

RORY O'CONNOR, IRISH INSURGENT LEADER, AND THREE OTHERS EXECUTED

Execution Came as Reprisal for Assassination of Hales.

AS SOLEMN WARNING

Deputy Hales Was One of Michael Collins' Best Friends.

DUBLIN, Dec. 8.—(By the Associated Press.) Rory O'Connor and Liam Mellows, together with two other Irish rebels, were executed in Mount Joy prison this morning, it was officially announced.

The two other men executed were named Conroy and Barrett, both prominent republicans.

Roderick (Rory) O'Connor, and Liam Mellows were leaders of the band of Irish insurgents that held the Four Courts building in Dublin in its stand against the Free state troops last June. Each was taken prisoner when the building was captured after a three day siege.

An official army report states that the four men were executed as a reprisal for the assassination of Sean Hales, the deputy shot yesterday, and as a solemn warning to those associated with them "in the conspiracy of assassination against the representatives of the Irish people."

Deputy Sean Hales and Brigadier General Patrick O'Malley, deputy speaker of the lower house of the new parliament, were shot yesterday on their way to the parliament session. Hales died shortly afterward. O'Malley, shot in the head and arm, was operated upon and it was stated late last night that his condition was not critical.

Hales was one of Michael Collins' closest friends. His brother, Tom, is on the other side—one of the most prominent of the irregular leaders and is reported to have acknowledged himself responsible for the ambush which resulted in Michael Collins' death last summer.

The Day's News At A Glance

United States representative at Lausanne vigorously protests against expulsion of Greeks from Constantinople.

Premier Craig declares it is impossible now to hope that Ulster will submit to Dublin parliament.

Allied premiers meet today in London in vital conference seeking agreement on Germany's reparations bill.

Turkey promises to oppose international control of Dardanelles and stands against idea of fixed garrison at Constantinople.

Killing of Sean Hales, deputy of Irish parliament, intensifies risk to other members who received threatened letters.

Ismet Pasha tells American missionary heads that he wishes to keep in Turkey American schools and other institutions.

German press deduces that United States has decided definitely to abandon its "attitude of proud reserves" in European affairs.

Premier Mussolini asserts that Italy is in complete agreement with her allies in Lausanne proceedings.

Dr. Klaus Scholl, German economic expert, declares that France has made 1,200,000,000 francs profit on German coal delivered since the armistice.

Battling Siki says Carpentier was an easy mark and that American public was imposed upon in bout with Dempsey.

New York police get orders to "dry up Broadway" is drastic enforcement of state prohibition law directed against Christmas liquor.

Depositors in Christmas clubs in five thousands United States banks will receive about \$120,000,000 before December 10.

New York detectives recover valuable loot taken from summer homes of Harry Payne Whitney and other wealthy Long Island residents.

Clemenceau is second visit to white house has chat with Mrs. Harding and wishes her speedy restoration to health.

BEE HIVE IN RABBIT BOX.

Mr. J. B. Pickler, a leading farmer of New London, Route 1, was in the city Thursday and told us a rather interesting story. Mr. Pickler says that on Wednesday one of his neighbors, Mr. Del Efrid, decided to set his rabbit box which had been lying idly in a briar patch during the past summer. Raising the box he found it quite heavy. On attempting to open the door he found it difficult, but finally when it came open he discovered that his rabbit box was full of honey and that it contained a swarm of bees. By the way, Venus is going to have to get busy if he expects to keep up with some of these marvelous happenings in Staley.

CONCERT SINGER FOUND SHOT THROUGH HEART

PATERSON, N. J., Dec. 8.—Responding to an anonymous telephone call early today, Paterson police found the body of Miss Evelyn Mabel Rainbow, a concert singer, on the floor in the basement of her house. She had been shot twice through the heart. Nearby lay Harry Harter, a widower, who boarded at the Rainbow home, dangerously wounded. He had been shot in the right temple and under the heart. Harter was removed to a Paterson hospital in a dying condition.

A note, evidently written after he had shot and killed Miss Rainbow, was found near Harter's body. It read: "Good-bye. Give my watch and ring to David my son. I am asking his forgiveness for the deed which I have done. I am taking the one with me who broke my heart and drove me to this."

It was signed H. Harter. Miss Rainbow had conducted a music studio at her home since returning from a concert tour in Europe nine months ago.

"BIG ANDY" CLONINGER GETS LOAD OF SHOT IN HIS LEGS

Well-Known Dallas Farmer Shot By Negro Following Altercation Over Hunting On Mr. Cloninger's Land—Is Getting Along Nicely In Hospital.

"Big Andy" Cloninger, a prominent and well-known farmer of Dallas township, was shot in the legs by Roosevelt Lipscomb, a negro, Thursday about noon, following some words when Mr. Cloninger discovered a group of negroes hunting on his place. Mr. Cloninger is at the Gaston Sanatorium, and is getting along nicely. The weapon used was a shotgun. Mr. Cloninger received the whole load of No. 4 shot in both legs. He was also shot in the hands in two or three places. The wounds, while painful, are nothing but flesh wounds, and no serious complications are expected.

Mr. Cloninger was out tracking a fox on his place when he heard the negroes and their dogs running rabbits. He approached them and spoke warningly to them about running over his fields and shooting birds. He told them he did not mind their killing rabbits if they did not bother his boxes. One of the negroes "sassed" him, according to Mr. Cloninger's version. One word led to another and Mr. Cloninger, who had his gun with him, shot one of the negroes' dogs. Another negro who was in the party, and whom Mr. Cloninger had not seen, promptly called one barrel of his gun into Mr. Cloninger. Fortunately, he received the load below the waist. He walked some 50 or 75 yards after being shot and was alone nearly an hour before relief came. He was brought immediately to the hospital where his wounds were dressed. The negro was captured shortly by Sheriff Rhyme and Deputy Petty, and lodged in the Gaston county jail.

Mr. Cloninger is 75 years old, and this is the first time in his life he has required the services of a physician. He says he never took a dose of medicine in his life. He is as hale and hearty as the average man of 50. He is a familiar sight on the streets of Gastonia, supplying a number of customers with country produce. He is the father of Mr. Bert Cloninger, the well-known dairyman. The negroes in the party were not natives of this section. They were with the road building crew in camp near Dallas.

A. G. MYERS IS ELECTED ILLUSTRIOUS POTENTATE

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 8.—Albert G. Myers, of Gastonia, was elected illustrious potentate of Oasis Temple of the Shrine at the fall meeting held here today. Other officers of the divan elected were as follows: J. V. Elliott, of Hickory, Chief Rabban; Louis V. Sutherland, of Charlotte, Assistant Rabban; Chafe T. Ambler, of Asheville, High Priest and Prophet; W. L. McDonald, of Charlotte, treasurer; Thomas Griffin, of Charlotte, recorder; J. LeGrand Everette, of Rockingham, Oriental Guide; B. M. Van Story, of Greensboro, First Ceremonial Master; P. T. Wilford, of Winston-Salem, Second Ceremonial Master; Eugene V. Graham, of Charlotte, marshal; Charles F. Logg, of High Point, Captain of the guard; R. E. Simpson, of Hickory, Outside Guardian.

The only change made in the representative delegation from the temple to the Imperial Council was the election of Chafe T. Ambler, of Asheville, to succeed J. W. Grimes, of Asheville.

Donations to charitable institutions totalled \$7,250, of which \$750 went to the N. C. Orthopaedic Hospital at Gastonia.

"FLU" SPREAD EPIDEMIC IN SO. CAROLINA TOWNS

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 7.—Reports reaching the state board of health here indicate that the flu situation has reached epidemic proportions and in two towns the schools have been forced to close. The largest number of cases to be reported by any one physician was from New Brookland, Lexington county. Dr. W. A. Oxner reporting 165 cases. The New Brookland schools will likely close a few days.

DETROIT WOMAN OFFERED GUNMAN \$20,000 TO KILL HER WEALTHY HUSBAND

Mrs. May Ford Arrested for Plotting to Get Rid of Husband.

CLAIMS FRAME-UP

Alleged That She Wanted Possession of Husband's Estate.

DETROIT, Dec. 8.—Mrs. May Blinn Ford solicited the services of a gunman to kill her wealthy husband, Ney J. Ford, offered the gunman \$20,000 for the "job" and gave him a photograph of her husband to make sure the right man was slain, according to the sworn statements of four detectives whose investigation resulted in Mrs. Ford's detention today on a charge of attempting to commit murder.

Denying the charge, Mrs. Ford declared she was the victim of a "frame-up" that grew out of her domestic difficulties. These difficulties include a suit for divorce, filed last August, in which she charges cruelty, and a suit asking \$25,000 damages of her estranged husband, for alleged assault.

Mrs. Ford was arrested last night when it is alleged, she was about to meet Edward Kunath, a detective lieutenant, for a second conference on her reported plans for the slaying of her husband. Kunath, it was said, posed as a "Kansas City gunman" Wednesday night when the alleged plot was first revealed by Mrs. Ford.

The first meeting, according to the detective, took place in an apartment especially rented for that purpose. Three detectives claim to have overheard the conversation in which the woman is said to have gone over the details with Kunath.

Several plans for the killing were presented by Mrs. Ford, the officers declared. One, they said, was that he be shot in his farm home west of Detroit and the others were that he be shot or slugged while working about the barns, the body to be burned in a haystack. Before destruction of the body, Ford's gold teeth were to be removed to install identification should the plot miscarry, it was said.

Maps of Ford's Wayne county and sketches of the Ford farm also were presented to the pseudo gunman, it was alleged, to guide him in reaching the Ford home and in making his escape.

The \$20,000 was to be paid, the detectives declared, as soon as Mrs. Ford should have come into possession of her husband's estate.

The conference was arranged, the police said, after they heard Mrs. Ford "was looking for a gunman."

The officers added that Ford had been warned several times against continued residence at his farm.

Before her marriage to Ford a year ago, Mrs. Ford was a nurse, employed in Toledo. She has two children by a former marriage.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SWELL NEW BERN FIRE FUND

Victory School Sends Check for \$21.60—Other Contributions—Help Is Needed Now.

The Gazette's New Bern fire-sufferers fund received a good boost this morning when Principal M. L. Barnes of the Victory school, South Gastonia, brought in a check for \$21.60 representing contributions made by the pupils of the school. This is a splendid example and it would be entirely in order for schools all over the county to do likewise.

TWO ARMY OFFICERS MISSING ON FLIGHT

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Dec. 8.—Army aviator officers at Rockwell field, here, were ready today to send a squadron of scout planes to search for Colonel Francis C. Marshall, attached to the staff of the chief of cavalry in Washington, and Lieut. C. L. Webber, of the air service, who left San Diego at 9:15 o'clock yesterday morning in a flight for Fort Huachuca, near Tucson, Ariz., and had not been heard of early today. Fear was felt for the safety of the two officers, and the Rockwell field officers planned to canvass the country in southern California and Arizona.

The officers were expected to reach their destination within five hours after they took off. Lieutenant Webber, an experienced cross-country pilot, was instructed to report by wire on arrival at Fort Huachuca.

"Terrible Turk"



Wild and disheveled in appearance, Hassan Naboon Hassouny tried to enter the White House yesterday President Harding. Investigators found that he had been fleeced of his fortune of \$2500 and intended to go to headquarters for justice. The police are now trying to regain his lost money.

MORE THAN A SCORE OF WITNESSES TO BE HEARD RUSSELL'S DAMAGE SUIT

Governor Russell Declares That All Charges Are False.

BILBO TO TESTIFY

Said Miss Birkhead Had Preferred Similar Charges Before.

OXFORD, Miss., Dec. 8.—With more than a score of witnesses, including Theo G. Bilbo, former governor of Mississippi, yet to be heard from, the trial of the \$100,000 damage suit against Lee M. Russell, Governor of Mississippi, by Miss Frances C. Birkhead, stenographer, entered upon its third day session here today in the United States district court.

The witnesses to be called are for the defense while additional testimony in rebuttal is expected to be presented by Miss Birkhead.

Resting its case by counsel for the plaintiff, a lengthy wrangle over the much discussed "Marry" letter, and an order by Judge E. R. Holmes citing Mr. Bilbo for contempt of court were the important developments in the case yesterday. The trial was started Wednesday following two days of argument over a demurrer by the defense, which was overruled.

There was no indication early today when the trial would be brought to a close.

Governor Russell was called as the first witness by the defense after opposing counsel had rested their case. He was on the stand, under cross-examination, when court adjourned for the day.

The executive, in answer to a question as to whether he had authorized some of his friends to effect a settlement with Miss Birkhead, replied with dramatic emphasis: "I never authorized any one to pay her a dime," adding as he looked toward where Miss Birkhead sat with her counsel: "It is a deliberate falsehood and she knows it."

Miss Birkhead had testified the governor told her that he had authorized Theo G. Bilbo, former governor of Mississippi, and one or two other friends to make a settlement with her.

Miss Birkhead, under cross-examination during most of the morning, admitted that during the campaign for the governorship in 1919, she informed Oscar Johnston and Earl Brewer, a former governor, both political opponents of the governor, of the alleged wrongs which form the basis of her suit. She also admitted receiving a monetary consideration for information by which one newspaper was enabled to score a "scoop" in printing her allegations first.

Both sides offered witnesses in an effort to fix the authorship of the "Marry" letter, handwriting comparisons being made particularly of the letter "M" on the original letter, and formation of the character by Mr. Russell.

Governor Russell, repeated his testimony that when he first met Miss Birkhead she made charges against Dr. Henry Boswell, superintendent of the state tuberculosis sanitarium at Magee, where she formerly was a stenographer, similar to those which she made against him. Dr. H. F. Garrison and Dr. C. D. Mitchell, then members of the board of health, corroborated this testimony and the declaration that Miss Birkhead had threatened to kill Dr. Boswell.

Mr. Bilbo was governor and Mr. Russell lieutenant governor at the time of the incidents alleged by Miss Birkhead. Mr. Bilbo, who had been summoned as a plaintiff witness, had not yet reported. An attachment was issued for him several days ago.

Mrs. Woodrow Wilson tells women democrats of Maryland that former President is gaining in health and that he is "most wonderful patient."

KU KLUX ADDS FUEL TO FLAMES IN AN OLD TIME LIQUOR FIGHT IN HOUSE

Representative Hill Tries to Connect Drys With Klan.

HOUSE GIVES COMFORT

Gilbert, of Kentucky, Dry Advocate, Says Small Wet Minority Is Oefiant.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(By the Associated Press.)—A old-time liquor fight—short but stormy—flared up in the house today during debate on the \$115,000,000 treasury supply bill, with its item of \$9,000,000 for prohibition enforcement.

Starting earlier in the day when Representative Magee, Republican, New York, a member of the committee which framed the bill, declared that defiance of the Volstead law "was so prevalent as to threaten our institutions," it ended abruptly just after Representative Hill, Republican, Maryland, a leader in the movement for light wine and beer legislation, had announced what he proposed to offer in the form of amendments when the prohibition section was reached tomorrow.

Meanwhile, friends of prohibition overwhelmingly in control, took one shot after another at those who sought to attack the law, and by parliamentary means out shot Mr. Hill's attempt to connect the prohibition unit in a friendly way with the Ku Klux Klan.

"Vindictive Minority Defiant." In urging Congress to give to the states the right to say what alcoholic content would make wine and beer intoxicating, Mr. Magee declared it probably would result in a beverage, made from pure ingredients and "the restoration of wholesome respect for the law."

Declaring the liquor traffic had thrived on misery until the people, hounding it as if it were a serpent, had choked it, Representative Gilbert, democrat, Kentucky, shouted to the constant attacks on men who are trying to see that the law is obeyed.

"So determined and vindictive is the small minority that it stands out in open defiance of the constitution," said Mr. Gilbert, adding that it was backed by influential resources and that members of the house gave aid and comfort. Taking up the charge that crimes against the United States had increased since enactment of the Volstead law, Mr. Gilbert asserted that crimes which flourished in the bar room days and which were handled in the state courts had decreased to the point where many jails in rural communities were empty.

Kill Publicity Bureau.

Half a dozen members were on their feet at once trying to break in with questions when Mr. Hill, with six minutes to close general debate, proceeded to explain the nature of his amendments.

"In the first place," he shouted above the hubbub. "I shall propose that the house strike out of the bill the item of \$150,000 for the prohibition unit's publicity bureau; that the sum of from \$125,000 to \$150,000, as heretofore, shall not be spent hereafter in open violation of the Volstead law for the purchase of bootleg liquor to be used as evidence; that none of the government appropriation shall be used to defray the expenses of the stump speakers sent over the country by the prohibition commissioner."

All the time Mr. Hill was being bombarded with questions as to whether he was trying to tighten up the Volstead act.

Mr. Hill declared that anybody connected with the government "who approves the Ku Klux Klan should not receive government funds for law enforcement." When forced to sit down by expiration of his time, Mr. Hill attempted to read an extract from a press bulletin by the prohibition unit's publicity bureau, which said that "the federal prohibition director of Arkansas had reported that the Ku Klux had organized a campaign against moonshiners. This, he said, was issued last April and printed."

There was another flurry after the bill was taken up, item by item. The word "alcohol," appearing in the list of the treasury's cleaning supplies, tied the house up again.

Representative Blanton, democrat, Texas, contending benzine was good enough, wanted it substituted, but failed. Then he tried to make denatured alcohol, and Mr. Hill insisted it should read "non-beverage alcohol." Both proposals were formally put to a vote and thrown out.

Representative London, socialist, New York, enlivened the debate. "I never took a drink in my life—unless I wanted it," he said, and the house roared.

Getting about half way through the bill, the house had reached the section relating to the bureau of internal revenue when it quit work tonight.

Only one change was made. On a point of order by Representative Blanton that it was not authorized by law, the house eliminated the provisions for under-secretary of the treasury, at a salary of \$7,500. Mr. Gilbert, now holding that title by designation of Secretary Mellon, will remain, and an effort will be made to keep the title in the bill by other means.

THE WEATHER

North Carolina: Rain tonight and Saturday, warmer in northeast and colder in extreme west tonight; colder Saturday.

Wilson to Play Big Role, Says Tumulty

CHERBOURG, Dec. 7.—J. P. Tumulty, before embarking on the Majestic today with his 17-year-old daughter, Mary, who was the victim of a grave automobile accident at Munich, said:

"Woodrow Wilson will henceforth play an important role in politics. The failure of the various international conferences and the difficulties met, notably at Lausanne, have made him regret more than ever that the league of nations had not been taken seriously."

"He is rallying with greater conviction to his four-year-old project," Tumulty concluded.

ROTARY CLUB HEARS ABOUT THE FOOTBALL MUDDLE

Gaffney-Rock Hill Affair Is Aired—No Action Taken—Baptist State Convention Is Invited to Meet Here—Give \$325 to New Bern Fire Fund.

Raising \$525 for the benefit of the New Bern fire sufferers, backing the congregation of the First Baptist church in its invitation to the State Baptist Convention to hold its 1923 convention in Gastonia, and hearing the straight of the recent Gaffney-Rock Hill football misunderstanding, constituted the bulk of the business of the Rotary Club Thursday.

Every Rotarian gave \$5 to the New Bern fund, to go as a Rotary donation. Others will give more to a separate fund being raised by Col. T. L. Craig, who told of the need of help.

W. H. Wray announced that the Baptists of the town were going to Winston-Salem next week to invite the state convention to meet here next year, and asked the backing of the Rotary Club. It was unanimously given.

Recent the football game originally planned for Gastonia Thanksgiving Day, it developed that the fair association was not to blame for the failure of the teams to come together on terms for the use of the grounds. They did not see either the president or the secretary of the Gaston Fair Association. Their dealings were with the local school authorities, who offered to stage the game, mark the field, furnish gate keepers and policemen, etc., in return for 25 per cent of the gate. Superintendent Grier gave the history of the affair.

Several amusing anecdotes relative to the recent deer hunts at Hilton Head, with Jim Kennedy as the victim, were related. George Smith was in charge of the program. W. L. Balthis presided in the absence of President Woods Garland.

SHELBY BOYS GIVE MONEY TO NEW BERN

Donating of \$100 for Monogram Sweaters Sent to Fire Victims By Football Team.

SHELBY, Dec. 7.—At the close of the recent football season, the Shelby Kiwanis Club as a work of community pride and appreciation, appropriated \$100 for the purchase of monogram sweaters for the members of the Shelby high school football team. Of course every member of the team was proud and happy, but when the team met this morning to take measurements and send off the sweater orders, the New Bern disaster was recalled, whereupon the entire team with unanimous accord voted to go without sweaters and to contribute the \$100 to the relief of the distressed and stricken people of New Bern.

The women of Shelby as well as the local Red Cross are sending articles of clothing and bedding to the New Bern sufferers.

Astoria, Oregon Suffers Loss \$15,000,000 From Morning Fire

Entire Business District Wiped Out—Sixteen Blocks Burned—Portland Fire Department Goes to Rescue.

ASTORIA, Ore., Dec. 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—The business district of Astoria was laid in ruins by a fire which broke out shortly after 2 a. m. today and despite efforts of the local fire department and reinforcements from Portland, swept sixteen blocks, causing a loss estimated at between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000.

One man was reported dead and another missing.

According to reports from the fire-swept area, Morris Staples, president of the Bank of Commerce, had dropped dead. Another said Brennan Van Busen, a business man, was missing. W. H. Felton, furniture dealer, who had been reported dead earlier in the morning, later was found.

Ten blocks of the business district were wiped out, two lives were lost and property damage estimated at \$4,000,000 was caused by a fire which broke out shortly after 3 o'clock this morning. Most of the big business houses were burned. Firemen, aided by forces from the Portland department, dynamited buildings in an effort to check the flames.

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 8.—Fire rag

NEW BERN FOLKS RALLY IN DEFENSE OF UNJUST CRITICISM OF FIREMEN

Commissioner Scott's Report Is Examined By City Officials.

JUSTIFIES CITY'S FIREMEN

They Went Outside City Limits to Fight Fire in Roper Factory.

NEW BERN, Dec. 7.—N. E. Canady, deputy life insurance commissioner, and Mayor Edward Clark, today came to the defense of the city fire department at Raleigh, which charged negligence in handling last week's disastrous fire here. He said it was true the department's utterance "unjust criticism." In a statement to the Associated Press tonight he declared the local fire department had done everything within its power. He said it was true the department went outside the city limits to combat the Roper mill fire. Any other department in the state would do the same thing when the necessity arose, he stated.

The fire forces were concentrated at the mill when the big fire started, which destroyed more than a thousand structures.

Clark Makes Reply. Mayor Clark declared the Raleigh statement was unjust to the city, its fire department and citizens.

Insurance adjusters are working on claims, but so far no adjustments have been made. Mr. Scott said his investigation showed there will be approximately \$500,000 in insurance claims.

Work of clearing away debris is being rapidly pushed. Semblance of order is beginning to appear out of the chaos.

New Bern police are investigating the report made by Commissioner W. A. Scott that a large amount of high explosives was found in negro houses and in one of their churches.

Lieutenant Kurtz, of Fort Bragg, said that only a few shells were found in the ruins of one or two houses. The police say, however, that they have been informed by citizens that they heard explosive in several of the burning houses, including the church mentioned by Mr. Scott.

When shown the story regarding the report of Mr. Scott, in which he criticized the local fire department, James S. Bryan, chief of the New Bern fire department, issued the following statement: Chief Bryan's Statement.

"It is true, as Mr. Scott says, that there was no nozzle on the wagon which was first at the scene of the fire. The delay resulting from this was not greater than three or four minutes. The statement that Mr. Scott makes concerning the wrench is absolutely untrue. I made the connection myself and wrench was on the wagon. There were only three houses ablaze when the fire department responded, and not five, as Mr. Scott says.

With reference to the couplings at the Roper mill it is true that the coupling here differs from the standard size, but as we had proper connection on our trucks there was absolutely not one second lost in this respect."

In regard to Mr. Scott's statement that the insurance on the property destroyed would amount to \$35,000, W. H. Henderson, local banker, said one company alone had policies amounting to \$160,000.

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CLOSING BIDS ON THE NEW YORK MARKET

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.— Cotton futures closed steady. January 24.75; March 24.04; May 24.85; July 24.55; October 25.08; spots closed 10 points up 24.95.

We can be thankful every day that watches don't strike like clocks.