized labor organizations also failed. The convention took the stand that national and international unions could not be compelled to recognize negro workers, and that this was a matter to be adjusted by conference between the negro wage earners and the various organizations.

Both questions were the subjects of long and stormy debates in which discrimination by certain unions against the negro and woman wage earners was bitterly denounced.

The committee's report rejected the constitutional amendment to give women "industrial equality," defended the federation's stand on women in industry and cited efforts to get better wages and working conditions for them. It declared that only a "few unions" were discriminating against women and for that reason disapproved the amendment and urged that "those international and national organizations which do not admit women to membership give early consideration for such admissions."

Equal rights for women in industry was voiced by delegates from the cigar makers and the laundry workers' union, who declared "if a woman does a man's work she should receive a man's pay."

All declared that organized labor should protect the woman wage earners.

W. D. Mahon, president of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, declared that his organization would not allow the federation to dictate to it in the matter of woman's labor. He said he was in favor of protection for woman workers, but he did not believe that the "back platform of a street car was the place for a woman."

The defeated constitutional amendment would have provided for the issuance of a separate charter by the federation to a woman's local without the consent of the union having jurisdiction over the particular trade.

The negro question arose on the report of the committee on laws, which disapproved a resolution calling for the suspension of unions that discriminated against negro workers. The committee, however, was upheld by overwhelming votes.

Draft Deserters Held.
San Antonio, Tex.—Five alleged draft deserters were delivered to military authorities at Fort Sam Houston here, making the first arrests since the publication of the war department list was started here about two months ago.

Theater Collapse Kills Seven.
Johnstown, Pa.—Investigations at Barnesboro revealed that the collapse of the Grand theater there, costing seven lives, resulted from excavations which undermined the building's walls.

Probe of Mingo War Ordered.
Washington.—Senate investigation of the disturbances in the Mingo, W. Va., coal fields, finally was ordered. The committee on labor is expected to begin the inquiry next month.

Sinn Fein Wreck Train.
Belfast.—Three soldiers and a train guard were killed and some 20 soldiers and an assistant train guard were injured when a troop train carrying soldiers from Belfast to Dublin was wrecked by the explosion of Sinn Fein land mines at Abervoyle, near Dundalk.

Sugar to New Low.
New York.—Refined sugar broke in to new low ground when several large refiners cut refined granulated to 5.40 cents a pound.

A BITTER FIGHT RAGING OVER THE IRISH ISSUE

Verbal Encounter at White Meet When Recuser Is Taken—Committee Report Cuts Out Boycott.

Denver.—The forecast bitter fight over the Irish question was precipitated upon the floor of the convention of the American Federation of Labor and was at its height when President Samuel Gompers adjourned the convention.

The debate started when the resolution committee reported as substitute for the four resolutions introduced by Irish sympathizers. The substitute ignored the effort to initiate a boycott against British manufacturers and imports.

The committee's report disposed of the Irish question by asking the convention to reaffirm its sympathy for the Irish cause, by urging recognition of the Irish republic and by urging trial and punishment for British army men guilty of atrocities in Ireland.

No sooner had the committee's report been read when Cornelius Foley, delegate of the barbers' union, took the floor reading a telegram from Harry Boland, secretary to Eamon de Valera, "provisional president of the Irish republic," which said:

"The organization (American Federation of Labor) is looked on to do something for Ireland. We want the boycott or nothing."

Mr. Foley declared that "there is only one place where we can hurt England and that is in her pocket-book."

Christian M. Madsen, of the Chicago Federation of Labor, then moved to amend the committee report by adding a clause calling for a boycott by American labor against British goods and British companies as long as the British government maintains "it barbarous and destructive policy in Ireland."

A point of order was raised that this could not be introduced because it was part of the resolutions already rejected by the committee. President Gompers sustained the point of order and adjourned the convention while several delegates were struggling for recognition of the chair.

The resolution reported by the committee was virtually identical with one submitted by a committee of Irish sympathizers headed by Peter Brady, of New York, except that some of the more drastic phrases were omitted. The committee also struck out a paragraph demanding that President Harding, his cabinet and congress take necessary steps to demand from Great Britain the defaulted interest and loan due the United States and now used in part to "promote the brutal campaign in Ireland."

Woman Presides in Congress.
Washington, D. C.—For the first time in the history of the American congress, a woman presided over the deliberations of one of its houses. Miss Alice Robertson, of Oklahoma, the only woman member of congress, wielded the gavel while the house of representatives at the request of President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes, passed a bill authorizing the sending of a United States commission to Peru during the centennial celebration in the republic.

French Demobilization.
Paris.—The cabinet authorized the war minister to begin demobilization of the entire class of 1919 June 25. This decision was reached on receipt of a report that the classes of 1920 and 1921 have been trained adequately.

Grude Oil Drops.
Casper, Wyo.—The Ohio Oil company announced a reduction of 10 cents a barrel in the price of Mule Creek crude, bringing the new price to 60 cents. No other grades are affected.

Would Make Rich Disgorge Liquor.
Washington, D. C.—Congress should make the rich disgorge their huge private stocks of liquor, Representative Poy, of North Carolina, said. The rich liquor drinker can be hit, Mr. Poy said, by making mere possession of intoxicants a crime, and he is considering framing legislation to this effect.

Iowan Killed by Lightning.
Chariton, Ia.—James Curfman was struck by lightning and instantly killed on his farm near here.

BELIEVE PIRATES AT WORK

Opinion Either Piratical Work Off Atlantic Coast or Seizure of Craft for Soviet Russia.

Washington, D. C.—Are pirates operating off the Atlantic coast? The crew of an American ship is missing and what seems to be conclusive evidence has been obtained that they were made prisoner on another vessel and taken away to parts unknown, if they were not murdered. A second American vessel is long overdue and two other American ships are unaccounted for under circumstances raising suspicion of a similar fate. The United States government has undertaken to solve these mysteries of the sea, which, in the opinion of officials, point either to piratical occurrences off the Atlantic coast or the seizure of the vessels for the benefit of soviet Russia.

The state department has instructed its consular officers to be on the lookout for the missing vessels or the members of the kidnapped crew. The treasury department through its coast guard and lifesaving service is making a search of the Atlantic coast.

The navy department has sent out vessels to search. The department of commerce through its bureau of navigation is assisting in trying to lift the veil of mystery. The department of justice has assigned some of its best secret service agents to the case, for the government is working on the theory that all the mysterious incidents are inter-related.

Several months ago the five-masted schooner Carol Deering, of Portland, Me., was found abandoned off Diamond Shoals, N. C., with all sails set and her officers and crew missing. The Deering went ashore near Diamond Shoals lightship, and when the men of the nearby life saving station went aboard they found evidence indicating that she had been abandoned in a hurry for no conceivable reason, for the vessel was in good shape, with plenty of food. In fact, it was apparent that she had been abandoned when a meal was about to be served.

A little later a bottle came ashore near where the ship was found and it was a note purporting to have been written by the mate of the schooner, which reads as follows:

"An oil-burning tanker or submarine has boarded us and placed our crew in irons. Get word headquarters of company at once."

The captain and crew of the Deering numbered twelve, and not a trace of them has been discovered. The Deering left Portland last December for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with a general cargo. It was on her return voyage with another general cargo that she went ashore on Diamond Shoals.

The writing found in the bottle has been compared with the penmanship of her missing mate, and handwriting experts have testified that there is no question that the mate wrote the message.

The steel steamer Hewitt, owned by the Union Sulphur company, of New York, is also missing. She sailed from Sabine, Tex., several months ago with a cargo of sulphur for Boston and Portland. The government authorities have been unable to get any trace of her. Not a boat nor a spar from her has come ashore or been picked up, and not a body of any member of her crew has been found. She might have been off Diamond Shoals about the time that the Deering went ashore, and the authorities believe that she is still afloat intact.

At the department of commerce the statement was made that two other American vessels had disappeared under circumstances that led the department to believe that they had not foundered, and they suspected that the ships had been the victims of pirates, perhaps soviet sympathizers, who had sailed away with them to ports of soviet Russia.

Another Rail Wage Cut Soon.
Chicago.—Announcement of a wage reduction order affecting nearly all railroads involved in the \$600,000,000 wage award of July, 1920, and not named in the reduction order of June 1, is expected. It was learned at the United States railroad labor board. A brief hearing, covering about 30 roads asking wage cuts, was held. The board's decision on this case and on the hearing of June 6, when more than 150 roads presented petitions, will be rendered simultaneously.

Floods Sweeping Japan.
Tokyo.—Terrific floods are sweeping large areas of Japan. The death list approached 200. Entire villages were submerged under 15 feet of water in the Hita district. In Kyushu more than 600 houses were washed away. Heavy rains caused the floods.

House for Philippine Bill.
Washington, D. C.—The house passed a bill authorizing the Philippine government to increase the limit of indebtedness from \$15,000,000 to \$30,000,000. An effort will be made to obtain quick senate action.

Miners Strike in Pennsylvania.
Wilkesbarre, Pa.—Nearly 10,000 anthracite mine workers employed by the Pennsylvania Coal company went on strike, claiming the company is not paying wages in accordance with the agreement signed last year. Company officials declare the strike is illegal.

Ontario Goes "Dry" July 18.
Ottawa.—The Duke of Devonshire, retiring governor general of Canada, in his last official act in Ottawa signed the order in council which will result in a "dry" Ontario July 18.

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

The state administration is continuing its drive against Nebraska tax slackers. W. H. Osborne, state tax commissioner, in open letters to county clerks has called for typewritten copies of the minutes of meetings of county commissioners, explaining that it is for the purpose of ascertaining the work done by commissioners as equalization boards on taxation questions and in order to give the state department an opportunity to ascertain if local politics is playing any part in the assessments levied by county boards on certain persons.

Members of four rural school districts surrounding Gilead, Nos. 17, 45, 74 and 81 are planning a unite five districts, including Gilead, No. 80, for high school purposes. It is the desire of the people to establish a rural high school, each district to retain its present organization, boards of education and school house for lower grade purposes.

William Mattox, farm hand, who shot and killed his employer, John G. Schmier, on the latter's farm near Pender, was taken to Omaha for safe keeping, because of fear that neighbors of the murdered man might resort to mob violence to avenge the act. An argument over Mattox's employment and pay was the cause of the shooting.

At a conference at Grand Island the factional fight between various officers of Thomas county at Theford, was settled by agreement, the records of the county clerk returned, the oyster suits dismissed and all have agreed to co-operate harmoniously.

Hans Jensen of Red Cloud was one of the crew of 49 men aboard the naval tug, Conestoga, which has not been heard from since leaving Mare Island, March 25, Washington reports say.

The application of the Union Pacific for approval of the location of two stations, No. 1 and 2, upon the North Platte extension in Scouts Bluff county has received the approval of the state railway commission.

A test case made in Nuckolls county by the state department of agriculture proved that hogs which follow tubercular cattle contract the disease.

The first wheat threshed in Jefferson county yielded eighteen bushels to the acre. Dealers offered \$1.10 a bushel for the grain.

Promised current at 2½ cents, Beatrice people have taken \$60,000 stock in the Barneston hydro-electric project. The city uses 2,400,000 kilowatts annually.

Arrangements have been completed for an inter-state aeroplane meet and show to be held at Nelson, July 14, 15 and 16.

Announcement has been made that state aid will be secured if possible for the construction of the proposed Broken Bow, Callaway and Gothenburg highway.

Valentine now has a baseball headquarters with sleeping rooms for visiting teams.

Prospects for an enormous sugar beet crop in Western Nebraska were never better, according to reports.

A movement is on foot, backed by two North Platte men, to establish an airplane factory at Omaha.

Citizens of Pawnee City voted \$75,000 bonds for building a new electric power plant.

A fund has been raised by the business men and citizens at Table Rock for a free hand concert each Saturday night by the town band.

The Central City chapter of the Red Cross has forwarded \$400 to Pueblo flood victims.

Damage to roads and the destruction of six bridges along Sweet Creek by the recent floods in Buffalo county will cost taxpayers about \$25,000, it is said.

The shortage of farms help in Saline county has caused women to go into the fields. Many men from Crete are assisting in the harvest of the wheat crop, which is beyond expectations.

Plattsburgh city officials are urging the establishment of a municipal light plant as the result of the boost in both gas and light rates imposed by the private company operating in the city.

The three river bridges across the North Platte in Garden county were badly damaged by the recent high water and all three have been condemned by the board of county commissioners.

The 1920 corn crop cost an average of 49 cents a bushel to produce in one of the central Nebraska counties, according to figures compiled by the state college of agriculture. The average cost was figured from records kept by members of the county farm bureau and are considered conservative.

A jury investigating the wreck of Northwestern passenger, No. 606 near Whitney, in which five lives were lost, found the bridge over Big Cottonwood creek through which the train plunged was in good condition a short time before the accident.

Rolla and Della Dehart, man and wife now in jail at O'Neill charged with the murder of John Mize of Platte, S. D., whose body was found in the Niobrara river north of Atkinson several weeks ago, will be tried at a special term of district court in August.

Announcement by State Treasurer Crosey that \$496,385.27 is available for the July semiannual state school apportionment calls for a new basis of distribution under a law passed by the 1921 legislature providing that each district in which non-taxable state school land is located shall receive out of the appropriation an equivalent to the school tax on that land if it were privately owned. This will require a valuation of all school land on the basis of surrounding land and a computation of what the school levy in each school district having such land would raise.

No seriously menacing pest has yet appeared on the horizon of Nebraska agriculture, according to the monthly report of the state entomologist, Prof. M. H. Sweenk, at Lincoln. Grasshoppers have been hatching out in rather large numbers in a few counties, and a little damage has been done. The Hessian fly has also caused injury in two sections of the state, and one or two other pests have put in their appearance. However, no extensive damage has been reported from any pest.

The state has entered into the fight being made against the Norval language law in Platte county by the Nebraska District Evangelical Lutheran synod of Missouri. In an answer to a petition for an order enjoining state and county officials, from enforcing the new law, Attorney General Davis declared that it was not in the province of the court of equity to undertake to restrain officials from enforcement of a criminal statute.

The state of Nebraska is after the man who is making a business of trade in illicit booze, according to an address made by Governor McKelvie at Norfolk before 200 sheriffs, mayors, county attorneys, roadmen and other law enforcement officers who were enrolled into the State Law Enforcement bureau, which the governor stated is endeavoring to help local authorities to enforce state laws. Similar meetings are to be held in other parts of the state.

A report issued by the state department of public instruction shows there are now 106 consolidated school districts in Nebraska consisting of from six to 73 sections of land which have a valuation of from \$34,626 to \$1,541,673. These districts also own grounds from one to 20 acres.

Wheat harvesting this year in Nebraska is one of the earliest in the state's history, owing to the unseasonably hot weather in May. In average years the last week in June and the first in July is the official opening. Farmers in southern counties are fully a week or ten days ahead of schedule.

Nebraska bankers and live stock interests are taking an active part in the formation of a \$50,000,000 financial pool by J. P. Morgan and big Chicago interests for the purpose of financing the cattle growers of the west and southwest during the coming twelve months.

Sutton is facing a water famine, all wells but one from which the city receives its water supply have given out. Drastic measures are contemplated to meet the emergency.

The Nebraska State Fair, which opens at Lincoln September 4, promises to be the greatest exhibition ever held in the state, according to Secretary Daniels of the fair board.

Robert Carsh charged with slaying Henry Johnson in a hand-to-hand fight on the streets of Humboldt June 1, was bound over to the next term of district court on \$6,000 bond.

Governor McKelvie has offered a reward of \$100 for the capture of the person or persons who held up and fatally wounded Mrs. Margaret Hyland of Palmer, in Omaha recently.

An election held at North Platte on a bond proposition for extension of the water works and sewer carried by a majority of 75 votes.

A Boy Scout troop of thirty-two members has been organized at Odell. Custer county farmers are reporting the loss of cattle from black leg.

A band of twenty-six members has been organized at Liberty.

The Rev. Dr. William Franklin Eyster, 99, oldest college graduate in the United States died at Crete.

Women of Red Cloud are planning to organize a civic club to encourage property owners to keep their premises in better condition.

By a vote of 102 to 64, citizens of Davenport approved the playing of baseball on Sunday.

From December 1, 1919, to December 1, 1920, the state department of agriculture made 6,164 inspections of Nebraska food establishments, according to a statement issued by the department, based on the biennial report. It brought twenty-five prosecutions.

F. M. Ridings, president of the Farmers' State bank at Halsey, was sentenced to one to 10 years in the state prison by the Thomas county district court at Theford for issuance of certificates without any security of value.

Dawson county farmers expect to harvest the biggest wheat and rye crops in the history of the county this year. Cutting of the grain was started last week.

Keith county commissioners are making plans to rebuild the bridges at Brule, Ogallala and Paxton at once. These bridges were all made impassable and were partly washed out by the late floods in the South Platte river. The bridge at Roscoe is the only bridge in western Nebraska that stood the test against the high water in the South Platte river.