

BRITAIN TO BLAME FOR TERROR REIGN THROUGH IRELAND

AMERICAN COMMISSION CRITICIZES BRITISH VIOLENCE AND IRISH ASSOCIATIONS.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The people of Ireland are "at the mercy of imperial British forces which are acting contrary to all law and all standards of human conduct," the American commission on conditions in Ireland declared in its report, made public today.

The report, including much of the testimony elicited at hearings here last winter, criticized the British policy of force. The Irish were criticized for what the committee called "assassinations," but which the Irish witnesses termed "executions."

The difficulties in Ireland, it was declared, are summed up in the fact that the British have sent troops to occupy the island. The Irish, resenting occupation, were said to have instituted ambushes to obtain arms and to have "executed" British officers, which in turn provoked reprisals.

The commission, an offshoot of the "Committee of 100," called into being by the publication "The Nation," consisted of L. Hollingsworth Wood, a New York lawyer; Frederic C. Howe, former commissioner of immigration in New York; Jane Adams, social worker and head of Hull House in Chicago; James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania state federation of labor; Major Oliver P. Newman, former president of the board of commissioners of Washington, D. C.; Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska; Rev. Norman Thomas, Presbyterian minister and editor of "The World Tomorrow," and Senator David I. Walsh, Massachusetts.

It heard many witnesses. It admits that most of these were pro-Irish, but states it endeavored to obtain the British view from responsible officials. It desired to visit Ireland for a first hand view of affairs, but did not press the project when the British embassy here refused to issue passports.

The commission's conclusions were presented as follows:

"We find that the Irish people are deprived of the protection of British law, to which they would be entitled as subjects of the British King. They are likewise deprived of the moral protection granted by international law, to which they would be entitled as belligerents. They are at the mercy of the Imperial British forces which, acting contrary both to all law and all standards of human conduct, have instituted in Ireland a 'terror' the evidence regarding which seems to prove that:

"1. The Imperial British government has created and introduced into Ireland a force of at least 78,000 men, many of them youthful and inexperienced, and some of them convicts; and has incited that force to unbridled violence.

"2. The Imperial British forces in Ireland have indiscriminately killed innocent men, women and children; have desecrated graves; assassinated persons suspected of being republicans; have tortured and shot prisoners while in custody, adopting the subtleties of 'refusal to halt' and 'attempting to escape'; and have attributed, to alleged 'Sinn Fein extremists' the Irish Republicans.

"3. House-breaking and wanton destruction of villages and cities by Imperial British officers have been countenanced, and ordered by officials of the British government; an elaborate provision by gasoline sprays and bombs has been made in a number of instances for systematic incendiarism as part of a plan of terrorism.

"4. A campaign for the destruction of the means of existence of the Irish people has been conducted by the burning of factories, creameries, crops and farm implements and the shooting of farm animals. This campaign is carried on regardless of political views of their owners, and results in widespread and acute suffering among women and children.

"5. Acting under a series of proclamations issued by the competent military authorities of the Imperial British forces, hostages are carried by forces exposed to the fire of the Republican army; fines are levied upon towns and villages as punishment for alleged offenses of individuals; private property is destroyed in reprisals for acts with which the owners have no connection; and the civilian population is subjected to a constant inquisition upon the theory that individuals are in possession of information valuable to the

military forces of Great Britain. These acts of the Imperial British forces are contrary to the laws of peace or war among modern civilized nations.

"6. This 'terror' has failed to re-establish Imperial British civil government in Ireland. Throughout the greater part of Ireland British courts have ceased to function; local, county and city governments refuse to recognize British authority; and British civil officials fulfill no function of service to the Irish people.

"7. In spite of the British 'terror' the majority of the Irish people sanction by ballot the Irish republic; give their allegiance to it; pay taxes to it; and respect the decisions of its court and of its civil officials."

The commission, criticizing the assassination of British soldiers and officers said the procedure was to be deplored. "If the purpose of assassination was to safeguard the people," it said, "it has failed; the British terror was not arrested by it but has continued in spite of it and has progressively intensified."

"If we accept the claim of Great Britain that it is in control of affairs in Ireland, we cannot escape the conclusion that the British government must accept responsibility for the deplorable conditions that have followed upon its attempts to maintain its authority," the report said.

The commission declared that it would appear the natural psychological condition of soldiers engaged in dangerous work was heightened by the government's propaganda. The commission accepted the charges of Irish witnesses that the crown forces often were drunk and states that "the temptation to quell fear in drink would appear to be officially placed before the British troops by the barracks canteens." Attention was called to evidence also that many of the soldiers and police were irresponsible youths and that convicts were on the rolls.

"It would appear that in such a force discipline is necessarily lax," the report said.

"The evidence would seem to show," it said in another paragraph, "that the term 'reprisal' may be used to cover any case in which wholesale damage is inflicted upon property or life in Ireland."

"The official use of the term 'reprisal,' it is said, 'would seem to us the stereotyped ruse de guerre, intended to lead the British and other people into condoning an aggravation of the imperial British terrorism in Ireland.'

"Sinn Fein extremists," the commission said of another phase of the struggle, "would seem to be a term used exclusively by the British. The term is sometimes used by them to condone murderers and incendiaries engaged in the destruction of the lives and property of Irish republicans. We would deprecate the use of the term by responsible ministers of the Imperial British government."

"It would appear," it was stated, "that the Imperial British forces, in organized bodies, on certain occasions, testified to before us, have engaged in indiscriminate shooting of the non-combatant Irish people in their homes at night."

The commission derived the allegation that British reprisalists could not be punished, "because they could not be identified."

The question of provocation can not enter into the destruction of property as it might in killings, the commission stated.

"It is difficult to characterize the doctrine of 'reprisal' in any other manner save as a relic of barbarism," the report said in a section devoted to evidence regarding the burnings of towns, a practice condemned whether Ireland is considered at war or not.

"It is worthy of note," it continued, "that while the primary motive for the destruction of lives and towns seems to be to strike terror into the hearts of the civilian population, this motive is mixed with another—to destroy the principal industries, presumably to reduce to destruction and starvation the working classes that are mainly republican in sympathies."

"It would seem," concluded a section of testimony regarding the presence of soldiers at wakes and funerals, "that the Imperial British forces have organized a terror to harass the citizenry even unto death and beyond."

A section of the report was devoted to "the policy of assassination." It stated that the assassination of members of the British forces began in 1919, has continued and still continues, evidently being the work of "a nation wide organization with a very perfect secret service and with disciplined men to execute its orders. . . . Under these circumstances it would appear that the Imperial authorities are not free from responsibility for the failure to take proper precautions."

The policy is regrettable, it was

stated, besides being "an unreliable method of removing specific criminals." The policy is "earnestly deprecated."

Much of the report is given to actual testimony before the commission.

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13 NEGROES

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tions and will order the trial to proceed Tuesday.

Williams is not only accused of the murder of the three negroes whose bodies were found in Newton county, but eight others.

In a confession made by Clyde Manning, negro boss of Williams' alleged "death farm," the negro admitted killing nine negro workmen on Williams' place, at Williams' orders, another negro, who himself was afterwards put to death, killed another on Williams' orders, and that Williams himself killed one negro.

Manning also declared that the big Williams' plantation was worked by negroes kept in a state of servitude.

At a special session of the Jasper county grand jury, which has been called for April 11, it is expected that Williams, his three sons, and Manning will be indicted for all eleven murders.

ELKS OF PORTLAND OUT AFTER 1924 CONVENTION

By United Press
PORTLAND, April 1.—Ben L. Norden, exalted ruler of Portland lodge of Elks, today announced the launching of an energetic campaign to bring the grand lodge session of 1924 to Portland. It is hoped to win the convention and bring 100,000 members of the order to this city.

MULTNOMAH ATHLETES ANNEX MEET HONORS

By United Press
PORTLAND, April 1.—Multnomah Amateur Athletic club athletes carried off a majority of the honors in the boxing and wrestling championships of the Pacific Northwest Amateur association held here last night.

The Multnomah wrestlers made a clean sweep of every event in wrestling, and won five out of eight in boxing.

The meet was held under the auspices of the Armory Athletic club of this city, and was participated in by more than 80 amateur athletes.

WIFE CARVES HUSBAND WITH PROFFERED KNIFE

By United Press
SEATTLE, April 1.—Bertha Sprague followed her husband's advice when he handed her a big butcher knife during a quarrel and sarcastically told her to "use it instead of harsh words," on him. As a result he is in a precarious condition today, with severe slashes in his back.

Brown's Dufur Stage Time Table
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BISHOP, CAL.—"About five years ago I suffered severely. I consulted a local doctor and he said I would have to undergo an operation. I then tried Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. I took one bottle—also one bottle of the 'Golden Medical Discovery,' and used the 'Lotion Tablets,' and I have not been troubled since.—Mrs. L. G. ALAMANT, 2, F. D. No. 1.

SERVICE DRUG STORE TO OPEN SATURDAY

Under the management of Don Yantis, the Service drug store, operated by A. E. Crosby and Mr. Yantis, will open for business at 106 East Second street Saturday morning. A general drug line will be carried, also a complete stock of kodaks and film supplies, phonographs and records—in short such a stock as makes up the goods of any first class pharmacy. Yantis, who has been identified with the drug store business in this city for the last nine years, promises to make service the keynote of his establishment.

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CARDINAL GIBBONS RESTS IN CATHOLICISM CENTER

By United Press
BALTIMORE, Md., April 1.—James Cardinal Gibbons rests in the crypt under the high altar of the cathedral where he made the center of Catholicism in America. He was laid there with a simple, quiet ceremony between four and five o'clock Thursday afternoon by a few of his devoted friends, the higher dignitaries of the church in America. This was the anticlimax of the solemnly beautiful ceremonies which had progressed through the day during the singing of the Pontifical high mass of requiem.

Earlier in the day, in the presence of two cardinals, Begin, of Quebec, and O'Connell of Boston, 10 archbishops, 50 bishops and hundreds of priests and members of religious orders, Archbishop Bonzano, the papal delegate, sang the Pontifical mass. The cathedral was jammed with the

greatest assemblage of church dignitaries and representatives of kings and presidents ever assembled in America to do honor to an unofficial celebrity. The representative of Great Britain was there; France, Belgium and Poland and the South American nations were officially represented in the congregation. Postmaster General Will Hays represented President Harding, Governor Ritchie represented the state of Maryland and Governor Cox, Ohio. So great was the outpouring of plain people that they more than filled the church. They poured down over the steps and stood in their thousands three hours in a grizzling rain, praying.

Some parts of the mass were sung by a chorus of seminarians. Archbishop Glennon of St. Louis delivered the eulogy, declaring that Cardinal Gibbons, the late Pope Leo XIII and the late Cardinal Manning of England had formed a great ecclesiastical triumvirate for the good of the world.

Closing the mass, final absolutions were chanted by five bishops and the throng, all except the church notables, filed out while the actual interment of the cardinal took place.

Already there is discussion as to the successor to Cardinal Gibbons. Farsighted prelates are stipulating that the archdiocese of Baltimore should have a man capable of maintaining the high standard set by the late cardinal and therefore it is not believed that there will be any haste in making the selection.

STEAMSHIP GOVERNOR

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from the Governor and West Hartland immediately, and the transfer of passengers from the doomed ship was begun, the government cutters and launches aiding materially.

One of the few passengers on the deck at the time of the collision was Miss Jessie Fox of Seattle.

In describing the ramming of the Governor, she said:

"It was a little after midnight and

I was out on deck for a last breath of air before turning in. The light of Point Wilson off the starboard bow was plainly discernible.

"The crash came unexpectedly. I had not noticed the approach of the West Hartland and the jar almost shook me from my feet. Instantly the news flashed over the vessel and passengers scantily clad poured up the hatchways and deck doors. The officers acted coolly and quickly and undoubtedly prevented a panic."

PORT ANGELES, April 1.—The Governor was struck on her starboard side, amidships. A gash was torn The boilers exploded as she went down. The wreck lies in 40 fathoms of water.

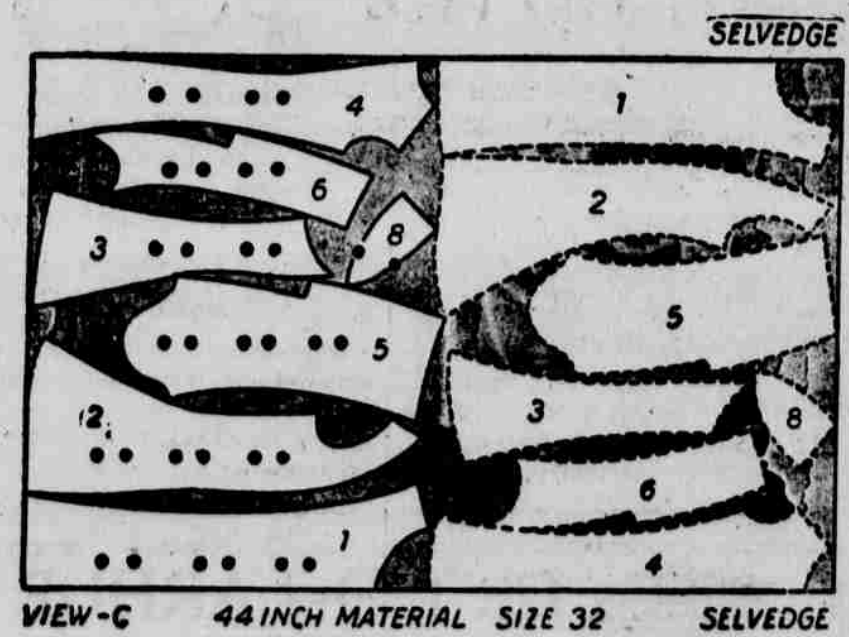
SEATTLE, April 1.—The steamer West Hartland, with the survivors of the Governor disaster, docked here at 10 o'clock this morning. A careful check shows the following persons as missing: Mrs. W. N. Washburn, her daughters, Sadie and Olene; H. Webster, a waiter; Grant Christensen, assistant engineer, C. M. Aubritton, a seaman; J. Clancy, seaman; A. Sheek, of San Francisco; V. Brocona and Alfred Kaseau of Los Angeles. This list is official, according to the Pacific Steamship company.

PORTLAND, April 1.—That Captain Bartlett lost the ship on his first trip, is the statement of shipping board men and port officials here. Bartlett was formerly port captain at Portland and is well known here. He is said to have substituted for Captain H. C. Thomas on the last ill-fated trip of the Governor.

Captain Thomas had commanded the ship for many years, representatives of the Pacific Steamship company said.

The freighter West Hartland is registered from this port. She was due to leave Vancouver, B. C., for Bombay last night. The West Hartland is a steamer of 8,800 tons, and was built by the Columbia River Ship Building company of Portland.

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