

HARDING SEEKS DISCUSSION OF DISARMAMENT

PRESIDENT SAID TO HAVE ASKED CONSIDERATION BY SUPREME ALLIED COUNCIL.

BORAH BILL FEARED

BELIEVED RESOLUTION WILL TIE HANDS OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, May 31.—Informal feelers looking toward disarmament discussion between world powers, have been put out at the instance of President Harding, it was learned here today.

This action, it is understood, was taken before the senate had passed the Borah disarmament resolution calling for a conference.

Details of the plan were not divulged, but it is believed that President Harding has suggested informally to the great powers that the question can be considered before the supreme allied council.

He believes that this method will be more satisfactory than similar discussion at a special conference.

The president still believes that Borah's resolution will unduly tie the hands of the nation's executive. Information obtained here indicates that George Harvey's London speech was the first step in carrying out the plan of the armament subject being broached abroad.

FOUR SAFE BLOWERS CAUGHT BY ONE COP

By United Press
CHICAGO, May 31.—Police Sergeant John Ryan early today captured four armed safe blowers loitering. The four were engaged in cracking the safe of the Chicago Typographical union when Ryan surprised them.

PERSHING MAKES SECRET TRIP TO PARENTS' GRAVES

By James L. Kilgallen
(United News Staff Correspondent)
CHICAGO, May 31.—General John Pershing, dressed in civilian clothes, slipped into Chicago Memorial Day on a visit he hoped would be as secret as it was sacred.

He came to decorate the graves of his mother and father.

The former commander of the A. E. F. stepped off the train at Englewood. He wore a dark suit and a straw hat. He was accompanied by his brother, James F. Pershing, who bears a strong resemblance to the general. They were met at the depot by C. L. Frame, a relative by marriage. General Pershing went at once to Oakwood cemetery.

Few of the thousands of people he passed in the street and cemetery, many of them ex-soldiers in uniform recognized the famous visitor.

At the cemetery the general asked reporters who had met him at the depot to remain at a distance while he went to the family plot. He walked from his car to a simple granite monument bearing the name, "Pershing." Below were three similar stones, engraved with the names of John Fletcher Pershing, the general's father; Elizabeth Pershing, his mother; and Ward B. Pershing, a brother who was a captain in the United States army.

The general knelt with bared head at the side of the graves. He placed a wreath of flowers in honor of those he loved. After a brief prayer he arose and returned to his machine. No shrine of all those honored Memorial Day received a more simple or a more sincere offering.

"I had hoped to keep this visit a secret," he said. "It is a very sacred service to me."

An hour later General Pershing left for Princeton, Ill., to decorate the graves of a sister and another brother.

AGED RANCHER DIES IN BLAZING BRUSH

75 YEAR OLD MAN TRAPPED IN FIRE ON FARM.

By United Press
OREGON CITY, Or., May 31.—John E. Warner, rancher, age 75, was burned to death near Wilcox Springs last night when he fell into a brush fire which he had just started on his farm.

Warner is believed to have caught his foot in some branches when he fell, and to have been unable to extricate himself. He was alone at the time.

BIG ROAD BOND ISSUE IS INDORSED BY SAM HILL

ANONYMOUS OPPOSITION NOW DEVELOPING, TO BE EXPECTED, HE SAYS.

"Wasco county has a wonderful opportunity at hand, when it is offered a chance to secure state aid in building The Dalles-California highway. For such a highway, when completed, will be of inestimable value to the county. You people here simply can't afford to pass it up."

So declared Samuel Hill, original exponent of the good roads movement in the northwest, when in The Dalles yesterday. Hill has just returned from a six-months' tour of Europe, where he secured much first hand information about good roads, as the Europeans build them.

Referring to certain anonymous opposition to the bond issue which has developed in the county during the last several weeks, Hill explained that it has been the history of all good roads movements that he has even taken part in, that a certain amount of this type of opposition could be expected.

After spending several days at his Maryhill home, the millionaire road builder left yesterday for Seattle.

WEEKS ORDERS QUIZ OF AVIATION TRAGEDY

By United Press
WASHINGTON, May 31.—Secretary of War Weeks today ordered an investigation by army inspectors into the fall of the converted hospital airship Saturday, which resulted in the death of seven persons.

TENNESSEE YOUNGSTERS IN PORTLAND TO FIND MOTHER

By United Press
PORTLAND, May 31.—Three little stragglers from Tennessee reached Portland Monday and are wondering where mother is. Mother was not at the station, and Annie Robinson, aged nine, her little brother, Clarence, six, and Wanda, five, are wondering what will become of them.

The father placed the children on the train with no money and little food, with day coach tickets. The food disappeared west of Chicago, when passengers took pity on the children and a dining car feast filled their famished stomachs. A free berth made sleeping better than a day coach.

Father and mother have separated, and father sent the children to join mother. The oldest boy was tagged for destination.

The police are trying to locate mother.

MEMO BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS

OREGON SAID TO BE SATISFIED WITH AMERICAN NOTE.

By A. L. Bradford,
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
WASHINGTON, May 31.—President Obregon of Mexico will accept the American memorandum on the question of recognition as a "basis for negotiations." It was declared here today by advisers of the Mexican president.

The exchanges which now are expected to follow between the two governments will soon develop an understanding that will prompt the United States to recognize the Obregon government, it was also believed in these quarters.

The next move by Mexico, it is thought, will be a reply from President Obregon to the communication or memorandum from Secretary Hughes which was presented by George T. Summerlin, charge of the American embassy in Mexico City. Observers here think that if this is satisfactory, American recognition may be extended forthwith.

REDS GREET SYLVIA ON HER RELEASE FROM PRISON

By United News
LONDON, May 31.—A shouting swarm of radicals, waving red flags, greeted Sylvia Pankhurst, the irrepressible agitator, yesterday morning, when she was released from Holloway jail, where she had been confined for four months on a charge of sedition.

From the jail, Sylvia was rushed to a "reception" and breakfast. She complained that she had not been permitted the use of writing materials and literature in prison and announced that she planned to write a book on the Russian government.

"From what I have seen of Russia," she said, "I am confident that their prison system is better there than in England."

BALKANS FLAME WITH RENEWED THREAT OF WAR

IRREGULARS IMBUED WITH NATIONALISTIC MOTIVES SWEEPING DOWN.

MAY INVOLVE EUROPE

GREEKS SEEK MORE LAND TO SUSTAIN CONSTANTINE'S PRESTIGE.

By Henry Wood
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
ROME, May 31.—Sweeping down from the highlands of Macedonia and Albania, great bands of irregular soldiers today are threatening to start another Balkan war which may involve all of Europe.

The fighters—almost bandits in their mode of warfare, but driven by strong nationalistic feeling—entered foreign countries, pillage and arson marked their trail. The governments thus taunted immediately planned to raise forces to combat them.

The old Balkan troubles were involved in the fighting. Greece wants more land to the north; Bulgaria wants to reclaim some of the territory lost in the war, and Serbia wants to retain her newly won lands.

Latest advices received here showed the situation especially critical in Macedonia and Albania, whose problems were not solved by the treaties of St. Germain and Sevres.

Reports showed that large bands of comitajis (irregulars) have been recruited throughout the Balkans, almost every portion of the war-torn region having contributed its share of fighting men. The governments back of them either are arming to protect their legitimate interests or are preparing to back the comitajis from their own country in an effort to extend their boundaries.

Officials here feared that before the allied supreme council or the league of nations can intervene, the comitajis will clash with regular military forces and start the conflict which may embroil not only the Balkans, but spread through the European countries.

The danger in Albania is due to the fact that the Greeks have occupied strategic points commanding the two most important Albanian cities, Koritza and Argirocastro, while the Serbians are holding the river Drina in northeastern Albania. The Albanians, although intending no offensive themselves, are mobilizing to prevent further occupation.

The most serious phase of the situation is believed to be that resulting from the Greeks' initiative. They claim Koritza and Argirocastro because of alleged allied promises to former Premier Venizelos for Greece's service to the entente. Because of the reverses they have suffered in their offensive against the Turks in Asia Minor, the Greeks are extremely anxious to annex the two cities and thus re-establish King Constantine's prestige. The Albanians are determined to resist this effort.

In northeastern Albania the Serbian comitajis continue to raid towards long coveted Scutari. There is a similarly critical situation in Serbian Macedonia, where Bulgarian comitajis have been encroaching on both Serbian and Greek territory. They are likely to clash at any time with the regular frontier guards, provoking an open war.

HONORS PAID TO LATE CHIEF JUSTICE

SUPREME COURT ADJOURNS IN RESPECT TO WHITE.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, May 31.—The supreme court, meeting for the first time since the death of Chief Justice White, adjourned until tomorrow out of respect for his memory. White's chair, in the middle of the bench, was draped in black, as was his golden eagle just above his seat.

UNION DAY CELEBRATION

By United Press
CAPETOWN, May 31.—The 11th anniversary of the granting of self-government to South Africa, including the former Boer republics of the Transvaal and Orange Free State, is being celebrated throughout South Africa today. Prince Arthur of Connaught, governor general and the Premier General Jan C. Smuts, held official receptions, and at the big centres military parades were held. The day is observed as a national holiday.

COLUMBIA RIVER DECLINES FOOT IN 24 HOURS

The Columbia river has gone down exactly a foot in the 24 hours ending at 8 o'clock this morning, according to the official reading at that hour for the government. The river's stage at 8 o'clock was 37.8 feet, as compared with 38.8 feet Monday morning. The river was still receding slowly at noon, but this does not indicate that the freshet is over. Cooler weather on the head waters of both the Snake and Columbia is said to have caused the fall now being recorded all along the courses of both streams.

DEATH PENALTY SOUGHT FOR BOY

TRIAL OF 11-YEAR-OLD ACCUSED OF MURDER, BEGINS.

KNOX, Ind., May 31.—The state today demanded the death of a 11-year-old boy, when the trial of Cecil Burkett, charged with murder of Benny Silvan, his seven-year-old playmate, was started.

Prosecutor James A. Dilts charges that the crime was done in cold blood, and will demand the death penalty.

Cecil and Benny were playing in the Burkett back yard Thanksgiving day, when Benny was shot and killed. The state said that the shooting was the result of a quarrel. Cecil said that it was accidental.

Citizens of Orm, where the shooting occurred, have rallied to Cecil's defense and raised \$10,000 bail on which he was released.

IDAHO MAN WINS N. W. ORATORY CONTEST

By United Press
MOSCOW, Idaho, May 31.—Ralph R. Brashers of Caldwell, a senior in the college of law at the University of Idaho, was today announced winner of the northwest oratorical contest upon formal receipt of the decision of the O. A. C. judge who cast the decisive vote.

McKinney of Washington was second. State universities of Idaho, Oregon and Washington participated in the contest.

BUILDING REVIVAL IS BEING NOTED

NEW CONTRACTS MAY CHANGE SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION.

By Robert J. Bender
(United News Staff Correspondent)
WASHINGTON, May 31.—Revival of nation-wide building activities probable increases in railroad employment and the prospects of a tremendous demand for farm hands during the coming months, constitute harbingers of hope in the serious unemployment situation now confronting this country.

It is estimated by leading economists that nearly 4,000,000 unemployed now stand as one of the gravest consequences of the general economic depression afflicting the nations. President Samuel Gompers believes that the figure more nearly approaches 5,000,000. In all events, unemployment increased rather than decreased during the last month and nearly a half million men are idle in the state of New York alone. Losses in industries such as steel, shipbuilding and lumber more than offset minor gains in employment in the automobile and textile industries.

This situation has further restrained buying and has retarded business revival generally. In addition, economists estimate strikes and lockouts are costing workers in the country at present over \$80,000,000 daily in lost wages and employers five times as much.

But there are signs that these conditions will not long be continued in their present state. A most encouraging factor is seen in the increasing building activity throughout the country.

April and May reports show building contracts greater than at any time in the last year. Contracts awarded in New England states last month totalled nearly \$18,000,000, an increase of approximately 33 percent over those for the month previous. New York and northern New Jersey construction contracts for April totalled over \$50,000,000, an increase of over 70 percent as compared with the month previous.

Twenty-five northeastern states recorded contracts for this year in excess of those in any month of April in their history except April of last year. Middle Atlantic states, with April building contracts totalling nearly \$20,000,000, also showed gains

INSURGENTS IN SILESIA MAY BE IN REVOLT

TERRIFIC FIGHTING REPORTED WITHIN LINES OF INVADERS.

BRITISH TAKE CHARGE

ITALIANS BITTER AGAINST FRENCH; BRITISH FRATERNIZE WITH GERMANS.

By Carl D. Grant,
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
OPPELN, Upper Silesia, May 31.—Polish insurgents at Cosel have continued, according to Italian officers here today.

There was terrific fighting in the town last night. Italians on guard said it was entirely within the Polish lines.

The allied detachments believed it was an indication that the Polish movement is breaking up in the face of stiff German opposition and the threat of harsh action by the allies.

"There has been trouble beyond the bridge," an Italian officer told me.

"There's a saloon down there where the Poles fill up on schnapps. They get terribly drunk. All this shooting is a sign that the insurgents are not under control."

The Italians were overjoyed at the arrival of a battalion of British yesterday—a portion of the famous Black Watch, which was given an ovation as it tramped into Oppeln with kilts swinging and bagpipes squealing.

"It's high time something happened," the Italians said. We have accounts to settle with those damned Poles. We'll join any offensive against them in a minute."

I encountered General Von Hoefler, commander of the German volunteers at Cosel. He, too, believed the Polish forces were disintegrating.

"We have been trying to run this affair in cooperation with the allies," he said. "The groups under my command were formed because we were without defense. General Lerond (French) promised us safety, but we didn't get it."

General Von Hoefler lost an arm during the war. He appears to be sixty, but is well set up and is as active as a boy.

"I hope we won't be disbanded now," he said, "but I tell you frankly we don't want to carry arms any longer than we have to."

Like American kids capering behind a circus parade, the bare-legged Silesian boys, clinging to the hands of the Tommies or following in open-mouthed wonder, the tall musician who banged the bass drum with two sticks which swung over and around the instrument but never missed a thump.

The Britishers appeared to believe they will see action against the Poles soon, and they fraternized openly with the Germans and the Italians. It was noticeable that they had little to do with the French.

"We know you will rid us of the Poles," laughed women who went to the temporary barracks, their arms loaded with table delicacies.

DOUG DENIES THAT STORK HOVERS OVER MARY

By United Press
LOS ANGELES, May 31.—"The only bird I have been hovering around here is an ostrich somebody gave me last Christmas, and that is for sale cheap," declared Douglas Fairbanks today, in denying the report that his wife, Mary Pickford Fairbanks, is preparing for the stork's visit.

"There is absolutely no truth in the report. If such a wonderful thing were to come to pass, there would be no reason to deny it."

PROTEST AMERICAN AID TO DE VALERA

IRISH "PRESIDENT" SAID TO HAVE ASKED FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

By United Press
LONDON, May 31.—The British government is supposed to have protested informally against American aid to the Sinn Feiners' "president." De Valera has cabled an appeal for further aid from "United States friends."

"Our enemies threaten increased frightfulness," said the message. "They are hoping to crush us. With your aid we shall defy them. Liberty shall not perish here."

HIGHWAY IS PARTIALLY CLOSED BECAUSE OF PAVING

HOOD RIVER TO MOSIER, CLOSED DURING WORKING HOURS; DETOURS NAMED.

Travel between Mosier and Hood River over the Columbia River highway is now regulated according to working hours, owing to the laying of "hot stuff" on the grade immediately east of Hood River, the local state highway office announced this morning.

Travel will be permitted between the hours of 12:30 and 1:30 p. m. and after work ceases at 6 o'clock in the evening until 8 o'clock the next morning. Persons with plenty of endurance may get through by taking the old road out of Mosier past Hage's cider factory and over the old Mosier grade.

After getting over the grade, the preserving automobilist's troubles are not over, however, for he must then make a detour to the left through Hood River valley to Odell and back by way of Tacker's bridge through the west side to the highway at Hood River. This detour is 12 miles long. Another detour which had been arranged, by way of the Standard Oil company's plant near Hood River, has been blocked by the high water.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES AWAIT WAGE CUTS

By United News
CHICAGO, May 31.—Two million rail employees are waiting today for the decision of the United States railroad labor board, which is expected to take \$400,000,000 yearly from their pay envelopes. The board announced that the decision would be made public tonight.

J. HAM LEWIS, IN JINGO SPEECH, PREDICTS WAR

By United News
CHICAGO, May 31.—Japan and the United States will be embroiled in war within a generation, J. Hamilton Lewis, former United States senator, predicted Monday in a memorial address. He declared war was "inevitable" and made a plea for preparation and protection against European intrigue.

"Not one country today is the friend of the United States," he said. "Japan is just coming into full consciousness of her power. Asia will demand that France, Italy, England and Belgium force the United States to grant privileges to Japanese in the United States. These countries, our allies in the war, dare not decline this request of Japan because of their commercial entanglements in Asia."

"This will leave the United States to stand alone."

FLOOD MENACES 180,000 ACRES

WOODLAND DIKE CARRIED OUT BY RISING WATERS.

By United Press
KALAMA, Wash., May 31.—More than 180,000 acres of farm land, valued at \$2,500,000, and a diking system which cost \$1,000,000 to build, are in danger today as a result of the Columbia river dike in district number five going out last night.

Gangs of men are at work to protect the dike still standing, in an attempt to stem the flow of water into district 11, which is being seriously threatened.

The dike which gave way last night before the swollen Columbia river, cost \$250,000 to construct.

TO DISCUSS BONDS AT TYGH PICNIC

BIG GATHERING IN SOUTHERN WASCO WILL CONSIDER IMPORTANT ISSUE.

The annual picnic of the Wasco County Stock Growers' association Friday, June 3, will this year be made the occasion for a big good roads special election on the \$800,000 bond issue. The picnic will be held all day in the Tygh Valley fair grounds. Ranchers and business men from all parts of the county are expected to be in attendance, with basket lunches for consumption at meal times. The committee in charge of the picnic, K. L. Hauser, J. H. Fitzpatrick and A. A. Bonney, promised "free air, free water, free coffee, good speakers, good music and a good time" to everybody who attends.

MORAL CRIMES SEND THREE TO STATE PRISON

OLD PRINCIPLE OF HUMAN DECEITFULNESS IMPELS SLIGHT LENIENCY FOR DEFENDANTS.

MCATEE CASE CITED

CURTISS AND GILSON GIVEN TWO YEARS AND THREE MONTHS.

Because of an old law on the statute books of Oregon, limiting the sentence possible under conviction for the crime of incest, Roy Curtiss, Louis Gilson and Ed Colby, although convicted of another crime, escaped with considerably lighter prison sentences than would otherwise have been imposed. Circuit Judge Fred W. Wilson informed the defendants this morning.

Curtiss and Gilson, accused by minor girls, were tried and found guilty of an immoral crime in the circuit court last week. Colby, also accused by a local minor girl, entered a plea of guilty.

"This court is faced with a peculiar situation," Judge Wilson said, after receiving assurance from Curtiss that the prisoner had nothing to say for himself before the sentence was passed. "During this same term of court, I was called upon to pass sentence upon W. H. McAttee, convicted by a jury for the crime of incest. I know of no more repulsive crime in the human category than this, but the old law, passed by the state legislature in 1864, definitely fixes the prison sentence for this crime at not more than three years."

"You," addressing Curtiss directly, "have been given a fair trial before a fair jury, and have been convicted. If I were to mete out punishment which I believe would be suitable for the crime of which you are guilty, I would sentence you to five years in prison."

"But this court cannot, and be consistent with its idea of justice, sentence McAttee to only three years in prison and then turn right around and give a much larger sentence to a man, guilty as he may be, who at least did not stoop so low as McAttee did."

"If I had the power to regulate sentences, McAttee would have been given at least 15 years in prison, and I would give Curtiss a sentence of at least five years in prison."

"It is a strange and terrible thing that, at this term of court, three young men have been found guilty of preying upon innocent young girls. And young girls must be protected from just such men, who make it a business to seek these girls out and contribute to their disgrace and ruin."

Curtiss was given a sentence of two years and three months in the state prison, Louis Gilson, also found guilty of the same charge, received the same sentence.

"Colby, you appeared before this court like a man and admitted that you were guilty," declared Judge Wilson, when the defendant stood up for sentence. "You also showed that you wished to pay the penalty for your crime and clear the matter from your conscience. Your manhood in this matter will save you exactly three months in prison. I sentence you to serve two years in the Oregon state prison."

SINN FEINERS HAVE SIX IN ULSTER PARLIAMENT

By United News
RELEASED, May 31.—Full election returns in Ulster gives the Sinn Feiners six, and the Nationalists six.