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MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Forty-eighth Year. Daily—Thirteenth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1918

NO. 50

GERMAN-IRISH PLOT HATCHED IN AMERICA

CONSPIRACY FOR UPRISING UNCOVERED

Revolt Timed to Coincide With German Offensive So As to Distract British Attention From Fighting Front at Time Channel Ports Were Endangered — German Agents Agreed to Finance Uprising and Send Arms and Munitions.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Evidence of plotting between German and Irish agents in this country for an uprising in Ireland has been uncovered by United States government agents and is partly responsible for the recent arrest of Irish leaders by the British government. This evidence, which may be made public soon, is understood to show definitely that the Irish leaders, mainly Sinn Fein sympathizers in the United States, have been in touch with German representatives who agreed to furnish money to finance the rebellion in Ireland and possibly to send arms and ammunition to Ireland by submarines or blockade runners. There was even some discussion of the chances of sending German soldiers to take part in warfare on Irish soil.

Timed for Offensive. The uprising was set for about this time when the Germans had planned to reach the channel ports after their great drive in France and it was believed England would be thrown into confusion by the German victories. Ireland was to be freed entirely from British influence if possible and the Germans counted strongly on the Irish trouble to divert Great Britain's attention from the fighting front in France and at the channel ports at the very time when it would be most necessary for the country to keep calm and prevent a German invasion. Information concerning these plots has been forwarded to the British government. In many cases the information given leads to evidence of plotting in Ireland.

Arrests the Outcome. Negotiations were allowed to proceed for some time in the hope that more of the plotters would be rounded up finally and the arrests are believed to have been ordered by the British officials at this time because it became evident that an open outbreak was about to be participated. It was hinted today that a number of Sinn Fein sympathizers in the United States are under watch. The secret system of negotiations had been in progress for several months, it is understood. This tends to confirm the statement from London that the series of arrests several days ago had no direct connection with plans to conspire the Irish. Some information was obtained from Germans now held in internment camps in this country. There is indication also that the seat of the German-Irish negotiations was transferred at times to other American republics.

Quiet in Ireland. LONDON, May 21.—Total absence of excitement in Dublin is reported in all dispatches from the Irish capital despite the Sinn Fein arrests. There are no outward indications that any.

FAIRBANKS ILL; MAY NOT RECOVER

INDIANAPOLIS, May 21.—Charles W. Fairbanks, who is critically ill here, "continued to hold his own," his home here today. It was said his physicians still hope for the recovery of the former vice-president of the United States.

MOONEY TODAY RE-SENTENCED TO DIE MAY 28

Retrial Denied and Mooney, as Result of Conviction of First Degree Murder On Charges Growing Out of Preparedness Day Parade Explosion, Must Pay Extreme Penalty.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 21.—Thomas J. Mooney was today re-sentenced to hang on May 28 as a result of his conviction on a first degree murder charge growing out of the preparedness day parade bomb explosion which killed 10 persons and injured 40 others here in 1916.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 21.—Motion asking the removal of the death sentence from Thomas J. Mooney, the setting aside of all previous court proceedings in his case, and the granting of a new trial on the ground of willful fraud, malfeasance and non-feasance in the office of the district attorney, was denied here today by Judge Franklin A. Griffin of the superior court.

5 HUN AIRCRAFT LOST IN RAID

LONDON, May 21.—Of the 20 to 25 Gotha machines which took part in the raid on London Sunday night five are reported officially to have been brought down. One of the raiders was engaged by a British airman who fired at close range until the machine disappeared in a cloud. Shortly afterward the machine burst into flames at a height of 7000 feet and fell a blazing wreck. Another machine was brought down by anti-aircraft guns in London. Two others were brought down while attempting to escape, one being destroyed by British airmen. The fifth was set afire and fell into the sea. Bombs were dropped promiscuously on certain parts of the London district, doing, in a few cases only, no inconsiderable damage to small dwelling houses.

PRO-HUN BOLSHEVIK FOREIGN MINISTER

AMSTERDAM, Monday, May 20.—M. Karakhan has been appointed to succeed M. Tchitcherin as bolshevik foreign minister, according to a dispatch from Kiev.

M. Karakhan was secretary of the Russian delegation at Brest-Litovsk peace conference at its first sitting. At the second Brest-Litovsk conference he was one of the Russian delegates. Something of his foreign policy may be gained from an interview published February 26, 1918, in which he said that Russia's position toward the allies would be that of a neutral, adding that Russia would not support Germany, except in an indirect way from the resumption of commercial relations.

CONGRESS TO FORCE NATION TO BE DRY

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The house today tentatively agreed to an amendment to the administration food production bill making the \$11,000,000 appropriation unavailable unless a proclamation is issued by the president prohibiting the use of food for the manufacture of intoxicants.

LOCAL ATTACKS FAIL TO AROUSE HUNS TO ACTION

While Germans Delay Expected Offensive, Allied Troops Improve Positions by Frequent Raids—French Seize Two Miles of Line, Capture 400, but Tents Fail to Strike.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. May 21.—While the Germans delay their expected offensive, allied troops improve their positions here and there by strong local attacks. The Germans, strangely, do not react against the Anglo-French nibbling tactics.

On the Lys front between Mont Kemmel and the heights of Mont Rogue, and Scherpenberg the French have greatly improved their positions in a forward movement along a front of two miles. More than 400 German prisoners were captured.

Only Local Raids. The British carried out an operation last evening in which they cleared out a small German salient that projected into their lines northwest of Merville, near Nieppe wood, where the Germans rush toward the Hazebrouck railway junction was stopped in last month's offensive. The enemy evidently regarded the ground of marked value, for this morning he delivered a sharp counter attack. It was entirely unsuccessful however.

The German artillery fire is especially violent on the sector south of the Somme and north of Bethune, northwest of Arras. To Bethune has come the fate of so many other towns and cities of northern France, and it is now a mass of ruins as a result of the German bombardment.

British Official Report. LONDON, May 21.—Northwest of Merville in the Flanders salient the British improved their positions last night, the war office announces. Thirty prisoners and six machine guns were taken by the British in this operation. A counter attack on the new position, launched this morning after a period of heavy shelling, was crushed by the British artillery and machine guns.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Monday, May 20.—(By the Associated Press.)—The following official statement was issued at American headquarters at 9 o'clock tonight: "Except for activity by the artillery on both sides in various sectors there is nothing to report."

WHITE HOUSE WOOL FOR RED CROSS

SALEM, Ore., May 21.—Governor James Withycombe today received a telegram from national headquarters announcing that two pounds of wool from the White House sheep had been presented to Oregon by President and Mrs. Wilson to be sold by auction for the benefit of the American Red Cross. The proceeds of this auction will be known as the "President's fund." Governor Withycombe will announce later when the auction will be closed but in the meantime telegrams and mailed bids should be sent direct to the governor. The wool will be mailed to the successful bidder by the President and Mrs. Wilson themselves.

DESCHUTES COUNTY DECLARED LEGAL

SALEM, Ore., May 21.—Legal existence of Deschutes county was established by the supreme court today in an opinion written by Justice Burnett, affirming the lower court of Crook county, Judge T. E. J. Duffy, in the case of the state of Oregon against Deschutes county.

LOOK ALIKE, DON'T THEY? THEY'RE HALF BROTHERS, THE GERMANS BELIEVE.



Study these faces. Note the marked resemblance as indicated by the arrows? In that resemblance lies the only explanation that has been offered to answer the question: "What is Von Mackensen's hold on the Kaiser?" Mystery and silence have always surrounded "The Iron Rat," as Meckensen is called by his soldiers. Every German knows why—or thinks he does; because Meckensen and the Kaiser are half brothers. Naturally there are no documents to prove it. But the story is common knowledge in Germany. Here it is: Meckensen is said to be the son of a Scotchwoman named Mackenzie who was a lady-in-waiting at the court of Emperor William I, the present Kaiser's father. The other part of Meckensen is said to be Hohenzollern blood of the highest.

NEGRO AWARDED PRIZE FOR WORLD'S RECORD RIVETING

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The first international prize for riveting was transmitted today by Chairman Hurley of the shipping board to Charles Knight, a negro, at the request of Lord Northcliffe, owner of London newspapers, who offered 25 pounds for the best score above previous records. Knight is employed at the Bethlehem shipbuilding corporation, Sparrows Point, Md. At the same time Mr. Hurley called Lord Northcliffe a new challenge for British workmen and called on American shipbuilders to beat Knight's record. An increase of five rivets per gang per hour would mean the building of a steel freighter of 10,000 tons every ten weeks, he said. Mr. Hurley wrote Knight as follows: "Your world's record feat of riveting 4,875 rivets on May 16 has set for American shipbuilders the fast pace that is so necessary for carrying on the war successfully. It is the American way to excel when the occasion demands, and I hope your feat will inspire emulation among your associates."

JOSEPHINE GOES OVER TOP FOR RED X

GRANTS PASS, Ore., May 21.—Josephine county has gone "over the top" in the Red Cross drive. Reports from all outlying districts show at least \$100 over-subscribed before 10 a. m. Monday. In many cases where teams called at farm houses, the subscription was ready and waiting, and in some cases neighborhoods had collected and pooled subscriptions, so as not to delay the team.

WILLIAMS LEADS FOR COMMISSIONER

PORTLAND, Ore., May 21.—An unexpected gain for Fred H. Williams in the race for the republican nomination for public service commissioner, was shown today in returns from last Friday's state primary election. On the basis of the count to date, Williams is reported to lead his opponent, Frank J. Miller, by 197 votes. Miller, however, is said to be running well ahead in some counties where the result is still missing, including Douglas, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Lake and Wheeler, and his nomination is predicted. Miller was beaten in Multnomah by a large margin but showed strength in most other portions of the state. The count to date is reported as: Williams 32,649; Miller, 31,843.

NO LIBERTY BONDS, NO SALOON LICENSES

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 21.—Five hundred local saloon keepers have received orders to appear before Excise Commissioner Lewis and produce evidence that they have purchased Liberty bonds. Those who are without bonds will be denied licenses.

36,677 ON BRITISH CASUALTY LIST

LONDON, May 21.—Last week's casualties totalled 36,677, the war office announces. They are divided as follows: Killed or died of wounds: Officers 313; men 3,815. Wounded or missing: Officers 1,241; men 31,308.

M'ADOO REMOVES RAILROAD CHIEF FOR DISOBEDIENCE

WASHINGTON, May 21.—C. W. Huntington of New York has been removed by Director General McAdoo as president of the Virginia railway for disobedience of the railroad administration's orders for maintenance and operation of his road. J. S. Young of Norfolk, Va., has been appointed federal director of the road. The Virginian is a coal carrier running from Deepwater, W. Va., to Norfolk, Va. Huntington is the first railroad president to be removed by Director General McAdoo, but it was hinted today at railroad administration headquarters that similar action might be taken against other executives who do not co-operate well with the federal management. The complaint against Mr. Huntington was that he failed to comply promptly with suggestions and orders of the railroad administration, insisting on technicalities involved and consulting at length with the road's counsel before carrying out instructions. Mr. Young, the new manager, is given full authority to manage the road, even to the extent of changing the personnel of operating officers.

INSURANCE RATES AT SEA DECREASE

WASHINGTON, May 21.—Dangers from submarines had decreased to such an extent that the bureau of war risk insurance has recommended a reduction from \$2.50 to \$1.50 per one thousand dollars the insurance rate on lives of officers and crews of merchant vessels passing through the war zones. This is in line with the recent lowering of marine insurance rates on vessels and cargoes from three to two per cent.

FOOD CRISIS IN CENTRAL STATES MOST CRITICAL

Situation Most Acute and Even With Reduced Ration Supply Insufficient—Medical Famine Predicted—People Sick of War and Talk and Think Only of Bread.

WASHINGTON, May 21.—The food situation in Germany, officials here believe, is the most critical it has been at any time. Information reaching Washington from many sources indicates that even with the reduced ration planned for June 15 the country will not have enough food to carry the population thru to the next harvest and that further reductions will have to be made. The reduced ration was to have been put into operation March first, but the measure was passed in the hope that grain would be forthcoming in large quantities from the Ukraine. When this hope vanished the German government saw that the reduction was inevitable.

Germany began consuming her 1917 wheat crop two months before it was intended to start on it and the German potato crop has not turned out nearly so well as German agricultural interests had hoped. Medieval Famine. LONDON, May 21.—"I feel confident that the time is at hand when famine—stark, medieval famine—will join the entente as a political and military ally against Germany and Austria," the correspondent of the Daily Mail telegraphs from Annonay, in France, near the Swiss border. The correspondent says he draws this conclusion from oral statements by an authentic witness whose observations extended up to the end of April. The great masses of the German and Austrian peoples, this informant declares, are more than sick of the war. They think and talk of nothing but bread, and their morale is so low that the governments are fearful of Bolshevik movements. Cannibalism Practiced. Among the incidents given in support of the terrible want is the case of two prisoners of war employed at the gas works in Vienna who, he declared, were murdered by fellow workers who ate part of their bodies. The Arbeiter Zeitung of Vienna demanded an investigation and the entire issue was confiscated in consequence. The affair was referred to in parliament but was hushed up in the Vienna press. The narrator said he and his family had lived for weeks almost entirely on mushrooms gathered in a forest outside the town in which he dwelt. "People often faint in the streets from hunger," he continued. "The health of many is such that they can hardly stand, to say nothing of work, and things are getting worse every day. Even the soldiers do not have sufficient food. They are not only sick of war, but thierly apathetic regarding it. It is a common sight to see soldiers begging for food. Everybody is convinced that the expected food relief from Ukraine is a mirage, 'only another Prussian swindle,' they say.

Worst Yet to Come. "The three worst months—June, (Continued on Page Two.)

KANSAS TORNADO KILLS 5 PERSONS

HAYS, Kas., May 21.—A tornado sweeping over the northern part of Ellis county early today killed five persons and caused considerable destruction of property. Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Gelst and their three grandchildren were killed. Further details are lacking because of damaged wire communication.