

TWENTY CHILDREN LOSE LIVES IN BLAZE AND PANIC DESTROYING SCHOOL

BOYS AND GIRLS PERISH IN FIRE BURNING SCHOOL

Fire Sweeps Through Three-Story Brick Parochial School at Peabody, Mass., Burning or Driving to Death in Panic That Follows Alarm Probably Thirty Pupils.

PEABODY, Mass., Oct. 28.—Fire swept through the three-story brick building occupied by the St. John's parochial school today, burning or driving to death in the panic that followed the alarm twenty of the 600 boys and girls who a few minutes before had assembled for their daily lessons.

The students, who ranged in years from 7 to 13, were in charge of sixteen sisters. When the fire broke out they marshaled their charges as for a fire drill and started them from the building. The processions were orderly until those from the third floor joined others pouring from the classrooms on the second floor.

Panic Among Little Ones Suddenly there was a cry of fear from one of the throng. It was taken up by a hundred others, and panic ensued. The sisters made frantic efforts to stop the pushing, struggling mass, but to no avail. The smaller children fell under the feet of those behind them and soon the vestibule was so jammed with living and dead that the firemen could not force an entrance. The sixteen sisters escaped.

The flames, it is supposed, started in the basement, and, according to some, were caused by the explosion of a steam boiler from which the building was heated. There is doubt, however, as to the exact origin of the fire.

A large percentage of the pupils were children of foreign parentage. In the number were many of Irish and Italian descent. The firemen fought the fire from ladders while the police cleared the vestibule.

Burned Beyond Recognition The bodies of the dead generally were burned beyond recognition. Mary Leeds and Marion Hayes were found in the crush, badly burned, but alive, and were removed to a hospital.

The first alarm brought a hundred distracted mothers to the school yard, where soon they were joined by other relatives of the pupils, until the building was surrounded by a great crowd of hysterical men and women who rushed the police lines in a wild effort to reach their children. The police were powerless to stop the rush, but what they failed to do was accomplished presently by the flames, which, shooting from the windows of

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SUBMARINE F-4 TOO BADLY INJURED TO BE REPAIRED

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Submarine F-4, in which twenty-one officers and men of the navy lost their lives last March at Honolulu, will not be repaired. Navy officials said today the vessel's injuries were so extensive that it was not considered practical to repair and refit the boat.

The other three boats of the F class will be towed to San Francisco for refitting and have already been taken out of commission until this is done. Congress will be asked this winter to provide for new engines and batteries for the boats, as the present equipment is unsatisfactory.

The report of the board of officers which examined the F-4 has been sent to all submarine commanders in the navy in order that they may be warned to watch for signs of conditions such as those which resulted in the loss of the F-4.

GERARD'S VISIT TO KAISER CAUSE OF PEACE TALK

American Ambassador Confers With Emperor—No Authorization of Conference or Report Received by Lansing—Rumored Monarch Took Advantage of Visit.

LONDON, Oct. 28.—An emphatic denial that Great Britain was engaged in any peace negotiations, direct or indirect, was made by David Lloyd-George, the minister of munitions, in reply to a question in the house of commons today.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Ambassador Gerard's recent conference with Emperor William is causing much speculation in official quarters here. Secretary Lansing stated today that Gerard had not been directed to visit the emperor and that no report of the conference had been received.

The possibility that Emperor William might have taken advantage of the opportunity to express to Ambassador Gerard Germany's views on peace was generally talked of here today, particularly as a consequence of published reports that Germany soon intended to make known the basis on which she would make peace. Reports that Prince Von Buelow, former German chancellor, and ambassador to Italy, was to visit King Alfonso of Spain and later the United States, have attracted much attention here because of the belief that he might be entrusted with the task of explaining Germany's viewpoint.

President Wilson has made clear that until one of the belligerents indicated plainly a desire to accept mediation there would be no initiative on the part of the American government. The fact that King Alfonso of Spain is mentioned as a mediator is regarded here as significant because for some time it has been indicated that the king of Spain was desirous of acting in harmony with President Wilson when the time for making peace arrives.

TRAIL HIGH-UPS IMPLICATED IN BOMB CONSPIRACY

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—Efforts of federal prosecutors and secret service agents here were directed today to an investigation of the financial backing of the leaders of the conspiracy to blow up war munition plants and ships, of which Lieutenant Robert Fay of the German army is alleged to be the head.

William J. Flynn, chief of the United States secret service, was quoted today as saying:

"I believe we are going to get the financiers of this plot. Fay said he had spent only \$4000. Paul Siebs says that Fay told him he had \$7500 when he started for this country. We believe Fay spent \$30,000."

United States District Attorney H. Snowden Marshall does not believe that the most important of the conspirators have yet been captured and expects that other arrests will be made.

The federal officials said that if the men who furnished money for Fay and his assistants are discovered they will be called upon to face charges as serious as those against the men already arrested.

Paul Siebs said today that he was going to appear against the alleged conspirators as a witness for the state because he had been deceived and led into a trap.

SERBIA SLOWLY BEING CRUSHED BY WAR LORDS

Teutons and Bulgars Gradually Pushing Back Gallant Defenders—Allies' Troops Insufficient to Stem Advance—French Report Success in South, as Russians Bombard Varna

ROME, Oct. 28.—A Bucharest dispatch to the Stefani News agency filed yesterday says that the Russians have begun an attack on the Black sea coast of Bulgaria.

"A Russian fleet arrived at 4 o'clock this morning off the Bulgarian coast," the correspondent wires, "and immediately began a bombardment of Varna. Shelling was still proceeding at 11 o'clock. Considerable damage has been done to the town."

Germans Rushing South

BERLIN, Oct. 28 (by wireless to Sayville).—The Austro-German invasion of Serbia has been pushed further to the south. Army headquarters announced today that further ground had been gained and that the army of General Gallwitz had taken 2033 prisoners since October 23.

The Bulgarians have captured Zajecar and Kniajevatz, having crossed the Timok over a large ford.

Zajecar and Kniajevatz are on the railroad from Negotin to Nish, against which the Bulgarians are now marching. Kniajevatz is about thirty miles from Nish.

The height of Krenovaclava, about fifteen miles northwest of Pirot (east of Nish) has also been occupied by the Bulgarians, who have captured other strong positions.

The official statement of today concerning operations in Serbia follows:

Continue to Advance "The armies of Generals Von Koesse and Von Gallwitz continue to advance. Since October 23 the army of General Von Gallwitz has taken 2033 prisoners and several machine guns. "The army of General Boyadjeff (the Bulgarian commander) has taken Zajecar. West of Kniajevatz the Timok has been crossed over a wide front. Kniajevatz is in Bulgarian hands. Several guns have been captured. The height of Krenovaclava, twenty-five meters (about fifteen miles) northwest of Pirot, has been occupied."

Withdraw From Uskup

LONDON, Oct. 28.—Unofficial reports from Greek sources represent the situation in southern Serbia as somewhat more favorable to the entente allies. A dispatch from Athens which has not been confirmed states that the Bulgarians have withdrawn from Uskup. Advices from Saloniki tell of a fierce battle along the Velez-Komanovo front, with the Bulgarians retreating. Hope is being revived in London that the Serbians will be able to reform their lines along the Monastir front.

The Germans having effected a junction with their Bulgarian allies, it is possible that the campaign will be shifted from an effort to relieve Serbia to an attempt to ent communications with Constantinople. In this connection several critics hazard the guess that the entente allies are not likely to withdraw from Saloniki, no matter what happens to Serbia.

GERMANS TO SHOOT ANOTHER WOMAN

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 28.—The Telegraph hears from Liege, Belgium, that two more persons have been sentenced to death there by court martial. Their names are Franz Laquay and Andre Garot. Three others, Oriol Simon, Amadeus Hesse and Constant Herck already have been shot at Liege.

Nothing is known concerning the fate of Anna Benazet of Verviers, Belgium, who was sentenced to death by a German court martial on Monday.

THIS LAD GOES TO BED A WAIF AND WAKES UP AN HEIR TO GOULD MILLIONS



GERMANS REPORT SUCCESS AGAINST RUSSIAN FRONT

BERLIN, Oct. 28 (by wireless to Sayville).—Repulse of Russian attacks in the Dvinsk region and near the central part of the line in the east as well as a success for General Von Linsingen's troops in the southern sector, are recorded in today's official statement by German army headquarters.

Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's army has repulsed Russian attacks made against the positions recently taken by the Germans northeast of Garbunowka, in the Dvinsk sector, and German troops again have occupied the cemetery of Szaszaly, in this region, evacuation of which was reported yesterday. Two officers and 150 men were taken prisoners.

The failure of a strong attack by the Russians against troops of the army of Prince Leopold of Bavaria near Thtsherszy is announced.

General von Linsingen's army, in the southern sector, has captured Rudka, to the west of Czartorysk.

MAHON TO LEAD BRITISH IN SERBIA

LONDON, Oct. 28.—Sir Bryan Mahon has taken command of the British forces in Serbia. This announcement was made in the house of commons this afternoon by Harold J. Tennant, parliamentary undersecretary for war.

HEADLESS BODY OF PITTSBURG GIRL FOUND

PITTSBURG, Oct. 28.—The headless body of Miss Sophia McCallin, daughter of the late William C. McCallin, former mayor of Pittsburgh, was found late last night on the Pennsylvania railroad tracks at Roup, a passenger station within the city limits. The body was so badly crushed that identification was impossible until this morning, when her absence from the office of E. S. Morrow, city comptroller, whose secretary she was, started an inquiry. Identification was established by a diamond pin bearing her name. The circumstances leading to her death are unknown.

NEW MINISTRY FOR FRANCE WITH BRIAND PREMIER

Premier Viviani Resigns and Will Be Minister of Justice in Reorganized Cabinet—Gallieni to Be Minister of War—Former Premiers to Take Seats—Is Coalition Affair.

PARIS, Oct. 28.—The Viviani ministry resigned today. Premier Viviani retired from his present position in favor of Aristide Briand, former premier, and M. Viviani will be minister of justice in the reorganized cabinet.

Paul Deschanet, president of the chamber, will move an adjournment until tomorrow, when the work of reconstruction will be complete.

Information now available indicates that M. Briand will become foreign minister as well as premier, with Jules Cambon, who was ambassador to Germany at the outbreak of the war, as his principal secretary. In addition to M. Viviani, probable designations are:

Probable Selections Minister of War, General J. S. Gallieni, military governor of Paris. Minister of Marine, Rear Admiral Laazez. Minister of Agriculture, Etienne Clementel, former minister of agriculture and of finance. Minister of Commerce, L. L. Klotz, former minister of the interior and of finance, or Joseph Thierry, under secretary in the ministry of war. Minister of Instruction, Emile Combes, former premier. The other members of the present cabinet, according to this program, will continue in their present positions.

The Journal states that there will be six ministers of state without portfolios, of whom four will be senators and two deputies.

BRITISH CRUISER ARGYLL AGROUND CREW IS RESCUED

LONDON, Oct. 28.—The British cruiser Argyll has run aground and may be a total wreck. All hands were rescued. This was made known by the admiralty today in the following announcement:

"H. M. S. Argyll, Captain James Tancred, R. N., rounded this morning off the east coast of Scotland. Owing to bad weather prevailing it is feared she may become a total wreck. All her officers and the crew have been saved."

The Argyll, of 10,850 tons displacement, was laid down in 1902. Her normal complement is 655. She is 450 feet long. Her largest guns are 7.5 inches, of which she carries four. She has six 6-inch, two 3-inch, and twenty two 3-pound guns and two torpedo tubes.

ASK FEDERAL AID TO PREVENT RAIDS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Governor Ferguson of Texas telegraphed to President Wilson today urging that he use the influence of the administration with General Carranza to prevent further raids on the Texas border. The president, it was stated, will consult Secretaries Garrison and Lansing before acting. It has been reported that Governor Ferguson planned to call upon the president for more federal troops to be sent to Brownsville, but no such request has been received.

BRAYTON HIRED BY NEW HAVEN AS A LOBBYIST

Blind Boss of Rhode Island Employed by Railroad Directors to Block the Passage of Measures by Legislature Authorizing Construction of Independent Trolley Lines.

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—Testimony disclosing that the late General Chas. R. Brayton, "the blind boss of Rhode Island," was employed by the New York, New Haven & Hartford to block the passage of bills in the Rhode Island legislature, authorizing the construction of trolley lines which would compete with the New Haven, caused a sensation at the trial of the eleven former directors of the New Haven today.

How Much Was Paid

It developed that the government's evidence in regard to General Brayton's activities had been discovered after the filing of the indictment and when the morning session adjourned counsel were in the midst of a heated wrangle over the admission of a letter intended to show how much Brayton was paid for his services as the New Haven's legislative agent. The testimony obviously came as a surprise to the defense, which raised the objection that neither the indictments nor the government's bill of particulars, specified the acts which the government was trying to prove.

With Charles S. Mellen as the identifying witness, the government put the surprise testimony into the record in the form of a letter, dated April 10, 1905, from John M. Hall, vice-president of the New Haven, to General Brayton.

Objectors Greet Evidence

When the government came to presenting its letter to show the compensation received by General Brayton, five attorneys for the defense, who had been in conference, put in their objections. Five of them argued the matter successively.

R. L. Batts, attorney for the government, conceded that the matter had not been before the grand jury, but that this, nevertheless, constituted a concrete case of the New Haven's purpose to monopolize.

"We are going to show," he said, "that General Brayton was paid a large sum to accomplish the New Haven's ends in this matter. Not only was General Brayton paid, but other legislative agents were paid large sums to prevent the proper development of these properties. We have gotten hold of additional facts."

CONVENTIONALIST SOLDIERS LAYING DOWN THEIR ARMS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—An indication of general improvement of conditions in Mexico came today in official telegrams telling that train service between Vera Cruz and Mexico City, hitherto interrupted by raiding bands, is now restored and that many conventionalist officers and troops had surrendered to the de facto government and asked amnesty.

The department was informed that General Dieguez at Guaymas, the Carranza commander, has given renewed assurances regarding the protection of foreigners and their property in the Yaqui valley, and at Los Mochis. General Dieguez promised that an adequate garrison would be maintained to guarantee protection. Conditions on the west coast are reported quiet.

Messages to the Mexican embassy here said that many conventionalist soldiers who have laid down their arms are accepting amnesty and during the last few days nearly 5000 have arrived in Mexico City. Acceptance of amnesty appears to be very general throughout the southern part of the republic.