

BESIEGE PROMISES NOT TO CHASE FOE

General Hill Makes Offer, if Maytorena Will Withdraw From Naco.

"HONOR" MAY PROVE BAR Chief of United States Army Staff Is on Ground to Investigate Trouble, but Bad Weather Prevents Conference.

NACO, Ariz., Dec. 21.—If General Jose Maytorena will withdraw his Villista forces from the siege of Naco, Mexico, General Benjamin Hill's Carranista forces will not chase him, according to a tentative agreement between Hill and the United States Army officers announced here today.

Whether Maytorena will consider it honorable and profitable to withdraw under these conditions, if they are established, remains to be seen. Brigadier-General Hugh L. Scott was to have a conference with him today, but bad weather compelled its postponement.

A further conference between General Scott and General Hill is set for tomorrow in the bullet-punctured United States Custom-house, recently abandoned by customs officials.

General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States Army, resumed today his investigation of the border trouble here. He is seeking information from those in touch with Mexican affairs, which may aid in composing the situation here, where for 19 weeks Governor Jose Maytorena, of Sonora, the Villa leader, has besieged the Carranista forces of General Benjamin Hill, entrenched in Naco, Sonora.

The reinforced United States Army forces here under command of Brigadier-General H. Bliss now total 4700 men.

Rain fell during the forenoon, causing the practical cessation of the Mexican fire.

VILLA FOES PUT TO DEATH Two Convention Leaders Reported Executed in Mexico City.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 21.—General Aragon, a member of the Aguas Calientes convention, and Colonel David Cortina, secretary of the convention, were reported to have been executed in Mexico City December 8, according to private advice received here today.

It was reported that Cortina had assassinated the actions of Provisional President Gutierrez, General Villa and other leaders at a meeting of the convention.

General Aragon, it was said, was accused of complicity in a plot to destroy telegraph and railroad lines in Northern Mexico to hamper the movements of General Villa's troops.

SLAYERS OF BRITONS SHOT Mexican Outlaws Pay Penalty Before Guns of Firing Squad.

DOUGLAS ARIZ., Dec. 21.—Jose Escalante and Esteban Hernandez were arrested at Nacoariz on charges of having murdered Thomas L. Francis and R. E. Dunn, British subjects, confessed the crime today and were shot by a firing squad, according to a message received by J. T. Paxton, British Vice-Consul here.

A firing squad detailed by Carranista officers at Nacoariz closed the careers of Cruz and Escalante, who were charged also with several other crimes. Dunn and Francis were robbed and then killed two weeks ago at a mine near Nacoariz.

Great Britain Thanks America.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Sir Cecil Spring Rice, the British Ambassador, called at the State Department today to present the thanks of his government for the action of American Consuls in Mexico in obtaining the release of H. Percy Meaker, the British subject who was imprisoned recently in Sonora by General Maytorena's troops on the charge of having aided the enemy.

TSING-TAU'S FALL TOLD (Continued From First Page.)

strength to stretch their lines across the peninsula and to move toward the city and therefore were compelled to concentrate on a narrow span from the Bay of Kiau-Chau to the sea. This left their last line of defense to the city that a battery had to be placed in the streets.

In guns the garrison mounted 40 pieces of all patterns, 1500 shells and makes, and the allies 140 siege guns, with a preponderance of heavy 28 and 24-centimeter pieces. Four of the German 24-centimeter cannon were captured from the Chinese at the time of the Boxer uprising, and six 12-centimeter pieces had been used against the French at the siege of Paris, more than 40 years ago. Then there was a scattering of field pieces and light cavalry guns carried ashore from dismantled gunboats in the harbor.

Japan's Moves Save Men. In short, Tsing-Tau was nothing near so strong as the Japanese supposed it, and in no way merited its reputation of a second Port Arthur. Had the Japanese but known, they might have carried the defenses by storm much earlier than they did. Their methodical, cautious operations however, undoubtedly saved their men.

On the morning of October 31, the anniversary of the Mikado's birthday, the besiegers began their final bombardment. The artillery fire was continuous and overwhelming, and until the capitulation on November 7 there was a constant roaring from the batteries and an unceasing crackle of rifle and machine fire from the trenches.

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Leadership and Promises Are Offered to Sweden for Aid, Petrograd Says.

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It is recalled that Professor Ostwald went to Sweden on a semi-official German mission, at which time he proposed such a Scandinavian union, similar to the German Empire, in which Sweden would occupy a position analogous to Prussia in Germany, promising, it is said, that if such a union were realized, Russia would give up Finland, Estonia, Livonia and part of Courland.

This proposed Baltic union of 25,000,000 population would, according to the alleged German view, become an important European power, while the Scandinavian countries separately, despite their high cultural and industrial development, would be politically insignificant.

Russian Discusses Scheme. A Russian diplomat, discussing this plan, said today: "Excluding our provinces, which Germany never will be able to offer the union, Russia favors such a Scandinavian union, although apparently Germany is inspired in accordance with her aim to create several buffer states before herself and Russia. A strong, united Scandinavia would weaken German influence on the Baltic."

"We do not believe that Sweden wants our provinces or that the Finlanders, Estonians or Letts desire to join the Scandinavian union. The German figures of 25,000,000 should be decreased to 12,500,000, which is the present population of Sweden, Norway and Denmark, adding, however, the provinces of Holstein, which Germany, if defeated, probably would be forced to return to Denmark. The immediate aim of the union would be to fortify neutrality."

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This threat was similarly ignored, and then Germany began to irritate Sweden by stopping her wood export. "These were incidents leading up to the conference."

133 PER CENT MELON CUT Stockholders in Standard Oil Subsidiary Get Christmas Gift.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—(Special.)—Another Standard Oil Company melon was cut today, making a fine Christmas present for stockholders of the Ohio Oil Company, one of the Standard Oil subsidiaries. The form of a distribution of stock of the Illinois Pipe Line Company among the holders equivalent to 133-1/3 per cent dividend.

The Ohio company is both an oil producing and pipe line company, operating in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Its stock is held on a par value, divided into \$25 shares.

Last year it made \$2,000,000 profit, or 153 per cent on its stock, and this year it has declared a dividend of 57 per cent dividends. At a meeting of stockholders today in Lima, O., the Illinois company stock was sold out on a basis equaling 133-1/3 per cent.

EGG WASTE \$200,000,000 Only Two-Fifths of Crop Reach Consumer, Is Testimony.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Between the hen and the consumer there is an estimated waste in eggs of \$200,000,000 annually, it is testified today by William Mann, attorney for the New York Central Railroad Company, who testified today at the inquiry into the butter and egg business of the state by the Attorney-General's office. Mr. Mann placed the value of the annual egg crop at \$600,000,000.

The witness testified that not more than six out of ten eggs laid reach the consumer. Of the \$200,000,000 waste, he added, \$50,000,000 is due to needless breakage of eggs in transit from the nest to the retailer. The balance of the loss represents unnecessary adding, spoiling and deterioration of good eggs due to poor handling.

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Mrs. Hathaway is survived by 15 great grandchildren and six grandchildren, two daughters, Mrs. King and Mrs. H. R. Caples, of this city, and four sons, A. O. Hathaway, of Washouak; G. B. Hathaway, near Woodlawn, Ore.; H. B. Hathaway, of Crabtree, Ore.; and H. B. Hathaway, of Felida.

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Avoid the crush of the department stores and do your Christmas shopping at Ben Selling's. Store Open Evenings Until Christmas.

WAGE LAW TESTED Decision in Oregon Case May Prove Epochal.

COURTS ARE AT VARIANCE Statutes of Many States Depend on Outcome and if Minimum Wage Legislation is Upheld Movement Will Gain Impetus.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 21.—Wide significance will attach to the decision of the United States Supreme Court in what is known as the Oregon minimum wage case, recently argued before that tribunal and because of the great interest and the general effect of this decision the court probably will weigh the subject at length before deciding it.

REPTANCE DAY IS SET German Prelates Order January 10 to Be Observed by Soldiers.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Dec. 21.—The newspaper Nieuw Rotterdamse Courant learns from Cologne that the archbishops and bishops of Germany have ordered that January 10 be kept as a general repentance day by the Catholics in the army.

Automobile Pioneer Passes Away. SAN ANTONIO, Dec. 21.—Dr. J. W. Carhart, said to have built the first self-propelled vehicle, died here today, aged 84. He was honored recently by the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers in resolutions recognizing him as the pioneer in the automobile business.

Wilson to Reappoint H. C. Hall. WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—President Wilson, it was learned today, plans to reappoint Henry Clay Hall, of Colorado Springs, Colo., member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, whose term expires January 1.

22 Below in Nevada. RENO, Nev., Dec. 21.—Elko was the coldest place in Nevada today, the official temperature there registering 22 degrees below zero.

War Loan Payments Come Easily. LONDON, Dec. 21.—A call for £30,000,000 (\$150,000,000) on the war loan which was due today, was arranged easily. There was no disturbance of money rates.

Gifts of Permanency. Friedlander's. Skillfully chosen stock offers a wealth of suggestions. DIAMONDS And other Gems of rare quality and brilliancy in the most artistic settings. Wrist Watches, Jewelry, Watches, Silverware, Gifts of Leather, Clocks, Novelties, Mesh Bags, Toilet Ware, Etc. Reasonably Priced in Every Instance.

If It's Electrical! Here Are Some Suggestions. Electrical Heaters, Electrical Table Lamps, Electrical Lighting Fixtures, Electrical Tree Decorations, Electrical Devices of All Kinds, Fireplace Appliances of Any Description. SEE US OPEN EVENINGS M. J. Walsh Co. "The Popular Lighting Fixture Store" 311 STARK STREET BOTH PHONES. Leo M. Frank, convicted of the murder of Mary Phagan. Judge Newman denied application for a writ Saturday.

Wanted. 2000 Before Jan. 15th NEW ACCOUNTS! That You May Know Us Better-- Do not compare us with the ordinary installment stores. Ours is a high-class institution for the better trade of the city. Open an account with us as you would with your grocer--no payment down--and, if you are unable to meet your account between the first and tenth of the month, make small payments as suits your convenience. We will give you three to six months in which to settle the full amount. Christmas Gifts You May Pay for Later Bath Robes Holiday Neckwear Christmas Waists. Jewels for all the family Watches Cuff Links Tie Pins Bracelets Lockets Lovalliers, etc. Eastern Outfitting Co. 405 Washington Street at Tenth. We Give American Travel Scrip