THE DURANT WEEKLY NEWS

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68 Negroes, 9 Whites Dead in Tulsa Race War. Martial Law is Declared

REIGN OF TERROR STARTS AFTER NEGROE'S ARREST. NEGRO QUARTERS BURNED. THOUSANDS HOMELESS. ALL NEGROES HERDED INTO TOWN. ALL WHITES DEPUTIZED FOR DEFENSE.

The city of Tulsa, Oklahoma was thrown into a reign of terror Tuesday night when a race war between whites and negroes broke out in which 68 negroes and nine whites are known to have been killed, probably 200 more wounded, and practically the entire negro district wiped out by flames set by the angered whites. As soon as communication were established, Adjutant-eneral Barrett had 500 guardsmen on the scene and martial law had been declared, but the troops seemed for a time unable to control the angry mobs.

The trouble started about supper-time, when Dick Rowland a young negro was locked up in jail following his assault upon a seventeen-year-old white girl in an elevator. A band of perhaps 200 armed negroes surrounded the jail, evidently with the intention of releasing the negro. Armed whites appeared. An officer attempted to disarm one negro, who fired at him. The officer shot him dead, and in that moment the war was on, and perhaps a half dozen were killed in the first fusilade of shots. The news spread like wild fire and soon hundreds of whites in automobiles rushed through the streets shooting negroes like rabbits and the negroes in turn started their own end of the war and guerilla war fare continued through the night.

The Tulsa guardsmen, ordered out, were unable to check the rioters, who made a "dead line" of the Frisco tracks and crouched in cars and behind shelter to pour shot at every head that showed up, which fire the negroes, well supplied with ammunition, returned. Occasionally, hand to hand encounters occured and dead bodies lay in all parts of town.

The negro quarter of town was fired in many places and hundreds of homes were destroyed and about 5,000 made homeless, and many are believed to have perished in the flames.

Thousands of armed white men, soon after dawn Wednesday, surrounded the negro quarter endeavoring to cause a wholesale surrender, and every negro that was seen was marched down town and placed in Convention Hall under guard, column after column of them being marched through various streets. Hundreds of negroes fled the town following the railroad tracks, and dozens of them employed in various businesses down town were dragged out and placed under guard with the others. All business stopped Wednesday and every white man was deputized to help the situation. The crowd of prisoners became so large that detention camps had to be arranged, and some 6,000 negroes were assembled at these places by Wednesday noon.

Probably the heaviest fighting took place at Davis Hill, in the outskirts of the city where a large band of negroes had entrenched themselves. Machine guns were procured and after severe fighting the negroes were routed and fled their position.

The fighting was not limited to any one section. Several railroad stations were fired upon, trains attacked, and shots flew thick and fast even in the crowded business district.

Every hospital was filled with wounded, and morgues were crowded with the dead, an aid service having been formed by the county officers after the troops had taken charge of the situation.

Of the negroes captured, perhaps 100 were known to have been active combatants, although all negroes were gathered together in the effort to stop the fighting.

A court martial will probably determine the guilt of the prisoners.

As the fires broke out, the fire department tried their best to control them, but mobs fired on them and in some instances even turned them back at the point of guns.

During the night and early morning airplanes carrying nitro glycerine bombs circled over the negro quarters and although they dropped no explosives, brought terror to the negroes whose shrieks could be heard above the other noises.

The report gained circulation Wednesday that 1,000 heavily armed Muskogee negroes had left for Tulsa to take part in the affair. Guards were placed at every road leading out of Muskogee, and although bands of excited Muskogee negroes gathered together, no effort was made in that direction.

AMERICA FIRST SAYS PRESIDENT

Harding In Address Says United States Must Point The Way

The Memorial Day address of President Harding brought his solemn resolution that the United States must point the way toward ending the wars of the world for all time to come. The address was given in the amphitheatre of Arlington cemetery.

The President said, however that the first duty it at home and that America must be held supreme among the nations of the world, his exact words being, "We must see that our opportunity to be useful depends first on being loyal to ourselves. No ideal of generosity to all men can justly neglect, first, to make ourselves strong, firm, secure, in behalf of our own people. We can not hope to discharge the wider responsibilities if we have not first proved our capacity to meet the narrower ones."

The remark was a clear exposition of his growing conviction that before America can lead the way toward international assurance against war and instability, she must first set her own house in order.

GOLDEN IS HELD WITHOUT BOND

D. B. WILLIAMS AND MRS. GOLDEN BOTH RELEASED ON BOND BY JUDGE MARCH IN HABEAS CORPUS HEARING

Mordecia Golden, slayer of Tom Craighead, is held without bond, his wife is out on bond of $1,000 and his father-in-law, D. B. Williams is out on $500 bond, as result of habeas corpus proceedings instituted last Saturday before Judge March, by attorneys for the defendants, Utterback and MacDonald.

The testimony was taken Saturday requiring all day and the arguments were made before Judge March at Madill Monday night, the court's decision being announced Tuesday monring.

Judge March stated that he would release Williams if possible, but that cannot be done now as information has been filed against him by the county attorney's office.

It was evident shortly after the first witnesses were put on the stand by the defense, that Golden would plead self defense as ground for the slaying of Tom Craighead.

D. B. Williams and Mordecia Golden both took the stand in their own defense.

Williams testified that his daughter, Mrs. Golden had received an unsigned letter containing improper suggestions and had shown it to him. They determined, he said, that the writing was that of a woman and suspicioned a Mrs. Smith who lived nearby. Williams says he insisted that his daughter destroy the letter and forget it but that she insisted that her husband see it, whereupon he telephoned Mr. Golden where he was at work in Durant, and that Golden came to Caddo that night.

He testified that when Golden saw the letter he insisted upon going to the Methodist church (the rendevous proposed in the unsigned letter) and see who showed up, and that Golden took his wife along, although she had at first demurred. That before going, Golden had borrowed an automatic pistol from him, and that he afterwards heard shots near the church, and afterwards found Golden and his daughter, Mrs. Golden at the home of Mr. McGee and that Craighead had been shot. He testified that he called up his son Pink Williams at Durant immediately and told him to send Utterback or MacDonald up there and told him there had been a killing.

Golden on the stand told of the telephone message to Pink Williams, his brother-in-law, D. B. Williams' son, calling him to Caddo, that he talked to his wife about the letter and decided to go to the church and see who showed up, taking his wife with him over her protest, and that he asked Mr. Williams for the loan of the gun for protection in event it was not the Smith woman who showed up, saying that he wanted to turn the writer over to the authorities. He told how he and his wife approached on different sides of the street, and how after some time he had made his wife walk down through town twice, supposing that the writer of the letter would follow her back. That he was hidden back of a little outhouse and that finally Craighead came toward the church, passed by his wife and went into his home and turned on the lights, that presently Craighead turned off the lights and came out and walked around in front of the church where Mrs. Golden was, when he accosted her with the remark that she was out rather late and invited her to his house. At this juncture, Golden testified, he presented himself and accosted Craighead, ac-

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TWELVE PER CENT WAGE CUT MADE

$400,000,000 ANNUALLY LOPPED OFF RAILROAD PAYROLL BY UNITED STATES RAILROAD LABOR BOARD JUNE 1

Four-hundred-million dollars annually are slashed from the payrolls of American Railroads by a decision of the United States Roalroad Labor Board. The reductions are effective June 1. The decree effective on this date affects 104 lines, and the petitions of other roads are yet to be heard. Memebers of thirty-one railroad unions are affected immediately.

The cut ranges from five to thirteen cents an hour, or from $10.20 a month for apprentice boys to $26.52 a month for the better paid skilled labor, figuring on an eight-hour day basis.

The decision grants reductions of all the way from five to eighteen per cent and in the case of section laborers wiped to eighteen per cent and in the case of section laborers wiped out the increase granted that class of laborers by the decision of July 20, 1920.

Switchmen and shop crafts are cut nine per cent, while train service men are cut seven per cent. Car repairers are cut ten per cent.

Passenger and freight engineers are cut 6c and 8c an hour, respectively while passenger and freight conductors are cut 7 1-2c and 8c an hour respectively. Train dispatchers and yardmen are cut 8c an hour. Officeboys and other employees under eighteen years of age are cut 5c an hour.

The attitude of the railroad unions is yet to be determined. It has been understood however that the union men are agreeable to reductions of ten to twelve and one-half per cent.

The decision is based upon the present rates of pay as established by the award of July 2nd, 1920.

ENGLAND PLANS INTENSIVE WAR

WILL EITHER FORCE PEACE THROUGH WAR THREAT OR ANNIHILATE SINN FEIN. USE MODERN WAR IMPLEMENTS.

England plans the immediate overthrow of the Sinn Fein movement in the south of Ireland, even to the annihilation of Sinn Fein if necessary it is stated in Thursday dispatches.

The plan is for a big military drive on that section using armored cars and all other modern implements of war and to either make war right or force peace through threats of war.

During the past few weeks Irish warfare has become more highly developed and England plans a quick decision. The plan is to invade Ulster and demand the oath of allegience of the newly elected parliament. If this is refused, troops necessary to force the will of England will be ferried across the channel and the country completely occupied.

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