

## EFFORTS TO BRING VILLA TO TERMS SEEN IN LETTERS

El Paso Broker Sought to Bring About Conference Between Senator Fall and Bandit Chief.

### WILLINGNESS IS EXPRESSED

Later Senator Sends Correspondence to Lansing, Indicating Broker's Mind Not Balanced.

Washington, July 24.—(U. P.)—Senator Fall, New Mexico, today made public correspondence referring to in an announcement at Mexico City yesterday as showing an attempt to arrange a conference between Fall and Francisco Villa.

None of the letters showed any direct communication or connection between the senator and the Mexican bandit leader.

Among the letters made public by Fall were two he wrote to Charles F. Hunt, El Paso broker, included also was a letter Fall said he had been informed the state department had intercepted. This letter was said to have been written in 1917 to Villa by Hunt, offering to arrange a conference between Villa and several influential Americans, including Fall.

### ILLEGALITY DENIED

Fall also gave out in a letter he wrote to Secretary Lansing March 12, 1917, after he had been informed that George C. Carothers, the state department agent on the border, had probably obtained a copy of Hunt's proposal to Villa. In this letter Fall declared he had done nothing illegal and he had no apologies.

Fall made public the correspondence following an announcement in Mexico City that the Mexican government would publish letters recently captured at Juarez. One of the letters, purporting to have been written by Villa to Governor Charles C. Hunt, which, it is believed here, caused Mexican officials to confuse Hunt with former Governor George W. P. Hunt of Arizona.

### MEETING IS SUGGESTED

The first letter written by Hunt to Villa in January, 1917, said:

"If you will meet me at a place designated by you on the border, I promise to bring to our conference one of the most eminent statesmen in the United States with powerful influence with both our political parties relative to questions pertaining to Mexico. I refer to United States Senator Albert B. Fall, who appreciates the Mexican people, and no living American knows the conditions in Mexico better than he."

Hunt also said in the letter that he had discussed "this question" thoroughly with Senator Fall. He added that he was taking this step on his own initiative.

Hunt then wrote to Fall stating what he had done. Fall replied at length explaining his position under date of February 1, 1917. He said:

"I presume that you had simply written to Villa or some of his friends along the line of our conversation when I visited you at the hospital in El Paso

and that if you had mentioned my name at all you had possibly in doing so, stated your conclusions from this conversation.

"I stated to you that in the event Villa came to the border or had his representative come, that I would have no hesitation in talking with them only and discussing Mexican matters with them, but that I would not discuss with any representative of any faction anything touching Mexico except that as a preliminary thereto. There must be an absolute pledge of respect for American lives and property, of respect for treaty obligations, etc.

"I have very carefully refrained from aligning directly or indirectly with any of the so-called factions in Mexico.

### ANSURANCE IS SOUGHT

"If Mr. Villa could convince me that he was in position where, if not interfered with by this government, he could restore order and maintain peace and order in Mexico, and thus would be in a position to and would give me satisfactory assurances that he desired and would perform all international obligations, as well as the national obligations to protect foreign citizens and property investments in Mexico, I would without hesitation publicly, in the senate or elsewhere, lay before the people of the United States such assurances and frankly and impartially advise them from my knowledge of Mexican affairs."

"I have heretofore done, just what I thought was best for this government to do in Mexico."

Hunt then discovered the letter to Villa evidently had miscarried and wrote Fall that it appeared Carothers had intercepted it and a copy had been obtained by Carranza.

### CORRESPONDENCE SENT LANSING

Fall replied he regretted Hunt wrote to Villa, but it could do no more than call for explanations. A few days later Fall wrote Secretary Lansing that Hunt's mental condition was not what it might be and enclosed copies of his correspondence with Hunt.

### Campaign to Make Whole World Dry Being Worked Out

Washington, July 24.—(I. N. S.)—A campaign for making the whole world dry being worked out here today in a joint conference of the executive committee of the Anti-Saloon League of America and superintendents of all state leagues.

Prohibition campaigns in South and Central America, Mexico, British Isles, Asiatic countries, Australia and New Zealand, shortly will be inaugurated by the Anti-Saloon League, in cooperation with the world league against alcoholism it was announced.

A campaign to insure rigid enforcement of war-time, constitutional and state-wide prohibition in this country also was being formulated.

### Army Flyers Are Held at Medford By Bad Weather

Salem, July 24.—(U. P.)—Lieutenant E. C. Kiel and Sergeant Frank McKee, flying two army planes from Mather field on a recruiting detail, who were scheduled to reach Salem from Medford this morning have been delayed by adverse weather conditions and will not arrive until late this afternoon, according to word received at the office of Governor Olcott. The governor will make the flight to Portland with Lieutenant Kiel.

### Night Spent at Medford

Medford, July 24.—The two government airplanes from Mather field, Sacramento, en route to the north, arrived in the city at 12:25 Wednesday, nearly four hours ahead of their scheduled time. They remained here overnight.

## NEW OFFER MADE BY LLOYD GEORGE

Premier Would Guarantee Miners Against Loss Due to Piece Work With Shorter Hours.

London, July 24.—(I. N. S.)—Premier Lloyd George made a new offer to the striking coal-miners today, in an effort to end the strike. The premier declared he was ready to guarantee that the miners would not suffer loss of wages on piece work due to shorter hours.

The offer was to be considered at the conference of Lloyd George and the officials of the Federated Miners' union this afternoon, but even if accepted it is uncertain whether it will satisfy the Yorkshire workmen.

With scinders guarding the mines in the Yorkshire fields, Premier Lloyd George intervened personally in an effort to bring the strike to an end. In the meantime the transport workers have begun to go out in sympathy and shipping at the great Port of Liverpool is paralyzed.

### STATE MORE STRIKE

Although the "triple alliance" voted to put the question of a general strike up to the rank and file of mine, railway and transport workers, some of the miners, notably those in Lancashire, have already begun to return to work.

This was offset by the walkout of 20,000 additional miners in Derbyshire. Some of the newspapers took a very serious view of the labor situation today.

The Daily Telegraph characterized the strike movement as an attempt to smash the constitution to pieces and "to shatter the fabric of political democracy."

"The nation cannot live under the shadow of Robert Smillie's incessant and peremptory 'stand and deliver,'" says the Morning Post. "We must be free or die. Of all the forms of servitude the least tolerable is that which the triple alliance with the miners in the lead attempts to impose."

Robert Smillie is head of the miners' union.

### RULE OF VIOLENCE SEEN

The Daily Mail describes the proposed general ballot as "a bad blunder." It continues:

"It is an attempt to force their sovereignty upon the country which was rejected last December. They are trying to rule by violence instead of by justice and fairness of argument. They are asking for a beating."

"The revolution has started," says the Evening News. "The flooding of mines is as great an act of violence as the burning of cotton mills."

The newspaper declares that the government is determined to fight the "direct actionists" to a finish.

### Embargo Placed on Coal

London, July 24.—(I. N. S.)—The government today placed an embargo on the exportation of coal, according to the Exchange Telegraph.

### SHOOTING ACCIDENT, SAY POLICE OFFICIALS

(Continued From Page One)

playing on the front porch at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon they were amusing themselves with blocks. But they soon tired of that and, lured by the heat of the afternoon sun, decided to go indoors.

"I'll show you dad's pistol," suggested George.

Frank assented eagerly, and George climbed on a rocker and poked his fingers about his head, where the forbidden weapon was kept.

SHOWED HOW IT WORKED

"Show me how it works," suggested Frank.

George got the automatic from the shelf and pulled back the slide. "You work it this way," he said. Then he snapped the release.

"You pull it this way," he went on. Then he laid his hand on the trigger.

"You fire it this way," he said.

Before he knew it, there was an explosion, and his companion lay wounded on the floor. The boy cried in his playmate's arms a few minutes later.

WANTED TO HIDE BODY

"It feels better now I've told about it," George said, after the confession.

"How did you know to clean the body and hide it?" he was asked. "I had been reading detective stories, or stories about murders?"

"No," he said. "I read books from the library, but I never read about this. I just wanted to hide it, that was all."

Frank was a favorite of the Millers. He played with George every day, and had the run of the Miller house.

To the inquiries of his mother, who discovered blood on her son's clothing, Miller had earlier replied that he had cut his finger. Late Wednesday afternoon Mr. Miller began to question his son about the last time he had seen Frank, who had been reported missing.

TELLS STORY TO MOTHER

George answered all of his father's questions until asked if they by any chance had gone in the attic to play.

Overcome by the tragedy, the lad ran to his mother and confessed all that he knew.

Mr. Miller at once went to police headquarters and reported the affair and the corner was called immediately.

The body apparently had not been molested since it had been hidden in the attic, and seemed to be lying just as it had been placed after the tragedy.

Marks along the walls of the closet and over the rafters indicated plainly the path over which it was dragged.

The dead boy is survived by his father, J. C. McCauley, and three sisters, Hannah, 18; Rose, 15, and Vera, 11. Mr. McCauley had been making every effort since the lad's disappearance to find some clue and said that he had questioned young Miller, who from the way he talked, seemed to know nothing at all about the mystery.

A coroner's inquest will be held tonight over the body of the dead child. George's case may be investigated further by the juvenile court authorities. The police are through with the case.

### Dazed Man Walks Into Police Station

In a dazed and almost insensible condition, Ray Elders, 32, a waiter, strayed into police headquarters about 4 o'clock this morning. He said he could not remember where he lived or where he worked. He was taken to the emergency hospital and had not become normal by 5 o'clock this morning, according to the police.

## NINETY-THIRD BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED



"Grandma" Charity Baker

Warren, July 24.—"Grandma" Charity Baker celebrated her ninety-third birthday anniversary on July 10. She is the oldest resident of Columbia county and was born at Mineral, Va. July 10, 1826. Her husband, G. W. Baker, who died 10 years ago, was a veteran of the Civil war. Mrs. Baker came to Columbia county 51 years ago, settling at St. Helens, and shortly afterward moved to Warren.

She is the mother of 9 children, 6 of whom are living. Eight grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren all are living in Columbia and Multnomah counties, except one daughter, who lives at Twin Falls, Idaho. Her health is excellent.

## Farmers' Field Day Will Be Held at Gresham Saturday

The fifth annual Farmers' Field day under auspices of the Pomona grange of Multnomah county will be held Saturday at Gresham, J. J. Johnson, master presiding. This gathering is not in any sense exclusive for members of the grange, nor for farmers alone. Everybody is invited. There is no charge for admission.

Judge Henry E. McGinn will deliver an address. Mrs. Edith Tozier Wethered will deliver an address of welcome.

There will be a community sing in the morning led by Miss Kate Brazzil. A chorus from the Pacific Marine Works will sing both morning and afternoon.

There is a pleasant hard surface road all the way to Gresham and there is also the accommodations of the electric line. Last year over 2000 people attended, and it is hoped to pass that record this time.

## Iron Workers As Unit for a Basic Pay to Be Decided

San Francisco, July 24.—U. P.—Whether or not iron workers of the Pacific coast will be considered as one big unit for establishing a basic wage for the industry is a question before the conference of shipyard workers, shipyard owners and international heads of unions today. The reply of the employers to this proposal is awaited before further propositions are presented.

The meeting is seeking to set a basic wage for the shipbuilding craft. A basic \$1 per hour is asked by the representatives of the workers. Those attending the conference state it may be two weeks before an agreement is reached between district metal trades council delegates and the employers. Such an agreement will then be referred to the various locals for approval.

International heads of nine iron and steel workers' unions are here to underwrite the agreement when reached.

Dr. Gifford to Speak

Dr. C. P. Gifford of Los Angeles will speak at the White Temple tonight, having arrived Wednesday in readiness for services next Sunday. With Mrs. Gifford he is staying at the Congress hotel.

## MONTANA TOWN IS YET IN FIRE ZONE

St. Regis Threatened by Flames but Thompson Is Believed to Be Out of Danger.

Missoula, Mont., July 24.—(U. P.)—Forest fires still threatened St. Regis today, according to reports received by the government forest service headquarters here. Thompson Falls, although still menaced, probably will escape the flames.

The most disastrous fires since 1910 have burned over 250,000 acres in Montana and 150,000 acres in Northern Idaho. Thirty million feet of timber in Montana have been destroyed, 75,000,000 feet of timber in Northern Idaho have been consumed.

The forest service chiefs, like generals, are quickly shifting their forces from one big fire to another, seeking to slacken fires that in some instances jump six miles a day.

Fulfillment of the weather forecast's prophecy of rain and cool weather for three days was anxiously awaited. The fires resulted from a protracted drought that made the branches of trees dry as tinder. Many of the fires rush through the tree tops at great speed, while other flames follow behind, mopping up the heavier branches, leaving the trunks standing as mute evidence of destruction.

Only rain can stop the fires, it is agreed.

## High Taxes to Stay 10 Years, Says Glass

Washington, July 24.—(I. N. S.)—To meet the country's war debt, taxes on the American people will run as at present for the next 10 years, unless there are unforeseen changed conditions, in the opinion of Secretary of the Treasury Glass, expressed this afternoon.

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