

NO RESPECT SHOWN TO AMERICAN FLAG

Mexicans Show Open Contempt for Emblem, Says Letter of J. B. McManus.

FILING CLAIMS USELESS

American Since Murdered by Zapata Soldiers Describes Reign of Bandits and Previous Attack Made on His Home.

CHICAGO, March 14.—(Special).—The sister of John B. McManus, who was murdered in Mexico City by Zapata soldiers entering the capital, today produced the last letter written by McManus before he was murdered. The letter gives a vivid description of "bandit reign" in Mexico and tells of a rifle battle between McManus and ten looters some time ago. The letter is dated February 4 and reads:

"Dear Sister—Your letter of January 11, with clippings received. I am cleaning up a little over \$1000 a month profit on the ranch and am raising over 45 head of fine heifers, which should begin to produce next year. If this foolish revolution would terminate and permit honest people to develop the land here, I could easily pile up a stake and reinvest in United States. I am convinced this is no place for a permanent residence. Even if peace is established it will only be temporary, unless Uncle Sam steps in and assumes control of the finances, similar to the Cuban arrangement.

Gutteres Sets Example of Looting. "I suppose you have read in the papers how the provisional president, Eulalio Gutteres, lit out one dark night with about \$5,000,000 that was in the treasury. When this occurred the soldiers started in stealing horses on the streets of Mexico City, looting the stores and some private houses. A friend of mine phoned me in the morning of January 15, advising me to keep the gates closed and to prepare for trouble. I didn't pay much attention because I was busy with an automobile that refused to work, but fortunately I carried two of my United States Army Krag rifles up to the roof of our house, which is quite large and commands all of the dairy proper.

"The house has a 200 foot front and is built of stone. It is very old and has an open attic or garden in the center. The rooms, which are 19 or 12, open up on this attic with a shaded corridor running the entire length. The walls of the house are three feet thick and extend about three or four feet above the level of the roof.

"Along about 11:30 A. M., when my men had finished the morning milking and gone to their houses for breakfast, I heard a racket at the large front door, or 'patio,' and saw the 'Germans' light 'bullets' on the run.

"I ran out to the door and could see some khaki uniforms through the cracks, and heard the bunch demanding me to open up. I asked what they wanted. They said they wanted to get in and would do no harm. I said wait a moment and I will see.

"I hustled out a ladder and went up on the roof and grabbed some of the Krags and a belt of cartridges. By this time Zapatas were getting peevish and threatened to burst in the door if it was not opened at once. I called to them from the roof and told them plainly that the door would not be opened and that any—greasers who tried to climb over would get shot.

"One of the men got off his horse and was boosted up by a companion and succeeded in climbing up to the roof of the small porch, and said: 'No, quite abrid verdad, quiermos nada mas media her, a en su casa.' This translated means: 'You won't open up, will you?'

"There was nothing to do but to plug the bandit, so I let go with the Krag and caught him just below the stomach. He let out a yell and grabbed for the flagpole, but hobbled backward into the street.

Loot Left in Doorway. "By this time I saw I was in for a fight, so I started in plugging at the balance of the bunch, which did not number over nine or ten at most. They all ran like a pack of yelping dogs, and I kept plugging away as they ran across the prairie.

"By this time some of my men got up courage to come upon the roof. The bandits fled, leaving a strange amount of loot in the doorway. From other homes clothing, blankets, hats, and loot of all descriptions. "I had taken a furnished house in the city for Ruth and her children a short time before. I intended to keep them there for the present. Ruth comes out in the machine every little while, but goes back at night.

"At present the Carranza party is in power, but I believe that they will slip out at the first intimation of danger and then Zapatas or some other party will start in looting again.

"About a week ago, when Zapatas departed, the Carranza troops began to arrive immediately. A party of 200 troops rode up in front of the dairy and began shooting. I skinned up on the roof to see the battle, but there was not an enemy within sight. They just seemed to march up and down the roadway shooting in the air, also at the buildings or anything moving in the distance.

American Flag Not Respected. "I thank fortune that our stables are all inclosed with a high stone wall so that none of my stock were hit, but the bullets hit most everywhere.

"After they rode away I rode out over the prairie to see the dead and wounded, but the only one hurt were a few insons building a wall nearby and a few humble Indians driving burrows loaded with alfalfa.

"The next day there was a big account in the Mexican papers, with pictures of the officers in the charge, and saying that Zapatas had been driven off after strong resistance with great loss. I venture to say that there was not a Zapata within ten kilometers of the place.

"I am afraid that the present outfit will not last long in power. They will simply remain here in Mexico City until they accumulate a few millions in the treasury, then they will depart, leaving the city with no military protection. This will permit the Zapatas to start sacking the town, and experience has shown that they respect no foreign flag. I have a large American flag on a staff over the doorway, and it is no more respected than a dishrag. I am ashamed to acknowledge.

Filing of Claims is Useless. "I have gained more respect since the little affair of the 18th than from any protection that Brazilian legation can secure. All the dairies have been robbed and horses and mules taken, but my place has been left severely alone. I don't think there was any consideration for the flag.

"The favorite dodge the Carranza troops have now is to call at the ranch or stable and ask to buy grain, feed,

etc. After they load up their wagons they drive away.

"It is too bad that a man like Teddy did not take the chair instead of the present schoolmaster that thinks he is holding down the job. Americans here no longer file claims for the losses they have suffered, as the government has changed hands so often that it is a useless formality."

OREGON WORK IN FAVOR River and Harbor Allotments Delayed Until Later in Month.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 17.—Representative Hawley today called on the Chief of Army Engineers and the Secretary of War and urged a liberal allotment of funds to continue work on Oregon river and harbor projects. The War Department said the appropriation probably would not be made before the end of this month and would be based on revised estimates which the local engineers have been asked to submit. It will be a week or more before the figures are received from the Pacific Coast and at this time it is not determined what amounts will be made available for work in the Northwest. Both the Chief of Engineers and the Secretary of War seemed favorably inclined toward Oregon projects, especially because local interests in that state have contributed so liberally toward meeting the cost of construction. The money allotted last Fall is ample to continue work to the end of March, and allotments soon to be made will cover work from April 1 to June 30, next year. Indications are that not more than \$1,250,000 will be allotted to the mouth of the Columbia, as the engineers have heretofore said that would be all they required for that project.

GERMANS HUSBAND FOOD

(Continued From First Page.) solution of the difficulty with Roumania, the pressure was relieved considerably from Germany. For four weeks previous to my going to Germany, the reports from Roumania had been cut off entirely. But on February 3 petroleum began coming in again, and the Baron von Mumm told me that in the week that I was in prison—I love to say that—the week of February 7-14, 80,000 tons of wheat were reshipped into Germany from Roumania.

The biggest hue and cry in the papers, of course, is about bread. Government lands have been given away free for the cultivation of grains, the use of them for three years on the condition of absolute cultivation this year. Even the narrow space between the railroad fences and the rails will be cared for by the employees of the railroad. "Up to now Germany has imported 600,000 tons of saltpetre a year. But it is held that so thoroughly has the land been tilled and cared for during recent years that the lack of fertilizer this year will not hurt the crops.

Bread Rules Are Unyielding. There are strict and unyielding rules about the ingredients of bread. Only a certain amount of white flour may be used. Bread can be baked only once a day, and none may be baked at home. Each citizen is obliged to send in word to the police of the amount of flour he has on hand; of many other things, too, such as petroleum, oats, etc., and if he has more than is allowed the government buys it from him.

It is forbidden to sell yeast any more to private individuals. I remember one night in Frankfurt I was dining with friends and the hostess looked suspiciously at her bread and called the maid. As soon as the girl came into the room she knew what the trouble was, and began hurriedly, almost crying. "I'm pretty sure I know where I can get some more. I forgot to pour any water on it, and it dried up." I couldn't imagine what they were talking about until my friend explained to me that by dint of much exertion they had managed to get a little yeast, and was Nina's duty to tend carefully each day, so that it kept on making more. Instead of that she had let it dry up and had been obliged to make her bread without yeast.

Maximum Prices Fixed. But, as I said, in spite of all these precautions, you cannot feel that they are necessary, except for the future. Prices have gone up only a little in butter, tea, green vegetables which formerly came from Belgium, and pork since I kept house there three years ago. Maximum prices have been fixed on everything, and nothing is too costly, even for the poor.

Only, there does not seem to be any poor as there are here in Paris. The government has arranged excellently for the care of the wives and widows of its soldiers, even as it has for the care and amusement of the soldiers themselves. They are allowed free entrance into many theaters; they ride free on trains and cars—the first and second class accommodations are reserved for them when they are convalescent wounded. Their every need is met in the trenches. The commissariat is good, and the clothing is good.

I asked a man after man who had come back from Belgium or Poland about the number of cases of frozen feet—they are so common in France. But there are few in Germany, owing to the good care that has been taken to send everything necessary for warmth and health. Luxury has progressed so far that there is now a system of circulating libraries between the large cities and the trenches.

White Salmon Council Is Host. WHITE SALMON, Wash., Mar. 17.—(Special).—The City Council of White Salmon tendered the Kilckit County Commissioners a reception Monday night at the Commercial Club rooms. Most of the speeches dealt with good roads and civic improvement. White Salmon has two women on its Council: Mrs. Ida Gearhart and Mrs. Eliza Cooper.

Kelso Water Plant Inspected. KELSO, Wash., March 17.—(Special).—Mayor Talbert and a number of citizens inspected the reservoir of the Kelso Water Company yesterday and found that sanitary conditions in the vicinity of the reservoir were entirely satisfactory. A tight board fence, which has been well maintained and which is animal-proof, surrounds the reservoir, which is covered by a roof. The water is clear and is free from contamination.

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THE extraordinary merit of Laxative Bromo Quinine explains the reason why the people of all nations have used the enormous quantity of over One Hundred Million (100,000,000) Boxes of this famous remedy. Whenever you need Quinine, think of Laxative Bromo Quinine

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Sunshine Molly

You will like "Sunshine Molly." It is the story of a great Californian oilfield—a love story, too. You see the great gushers bursting out of the ground and you see poor little Molly's oil wells burst into flame, making a sensational oil fire. This part of the picture cost \$50,000, for the producers had to buy acres of oil land.

Louis Weber and Phillips Smalley Are Stars in This Delightful Picture.

COMING SUNDAY Edith Wynne Mathison and James Neill in "The Governor's Lady."



WHY DELAY? Coming Sunday for Four Days

"M'LISS"

IT'S A CORKER! A SHUBERT FEATURE, Filmed from Bret Hart's great story featuring Barbara Tennant and Howard Estabrook.

ALSO RICHARD CARLE in "THE DANCING BEETLE" Everybody is bitten; they all dance.

—ONLY— TODAY — FRIDAY — SATURDAY

The COLUMBIA

WAR COST STAGGERING

LONDON STATISTICAL ESTIMATES FIGURE AT \$16,000,000,000.

Times Believes Total Too Great, but Admits England Probably Will Soon Have to Make Loan.

LONDON, March 17.—Edgar Crammond, a prominent financial writer, in a paper before the Royal Statistical Society yesterday dealing with the cost of the war, said the war must end in July through the exhaustion of some of the belligerents.

Mr. Crammond estimates the total cost of the war to the end of July at \$2,385,000,000 (\$16,390,000,000) and the total economic loss, through damage to property and other direct and indirect losses, at \$3,145,000,000 (\$15,740,000,000). He estimates that Great Britain alone will spend up to the end of July \$708,000,000 (\$5,540,000,000).

The Times, commenting on Mr. Crammond's figures, thinks he takes a somewhat exaggerated view, although he is in possession of facts which entitle his opinion to respect. The Times points out that Premier Asquith's estimate of Great Britain's expenditure during the same period was only \$500,000,000, but adds: "This certainly now appears too low,

even as Mr. Crammond's estimate is too high, and it is already believed in financial quarters that the government will be obliged to have recourse to a new war loan sooner than was anticipated, probably in the month of May."

Ten Licensed to Wed at Vancouver. VANCOUVER, Wash., March 17.—

Majestic THEATER

Today, Friday, Saturday Last Chance to See

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A Queen With a Country, A King Without a Throne

COMING SUNDAY

Blanche Sweet and Harry B. Walthall

The Avenging Conscience

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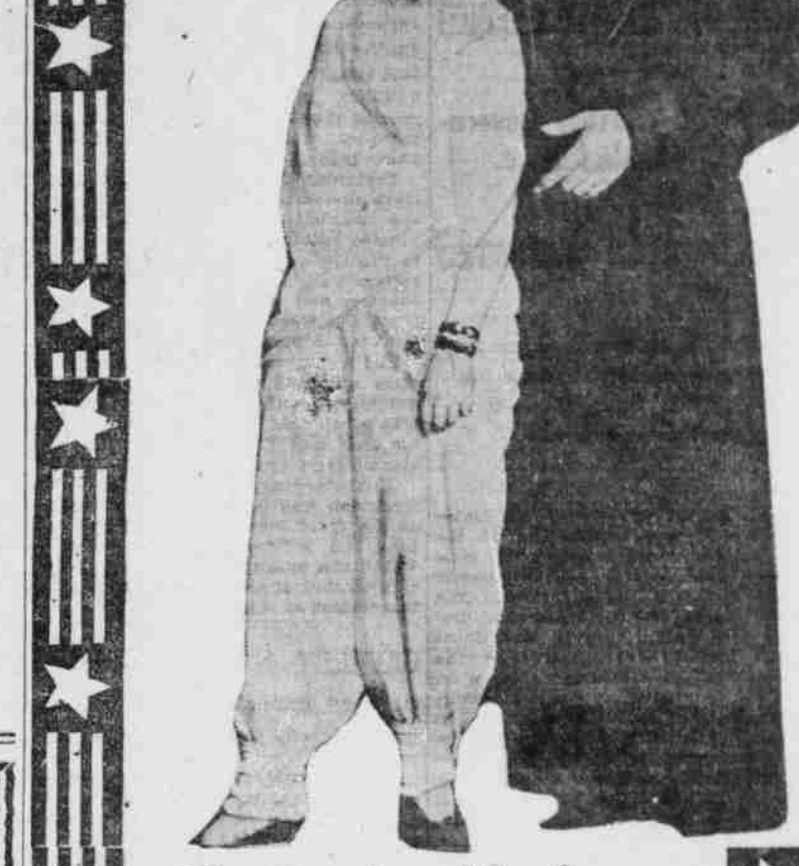
(Special).—Marriage licenses were issued to Herbert E. Butterfield and Irene Exley; Ernest Wuthrich and Frieda Katterman, of Portland; B. W. Pollard and Mrs. Nina Weaver, of Cliftonwood, Or.; Ralph Rogers and Anna Merahon, of Troutdale, Or., and John Perkins and Louise La Fleur, of Me-

tour, Wash.

STAR THEATER Washington and West Park

A Marvelous Single Standard Play

Today, Friday and Saturday, 10 A. M. to 11 P. M.



The Battle of the Sexes

PACKED HOUSES AT THE STAR Testify this is one of the vital plays of this generation.

"Concerns a husband, his wife, the 'other woman' and his daughter. The daughter determines to kill 'the other woman.' But she decides on another way. Her father finds her in the arms of his mistress' lover. Do you see how the doctrine of THE SINGLE STANDARD is forced home to him?"

FLAVEL EXCURSION Full motion picture of this great trip now on at the Star Theater. Everyone you know in the film.

Yes, we've got Marguerite Clark for next Sunday. We heard this morning that we could have "Wildflower" for next Sunday. Now, all you people who have been begging us to put this picture on again, here's your chance.

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FREE PHONES

THESE ARE GREAT FEATURES: CHARLIE CHAPLIN, New Comedy—All Week.

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The Master Mummer With Mary Fuller. Great Three-Act Edison Drama. Features wonderful story of intrigue of international importance. A heritage of unrest accompanies a crown.

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Omega Oil FOR Rheumatism and Lumbago. Soak a towel in boiling water, wring dry and place it over the aching part for a moment to help open the pores. Then rub in plenty of Omega Oil. You will be surprised at the quick relief this simple treatment gives. 10c & 25c a bottle.