

MINING CAMP IS RAIDED BY VILLA

Steals Supplies and Threatens
Death to All Americans
He Can Capture.

El Paso, Tex.—Francisco Villa, the outlawed Mexican leader, terrorized the mining camp of Laguna, Chihuahua, last week and threatened to "kill all gringos he caught," according to Mexican passengers who arrived here on the first train from the south in eight days.

They said Villa appeared at the Pielagos mine at Laguna, coming from "Canon de El Nido," nearby, and ransacked the town, leaving only a small supply of corn. Upon leaving, they said, Villa made the threat against the Americans.

Later, it was said, Villa reappeared and told the laborers to get out, asserting he did not want any mines owned by Americans to be operated. The Pielagos mine is owned by an Englishman and an American now in Chihuahua City. With Villa was said to be 200 men well mounted.

CRISIS IN RELATIONS DOUBTED IN BERLIN

Berlin.—Germany foresees no immediate crisis in relations with the United States over the Lusitania torpedoing.

Despite pessimistic reports from English sources regarding the American attitude, officials here scoffed at the possibility that Germany's refusal to disavow the incident would bring the affair to an immediate and grave head. Indeed they believed that further informal exchanges are certain to occur before Germany frames a formal answer to the last American note in the case. Inasmuch as the latest instruction sent to Ambassador von Bernstorff calls for an answer from the American state department it is regarded probable that the two nations will air their views anew, whether the United States approves or disapproves of the German proposals.

If a deadlock is reached it is believed certain that a break could be averted by referring the disavowal demand to arbitration. In fact, only the most pessimistic believe America would refuse such a proposal.

SOUTHERN TRADE GAINS

Record Business With the Latin
Americas is Shown.

New York.—All previous records for one calendar year of trade between the United States and South America were broken in 1915, according to figures made public by the foreign trade department of the National City Bank.

Based on statistics for 11 months of the entire country and on December's figures for the port of New York, the imports from South America last year reached an estimated total of \$320,000,000 and the exports to South America, \$145,000,000. This combined total of \$465,000,000 is greater by about \$92,000,000 than the figures of 1912, the previous banner year.

The imports are 40 per cent greater than in 1914, according to the bank's figures, and the exports 60 per cent greater.

Appam's Captor Was Ponga.

New York.—The German raider that captured the British steamer Appam was the Ponga, according to Captain H. C. Harrison, former master of the Appam, who reached here from Norfolk on the steamship Hamilton. With Captain Harrison were his officers and crew, numbering 150, who probably will be sent to England on the White Star liner Baltic. Captain Harrison said he had no other recourse than to surrender when he discovered the warlike character of the ship that stopped him.

Seven Perished in Canadian Fire.

Ottawa.—The list of those who lost their lives in the fire which destroyed the Canadian parliament building was fixed at seven. Although the police frown on the theory that a plot was responsible for the destruction of the building or that the fire was started by a bomb, Fire Chief Graham is quoted as having said the "fire was set," and that he heard several explosions.

Airmen Kill 470 Bulgars.

Paris.—An official Bulgarian report, as forwarded from Athens to the Temps, says that 470 men were killed and more than 500 wounded during the recent attack by French aeroplanes on Bulgarian camps.

Francis Joseph Not Ill.

Zurich, Switzerland, via London.—All rumors of the ill-health of Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria are unfounded, according to information received here from what is declared to be an unimpeachable source.

OREGON NEWS NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Important Occurrences of Past
Week Briefly Compiled for
Our Readers.

La Grande's new \$40,000 Catholic church has been dedicated.

The assessment rolls for Polk county for 1915 show a total valuation of \$14,284,130.

J. Dunn was named by Governor Withycombe as stock inspector for Lincoln county.

Residents of Corvallis are considering the erection of a new high school to cost \$80,000.

Edwin Marshall Moore, one of Roseburg's earliest residents and its oldest citizen, is dead.

Veins of coal have been discovered at the base of Mount Grizzly, six miles east of Medford.

Fire completely destroyed the Lane school building occupied by the Roseburg high school.

The Monmouth public and high schools were closed on account of a case of diphtheria.

Mrs. Sarah E. Bushnell, a resident of the Willamette valley for 63 years, is dead at Junction City.

The convention of the Oregon Cattle and Horse Breeders at Baker has been postponed to May 1 and 2.

Stockraisers in Curry county suffered severe losses on account of the unprecedented fall of snow.

The Union County Good Roads association was organized at La Grande with a substantial membership.

Feed is scarce and hundreds of head of sheep and cattle are reported dead in Gilliam and Wheeler counties.

The survey of the permanent Pacific highway through Douglas county will be completed within the next two weeks.

During January 446 accidents were reported to the state industrial accident insurance commission, of which four were fatal.

Baker faces a water shortage. There is barely enough for domestic purposes and the supply at the reservoirs has become low.

The Southern Pacific company intends to spend in the neighborhood of \$50,000 in improvements to the railroad yards in Eugene.

Frank Sullivan and Philip Brooks are planning the construction of a three-story hotel building at Bend during the coming summer.

As the winter season advances and the need for hay becomes greater the scarcity has become more apparent throughout eastern Oregon.

Fir logs have advanced to a basis of \$7, \$10 and \$13 per 1000 feet, the highest price commanded in the Columbia river district for a long time.

Linn county with but \$12,058.37 of tax delinquency representing 297 pieces of property, claims the smallest delinquent tax list in the state.

Oregon's forest fire loss last year was \$29,109, as compared with \$15,525 in 1914, according to the fifth annual report of State Forester Elliott.

The Lincoln day celebration at the Hotel Medford on February 12 promises to be the largest republican banquet ever held in southern Oregon.

William I. Vawter, attorney, banker, legislator and fraternalist, died at Medford following an illness of several months, of Bright's disease, aged 52 years.

The Hood River county court has appointed Mrs. Jessie M. Bishop to fill out the unexpired term of her husband, the late F. A. Bishop, as county treasurer.

The first week of the second semester of the Oregon normal school closed with an increased enrollment of 51, making a total enrollment since September of 408.

Albany has been selected as the place for holding the annual state shoot of the Oregon State Trap-Shooters' association. May 15 and 16 have been fixed as the dates.

Mrs. J. R. Hinkle, 66 years old, a native of Marion county, was brutally murdered in her home at Salem. The house was robbed and \$50 in money taken by an unidentified assailant.

Mrs. William F. Wallace has asked the city of Eugene to pay \$7500 damages for the death of her husband, who was killed while feeding a vicious deer at the Eugene city park.

Rev. James T. Moore, pastor of the Methodist church at Springfield, has announced that a new edifice to cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000 will be erected for his congregation next summer.

The steady snowing of the past week has piled up over 10 feet of snow in the Green Point mountains near Hood River, and settlers state that the deer in the mountains are in a helpless condition.

Multnomah county now has in its possession all of its assessment rolls from 1855 to date, with the single exception of the roll of 1863. Search at Portland and in the office of the secretary of state at Salem has failed thus far to reveal any trace of the 1863 volume.

Governor Withycombe has executed an agreement with Secretary of the Navy Daniels whereby the U. S. S. Marblehead will be loaned to the Oregon naval militia to replace the U. S. S. Boston.

An explosion at the Albany Iron works of an acetylene gas tank, used in connection with a welding equipment, wrecked the building in which it was housed and broke many windows in the neighborhood.

To prepare eastern Washington wheat for shipment to the east, the La Grande Milling Co. will work day and night shifts for the next 40 days, cleaning 200,000 bushels of grain, the equivalent of some 200 carloads.

Net profits of the 176 state banks in Oregon for last year totaled \$439,119.23, or 5.1 per cent on a capitalization of \$8,584,250, according to the report of S. G. Sargent, state superintendent of banks.

The Indian appropriation bill passed by the house, carries the full sum recommended by the house committee for Oregon Indians, including \$119,000 for the Chemawa school and \$28,000 for bridges on the Umatilla reservation.

The Albany lumber company has been announced by Supervisor Brundage, of the Santiam national forest, as the successful bidder for the cutting from the Santiam forest of 1,645,000 feet of Douglas fir, cedar and hemlock.

An exemption of payments for the month of February for all employers and workmen of those employers who have paid their contributions for the last six months has been declared by the state industrial accident commission.

Deputy State Highway Engineer Cantline is making a trip over the Pacific Highway to acquire knowledge of work which must be undertaken to place the north and south road in proper condition for traffic all the year.

Seventy-four hours of continuous snow nearly isolated eastern Oregon from the outside world last week. Transportation was held up for 48 hours and wire and telephone communication, when available, was uncertain.

The elm leaf beetle, which has become a serious pest in Multnomah county and threatens to spread to other parts of the state, may be effectively controlled by lead arsenate spray, says A. L. Lovett, entomologist at the agricultural college.

Charges that authorities at the Oregon state hospital had mistreated William Curry, an aged patient, committed from Jackson county, so that he died on December 30, were disproved after a hearing before the state board of control at Salem.

The state tax commission has notified all assessors and tax collectors in the state that a law passed by the last legislature providing that the first half of the taxes shall become due on or before April 5, and the second half on or before October 5, is now in effect.

Officials of the Oregon-Utah Sugar Beet company have just let the contract for a \$600,000 sugar beet factory at Grants Pass. Immediate construction work is promised. Plenty of seed has been obtained by the Oregon-Utah company for the planting of 7000 acres of land to beets for the coming season.

A meeting of representatives of the valley commercial clubs was held at Albany. Temporary organization of a valley development league for co-operation among clubs was formed, and it was decided to hold a meeting at Albany on the second Saturday in March to effect a permanent organization.

The Swift interests of Chicago have purchased from the Corbett estate, of Portland, a half interest in 140,000 acres of land located about 20 miles south of Burns in Harney county. The tract includes the famous "P" ranch, and several other large holdings, which with stock, machinery and equipment, are said to be valued at approximately \$3,000,000.

Reports on manufactures in Astoria and Medford have been issued by the census bureau of the federal department of commerce. Astoria is credited with 10,100 population and 57 manufacturing establishments, with an investment of \$3,293,000. The population of Medford is reported as 12,500, with 18 manufacturing establishments, and \$230,900 investment.

Land office officials at Roseburg in answer to numerous inquiries regarding the location and status of railroad lands have issued a circular letter giving the acreage in each county, showing a total of 1,690,328, and announcing that the office cannot give any advice as to character of land in any locality nor can it give information as to ultimate disposition of land.

Officers of the Oregon state federation of labor and the central labor council of Portland have filed with the secretary of state a copy of an initiative petition for the "People's Land and Loan Fund." The proposed measure provides for creating a "home-makers' loan fund" by taking one-third of the revenue received by the state from land taxes to be loaned in amounts not to exceed \$1500.

Stop! Look! Listen!

This is an advertising paraphrase on that old railroad sign: Stop--Look--Listen.

The railroad sign stands for "safety first."

So does the paraphrase--safety first in spending your hard earned money.

STOP when you pick up your newspaper -- today -- for example and LOOK through the advertising pages.

THINK. Do they offer something better than you are accustomed to use?

Do they offer lower prices?

Do they tell you of advantages you are not enjoying?

Think! Investigate! Reason it out for yourself.

But use the advertising for the preliminary guide.

The Argus.