

250 DEAD IN AWFUL POWDER MILL EXPLOSION; WIDOW'S SOCIETY ORGANIZER ASKS DIVORCE

TWO HUNDRED WIDOWS GASP WHEN TOLD MRS. TURPIN WED, IS NOW SUING FOR DIVORCE

Organizer of "Society of American Widows" in Omaha, Who Contracted Marriage With Arthur E. Enders Last April, Has Brought Action for Legal Separation on Ground of Cruelty.

If 200 widows, "grass and "sod," members of the defunct Society of American Widows, organized in Omaha more than a year ago by Mrs. Bessie C. Turpin, gasp when they learn their organizer, leader and mentor contracted another marriage April 20, they will be astounded to hear that Friday she filed suit for divorce against her husband, Arthur E. Enders, charging cruelty.

Few of the widows ever knew of Mrs. Turpin's second marriage, so her divorce suit comes like a bolt from the blue. She has been at her desk as assistant bookkeeper at the McGraw Electrical company every day since her marriage to Enders is said to have taken place.

A tale of a marriage made by a woman "for the sake of the children" is contained in the suit filed in district court by Mrs. Enders.

Mrs. Enders says when she married him at Sioux City, April 20 of this year, he told her she wouldn't have to work any more to support herself and her three small children.

She alleges, however, that notwithstanding the fact he was a drug salesman earning \$150 a month, he failed to contribute to the family exchequer. She says he also soon developed a quarrelsome and indifferent disposition.

SOCIETY BRINGS FUSBAND. Mrs. Turpin-Enders' first husband is now living in Kentucky, where the two elder Turpin children are passing their school vacation with him. The youngest child by the first marriage is now with Mrs. Turpin's mother in St. Louis.

Brief but meteoric was the career of the Society of American Widows, which brought Mrs. Turpin into the public eye—and incidentally the husband from whom she now seeks legal separation. A former active member of the Widows' society reports that Mr. Enders first read Mrs. Turpin while in California, that he wrote to her and correspondence followed, which resulted in his coming to Omaha and robbing Mrs. Turpin of the right to serve as "head widow" of the organization.

Although Mrs. Turpin-Enders made several attempts to keep the society together after her marriage, asking the widows to meet Friday evenings at her home since the society could not afford to maintain its rooms in the Crouse block, only a handful stayed by the ship.

Widows Not Surprised. Those widows who knew of her marriage to Enders expressed no surprise that she is now suing for divorce. "Enders never worked a day since he married Mrs. Turpin and we have reason to believe she probably was supporting him from her earnings," said one. Enders told his wife he had traveled for a California drug firm and it is said she tried to get him a position with an Omaha drug house.

Another widow related how the former Mrs. Turpin announced one day that she was married, but members of the society refused to believe her. "We thought she was joking," she said.

"Later they arranged a wedding supper for her." Many prominent Omaha widows assisted in organizing the widows' society, which was formed to keep watchful eye upon the interests of widows. Among the plans furthered by Mrs. Turpin was the sale of stock in a building company, which was to erect an apartment to house only widows. A workshop for widows and a recreation center for them were to be features of the widows' domicile.

Officers of Widows' Society. Stella Bedford Wilson, Omaha's first woman lawyer, was the vice president; Mrs. Florence Miller, second vice president; Mrs. Ada H. Pier-sall, third vice president, and Mrs. M. May Poast, secretary-treasurer.

(Continued on Page Two, Column One.)

The Weather For Nebraska—Fair; not much change in temperature.

Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday. 5 a. m. 66. 6 a. m. 67. 7 a. m. 68. 8 a. m. 69. 9 a. m. 70. 10 a. m. 71. 11 a. m. 72. 12 m. 73. 1 p. m. 74. 2 p. m. 75. 3 p. m. 76. 4 p. m. 77. 5 p. m. 78. 6 p. m. 79. 7 p. m. 80.

Comparative Local Record. 1917, 1916, 1915, 1914. Highest yesterday 84. 85. 86. 87. Lowest yesterday 67. 67. 68. 68. Mean temperature 78. 78. 78. 78. Precipitation .00. .00. .00. .00.

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal. Normal temperature 74. Excess for the day .04. Total deficiency since March 1, 1917, .01. Normal precipitation .00. Excess for the day .00. Total deficiency since March 1, 1917, .01. Deficiency for the period 1916, .08 inches. Excess for the period 1915, .76 inches.

L. A. WELSH, Meteorologist.



He Should Worry

SOUTH SIDE BABY BURNED TO DEATH WHILE IN CRADLE

Four-Year-Old Brother Obtains Matches, from Which Sad Tragedy is a Result.

While lying asleep in its cradle, Mary Milan, two years old, was burned to death Friday afternoon at the home of the child's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Milan, 4005 South Thirty-sixth street.

The baby's parents were away from the home for a few minutes, leaving the infant in charge of a four-year-old brother. The boy in some manner obtained matches from which a curtain hanging in the Milan home caught fire, and fell down over the infant's cradle.

Neighbors were aroused by the screams of the two children, but before they could extinguish the fire the infant was burned beyond recognition. Dr. Hugo Chaloupka was immediately called and took the child to the South Omaha hospital, where it died yesterday.

Burial of the infant took place at the German Catholic cemetery yesterday.

British Engineers and Firemen May Go on Strike

London, Aug. 18.—There is considerable danger of an immediate strike involving about half the engineers and firemen employed on British railroads. The main point at issue is the recognition of the principle of an eight-hour day, although the demand does not necessarily include making the principle effective during the war.

The men concerned number about 40,000.

East St. Louis Rioter Pleads Guilty; Given Five-Year Term

Bellevue, Ill., Aug. 18.—S. L. Schulz, who was one of the 105 persons indicted in connection with the East St. Louis riots, walked into the circuit court here this afternoon and pleaded guilty to a charge of rioting. He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

More Suffragists Given Choice of Fine or Jail

Washington, Aug. 18.—The six women arrested yesterday in front of the White House charged with unlawful assembly were sentenced in police court today to fines of \$10 or thirty days in the workhouse at Occoquan, Va. They said they would not pay the fines.

Lieutenant Zimmerer Knows Game When it Comes to Machine Guns

Lieutenant Edwin Zimmerer, Nebraska City, of the machine gun company, Fifth Nebraska, is said to have the best tactical knowledge of machine gun warfare of any National Guardsman in the United States.

Last spring at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, was held the first school for training members of the National Guard of the country. Officers and enlisted men attended and here instruction was given by skilled regular army officers in this method of warfare. Lieutenant Zimmerer led this class. Members of this class are the only National Guardsmen in the country with such training.

So few soldiers know anything of machine gun work that the men from the Fort Sill school are going to be in great demand. It is probable, it is asserted, that the officers who attended will be put in charge of training schools, teaching other National Guardsmen, as well as those of the National Army.

Lieutenant Zimmerer will probably be the first one chosen. He is a graduate of the Arts department of Nebraska university and of the law school of Northwestern university. He was, previous to last year, when he went to the border with the Fifth, a practicing attorney in Nebraska City.

WILSON WILL ACT ON COAL PROBLEM EARLY NEXT WEEK

After Conference With Federal Trade Commission President Prepares to Settle Question.

Washington, Aug. 18.—President Wilson will take some action in the coal situation early next week. He carried back to the White House from a conference with the trade commission a mass of statistics on coal production costs and will go over them tomorrow. His decision probably will be announced Monday.

The president's intention, it was learned authoritatively, is to reduce the present price not only at the mines, but of jobbers and retailers. The trade commission's report indicates that operators can sell their bituminous at a price far below the maximum of \$3 fixed at a recent conference between mine managers and government officials and still make a handsome profit.

Agreement is Broken. Evidence was given the president that operators have failed to abide by the \$3 a ton agreement and that they have been selling their product for any amount they could get. Shortages in some parts of the country have made it possible, it is said, for them to obtain extortionate prices.

The trade commission gave to the president specific recommendations as to its ideas of handling the situation. It was suggested, it is understood, that the president immediately put into operation provisions of the fuel control bill, which give the government authority to take over and resell to the public all coal mined.

Italian Press Deplores Pope's Attempt at Peace. Rome, Italy, Friday, Aug. 17.—With the exception of the Catholic press, the Italian newspapers agree that a discussion of the question of peace at present would favor Austro-German plans. The newspapers deplore the attempt of Pope Benedict, even if made in good faith, saying it may weaken the resistance of the population at a moment when all the energy of Italians is necessary to bring about a victorious end to the war.

German Favors Peace Says Berne Dispatch

Rome, Aug. 18.—Dispatches received here from Berne, Switzerland and published in the Idea Nazionale state that Germany is willing to follow the lead of its ally, Austria, and accept the proposals laid down by the pope in his peace message.

COUNCIL REBUKES THE PRO-GERMAN PRESS OF STATE

Declares that Public Sentiment Must Deal With Foreign Language Press to Assist America.

The Nebraska State Council of Defense, in a sharp rebuke to editors of the German press issued in the form of a statement, declares that, until congress can enact laws to deal with these foreign language papers, public sentiment must take the matter in hand.

Continuous misleading statements, cleverly covered under the guise of news matter, is the principal form of pro-German sentiment, declares the council.

The statement is as follows: "The Nebraska State Council of Defense hereby protests against the insidious methods of the German language press in America. Reports received by the state council show that in communities where German language papers are widely circulated, hostility toward the American cause is pronounced.

"It is difficult to handle some of these German language newspapers under the law, but their offense, while cleverly covered, is so plain that they must be dealt with by public sentiment until congress shall provide a remedy.

"The German language press is constantly misrepresenting America's allies and presenting a line of propaganda that is clearly meant to mislead its readers. The fact that these German language editors are clever enough to avoid laying themselves open to prosecution under the law does not mean that their very apparent efforts to misrepresent the great enterprise for humanity and democracy upon which America has entered should be tamely submitted to by men having the interests of the country at heart.

"Urges Federal Legislation. "The State Council of Defense earnestly urges senators and congressmen to pass laws that will adequately meet this situation, protecting America from the insidious wiles of these newspapers if present laws are inadequate. In the meantime awakening on the part of Americans, regardless of birth or ancestry, to the seriousness of the practices of the German language press will accomplish much good.

STATE CROPS ARE BETTER AS FALL HARVEST NEARS

Northwestern's Report for the Week Gives Indications of a Bumper Corn Yield.

The Northwestern's Nebraska crop report for the week ending Friday night, the data of which is gathered by the agents, who make personal observations and talk with farmers, elevator and mill men, has been compiled and indicates pretty close to a bumper yield.

Wherever the Northwestern operates in Nebraska, and that is in practically all portions of the grain belt, as well as out in the range country, there was an abundance of rain during the last week. This has been accompanied by the most favorable growing weather, such as warm days and generally warm nights. The climatic conditions have pushed the corn crop along to the extent that if the fall is reasonably late, considering the increased acreage, the yield will be greater than last year and probably the largest in the history of the state.

Corn Only Slightly Damaged. As time passes it becomes apparent that there was only slight damage done to the corn by the hot weather of three weeks ago. Indications are that this little damage was in a few of the counties of the southern portion of the state and there only in spots.

Threshing of small grain is well along. While the acreage of wheat was far below the normal, the yield of both the spring and winter varieties is heavy and the quality excellent.

The oats crop is a bumper, both as to acreage and yield. Reports from the fields and from the elevators indicate that the yield is anywhere from thirty to sixty bushels an acre. Many of the fields run as high as seventy-five and some up to eighty bushels an acre.

Alfalfa Tonnage Heavy. The third cutting of alfalfa is being allowed, and on account of the recent rains, which were general, the tonnage of the crop is unusually heavy, nearly as great as the first and second.

Potatoes promise an average crop in most sections of the state. In the southern section the yield will be a little below the normal, but in the central and northern portions, where are found the immense fields of the tubers, the yield promises to be greater than last year, though the harvest will be a little late.

Pasturage has improved greatly during the last week and the reports are to the effect that the range was never in better condition.

Throckmorton and Alexander Win Tennis Championship

Boston, Aug. 18.—Frederick B. Alexander and Harold Throckmorton of New York today won the final match of the national patriotic doubles lawn tennis tournament, which this year took the place of the national doubles championship. They defeated Irving C. Wright and H. C. Johnson of this city in straight sets, 11-9, 6-4, 6-4, on the courts of the Longwood Cricket club.

Federal Officers in Texas Hold Austrian Army Men

Laredo, Tex., Aug. 18.—Four Austrian army officers, alleged to be accomplices of Captain Irving Schneider, recently arrested at San Francisco on a charge of being a German spy, were arrested by Department of Justice agents here today and placed in jail. It is said they came from San Francisco and were en route to Mexico.

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FIFTEEN BLASTS DESTROY MONSTER MUNITION PLANT

Hundreds Killed and Entire Village Destroyed at Rigaud, Quebec, When Explosions Wreck Powder Mill Covering Five Square Miles; Bodies Buried in Smouldering Ruins; No Death List Until Embers Cool.

Rigaud, Quebec, Aug. 18.—The great plant here of Curtis & Harvey, Ltd., explosive manufacturers, was wrecked today by a series of terrific explosions and buried beneath the ruins of a dozen or so structures that comprised the factory are an unknown number of dead.

Several thousand male and female workers employed at the plant were in the danger zone for hours. An early estimate based on first reports placed the number of killed at about 250.

TEUTONS HURL HEAVY BLOWS AT CANADIANS

Concentrate on British Position Recently Taken in Vicinity of Lens; French Retake Wood.

(By Associated Press.) Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria continues to hurl counter attacks against the new positions captured by the Canadians in their recent offensive in the region of Lens. Saturday morning the Germans forced their way into the Canadian trenches northwest of the French mining center, but after furious hand to hand fighting they were ejected, leaving a considerable number of dead on the battlefield.

French Penetrate Steenbeke Region. On the Belgian front from the North Sea coast to the Ypres sector, where the British and French in their offensive began in the middle of the week took 1,800 prisoners and twenty-four guns, the French again have pushed forward, capturing a strong German point of support east of the Steenbeke river. The British have organized their newly conquered terrain and the artillery bombardment on this front again has assumed a degree of drum fire intensity, presaging another vicious blow at the German lines. The Berlin war office now admits the loss, after severe fighting, of the Belgian village of Langemarck, northeast of Ypres, and says the German troops have occupied a line in front of the positions conquered by the British.

Aisne Attacks Repulsed. On the River Aisne front the German crown prince directed a number of attacks on the French trenches, notably in the vicinity of Froimont farm, but all were repulsed. Preparations for a German assault in the Massiges sector of the Champagne region were broken up by French fire. On the Verdun front a spirited attack swept over the German positions in Caurieres wood, enabling the French to retake all the trenches which had been wrested from them on August 16 and 17.

Aviators of all the belligerents on the western front were active as the week closed.

German Planes Fall. French aviators shot down seven German machines and forced eight others to land in a badly damaged condition. On the night of August 17-18 French aerial squadrons dropped fourteen tons of explosives on German aviation grounds, railway stations and encampments. British airmen destroyed twenty-three Teutons' airplanes and forced thirteen others to land. Eleven British planes and two French machines, according to reports, were shot down.

(Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

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LEUT. E. ZIMMERER LUMIERE PHOTO.

The Bee Suits Best. C. B. Bazilant & Co. Manufacturing Descriptions & Options. Advertisement for suits with handwritten notes and signatures.