

QUEEN SHIP OF CUNARD IN FLAMES

BY FORBES W. FAIRBAIRN,
Special Cable Dispatch.

Southampton, July 26 (Telephoned to London).—The Mauretania, queen of the steamships of the Cunard line and full sister ship of the ill-fated Lusitania, is in danger of complete destruction from a fire which started from a cigaret spark at 2 o'clock on Monday afternoon.

It is midnight as this story is telephoned to London and though the firemen claim they are controlling the outbreak the magnificent Atlantic grehound is still a fierce cauldron. Three decks have been completely destroyed, half the length of the ship from the bow aft.

Eight hundred men of the crew and the firemen are still battling the blaze. Was Being Refurnished.

The Mauretania, which came into her berth here on the run from New York Friday, was being refurnished for her next trip to America. An employe of an upholstering concern was cleaning the carpet in a first class stateroom on B deck. He was using petrolas smoking. An ash from his cigaret dropped into the petrolas which started the costly blaze.

The man ran to Chief Steward Sayers who rang the fire gong and sounded bugles warning the members of the crew who ran to their stations on the steamship and connected the hoses to the hydrants.

To the dismay of all there was no water. The ship, however, by this time was in flames which spread at least 10 minutes headway before water could be directed to the danger point.

Port Holes Were Open.

Here apparently is the reason the conflagration gripped the vessel because measures to check the blaze could be taken. According to the rules of the board of trade when a boat is docked the water tanks must be filled and the port holes closed. Not only was there no water on the Mauretania but the port holes were also open and smoke belched from them in dense masses.

Captain MacNeil, dock superintendent of the Cunard line, attacked the outbreak from the Mauretania's dock while tugs poured tons of water into the ship from the harbor until the Southampton city fire department arrived.

The flames continued to burst out through the port holes, but they never topped the ship, the boat deck being untouched.

The liner was a red hot mass shortly after the outbreak of the fire and the fire fighters were unable to approach her. Stages were then flung over the rails of the decks while firemen, wearing smoke helmets hanging on them and directing the hoses toward the flames which worked between the steel bulk heads and the wooden wainscoting. The fire spread both latterly and upwards.

A couple of hours after the fire started the liner listed heavily under the tons of water poured into her and she was in imminent danger of heeling over. The pumps were ordered manned and the Mauretania was righted after several hours of work.

Famous Saloon a Charred Ruin.

The whole of the famous dining saloon with its costly carvings and paintings is now only a charred ruin. The lounge also was destroyed. The staterooms aft of the saloon were gutted as well as all the cabins on the E and L decks. The flooring of four other decks was warped so much as to make the decks resemble the waves of the ocean.

The electrical plant in the fore part of the ship was wrecked, rendering it most difficult to continue fighting the flames after night fall.

The firemen claimed at 5 p. m. that the blaze was being controlled but an hour later there was a renewed outbreak of flames.

The vessel as this is sent is so hot that it is uncertain whether more than the hull can be saved.

Green Stewards Are Blamed.

The members of the stewards' union who lost their jobs during the recent dispute with the Cunard company watched the conflagration from the docks, and said the fire would not have spread if there were properly trained stewards aboard the liner. They pointed out that the bulkheads would immediately have been closed and that the fire would have been isolated.

Furthermore, the water tanks would have been filled as required by the port regulations and the port holes would have been closed.

Officials of the Cunard line declined to make a statement regarding the fire Monday night. It was announced an inquiry by the board of trade would be held.

Olympic In Danger.

The remains of the Mauretania will be taken into New Castle and the reconditioning of the pride of the Atlantic likely will occupy from six to 12 months.

Captain Rostron, present master of the Mauretania, was not at Southampton Monday and did not learn of the fire until hours after it started.

A portion of the cargo of the Mauretania destined for the United States, was salvaged by the Mauretania's crew.

WATERSPOUT KILLS TWO.

Del Norte, Colo., July 26.—Mrs. Ernest Giesecke of Honolulu and Miss Bertha Giesecke, of Denver, tourists, were killed near here Sunday when the automobile in which they were riding was struck by a waterspout in Wolf Creek Pass.

AND BOYS THIRD.

Iowa City, Ia., July 26.—Boys are third in the thoughts of co-eds at the University of Iowa, they said in answer to a questionnaire. Parents come first and their home second.

SUNSHINE HIGHWAY TOUR IS COMPLETED

Brandon, Minn., July 26.—The formal opening of the Sunshine highway was completed here Saturday when a party of 65 persons from Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota concluded a 700-mile trip from Sioux City, Ia., to this city. It was the first trip made by the Sunshine highway officials over the route of which Sioux City is the southern terminal and Brandon on the northern.

The party left Sioux City last Tuesday. They will be guests here of the Provincial fair officials until Thursday when the return trip will be started.

TO ARREST SMALL FOR GRAFT TODAY?

Now Says He Won't Call Out Troops for Present—But Has He An Ace Up His Sleeve?

Springfield, Ill., July 26.—Will Governor Small, of Illinois, be arrested for embezzlement and conspiracy to defraud Tuesday?

Springfield Monday night awaited developments with breathless interest. Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock Judge E. S. Smith, before whom the indictments of Governor Small, Lieutenant Governor Sterling and Vernon Curtis, banker, were returned last week will rule whether the governor is immune from arrest because of his high executive position.

Judge Smith was reported writing his opinion Monday night and it was said he would hold the governor is subject to arrest. If this decision is rendered the next move will be for Sheriff Meester to attempt to serve the warrants.

Ever since the indictments were returned reports have been flying thick and fast that the governor would call out the state militia to resist arrest. But Monday night Governor Small said he would not take that action—not for the present at least.

When asked Monday night what he intended to do if the sheriff attempted to arrest him, Governor Small said:

"I shall not attempt to waive the constitutional exemption of my office. To do so, my counsel advises me would amount to a practical surrender of the sovereignty of the state in violation of my oath of office. It is my duty, under the constitution, to decline to waive the independence of the executive department."

In well informed circles about the state house Monday night it was strongly intimated the governor has "an ace up his sleeve." It was admitted his statement did not wholly clear up the situation as to his contemplated plan of action. In some quarters it was thought he would merely protest arrest when the warrant was served upon him.

BONUS FOR EX-YANKS COMING, AFTER ALL?

After Confering with Harding, Fordney Says He'll Introduce Bill Soon.

Washington, July 26.—Efforts are to be redoubled for soldier legislation at this session of congress.

After a conference with President Harding Monday Chairman Fordney of the House ways and means committee announced he would bring out his adjusted compensation bill soon.

The soldier bonus is not dead, although temporarily sidetracked by the action of President Harding in asking that it be postponed for the present, Representative Fordney and other congressional leaders believe it was made clear Monday.

Mr. Fordney indicated bonus legislation may be considered along with the taxation program, which shortly will occupy the attention of the House. By combining the two, it would be the object of congressional leaders to arrange the tax schedules to provide for initial payments of the bonus.

It has been suggested that a tax of 1 per cent on all sales be imposed to provide money for the soldier bonus. That suggestion is meeting with growing approval.

Advocates of the sales tax to pay the bonus assert the success of the tax would lead to its adoption for all taxation purposes in place of the present complicated system.

The legislative committee of the American Legion is hard at work on a plan to derive the bonus issue in congress and already sees indications of success. Gilbert Bettman, chairman of the committee, will confer with President Harding Monday on the subject to ascertain the president's plans on the subject.

TEXAN SLAIN; THREE HELD.

Galveston, Tex., July 26.—J. E. Hayes, Perry McFadden and J. H. Ross, of League City, were arrested by Sheriff Henry Thomas Monday in connection with the killing of M. C. Benson in League City Monday morning.

Benson, 30, a stockman, was shot to death on the main street of League City. Benson was a brother to G. C. Benson, of Dickinson, who was flogged by a party of masked men last week.

MILLING COMPANY FAILS.

Topeka, Kan., July 26.—The Associated Mill & Elevator company, of Kansas City, Mo., which operates the Liberty Mills of Kansas City, and more than 20 Kansas elevators Saturday went into receivership under an order of the United States district court here. J. N. Rollway, of Topeka, was appointed receiver.

For the first time in several years the waters of Lake Superior in the vicinity of Duluth have been sufficiently warm this summer to permit bathing.

FRENCH TO INVADE RUHR IF GERMANS HALT FOCH'S MEN

War Clouds by No Means Dispelled, Peace of Europe and of World Continues to Hang By Thread.

London, July 26.—Despite official denials, it is reliably learned that Great Britain has informed France she will not oppose the dispatch of French reinforcements to Upper Silesia but will not participate in the movement and will not accept the responsibilities arising from their presence.

The British foreign office is moving cautiously and is anxious not to encourage Germany to resist the French, thus stirring up further trouble.

BY C. F. BERTELLI.

Paris, July 25.—The Ruhr—the rich German industrial region—came to the fore in the international situation Monday night.

Again it was indicated that the region, the occupation of which was threatened by France during the reparations squabble last May, will be invaded within the next 24 hours unless Germany withdraws her note denying French troops the right of way across German territory toward Upper Silesia.

Whole Division Before August 4. France Monday decided to give Marshal Foch peremptory orders that a whole division of French troops on full war footing reaches Upper Silesia before August 4 at any cost.

Such a decision, it was stated in diplomatic circles Monday night, is to be altogether against Great Britain's wishes.

Nevertheless the vanguard of the French division is already on its way to Upper Silesia on French transports which are heading for the Baltic port of Danzig, thus skirting German territory.

Simultaneously with the dispatch of the additional French force to the disputed plebiscite area—a compromise has been reached with Great Britain regarding the meeting of the supreme council which will deal with the Upper Silesian territorial division between Germany and Poland.

The meeting has been called for August 4. This explains the haste of the French in getting the division on its way to present a fait accompli to the other allies.

Where'll Council Meet? The place of the meeting of the supreme council, however, has not yet been chosen.

While the French government was obliged to give in to the British demand for an immediate meeting of the supreme council, Premier Lloyd George met France half way, it was confirmed Monday night by agreeing to the point that the plebiscite experts are to make a new investigation of the Upper Silesian problem. The experts have been asked to speed up the matter in order to report fully on August 4.

France, it can be stated, rejects the Italian and British joint suggestion to allot Germany and Poland the regions already clearly defined as the result of the recent plebiscite, the rejection being prompted because such a division would give Germany practically the entire valuable Silesian territory which France instead wishes to give to Poland.

While the entente cordiale apparently has been saved for the next few days, the greatest apprehension is felt among Paris diplomats, as should Germany decline to let the French troops cross her territory the invasion of the Ruhr would follow immediately, thus deciding the final break between England and France and throwing Germany into a state of revolution.

As an ambassador of an allied nation declared to me Monday night: "The war clouds by no means have been dispelled. The peace of Europe and indeed the entire world continues to hang by a thread."

The Matin Monday declared England is quarrelling with France because Britain promised Upper Silesia to Germany if she signed the ultimatum of May dealing with reparations. In any case the Matin adds: France refuses to be bluffed and intends to dispatch the necessary troops despite Lloyd George's veto."

FIGHT PROMOTERS INTO COURT OVER PICTURES

New York, July 26.—Tex Rickard, promoter of the July 2 fight between Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentier in Jersey City and F. C. Quimby, motion picture producer, were summoned to appear before the federal grand jury today to testify concerning the alleged transportation of movies of the fight into this state from New Jersey in violation of federal law.

Mr. Rickard has declared he knows nothing of the transportation of the pictures or of plans to show them here. Mr. Quimby also has denied any part in their transportation, though admitting plans to exhibit them. His contention is that the federal law prohibiting interstate transportation of pictures of a prize fight does not apply to the Dempsey-Carpentier bout, as that historic sporting event was a boxing match and not a prize fight.

AIR PASSENGER KILLED.

Washington, July 26.—Carl Kreitch, this city, was killed today in the fall of a commercial airplane in which he was a passenger. The machine crashed after its engine had stalled at a height of 200 feet. Bertram M. Stewart, Grand Junction, Colo., the pilot, was seriously injured.

A former warden of Sing Sing prison is now a prisoner in that institution, having been committed recently for playing an old bunco game in New York.

Legion News.

The following are the objectives of a campaign outlined recently at a conference of officials of the American Legion and the National Education association held at Des Moines, Ia.

- 1.—All teachers, in public, private and parochial schools, must be American citizens and must take the oath of allegiance. (Exchange professors from foreign countries not included.)
- 2.—English must be the basic language in all schools whether private, public or parochial. This includes no objection to the collateral teaching of foreign languages.
- 3.—There must be greater emphasis laid upon patriotic exercises and teaching of history and civics in all schools.
- 4.—School attendance must be compulsory through the high school age.

Members of the American Legion at Dodge City, Kansas, have chartered a special train of Pullmans to carry them to the annual national convention at Kansas City. They will sleep on the train during the convention, thus avoiding crowded hotel conditions.

Iowa ranks second in the number of units of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion. Minnesota leads by five units. To overcome this lead members of the auxiliary units in Iowa have been called upon by their president, Mrs. Donald Macrae, to join in a week's campaign to increase the number of auxiliary units in the state. The campaign will begin August 1.

William Cree, auditor of Davis county, Ia., who gave an arm in the service of his country in France, and Miss Beulah E. Bennett, county nurse of Davis county, were married recently. Cree served in the First division and was wounded at Soissons. He is an active member of the American Legion.

The American Legion post at Amboy, Minn., has designed special automobile tags bearing the name of their town in large letters.

When the American Legion and Auxiliary at Chisholm, Minn., decided to raise a fund to be used for sick and disabled soldiers' every civic and social organization in the town assisted in putting on a benefit entertainment which netted \$900.

Iowa and Pennsylvania led the field in contributions to the fund for decorating the graves of overseas veterans in France. Iowa's contribution amounted to \$2,895.

A statewide membership campaign has been started by the Nebraska department of the American Legion. Of the 55,000 Nebraskans who served during the war, 18,000 are now members of the American Legion. The campaign is to be in true army style. Commander Robert G. Simmons ordered the legionnaires to advance and take as many "prisoners" as possible. The prisoners will be taken before a court martial and sentenced to a year's membership in the American Legion.

The Nebraska department of the American Legion has begun investigating the charges of John Beltz, an ex-service man, who says he was refused admittance to the United States public health hospital at Kansas City, Mo., after he has been sent there by an examiner for the government.

John G. Emery, national commander of the American Legion, placed a memorial wreath on the casket of his former "buddy," Private Gresham, one of the first three American soldiers to fall in France. They served in the same brigade. Private Gresham's body was among the 7,000 bodies of American soldiers recently returned from France. Memorial services were held in the capitol building of Indiana. Private Gresham's native state. The burial was at Evansville, Ind.

Refused food and a place to sleep by a farmer near Carbonada, Kan., Jacob Miller, of Moberly, Mo., formerly of the 154th infantry, A. E. F., died of exposure and hunger.

John G. Emery, national commander of the American Legion, has definitely announced that he will go to France with the American Legion "pilgrimage" which sails from New York, August 3, for a tour of the war zone. Major Emery at first announced that stress of legion matters probably would keep him in the states, but urgent requests from the French government have resulted in his decision to make the trip.

Stubby, a mute hero of Seichprey, who was recently decorated with a gold medal by General Pershing, has been invited as a guest of honor to the annual convention of the American Legion to be held in Kansas City, October 31 and November 1 and 2. Stubby is a blind Boston bull terrier, wounded in the St. Mihiel drive.

With co-operation of the American Legion and the Red Cross, Col. Charles R. Forbes, director of the bureau of war risk insurance, has started a "cleanup" campaign to dispose of the case of every disabled service man and woman in the country. Colonel Forbes said the campaign is in effect a housecleaning of every file in the great government insurance office.

The Mississippi Valley conference of the American Legion which is to include 18 states of the middle west has been organized for the purpose of securing more effective co-operation between state legion departments. Thomas Lee, Kansas, was elected temporary chairman and Robert G. Simmons, Nebraska, temporary secretary.

A fine of more than \$220 has just been imposed by a London court on the makers of lemonade who advertised it as being "made from Messina lemons," when in fact it contained no lemons at all.

HUGHES WANTS JAPS TO ACCEPT INVITATION FIRST

Tells Them to Agree to Attend Disarmament-Far East Conference and Then Talk "Preliminary."

BY MATTHEW F. TIGHE.

Washington, July 26.—Accept President Harding's invitation to the disarmament and Far Eastern conference and talk preliminary conference afterwards.

This is the burden of a note addressed to Japan by Secretary of State Hughes, it was announced officially Monday. The communication is in reply to Japanese inquiries as to the scope of the forthcoming conference, and made it plain that this government has no intention of forcing any particular program upon any nation. At the same time Secretary Hughes is understood to have emphasized the point that the likelihood of a successful conference would be enhanced were no hard and fast program to be laid down before hand.

No Objection to "Preliminary." Coincidentally with the announcement that such a note has been sent to Japan, government officials let it be known that there are no objections to a preliminary conference in Washington, after all of the invited powers have agreed to discuss the two main propositions of the president's invitation. In other words, they must subscribe to this government's contention that disarmament and the Far Eastern question are so closely related that they are inseparable.

So far as Great Britain is concerned, government officials said today that the "ghost of her efforts to have a preliminary conference in London before all the invited nations have agreed to come into the Washington meeting has been laid." It is believed here now that Great Britain is reconciled to a "preliminary conference of her own."

What'll Lloyd George Do? Otherwise stated, it is believed that during the present and closing week of the imperial conference in London on the defense of the realm, Lloyd George will ascertain the premiers' point of view with reference to the Washington meeting. Though if the premiers are unable to attend the opening sessions, Lloyd George will be in a position to speak for them.

It was hinted here Monday that Lloyd George would not be disappointed very much if the dominion premiers were unable to attend the conference at all. There are reasons for believing also, that he is displeased with the rather frank references to the Anglo-Japanese treaty and America's relation to that pact by Premier Hughes, of Australia.

Situation Is Explained. On the face of the note sent to Tokio, it is explained that Japan now will agree to enter the conference on the same basis as the other invited nations. When she has done so she, with Great Britain then will be in a position to advocate a preliminary discussion. Such a meeting, provided it were held in Washington, would be a natural preliminary to the larger undertaking, officials pointed out on Monday, and, therefore, would not be opposed by this government.

Should the preliminary or program-making meeting materialize Japan may, if she chooses, raise the question that Siberia, Shantung and Yap shall not come within the category of "Far Eastern" questions on the ground that they challenge her "sovereignty." Japan, it is recognized, maintains that it is for her alone to discuss Siberia, with the new Russian republic of Chita, Shantung with Germany and China and Yap, not with the United States, but with the powers that "gave" her the island.

France and Italy With U. S. The most important of these contentions, as they concern the United States, are Siberia and Shantung. France and Italy already have taken sides with the United States against Japan as regards Yap.

As to Shantung the United States will insist that the question is debatable under the broad proposition that China's territorial integrity must be preserved without any reference whatsoever to the treaty of Versailles or other acts of the allies.

In the case of Siberia the United States is ready to give ample proof that the question does not concern Japan's sovereignty in any way. Japan may protest and enter reservations, but present indications are that the sense of the conference will be expressed with or without her consent.

Primarily on Far East. It was pointed out in official circles Monday that President Harding had called the conference primarily to settle Far Eastern questions and that this government "knows precisely" what these questions are.

Officials reiterated Monday that postponement of the conference is not officially before the state department, and is "an academic question for the reason that no date has yet been agreed to."

BROKERAGE FIRM FAILS.

New York, July 26.—The failure of the firm of Chandler Bros. & Co., was announced from the rostrum of the stock exchange today.

REVOLUTION LOOMS IN CENTRAL AMERICA?

Mexico City, July 26.—The long peace in Central America is threatened by another revolution, according to reports in the Central American colonies here Monday.

These reports said opponents of the Central American unions which recently accomplished the federation of Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica and San Salvador, were planning to overthrow its leaders.

'BLACK SOX' CONFESSIONS DISCLOSED

BY EARL L. SHAUB.

Chicago, July 26.—Two smashing defeats were administered Monday to the "Black Sox" on trial here in connection with the 1919 world's series scandal.

The first blow came when Judge Hugo Friend ruled the confessions of Eddie Cicotte, Joe Jackson and Claude Williams could be admitted as evidence.

The second came shortly afterward when they were admitted in the form of testimony by Chief Justice Charles A. McDonald of the criminal court, before whom the confessions were originally made.

He told how the three confessions had been obtained and what they contained. He was careful not to mention any names except those of the three who confessed.

Contradict Players.

The chief justice was twice on the stand. It was his first story, told during the argument in the absence of the jury, that led to the ruling to admit the confessions. He testified players had not been promised immunity for their confessions.

This flatly contradicted the statements of the players themselves. They admitted the confessions, but said they had been promised protection. When asked why they had signed the immunity waivers Jackson answered "because he was drunk" and the other two "so they could get out of town."

The waivers, like the confessions and other papers in connection with the case, have disappeared. That is one reason Justice McDonald was called to the stand.

Ban Johnson Causes Sensation.

Ban Johnson, president of the American league, caused a sensation Monday when he offered an explanation for the disappearance of the waivers and confessions. He charged they were bought from an attaché of the state's attorney's office, under the previous administration of Arnold Rothstein, of New York, for \$10,000. When Rothstein found the confessions did not implicate him in a criminal way, Johnson charged, he gave them to the editor of a New York paper who offered them for sale.

Robert E. Crowe, state's attorney, promised a complete investigation of Johnson's charges and said he would place the bribe taker, if there is one, in the penitentiary.

Judge McDonald testified the men had asked him for immunity but denied emphatically that they received any encouragement. Rather, he said, he warned them that they would have to take their chances with the grand jury.

Jackson Urged Protection.

Jackson made a plea for protection, he said, on the ground that he was afraid that some of his teammates would bump him off.

The chief justice said Cicotte had attempted to make a deal with him regarding the testimony but he had told him bargaining was out of the question.

"I told him I couldn't make any promise and that if he didn't tell his story before the grand jury we would have to get along without him as a witness," he said. "I told him I didn't believe he was telling the complete truth, he thought it over and decided to take his chances with the trial court."

The witness said he had made a partial promise to Williams but that it was one of slight leniency and not immunity. He said he had done this when he had learned of his baseball career and the fact that his salary was only \$2,800-a year.

Refused to Help Cicotte.

"When Cicotte was brought into my chambers he was weeping," the chief justice testified. "He told me a good deal about his life, his wife, his babies and then about the world's series. "I told him he could expect nothing and that he would be indicted and would have to give the same bond as anyone."

"Mr. Replogie made no promises in my presence. I was in the grand jury room with them and nothing was said in an immunity way."

"Nothing was said in my presence to Joe Jackson about immunity either. I told him he would have to sign a waiver and give bond. I heard Mr. Replogie read the waivers to them and saw them sign."

Cicotte's story was different. He said Replogie and Attorney Austrian for the White Sox club told him they would see that he was freed if he confessed.

"Indict This Fellow."

"Then they took me before Chief Justice McDonald," he testified. "The justice said I was not telling the whole truth. When I did not answer he said 'go ahead and indict this fellow.'"

On the way to the grand jury room I asked Replogie 'don't this go about what you and Austrian told me?' and he said 'sure it does.' Then I went before the grand jury."

SHIP LOST IN STORM.

Montreal, July 26.—The steamer St. Louis, plying between Coughnawaga and Lachine, was grounded on the rocks in the St. Lawrence river last night and the 10 passengers on board were taken ashore in life boats. A violent storm caused the accident.

'WILD MAN' TERRORIZES WOMEN IN NEBRASKA

Albion, Neb., July 26 (Special).—Search for a "wild man" near Bartlett, continues by Boone and Wheeler county officers, following reports a "giant" terrorized women when their husbands were away. Mrs. McVay, who lives in the sand hills, has reported the man several times.