

REQUEST FOR BOY OF BENTON IGNORED

Villa Fails to Answer and Consul Edwards Will Renew Plea—Not Demand.

HUERTA'S AGENTS ACTIVE

Federals' Secret Service Men Work to Get Version of English Subject's Killing in Hope to Discredit Rebel Leaders.

EL PASO, Tex., Feb. 23.—Interest in the execution of William S. Benton by General Villa last Tuesday continued with little abatement today, but all eyes were on developments at Washington.

Consul Edwards at Juarez said tonight that the State Department's request—it was a request and not a demand—that Benton's body be turned over to the widow had met with no response from General Villa, who is at Chihuahua. The request was telegraphed last Saturday and it is reported that Consul Letcher at Chihuahua will renew his plea.

"Murder" Verdict Unchanged. While Washington may, for diplomatic reasons, accept the official decision of a court-martial which the rebels alleged tried Benton and found him guilty of threatening Villa's life, there is still no disposition among Benton's friends to change their own verdict of "murder."

They are working tirelessly and with some hope of finding a witness to the shooting whose word can be relied upon. There is said to be evidence that an American witnessed the shooting, but that his associations with the rebels make it unlikely that he will speak unless unusual pressure is brought to bear upon him.

Federals' Agent at Work. The Federal Junta, which has energetic secret agents at work, as well as many sympathizers, is engaged also in an attempt to ascertain the true facts for the purpose of discrediting the Constitutionals.

Rebel agents are frequently to be met in public places, volubly exchanging opinions as to Benton's fate. Their favorite story today was that Benton, in the Foreign Club at Chihuahua once asserted boldly that he wished his skin was darker so that he would not be mistaken for a "damned gringo." This story is true. It occurred a year ago and resulted in a formal fist fight between Benton and Phil McLaughlin, a newspaperman then resident in Chihuahua. The pair returned from the fight with bloody noses and friendly footing, nor did these occasional outbursts of the fiery Scotchman ever affect the real friendship which the Americans felt for him because of his known integrity and blunt honesty.

Benton's Status Studied. "I have sent Benton as high as \$5000 without the scratch of a pen," relates an American well known in Mexico today, but now among the refugees here, at Chihuahua. He is said to be attempting to find in the court records, something to show that Benton had become a Mexican citizen, but his cousin, William Benton, in the meantime, said today Benton was very careful to maintain his status as a British subject and that in the hands of legal papers he was scrupulous to have this fact set forth.

Anxiety over the fate of Gustav Bauch, the German physician, is being reported by Villa to have been removed to Chihuahua for review of his case wherein he is charged with being a spy, cropped out and today, when it was reported that Consul Letcher, who has been instructed by the State Department to see the prisoner's interests had been unable to do so.

Legal documents setting forth Bauch's birth, of German parents in New Berlin, La., were forwarded today by Mrs. J. M. Patterson his sister. They will be forwarded to Chihuahua.

Three Others Still Missing. There still is no trace of Harry Compton, Roger or the ranchman Curtis, who have disappeared in Mexico, nor is there any confirmation as to the date of arrival of the special train on which Villa had promised to return 15 rejected American recruits among whom the rebel leader suggested that the missing Americans might be found.

An American employed on the railroad bridge said today that when Villa departed with 15 or 18 prisoners last Friday he noticed a tall man in a golf cap, and a shorter one, who appeared to be an Englishman.

A rumor that Villa took his prisoners only a few miles south of Juarez and then shot all of them received some circulation today, but its origin could not be traced. Rebel officials laughed at it.

SAFETY IS GRAVE ISSUE

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ever was in Mexico was used as an illustration by officials here of numerous inquiries about missing people, many of whom subsequently are found in other parts of the world.

The whole subject of protecting foreigners in Mexico was discussed to some extent by members of the Senate foreign relations committee today. They have an understanding with Senators particularly interested in the Mexican crisis that whatever discussion is desired shall take place in executive session. The resolutions of Senators Fall and Clark, of Wyoming, asking that the rights of Americans to protection in Mexico be emphasized and calling for a complete report on conditions in Mexico, are expected to be called up soon, but it is admitted that both probably will be referred to the Senate foreign relations committee for further consideration.

Torreon Considered Important.

Considerable interest is manifested at the capital in the future of the constitutional movement, and the possibilities of a stage being reached which might call for recognition of their belligerency. Asked about the probabilities of recognizing the constitutionalists, Acting Chairman Shively, of the foreign relations committee, said the time had not arrived for consideration of the question. He called attention significantly to the fact that General Villa's forces faced an important battle at Torreon, the result of which might be important in determining the future course of the United States in dealing with the constitutionalists.

VILLA CHANGES BENTON STORY

Rebel Leader Says Confession Made by Man Before Execution.

CHIHUAHUA, Feb. 23.—General Villa's story of the killing of William S. Benton, told to reporters here today,

DEPOSED GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, WHO STARTS LEGAL BATTLE TO REGAIN OFFICE, ALLEGING ILLEGAL IMPEACHMENT.



WILLIAM SULZER.

differs little from the official statement issued Saturday at Juarez. The Juarez statement declared that when Benton reached for his hip pocket Villa knocked him down with a blow of the fist. Villa now says when Benton made this move Villa poked his own pistol into Benton's stomach and then turned him over to the guards. Villa insisted that Benton came to take his life, and referred to Benton's mission concerning the welfare of his ranch as a "pretext" to gain admittance.

According to Villa, Benton, after the verdict of the court-martial, confessed his guilt and declined to ask for mercy. He merely requested that his property be turned over to his wife. Villa contradicted his official report to the American Consul at Juarez that Gustav Bauch, a German-American accused of being a spy, had been brought to Chihuahua. Villa said he knew nothing of Bauch.

MAIL CARRIERS COMBINE

LANE, LINN AND BENTON LETTER MEN ELECT.

B. F. Martin, of Corvallis, Named as Head of Association—Good Roads, Parcel Post Topics Discussed.

ALBANY, Or., Feb. 23.—(Special.)—A tri-county association of letter carriers was formed today when the carriers of Lane County joined with the association of Linn and Benton counties, which was formed several years ago. The three counties will unite in the same association hereafter.

B. F. Martin, of Corvallis, was chosen president of the association for the year. W. R. Smith, of Springfield, was chosen vice-president and C. W. Levee, of Corvallis, secretary and treasurer.

Good roads, parcel post and other matters of interest to the service were discussed among the speakers being J. S. Van Winkle, president, and C. H. Stewart, manager of the Albany Commercial Club. Among prominent letter carriers present were J. H. Maxwell, of Eugene, president of the state association; A. J. Parker, of Independence, delegate from Oregon to the National Association; and L. A. Peck, of Monroe and C. W. Brasher, of Salem, members of the executive committee of the state association.

BLIZZARD SWEEPING EAST

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isolated today with fires down and train schedules impossible. Colorado is under a fresh baptism of ice, with snow and Oklahoma records a drop of 50 degrees in temperature. Central Illinois reports the worst storm in its history.

FOOD SHORTAGE THREATENS

Trains Stall in Snow Drifts, Traffic Suspended on Ohio Roads.

COLUMBUS, Feb. 23.—Trains stalled at several points in the state, traffic abandoned in some instances, and streetcar and interurban traffic seriously impeded where trolley traffic had not been abandoned, were some of the results of a severe snow storm that has swept Ohio today.

Shortage of provisions threatens cities and towns, notably Canton and Newark.

The storm broke generally over the state Sunday afternoon and has raged continuously since. Eight inches of snow had been added since Sunday afternoon to that already on the ground, making a total at many points of from 12 to 20 inches.

Huge drifts stalled two Toledo and Ohio Central trains at Ridgeway. Snow plows were sent to their aid. Another Toledo and Ohio Central train was similarly held near Bellefontaine.

Traffic on the Pennsylvania lines between Dayton and Richmond, Ind., was abandoned. A passenger train on the main line is stalled near West Manchester, a few miles from Dayton.

ZERO TREADS HEELS OF SNOW

Kansas and Western Missouri in Grip of Stinging Blizzard.

KANSAS CITY, Feb. 23.—Zero weather is coming on the heels of the snow storm that has prevailed over Kansas and Western Missouri during the last 36 hours. This prediction was made by the local Weather Bureau tonight. More than eight inches of snow had fallen in Kansas City at 7 o'clock tonight.

From five to eight inches of snow covered the state and temperatures were dropping rapidly. All railroad trains were hours off schedule.

Normal 30, College 14.

MONMOUTH, Or., Feb. 23.—(Special.)—One of the most warmly contested basketball games this season was played in the Normal gymnasium here Saturday night when the fast Oregon Normal School quintet defeated the Capital Business College team of Salem, 39 to 14.

SULZER'S FIGHT TO REGAIN JOB OPENS

Impeached Governor Begins Legal Action—Test to Go to Highest Court.

EX-OFFICIAL ASKS SALARY

New York Court Commands Sulzer to Show Cause for Not Paying Sum Demanded—Illegal Impeachment Sulzer's Contention.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 23.—William Sulzer instituted legal proceedings today before Justice Alden Chester, of the Supreme Court, to regain the governorship from which he was removed last October.

An order was issued by the court commanding Controller Schomer to appear and show cause why a writ of mandamus compelling him to pay the ex-Governor his full salary as the occupant of that office should not be issued. Mr. Sulzer previously made a written demand on Mr. Schomer for his salary.

When Attorney-General Carmody notified Justice Chester that he would oppose the granting of the writ, the court said he intended to refuse it as a question of law, holding that the impeachment division already had passed on the contentions of Mr. Sulzer.

Case to Go Route.

An agreement then was made between the Attorney-General and Colonel Alex S. Bacon, counsel for Mr. Sulzer, to facilitate the determination of the question involved by the state courts. The appellate division will be asked to affirm Justice Chester's proposed order denying the granting of the writ, and then the case will be carried to the Court of Appeals. A similar request will be made. Thus Mr. Sulzer will be able to file his case in the Supreme Court of the United States without delay. It is believed.

Doubt is expressed, however, if a final decision can be obtained from the Supreme Court before the term of Governor Glynn, successor to Mr. Sulzer, shall have expired on December 31, 1914.

Illegal Impeachment Alleged.

The contentions raised by Mr. Sulzer were passed on fully by the court of impeachment. Chief among them are that the Assembly action in impeachment was illegal; that the court of impeachment was illegally organized; that six members of the court had no right to sit and that the acts with which he was charged were committed before he took office.

Affidavits signed by Albert Geyer, Democrat; George W. Jude, Progressive, and Clinton T. Horton, Republican, all members of the Assembly in 1913, were filed with the petition. Mr. Geyer swore that although he attended the impeachment resolution when the impeachment resolution was adopted, he had no advance notice that it was to be presented. Messrs. Jude and Horton swore that they had no notice of pending impeachment proceedings and that if they had been present they would have voted against the resolution.

This is the first proceeding instituted by Mr. Sulzer to test the validity of his removal from office.

ERA OF PROSPERITY IS ON

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alone lays a heavier burden upon our people than the total amount paid for railway freights.

"The new tariff has not thus far resulted in any material increase of imports of manufactured articles to compete with the products of our own factories, but rather its important effect has been to add to our food supply."

"Idle Army" Discussed.

"It remains to discuss briefly two other elements of the existing situation—the prices of commodities and the matter of unemployment. During the last few months thousands of laborers are thrown out of work for climatic reasons in all our Northern states, and it is normal that they should concentrate, as for years past they have done, in our large cities and industrial centers."

"At present I am out for the Cove Commercial Club, conducting an advertising campaign. I dislike much to do anything wrong in Cove, but I have no choice. I will say that the investigation which is to be made, if there is anything wrong in Cove, will be by the proper officials do the investigating, and the proper official in this case is not the Governor, but the state, but the county authorities."

MISS HOBBS INVADERS COVE

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town were not as bad as she had expected to find them. Miss Hobbs returned here this evening from a trip to the Governor. She was a dinner guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Bragg while here.

Miss Hobbs said that she merely went to Cove to investigate the conditions there, but that she had found no positive evidence of bad conditions, as she said was the case in the Copperfield affair.

Saying she was surprised on finding a large crowd at the Cove station to greet her, Miss Hobbs complained that her investigation was interrupted there by the curious crowd gathering about the entrance of the City Hall while she was conducting her survey of the city's laws.

La Grande was somewhat worked up by the report that a clean-up was planned for this place, and rumors that the Governor did not like the idea of a public dancehall being located over a saloon in Elgin caused a little uneasiness in that part of the county.

Union Briefly Visited.

UNION, Or., Feb. 23.—(Special.)—Miss Fern Hobbs, special agent for Governor West, passed through Union today en route for Cove. She declined to say anything in regard to her investigation. She bore a letter of introduction from Judge Moreland to Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wright, at whose home she was entertained during her brief stop here.

GIRL NOT KIDNAPED ONE

"My Daughter Has No Freckles," Says Dr. Winters of Indiana.

SPRINGDALE, Ark., Feb. 23.—The child held as Catherine Winters, kidnapped daughter of Dr. W. A. Winters, of Newcastle, Ind., was declared today not to be the doctor's daughter. Dr. Winters arrived today.

"That's not my daughter," said Dr. Winters after one glance. "My daughter has no freckles on the face," he said.

ters. Statements have been made and denied to the effect that there were more unemployed in New York this year than usual. This may be true without meaning that there is any abnormal excess of unemployed in the whole country.

"The reopening of idle mills throughout the Central West has improved conditions. It is certainly true that many of those who were out of work when the year opened are now at work again and the tendency is to employ more. With the opening of the Spring busy season it is probable that the season now closes will reopen."

Recent Developments Cited.

"Now, it is the fact that in recent years the tariff tax has so operated on food as to make it visibly more costly. There was a time recently when potatoes were imported when our supply was scant and when the tariff tax on potatoes was equal to about 50 per cent on their price and necessarily increased their cost."

"On the other hand, it is the fact now that Argentine beef is being shipped to New York free of the tariff tax, and this has resulted in a decline in the wholesale New York market for beef of about 2 cents a pound. As beef has gone outside of that city into the country at large the reduction in price has been absorbed by the dealers and has been little felt as yet."

REBEKAHS HOLD SESSION

MRS. NELL TAGGERT IS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF DISTRICT.

Next Annual Convention Will Be Held With Sellwood Lodge—Music Is Feature of Programme.

The fourth annual convention of the Rebekah Lodge met in Oddfellows' Hall, First and Alder streets, yesterday.

The morning session was opened with the introduction of the officers of the grand lodge and assembly. They are: Mrs. Gertrude Woodman, president; Mrs. Greer, past president; Cora Stuart, past grand matron; B. Andrews, C. Wheeler and Mrs. Tomlinson, trustees, and Mrs. Palmer, grand warden.

In the afternoon the following programme was given: Piano solo, Miss Venice Boyd; address of welcome, Amos H. Johnson, of Hassalo Lodge, No. 15, solo, "The Holy City," Venice Boyd, accompanied by Mrs. Stewart; response to address, J. C. Jamison, secretary of the general relief committee.

Officers were elected as follows: Mrs. Nell Taggart, president; Mrs. Etta Montgomery, vice-president; and Mrs. Cox, secretary.

The principal address of the evening session was delivered by Mrs. Charles Woodman, vice-president of the district. The district consists of the territory in and about Portland. The convention will meet with the Sellwood Lodge next year.

MINISTERS BACK SUNDAY

COMMITTEES APPOINTED TO FIX DATES FOR EVANGELIST.

Methodists Fear Revival Services Would Conflict With Conference in September.

"Billy" Sunday will be invited to hold revival services in Portland this fall. Such was the unanimous vote at a meeting of the Portland Ministerial Federation and many laymen of various Protestant denominations, in the M. E. A. auditorium yesterday afternoon.

A committee of five was appointed to confer with regard to fixing a date for the noted evangelist to come to Portland. The committee is made up of Dr. Luther R. Dyott, pastor of the First Congregational Church; Dr. E. H. Hinson, pastor of the First Baptist Church; Dr. John H. Boyd, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church; Dr. J. W. McDougall, district superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Dr. C. C. Pelling, pastor of the First United Evangelical Church.

Considerable opposition to having "Billy" Sunday hold evangelist meetings in Portland was expressed at the meeting in the morning of the Methodist Preachers' Association, as it was stated that the evangelist demands the meeting of all the Protestant churches in a city where he is holding a revival meeting. It was also thought that it might conflict with the annual conference of the Methodist Church in September.

ICY RIVER CROSSED

Wilson on Potomac Emulates Washington on Delaware.

BLIZZARD DOES NOT DETER

Programme at Alexandria in Honor of Country's First President Is Impressive—Boy Scouts March Through Snow.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23.—President Wilson crossed the ice-jammed Potomac today in the Naval yacht Sylph and from a glass-enclosed stand reviewed a civic and military parade in Alexandria, Va., which marched through a snow storm in honor of the first President of the United States.

With the exception of brief exercises in the Senate, the National capital turned to Alexandria in the environment where George Washington had lived for its official celebration of his birthday. Vice-President Marshall laid a wreath on the tomb of Washington at Mount Vernon and, returning to Alexandria, joined the President, members of the Cabinet and Governor Stuart, of Virginia, in watching the parade.

Boy Scouts trudged through the snow with the same fortitude as the soldiers while the blizzard raged. Little girls in a covered float showed a schoolroom in Washington's time. On a blackboard was a drawing of the White House which amused the President. Here and there in the parade was a black-faced minstrel, a wagon load of "equal suffrage" advocates and some children in grotesque Indian garb.

It seemed a somewhat hazardous trip for the President to make in view of his susceptibility to cold, but he was in excellent health today and arrangements were such that exposure was reduced to a minimum.

The President left the White House in one of the big Government limousines and practically stepped from it to the gangway of the Sylph. Ice was jammed thickly around the wharf at Alexandria and the bow had to swing about several times and grind the jam away before it could get alongside. The President had to climb over the upper deck of the vessel to a gangway, but was almost instantly in another limousine, which was borne to the United States cavalry escorted him to the reviewing stand, while a 21-gun salute was fired by the nearby ships.

The Vice-president, who was in the same way, though the Sylph experienced less difficulty with the ice.

Tests having shown that reconnaissance cannot be effectively done at greater heights than 200 feet, the French army has decided that its war aeroplanes must be armed against rifle bullets.



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Moving Picture Plays

If you want to know all about the way they are put on the films, read "Breaking into the Movies," by RICHARD HARDING DAVIS, in the March SCRIBNER the story of the way "Soldiers of Fortune" was played before the camera at Santiago

In the same Number:

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