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REIGN OF TERROR IN PIERCE CITY

A Missouri Community Completely Under Control of an Infuriated Mob

BEGAN WITH LYNCHING

Negro Burned to Death in His House

BLACKS TAKE FLIGHT

All Kinds of Outrages Perpetrated in Revenge for the Murder of a White Girl—No Discrimination Between the Innocent and the Guilty—Two or Three More Subjects for Hanging

Pierce City, Mo., August 20.—The hanging of Will Godley for the murder of Miss Wilde shortly after midnight by a mob numbering from 800 to 1,000 men, has produced a state of terror among the colored people of Pierce City. French Godley, the grandfather of Will Godley, was shot and Peter Hampton perished in the flames of his own house. Last night was one of extreme excitement, amounting almost to frenzy. Some three hundred people died in all directions. The mob broke open the hardware stores and seized firearms and ammunition and rifled muskets from the armory of the Pierce City company of Missouri National Guards. The attack on the negroes continued as long one could be found. Some of them went to the woods while others left on the morning trains never to return. A number of them went to Springfield. Many were so panic-stricken that they did not take time to pack their household goods.

Eugene Barrett, a negro boy 18 years old, says that the train Porter Starks, who runs on the Oklahoma division of the Frisco, killed the young woman and he, Barrett, is now in jail at Mt. Vernon. Starks was arrested at Tulsa, Indian Territory this morning. He is about 24 years old. What will be done with him is not yet known. Taking him to Pierce City for his preliminary examination now means his death at once. Barrett says that Starks boarded with Joe Lark, a Frisco porter, who was arrested in Springfield this morning and placed in jail there. The bloodhounds are said to have tracked some one from the body of the murdered girl to Lark's house. Lark is allowed to remain in the office of the jail, but says he would rather be in the jail than free in the streets of Pierce City. Lark denies that Joe Starks boarded with him and denies any knowledge of the crime. He seems confident that he will not be implicated although he was arrested and is held at the request of the Pierce City authorities. Young Barrett, who is in jail at Mt. Vernon expecting to be hanged every minute, connects Joe Lark with the crime. Godley said to a correspondent in his cell before he was hanged that he had served ten years for an assault on a woman sixty years old. The evidence against him was not complete when he was hanged, but it is claimed that it was made complete afterward. It is alleged that he made the statement once that if ever he committed a criminal assault again a young girl would be the victim. He could not or would not explain his whereabouts when the crime was committed, and bloodhounds tracked him to where he admitted he had gone, then to his home, from there to the jail and to the cell where he was confined.

The bloody work may not be ended, as other negroes are implicated. Barrett's confession charging Joe Lark implicates himself. The work of the frenzied mob in the negro quarter was terrible. There was no apparent distinction between guilt and innocence. Houses were set on fire; rioters were riddled with bullets and other reigned supreme with the slogan "The negroes must go."

The funeral of Miss Wilde took place at ten o'clock this morning and trouble was looked for and certainly would have been precipitated had a negro been seen in the streets when the body was taken to the cemetery.

The first outbreak of anti-negro feeling occurred about 1 o'clock this morning when the negro Pete Hampton left his home and went to the home of Frank Godley, just south of the Frisco depot. The mob was looking for Hampton, who fired a shot from the upper story into the crowd and uttered some words of defiance. A part of the crowd returned the fire and Hampton fell dead. Frank Godley then came to the door and the mob was shot dead. Meanwhile some of the mob went to Hampton's house, half a block away, and set it on fire. They returned and set fire to the house of "Shack" Brinson, Frank Godley, Mrs. Carter and Alex Robinson, all negroes living near together. All five houses

were burned down. The dead bodies of Hampton and Godley were burned past all recognition. An orphan girl, colored, is missing and is supposed to be burned in the ruins of Godley's house. Will Godley was hanged and shot to pieces.

BRITISH IN PEKIN

Chinese Annoyed by Their Persistence in Remaining

Pekin, August 20.—The British troops who have been here since last year are leaving and are relieved by new commands. Three companies of the Fourteenth Sikhs and a battalion of the Sixth Burma have arrived. Col. Cary replaces Col. Alexander as commander in Pekin.

The failure of the British to evacuate Pekin annoys the Chinese officials. They alone refuse to permit Yuan Shih Kai's troops to enter Pekin, though only two of the twelve proposed posts are within the former British section.

Chinese officials say that the reason given for the court's delay in returning to Pekin is a mere pretext. The excuse offered lately has been the bad condition of the roads, the heat, the infirmity of the dowager empress and the desire to celebrate her birthday at Kaifeng Fu. The real reason is because the powers are retaining supremacy in Pekin and vicinity and the evacuation has not been accomplished.

VIRGINIA REPUBLICANS

Their State Convention Meets Today in Roanoke

Richmond, Va., August 20.—The State Republican convention meets at Roanoke tomorrow. J. Hampton Hoage will be nominated for Governor in spite of a bitter fight against him by Thomas L. Rosser, General James A. Walker and Captain Warren S. Lurray. D. Lawrence Gromer will be nominated for attorney general. There are no avowed aspirants for Lieutenant-Governor, though the names of J. D. Honaker and C. M. Louthan are mentioned. The platform will oppose the submission of the new constitution to an abridged electorate or proclaiming it without submission to the voters. The convention will be the largest held by the Republican party in Virginia for ten years. There are very few colored delegates and they are from the white counties.

IN NORTH LUZON

Philippine Commission Welcomed by the Natives

Laoag, Ilocos, North Luzon, August 20.—The Philippine Commission arrived here today and had a rather lively experience in landing on this coast. They were compelled to land in native boats at the mouth of the Laoag river, and, passing through the surf, the party were all thoroughly drenched. The commissioners received an unusual reception, some of the delegates welcoming them having traveled forty miles through a very mountainous country. There are no signs of hostility to the Americans in the province. The inhabitants have been struggling with the most tangled politics. The commission appointed the candidate of the military authorities, but all the other officials appointed are natives with the exception of Lieutenant Currie, who was appointed treasurer.

A typhoon is threatening and the commission therefore shortened its session and is making haste to reach Aparri, province of Cagayan, by sea before the storm breaks.

A STRIKER SHOT

Fight with Non-union Men in Which a Gun Figured

Troy, August 20.—The first outbreak in the strike of the shirt, collar and waist cutters which has been in progress here over a month occurred tonight about 6 o'clock when one of the strikers was shot. Several non-union cutters and a crowd of strikers became engaged in a row. A non-union man fired into the crowd striking John Dugrinnier. He was picked up unconscious and it was at first believed he was dead. A physician was soon in attendance, however, and it is believed that he may recover. Two brothers named Collins, who recently came from Montreal to take the place of strikers, were arrested. One confessed firing the shot and pleaded self-defense.

Craven Criminal Court

New Bern, N. C., August 20.—Special.—On the second day of the criminal court six cases were heard. The trial of Lewis Humphrey of Dover—a capital

case—was set for Thursday afternoon and is expected to take three days to hear. The grand jury today brought in a long list of true bills. Frank Hill, wanted on a charge of larceny, was brought down from Kinston, having tried to skip his bond.

OIL TANKS BURNING

The Great Fire in Philadelphia Still Rages

Philadelphia, August 20.—Another tank, containing eighty thousand gallons of oil, exploded at 4 o'clock this afternoon at Point Breeze oil works. Burning oil, wood and pieces of iron fell among the firemen and spectators, fourteen of whom received injuries that necessitated removal to a hospital. None was seriously hurt.

Fire Chief Baxter said today that only three firemen were killed by the explosion early this morning. The major part of the fire department is at work at the fire, which shows no signs of abatement. The blazing tanks are being allowed to burn without any attempt being made to check the flames, the firemen confining all their energies to preventing a further spread of the flames. There are several naphtha and gasoline tanks near where the flames are raging, and as the air is filled with blazing bits of wood, it is scarcely possible that they will be saved. The prospect now is that the whole plant will be destroyed. The Standard Oil Company officials are very reticent and have hampered the firemen in their work by refusing to tell the contents of the tanks. They are also loath to make an estimate of the loss, although one employee this afternoon said that the damage already done would reach \$300,000.

UNAVOIDABLE DISASTER

Nobody to Blame for Loss of the Islander

Victoria, B. C., August 20.—The responsibility for the Islander disaster is being discussed, and although the speed of 14 knots is criticised, the accident seems to have been unavoidable. The stories told by passengers of the captain being excited by liquor are known to be untrue.

When the Islander struck Captain Foote, who acted coolly, evidently thought the bulkheads of the Islander would save the steamer. Without doubt, according to the surviving officers, the ice struck the steamer on her port quarter just about the second bulkhead beneath the bridge, and through the hole there water rushed into the large portion amidships to the next bulkhead. It rushed into the engine room and two firemen vainly endeavored to shut the top wheel and keep back the flooding water from the engine room. The water poured in through the hole, and when the orders were afterwards given for "full speed ahead" the steamer was down so much by the head that both her propellers raced and with the non-resistance of the air the tremors caused by the racing wheels shook the vessel considerably until the engines, now useless, were stopped. There was nothing for it then but to get out the boats.

The story of getting out the boats as told by the survivors now returned, shows that the officers and crew of the steamer Islander acted like heroes. It is also shown that many of the passengers rushed the boats and fought to push off before the boats were filled, neglecting chances to save others in their hurry to get the boats away.

SIGNED TO FIGHT

Jeffries and Ruhlin Will Meet on the Pacific Slope

San Francisco, August 20.—It looks as though the long expected fight between Jeffries and Ruhlin would take place early in November in San Francisco, for today inside of an hour articles for a fight between Jeffries and Ruhlin were signed by Billy Madden representing Ruhlin, and Joe Egan, representing Jeffries. Jeffries and Billy Delaney were also present. The articles were copied directly from the Cincinnati articles for the fight between Jeffries and Ruhlin which never came off. They provide for twenty rounds, Queensbury rules, with five ounce gloves, in San Francisco, in November or December, before the club which shall offer the best inducements, the winner to get 75 per cent and loser 25 per cent, with a forfeit of \$2,500 each and the same amount by the club selected. Geo. Siler is chosen referee.

HUMAN FUEL FOR FLAMES

Fearful Punishment for a Negro Murderer of a White Woman

Gainesville, Tex., August 20.—Abe Vander, a negro who murdered Mrs. Caldwell near Whitesboro late Friday afternoon, was captured this morning in Indian Territory and brought across country to a point one mile south of Dexter, this State, where he was burned at the stake at 6:30 this evening. For three days hundreds of men have been scouring the country in the hope of

PUT TO THE TEST

Suit Brought on the Grandfather Clause

DISMISSED BY JUDGE

The Case to Be Carried Up to the Highest Court—The Link in the Chain That is Likely to Break

New Orleans, Aug. 20.—Judge Somerville, of the Civil District Court, before whom the case of David J. Ryanes, a negro, against Jere Gleason, supervisor of registration, was on trial, has sustained the exceptions filed by Attorney General Guion and dismissed the suit. This is the suit instituted at the suggestion and expense of the Afro-American League, of Washington, to test the constitutionality of the suffrage clause of the Louisiana Constitution, by which ninety per cent of the negroes are disfranchised, which clause has been adopted in North Carolina and is in process of adoption in Alabama.

A test case was made with the negro Ryanes, and it is announced that it is the purpose of the league to carry the case up to the Supreme Court of the United States. Ryanes demanded registration, although he is disfranchised under the Constitution of Louisiana, claiming that the constitution and statutory laws in regard to registration are unconstitutional and null and void. The court decided that if this contention prevails Ryanes could not be registered because the supervisor would have no legal duty to perform in connection with the registration. A significant point in the decision is the declaration that if part of the law affecting suffrage qualification is unconstitutional it does not in any manner affect the other sections, and it was found that the famous grandfather clause, section 5, by which men are given the electoral franchise because their grandfathers were voters, is unconstitutional. This does not affect sections 1 and 2, which make ability to read and write or owners of property the basis of suffrage.

Decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States are quoted on this point. Thus, it is held that the grandfather clause is unconstitutional, but that those few illiterate and propertyless white men who claimed the right to vote because of their grandfathers.

CONSULS IN COURT

Boer Sues Britisher for Alleged Slander

New Orleans, Aug. 20.—Gen. Samuel Pearson, representative of the Boer government in this country, who is at present a resident of New Orleans, this morning carried out his threat and brought suit in the United States District Court against the British consul at New Orleans, Arthur G. Van Sittart, in the sum of \$20,000, charging the consul with having slandered him in his alleged demand upon the superintendent of police for his (Pearson's) arrest.

The suit grows out of the attempted blowing up of the British steamship Mechanic early on the morning of August 9, and which caused such a sensation at the time.

Consul Van Sittart is said to have suggested that General Pearson was a party to the explosion, to have demanded his arrest and to have been instrumental in putting detectives on his trail, thereby defaming and annoying him. There is some question of the jurisdiction of the court in this case, as neither General Pearson nor Consul Van Sittart is a citizen of the United States, and the decision on this point will be of general interest.

Mother Stewart a Dowrite

Springfield, Ohio, August 20.—Mother Stewart, known the world over for the prominent part she took in the temperance crusade of 1878 and the founder of the W. C. T. U. is now a Dowrite. She was baptized into the faith at Chicago last week. Friends attribute the step to the weakening of her energy on account of old age.

Boers Suffer Reverse

London, Aug. 20.—According to a dispatch received here today from Pretoria the Boers have suffered a severe reverse near Carolina in the eastern Transvaal.

The telegram says that a burgher larger was surprised by a force under Colonel Benson, and in the fight that followed two of the burghers were killed and thirty were made prisoners. Among those who were captured was Commandant De Villiers, the father-in-law of Mr. Schalkburgh, who is the acting president of the South African republic.

AS KITCHENER SEES IT

Boer Resistance Has Passed the Stage of Patriotism

London, Aug. 20.—The official gazette contains a long dispatch from General Kitchener detailing the operations in South Africa from May 5 to July 8. In the course of his report General Kitchener makes an amusing reference to the yeomanry recruits, many of whom, he says, are unable to ride or shoot. He considers that there were at the time referred to 13,500 Boers in the field, but the long railway lines necessitate the employment of a large number of troops to prevent the Boers from capturing trains. General Kitchener declares that great patience is required. He says he sees the inevitable end of the insensate resistance which some may consider patriotic, but which, in his opinion, has long since forfeited such a designation and has resulted in an unjustifiable prolongation of the war suffering of the women and children. Such a continuance is due to the arrogance of the Boer leaders who originally opposed the war, but who are now unwilling to submit to what they foresaw would be the inevitable consequences. The Boer party who declared war have quit the field and are now urging on those they deserted by lying assurances of outside assistance and by raising absurdly deceitful hopes that Great Britain has not sufficient endurance to see the matter through.

KILLED BY AN OFFICER

A North Carolina Negro Done for in Maryland

Cumberland, Aug. 20.—Frank Luckie, a colored deputy sheriff, shot and killed James Hoskins, also colored, near Pinto, this county, last night. Hoskins had previously shot John Sommers, another negro, through the foot.

Deputy Sheriff L. I. Davis, of Keyser, was notified and a warrant for Hoskins' arrest was procured. He was advised that Hoskins was a dangerous man, and Luckie proffered his assistance. Together they went to a mountain dive, Luckie entering first. Davis drew a revolver as Hoskins was pointed out, and the latter reluctantly threw up his hands. While Davis was in the act of putting the handcuffs on Hoskins, the latter attempted to overpower the deputy sheriff and grab his revolver. Luckie then shot, felling Hoskins, but he continued his resistance until another shot killed him. Twenty colored men and women in the shack beat a hasty retreat.

It was Hoskins' avowed intention to murder Davis. He was 25 years of age, unmarried, and came from North Carolina. He was employed on the Baltimore & Ohio cut-off.

AMERICAN SAILORS FOR COLOMBIAN NAVY

New York, August 20.—The government of Colombia is engaging American seamen here as officers for her navy. On board the steamer Advance, which sailed for Colon today, were Joseph A. Merritt and Jno. Grundal, who have been engaged as first and second officers respectively. They will be assigned to duty on the gunboat General Pinzon, which was formerly James Gordon Bennett's steam yacht Namona, and recently purchased by Colombia in England for \$100,000. The British officers refused to serve after they had delayed the yacht to her destination. Gen. Carlos Alban, Governor of Panama, then commanded Captain Sukefort of the steamer Advance to secure men here. A third American officer was to sail today with Merritt and Grundal as first assistant engineer, but he demanded more for his services, it is said, than Colombia cared to pay. The two who have already accepted billets in the Colombian navy have contracts, calling for a substantial monthly allowance payable in United States gold. Merritt and Grundal, who have been connected with some of the steamship lines here, are not certain whether or not they will be required to help fight the rebels or Venezuelans.

French Press Overjoyed

Paris, Aug. 20.—The announcement that the Czar and Czarina would attend the French manoeuvres next month has caused an explosion of joy in the French press. The visit was arranged six months ago, but the fact was kept secret. The plans for the visit were submitted to the Czar and received his approval, but the details thus far were vague. The director of detectives called on the President today and discussed the measures to be adopted to protect the Czar during his stay in France.

Doctor Called in Too Late

Asheville, N. C., August 20.—Special.—Melvin Brown, eighteen years old, a popular young man, died of meningitis. He and his people were Christian Scientists and a physician was not called until too late.

Practical Patriotism

London, August 20.—Queen Alexandra, writing to Lady Amberst, expressed the hope that all ladies who attend the coronation ceremonies will wear dresses made as much as possible of materials of British manufacture and embroidered by British workmen.

NOT IN HIS LINE

Attorney-General Not Informed About Steel Trust

REPLIES TO A LETTER

He Has No Information, Officially or Otherwise—A Lesson in Propriety Thrown Out to His Questioners

Washington, August 20.—Attorney-General Knox yesterday afternoon received a letter from the joint committee of American Anti-Trust League and District Assembly No. 66, Knights of Labor, requesting information from Mr. Knox regarding the United States Steel Corporation. The letter was signed by H. B. Martin, chairman, and Wm. L. Dewart, secretary.

Mr. Knox today replied in a letter addressed to Mr. Martin. Mr. Knox writes as follows:

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of August 19, 1901, in which you request me to obtain for you certain information with reference to certain alleged agreements or understandings made between the constituent companies and individuals who organized the United States Steel Corporation. You ask me to afford you all the information that I may possess or can obtain and you specifically refer to an alleged 'trust or syndicate agreement' which you state the president of the United States Steel Corporation, Mr. C. M. Schwab, refused to furnish to the United States Industrial Commission when on the witness stand before that body, and you further state that your request for information is understood as 'covering any contracts of a similar kind with which you are acquainted or which you can obtain for us.'"

"You also state that your request for information is founded upon information and belief that at the time this contract, or these contracts were made I was in some way officially connected with the Carnegie Steel Company, and you therefore assume that the information you request may be in my possession or conveniently at hand. I am therefore requested to give you the substance, or if possible, a copy thereof.

"Primarily, permit me to say that your request is founded upon an erroneous assumption. I do not know who the individuals are who organized the United States Steel Corporation. If they are the persons usually named in the newspapers as the promoters of that organization, with the single exception of Mr. C. M. Schwab, I do not know, never saw, and was never in any way connected with any one of them. I never heard of any agreement between them and the constituent members of the steel corporation, either at the time of the formation of the United States Steel Corporation or at any time I was officially connected with the Carnegie Steel Company. I was formerly one of its legal advisers in the conduct of its manufacturing business, but was never consulted with reference to the formation of the United States Steel Corporation in relation to the sale to that company of the shares of stock held by the stockholders of the Carnegie company.

"I have never seen the papers or agreements to which you refer, nor have I been informed of their contents. I have no knowledge whatever of their existence, terms or scope. I am thus specific as I desire to cover both the spirit and the letter of your inquiry.

"I must say, however, that I have no access to the agreement or papers to which you refer. I know nothing of the one to which you especially refer and do not even know that such agreement is in existence.

"The information which you request, therefore, is not in my possession or 'conveniently at hand' as you assume, and it is therefore, impossible for me to comply with any of the requests set forth in your letter. All this information you could at any time have acquired through the usual method of direct personal inquiry, thereby avoiding the doubtful propriety of addressing me through the medium of an open letter which you concurrently delivered to the press.

"Whether, if such papers were accessible to me, it would be my duty to obtain them and furnish them for use in legal proceedings in which you are a party and the nature of which you do not explain, is a question which I do not care at this time to discuss.

"If I may regard the letter as addressed to me officially, I will say if this department is under obligations to furnish information to prospective litigants in undisclosed proceedings, its responsibilities and labors are necessarily greater than they have ever been imagined from the time of its formation. Indeed, as there are generally two parties to every controversy it would be difficult to discharge such alleged duty to both parties in view of conflicting interests. This department was not called into being to furnish information to private litigants. Its duty and its object is to enforce the Federal statutes as interpreted by the courts wherever there is probable cause for believing that they have been violated.

"Very respectfully,
"P. C. KNOX,
"Attorney General."