

HUGHES PUBLISHES PROOF OF SOVIET-RED ACTIVITIES

STATEMENTS FROM SOVIET ORGAN SHOW CONNECTIONS

Close Bonds Between Moscow and Communists Claimed by Russian Publication

Washington, Dec. 24.—A translation of the full text of the article signed by Steklov, editor of the soviet organ, Ivestia, which appeared in that publication November 7, 1922, and acknowledged the close bonds between the soviet regime and the communist international, was made public tonight by the state department.

Excerpts from the article were quoted by the state department in substantiation of its charges that the soviets were active in conducting revolutionary propaganda in this country and that there was no real difference between the communist international and the soviet government. Subsequently, Steklov challenged Secretary Hughes to produce the date on which the article appeared, and the department not only announced the date, but made public the text, which reads in part as follows:

"The mutual solidarity of the soviet republics and the communist international is an accomplished fact. In the same degree as the existence and the stability of soviet Russia are of importance to the third international, the development and strengthening of the communist international is of importance to soviet Russia. In the past the international has helped Russia to ward off the attacks of world capital. In the future its aid will prove more effective. The success of the communist international will contribute to the consolidation of the political and economic position of soviet Russia, and vice versa. The spiritual, moral and material bond between them is based on the complete solidarity of interests."

RED PLOT DISCOVERED

Madrid, Dec. 24.—An official note issued by the Spanish government today makes known the discovery of a communist plot, headed by men in Spain and Portugal and financed from Moscow. Numerous arrests are said to have been made.

It is stated that the organizers of the plot were engaged in forming sporting clubs and commercial organizations and using for correspondence, envelopes and letter heads of commercial firms.

Among those taken into custody in Madrid are Jose Rodriguez Salinas, Jose Rodriguez Vega and Emiliano Arellano Garcia, all members of the central federation of communist youth. The secretary general of this organization is said to have fled to France, carrying with him the archives and funds.

In San Sebastian, Ramon Manoneda was arrested. His arrest is said to be of the greatest importance, as it is alleged he received monthly a considerable subsidy from the relief committee of the Russian red cross.

CALIFORNIAN KILLED ON CHRISTMAS TRIP

Flagstaff, Ariz., Dec. 24.—Over in Esccondido, Calif., tonight sits an aged mother, waiting for her son to come out of the desert country and spend Christmas day with her, but she waits vainly. His body lies stone-like in the morgue here, a victim of circumstances and misfortune.

Last Friday a fast Santa Fe train passed through Flagstaff and the body of a man was found on the tracks. They moved the corpse to the morgue, and into the records was listed the toll of another "tramp," for he had been riding the blind baggage.

Today a stranger came to the city and asked to see the body. He identified it, stating it was that of his brother, William N. Hobson, former wealthy cattle dealer. His brother supposed he was still wealthy, but in his pockets the authorities found only 22 cents. A few years ago Hobson was well known back in Perry, Mo., as a cattle feeder.

On this Christmas eve, the body is on the way to the old mother who patiently waits for her son in Esccondido.

DIRIGIBLE APPARENTLY UNDER CONTROL AGAIN

Toulon, France, Dec. 24.—The dirigible Dixmude, which has been sailing for many hours over Tunis, apparently in a fruitless search for a landing place, was sighted at 6 o'clock tonight in the Tatabouin region and later further inland. The headlights of the airship were lit and the craft seemed to be in control. The wireless stations continue to send messages, but the Dixmude does not reply.

Mail Pilot Killed When Plane Falls

Cheyenne, Wyo., Dec. 24.—James F. (Dinty) Moore, pilot of an air mail plane, died in a hospital at Burns, Wyo., 30 miles east of this place, shortly before noon today from injuries received when his plane crashed near Burns. Moore was flying from North Platte, Neb., to Cheyenne at the time of the accident.

Moore was caught in a 50 miles an hour wind which apparently caused him to crash to the earth. According to members of a section crew who witnessed the fatal accident, Moore was flying his plane at a low altitude due to the poor visibility. Members of the crew declared that the plane suddenly nosed downward and crashed to the earth.

Help was rushed to aid him by the section foreman and he was removed from the wreckage of the plane. Air mail officials here were notified of the accident and a plane piloted by Frank Yeager, another mail pilot, and carrying Dr. C. V. Beard, were rushed to Burns. In the meantime Moore had been removed to a hospital at Burns by a jassing motorist. According to Dr. Beard, Moore suffered a broken back and his chest was crushed. Mail from the wrecked plane was taken to Egbert and later was picked up by Pilot H. A. Chandler and brought to this city.

Moore was considered one of the best pilots in the mail service. He made his home at North Platte, Neb., where his widow and one child survive. He was 27 years old.

RIDER BRINGS FEW DETAILS OF TREMBLORS

Nogales, Ariz., Dec. 24.—The fastnesses of the volcanic country in the Sierra Madre range, beyond which lies the mining towns of Huasabas and Granados, renders virtually impossible the obtaining of details concerning the earthquake which last week devastated the two towns and made impassable the roads leading to them, according to government advices received by the Mexican consul here today.

The extent of the casualties and property damage in the quake area is unknown.

Beyond the news that about 150 families are without shelter or provisions in Huasabas and Granados, which was brought to Nacoziari by a horseback rider from the earthquake zone, no light on the actual conditions prevalent there is visible to government officials.

Urgent relief measures have been taken by the border towns of Agua Prieta and Douglas, in an effort to convey supplies to the homeless. Nacoziari railroad is co-operating with the relief workers, and is assembling all supplies for earthquake victims free of freight charges.

The town of Oputo, first reported destroyed, escaped the disaster without damage, according to reports. Granados and Huasabas, which have a total population of several thousand, suffered heavy loss of life and property damage, government advices say. The stricken towns lie southeast of Nacoziari, the nearest point of communication. It requires three days of horseback riding to reach Granados from Nacoziari, and the roads between the two towns are virtually impassable. All freighting in that country must be done by burro.

The quake-struck area runs north and south along the entire Sierra Madre range and the most violent tremblors were felt along the Bavispe river. This section, including the city of Bavispe, was hit by an earthquake in 1888 and completely transformed by the upheaval.

Fraternal and civic organizations of the United States are sending provisions by special train to Nacoziari to be transported to the stricken area.

Will Visit Quake Zone.

Douglas, Ariz., Dec. 24.—Congressman Rivera, of Sonora, left Agua Prieta late today by special train for Nacoziari, from where he will go overland to Huasabas and Granados, the two Mexican towns reported seriously damaged in the recent earthquake. The Mexican official carried with him several hundred blankets and other clothing for homeless families.

Governor Alejo Bey of Sonora ordered the congressman to the quake zone for an investigation. He will report the loss of life and the needs of the sufferers.

TO PLAY IN SPRING

New York, Dec. 24.—The New York Giants will meet other National league clubs in Florida during their spring training. Manager McCreary said today,

CHECK ARTIST TELLS POLICE HOW HE MADE BIG HARVESTS

Victimized Banks of Many Cities While Traveling About

Los Angeles, Dec. 24.—The story of how he had victimized more than a score of banks in a number of cities for more than \$100,000 was told police here today by Fred Mayner, alias E. B. Hatfield, alias William F. Walker, arrested following identification by a former Kansas City bank employee.

Mayner, according to the police, lived here with his wife and baby. As the need for money developed he would travel eastward, open accounts with several banks and reap his harvest by the aid of forged certificates of deposits, then return to California.

According to Mayner's story to the police, his richest haul was during the present year, when he obtained \$9,000 from Buffalo banks and \$27,000 from Kansas City strongholds. His operations were as follows:

In 1918 and 1920, St. Paul, \$2,000; Chicago, \$8,000; 1920 and 1921, New Orleans, \$5,000; Brooklyn, \$6,000; Boston, \$14,000; 1923, Buffalo, \$9,000, and Kansas City, \$27,000.

Other amounts, of which he had kept no account, were mentioned, police say.

WORKED KANSAS CITY

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 24.—Fred Mayner, arrested in Los Angeles today, who is alleged to have obtained approximately \$25,000 from nine Kansas City banks, including the three largest, is one of the cleverest check swindlers on record here. A warrant for Mayner's arrest on a charge of forgery was issued late today on the request of C. W. Allenroeder, vice president of the First National bank.

Mayner, under the name of E. B. Hatfield, deposited \$3,100 in the First National bank last July. He said he intended to open a brokerage business here and furnished Chicago references which according to Allenroeder, later were found to be fictitious.

Using the name of William F. Walker, it is alleged, Mayner then opened accounts in eight other banks. These were the Commerce Trust company, Fidelity National Bank & Trust company, Continental Bank & Trust company, Twelfth Street bank, Home Trust company, New England National bank, Liberty National Bank and People's Trust company.

One day in August, Hatfield obtained a certified check from the First National. Within three hours, it is charged, he had passed forged copies of the check on the other institutions, where he was known as Walker. Then he disappeared and a nation-wide search was instituted.

Hatfield's arrest in Los Angeles, according to reports here, was due to the good memory for faces of Oscar Sitterle, formerly assistant secretary of the Home Trust company, one of the victims of the alleged swindle. Recently Sitterle went to Los Angeles to establish an agency for a Kansas City manufacturing concern and recognized Hatfield when he saw him on the street.

FOX ASKS NEW TRIAL; WOMAN IS DETAINED

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 24.—While Mrs. Margaret Weaver, under indictment charging accessory before the fact in connection with the killing of William S. Coburn by Philip E. Fox, was being held by the police today, Fox, the convicted slayer, through his attorneys, filed a motion for a new trial. Hearing on the motion was set for March 2.

Fox, a former editor of the Imperial Night Hawk, official organ of the Ku Klux Klan, is now under sentence of life imprisonment after having been convicted here last Friday of the murder of Coburn, a Klan attorney. The prisoner will be held in the county jail pending the outcome of the hearing.

Mrs. Weaver's name was linked with that of Fox during the trial. The solicitor general's office stated she will be placed on trial some time in January.

FEDERALS SAY REBELS DISRUPTED AT PUEBLA

Mexico City, Dec. 24.—General Fortunato Maycotte lost more than 60 per cent of his effectiveness as a result of the capture of Puebla by the federals, according to General Miguel Acosta, first under-secretary of war, thus eliminating Maycotte as a serious factor in the revolutionary situation. General Acosta declared latest estimates showed that 1,000 rebels were made prisoners, 1,000 were dispersed and 500 casualties on both sides.

Police Commissioner Wants to Know Where \$50,000 Worth Of Liquors Disappeared to After Seizure By Prohi Agents

Heart of America Is With Disabled, Says President

Washington, Dec. 24.—The heart of America "is with those who made the great sacrifices in defense of our ideals," President Coolidge declared in a Christmas message today to the nation's disabled veterans of the world war. The message addressed to the disabled American veterans and made public at the Washington office of the organization, follows:

"To the Disabled American Veterans:

"My warm felicitations and cordial wishes go to the war's disabled at this Christmas time. The heart of America is with those who made the great sacrifices in defense of our ideals. Whether you continue in the hospitals fighting for recovery are battling to re-establish yourself in civil pursuits, the nation will be mindful of its obligations to those so honorably stricken. Regardless of some irritations in the functioning of agencies, charged with your relief, we are conscious of the duty toward the maimed, and encouraged by the continued improvement for their relief.

"I am confident that the fortitude that commended for you the admiration of the world, will not falter during your struggle for physical and vocational rehabilitation. That the coming year will mark the utmost possible restoration of health, happiness and fortune, is the devout hope of the republic for all of you.

(Signed.) CALVIN COOLIDGE."

PRESIDENT TAKES ACTIVE PART IN WASHINGTON XMAS FESTIVAL

Touches Off Thousands of Electric Lights in Capital That Officially Opens Yuletide Celebration; Gates of White House Thrown Open to Public Last Night.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Christmas in Washington finds governmental activities almost entirely suspended, and President and Mrs. Coolidge participating actively in the capital's observance of the holiday.

The chief executive himself formally started the city's observance at 5 o'clock this evening by turning a switch which lighted thousands of lights on the big "national Christmas tree," erected on the ellipse directly south of the White House. Later, the president and Mrs. Coolidge threw open the gates of the White House grounds for thousands to gather there to sing Christmas carols. The Coolidges tomorrow will attend a union Christmas service of the city's churches.

Activities in the government departments ceased at noon. Cabinet members will not return to their offices until Wednesday morning.

President Coolidge, however, worked through the afternoon in the executive offices, leaving only when the time came to turn on the Christmas tree lights.

Only about half of the members of the cabinet will spend Christmas day in Washington. Those to remain at their homes here include Secretaries Hoover, Hughes, Weeks and Denby, Attorney General Daugherty and Postmaster General New.

Secretary Mellon has gone to his home in Pittsburgh; Secretary Davis to his father's home in Sharon, Pa., and Secretary Work to Evanston, Ill., to be with his daughter. Secretary Wallace will spend the day near Washington.

The "national Christmas tree" lighted by the president was sent to the executive by Middlebury College

SELECT PEACE PLAN WINNER

Referendum of People Will Be Held Before Final Award of \$100,000 by Bok

New York, Dec. 24.—The prize winning plan in Edward Bok's \$100,000 American peace award contest was presented to Bok today by Elihu Root, chairman of the jury award. Bok came here from Philadelphia to read the plan and transmitted it to the policy committee of the contest.

The author of the plan will receive \$50,000 at once, but his name will not be disclosed until his peace proposal can be submitted to a referendum of the American people, through the press, churches, clubs and postoffices of the nation, beginning January 7, the date the terms of the winning plan will be made public.

If the plan wins public approval through the referendum, its author will receive another \$50,000 in prize money and his name will be made known, according to provisions of the plan, to be completed by Feb. 1, the contest. The referendum is expected to be held in New York.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Search for Leo Koretz, missing promoter, who fled after friends and relatives invested millions in his Panama enterprises, came to a virtual standstill today, the holidays and the exhaustion of all likely clues as to his whereabouts combining to bring the hunt to a stop.

GERMANY ASKS CONSIDERATION

Modification of Existing Laws Governing Occupied States Is Sought by Berlin

SEEK LARGE CREDITS

Immediate Action Necessary in View Unemployment Crisis in Rhineland, Says Note

London, Dec. 24.—The German government today communicated to the British government full details of the four parliaments initiated in Paris and Brussels requesting modification of the existing regime in the occupied territory.

The German aims include the facilitation of traffic and commerce between the occupied and unoccupied territories, with the removal of hindrances to communications, abolition of export and import licenses and the equalization of tariffs.

The communication also urges the necessity of large credits and a stabilized currency for the occupied area with a view to resuming the paper money issued by the communes. Further, it asks reinstatement of free Rhineland shipping and the resumption of immunity for members of the reichstag and federal parliament together with freedom of assembly and independence of law courts. It is understood Germany delivered a similar communication to the Italian government.

The communication says that really what is needed to relieve the congestion of railway traffic is the recall of all of the German railway men, who alone understand the complex railway systems. It argues that a revival of economic life depends upon the security of person and of property, and hence it is necessary to reinstate the authorities and officials and to protect them in the exercise of their duties, which include the collection of taxes, which are badly needed owing to the increase of unemployment and distress.

Request Handed Poincare.

Paris, Dec. 24.—Herr Von Hoesch, the German charge d'affaires, delivered to Premier Poincare this evening a ten-page typewritten memorandum, setting forth in detail the German government's viewpoints on the following questions:

"The economic relations between the occupied and unoccupied territories, the dues levied, entry into occupied territory, currency of the Rhineland, navigation of the Rhine, railroad traffic and questions bearing on the general administration and internal legislation of the occupied territory.

Herr Von Hoesch read over the document to M. Poincare, who interrupted several times with a request that the German charge explain the exact bearing of certain passages. At the conclusion the premier said he reserved his answer until he should make a careful examination of the note in all its aspects. He will get in touch with M. Jaspard, the Belgian foreign minister tomorrow, so that a uniform reply may be made.

The note entirely concerned economic and administrative questions arising out of the occupation of the Ruhr and mentioned in no way the general problem of reparations.

11 PRISONERS TO BE FREED BY PRESIDENT

Christmas Pardons and Commutations for Federal Law Violators Announced

Washington, Dec. 24.—Announcement of Christmas pardons and commutations for 11 men serving terms in federal penitentiaries was made today by President Coolidge.

The sentence of Jesusita Munoz, an 18 year old Mexican girl, convicted in Missouri for violation of the anti-narcotics law, was commuted to expire at once. She had served 14 months of a two-year sentence at the Leeds, Mo., women's reformatory.

Andrew T. Bailey of Washington, sentenced two years ago to serve a five year sentence at Atlanta for soliciting to commit a felony had his sentence commuted to expire immediately. Bailey lost the sight of both eyes while in prison.

The president remitted the fines and commuted to expire immediately the sentence of Max Rosenbloom, serving a term of one year at Atlanta on a charge of having received stolen goods. Rosenbloom's sentence would have expired next February, but good conduct merited release, according to the recommendation.

A fine and the prison sentence of one year of Noah Landrum, at Atlanta, was commuted for good conduct. He had been convicted of violation of the prohibition laws.

Philip Grossman, convicted at Chicago six months ago for contempt of court, was given his freedom from the Chicago house of correction.

A sentence of two years at Atlanta on a charge of altering an obligation of the United States, was commuted for Joseph Digangi, who will be transferred to the St. Elizabeth's hospital here for physical and mental treatment.

The sentence of Peter R. Cefau, undergoing a sentence of nine months in the county jail at Atlanta, Ga., for violation of the prohibition law, was commuted.

John F. Petras, serving five years in the District of Columbia reformatory for forgery, had his sentence cut to four years.

Alvin W. White, held at Leavenworth for forgery and Willis Swford, serving a life term in Atlanta for murder, also were pardoned.

CLAIM TAXI DRIVERS IGNORING DRY LAWS

Denver, Colo., Dec. 24.—A federal grand jury investigation into alleged violations of liquor and narcotic laws by Denver taxi cab drivers was ordered this morning by Judge J. Foster Symes, of the United States district court, after he had accused United States District Attorney Granby Hillier of failure to do his duty. During the course of his remarks, Judge Symes declared that the proprietors of the taxi cab companies themselves generally were the real violators.

THE DAY IN WASHINGTON

President Coolidge granted Christmas pardons and commutations to 11 men.

Washington's bootleg scandal developed to the point where a sweeping inquiry into charges of liquor drinking in high places is threatened.

The department of agriculture announced that agriculture imports exceeded exports for the first time in history during the last fiscal year.

Resubmission of the nominations of Frederick L. Thompson and Bert E. Haney as members of the shipping board was indicated after White House conferences.

TRAFFIC OFFICER BUSY.

City Motorcycle Officer Bentley made two traffic arrests late Monday afternoon. A Zepeda was picked up on charge of speeding, and the College Cleaners delivery truck for having been parked 56 hours on E. Congress. Both cases will come up before Police Judge L. O. Cowan Wednesday.

BOOTLEGERS BATTLE TENNESSEE OFFICERS

Greenville, Tenn., Dec. 24.—One man was killed, two seriously wounded, a school dynamited, a church reported wrecked, and one house riddled with bullets during a mountain feud and a running fight between officers and bootleggers here during the last 26 hours. Five men are said to be under arrest.

KILLED AT XMAS TREE

Eveth, Minn., Dec. 24.—Childish curiosity to watch decoration of a large municipal Christmas tree erected on a downtown corner today cost the life of Eugene Vitto, 10 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Giattano Vitto.

The boy was trampled to death as he stood near the tree when a frightened horse stepped on him.

XMAS PAROLES LEFT IN SOCKS OF 11 CONVICTS

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 24.—Christmas paroles were left in the socks of 11 of the inmates of the state penitentiary at Florence tonight, it was announced by the governor's office. The 11 for whom Governor Hunt signed paroles, were prisoners whose minimum term for which they had been sentenced to the prison, had expired. They were paroled for good behavior.

The men paroled were recommended by the state board of pardons and paroles following their meeting on last Thursday, December 20, at the prison, and continued on Monday at the capital in the office of John W. Murphy, attorney general, and secretary of the board.

The paroles were signed today by Governor Hunt. The names of the paroled men were not divulged by the board of pardons and paroles in keeping with a rule not to make public the names of those paroled or pardoned.

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REPORT REBEL FORCE IS ON FULL RETREAT

Washington, Dec. 24.—The Mexican embassy today in a statement summarizing the situation in the Mexican fighting zone, said the revolutionary forces driven from Puebla were being actively pursued by Obregon troops.

"The rebel forces under General Estrada attacked the city of Tepic and were driven back by the federals with great losses," the statement said.

YES, THEY DID THEIR XMAS MAILING EARLY

Washington, Dec. 24.—One of Santa Claus' principal servitors, the postal service, reported tonight, "All's well." Christmas gifts have been mailed earlier this year than ever before, and as a result all postoffices will be practically clear of packages by noon tomorrow and postal workers will enjoy a well-earned half holiday, ordered by Postmaster General New.

All sections of the country have reported increased volume of Christmas mail ranging from five to more than 50 per cent over last year. Postal officials feel that the earlier mailing campaign was instrumental in the showing of the service.

MAYBE HIRAM WAS RIGHT.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Early disposition of the Muscle Shoals properties by the government was urged today by Representative Reece, republican, Tennessee, to promote the manufacture of commercial fertilizers.

OFFICERS SEEK BOOZE SUPPLY

Only 15 Quarts of Entire Consignment Taken by the Police

EMBASSY HOLDS BOOZE

List of Bootleggers' Customers Is Missing, the Chief Says

Washington, Dec. 24.—The question of immunity, extending to liquor suspected by the police of being the supplies of bootleggers, but claimed as the property of diplomats, developed as an issue today in the scandal which has resulted from a police raid conducted here last week.

Although not naming any federal officials, Commissioner Oyster, of the District of Columbia police, declared that he had asked "authorities" to explain why \$50,000 worth of liquors located by the police in the basement of an apartment building during the raid, but claimed by a member of the diplomatic corps, could not be seized. As a result of the intervention of the official of the foreign legation the liquor actually taken into custody in the case amounts to only 15 quarts, which was seized in an automobile.

At the same time there were indications that a sweeping inquiry was being undertaken into frequent charges of liquor drinking in high places, while the disappearance of a list of many hundred customers taken during the raid resulted in demands from several quarters for an explanation. The district attorney's office is interested in the list, with a view to prosecuting those whose names appeared on it, and the demands for an inquiry are expected to be reflected on the floor of congress immediately after the holiday recess.

Commissioner Oyster declared today that seizure of the liquor for which diplomatic immunity is claimed was important to the police. It was not removed from the apartment basement, pending investigation by the state department after Dr. V. Sokolowski, first secretary of the Polish legation, who occupied a room in the house, had said that the goods were his and produced permits showing that the liquor had been obtained by him through the regular channels provided under the law for assuring supplies to the representatives here of foreign governments.

With the showing of the permits, there were indications that both the state department and the legation regarded the incident as closed.

Interest in the missing list of customers is the more intense because the names have been declared by some of the alleged bootleggers under arrest to include several prominent in governmental and society circles of the capital.

Elmer Irey, chief of the intelligence corps of the internal revenue bureau, however, reiterated tonight that none of the papers turned over to him by police in the case contained the list of customers. Both he and the district attorney's office indicated a thorough search would be made for the names.

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