Harding Sorrows at Ingratitude of Soviet Russia

Says Wanton Charges Are Poor Return for Workers Who Have Sacrificed for Country.

By GEORGE F. AUTHIER.
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Washington, June 2.—(Special Telegram.)—Baffled and disturbed by conditions in Russia, President Harding bared his heart to callers at the White House today, in discussing the situation there. The president, with no attempt to conceal his emotion, turned on critics, like Senator Watson of Georgia, who have attacked the integrity of the administration of the relief fund in Russia, and says the wanton charges were a poor return for the efforts of those who were giving their time, their money and their very lives to bring relief to the starving Russian peasants.

The president said he had just concluded writing a letter to an American mother whose son, engaged in serving Russian relief, died in that country of the dread scourge of typhus.

President Deeply Moved.

It is evident that the president is moved to the depths by the story of suffering that constantly comes out of Russia, but warns that American relief cannot continue forever, unless fundamental changes occur there.

The president charges the soviet system with responsibility for the condition of death and starvation that prevails in the naturally rich Russian country. Peasants, he explains, have no inspiration to produce, because their surplus stocks will be seized immediately. Transportation is falling down and everything is deteriorating. In the meantime, the soviet government takes advantage of the situation to bolster up the power that induces these conditions and, as at Genoa, approached that conference with brazen assurance, announcing a policy of expropriation on one hand and asking for a loan on the other.

Wants Relief Continued.

The president wants to continue relief in Russia. He wants to do everything possible to alleviate the suffering there. But he realizes that even American generosity cannot keep pace with the constantly spreading area of starvation, and that it is like throwing a pebble into a large body of water.

In spite of it the president says "whatever political conditions prevail in Russia, American humanity will continue to be American humanity."

Amundsen Exploring Party to Sail Today

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white waste about him for signs of the "phantom fleet," the frozen company of lost ships that the Eckimos claim swings around the north pole year in and year out, gripped in the inexorable clutch of the great ice floes.

Scouting over a wide area on each side of the auxiliary powered schooner, Maud, the famous explorer will have an extraordinary opportunity to investigate the reports of the eerie fleet brought out from the farthest reaches of the north by the natives.

Whether the fleet is legendary or really exists is one of the problems that has haunted the minds of Arctic explorers for many years. While Captain Amundsen's expedition is primarily scientific in its scope and purpose, any clue to the existence of the phantom fleet will be investigated, members of the party declare.

Stories of Ghostly Ships.

Vessels have disappeared strangely in the unexplored polar basin since the beginning of Arctic navigation. In one fell swoop the hungry ice pack in 1876 carried off 30 whaling ships from the waters north of the American continent. Most of the men fled to the ice and escaped to Point Barrow and other points on the Arctic coast, but 70 refused to desert the ships. The slow but ceaseless movement of the ice carried them into the mysterious uncharted north region that comprises 1,000,000 square miles.

Eskimos who have escaped from the ice pack after being carried into unknown wastes have returned with stories of ghostly ships, frozen in the ice, white with frost and manned by frozen crews.

Old-time Arctic navigators always have placed a certain amount of credence in the reports. They hold that once within the maw of the ice pack the ships would rest secure in their foundation and that from then on the chief destruction would be wrought by the great blizzards that sweep the Arctic seas.

Municipal Chorus Is Organized in Falls City

Falls City, Neb., June 2.—(Special.)—Falls City's first municipal chorus was organized with Rev. J. C. Olmstead as president. Mrs. Ralph Heald was chosen director.

The chorus is expected to include 200 singers from all church choirs and clubs in the city. Active rehearsals will begin in September. The chorus is being sponsored and financed by the Falls City Women's club.

They Entertain by Radio

Here's a trio of artists who entertained radio audiences last night when The Bee broadcast its musical program from the Omaha Grain Exchange station, WAAW. They blended whistling, a piano and violin selections in appealing harmony. Left to right they are: Merwin Tilton, whistler; Miss Virginia Fair, pianist, and Philip Krasne, violinist. They are pupils of Prof. Frank Mach.

Chain Man Vanishes After Being Trapped

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east end of Fontenelle park, Brown was traced from Forty-eighth and Emmet streets east to Forty-second and Emmet streets, where he was seen hiking east on foot by Arnold Scarr, 4022 Wirt street, a grocery boy on a wagon, according to Sheriff Hyers.

At this point a bloodhound was put on Brown's trail.

At 3:20 a man wearing khaki trousers with a big rip in them entered the grocery store of Mrs. S. L. Sawyer, Forty-fifth and Bedford streets, bought a quart of milk and a loaf of bread, paid for it and ran out. Mrs. Sawyer told police.

The Sawyer grocery is about halfway between the camp from which Brown was routed and the place near the Nebraska School for the Deaf, where he was seen by Osborn.

Detective Palmtag said he doubted if this man was Brown.

Lieutenant of Police Samuelson and Detective Danbaum established headquarters in the neighborhood, with Detectives Gurnett and Palmtag as his lieutenants, and directed the activities of the police end of the posse.

Harry E. Boyd, would-be rescuer of the two girls chained last Sunday by Brown, is leading the bloodhound owned by his landlord, Charles Peters, Keystone Park, route 7, on the trail of the fugitive.

Sheriff Gus Hyers gave the scent to the dog from the sackful of stuff found in Brown's camp beneath the elm tree.

Ex-Omaha Pilots in 8-Hour Fight for Life

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to land at Ashtabula, O. The wind caught them, Neely said, and to save themselves from the lake they began throwing food and other articles overboard. When the wind died down a bit they tried to land again, but the wind caught them and almost threw them into the water.

"That's when we put on our life belts," Lieut. Neely continued. "For a minutes or two we had just about resigned ourselves, but we made it. We cut pieces off our coats, threw our instruments away, and up we went."

At Monroe, Mich., yesterday afternoon, the fliers said, they dropped a parachute messenger saying that they were well and happy.

Navy Balloon Down.

Washington, June 2.—The helium filled navy balloon piloted by Lieut. Commander J. P. Norfleet which left Milwaukee at 3:50 p. m. Wednesday in the national balloon race, landed at 5 a. m. today, near Hancock, Pulaski county, Missouri, the Navy department was advised early today. Commander Norfleet reported that he was forced to descend by a leaking gas bag.

A later telegram from Lieut. Commander Norfleet stated that his balloon had traveled 425 miles. This was thought here to be the farthest of any yet reported. The commanders second message also fixed the time of landing at noon yesterday, correcting a report received earlier that he had come down at 5 a. m. today.

Capt. Harold E. Weeks, commanding an army entry in the national balloon race from Milwaukee was forced to land three and one-half miles from Witt, Ill., at 3:05 a. m. today, according to a telegram received from him at air service headquarters. The bag and net were slightly damaged, the officer reported.

Joplin, Mo., June 2.—The balloon piloted by Capt. H. F. Honeywell of St. Louis passed over Joplin between 6:30 and 7 o'clock this morning. At one point the craft came so low that persons could hear shouts of the balloonists through a megaphone.

Two other entries in the national balloon race, which presumably still were in the air at noon today, were Maj. Oscar Westover, in an army balloon, and Lieut. W. F. Reed, in a naval craft. Six of the original 13 starters were unaccounted for when the day started, but they were reduced to two later in the morning, when reports of landings of three of them became known.

Lieutenants James T. Neely and James B. Jordan came to Omaha as cadets in the balloon school here early in 1917. Both were commissioned early in 1918, and Lieutenant Neely was assigned as post signal officer of Fort Omaha until April, 1902, when he was assigned to mobile duty on the Pacific coast, traveling up and down the seaboard in observation service with the coast artillery. Later he was assigned to Ross field in California.

Lieutenant and Mrs. Jordan are expected to come to Omaha next Monday for a visit with Lieutenant and Mrs. George Lundberg at Fort Omaha, Mrs. Lundberg said today. The Jordans left Fort Omaha last September, when the lieutenant was ordered to the Pacific coast. Their home now is in Pasadena.

Mrs. Jordan went to Milwaukee for the start of the race and now is in Chicago.

Mrs. Jordan formerly was Miss Dorotha Callendar of Omaha.

Race Follower Is Held in Ward Blackmail Case

Arrest Expected to Clear Mystery Slaying—Ward Heavy Plunger on Horse Races, Report.

White Plains, N. Y., June 2.—Examination of James J. Cunningham, a race track follower, arrested last night in connection with the killing of Clarence Peters under mysterious circumstances that have involved Walter S. Ward, of New Rochelle, was planned today by District Attorney Weeks.

Cunningham after a three hour conversation with the Westchester county authorities in New York, was arrested as a material witness. He stated the man wounded by Ward in the battle following attempted blackmail had been taken to his mother's home, and that the man told him about the blackmail plot to force money from Ward several days before it occurred.

Detectives are searching for the wounded man, whose name, as well as his probable hiding place, was revealed by Cunningham, according to the authorities.

Stories of Plunges.

The arrest of Cunningham revived stories of plunges made by Ward at various tracks and his acquaintanceship with many well known horsemen and gamblers. One story was that Ward disappeared some time ago and that detectives discovered him at a race track near Baltimore.

Details of the information Westchester authorities were able to force from Cunningham have been withheld. Outside of the brief statement of the arrest and the fact that Cunningham had told the wounded man's name, the only comment by Mr. Weeks was that Cunningham, himself, had not been at the scene of the shooting, according to his story.

The prisoner is said to have worked for Commander J. K. Ross, the Canadian horseman, as in investigator of race track frauds and gambling rings. Commander Ross is owner of Sir Barton.

Driving Red Auto.

New York detectives also are searching for two well known characters of the underworld who have been seen recently driving a red automobile. The police say the men are apparently in funds, although both have but recently been released after serving prison terms. Ward described the blackmailers' car as red and his general descriptions are said to fit these men.

District Attorney Weeks, who now has three groups of investigators at work, expects the Cunningham arrest to bring a sudden break in the mystery surrounding the death of Peters. The state police have entered into the chase, and agents of a private detective agency also are active.

The sheriff when asked if the arrest of Cunningham might lead to the re-arrest of Ward on a charge of murder, replied:

"I am not going to arrest Ward unless I get an order."

Mr. Weeks stated that he would make no moves until the clues obtained from Cunningham had been investigated. He admitted that evidences of a great blackmail ring had been put before him and that his men were "putting every ounce of energy into tracing possible connections between Ward and the blackmailers.

Road Graft Charge Is Withdrawn by Epperson

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make it obligatory for each county to have same appointed for a period of four years.

County highway engineer should be given full authority in matters pertaining to construction and maintenance of county roads and be charged with responsibility for them.

Each county should lay out a system of state highways, and all work done by the county should fit this plan of action.

Absolutely require counties to have some uniform system of accounting for county road expenditures.

Require counties to submit quarterly reports of expenditures on county highway matters to some central agency.

Federal Aid Roads Upheld.

The committee recommended continuation of building of federal aid roads, pointing to facts and figures to prove that federal aid roads, built under federal specifications, are more substantial, and, in the long run, cheaper than any other road.

The charge of excessive and exorbitant profits to contractors who sub-contract roadwork was denied. The committee also points out that all bids are competitive and any time counties think the contracts are too high they may enter bids and do the work at a cheaper price.

The charge of graft was declared to be unfounded, the committee holding that in an institution handling millions, petty graft always has crept in. But the committee holds that the investigation proved these ills were few and far between. One instance where a project engineer padded a $15 expense account was the only bit of graft discovered, the committee declared, and he was discharged immediately.

Charges Refuted.

The charge of excessive maintenance money coming from auto licenses also is refuted and the committee recommends that the statutes be changed so that counties may have all the funds taken from auto licenses for maintaining county roads.

The committee goes into a thorough explanation of difficulties presented to it by certain officials and citizens in Sherman, Clay, Phelps and Richardson counties.

Members of the committee are: Governor McKelvie, Attorney General Davis, State Auditor Marsh, Senator Bushee, Kimball; Senator Rickard, Guide Rock; Representative Hoffmeister, Imperial; Representative Epperson, Clay.

Fremont Church Will Lay Cornerstone Sunday

Fremont, Neb., June 2.—(Special Telegram.) — President John M. Wells of Grand Island college will deliver the main address at the laying of the corner stone of the new $50,000 Baptist church here Sunday. The new church will be the largest of Baptist faith in Dodge county. Mayor Charles H. Green will officiate at the ceremonies that drop the cornerstone into place. Sacred music by the Fremont band will complete the ceremonies. The new church takes the place of the edifice destroyed by fire last January.

Newspaper Man Is Urged to Make Race for Office

Lincoln, June 2.—A nominating petition for M. C. Warrington of Mason City, Custer county, a newspaper man, as a democratic candidate for commissioner of lands and buildings was filed with the secretary of state today, together with a receipt for filing fee. Mr. Warrington's acceptance did not accompany the petition.

George Wilkins of Emerson filed as a republican candidate for the senate from the Ninth district.

Civil War in Ireland Near, Says Prelate

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lish authority to prescribe what an Irishman shall or shall not do."

Lloyd George to Leave.

London, June 2.—(By A. P.)—Announcement that Prime Minister Lloyd George will leave London tonight to remain away a week encourages the belief that there is some improvement in the Irish situation. He will go to Criccieth to participate at war memorial exercises tomorrow. The gravity of conditions in Ireland is emphasized, however, by the summoning of the earl of Cavan, chief-of-staff, by the cabinet and the introduction of the earl of Balfour into the cabinet conferences.

Composition of Dail.

Dublin, June 2.—(By A. P.)—The Sinn Fein organization headquarters today issued the national coalition election panel, resulting from the recent agreement between Eamon de Valera and Michael Collins. It leaves the present composition of the Dail Eireann only slightly altered.

The panel gives 66 seats for proponents of the Anglo-Irish treaty and 59 for republicans. There are only four candidates who are not members of the present dail.

The British destroyer Warwick, which searched the steamer Cragbue in Lough Foyle, off the northern Londonderry coast, warned other vessels bound for Londonderry not to stop anywhere unless so ordered by warships. It is reported the provisional government in Dublin is contesting Great Britain's right to search ships in these waters.

When a gang forced the door of a doctor's resident in the south side of the city, they were told by the servant, Susan McCormick, that he was not at home. Thereupon they poured a can of petrol over her and set her clothing afire. She ran screaming into the street where neighbors extinguished the flames.