FORECAST
Wednesday: Fair and warmer.

# THE OMAHA MORNING BEE

LAST MAIL EDITION

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# ENGLAND AND FRANCE NEAR BREAK

## China Will Pay Ransom to Bandits

### Prime Minister of Pekin Government Agrees to All Demands Presented by Alien Diplomats.

### U. S. Not to Use Troops

Washington, May 8—The Pekin government has promised to pay the ransom demanded by Chinese bandits who captured American citizens and a number of foreign nationals after wrecking the Shanghai-Pekin express Sunday morning, the State department was advised late today by Jacob G. Schurman, American minister at Pekin.

The Chinese prime minister also has agreed to act as rapidly as possible in meeting all demands presented by the Portuguese minister at Pekin, dean of the diplomatic corps there, and has given assurances that the Pekin government intends to dismiss the civil and military governors of Shantung province.

**Saturday Last Day.**

The Portuguese minister informed the Chinese foreign office, according to State department advices, that the corps of foreign diplomats at Pekin "reserved the right over and above any moral and material damages claimed to demand a progressive indemnity for every day after the 12th of May that the foreigners remain captive."

The plight of the Americans and other foreigners taken prisoner was described by Secretary Hughes to President Harding and cabinet officers at their meeting today at the White House. Later, President Harding was said to have told callers that the situation in China was both difficult and annoying and that the government here was doing everything possible to protect its nationals in China and to deal with the conditions there which have brought about chaos and banditry.

**Financing Is Needed.**

It was said to be President Harding's hope that the situation in China might be relieved by the investment of strong powers in the present admittedly weak central government. One way of aiding the Pekin government to gain stability, it was suggested, would be the extension of necessary financial assistance by the international banking consortium. There was no intimation, however, that the Washington government would propose such a step to the bankers interested in China.

Reports from Minister Schurman and press dispatches lessened the tension and anxiety which yesterday was keyed high in Washington. Word that Chinese troops had surrounded the bandits and were actually engaged in efforts to liberate the prisoners led to the hope and belief among some officials that the captives soon would be freed.

**Troops Not Needed.**

These reports were welcomed by War department officials, who had seriously contemplated the possibility of using American troops in China in conjunction with those of other nations and in co-operation with the Pekin government. The turn of events brought the statement from Acting Secretary Davis that the War department had received no information which would warrant the sending of reinforcements to the American forces in China.

Use of American troops, it was said, would be ordered with the greatest

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## Two Fremont Boys, 16, Missing Four Days

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Fremont, Neb., May 8.—Andrew Brown, 16, son of Mrs. Mary Brown, and Ernest Erskine, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Erskine of this city, disappeared Saturday evening. The parents appealed to police today.

Both boys were pupils in the eighth grade. No reason for their departure can be ascertained, except for the youthful desire to run away. Word from Oakdale, Neb., led the parents to believe that the boys had been seen in that vicinity. The father of the Erskine lad hurried to that town, but was unbale to locate his son and his pal.

They were dressed in ther school clothes when last seen. Neither of the boys had any money, as far as the parents are aware.

## Former Secretary of Mine Company Commits Suicide

Philadelphia, May 8.—Col. Clinton A. Higbee, retired secretary of the Tonopah Mining company, shot and killed himself last night in his room at the Union League club here, it was learned today. Club employes were startled by the sound of a shot, and running to the colonel's room, found his body stretched on a divan, with a .32-caliber revolver beside it.

## Beaver City Farmer, 64, Kills Himself With Gun

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Beaver City, Neb., May 8—Hubert Pettyjean, 64, was found in his garage today with the top of his head blown off. A shotgun lay by his side. The authorities pronounced his death due to suicide. Pettyjean came from Belgium and died on the farm which he homesteaded in 1878. He leaves a widow and several children.

## American Girl Is Heroine of Chinese Bandit Attack

### Miss Schonberg in Face of Hail of Bullets Carries Ransom Demand Through Line of Besieging Troops—Guard at Her Side Killed—Two Women Missing.

By Associated Press.

Pekin, May 8—Notwithstanding reports that the Suchow railway bandits released all of the women passengers they kidnaped, the whereabouts of several are still uncertain. Mrs. L. A. Seaton and her niece, Miss Lillian Auld of Manila, believed taken captives by the brigands, have not been located.

Pekin, May 8—Ominous lack of recent direct word from the bandit stronghold in the hills back of Linching and various reports of captives wounded, when used by their guards as shields against the volleys of pursuing government troops, have filled the foreign colony here with grave fears for the safety of at least eight Americans and six or seven British, French and Italian hostages kidnaped by the Suchow train bandits early last Sunday morning. The arrival at Tsinanfu and Tientsin of men and women who were released by the brigands as messengers to arrange ransom, or who escaped from their captors, gave to the outside world a picture of peril, privation, hardship and brutal treatment that has added to the anxiety.

So far, the death list stands at two: Joseph Rothman, British, shot through the head during the raid on the train at Suchow, and an unidentified American, reported killed in the cross-fire of lead between the brigands and the government troops at their heels.

**Second Regiment on Trail.**

In addition to the first soldiers ordered on to the trail of the kinapers by the Pekin government, another regiment from Shantung province also has taken up the chase, and one of the fugitives from the mountain stronghold of the pursued declares his belief that the gang that wrecked and looted the Shanghai-Pekin express is surrounded.

Advices received at Shanghai state that the bandit chief has set the following prices on the heads of his captives: Foreigners, $50,000 each; Chinese, of whom approximately 100 are believed to have been taken, first class, $30,000 each; second class, $10,000; others, $2,000. It is stated that negotiations for the ransoms already have been begun in official quarters.

Thrilling experiences are related by those who have come safely out of the brigands' lair in the hill fastnesses beyond Linching.

**American Heroine.**

An outstanding instance of heroism is credited to an American girl, Miss Schonberg, who, in the face of a hail of bullets from the soldiers besieging the bandit compound, volunteered to make her way through the lines to carry the kidnapers' demands for ransom—and she made good.

Led to the gate by one of the robber guards, she was about to pass through, when a bullet from the troop lines dropped the man at her elbow in his tracks. Undaunted, the American girl held to her resolve and finally reached Tientsin.

Her story was told in Tientsin by C. G. Jacobsen, inspecting engineer for the British-American Tobacco company, who also ran the bullet gauntlet from the bandit fort on a similar mission. Jacobsen had to overpower a bandit guard to get clear of the fort, and when he again came under range of the besieging soldiers' rifles, he approached their lines waving as a flag of truce his last remaining article of apparel, a suit of cotton underwear.

**Officers' Fate Unknown.**

The fate of the two American officers, Majs. Roland Pingle and Robert Allen, and of their two young sons still is unknown. It was reported today that an American officer was lying wounded in the hill fort, but no name was given.

Miss Lucy C. Aldrich, sister-in-law of John D. Rockefeller, jr., of New York, is safe, although suffering somewhat from her experiences after being released yesterday by her captors. She is expected to reach Tientsin soon from Tsinanfu.

## "Stop Pursuit or Captives Die," Bandits' Demand

### American Forced to Act as Go-Between in Chinese Train Robbers' Warning to Pursuers.

By International News Service.
Copyright, 1923.

**Shanghai, May 8.—The Chinese bandits, who held up a Shanghai-Pekin passenger train, seizing about 150 persons, including many Americans, near the Shantung peninsula, today sent out an emissary threatening death to all the captives unless the pursuing Chinese regular soldiers are recalled.**

The emissary, an American commercial traveler and writer named Day, was a passenger on the train, being captured along with the others. A Chinese interpreter was sent with him from the robbers' stronghold in the mountains.

(This was the first direct word from the brigands since the passenger train was wrecked and looted near the Yellow river on Sunday. Contrary to a report carried in the United States, the bandits made no mention of ransom, their only demand being that the troops be called off from further pursuit.)

**Ghastly Nightmare.**

Day arrived at Tientsin with his message from the brigands. He was weak from severe traveling, exposure and lack of rest. He sent to the Shanghai bureau of International News Service the following narrative, supplementing the graphic account of the raid given by Lloyd Lehrbas:

"The march from the scene of the attack to the mountains was a ghastly nightmare. The brigands wielded their gun butts right and left, forcing the weary prisoners onward with blows and curses.

"The cries of hysterical women and children rang through the darkness.

"The night was pitch black. There was no moon. But the men in the captive gang were helpless. They

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Be a "Paying Guest"

¶ In England people who rent rooms in the better class homes are called "paying guests."

¶ Become a "paying guest" to some Omaha family who is advertising their spare room for rent in the "Want" Ad columns of The Omaha Bee. You'll find them congenial—hospitable—homelike.

¶ It isn't difficult to find a room that spells h-o-m-e to you. All you have to do is consult the "Rooms for Rent" advertisements in The Omaha Bee.

¶ And, if you have a spare room vacant, phone AT 1000 and dictate your "Room for Rent" advertisement to one of our experienced ad takers.

*Omaha Bee "Want" Ads Bring Better Results at Lesser Cost*

## Ultimatum to Russia by England

### Trade Agreement Break Is Threatened Unless Soviet Meets British Requirements in 10 Days.

### Controversy Is Prohibited

By Associated Press.

Moscow, May 8.—An emphatic note from the British government handed to Maxim Litvinoff, assistant foreign minister, this afternoon, alleging propaganda and other violation of the Anglo-Russian trade agreement and demand assurances of unconditional fulfillment of specified requirements within 10 days, is considered by Russian officials tonight as definitely intended to bring about a break in Anglo-Russian relations.

As the note is only now being distributed among th higher officials of the government, none of them would predict the nature of the Russian reply, but the general impression seemed to be that Marquis Curzon, the British foreign secretary, was desirous of the break.

If a break in realtions comes, the Russian trade organization now located in London, will probably be removed to Berlin or one of the Scandinavian countries.

**Protest Not Recognized.**

Owing to the soviets' refusal to recognize the protests against the trials of various church digniatires, including Archbishop Zepliak and the executed vicar general, Monsignor Butkavitch, the note says:

"When it is remembered that this is the only latest incident in the long series of studied affronts which have been recovered in this memorandum, it seems difficult to arrive at any other conclusion than that the soviet government either is convinced that the British government will accept any insult sooner than break with soviet Russia, or that they desire themselves to bring the relations created by the trade government to an end."

The note, which is very lengthy, was handed to the soviet government today by Mr. Hodgeson. One of its most striking passages reads:

**Cannot Insult British.**

"It is time the soviet government should be made aware that it can not with impunity behave toward British subjects and British shipping in this arbitrary and insulting manner."

At the outset, the document declares that the tone and character of the recent notes received from the soviet government "have imposed upon his majesty's government the duty, perhaps already too long delayed, of considering carefully and seriatim, in relation to this large number of incidents, whether it is desirable, or indeed possible, that the relations of the two governments should remain any longer upon so anomalous and indeed unprecedented footing and whether his majesty's government can, with due self-respect, continue to ignore the repealed challenges which the soviet government has thought fit with apparent deliberation to throw down."

**No Chance of Controversy.**

The note states that the British government has no intention of embarking upon a controversy with the soviet concerning the accuracy of its charges, which it asserts "rest upon unimpeachable authority."

It sets out in great detail violations of the understanding concerning anti-British propaganda in Persia, Afghanistan and India, outrages against British subjects, including the slaying of C. F. Davison; the treatment of British trawlers, and similar cases in which reiterated demands for compensation has been persistently refused.

The note then refers to the prosecution of religious dignitaries in regard to which it says:

"His majesty's government has refrained from expressing an opinion upon the nature of validity of the charges brought against these ecclesiastics, conceding that it is a matter on which they are not called upon to pronounce." But, it adds, no attempt has been made in Russia itself to deny that the prosecutions and executions are part of a deliberate campaign, the definite object of which is to destroy all religion in the country and enthrone "the image of Godlessness in its place." The note refers to two notes signed by "Weinstein" in reply to Mr. Hodgeson's protests against the execution of Monsignor Butchkatvitch which the British agent returned because they were couched in offensive language, and which the present note stigmatizes as "unexampled in the case of government's affecting to be on friendly terms."

**Ten-Day Ultimatum.**

Declaring that the exchange of correspondence, conducted by one party on such terms, places the continuance of those relations in grave jeopardy, the note states that the government would much regret an abrupt termination of the existing relations, but that it is not possible to acquiesce in the continuance of the treatment summarized in this document, which is declared to be incompatible alike with national dignity and mutual respect.

In case the soviet does not forward a reply to the British government within 10 days, complying with the specified demands, the note concludes, "his majesty's government, on their part, will, in view of the manifest infringement of the trade agreement by the soviet government, consider themselves immediately free from the obligations of the agreement in accordance with the third paragraph of its 13th article.

## Florence Leeds Home; Named in Stillman Case

New York, May 8—Sailing under the name of "Mrs. M. Lincoln," Florence Leeds, one of the central figures in the Stillman divorce suit, came home today to see her baby.

The famous actress named by Mrs. Stillman as her husband's companion in many lively parties aboard the yacht Modesty, and charged by her also as being the mother of his son, has been touring Europe.

"I went away because I was broken mentally, physically and spiritually," she said.

"I did nothing wrong. Nobody knows how I have suffered. Many false things have been printed about me."

## Trans-U. S. Train Record Is Made

By International News Service.

Chicago, May 8.—Another transcontinental speed record—this one on land—was established today when a special train carrying David Benton Jones, seriously ill with cancer, arrived here today from Los Angeles in 47 hours and 17 minutes running time, including stops for water and to change engines. The previous record of 44 hours and 54 minutes, including no stops, was made in July, 1905, by "Death Valley Scotty."

## Iowa Man Heads Lincoln Memorial University

Cumberland Cap., Tenn., May 8.—Rev. R. O. Matthews of Des Moines, special assistant to the United States commissioner of prohibition and narcotics, was elected president of Lincoln Memorial university by its trustees, meeting in annual session this afternoon. He succeeds Dr. George Hubbell, and will assume his duties early in June.

Dr. Matthews' headquarters for the past two years have been at Washington. Previous to that time he was pastor of St. Paul church at Cincinnati. The newly chosen president and Mrs. Matthews were at Middlesboro, Ky., today and are expected at the university Tuesday. He announced tonight that he would resign the federal position.

## Bellboy Gives Life Seeking Ball for Tot

Seattle, Wash., May 8.—Catalina Tarantan, 21, bellboy at the Hotel Sorrento in the residence district here, was killed today when he went down an elevator shaft to recover a ball for Suzanne Reid, little daughter of Judge George T. Reid, vice president of the Northern Pacific railroad. The ball had fallen into a light well, while Suzanne was playing with another child. The counterweight of the elevator descended upon Tarantan as he was leaving the shaft to enter the well

## What Are You Doing With Your Congressman While He's Home This Summer?

Do you just do nothing at all, as though you and he and the U. S. A. had nothing in common?

Do you and the neighbors ever try getting acquainted with him and talking over your problems?

Or do you just let him get his views from your self-appointed political guardians and bosses—

And then kick the daylights out of him next election because he voted contrary to your convictions?

## Von Boehlen Must Serve 15 Years in Pen

### Krupp Head Also Fined 100,000,000 Marks, French Court-Martial Rules—5 Others Also Sentenced.

**Werden, May 8.—Dr. Krupp von Boehlen, head of the Krupp works, was sentenced to 15 years in jail and to pay a fine of 100,000,000 marks today as a result of the trial by court-martial here growing out of the shooting at the Krupp plant on March 31.**

**Directors Hartwig and Oesterlen also were sentenced to 15 years imprisonment each, Directors Brumm to 10 years and Baur and Schaeffer to 20 years each.**

**All were also sentenced to pay fines of 100,000,000 marks each.**

Works Managers Schraepler and Cuntz, were sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, with fines of 100,000,000 marks; Superintendent Gross was given 10 years, and Factory Councilman Mueller, six months. Three workmen convicted of stealing a motorcycle were given two to six months.

The defendants were charged with inciting the workmen at the plant to resist the French troops when they came to requisition automobiles. Especial stress was laid by the French prosecution on the blowing of the sirens at the plant which it was contended encouraged the men to resist. It was held that the directors were responsible for the continued sounding of the sirens, even if they had not directly ordered that they be blown.

In his final plea the French prosecutor, Captain Duvert, referred to the devastation of northern France by the Germans during the war. Just as the Krupp directors, he said, stood inactively at their office windows on March 31 and watched the workmen being shot down, so had Germany's war lords stood by and watched the burning of villages in northern France without raising a hand.

The prosecutor based his case against Baron Krupp Von Boehlen and the directors on two main points. First, that prior to the shootings they had arranged that demonstrations should be held in case the works were occupied and had propaganda material ready for circulation among the demonstrants; second, that during the demonstrations they made no attempt to bring about order or to shut off the factory sirens which called the men together.

## Mother, 3 Tots Die in Fire.

Derry, Pa., May 8.—A mother and three small children were burned to death here today when fire destroyed the home of Perry Worman, a Pennsylvania railroad laborer.

## Bertha Krupp's Mate Sentenced to Prison

Dr. Krupp von Boehlen.

## Harvest Hands' Wages to Be Slightly Higher

Kansas City, Mo., May 8—Harvest wages this year must be slightly higher than those paid last year because of a rising trend in other industries, it was generally agreed at a labor conference here today of representatives of Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma. The morning's session was taken up by discussion of wage conditions and what might be expected in the harvest fields this year.

While no definite scale was agreed upon, the prevailing opinion was that $4 a day or over would be paid for harvest labor.

A committee was appointed to draw up resolutions and take up the problems of wages, publicity and transportation. The committee includes: George B. Albert of Des Moines, chief clerk of the Iowa free employment bureau, and R. E. Holland of Lincoln, secretary of the bureau of agriculture extension work for Nebraska.

## Vegetables and Early Fruit Damaged by Cold Weather

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Norfolk, Neb., May 8.—Freezing weather has damaged early fruit and vegetables in some parts of northern Nebraska and southern South Dakota. Snow fell at Bonesteel, S. D., and water in this locality had a covering of ice this morning.

## Italians Kill 200 Rebels.

By Associated Press.

Rome, May 8.—Fifteen hundred rebels were defeated and 200 killed by the Italians in their latest operation in Tripoli, involving the occupation of an advanced point, it is announced in the official statement today characterizing the latest developments

## Frost Last Night Expected to Kill Fruit Blossoms

### Fair and Freezing Temperature Forecast—Cloudiness Alone Would Save Buds, Says Robins.

All fruit trees in blossom were doomed to freeze Tuesday night, the weather burea declared Tuesday in recording temperatures among the very coldest ever registered here in May.

The thermometer stood at 35 Tuesday morning. Though this was the official reading, Meterologist Robins received reports of ice formed in various low lands in and around Omaha.

"Fair with freezing temperature tonight," was the forecast.

"It looks very bad," said Mr. Robins. "The best we can hope for is that the partial cloudiness will continue. This however, is not likely, and I don't see how the fruit buds and other tender green things can escape. The corn, of course, is not advanced far enough yet to be harmed."

The coldest ever recorded here in May was 25 on May 1, 1909.

The coldest ever recorded on May 8 heretofore was 36 in 1907.

Valentine reported 25 Tuesday a. m. O'Neill, 28; Broken Bow and Oak-

Winter overcoats, which had been filled with moth balls and placed away carefully in clothes cabinets, were rushed into use Tuesday morning.

Tenants and employes in downtown office buildings greeted warming radiators with gleeful shouts.

Coal companies reported several rush calls for coal to keep households warm.

## First National Bank at Carroll, Neb., Closes Doors

Carroll, Neb., May 8.—The First National bank of this place failed to open its doors yesterday. A national bank examiner is in charge of the institution.

The institution had a capitalization of $50,000, with total deposits listed at $400,000. Daniel Davis is president and L. W. Carter is cashier.

Withdrawal of deposits and failure to make collections are reported to have been the cause of the bank's closing.

## Standard Oil Boosts Pay.

Chicago, May 8.—A wage increase averaging 5 cents an hour and affecting 22,000 employes was announced here today by the Standard Oil company of Indiana. The increase will add $2,500,000 to the annual payrolls of the company

## Attack Is Launched in Parliament

### Drastic Criticism of Poincare's Reply to Germany Met With Applause by All Parties.

### Seek Italian Alliance

By Universal Service.

London, May 8.—A break between England and France was foreshadowed by statements in the house of commons by Chancellor of the Exchequer and Acting Premier Baldwin, and in the house of lords by Lord Curzon, today.

Both accused Premier Poincare of "unnecessary precipitancy." The drastic criticism of the action of the French government in summarily turning down the German offer without consulting Britain and Italy was enthusiastically applauded by all parties in parliament.

**War Record Recalled.**

Poincare's affront to the nations that sacrificed the flower of their manhood from 191 to 1918 to hold the Germans back from Paris was emphasized by the official announcement in parliament by Mr. Baldwin, that the offer from Berlin was made at the suggestion of Lord Curzon.

It is an open secret here that Lord Curzon wished to delay the answer to Germany in order to make it a joint note from all the allies, after they had heard from Washington.

Lord Birkenhead, who was primed for a powerful attarck on France in the house of lords tonight, refrained, because hed id not wish to embarrass Lord Curzon who, it is declared, is determined that Poincare shall no longer be allowed to bank and bar the door to a settlement.

**Plan Joint Note.**

Britain, in a note which will be identical with one from Italy to be sent to Germany Friday, will express regret that Chancellor Cuno's offer is not satisfactory, and the hope that a better and more liberal offer will be forthcoming from Berlin.

A tremendous revulion of the feeling here was revealed by the great applause in the house of commons at the demand by John Anderson, labor member, for information as to when France will pay her war debt to Britain.

The ignering of Britain by France is regarded as a deadly insult by all classes. The press generally endorses negotiations which are proceeding for a closer alliance between London and Rome.

The man in the street is beginning to talk of a new triple alliance of Britain, Italy and Germany.

## Theft of $1,000 Gems Mystery to Jeweler

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Shelton, Neb., May 8.—The Kendle Brothers' jewelry store was robbed of $1,000 worth of diamonds late yesterday afternoon. Six diamond rings, one loose diamond and four expensive settings, all of which were in the box, were taken. The diamonds were kept in the drawer of a desk. Expensive watches, money and other valuables in the desk were unmolested.

Russell Kendle says the back door was locked all day and that he knew everyone who was in the store. He is at a loss to know how the diamonds disappeared.

## $80,000 of Mint Loot Recovered

Minneapolis, May 8.—Approximately $80,000 in currency, part of the loot stolen during the holdup of the federal reserve truck in front of the Denver mint last year, has been recovered to date in Minneapolis by secret service agents, it was announced today.

## Man on Trial for Slaying of Omahan Takes Stand

Red Oak, Ia., May 8.—John Stewart, farmer on trial here for the murder of Albert Girardi, Omaha liquor salesman, was placed on the stand yesterday and testified briefly in his own behalf.

He testified he could not remember saying to George Austin: "For God's sake he is getting up; hit him again."

Stewart's testimony was not definite on any of the main points brought out by other witnesses in the trial.

## The Weather

For 24 hours ending 7 p. m., May 8, 1923.

**Temperature.**

Highest, 47; lowest, 35; mean, 41; normal, 60; total excess since January 1, 1,98.

**Relative Humidity, Percentage.**

7 a. m., 84; noon, 72; 7 p. m., 54.

**Precipitation, Inches and Hundredths.**

Total .04. Total since January 1, 6.77; deficiency .82.

**Hourly Temperatures.**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 a. m. | 36 | 4 p. m. | 44 |
| 6 a. m. | 35 | 5 p. m. | 45 |
| 7 a. m. | 36 | 6 p. m. | 47 |
| 8 a. m. | 37 | 7 p. m. | 45 |
| 9 a. m. | 38 | 8 p. m. | 45 |
| 10 a. m. | 39 | 9 p. m. | 46 |
| 11 a. m. | 41 | 10 p. m. | 47 |
| 12 noon | 43 | 11 p. m. | 44 |
| 3 p. m. | 46 | | |

**Temperatures at 7 P. M.**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Cheyenne | 48 | North Platte | 54 |
| Davenport | 38 | Pueblo | 66 |
| Denver | 56 | Salt Lake | 54 |
| Dodge | 34 | Santa Fe | 62 |
| Lander | 70 | Sheridan | 68 |