

ROBBED SOLDIERS, GANG ROUNDED UP BY U. S. AGENTS

CHICAGO, Feb. 12—United States secret service agents yesterday rounded up the last of a gang that deliberately selected as its victims the maimed defenders of the nation, and the widows and dependents of men who were killed in battle or died in the service.

Six members of the ring are now prisoners, charged with the theft from the mails of soldiers' bonus checks, insurance payments, allotments for injuries, and A. E. F. death payments. The amount they stole is unknown, but estimates run as high as \$500,000.

The agents, under the direction of Capt. Thomas J. Porter, won complete confessions from Byron B. Parks and Henry A. Western, former mail clerks in the Chicago post office, and four accomplices they employed to endorse and cash the checks they filched from the mails.

Leaders are Negroes

Both leaders in the ring are Negroes. The accomplices under arrest include Amos George, a "black belt" gambler; Mabel Allen, white, said to be the sweetheart of Parks; Gladys Irene Stevens, the colored girl who donned khaki and accompanied the old 8th regiment to the border before she was discovered, and Gwendolyn Marsh, another colored girl.

All will face a federal hearing before United States Commissioner Lewis F. Mason today and prison terms of fifteen or fines of \$5,000 or both.

The include only a part of the well organized ring which investigators believe has been operating successfully in practically every big city of the United States.

Before the armistice was signed complaints began to pour into the treasury department concerning the nonreceipt of allotment and death payment checks, according to postal inspectors who worked with the secret service division on the case. Their loss was laid to the rush of work and mixing of records in the war risk insurance bureau in Washington.

It was not until a number of checks apparently indorsed by persons who had formerly made complaint began to return to the department that investigations were started.

Gets Canceled Checks

One check, a death claim, purporting to be signed by Harry A. Kovalski of Madison, Wis., was canceled and returned to the bureau several months ago. It was forwarded to Gen. James E. Stuart, chief postal inspector of the Chicago district, together with a letter of complaint from Kovalski.

After tracing the source of payment on a check to Parks, already wanted on a charge of robbing the mails, was arrested and a series of decoy treasury department letters were sent through the Chicago post office to find whether or not other employees were holding out on Uncle Sam. The decoys disappeared regularly, according to government sleuths, until one day last week when Western was placed under arrest.

City Hall Interior to Be Remodeled, Board Of Works Is Informed

A communication from Hiram Mace, an Indianapolis inventor, to the city offering to sell the city the right to use his patent snow removing apparatus for \$170, was tendered to the board of works Monday. It was referred to the city engineer.

A letter received by Superintendent of Police, W. C. Wren, asking that the police office be rearranged so as to permit the sergeant to have an enclosed office was placed on file.

It was stated that as soon as the city engineer recovered from his illness, work on the re-decorating and remodeling of the interior of the city building would begin.

The request of Niumrod Johnson, of the Richmond Light, Heat & Power company, to tear down the old smoke stack at the light plant for the bricks in it, was denied, the board deciding that the risk to the light plant during the tearing down of the stack was not worth the price offered.

Labor Delegates to State Meet To Be Named Here

Appointment of a delegate to attend the first annual convention of the State Federation of Labor in Indianapolis Friday, Saturday and Sunday, will be made at the regular meeting of the Central Labor Council in the Eagle's hall Thursday night. The convention in Indianapolis is called to organize a state labor party.

The local political situation will also be discussed. President Pente- coat urges that all members be present, especially the new candidates, who will be installed. The meeting opens promptly at 7:30.

U. S. ROAD FUND RECEIVED.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 12.—The first apportionment of Federal road funds to the State Highway Commission was received Wednesday by U. S. McMurtrie, treasurer of state. The allotment was \$219,986.26. Under the law the Federal aid is allowed on the basis of 50 per cent of the state road work actually completed. L. H. Wright, director of the Highway Commission, said that the state highway work now completed aggregated \$600,000. Requirements can be made monthly by the state on the Federal funds as Indiana work is finished until a total of \$7,500,000, the amount due Indiana, is used.

PLANE CRASHES TO EARTH.

CAIRO, Feb. 12.—One of the South African airplanes in the London-Cape Town flight, named "Silver Queen," crashed early Wednesday morning. None of the crew was injured.

FLU EPIDEMIC AT NAVAL ACADEMY KILLS TWO

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Feb. 12.—Two deaths from pneumonia, following influenza, have occurred at the Naval Academy. Louis Carega of Scranton, Pa., instructor in modern languages, died last night and Midshipman Paul Micau of Washington, D. C., succumbed Wednesday.

A papyrus on geometry dated 1100 B. C. has been preserved from ancient Egypt.

SCORE MEET DEATH WHEN SOCIALISTS RIOT IN GERMAN CAPITAL



Military police and machine gun guard on right side of Reichstag building (above) and soldiers carrying off wounded member of the mob.

many. The accompanying photographs show actual scenes of the conflict between the government troops and the mob.

Funeral Arrangements

Common School Funds Cannot Be Used For Gardens, Says Stansbury

RICHMOND plans for school gardens will probably be effected by the opinion submitted by Eli Stansbury, attorney-general to F. R. Farnam, assistant director of the United States employment service, that common school funds can not be expended for carrying forward school and home gardens paid leadership in co-operation with the employment leadership in Indiana.

Mr. Stansbury says: "In my opinion the common school funds can not be legally expended to establish and maintain employment offices at any time or for the extension of vocational guidance to minors during the summer vacation."

The attorney quoted Section 183 of Burns' statutes, 1914 to the effect that the common school income "shall be involuntarily appropriated to the support of common schools and to no other purpose."

For two years school gardening has been popular in the Richmond schools. Garden prizes have been offered and considerable interest taken by pupils.

One-Year Enlistments Close; Two Men Enlist

Official notification of the closing of all one year enlistments in any branch of the army was received by Sergeant Thompson, local recruiting officer, Thursday. One year enlistments in the chemical war service were open up until today, said Thompson.

Two local men and one man from McKinney, Texas, will leave Saturday go to U. S. army posts. Albert Schlangen, 620 South Seventh street, and David B. Dykert, 509 South Fifth street, will leave for the Philippine Islands, where they will join the coast artillery. Elmer Cox of McKinney, Texas, will leave for Camp Grant, Ill., to join the Sixth division.

Adelle Brown, Camden Resident, Is Dead

CAMDEN, O., Feb. 12.—Miss Adelle Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Brown of near Fairhaven, died in a hospital at Cincinnati Sunday. She was taken ill with appendicitis Thursday and taken to the funeral home for an operation Saturday but it was not successful. Miss Brown was 14 years old and leaves a number of relatives. Funeral services at home Tuesday afternoon were conducted by Rev. Shriver of M. E. church. Burial was at Camden cemetery.

Russell—Funeral services for Mrs. W. E. Russell were held at the home Thursday afternoon. Burial in Earlham. Services were private.

Howard—Funeral services for Mrs. Eliza Howard were held at home at 10 a. m. Thursday. Burial in Elkhorn cemetery. The Rev. Burbanck officiated.

Dunkards of Country Will Meet at Peru

Dunkards in the vicinity of Richmond will be interested in the announcement of the annual national communion and council meeting of the church to be held at Hoover, a little town eight miles northwest of Peru, Ind., beginning May 23. About 10,000 are expected. Hoover was selected for the 1920 meeting place at the last church gathering held at Pittsburgh, O., last year. It is a little town of less than 200 population, but every citizen is interested in the meeting and is planning to entertain their guests.

The delegates will come from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota, the Dakotas and other states. Many of the delegates are expected to bring their entire families.

THATCHER OUT FOR WOOD.

Petitions asking that the name of Major General Leonard Wood be placed on Indiana ballots as a Republican presidential candidate, have been sent to Indianapolis by J. E. Thatcher, of this city. In a letter to the Wood headquarters in Indianapolis, Thatcher says: "There are some Lowden men here, but plenty of Wood."

BANK HAS BLANKS

A supply of income tax blanks has been received by the First National bank, an official said Thursday. Forms 1040, 1040-A and corporation blanks were in the shipment received by the bank.

VISITING BROTHER.

Frank Anderson of Philadelphia, Pa., is visiting in the city with Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Anderson. He will soon leave for Keokuk, Iowa.

FARMERS MAY QUIT UNLESS CONDITIONS UNDERGO CHANGES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12—"If the farmers stop working," says the Albany Argus, Democrat, "the rest of us will have to stop eating. And that is just what many of them threaten to do."

"This is no imaginary danger," the Argus goes on, "a summary of more than 40,000 replies from farmers to a questionnaire sent out by the post office department has just been laid before the senate post office committee, and about half of them indicate that the writers contemplate either leaving their farms or curtailing the acreage under cultivation."

What are the grievances of the agriculturists? The Wheeling Register, Democrat, summarizes them thus:

"1. Inability to obtain labor to work on farms, as hired help and the farmer's children have been lured to the city by higher wages and easier living."

"2. High profits taken by middlemen for the mere handling of food."

"3. Lack of proper agencies of contact between the farmer and the ultimate consumer."

What is the solution? "Co-operation," confidently asserts the Rocky Mountain News (Ind.). "Politics won't help much; specific will not do; panaceas are useless. Get rid of the costly middleman." Sending his products "direct to the consumer by parcel post" is suggested by the Rochester Telegram (Rep.), which believes also that "a farmers' union, run in the right way, might prove to be of tremendous benefit both to the farmers and the general public." The New York Mail (Ind.), agrees that development of the parcel post "undoubtedly would help," but thinks "much more far-reaching action is necessary. What is needed, and urgently needed, is an entire reorganization of our rural life." The Buffalo Evening News (Rep.), takes up the suggestion that immigrants be required to work on farms five years after arriving here, and believes it is "a reasonable plan and worth trying." The Dallas News (Ind. Dem.) is confident that a way out will be found, especially "if industry and distribution show enough foresight and self-control." The Fargo Courier-News (Non-partisan League) thinks the replies to the questionnaire show that the missionary work of the Nonpartisan League is bearing fruit. Farmers are beginning to learn the facts. Another four years and a farm labor ticket will sweep the nation."

Many other papers refuse to see a cause for concern. "The situation can not be called discouraging," says the Nebraska State Journal (Ind. Rep.), for "like everything else, agriculture is in a state of transition" from a war to a peace basis.

"A farmer's natural impulse when he sees an official questionnaire," suggests the New York Evening Post (Ind.), is to place on it all his grievances. "His complaint, believes the New York World (Dem.), is due to the "discontent of property and not of injustice," and the Pittsburgh Leader (Prog. Dem.), holds that the new secretary of agriculture, Mr. Meredith, is following the political dope in flattering the farmers" and that the farmer who tries to turn monopolist is deserving of no more consideration at the hands of the rest of the country than any other manipulator."

The third regular meeting will be held Friday night.

COLLEY TO LECTURE.

The Rev. W. P. Colley, Seman, Ohio, will deliver an illustrated lecture Thursday at 7:30 p. m. in the Reid Memorial church, on the New World Movement of the United Presbyterian church. Admission is free, and the public is invited.

TO GIVE DANCE.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kepler will give a social dance Saturday evening in the Knights of Calumet hall. All invitations are to be presented at the door.

DELINQUENT TAX SALE HELD.

Fifty-seven pieces of real estate were sold at the annual delinquent tax sale held Monday. County Treasurer Weldner said Thursday. The real estate, which was sold for taxes and city improvements, brought approximately \$2,700.

DRANK "LILY OF FRANCE"

Harry Gardner, a "Lily of France" half tonic drunk was fined \$1 and costs by Mayor Zimmerman in police court Thursday.

Articles of incorporation for the Tennessee Furniture company, a Tennessee corporation, have been filed with the secretary of state. According to the incorporation papers, 60,000 of the capital stock is represented in Indiana. J. E. Moyer, of this city, is named as agent.

NO NEW FLU CASES.

No cases of influenza have been reported to City Health Officer Dr. George B. Hunt at 2 p. m. Thursday. "The city-wide situation is subsiding steadily, I think," said the health officer.

Wednesday five cases were reported to the city health department.

BUYS MILLINERY STORE.

Mrs. Lulu Finney, who has purchased a millinery store in Xenia, Ohio, and has been visiting in the city, returned Thursday. She formerly resided here.

SERVICE MEN HAVE CHARGE.

Service men of the South Eighth Street Friends' Church are to have charge of the regular Thursday evening services of the church tonight. Several men who served in France will speak.

WAYNE COUNTY NOT AFFECTED.

The statement of state superintendent of instruction L. N. Hines, in regard to the probable forcing of schools that are violating the state law by running terms of less than 120 school days to continue their terms until they comply with the law, will have no bearing in Wayne county, as all of the schools run terms above the minimum of 120 days, said a local official.

GARFIELD TEACHERS OUT.

Three teachers at Garfield school were absent from their classes Thursday on account of illness. Miss Katherine Reese was confined at her home in West Richmond, Lyman Lybott, was ill, and O. L. Filer, who has been suffering for some time from an operation on his eye, is still away. Principal Heppenmuth has been teaching for several days.

DISAGREE ON BREAD PRICE.

VINCENNES, Ind., Feb. 12.—Bread, one-pound loaves for 25 cents, caused a mild sensation Wednesday at Bicknell, in this county. Retailers, in revolt against a reported attempt by bakers to force the retail price of bread to 12 cents a loaf straight, in face of a falling flour market, "demoralized" the situation by dividing on the matter of retail prices. The dealers making the cut in prices were unable to meet the demand.

BRITAIN HASN'T CHOSEN AMERICAN AMBASSADOR

(By Associated Press)

LONDON, Feb. 12.—Replying to a question in the house of commons today as to whether Viscount Grey would return to Washington as British ambassador, and if not who would be his successor, Premier Lloyd George said he was unable to make any statement on the subject.

PERSUADES ALLIES TO MODIFY THEIR TERMS TO TURKS



Ghalib Kemaly Bay.

To Ghalib Kemaly Bay, who represented the Turks at their recent conference with the allied representatives, is given the credit for obtaining modified terms for the Ottoman empire.

One concession he obtained was that of leaving Constantinople in the possession of the Sultan Ghalib Bay is the leader of the Lihualis, a pro-ally and an enemy of Enver Pasha and the Germans. It asserts Turkey would have joined the allies in the war but for Enver Pasha's scheming.

LONG SENTENCE GIVEN

GITLOW, N. Y. ANARCHIST

NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—Five to ten years in state prison was the sentence imposed in the supreme court Wednesday on Benjamin Gitlow, former Bronx assemblyman, who was convicted of violating the state's criminal anarchy statute. The charges were preferred as the result of articles advocating the overthrow of government by force which was published in the Revolutionary Age, of which Gitlow was business manager.

ASQUITH FOR PARLIAMENT

LONDON, Feb. 12—Announcement of the result of today's parliamentary election in the Paisley constituency in which former Premier H. H. Asquith is a candidate, will not be made until Feb. 15, according to a statement made public here this morning.

High School Notes

Preliminary lists of pupils who will graduate from high school the coming June will be sent to instructors for correction soon. Principal Bate announced Thursday.

The senior party, which had been arranged for Friday night, has been indefinitely postponed. Announcements will be made later.

Owing to the illness of three members of the team, and the coach, the basketball game with Huntington next Friday night has been called off.

Briefs

NOTICE DEMOCRATS

There will be a meeting of all the Democratic precinct committeemen Saturday, Feb. 14th at 2 p. m. at Henry