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MAJOR OPIE TELLS HIS STORY ON STAND TO REBUT CHARGES

HE FIRED RIFLE TWICE, ONCE IN THE AIR AND AGAIN IN THE GROUND

His Men, Fighting in Argonne, Became Demoralized. TRIED TO HALT RETREAT With Great Emphasis Accused Officer Declares He Never Shot Man in His Life. ONE VOICE AGAINST HIM

It was the voice of a shell-shocked victim of war now in hospital for insanity. Major Opie testified in their chief's favor.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 5.—Sweeping denial of charges that he had shot two of his men while his command, part of the 29th division, was in the thick of the Argonne fighting, was made before a senate investigating committee today by Maj. Jerome L. Opie, of Staunton, Va., and nearly a dozen men serving with him overseas. At an all day session only one voice was lifted against Major Opie—the voice of a shell-shocked victim of war, now a patient in a Virginia hospital for the insane. The witness, Lemuel C. Smith, declared that while in a dugout with three comrades and four German prisoners Major Opie entered, shot and killed a soldier, then ordered the body removed, without once uttering a word.

In rapid succession the comrades mentioned by Smith went on the stand and swore they saw no such killing, that they knew of no evidence whatever to support the charges. And then, after half a dozen of Major Opie's men had testified that they never heard of his shooting a soldier in France or anywhere else, the major himself spoke in his own defense, declaring there was no word of truth in the accusations and that he "never shot a man in his life."

Breaking down while witnesses were telling the committee that for his services in the Argonne offensive, ending in a hospital, wounded, he was awarded the distinguished service cross, the major declared that he never heard of his shooting a soldier in France or anywhere else, the major himself spoke in his own defense, declaring there was no word of truth in the accusations and that he "never shot a man in his life."

Explains Use Of Rifle.

Major Opie explained in detail how he had attempted to get his men in a line after they had been demoralized and were running wildly, some saying they had been ordered to retreat while others were shouting, "We're going home," and he was approaching. A tense situation, developing suddenly, found him alone in the effort to reform the lines, at the moment he was without a rifle. He was wearing a raincoat the lining of which was lined with mud and it was with difficulty that he could make the men halt.

"I took a rifle and fired twice," he said, "knowing perfectly well what I was doing. One shot was fired in the air and one in the ground. Nobody was hit. After I fired the lines stopped and I got them in shape, putting me in command. I sent runners to bring all the men up. There was not a dead soldier on the line and there had been no firing."

"Did you shoot a runner with a revolver, as charged?" Chairman Brandegee asked.

"I never fired a pistol the whole time I was in the army," Major Opie declared, with emphasis. Chairman Brandegee wanted to know if Major Opie had any theory as to how the reports about him had started.

"None, sir," he said, "it may be that one circumstance led to it, but it might be the only thing to do in justice to others. It happened that Lieut. Floyd W. Cunningham accidentally killed himself with a rifle and I was the first to reach him. I bent down to pick up his rifle and while I was alone in that position some stragglers may have been around. I sometimes think this scene may have started rumors of which I was the victim."

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK CONSTRUCTION HELD UP

Pending Outcome of Legislation Before Congress to Repeal Congressional Authorization.

Washington, Jan. 5.—Chairmen of all federal reserve banks were advised today by Governor Harding of the federal reserve board to stop all construction work for which contracts have not yet been let, pending the outcome of legislation before Congress to require congressional authorization for building operations by federal reserve banks.

This action Governor Harding said, will stop building operations planned in St. Louis, Minneapolis, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Nashville, Jacksonville, Detroit, Louisville, Denver, Oklahoma City and Salt Lake City.

Governor Harding explained, however, that the action of the board would not affect building contracts already let for construction by reserve banks in various districts.

Hungarian Envoy Is Prominent Diplomat



Count Laszlo Szechenyi, well known in diplomatic circles and husband of the former Gladys Vanderbilt, has been appointed minister to the United States by the Budapest government.

R. C. CHANDLEY GETS OFFICIAL HOLD ON JOB OF POSTMASTER HERE

In Long List Confirmed By the Senate.

BENBOW FOR TWIN CITY

Thirty-two Others Safely Land Postoffice Jobs in North Carolina.

DISPUTE OVER THE J. C. SENATOR

Senator Overman Making Fight To Have a Southern Man Appointed On Interstate Commerce Commission.

Washington, Jan. 5.—At an executive session late today the senate confirmed the nominations of Roscoe C. Chandley to be postmaster at Greensboro and John T. Benbow as postmaster at Winston-Salem. The senate also confirmed more than a score of other North Carolina postoffice nominations which have been pending since December. This action was forecast in last night's dispatches to the Daily News.

The nomination of Andrews, given by President Harding to Clyde H. Jarrett, is still hanging fire on protest of the friends of Miss Pearl Parker, the incumbent, who claim irregularity in the Jarrett appointment in that he once refused the office to which he is now named.

In alphabetical order, according to postoffices, the Tar Heel postmasters confirmed today were:

- List of New Postmasters.
- Charles A. Guy, Angier; Wesley L. Norman, Banner; Elk; Amelia B. Stepp, Black Mountain; Fannie Field, Boardman; William B. Bolton; James E. Kelly, Candor; Henry B. Head, Caroleen; Thomas E. Harwell, Catawba; Elton H. Rogers, Clarkton; Alex. R. Duncan, Clayton; John H. Hobson, Cleveland; Adrian K. Parker, Clinton; David W. Alexander, Connelly Springs; Claude C. Tiffin, at Waverlyville; Joseph E. Taylor, Bunker; Walter Hogan, Ellettsville; Chester A. Hughes, Elton College; Roscoe C. Chandley, Greensboro; Nancy E. Bullard, Haw River; Reuben H. Staton, Hendersonville; Joshua E. Jessup, Hertford; Hannah J. Fate, Hope Mills; Abram K. Timman, Lowell; Joseph E. Taylor, Lucas; Lulu G. Harris, Macon; Sallie K. Wilkins, Magnolia; Fred Herrin, Mount Pleasant; Elijah Pearce, Princeton; George H. Hodgins, Ramoth; Albert Z. Jarman, Richlands; Ed D. Bird, Ronda; Robert L. Burgin, Sunbury; William E. Lindsay, Winton; John T. Benbow, Winston-Salem; William E. Rutledge, Yadkinville.

TO MUCH QUANDS MENACE TO POLITICAL HOPES OF MR. McLEAN

County Division Rumblings In Robeson Disturbing. SCRAPPY BUNCH TO MEET McAllisters and Johnsons Able to Make Old Guard Tremble Considerably. MURDER PROBE DRAGGING

After Four Days of Investigation of Killing of Hamilton, Nobody is Yet Arrested—Trail Gets a Little Warmer.

The Greensboro Daily News Bureau, 208 Merchants National Bank Bldg. By W. T. HOYT.

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—On the opening of 1922, and therefore a primary year, Robeson county, which has hoped to offer Angus Wilton McLean for the governorship by ratifying the appointment of the machine, finds itself in the throes of a new county division fight and in danger of having to meet the active opposition of the McAllisters and Johnsons.

Which is the most distressing old guard news since the Durham rebuke. If the McAllister-Johnson faction gets into action it can beat Mr. McLean or Mr. Anybody else. It has beaten others who would not feel complimented to be put as runners in the McLean class, and it can do it again. The Robesonian rumblings are something fierce to hear in this beautiful and bright new year.

Impressis, Gib Patterson, once upon a time congressman from the bloody sixth, is believed to be getting ready. He is a divisionist. He was born divided and a non-conformist. He is said to be a man who can create a couple of counties. One end of the empire of Robeson desires to be Liberty and another LaFayette, distinctions without great difference, albeit, one would have Rowland and the other St. Paul and county sections lumbering, far away, in much against these divisions. And the dividers are growing.

Abel To Gush Up Things.

The McAllister-Johnson influence is against the county division, but it has been so much against McLean that it might be able to accommodate its lesser differences. Who is to create a nation which finds its immediate impulsion in a great national bank, did for another combination likewise personified in a money institution, is much remembered to this day. It made murder of Governor Morrison's ambassador, far away, in much against these divisions. And the dividers are growing.

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Dragging Horse In.

Government orders to prohibition Agent R. A. Kohlos to have the cargo of boots carried by the Messenger of Peace, recently captured in Oceanoque Inlet, have probably set the joy-stuff a-moving toward Wilmington and the Seminoles is probably at this hour dragging the Messenger of Peace into Wilmington port.

According to revenue headquarters here Mr. Kohlos yesterday was instructed to return to Wilmington and to welcome in the name of the United States this boat of boot-traffic. When it gets to Wilmington Mr. Kohlos either will be there personally or by proxy. The liquor will then be stored and the department of justice will undertake to prove that the boat was a blockade and was running the gauntlet in the state. It is rumoured that the Messenger of Peace is to be taken to the Cape Fear river, where it will be destroyed.

SHANTUNG CONTROVERSY HOPELESS OF SOLUTION

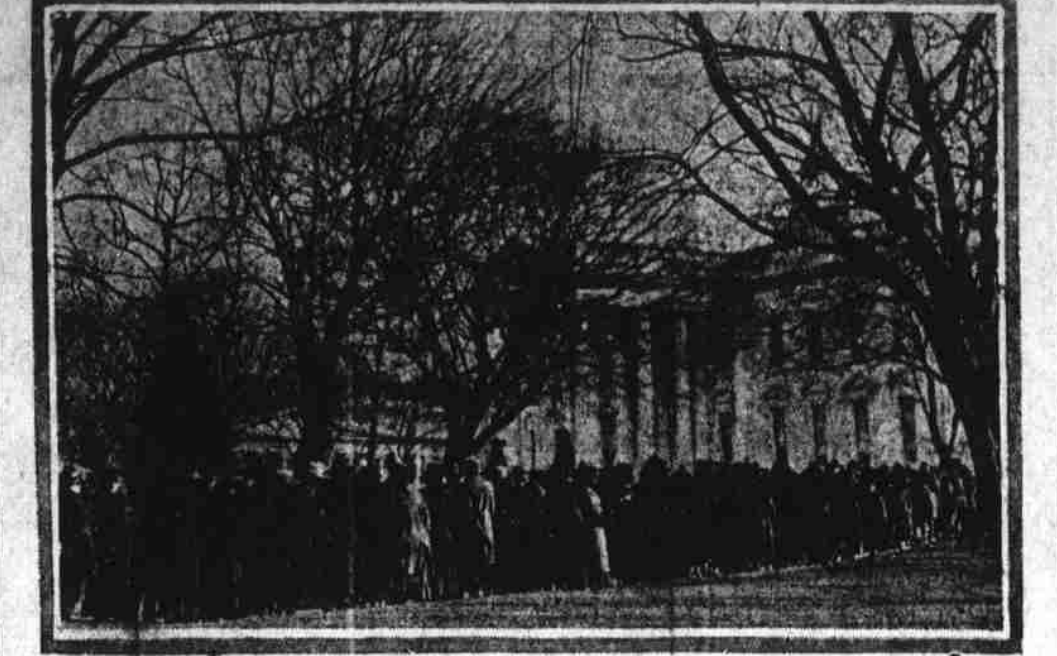
Chinese Delegation Flatly Refuses To Accept The Japanese Proposal.

Washington, Jan. 5.—The Shantung controversy again appeared hopeless of solution late today when, after a two and a half hour session between the Japanese and Chinese delegations, devoted to consideration of the return of the Kiao-Chow Peninsula railway, the latter announced that unless the Japanese accepted the Chinese plan for payment for the road in cash or installments by tomorrow the "conversations" would be ended.

Only a renewal of the "good offices" of Arthur J. Ballou and Secretary Hughes, it was said, could then bring about a meeting of the two groups.

The Chinese delegation definitely refused to accept the Japanese proposal for a payment of the railway by a Japanese loan, Wellington Koo, one of the Chinese delegates said, but the Chinese made a concession regarding immediate deposit of \$2,000,000 Chinese dollars as a cash payment.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES CALLERS AFTER THEY WERE SHUNNED EIGHT YEARS



President Harding opened the doors of the White House to New Year callers after they had been refused admittance during former President Wilson's eight year term of office. The Executive received many prominent guests during the day, and a reception was held. This picture shows part of the crowds awaiting their turn to call on the President at the White House.

HEAD OF WILMINGTON SHIPBUILDING CONCERN WANTS MUSCLE SHOALS

Offer Submitted For Private Lease of Properties. MADE BY MARION BUTLER

Proposal Is Explained In Detail and Compared With Offer Made By Ford.

AGREE TO SPEND \$36,000,000

Washington, Jan. 5.—The five greatest naval powers of the world decreed today as between themselves abolishment of submarine warfare against merchant ships. To purge the seas forever of this hidden menace to peaceful folk and ships, the world is asked to subscribe to the decree as a new principle of international law.

As adopted by the naval committee of the arms conference, the resolution proposed by Elihu Root and amended by Arthur J. Balfour to become immediately effective between the five signatory powers runs as follows:

"The signatory powers recognize the practical impossibility of using submarines as commerce destroyers without violating, as they were violated in the recent war of 1914-1918, the requirements universally accepted by civilized nations of the prohibition of the use of military and non-combatants, and to the end that the prohibition of the use of submarines as commerce destroyers shall be universally accepted as a part of the law of nations, they hereby pledge themselves and their heirs to adhere thereto."

Chief provisions of Mr. Engstrom's bid, which guarantees completion of the dam within 18 months, the latter being targeted to manufacture that product, according to the most approved system for commercial products of the kind, call for an expenditure of \$25,000,000 by a corporation to be formed, operation of at least one plant within a year after the property comes within his possession, and covers a contract period of production for 50 years.

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Will Abolish Submarine War On Merchant Ships

Five Greatest Naval Powers of the World Decree That Submarine Shall Not Be Used As Commerce Destroyer—Powers Agree In Part to China's Request That Foreign Restrictions On Her Tariff Be Removed.

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DEFECTIVE TANK WAS CAUSE OF EXPLOSION, SAYS G. S. ALBRIGHT

Brother of Man Killed Investigates the Accident. TANK WAS NOT WELDED Manufacturer Represented It As Welded Or Seamless, According to Professor. CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE?

Ed Albright's brother, a Georgia Tech instructor, declares efforts will be made to find builder of the tank.

Defects in the construction of the compressed air tank caused it to explode in the establishment of the Dixie Sales company Wednesday morning, instantly injuring A. S. Lowe, and seriously injuring A. S. Lowe according to G. S. Albright, brother of the man killed, who said last night he had conducted a thorough investigation of the accident since arriving in Greensboro yesterday morning. Mr. Albright is an instructor in the mechanical department of Georgia Tech at Atlanta. "It is nothing but a case of criminal negligence," said Mr. Albright. "The head of the tank was not even brazed, it was simply stuck in there when it was represented as having been welded. If Ed Albright had known it was brazed he would never have been up there at work."

Mr. Albright explained the difference between a brazed and welded head on a compressed air tank. It is never safe to attempt to cork a brazed tank because it has a tendency to make the leak larger rather than close it, he said.

Mr. Albright said he examined the head of the tank in the plant of the Dixie Sales company and there were indications that efforts had been made to cork it with a hammer. There was a split in the tank.

Unable To Give Maker's Name.

According to Mr. Albright, the tank was purchased by his brother for the Dixie Sales company through a jobber. He was unable last night to give the name of the firm manufacturing it, but said efforts would be made to learn it.

"If I could do something to stop this criminal negligence I would do it. If I knew I would be killed," said Mr. Albright. "I do not recognize a mistake of this kind and I know my brother wouldn't."

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BOMB IS THROWN INTO DORMITORY AT TRINITY

It Exploded In Unused Room In Aispaugh Hall and Did Little Damage.

MAN CHASED FROM ROOF

Durham, Jan. 5.—A lead pipe bomb thrown into an unused room at Aispaugh hall, Trinity college dormitory, this morning at 2 o'clock shattered two window panes of the building and damaged a wall seat in the room. H. L. Humphries, night watchman at Trinity, discovered the place of the explosion forty-five minutes later when he chased a thick heavy set man from off a roof in the rear of the building. Of the young men sleeping in the dormitory only two were awakened by the noise. No motive can be assigned for the act. Mr. Humphries is sure that the person chased from the roof was not a student.

According to the story told by the night watchman, he was in his room at 2 o'clock when he heard a muffled explosion. Immediately he went to the Crowell science hall to investigate, thinking that some chemical apparatus had exploded. His search revealed nothing. Forty-five minutes later, he started on his hourly tour of inspection of the college buildings. While going through the library he heard a peculiar sound at the rear and outside of the building. Hastening in the direction of the sound, he discovered a man standing on a roof which projects over a flight of steps leading to the basement of Aispaugh hall. This roof is on a level with the first story windows of the building and hemmed in on either side by wings of the dormitory. The man plunged through the window on the level of the roof and escaped through the building.

The explosion was explained when a crudely constructed bomb was found on the floor beneath the window through which the man had plunged. It was made from a lead pipe six inches long and an inch in diameter.

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