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HEIR TO \$4,000,000, BUT ONLY ON PAPER; RUSE TRIPS HIM UP

Supreme Court Sends Wunrath Case to New Trial Because Verdict Based on Perjured Testimony.

FAKE ESTATE FURNISHES CLUE

Plaintiff Tells Story of His Life to Detective Posing as New York Lawyer.

DISCLOSES EYE HURT BEFORE

The \$4,000,000 estate in Germany which William Wunrath, an Omaha janitor, was to inherit was just a detective fairy tale.

The yarn was given to the newspapers about a year ago, and Wunrath was keyed up to the point of swallowing it, hook, bait and all, but now it is disclosed that it was just a clever ruse to get back of some suspicious testimony on which Wunrath had secured a judgment in the district court here for \$8,100.

To qualify as the expectant heir to the four millions Wunrath told the imaginative detective the story of his life, and what he told was used to reopen the damage suit for which a new trial was ordered, and just affirmed last week by decision of the state supreme court to which it was appealed.

For a proper perspective of this interesting story, readers of The Bee, who have already had some of the inside facts about the Wunrath case, will have to have their memories refreshed. Wunrath sustained a fall down an elevator shaft while employed by the People's Furniture and Carpet company, and brought suit for damages. The first trial resulted in no verdict, and the second trial in a judgment for \$8,100, upon which Wunrath's attorneys immediately filed a 50 per cent lien. In the trial Wunrath had dwelt upon the permanent injury of one of his eyes, and many questions and answers turned on his loss of sight, although it was not alleged in the petition.

It was here after the verdict was rendered that the detective came in, when a prosperous looking man appeared on the scene a little over a year ago, and introduced himself to Wunrath as an attorney from New York.

"You are the sole heir to a \$4,000,000 estate in Germany," he told him. "You can have the estate as soon as we make an investigation to satisfy us that you are the right man."

The "New York attorney" was operator No. 305 of the Pinkerton Detective agency.

What Wunrath told him is related in the report made by No. 305 dated March 7, 1914:

What the Detective Learned.

"At 2:30 p. m. I went to residence, boarding Hanscom park car west, and went to 329 Pacific Avenue, where I meet William Wunrath. He was walking down the street without a cane or crutch.

"I went to his residence, where I interviewed him. He stated that he was born in Holstein, Germany, and that he was 59 years old his last birthday, and that he came to the United States in 1887. He stated that he had a number of accidents during his life; that his hand was injured in a railroad wreck several years ago, and that one of his fingers was left stiff as a result; that he was once kicked by a horse in the head, and that he lost the sight of one of his eyes.

"He stated that he received \$1,200 from the Iowa Commercial Travelers' Insurance company and that they cancelled his policy.

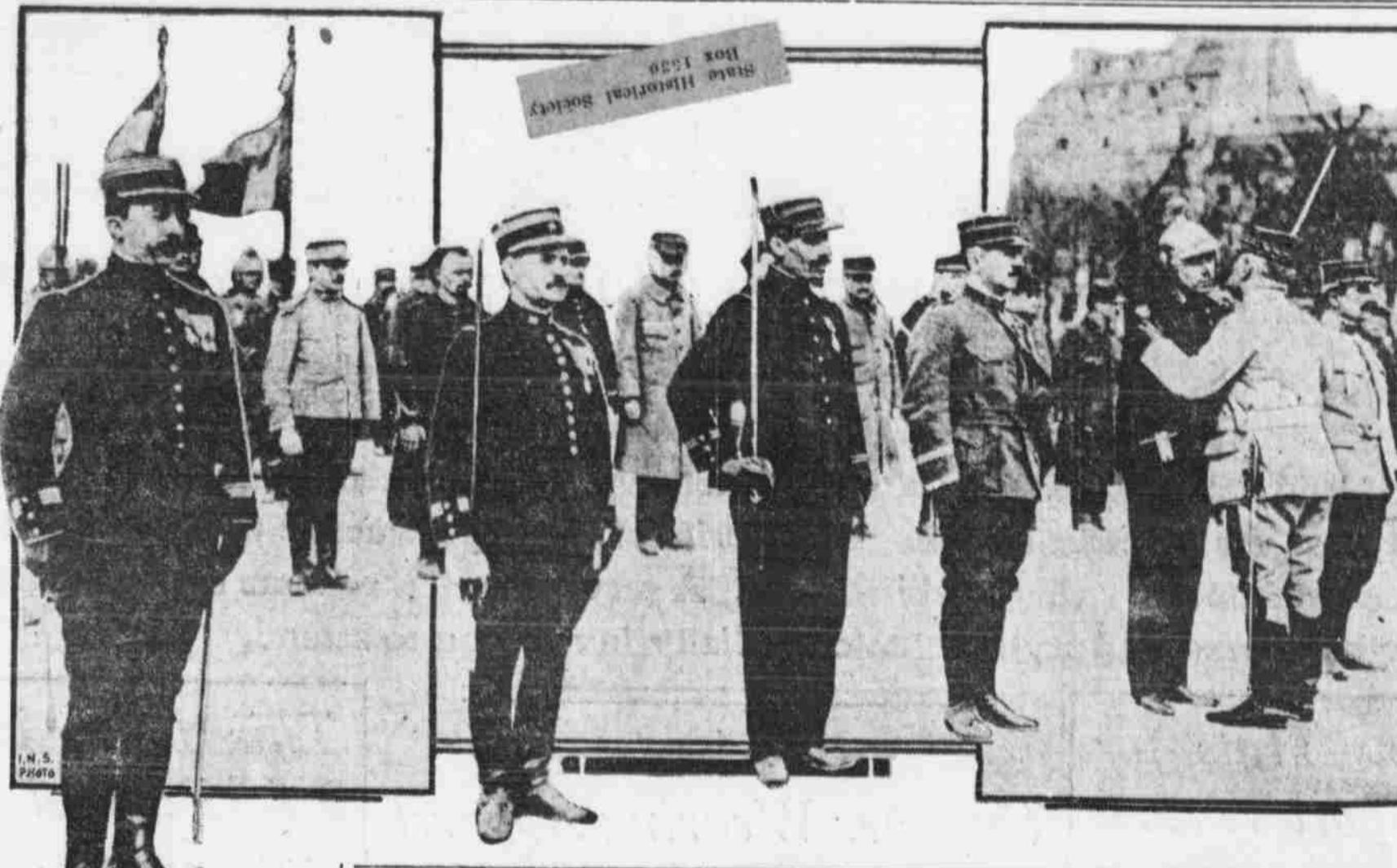
"He said that he is now employed as janitor in the building located at 319-39 Pacific street."

After another visit or two the "New York attorney" left Omaha. A few days later the newspapers printed long accounts of Wunrath's supposed inheritance of a \$4,000,000 estate, but nothing more was ever heard of it.

But enough information had been obtained to furnish the clue which ran down and uncovered the application for and payment of indemnity on a policy issued by an accident company in Des Moines to the amount of \$1,200 for the permanent injury of Wunrath's eye by the previous accident when he was kicked by a horse. Strangely enough the same doctor who had certified to the insurance company had also testified in the damage.

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FOR ACTS OF VALOR—General Galopin, Military Governor of Paris, decorating French officers for heroic deeds performed under fire in the present war, which has been very prolific or daring exploits among the men engaged, no matter under what banner they may be enrolled.



DANIELS ANSWERS CRITICS OF NAVY

Secretary Says it is Strong, Efficient, Well Supplied with Ammunition and Growing.

PESSIMISTS ARE DENOUNCED

NEW YORK, May 15.—Officers of the Atlantic fleet gathered here tonight at a dinner in their honor and heard Secretary Josephus Daniels defend the navy as efficient and prepared for war, and promise that the administration, with the support of the American people, would make it more powerful and more efficient. Mr. Daniels answered the navy's critics, particularly the National Security League, which recently made public an open letter declaring that investigation disclosed that the navy was inadequate and unpreserved for war.

"Our navy is good; it is not good enough," said the secretary. With your help, as long as I am secretary of the navy, we will all try to make it better. The navy is strong; it is not strong enough. With the help of the whole American people, with the help of congress and an administration thoroughly committed to the policy of taking leave to be strong upon the seas, we will make it stronger.

Attitude of Pessimists.

"You have seen—and lately you have heard far too much of the petrified pessimists, who visits one of our levitans of power with sour and disappointed visage, looking for something upon which he can hang a tale of woe and wall a jeremiad. Tell him that the New York is at once a source of pride and protection, and he tells you that so long as we have not as many New Yorks as all the nations of the earth combined, it is worthless. Point out that a flotilla of American submarines recently made one of the longest continuous runs on record, and he sighs a deep sigh, and his only comment is, 'but we ought to have—and build them before breakfast tomorrow—as many as the three biggest European nations combined.'

"The navy and its head have been the target of much criticism of late, some from those honest in their belief, but sadly ignorant or misinformed, and much from purely partisan and political sources which had no interest in facts whatever. As for such criticism as concerned myself I have kept silent. Time must justify, or time condemns. The splendid condition of the ships for which you are responsible, the splendid discipline of the crews which you have established, make today a far better answer than anything I could have been able to say. As they ride tonight at their anchors on the river, let them stand as their own spokesmen, and I rejoice that it is my pleasure to greet here tonight the commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, Admiral Aitchester.

National Security Named.

"A few days ago a new organization, bearing the name of National Security League, issued an open letter 'announcing the result of investigations' and published to the world this statement:

"Investigation discloses, it is asserted, that the navy is neither adequate nor prepared for war; that it is inadequately manned, is short of ammunition and has no organized reserve of trained men, that the submarine flotilla exists chiefly on paper, that fast scouts, cruisers, battle cruisers, aeroplanes, mine layers, supply ships and transports are lacking, and that target practice has been neglected or altogether omitted."

Facts in the Case.

"If the gentlemen who signed the above letter of the navy had known the real truth, their signatures would never have been appended. If they had not been misled and misinformed, they would have written instead:

"Investigation discloses that the navy

Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

Italian Crowds Shout "Death to Emperor William; Hurrah for War!"

ROME, May 15.—(Via Paris.) Signor Marcora, president of the chamber of deputies, requested by King Victor Emmanuel to form a new cabinet in succession to the Salandra ministry, has refused the commission. It is probable that the king will insist on Premier Salandra remaining in power.

Riotous demonstrations continued in Rome during the night. They increased in intensity when it became known that the king had accepted Premier Salandra's resignation.

One of the most violent outbreaks was at an attempt of the crowds to approach the Austrian embassy. A member of the staff of the nationalist newspaper, Idea Nazionale, buried his cape through a window of the embassy. He was arrested.

At a meeting in Borghese square twenty speakers, most of them deputies, made addresses in favor of war. A resolution was passed to the effect that the people of Rome believed the country to be in danger and would prevent with all means at their disposal "the sacrifice of the national honor."

LONDON, May 15.—An armed raiding party attacked the Pacific cable station at Bamfield Creek on the west coast of Vancouver Island early today. Shots were exchanged between the raiders and a sentry, who roused the military guard. The raiders escaped in the darkness.

The attackers escaped in a launch, which is believed to have been fitted out in some Puget sound port in the state of Washington.

The attackers were almost upon the sentry before they were discovered. Two men penetrated to the space between the main office and the superintendent's residence. They fled when shooting began.

The military guard learned that a launch for several days has been exchanging signals with the shore. Additional guards have been placed at the station.

Attempt to Raid the Pacific Cable Station Close to Vancouver

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OPPOSING ARMIES in east and west are apparently unable to make great headway at present, although severe fighting continues.

The French offensive north of Artois has made little further progress.

The one important change reported is the shattering of the Austrian line near the Bokovina frontier.

This Russian claim, however, has not been confirmed from German or Austrian sources.

ANTI-GERMAN RIOTS in South Africa have brought about a serious condition of affairs. In many of the important cities of the Union of South Africa shops, stores, houses and hotels owned by Germans or Austrians have been burned or sacked.

FRENCH TROOPS have pushed back the German line 300 yards in the direction of Souchez, the war of offense continues in Italy. A strike has been called at Milan as a protest against the course of political events. The city is in the hands of the militia.

DR. COSTA ASSASSINATED.

A dispatch from Madrid to Reuter's Telegram company says it is reported that Dr. Alfonso Costa, former premier of Portugal, has been assassinated in Lisbon.

Dr. Costa was a leader of the democratic party in Portugal. In addition to having been premier he had served also as minister of finance and minister of justice. He was author of the law providing for the separation of church and state and other anti-clerical measures.

He had been described as an uncompromising advocate of armed revolution and several times he has been sent into exile. He was imprisoned as a ring-leader of the abortive revolution in January of 1908.

Several attempts have been made upon the life of Dr. Costa.

The following men will be leaders of the various study groups: Botany, Prof. A. Taylor and Prof. Raymond J. Pool; earth sciences, Dr. E. H. Barbour and Prof. E. F. Schramm; and study, Dr. G. E. Condra; water life, Dr. R. H. Wockett; birds and insects, Prof. Lawrence Bruner and Prof. Myron H. Swank; ancient and modern Indian sites, Prof. C. G. Shider and Dr. Melvin R. Gilmore; historical sites, Albert Watkins.

Luncheon will be held at Bellevue college, after which the visitors will explore the Fontenelle forest region.

Mr. Gilmer will explain the Wallace mound and cemetery at the site.

Interesting and important programs have been arranged for the meetings at Lincoln.

Britons and Franks Sent Into War Zone by Turks Returned

LINCOLN, May 15.—A. M. Talbot, head consul of the Modern Woodmen of America, today received notice of his appointment as peace commissioner to represent the United States in any litigation that may arise between this country and Bulgaria. The appointment was made by Secretary of State Bryan. Mr. Bryan and Mr. Talbot were former law partners.

Chancellor Samuel Avery of the University of Nebraska has been appointed to a place on the commission provided in the treaty with Sweden. Both men have issued a statement to accept the appointment.

"Investigation discloses that the navy

Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

Editor is Convicted of Criminal Libel

WATERBURY, Conn., May 15.—William J. Page, editor of the Waterbury Republican, today was ordered to stand trial for the New Haven county jail for 11:30 o'clock.

The Mayflower turned into Hampton Roads to afford the president an opportunity of looking over Fort Monroe and the sights around the road.

The president came ashore and went to the golf course.

The presence of the president on the

Mayflower was not made known officially to the fort authorities and the customary salute was not fired.

GERMANY WANTS TO ARBITRATE ITS DISPUTE WITH U.S.

Lusitania Note Handled to Foreign Office at Berlin by Ambassador James W. Gerard.

MEDIATION IS IN FAVOR

Berlin Paper Says Government Wishes to Submit Issue in Lusitania Case to Tribunal.

AMERICAN NOTE IS DELAYED

BERLIN, May 15.—(Via London) James W. Gerard, the American ambassador to Germany, handed to the foreign office here this morning the American note with reference to the sinking of the Cunard liner steamship Lusitania.

LONDON, May 15.—The Exchange Telegraph company has received the following message from Amsterdam:

"A telegram from Berlin states that the Vossische Zeitung announces that high government circles in Germany favor the submission of the question of the Lusitania's sinking and the difficulties with America arising therefrom to a court of arbitration."

Suggestion Received in Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 15.—The suggestion of arbitration contained in despatches to London from Berlin by way of Amsterdam was received among officials here with the information that such a course was among the considerations which had occurred in Washington, but it was pointed out that it probably would not be satisfactory unless assurances were given in the meantime that the submarine warfare on merchant ships was suspended.

A cablegram from Ambassador Gerard sent at 10 o'clock reached the State department early to day, stated the ambassador had not then received the American note. State department officials expected further advice soon.

Meanwhile officials sought to trace the note and hasten its delivery. Having knowledge from Ambassador Page at Rome that the note was relayed from there yesterday afternoon on the Italian telegraph lines, officials felt assured that it would reach Ambassador Gerard today.

BULLETIN.

PARIS, May 15.—A Havas dispatch from Madrid says it is officially reported that the bombardment of Lisbon by the mutinous warships resulted in great damage, many persons being killed.

LONDON, May 15.—(8:40 p. m.)—A rebel naval squadron bombarded the capital of Portugal and damage heavy.

FORMER PREMIER IS KILLED

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GABRIEL D'ANNUCCIO, addressing a crowd today, "I declare on my honor that the triple alliance was denounced by Italy for the revolution!" "Hurrah for the revolution!" "Down with the king!"

LONDON, May 15.—(8:40 p. m.)—A rebel naval squadron has bombarded the city of Lisbon from the River Tagus, according to further advices from Madrid received by the Fabre agency.

These advices to Madrid are described as official and they come direct from Lisbon.

The bombardment of the warships resulted in the killing of a number of people and the wounding of others. Considerable damage also was done.

It would appear that the navy is at the head of the rebel movement.

Private advices reaching the Spanish capital from Lisbon sets forth that the commander of the Portuguese cruiser G. Vasco de Gama, has been murdered.

The army garrisoning Lisbon is remaining loyal to President Arruda.

Dr. Costa Assassinated.

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