



EXECUTION HALTED AT LAST MOMENT

Firing Squad in Place for Frenchman.

LENOIR SENTENCED AS TRAITOR

Prisoner Begs Permission to Confront ex-Premier.

REVELATIONS MAY COME

Reopening of Humbert Case Is Now Possible—Official Pulled Out of Bed to Grant Stay.

PARIS, Sept. 19.—Pierre Lenoir, tried with Senator Humbert and other defendants on charges of treason and sentenced to death, was saved from a firing squad which had already taken its place at dawn today. The charge was that he communicated military intelligence to the enemy.

This dramatic escape from death, in the Vincennes woods, was the subject of lively conversation in political circles here today.

With the firing squad already in place, preparations were being made to escort Lenoir out to meet death when the condemned man begged to be confronted with former Premier Caillaux, who is under charges similar to those on which Lenoir was convicted. He said:

"At the moment of death, I repeat what I have always vainly asked—to be confronted with Joseph Caillaux." (Joseph Caillaux, former premier of France, now is under arrest in a hospital near Paris on charges similar to those upon which Lenoir was convicted.)

Cases Declared Connected.

Lenoir then argued that the action of the court had shown that his case and that of M. Caillaux were connected. Lenoir's lawyer then demanded that his request to be confronted with M. Caillaux be communicated to the under secretary of military justice. This was done, and the order to postpone the execution was received two hours later. When he was told that he was not to be executed this morning, Lenoir said: "Before God and man I swear I am no traitor."

The execution was suspended and the condemned man remained in his cell. Nothing has been officially given out concerning the personalities who may be affected by Lenoir's death-door accusations but members of the chamber of deputies, discussing the matter, declared the Caillaux case was mentioned and also that the name of Ernest Judet, former owner of the Paris newspaper L'clair, who is under indictment here on a charge of having had dealings with the enemy in the purchase or rounding of French newspapers with German capital, came up. Judet, for a long time, has been in Switzerland.

Humbert Case May Be Reopened.

The arrest of another member of the chamber of deputies, and also of a prominent newspaper owner is said to be expected shortly in connection with Lenoir's statement, and it was even asserted that his revelations might cause a reopening of the Humbert case. Lenoir's escape from the waiting executioners was nothing short of miraculous, Captain Julien declining to postpone the execution, signing the register of the Sainte prison, accounting for Lenoir and ordering Lenoir to proceed to enter the waiting automobile which was to convey him to the Vincennes wood and death. M. Demolines, Lenoir's lawyer, nearly had an altercation with Captain Julien, while endeavoring to obtain a few minutes respite for the prisoner in order that he might telephone to Mr. Ignace, under secretary of state for military justice.

Official Aroused in Night Clothes.

Having secured the permission to telephone, M. Demolines then entered an automobile and roared to the home of M. Ignace, who received him in his night clothes at 5 o'clock in the morning and made the stay of execution of the sentence indefinite.

Meanwhile Lenoir will remain in his cell and await eventualities. In connection with the reprieve it may be remembered that Bolz Pasha succeeded in postponing his execution ten days while making revelations.

MURRAY FORFEITS BAIL

Portland Man Not in Court When Land Fraud Case Is Called.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 19.—A jury, which will hear the evidence in the so-called Oregon land fraud cases, was completed late today in United States Judge Maurice T. Doelling's court. The men on trial are F. P. Bull of San Francisco, H. D. Pater of Berkeley, J. L. Van Worman of Fresno, Alan McEwen of San Francisco and W. L. Murray of Portland.

Although it had been announced that Murray, who failed to appear when the cases were called for trial, was expected to arrive later in the day from Portland, he had not appeared when Judge Doelling adjourned court until Monday. His bail of \$2000 was ordered forfeited.

SCOTTISH RITE BUYS SITE FOR NEW TEMPLE

MAGNIFICENT STRUCTURE TO BE BUILT IN PORTLAND.

Oregon Consistory Finds Old Temple Inadequate—Land in Cedar Hill Addition Purchased.

The purchase of a tract of land, comprising about 10 lots in what is known as the Green estate property, between Ford street and Green avenue, near the head of Washington street, by the trustees of Oregon Consistory No. 1, of the Scottish Rite Masons, has brought to light plans of a new temple which it is expected to make one of the most magnificent buildings of the kind in the country.

P. S. Malcolm, who holds the position of inspector-general of the organization for the state, in a talk before a recent meeting of the lodge said that it was hoped to make the new temple one of the best in the United States. An architect is to be employed for the drawing up of preliminary plans and it is expected to have some sort of a working idea for the new building within the next two months.

The Oregon Consistory is said to have outgrown its present cathedral at Morrison and Lowndale streets and it was for this reason that the new site was decided upon. The new site is in Cedar Hill addition to the city of Portland and comprises about 48,880 square feet of ground. It is located on a rise just up the hill from the intersection of Twenty-third and Washington streets and furnishes a beautiful view, and therefore an advantageous position for a magnificent structure such as it is hoped to put up.

BAKER ARMY BILL FOUGHT

Chamberlain Measure Preferred by Military Camp Authorities.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19.—Tompkins McVain, acting chairman of the military training camps association, before the senate military committee pronounced the war department's bill for army reorganization thoroughly unsound. He said it would perpetuate the worst mistakes of the past. McVain urged favorable consideration of the so-called national service act introduced by Senator Chamberlain, democrat of Oregon, at the instance of the military training camps association, which he argued would cost but little more than half of the \$900,000,000 estimated cost of the administration bill.

PRUNES \$1000 AN ACRE

Mosier Ships Ten Carloads Fresh From Orchards to East.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—It is likely that no growers will reap any greater returns this season than prune growers of Mosier, where approximately ten carloads of fresh prunes, packed in small boxes, were shipped east. The growers will realize an average of \$1000 an acre from their orchards.

"We have about two acres of prunes on our east Hood river tract," said W. H. Weber, Chicago capitalist, who is out looking after orchard interests, western Nebaska. "and we expect to realize about \$1100 per acre. The prunes have been sold for \$100 per ton, f. o. b. Mosier."

DYNAMITE CACHE FOUND

Explosives Under Nye Beach Cottage Thought Set by I. W. W.

SALEM, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—Much excitement prevailed in the neighborhood of Nye Beach, at Newport, Monday, when a quantity of dynamite was found under the cottage of Mrs. A. Beeschen of this city, according to word reaching here. Investigation by the Newport officers showed that the dynamite was wrapped in a carpenter's apron and two copies of a Salem newspaper.

It is believed to have been the cache of an I. W. W., members of which organization were active in the Newport vicinity about the time the spruce operations began.

8-HOUR DAY BOOSTS FUEL

Spokane Dealers Tell Committee Help Works Less, Pay More.

SPOKANE, Wash., Sept. 19.—"Labor inefficiency" arising from independence of the labor market, was blamed by local retail fuel dealers for present high prices of fuel, in their statements to the joint state and county fair price committee meeting here today. Dealers declared laboring men are not accomplishing as much work per hour under an eight-hour day as under the ten-hour day, although their compensation is almost twice as great.

Under the eight-hour day they declared only about one-third as much is accomplished as under the recent nine-hour day.

WHEAT IN DANGER OF ROT

Elevators Full and Cars Short in Western Nebraska.

LINCOLN, Neb., Sept. 19.—Hundreds of thousands of bushels of wheat are on the ground in danger of rotting in western Nebraska, because elevators are already filled and because there is a shortage of railroad cars, together with an embargo on wheat shipments to Omaha and Kansas City, according to information reaching Governor Samuel R. McKelvey.

The governor announced he would appeal to the railroad administration to take steps to relieve the situation.

STEEL COMPANIES HOPE TO OPERATE

Battle With Labor to Be Nation-Wide.

ENGINEERS REFUSE TO JOIN

Official of Union at Chicago Says Men Will Stick.

ORGANIZERS HARD AT WORK

Sailors at Detroit Vote to Quit in Sympathy and Tie Up Ore Carriers on Lakes.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 19.—Preparations for the test of strength between organized labor and capital in the steel industry throughout the United States to begin Monday went forward today with both sides confident of the outcome. There were no official statements forthcoming from either side, but informal talks indicated that they were ready for the contest.

Representatives of steel companies in the Pittsburgh district let it be known that they intend to operate their plants Monday and also let the impression go out that they do not look for as large a walkout as the union leaders assert will take place.

Labor Expects Big Walkout.

Organized labor expects a big turnout of men and predicted that the employers will receive the surprise of their lives. Neither side will venture figures. Both frankly confessed they do not know how many men will remain at work or fail to answer the whistle. Monday only can tell, they said.

Steel companies in many cases are understood to have canvassed their men to get an idea of the number of men who will strike. Union leaders said that from their experiences these guesses usually prove to be inaccurate and pointed to past strikes where a majority of men in a plant have signed up not to strike and then quit when the time came.

It was said tonight that in a number of plants some men have already quit and sought work in other places.

National Leaders Go Home.

All the national leaders of unions involved in the strike had left the city tonight for their respective headquarters to make final plans for the strike, and much of the activity about the offices of the steel workers' national committee had to do with the preparations in the Pittsburgh district. While national headquarters are in this city, in charge of William Z. Foster, secretary of the national committee, it was learned that much of the work will be conducted by districts.

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—Steam and operation (Concluded on Page 2, Column 3.)

ELEPHANT RUNS AMUCK AT SEA; SHIP MENACED

BIG PACHYDERM SHIP'S CARGO. 5 OF CREW HURT.

Koan Maru, Bound for Japan, Is Forced to Return When in Danger of Capsizing.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—A big elephant running amuck aboard the Japanese freighter Koan Maru, Captain Yamamaki, started a dangerous shifting of freight which caused the serious injury of five members of the crew. The freighter, which sailed for Yokohama two days ago with a general cargo, was forced to put about and return to port to land the men for medical attention. She arrived here today.

The old circus performer, which was being transported to Yokohama, broke loose when a storm began to toss the vessel. As he plunged about he caused some of the essential fastenings to break. The movement of the vessel caused serious displacements of the cargo and for a time it was feared the vessel might capsize.

As the five members of the crew were busy trimming cargo several lashings gave way and the men were crushed between packing cases of freight.

MILL HAS \$225,000 FIRE

Klamath Falls Plant Is Burned by Early Morning Blaze.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—The mammoth sawmill of the Pelican Bay Lumber company two miles north of the city, the largest in this district, was completely destroyed by fire early today. The estimated loss is \$225,000, fully insured.

Fire is believed to have been started by a hotbox in the center of the mill. The blaze was discovered and fought by a watchman for 15 minutes. He believed he had it under control when suddenly it burst out anew and spread rapidly.

The boiler house, planing mill, kilns and 10,000,000 feet of lumber were saved after a heroic fight by employees in face of a heavy wind that carried sparks among them.

CHENOWETH IS COMMITTED

Man Acquitted of Murder to Be Sent to Asylum at Once.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—George Chenoweth of Curry county, found not guilty of murder of George Spillman in the circuit court at Goldsboro, has been ordered committed to the asylum by Judge Coke, insanity having been his defense. He will at once be taken to Salem. It is believed that under treatment he may entirely recover.

TWO DIE IN STREET FIGHT

Deputy Marshal and ex-Detective in Battle at Memphis.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Sept. 19.—O. W. Webster, a deputy United States marshal, and William Siddie, a former city detective, were killed, and a negro bystander was wounded in an exchange of shots here this afternoon.

The shooting took place in the downtown shopping district.

STEAMSHIP SUNK; 450 ARE MISSING

Divers Find Big Vessel in Quicksands.

PASSENGERS' FATE UNKNOWN

Craft Believed to Be Liner Valbanera, Lost in Gale.

WIRELESS CALLS HEARD

Faint Signals May Be Sent by Survivors of 6000-Ton Spanish Ship.

KEY WEST, Sept. 19.—Imbedded in quicksand under 40 feet of water, off Rebecca shoals lighthouse, divers today found the hulk of a vessel believed to be the Spanish passenger liner Valbanera, which has been missing since the eastern portion of the Gulf of Mexico was swept by a hurricane ten days ago.

The divers employed by the Cuban consul here, after the sunken wreck was discovered by a United States coast guard vessel, reported that the name Valbanera could be made out clearly, but no trace was found of the 390 passengers and 150 members of the crew reported aboard the liner, when she left Spain for Havana.

The steamer found off the Rebecca shoals lighthouse, which is 40 miles from here, the divers said, appeared to be of about 6000 tons. The missing Valbanera was of 2321 tons net.

The Valbanera appeared off Moro Castle, Havana, September 9, but was unable to put into port on account of the storm. Within the last few days faint wireless calls supposed to be from the Valbanera have been picked up here and at Havana. In marine circles here it was considered probable that some of the Valbanera's survivors have sent the calls using improvised apparatus taken from the vessel.

20 HOUSES LOST IN FIRE

Soldiers Rushed to Fight Flames in California Forest.

MILL VALLEY, Cal., Sept. 19.—Between 10 and 25 cottages have been destroyed in a brush fire which swept a part of Mount Tamalpais, three miles west of this city today, according to announcement by Fire Marshal William White. The fire along the ridge of Mount Tamalpais is under control, but, according to White, the flames are now sweeping the lower end of Muir woods, a government forest.

A detachment of 246 soldiers have been ordered from Fort Baker to fight the flames. It was announced here.

The fire was continuing toward Muir Woods, despite heroic efforts to check it.

WILSON BLOCKS ALLIED WARNING TO GERMANY

FRENCH FEAR FIUME SITUATION MAY APPLY TO SILESIA.

Council's Note Threatening Punishment if Berlin Attempts Invasion Is Canceled.

BY WILLIAM COOK.

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PARIS, Sept. 19.—(Special cable.)—Although D'Annunzio's move on Fiume is causing the supreme council but little trouble, it is feared that this action will set a precedent and give Germany an excuse to follow the example in Silesia. Therefore, Marshal Foch's advice was sought as to what should be done if Germany should take such a fateful step. It was decided, in such a case, stern military measures should be taken against Germany.

The entire conference agreed on that and Germany was to be notified of it, but today a cablegram from President Wilson was received which vetoed the decision.

Now, according to some members of the conference, Germany is practically free to go into Silesia, assume full power there and laugh at the allies' indecision and weakness.

French circles in the conference are especially displeased at President Wilson's veto. Fearing further trouble, virtually the same thing happened in regard to the German troops in the Baltic provinces. Marshal Foch advised the conference to let the Poles clear the Germans out, but that course was disapproved by certain members of the supreme council on the ground that the Poles already have undertaken heavy fighting without any certainty of a successful result. It was even decided to ask the Poles to stop fighting the bolsheviks.

CALIFORNIA WETS LOSE

Injunction on Enforcement of Prohibition Is Denied.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 19.—A petition by the California Grape Producers association, asking that government officers here be enjoined from enforcing the wartime prohibition act, was denied by United States District Judge William C. Van Fleet here today.

The fate of \$75,000,000 worth of vineyards in the state rested on the decision according to Theodore Bell, the attorney representing the plaintiffs.

"I find that the tentative impressions made upon my mind at the time of submission have been ripened into conviction that not only is the act of congress in question in all respects a constitutional enactment, but that within the broad and generic sense in which the words are employed in the statute 'wine grapes' are included within the designation of 'fruit or other food products,'" Judge Van Fleet held in his decision.

CHICAGO STRIKE IS OFF

More Than 100,000 Workers Out for Two Months.

CHICAGO, Sept. 19.—Chicago's building strike and lockout, which for more than two months had made idle more than 100,000 workers and halted construction aggregating \$2,000,000, was announced as ended tonight.

The construction employers yielded to the demands of the union carpenters for \$1 an hour.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.
YESTERDAY—Maximum temperature, 74 degrees; minimum, 51 degrees.
TODAY—Fair and warmer; moderate westerly winds.

Foreign.
Moscow declared in state of siege. Page 17.
Wilson blocks allied warning to Germany. Page 1.
Execution of Frenchman for treason halted at last moment. Page 1.
National.
Witness at senate hearing on Mexico paid by Carranza. Page 12.
Civil service examinations for postmasters said often to be shams. Page 7.
Republicans claim votes to pass first amendment to peace pact. Page 7.
Domestic.
San Francisco to sell government meat at reduced prices. Page 3.
Elephant runs amuck on vessel, injuring five of crew. Page 1.
Engineers refuse to join steel walkout. Page 4.
Divers find hulk of lost liner off Florida coast. Page 1.
Known dead in gulf storm total 400. Page 5.
Mayor of New York makes war on agitators. Page 4.
Wilson quotes Roosevelt in favor of league of nations. Page 2.
Senator Johnson abandons his tour to coast. Page 2.
Robert Hicks, arrested at Chehalis, Wash., confesses to murdering his daughter 23 years ago. Page 1.
Pacific Northwest.
Vancouver queen rules over parade. Page 9.
Twenty-four thousand thrilled at Round-Up. Page 9.
Sports.
Great Island Bramble, owned by William Ziegler, wins Oregon derby field trials event. Page 14.
Pacific Coast league results: Portland 7, Seattle 9; Salt Lake 3, Los Angeles 3; San Francisco 2; Sacramento 9, Oakland 4. Page 15.
National league managers refuse to sanction breaking of minor league ballplayers in 1919. Page 14.
Brookes and Patterson, Australian tennis players, are invited to visit Portland. Page 15.
Commercial and Marine.
Move to end strike of flour loaders fails. Page 22.
Fall apple harvest under way. Page 23.
Portland and Vicinity.
Scottish Rite Masons buy site for new temple. Page 1.
Indictments spell romance of Frank S. Wilson, 23, and Lucille Reiss, 18. Page 23.
Legion continues investigation of German relief. Page 24.
Democrats slighted in Wilson welcome. Page 13.
Memorial highways planned for heroes and organizations perfected. Page 18.
Heroes of French battlefields are decorated and their bravery praised. Page 8.
City's housing code revision committee seems hopelessly divided. Page 12.
Army store to be opened in Portland. Page 12.

SECRET OF MURDER IS KEPT 23 YEARS

Robert Hicks Tells How He Slewed Daughter.

REMORSE FAILS TO BOTHER

Work Keeps Him Too Busy to Think of Crime, He Says.

"JUST DEAD," EXPLANATION

Man Arrested at Chehalis, Wash., Calmly Tells Sheriff How He Strangled Girl Long Ago.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 19.—(Special.)—For 23 years Robert Hicks carried a secret in his breast, the secret that with his own hands and a short piece of heavy twine he strangled to death his daughter, Lucille, 19 years old, and never once, in all that 23 years, did the ghost of his murdered daughter return to haunt him, to follow him, to keep him awake.

It was on a lonesome part of the Hicks farm in Hickory county, Missouri, the afternoon of December 7, 1895, that the daughter, in a fit of rage, threatened to shoot him. He had told her mother the young woman had spent an afternoon buggy riding with the hotelkeeper of Urbana, and the mother chastised the daughter as a result.

Hicks, old and feeble, his body wasted by age, his shoulders bent by toil, recounted his story today as he sat in his cell on the prison train with J. P. McCaslin, sheriff of Hickory county, who is taking Hicks from Chehalis, Wash., to Hickory county for trial. Hicks is 75 years old.

Girl Seized by Throat.

"I was afraid she would do as she threatened," he said, speaking calmly in a low voice. "I was mad. I seized her by the throat with my fingers and squeezed. She didn't call out. She didn't fight. Her eyes rolled up and looked at me just like the eyes of a dog when you lick him. Then I took a piece of heavy grass twine from my pocket—I had been using it to tie gunnysacks—wrapped it about her throat, pulled it tight and she dropped on the ground, dead. I left her there."

A brother, going to look at traps, found the body of his sister where Hicks had left it. The authorities were notified, of course, the girl was buried in the little cemetery adjacent to the chapel, the neighbors talked, but soon it all was forgotten.

Hicks was suspected, but never arrested. He sold his place and moved to Washington to farm, leaving the grave of his daughter and an infant son in Hickory county. A son-in-law was living in another city and he despaired of the old folks with him.

Conscience Never Bothered Him.

"Did your conscience ever bother you? Did you ever see the face of your daughter in your dreams? Did you ever awake during the night and live over the scene when your fingers were sinking into the soft flesh of your daughter's neck?" Hicks was asked. "Me! No," he replied. "I ain't never seen her since the day of the funeral. She was just dead, that's all. You see, I ain't never had no book learning and things like that never bothered me. I was bound out when my folks died and I was 2 1/2 years old and had to work all the time. That was down in Taney county, on the White river, and I didn't never have no chance. So things like that didn't bother me."

"But didn't you ever desire to tell anyone that you murdered your own daughter?" he was asked.

"No, I never wanted to tell anybody," he said, speaking in the same low voice. "I didn't miss her no more'n if she'd just died. Of course her ma missed her some for a while, but she didn't know I did it and I never felt called on to tell her."

Seven Children Raised.

"I raised seven other children, four boys and the rest girls, and that been pretty busy working on the farm all the time and my health being not so good. That didn't bother me nearly so much as my other troubles. You see, I sold my property and gave the money to my son-in-law and he promised to keep me and ma the rest of our lives. It was done in writing and then he wanted to get rid of me. That's what bothered me."

"Neither me nor ma ain't got long to live, you know, so I fixed up the property so we could die in peace and then got beat out of it. My son-in-law said I owed some money in Missouri and wrote the banker at Urbana and had the police come after me, just to get rid of me. But me, I don't owe nobody. He just wanted to get rid of me after he got the \$1200."

"How did you happen to confess it this late in life, when you knew you probably would die and no one could find it out?" he was asked.

"They can't do much to me now," he said. "I'm likely to die any time. I just thought, as they was taking me back to Missouri, I'd tell 'em about it. Nothing told me to. I just thought I might as well give 'em a real reason to take me back."

Irish Loan Fund Opened.

DUBLIN, Sept. 17.—Subscriptions for the Irish republican loan of £250,000 were opened today.

No reliable data regarding the response is as yet available.

