

# The Mount Airy News.

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## CHINESE BANDITS RELEASE THEIR CAPTIVES

### Outlaws Are Enrolled into China's Army And Get Back Pay

Tsoochwang, China, June 12.—Eight bearded, shabby men, four of them Americans, the last of the 77 foreign prisoners captured by Chinese bandits from the Shanghai-Peking express near Suchow, May 6, arrived at the Tung Hsing mines, near Tsoochwang, this afternoon.

They came down the mountainside from their prison in the Temple of the Clouds on Postzuku mountain in sedan chairs, on donkeys and some walking, with an escort of outlaws.

At the mine compound they saw the last of their brigand hosts and were joyfully greeted by relatives and friends who had gathered there to welcome them.

Baths, clothing and food were awaiting them and on a railroad siding stood a special train ready to take them to Tsoochwang.

The closing scene of the six and one-half weeks of negotiation for the prisoners' release was staged with all the Chinese love of formality.

In the center of the group of bandit chieftains and Chinese officials stood Roy Anderson, American long familiar with the Chinese customs, and the chosen intermediary of the outlaws and the Peking government.

Armed with a commission as personal representative of Tsao Kang, powerful military leader, and inspector-general of Shantung province, and possessing full authority from Tsao to put up the guarantee demanded by the brigands, Anderson opened the final session. Accompanying him were Wen Shih-Tsun, commissioner of foreign affairs at Nanking, and several other Chinese officials.

In accordance with ancient Chinese custom, Anderson asked the bandits to nominate their "elder brother," or spokesman, with power to act. The American explained that he was there in the role of "peacemaker," an office held sacred throughout China. He reviewed the situation, told the bandits of America's traditional friendship for China. He said that the United States had been deeply grieved by the kidnapping.

In reply to the outlaw's demands for foreign guarantees of immunity from punishment and other terms if the captives were released Anderson explained that this would be possible only if the foreign powers took over the government of China, a course which he emphasized the brigand chieftains themselves desired above all to avoid.

When Anderson had finished General Chen Tiao-Yuan, representing the military governor of Shantung, read a document which recited the enrollment of 2,000 outlaws in the Chinese army, the payment of each of \$20 and the distribution of uniforms.

The crisis was reached, Anderson supported by General Chen, asked for the immediate release of the eight foreign captives.

The outlaw chieftains parleyed among themselves. Then a messenger left the circle and started up the steep Postzuku mountain side. The formal agreement for the release of the prisoners was produced and signed by the two chief spokesmen, one Roy Anderson of Atlanta, Ga., U. S. A., and the other the chosen "elder brother" of the brigands, Sun Kwei-Tsu.

In a few moments the messenger reappeared and following him, accompanied by an armed detachment of their guards, came the eight prisoners of Postzuku. They passed through Tsilho and headed for the railroad, res men once more.

## NOTICE

By virtue of the power conferred upon me as Commissioner in the matter of Mary J. Nichols and others vs. Lonnie Nichols and others, I will offer for sale in front of the Bank of Mount Airy on the 18th day of July, 1923 at 2 o'clock P. M. the following described property:

Beginning on the south side of Church street corner of a new 30 ft. street opposite the J. E. Catus lot and runs with the edge of Church street North 89 1-2 deg. E. 48 feet to Ross Nelson's line; thence S. 90 deg. E. with her line 200 feet to a stake; thence S. 81 deg. W. 100 feet; thence North 13 deg. W. 190 feet to the edge of new 30 ft. street; thence N. 50 1-2 E. with said street 80 feet to the beginning, the same being a portion of a lot conveyed to Dave Nelson by the Granite City Land & Improvement Company and by him conveyed to said David Pulp.

E. C. BIVENS, Com.

## RAISING OF DEMPSEY'S \$100,000 RARE STORY

### 60-Year-Old Mayor of Shelby Personally Produces \$76,000 of the Total

Great Falls, Mont., June 16.—The Jack Dempsey-Tom Gibbons heavy-weight championship fight, sagging at the knees and ready to collapse, was shoved back on its feet tonight with new executives in charge and Jack Kerns, manager of the champion, happy with the receipt of a \$100,000 draft, the second installment due on the \$300,000 guarantee.

The fight will be staged as scheduled in Shelby on the 4th of July afternoon. Payment of the \$100,000 was made by George H. Stanton, president of the Stanton Trust and Savings bank early tonight, in accordance with the agreement reached last midnight. Kerns accepted the money with offers in his pocket to take the match elsewhere but he declared he wanted to go through with the fight at Shelby.

Kerns had received an offer from Tom O'Rourke, matchmaker of the Polo Grounds Athletic Club in New York; from Ted Richard and from promoters in Uniontown, Pa.

The story of the raising of the \$100,000 is one of the rarest tales of financing in the history of boxing. Mayor Jim Johnson, of Shelby, 60-years-old, was individually responsible for raising \$76,000 in less than 24 hours, while Great Falls business men raised the balance.

Dan Tracy, hotel owner and mining operator, was selected to take charge of the fight, with Fred R. Searles, former assistant cashier of the Great Falls National Bank, as assistant treasurer. The original executives, Johnson and Loy J. Molumby, state commander of the American legion, will not be supplanted, it was announced, but will work under the direction of Tracy.

"I'm going to Shelby Monday to take complete charge and do reorganizing wherever necessary," Mr. Tracy said. Mike Collins, the original matchmaker, undoubtedly will be retained because of his experience in the boxing game.

Threatening, cloudy weather with a sprinkling of rain and anxiety over the collection of the \$100,000 was reflected in Dempsey's workout this afternoon.

As the champion entered the ring the rain began to fall but the shower held off until Dempsey went through his usual six rounds of boxing, a round of punching the heavy leather filled bag, and a round of shadow boxing.

With the exception of Dempsey's two rounds with George Godfrey, the negro giant, the workout appeared to be slow. Dempsey found that Godfrey was ready to slug with him, and used left hooks and rips to the head and body effectively, but the negro remained on his feet.

Jack Burke, the Pittsburgh heavy-weight, faced the champion for two rounds after Godfrey and Harry Drake finished the afternoon's boxing. Deake was the only sparring mate to suffer any damage.

## England Worries Over Emigration to America

London, June 12.—Great Britain is worried over the increasing number of skilled artisans and domestic servants who want to take up their abodes in the United States. The stream of emigrants which has flocked from these shores to America has caused a special committee of the government to inquire into the causes.

Only the exhaustion of the annual quota of British subjects eligible to enter the United States under the percentage law has prevented tens of thousands of others from pitching their tents under the Stars and Stripes. With the exception of France and Germany, practically every nation is now barred from sending emigrants to America until next July, when the annual quota begins. Already the steamer bookings from the United Kingdom to America for July, August and September are full.

"America may still be the melting pot," remarks The Westminster Gazette editorially, "but its legislators are keeping a stricter eye upon the metals which go into the alloy than ever before. The British race is given a certain measure of flattery in an evident disposition to welcome more of its members, but that is scarcely surprising when we discover that the people whom we send are in large measure domestic servants and skilled workers, neither of whom we can afford to lose."

## SOLDIER'S ORAL WILL HELD VALID BY COURT

### His Words to "Buddy" Before Battle and Letter to Girl Give Her \$23,000.

New York, June 16.—The statute legalizing nuncupation, or unwritten wills, made by soldiers on the battlefield or mariners at sea was invoked today to give Miss Eleanor Knapp of Brooklyn the \$23,000 estate left by her soldier sweetheart, Ernest C. Mason, who was one of the war's unrecorded casualties.

Surrogate Wingate declared Mason legally dead and held that a love letter he had written the young woman from the trenches backed by testimony of a conversation he had had with a "buddy" just before his last "zero hour" on the Hindenburg line, were sufficient evidence of the disposition Mason wished to make of his estate.

Mason dropped out of sight in a German prison camp in October, 1918, after he had been taken prisoner in a battle on September 27. Although no record of him was ever found, it was assumed he was dead, as before he disappeared he had been critically ill of influenza and without medical attention.

Discussing the question whether Mason had been a legally acceptable nuncupation will, Surrogate Wingate testified with dramatic simplicity the testimony as to Mason's last night with the American forces.

"Mason, on the night before the attack of September 27, was on duty as a signalman at the telephone in a dugout with other members, awaiting the hour of attack," he said. "He was on duty 48 hours and in the interval between messages talked to his comrade, Wingate, who at times relieved him. During the night Mason said to Wingate:

"In the event that I get killed, I want everything that I have to go to Miss Knapp, including my insurance." Testimony that Mason repeated this statement after his capture while he lay stricken with influenza, in a hospital behind the German lines, also was introduced, the surrogate pointed out, and in view of these statements, coupled with a love letter in which he made the same assertion to Miss Knapp, the court held there was no question as to Mason's wish.

As to the possibility that Mason might be somewhere alive today, the decision after reciting testimony of Mason's capture and imprisonment said: "There is no probability that he is alive. Indeed, the proof points clearly to his death and it is found, as a matter of law and of facts, that he is dead."

## Says He'll Make New York Dry

Cleveland, June 17.—The Anti-Saloon league of America has begun a campaign to unseat at the election next year the New York state legislators that recently repealed that state's liquor enforcement code and put dry enforcement entirely up to federal agents, Wayne B. Wheeler, national counsel for the Anti-Saloon league of America, said here tonight.

Claiming that the wets have shown they want the whole of their liquor back again—"not merely beer and wines"—Mr. Wheeler, said that the repeal of the New York state act was the "first frank confession of their plan" and that war was on with the assemblymen who voted wet.

"We will call in all the federal officials possible, and in the meantime canvass every city and district in which a wet legislator resides, and aim at his defeat," said Mr. Wheeler. "With a new dry legislature in office, the enforcement code will go back on the books."

"We don't think the New York reverse is so nationally important as the wets should indicate," he declared. "We fought battles like that in Illinois, Wisconsin, Connecticut and Rhode Island, and won them all. We would have won in New York if it had not been for political maneuvering."

Mr. Wheeler declared the New York action "places the prohibition question in the forefront of the most important issues of the Presidential campaign. It focuses the mind of America upon the right of the majority of the people to legislate for the nation."

## Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy

Every family should keep this preparation at hand during the hot of the summer months. It is almost sure to be needed, and when that time comes, is worth many times its cost. Buy it now.

## MT. ETNA IN ERUPTION

Main Crater Opened Suddenly

### Sunday Night Like Rear of a Thousand Guns

Rome, June 18.—Mount Etna in violent eruption is laying waste to the surrounding countryside, as dispatches reaching the mainland.

Great rivers of molten rock pouring down the steep sides of the mountain from numerous fissures are overwhelming all before them and the inhabitants of the surrounding country are fleeing in despair while crops and homes disappear under the hissing flood.

The main crater of Etna, after the fitful displays of the last week, suddenly opened up at midnight Sunday with a noise like the firing of a thousand cannons. There were subterranean rumblings, flames shot to the sky and the populations of the little towns about the base of the cone fled to the plains.

Five great cracks opened in the northeast side of the mountain and from these mouths, several kilometers from the old crater, came streams of lava.

Thousands of tons of rocks and ashes were hurled to a height of from 300 to 600 feet from both the old and the new craters, and lava streams advancing on a frontage estimated at 540 yards, laid waste the vineyards forests in their path and progressed at a speed of a mile and a quarter an hour.

Isolated houses left early by their occupants long acquainted with Etna's habits were speedily devastated. The important railway station of Castiglione was destroyed.

Linguaglossa which is some 10 miles from the central crater, was surrounded by lava. Several houses in the town collapsed, and most of the villages in the neighborhood were quickly deserted. The sky was dull with smoke, and cinders and dust fell heavily over a large area.

The sight of the first fugitives from the danger zone coming into Messina, coupled with the terrifying substance which had been hurled down hundreds of citizens of that town to the seashore for safety.

No loss of life has been reported in the dispatches received.

## Boiler Explosion Kills Two

New Bern, June 12.—Nat Sylvester, wealthy business man, was killed instantly, Hugh Miles, young bookkeeper, was seriously injured, and Paul Patrick, fireman, severely scalded, when a 100-horsepower steam boiler exploded and wrecked the Banks and Thomas gin and sawmill at Richards this morning at 11 o'clock.

The explosion, thought to have been the result of defective water connections to the boiler, wrecked the plant at a loss of \$10,000 and hurled one end of the boiler, weighing two tons a distance of 250 yards where it struck the ground, bounced up and crashed in through the roof of the home of Walter Rand, injuring Mrs. Rand and little daughter slightly.

Residents of the little town rushed from their homes terror-stricken as their houses were rocked by the explosion which, it was said, was heard for miles around.

Mr. Sylvester was in the mill at the time arranging to have some timber sawed and was killed by flying timbers. Miles was buried beneath the wreckage and badly mangled, while Patrick sustained his scalds in the boiler room.

## Some Newspaper Rules

A Texas editor recently issued the following rules, which explain themselves:

"Fifty cents per line will be charged for all obituary notices of business men who get their job printing in another city; twenty-five cents per line will be charged for like notices to all business men who do not advertise, while all delinquent subscribers will be charged fifteen cents per line on passing out to the new Jerusalem. Advertisers and cash subscribers will receive the best there is in the shop free-gratis when they shuffle off."

"Those who extend the paper no support whatsoever and go around lambasting the community and its citizens, drop banana peelings on the sidewalks, spit like a dime or try to sell us a gold brick, will be given the truth, which won't look good in print, when they give up the ghost."

"Better send in your orders for job printing and advertising, pay up your subscription, get to boosting this paper and its editor and speak in glowing terms of the town and its people for an epidemic of hog cholera is said to be abroad in the community."

## HERO RISES OUT OF SCHOOL DISASTER

### Thompson Davis Works Away To Support Five Orphans. Lost Father and Mother and Two Sisters

Columbia, June 12.—Four weeks ago on Thursday the Cleveland school house in Kershaw county, near Camden, burned, with the loss of 73 lives, 77 citizens, men and women and children, and two babies born in the excitement of the moment by expectant mothers, but today a brave community is coming back. A community that for these weeks has been stunned by the horror of it all, is beginning to awake to a realization of its future, a future of determined work and courage. Back to their plows they are turning, and the men and boys are cultivating their fertile lands, their hearts heavy but their hands firm.

Bravest of the brave is young Thompson Davis, 17-year-old son of a sturdy family of the Beaulah section. On the night of the terrible tragedy he was left at home with his three younger brothers, Leroy, aged six; Marvin, aged four; and Charles Henry, 11 months old, while his mother and his father and his three sisters, Sarah, aged 11; Lella Mae, 14; and Lina, nine, attended the commencement play, "Miss Topsy Turvy," in the Cleveland school. The parents and two of the daughters lost their lives in the school fire, only Sarah being able to escape.

Young Davis will be 17 on June 15, and already on his young shoulders has fallen the burden of educating the four children. This he has set as his first big task, and to this end he is now cultivating a cotton crop on 30 acres of about as fine land as there is in South Carolina.

Two of his brothers, Leroy and Marvin are staying with an aunt for a short time, until another aunt, Mrs. Quinlin, of Chester, can move her home to the Beaulah section, to be with her orphaned nephew and his little family. The youngest boy was taken sick shortly after the Cleveland fire and was moved to the Camden hospital for treatment. He will remain there until final arrangements are made for the future home life of the Davis children. In the old Davis home live young Thompson and his sister Sarah. Brave young hearts are theirs, and in tune with the beats of these hearts are the pulses of a million of South Carolina's men and women.

Broadus Thompson, an uncle, has been appointed guardian for the Davis children. Quite a sum of money has been sent to young Davis, from generous people throughout the land, and this has been deposited to his account, over against a day of rain. The boy hero is quiet. He does not talk of his past or his future plans, unless questioned. He says he is grateful for all that has been done for him by the good people of this state and of other parts of the land. Many people have called on him. Hundreds of automobiles have called at his home since the terrible tragedy that robbed him of his parents, these bringing friendly inquirers and helpers from points in both Carolina's and Georgia.

With the harvesting of his crops, young Davis hopes to see his young sister and brother enrolled in the new school to be erected at "The Terrace," which is to be a consolidation of several schools and to accommodate the children formerly served by the Cleveland school.

Young Davis himself expects to enter a preparatory school for Furman university itself, at Greenville. The education of the young man is being financed by friends unknown to him and to the world, good hearts with their names withheld, but who are playing the part of guardian angels to the needy little family. Their generosity is being dispensed through Mendal L. Smith, of Camden, prominent lawyer and former judge.

Young Davis is a lovable boy. His friends predict for him a brilliant career at college and then in whatever profession he may choose. With a brave heart, thrown by necessity on his own resources, he faces a friendly world, with a determination to conquer.

All of the children who were orphaned by the Cleveland school fire have been cared for, placed either in the homes of loving relatives or with people who will care for them and educate them as their own. The funds generously contributed by people of all states, have been handled wisely and carefully by the Red Cross and the

## LARGEST AIRPLANE IN WORLD TO BE TESTED

### Army's New "Two-and-a-Half-Planes" Air Giant is About Ready For Flight

Washington, June 17.—The army's new "two-and-a-half planes" air giant, known as the Barling bomber, the biggest thing yet in flying machines will soon be tested at Wilbur Wright field, Ohio. The war department having today announced the tentative selection of Lieutenants Leigh Wade and Harold R. Harris as pilots for the test flight. The ship measures 120 feet from tip to tip, is powered with six Liberty motors, weight 40,000 pounds and will have a flying speed of not less than 80 miles an hour.

"If the performance in flight is satisfactory," the department's announcement said, "the air service engineering division at Dayton will have achieved the credit of putting in the air the largest successful airplane in the world."

The plane was designed for the air service by Walter H. Barling. It was constructed by the Whittmann Aircraft corporation, of Hasbrouck Heights, N. J. While it is generally rated as a tri-plane, the "mid-plane" is so narrow as to prompt the expression "two-and-a-half-plane." The gasoline capacity is 2,000 gallons and oil 181 gallons and a minimum operating crew of four will be required.

"Specifications require that not more than 5,000 pounds of bombs shall be carried at one time" the announcement added, "but were anything so large as a 10,000 pound bomb developed, the Barling could lift and fly with it for two hours."

Spruce and "80,000 pound steel" were used in construction as compared to the 150,000 pound nickel steel used in building the navy's transatlantic flier, NC-4. Of the fuselage construction the statement said:

"Six-inch shells could probably pass through the tail portion without bringing the plane down. There are no vital longerons or wires which if shot would end the flight."

The ship is scheduled to have a 12-hour full speed flight capacity and will carry seven guns sweeping the whole field of approach of enemy machines.

## STONE MOUNTAIN WORK RESUMED

### Sentiment and Romance of South Emphasized in Ceremonies Marking Start

Atlanta, June 18.—The sentiment and romance that enshrine the heroes of the Confederacy were emphasized today as the south joined in memorable ceremonies marking the actual beginning of carving on the Stone Mountain memorial to the Confederacy. Tonight the outline of what is to be the figure of Gen. Robert E. Lee shows the completion of the first day's work of Gutson Borgelum, sculptor.

Standing at the base of the huge rock, located 16 miles from here, governors of two states, Virginia and Georgia, looked up and voiced God-speed to the sculptor's gargantuan work.

The governors, E. Lee Trinkle, of Virginia, and Thomas W. Hardwick, of Georgia, climbed down the ladder which has been constructed over the sheer face of the rock, and led the gathering of distinguished southerners in the dedication exercises.

Governor Trinkle, in his speech, paid a tribute to the Confederacy. He drew a vivid picture of the golden age of Dixie, just prior to the war between the states. He told how peerless southern leaders had won unifying fame, even though their cause was doomed to defeat, and pointed out how on Stone Mountain the military chieftains of the Confederacy, Lee, Stonewall Jackson, Davis, Beauregard, Gordon and all the others will gather in endless cavalcade to lead the ideals of a race down to the endless corridors of time.

Governor Hardwick responded briefly to Governor Trinkle's address.

Camden committee, of which Mayor M. G. Garrison, Jr., is chairman. In such cases as those of young Miller McLeod, Vernon McLeod, and Eugene Brown, whose whole families were wiped out, with the exception of the lone child survivor, farm lands have been taken over by near relatives, to be cultivated until permanent settlement of the situation can be arranged.