



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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NO. 162

I. W. W. CHIEFS INDICTED FOR CONSPIRACY

PLOTTED TO EMBARRASS UNCLE SAM

More Than 160 Leaders of I. W. W. Engaged in Nation-Wide Conspiracy to Hamper Nation in Carrying on War, Indicted for Seditious Conspiracy — Ton of Evidence Seized Reveals Efforts to Resist Draft Law and Burn Crops.

CHICAGO, Sept. 28.—William D. Haywood and thirty-five other leaders of the I. W. W. were arrested late today in a raid by United States marshals in the local headquarters of the organization. The arrests were made as a result of indictments returned by the federal grand jury.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—More than 160 leaders of the Industrial Workers of the World, engaged in the alleged nation-wide conspiracy to hamper the government in carrying on the war, have been indicted by the federal grand jury at Chicago.

Indictments will be handed in to the court probably today. Between 160 and 170 persons, resident in almost every section of the country, are named in the indictments.

Seditious conspiracy—the crime nearest to treason within the definition of the criminal code—is charged. This offense is punishable by six years' imprisonment or \$5000 fine, or both.

Conspiracy Proven. Indictments are understood to be based upon revelations brought to light in the recent country-wide seizure by federal authorities of documents and correspondence of the I. W. W. in approximately fifty towns and cities.

These documents are understood to have revealed the existence of a conspiracy, the most far-reaching in its scope of any yet unearthed, to embarrass the government in the prosecution of the war by resistance to the draft law, by fomenting labor disturbances, by burning crops and forests and in numerous other ways.

A comparatively small coterie of men is known to have directed the entire movement.

Guilty of Treason.

Officials here believe in many instances the ringleaders in this anti-war activities are virtually guilty of treason, but because of the narrow definition of treason in the criminal code and in numerous court decisions, it was thought best to ask the grand jury to find indictments on the broader charge of seditious conspiracy.

William C. Fitts, the assistant attorney general, under whose direction the nation-wide raid of September 5 was carried out without a hitch, is in Chicago today in personal charge of developments.

The evidence laid before the grand jury was of such volume as actually to weigh a ton or more.

A Ton of Evidence.

It concerned anti-draft demonstrations, crippling of war industries by so-called strikes, burning of what fields; burning of timber which the government was planning to use for airplane construction and a continuous anti-ally and anti-war propaganda.

(Continued on Page Three.)

SILVER HITS TOBOGGAN DECLINES 11 CENTS

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Commercial bar silver broke another 1 cent an ounce in this market today, selling at 97 3/4. This represents a decline of 10 3/4 cents since last Tuesday. Mexican silver dollars also fell 4 cents to 75, a decline of 11 cents in three days.

GERMANS FAIL TO RECAPTURE LOST POSITIONS

Frantic Attempts at Zonnebeke and Elsewhere Along Ridge Recently Won, Repulsed—Clearing-Up Process Proceeds—Crown Prince Again Falls Against French.

By Associated Press, Sept. 28.—Efforts to break in the new ground won by the British in the renewal of the Flanders offensive on Wednesday are being continued by the Germans. They tried it out last night at Zonnebeke, where the British have pushed far along the road to Roulers. The British artillery, machine gun and rifle fire was too much for them, however, and the attack was broken up.

Zonnebeke is an important point for the British. Their present position in the village places them within a half dozen miles of the important north and south railway line connecting Lille with Ostend, on the coast, the cutting of which or its domination at even medium range artillery fire would seriously handicap the Germans in their Flanders operations.

Germans Driven Back.

In the Tower hamlets and Polygon wood region, toward the British right flank, the clearing-up process which followed Wednesday's battle was carried out further last night and the Germans were driven back from isolated positions to which strong parties of them were clinging.

There has been little other military activity except in the Argoonne region on the French front. The Germans of the crown prince's forces made an attempt last night to break into the French lines in this sector, attacking three times. These assaults were all repulsed, the Germans sustaining heavy losses, says today's Paris war office report.

On the Caucasus front the Russians are showing renewed aggressiveness. In engagements with the Kurds detachments of these hostile forces have been driven back in the Rua region, where the Russians today report the capture of the town of Oromary, 24 miles west of Meri.

WAR CERTIFICATES TO FOLLOW BONDS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The campaign to sell \$2,000,000 in war savings certificates, Frank A. Vandenberg, chairman of the war savings committee, announced today, will be separate from the second liberty loan campaign, and probably will begin about December 1.

The Liberty loan campaign will be ended before the war saving certificates campaign begins, irrespective of the date of the certificates campaign committee.

It is felt that this is desirable so that the public may not be confused by having two major government issues of securities before it at the same time.

FINAL ARGUMENTS IN OXMAN TRIAL

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 28.—Final arguments before the jury was started by Assistant Attorney General Benjamin today in the case of Frank C. Oxman of Durkee, Ore., accused of attempting to induce F. E. Rigall of Grayville, Ill., to testify falsely against Thomas Mooney. Benjamin emphasized the alleged neglect of Oxman to more closely identify Rigall as a supposed witness of the bomb explosion for which Mooney stands convicted of murder. The case is expected to go to the jury late this afternoon.

GETTING HIS



U. S. BATTLESHIP AGROUND; EXPECT WILL BE FLOATED

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The navy department at noon today authorized an announcement that a battleship of the fleet is aground in home waters, but resting easily and probably will be floated soon.

The navy department issued this statement: "The navy department has received an official report stating that a battleship of the United States navy is aground in home waters. The ship is resting easily and it is expected that she will be floated without difficulty. The newspapers are urgently requested not to print any information which might lead to the establishment of the identity or location of the stranded vessel."

AUSTRIAN FRONTIER SWITZERLAND, CLOSED

GENEVA, Sept. 27.—Delayed.—The Austrian frontier was closed yesterday. No telegrams or travelers or newspapers arrived in Switzerland today from Austria. Abbas Hilmi, former khedive of Egypt, however, received a special pass for Vienna. The ex-khedive, who has been living in Switzerland for several months, has decided to take up permanent residence in that city.

MUNITION STRIKES IN FRISCO ENDED

PARIS, Sept. 28.—Differences between workers in certain classes of munition and their employers have been settled, both sides agreeing to the formation of a permanent committee of conciliation, according to an official note issued last night. The decision to arbitrate arose from patriotic motives and a full understanding of the essential importance of not allowing any interruption to work.

DELEGATES TO RUSS CONGRESS HEAR KERENSKY

PETROGRAD, Sept. 27.—(Delayed)—The democratic congress held in the municipal theater, 1200 delegates from all parts of Russia being in attendance. All the members of the provisional government, headed by Premier Kerensky, were present. Several members of the diplomatic corps occupied a special box.

W. C. Tcheldse, president of the council of soldiers' and workmen's delegates, said that the moment had arrived for democracy to gather all its political wisdom to save the conquests of the revolution, which were threatened with irreparable catastrophe if not safeguarded now.

Kerensky Talks. Premier Kerensky addressed the democratic congress at its first session today in the municipal theater, receiving applause which came principally from the radical groups of delegates. He spoke in forceful style, with the air of challenging his opponents. The address was largely a defense of the acts of the government under his premiership.

Kerensky was interrupted frequently by shouts from one group and another, which led at times to altercations lasting several minutes. At one point, when the premier spoke of the refusal of the soldiers' and workmen's delegates of Bolshevism to oppose the reopening of the Finnish diet, the bolsheviks burst into loud cheers.

"Cheer, my friends, if you will," said M. Kerensky when he was able to make himself heard. "But bear in mind that a German fleet is moving up the Baltic."

The delegates of the right jeered the bolsheviks, asking them why they did not cheer the premier's remark, inasmuch as the Germans were their friends.

IRIGOYEN VEToes WAR DECLARATION FOR ARGENTINE

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 28.—President Irigoyen is preparing a message in reply to the request made by congress that the diplomatic relations between Argentina and Germany be broken. The president, it is understood, contends that it is impossible to break off relations with Germany because of the Count Von Luxburg incident, the government considering this affair to have been adjusted by the German foreign office's explanation.

FACE TO FACE WITH FAMINE

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 28.—Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of agriculture, in addressing the American Bankers' association today, said that if the war is to be won the United States not only will have to put an army in the trenches, but will have to put several other armies in the field at home.

"We shall have to have an army of food producers in the furrows," he declared.

In urging increased food production, Mr. Vrooman declared we are late to face with famine. "Not as a people of course, but as one of a sisterhood of nations. We are not ourselves starving, but millions of our fellowmen are."

OPERATION DELAYED UPON CHAMBERLAIN

PORTLAND, Sept. 28.—Messages received from Washington today said improvement was shown in the condition of United States Senator George E. Chamberlain of Oregon, who is suffering from appendicitis. The attending physicians said they would await developments of today and possibly tomorrow before deciding whether or not to operate.

GULF HURRICANE APPROACHING NEW ORLEANS

Tropical Storm Threatens Gulf Coast From West Indies—Wind at Mouth of Mississippi Blowing at 90 Miles an Hour—Warning Sent Shipping—Gulf Towns Threatened.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 28.—The tropical hurricane passing inland from the Gulf of Mexico was central early today about 75 miles south of New Orleans and moving in a northerly direction. Reports from Pilot Town, near the mouth of the Mississippi river, said the wind's velocity there was more than 75 miles an hour at 5:30 a. m., and the barometer had fallen to 29.18.

Weather bureau officials were inclined to the opinion that the fall force probably would pass a little east or west of New Orleans.

Heading the weather bureau's warning of the probable approach of the storm, hundreds of New Orleans residents deserted their homes in the outskirts and spent last night in hotels, public and office buildings downtown. More than 300 sought refuge in the postoffice buildings, the customs house and the new court house.

Along Gulf Coast. A dispatch from Gulfport, Miss., stated the barometer there at 7 a. m. registered 29.65. An east wind was blowing about 40 miles an hour, and there were squalls of rain. The tide here was reported two and a half feet above normal.

Telephone communication with Pilot Town became interrupted for several hours, and reports from there were received by wireless.

As a precautionary measure, Dr. I. M. Cline, district forecaster here, advised the authorities at Thibodaux, Hammond and other small towns near here to keep their schools closed today. The New Orleans school board issued orders to the same effect.

Ninety Miles an Hour.

MOBILE, Ala., Sept. 28.—Late this afternoon the hurricane rashed a velocity of ninety miles an hour, and the weather bureau predicted a further increase. The police stopped street cars and shut off all electric current. Telegraph wires to Pensacola are down. Slate roofs and wooden galleries of houses were being torn away in the business section.

MOBILE, Ala., Sept. 28.—Last reports from Pensacola, Fla., at 1 o'clock, before communication was cut off, this afternoon, said that a 100-mile wind was blowing there and that property damage was great.

ARMY DECLARES STRIKE UNPatriotic

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 28.—Army authorities here issued a declaration today pointing out that "any delay or obstruction by the shipbuilding program is one which favors our enemy, the German nation, and delays and obstructs the termination of the war." Every day of the strike here, the statement points out, prolongs the conflict. It is not a question of finishing ships now on ways at shipyards within contract time limits, for the military station demands that ships be launched and commissioned at the earliest date practicable, and any delay or obstruction obstructs our efficient production of the war, and correspondingly sets back in days, weeks and months, that victory which is essential on land and sea to effect peace.

R. E. Gordon of Fort Klamath is a visitor in the city today.

SLUSH FUND BRINGS FIGHT IN CONGRESS

Row in House Over Charges About "Suspicious" Acting Congressmen Results in Personal Clash Between Heflin and Norton, Who Clinch and Fall Over Backward Over Seats While Friends From Both Sides Rush to Separate—No Harm Done.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The house adjourned tonight without acting on the rules committee decision not to propose any resolutions looking to investigating charges that German money has been used to influence members of congress.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The row in the house over Representative Heflin's charges culminated today in a fight between Heflin and Representative Norton, his chief critic. Friends soon separated them.

The climax came at the end of a gusty session of the house which did not approve the action of the rules committee in refusing to begin investigation of Heflin's charges that certain congressmen acted suspiciously about the time Count von Bernstorff was asking his government to authorize the expenditure of \$50,000 to influence congress.

Men Clinch, Fall Over.

Norton, who had led the attack on Heflin for his charges, had gone over to the democratic side to talk to Heflin. The row broke out at once, the two men clinched and fell over on a row of seats, while friends from both sides of the hall piled around and separated them before blows were struck.

"Did you ever say that I was disloyal?" Norton asked Heflin.

"No," Heflin replied.

Norton then made some remark about his being as loyal as anyone in the house, and Heflin told him to go away.

"You get out of here," Heflin is reported to have said, starting to rise in his seat.

Told to Get Out. Norton stood still, while Heflin sprang up and grasped Norton by the coat lapels. The two men grappled for a moment and then fell over, with Norton on top. Immediately the house was in an uproar. Speaker Clark banged for order, while members leaped over seats and down aisles to reach the struggling men. The sergeant at arms hurriedly grasping the pace, his badge of authority, ran to the combatants. Disorder reigned in the galleries, where people rose from their seats and rushed to the rail to see into the pit of the house.

Friends separated the men without difficulty and led them to the cloak room. The only marks of combat showed on Norton's white collar and Heflin's usually immaculate white shirt front.

(Continued on Page 4.)

DRIVE INAUGURATED AGAINST SLACKERS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—With a reward of \$50 for the delivery of each deserter, the provost general's office today began a drive to round up all once all drafted men who have not reported to their local boards as directed, and all who have not reported to the adjutant general's of their respective states when ordered. All such are considered deserters. Where delinquency is shown not to be willful, they will only be delivered to the proper camps. Willful deserters will be taken before court martials.