



GRIMM ABSOLVED BY I. W. W. SLEUTH

Letter Urging Sensational Defense Revealed.

COUP IS SPRUNG BY STATE

"Pastor" Forced to Admit Outlining Testimony.

OVERT ACT HELD LACKING

"Make It Appear Legionnaire Was Implicated in Raid," Is Advice to Vanderveer.

BY BEN HUR LAMPMAN.

MONTESANO, Wash., March 5.—(Special.)—Through in preface testimony he had asserted an interest only in "absolute justice with both God and man." Rev. Thomas T. Edmonds of Seattle, radical thought leader and paid investigator for the accused I. W. W., who are on trial here for the Centralia Armistice day crime, was today forced by the state to admit on the witness stand the authorship of a letter which exonerated Warren O. Grimm, victim, from any blame in connection with the tragedy which wrought his death.

Written at Seattle, on January 4, 1920, after Dr. Edmonds had for more than a month been actively engaged in investigating the case for the defense, and addressed to George J. Vanderveer, counsel for the defendants, the private missive not only absolved Grimm, for whose murder the accused are on trial, from any share in an alleged attack upon the Centralia I. W. W. hall, but suggested trial tactics to circumvent this fact.

Grimm not involved.

"And while Warren Grimm was not at the time involved in the raiding, the western law of reaching for a gun (underscored), or motions like that, should apply," wrote Edmonds to Vanderveer, tacitly declaring the dead legionnaire guiltless, but suggesting a line of defense that would appear to implicate him.

The defense has but a few witnesses remaining and will close its case tomorrow. George J. Vanderveer, counsel for the accused, said that the defense might rest its case at the noon adjournment.

When Dr. Edmonds took the stand at the call of the defense, the state smiled with inward satisfaction. For weeks the forgotten letter has been in the possession of the prosecutors.

Defense Goaded to Make Call.

Throughout the entire length of the case the state counsel has sought to goad the defense into summoning the secret service clergyman to the stand. And he has done so, nervous, vivacious little man, voluble and eager to begin.

But in the current of cross-examination that caught him, after he had smilingly answered the queries of Vanderveer, the witness tossed turbulently. He admitted the letter, but smoothly toward its identification by Special Prosecutor Abel, and for more than an hour he strove to modify and explain the statements he penned for the private eye of the defense.

In advocating his plan of defense, Edmonds wrote Vanderveer that the defendants and their case should be likened to John Brown of Harper's Ferry and to Lovejoy, abolitionist martyr, and heroes of the era preceding the civil war.

Mask of Candor Urged for Defense.

"It would be a line of defense," he had written, "recognizing seemingly palpable, otherwise unexplainable facts and so have the strength of truth."

He suggested in this missive, that of an investigator acquainted with the facts, that "outside firing (outside of the hall) be finally admitted." He had further suggested that Elmer Smith, defendant and attorney, who counseled the I. W. W., be defended as "not cognizant of any but strictly defensive war measures."

He had advised a show of candor that would combine "Abe Lincoln's absolute honesty with your invincible attack."

Under direct examination, Edmonds testified that he is an ordained minister of the gospel, at present without pastorate, and a member of the Presbytery of Seattle. He has resided in Seattle since 1916, where he was at one time pastor of Greenwood Park church, and had been engaged in the ministry in Alberta, Canada.

"Absolute Justice" Urged.

"I deeply sympathize with the victims of the terrible tragedy but believe that absolute justice is the first thing with both God and man," read a letter that he had presented to state and county officials when offering his credentials as an investigator. In signing this introductory epistle he had subscribed himself "Yours for justice, mercy and faith."

In direct examination, Edmonds testified that he was engaged by the defense and went to Centralia on November 26. He was and is now a member of the I. W. W. He had not attempted bribery of witnesses. To him had been shown the door frequently in his quest for truth. In one instance a Centralia business man had told him to get out quickly, before he laid hands upon him.

UNCANNY OUIJA SPELL CLAIMS MORE VICTIMS

SAN FRANCISCO POLICEMAN IS DRIVEN INSANE.

Another Man With Hallucination of Persecution Hurls Brick Into Postoffice Window.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—(Special.)—The uncanny spell of the ouija board, which in a few days transformed the minds of three mothers and a high school girl of 15 years, residents of El Cerrito, from a state of normality to that of madness, today claimed two more victims, one a San Francisco policeman.

They are: Policeman E. H. Deane, attached to the Potrero station of this city.

C. F. Forre, now being held at the county hospital at Martinez.

Clad in plain clothes and with a revolver in his pocket, Policeman Deane was arrested in Berkeley early this morning as he was wandering aimlessly along the street.

According to Policeman Richard Dowling, who made the arrest, Deane was acting in a strange manner.

Dowling reported at the police station that Deane had said that the ouija board had told him he was to be arrested.

The arrest of Forre was made after he had hurled a brick through the window of the postoffice at Martinez.

His hallucination was that he was being chased by federal officers who were seeking to poison him. The authorities believe his condition resulted from ouija board machinations.

These were the developments today in the tragic denouement of the attempts of two El Cerrito families to peer through the mists that conceal the spirit world.

Inquiry into the report that students were experimenting with the ouija board was begun at the Richmond high school, which, before she fell under the extraordinary influence of the tricky device, was attended by pretty Adeline Bottini, who, together with her mother, Mrs. Susie Bottini, Mrs. Marie Moro and the latter's daughter, Mrs. Josie Soldavini, were sought by federal officers yesterday by Superior Judge R. H. Latimer of Martinez.

Citizens of El Cerrito, across the Contra Costa county line from Berkeley, where the peculiar epidemic broke out, continued plans to stem the practice in that community with the idea of calling in alienists if necessary.

Political dissensions among the residents of El Cerrito comes to a head as result of the Wednesday night raid of Marshal McKinnon on the Soldavini home, where the psychic orgies were being carried on in darkened rooms behind barricaded doors.

Trans-day department stores report they have been swamped with buyers of ouija boards since the expose of the El Cerrito believers.

CHURCH HEARING DELAYED

Petition of Mrs. Hullin to Enter Controversy Opposed.

BOSTON, March 5.—Opposition to the petition of Mrs. Emilie H. Hullin of New York for leave to intervene in the controversy between the directors of the Christian Science church and the trustees of the Christian Science Publishing society, was announced today by counsel for the trustees. A hearing on the petition was postponed until March 13.

STOLEN SAFE DISCOVERED

Auto Used by Thieves Found in Woods Near Oswego.

OREGON CITY, March 5.—(Special.)—Some time Wednesday night a safe was stolen from the Sears bicycle shop in Hillsboro and a girl going to school Thursday morning discovered it a short distance northwest of Oswego and reported to the authorities here.

Deputy Sheriff Meads went to the scene and made a thorough investigation Thursday. He found the safe and a lot of papers around it. The door had been blown off and the valuable contents taken.

Meads noticed tracks of an automobile near and followed these. The road where the safe was found was an old wood road and evidently the car had no lights and the robbers lost their way. Meads followed the trail and found the car in the woods, where it had been abandoned. The car had been stolen in Portland.

FOREST PATROL BOOSTED

Chamberlain Speech Delayed, but McNary Amendment Is Adopted.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 5.—Because of the treaty situation in the senate Senator Chamberlain was compelled today to defer his speech urging a complete airplane forest fire patrol for the northwest.

The senate agricultural committee, however, adopted Senator McNary's amendment providing \$60,000 for the forest service's portion of the cost of the airplane patrol system. The committee also increased the appropriation for forest air protection under the Weeks law from \$75,000 to \$100,000.

POLITICIANS EYE NEW HAMPSHIRE

Republican Convention Election Tuesday.

8 DELEGATES TO BE CHOSEN

Instructed or Uninstructed, Wood Sure to Benefit.

DEMOCRATS UP IN AIR

Impetus Given "Wet" Edwards Starts Scrambling for Bourbons to Look for Combinations.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 5.—Political interest in the republican presidential contest is centering in New Hampshire, where, on next Tuesday, eight delegates to the Chicago convention will be chosen. It is a foregone conclusion that the eight delegates, whether pledged or uninstructed, will be for General Wood, thus permitting him to count the first primary strength. The next delegates to be chosen by a state as a whole will be in Minnesota March 15, where an unofficial primary will be held. Twenty-four delegates are to be named and the indications are that Wood will get these, although both Lowden and Johnson are giving him a hard contest.

Johnson Has Own Way.

On May 16, North Dakota will vote and is expected to select 10 delegates for Hiram Johnson, who has everything his own way in the state, other candidates having kept out as requested by a recent state convention of republicans.

South Dakota will name ten delegates March 23, but it cannot be said with any degree of certainty who will get them. There are reasons to believe that Wood, as the major candidate by reason of having been endorsed by the state convention, will be the beneficiary, but both Lowden and Hiram Johnson are making a hard fight. Johnson is spending the week in the state and is addressing large audiences.

April 5 the voters of Michigan will go to the polls. Wood and Johnson appear to be the leading candidates, due partly to the open activity of the newspapers in behalf of one or the other. The Johnson strength grows largely out of the campaign made for him by the Detroit News. The state has 30 delegates.

Political Poll Taken.

The New York Sun is publishing the result of a poll taken among the county chairmen of every state on the presidential contest. The result in one state is given each day. Up to date it is as follows:

Alabama, 14 delegates, Lowden. Arkansas, 13 delegates, Lowden. Arizona, six delegates, Wood. California, 26 delegates, Hiram Johnson.

(Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

"DIAMOND QUEEN" ENDS LIFE; CHEATS ARREST

POISON PHIAL EMPTIED AS POLICE ENTER ROOM.

"You'll Never Take Me Alive," Are Last Words—\$30,000 in Uncut Gems Found in Handbag.

NEW YORK, March 5.—Antoinette Bonner, who acquired the international sobriquet of "the diamond queen" when she was brought back from Paris in 1914 with Joseph B. Kissinger to face charges of large jewelry thefts in New York, ended her life dramatically today by drinking poison as she was being placed under arrest in Kissinger's office here, charged with theft of diamonds valued at \$2000.

"You'll never take me alive," she cried as she snatched a poison phial from her handbag and swallowed the contents.

Kissinger also was arrested on a charge of acting in concert with the woman in the theft of diamonds from a New York concern.

In Miss Bonner's handbag the police found uncut diamonds valued at \$30,000.

FLYER REACHES EUGENE

Major Lanphier Makes Trip in Fast Time Through Storms.

EUGENE, Or., March 5.—Major T. G. Lanphier of March field, Riverside, arrived in this city at 5:30 o'clock this afternoon from Camp Lewis, Wash., in a Sopwith SE-5 machine.

Major Lanphier's time from Camp Lewis was two hours and 15 minutes. He reports flying through six rain storms on the journey. The machine used by Major Lanphier was the one in which Major A. D. Smith made the flight recently from San Diego to Camp Lewis and who expects to "hop off" early tomorrow if weather conditions are favorable. Major Lanphier expects to leave here at 9:30 o'clock Saturday morning for March field, stopping en route at Red Bluff, Cal.

Speaking of Major Smith's flight south, Major Lanphier expressed the hope that favorable weather would prevail for the "hop off" in the morning. Should Major Smith reach Eugene early enough tomorrow, it is probable the two will make the flight together south, Major Lanphier said tonight.

EAST SIDE CHURCH BURNS

St. Andrew's Edifice at Ninth and Alberta Destroyed.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the upper story of the St. Andrew's church and school building, East Ninth and Alberta streets, shortly before 1 o'clock this morning. The loss is practically covered by insurance. The structure was built in 1908 and cost \$25,000.

Father T. P. Klerman, pastor of the church, upon entering the church to rescue the sacred vessels, found the sacristy locked. He stated that he has always kept it unlocked, but did not say if he suspected anyone of having been implicated in the origin of the fire.

The lower floor of the building is divided into class rooms and the upper floor was used for church purposes. No one was in the building when the fire broke out, but church services had been held during the evening.

CIDER AND GASOLINE MIXED IN TRAGEDY

DRUNKEN AUTOIST RUNS DOWN AND KILLS W. SMITH.

Body of Victim Dragged to Charles Blum Garage Near Tillamook and Covered With Rags.

TILLAMOOK, Or., March 5.—(Special.)—The body of Walter Smith, son of a rancher of Miami, near here, was found today in a garage owned by Charles Blum, a rancher who lives on the Miami road. The body had been covered with articles of old clothing and a trail in the dirt indicated where it apparently had been dragged about 300 feet from a spot where Smith's wagon was found to have been wrecked and his horse badly injured.

When questioned by officers Blum is said to have confessed that Smith had been killed in a collision between his vehicle and an automobile driven by Blum. Blum told the officers he had been drinking hard cider and was so badly intoxicated that he knew nothing about the details of the accident, which happened at a curve in the road. Blum declared that Smith also was intoxicated.

An inquest will be held.

FINNS GIVE SELVES UP

Convicted Astoria Men to Start Serving Sentence.

ASTORIA, Or., March 5.—(Special.)—A. J. Partan and W. N. Reivo, editor and business manager, respectively, of the Toveri, a local Finnish daily, left this evening for Portland to surrender to the United States marshal and begin their two-year terms in the federal prison at McNeil's island.

A large crowd of Finnish socialists was at the depot to bid them farewell. The two men were convicted in the federal court in Portland on a charge of violating the Espionage act by selling seditious literature. Their case was appealed to the higher court, with the result that the conviction was affirmed in each instance.

COAST MAY GET TONNAGE

More Ships Conditionally Promised by Shipping Board.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Additional shipping board tonnage may be allocated to Pacific coast operators as a result of complaints lodged with Chairman Payne of the board today by Senator Phelan of California.

The senator said later that Mr. Payne had agreed to call on the board's representative at San Francisco for a statement of conditions along the Pacific coast and, if the complaints of a shortage of bottoms which have reached the senator were verified, would take steps to send additional craft from the Atlantic where a surplus exists.

SWEDEN TO BE MEMBER

Affiliation With League of Nations Voted by Chamber.

STOCKHOLM, March 5.—The first chamber of parliament today voted 86 to 47 in favor of Sweden entering the league of nations.

The lower house Thursday voted 152 to 47 in favor of Sweden's entrance.

CONSUMERS SPURN LOW-PRICED FLOUR

Barnes Asks Huge Loan to Float Sales.

EUROPE SEEKS PRODUCT

Max H. Houser Lauded for Work on Grain Board.

HIGH PRICE LAID TO USER

Situation Explained to House Rules Committee by Head of Federal Corporation.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Five million barrels of federal grain corporation soft wheat flour will be sold on credit in Europe soon unless congress authorizes \$50,000,000 loans to finance the sales, Julius Barnes, head of the corporation, told the house rules committee today. He said he now had authority to make the sales on credit but hoped the loans would be authorized.

The flour now held at American ports and for which the corporation asks \$10.75 a barrel, is "the cheapest in the world," Mr. Barnes told the committee. He added that "every effort had been exhausted to sell it for cash," but that American housewives would pay higher prices for the hard wheat flour.

"Why are the prices of flour going up?" asked Representative Fess, republican, of Ohio.

Housewives Demand Best.

"The last year crop yield was a peculiar one," answered Mr. Barnes. "There was a small yield of the strong wheat and a big yield of the soft wheat. Flour made of the soft wheat could be obtained for domestic use at all times at the exact reflection of the government guaranteed price of wheat."

"The price sure for a different kind of flour by the housewives led the millers to bid up the price and in North Dakota in five months the soft wheat price was increased 60 cents a bushel above the guarantee."

Charges of the Spokane, Wash., grand jury alleging wheat price manipulation by grain corporation agents were mentioned by Mr. Barnes said he had asked the department of justice to make a thorough inquiry. The grand jury report was a statement on economic conditions in the Pacific northwest, Mr. Barnes said, and recommended that "the president use powers that do not exist."

He added that the department had not bought wheat or flour at more than the guarantee price.

Max H. Houser "Honest Man."

Max H. Houser, vice-president of the corporation and in charge of its work in the Pacific northwest, named in the Spokane report as interested financially in several grain companies, was declared by Mr. Barnes to be "an honest man." Houser, he said, had dissociated himself voluntarily from the companies in which he was interested, as far as possible, but "could not withdraw his capital investment from the companies." Being thus unable to withdraw completely from these concerns, Mr. Barnes said, Houser kept out of their conduct and gave all earnings above 6 per cent on his investment to charity. This was "a fine exhibition," Mr. Barnes declared.

In connection with the flour stocks of the grain corporation, Mr. Barnes said that the advertising campaign to promote domestic sale of the soft wheat product had "failed," and that the stocks are "blocking" many American ports. With warmer weather it will deteriorate rapidly, he added.

The \$50,000,000 appropriation for food relief, he continued, "would not put us in the market for a single barrel of flour," and the entire fund would be used for sale of the product. Legislation in such a form would encourage other countries to contribute to the relief fund, he said. Failing the appropriating measure, Mr. Barnes asked congressional endorsement of sales on credit, adding that "he might have to act without such sanction."

Europe's Needs Great.

Holland and Austria each need 200,000 tons of flour, Mr. Barnes said he had been advised. Other countries, including Armenia, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, need more than 75,000 tons, he said.

EX-SERVICE MEN AIDED

American Legion War Risk Office Adjusts Claims of Many Kinds.

Ex-service men, who have any claims against the government relative to allotments, liberty bonds, lost discharge papers, travel pay or any similar complaints, will receive the aid of the American Legion through the state war risk office of that organization.

The office is also handling hundreds of reinstatement of government war risk insurance for ex-service men. All ex-service men who have allowed their insurance to lapse can have it reinstated through the payment of two monthly premiums at any time before July 1, this year, or within 18 months from the time they were discharged from the service.

"NEVER AGAIN," SAYS LITTLE FILM STAR

MARY PICKFORD WILL DE-VOTE LIFE TO PICTURES.

"I Wanted to Be Free," Declares Actress, and Describes ex-Husband as "Charming, Genial."

LOS ANGELES, March 5.—Mary Pickford will never marry again, but will devote the remainder of her life to motion pictures, according to an interview she gave at her home here tonight to the Los Angeles Times.

This was the first statement she made to the press since her divorce Tuesday at Minden, Nev., from Owen Moore.

Miss Pickford said: "I sought a divorce because I wanted to be free. Mr. Moore is a charming man, and most genial—but there are many instances where even two genial persons cannot agree. I went to Minden three weeks ago with mother. I had not planned to get a divorce at that time. I was nervous and unable to work at the studio and wanted a rest. I was informed that Mr. Moore was not so far away, waiting on location."

"Then I determined it was the opportune time. I had no knowledge beforehand that Mr. Moore would not contest the case, so I immediately employed a lawyer and filed my complaint."

Miss Pickford said she intended to continue her motion picture career.

"Some people think my divorce was obtained to permit me to marry again," she continued. "This is not so. I merely wanted to be free. Mr. Moore and I have been separated for three years and I have wanted a divorce for many years."

FORCE TO TURKEY, REPORT

English and French Papers Say Allies Will Occupy Constantinople.

LONDON, March 6.—The Daily Telegraph today makes a feature of a report that the allies have decided on the military and naval occupation of Constantinople in consequence of the treatment of the Armenians by the Turks.

The newspaper's version of the report represents Great Britain as determined to occupy the Turkish capital and says she has invited France and Italy to co-operate and that their replies are awaited.

PARIS, March 6.—On proposals by Premier Venizelos of Greece the supreme allied council has decided upon energetic action at Constantinople, backed by military measures, says Pertinax, political editor of the Echo de Paris. He says orders appear already to have been given to British military and naval forces in the vicinity of the Turkish capital.

1 KILLED IN FOOD RIOT

Arrests for Profiteering Lead Mob Into Conflict.

LONDON, March 5.—Serious riots at Munich and Straubing, 75 miles northeast of Munich, arising from demands for complete freedom in the distribution of foodstuffs, are reported in a Central News dispatch from Berlin.

Arrests by the profiteering court led the mob into conflict with troops. One person was killed and many injured.

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HANDS OF HEALER LAID ON THROUGS

'Wonderful,' Tribute Paid to Mr. Hickson.

LITTLE CHURCH IS CROWDED

Halt, Lame and Blind, Without Charge, Treated.

NO MIRACLES PERFORMED

Men and Women, Young and Old, Rich and Poor, Freely Testify to Benefits Received.

They brought the lame, the halt, the blind, sufferers from all of earth's ills—multitudes of them—to Grace Memorial Episcopal church, West Seventeenth and Welder streets, yesterday and, with faith, laid them at the feet of James Moore Hickson for healing by the laying on of hands.

They brought men and women of all grades of society, rich and poor, aged and young, babes in arms and tottering children, afflicted with practically every ailment known to mankind, and besought him, who says he is only an instrument in God's hands, to heal them.

From every direction, as early as 7 o'clock yesterday morning—three hours before his ministrations were scheduled to begin—men, women and children began arriving at the church in all sorts of conveyances and in all stages of physical distress. Soon the little church was surrounded by the eager multitude, awaiting the arrival of him who, they prayed, would lay the healing hand upon them and—yet they dare hope—relieve their pain or effect a cure of their infirmities.

Prayer for Others Urged.

After what must have seemed to the sufferers and their dear ones as an interminable time, he lay on his hands in the name of God and Jesus of Nazareth for the curing of bodily ills, as well as the quickening of the spirit and the mind, appeared and, in simple manner, gave assurance from the steps of the church that he would afford all their turns, and asked them to have patience and, meanwhile, devote themselves to prayer—preferably for others than themselves.

Then he walked back into the church and, mounting to the chancel, took his seat. Here, Oswald W. Taylor, pastor of Grace Memorial, and the man to whom most of the credit is due for the presence of Mr. Hickson, spoke briefly, introducing the man upon whom all eyes were centered. Hymns of faith were sung and then the healing powers of God were explained.

"God is ever ready to heal the body and is not waiting until you rise to his level," said Mr. Hickson. "Look up to him in faith, believing, and you shall be healed. It was the wish of the Master, who himself said about this earth doing good, that the church should transmit his power to the sick and afflicted. For the first 400 years this mission was fulfilled, after which it was lost; but it has been re-established and today it is your privilege to be blessed physically."

"But, while it is God's will to heal the body and he is always on your side, it is not alone the physical side of life which I call your earnest, prayerful attention today. The spiritual life is all important and, while you wait here for the healing touch of body, let your faith look up to God and, as much as possible, forget your healer in the prayer that he will heal others."

"I want to make it perfectly clear that I lay no claim whatever to having any power within myself to do this work—it is only through the grace of God that I am doing this. I give the healing current and I transmit it for him, even as an electric bulb is but the agency through which a powerful light may shine."

Mr. Hickson also emphasized the policy of the church in thanking God for the other works of healing that are being accomplished daily by physicians and surgeons, who, he said, are doing a great good in relieving human suffering, through remedies and means given by the Almighty.

The main auditorium of the church was filled to the utmost with afflicted people and those who attended them, while outside the crowd surged against the cordon of police, commanded by Sergeant Brothers, eager to press their way within.

Worst Cases Taken First.

"I will take the worst cases first—and the children," announced Mr. Hickson. "You will be glad to see the children."

And he descended from the chancel, followed by the clergy, in robes of black and white. Stopping beside an old man sitting in a wheel chair, the healer laid hands on his head and uttered a prayer; a pastor administered a saint