

## VILLA VICTORIOUS IN ANOTHER BATTLE

### REBELS WINNERS FIRST DECISIVE SALTILLO BATTLE

Villa Leading 4000 Constitutionalists Defeats 4500 Federals, Captures 900 Prisoners, Many Arms and Much Ammunition and Five Troop Trains Carrying Soldiers.

ESTACION AMARGOS, Mex., May 19. (via El Paso, Tex., May 20.)—General Francisco Villa, leading 4000 constitutionalist troops, won the first important engagement of the Saltillo campaign May 17, when he defeated 4500 federals retreating from Monclova at Paredon.

Not only did General Villa administer a defeat, but he prevented the arrival at Saltillo of the Monclova federal garrison which would have added materially to the defensive force of the objective point of the campaign. He also captured supplies which would have been of value to the garrison of Saltillo, and which have added a tremendously increased strength to the power of Villa's attack.

**Capture 900 Prisoners**  
The constitutionalists lost sixteen killed and twenty-nine wounded. The federal casualties were twenty-nine killed and more than eighty wounded. The constitutionalists captured 900 prisoners, nine pieces of artillery, more than one million rounds of small arms ammunition, a large quantity of artillery ammunition and a large supply of provisions, in addition to five troops' trains which carried the Huerta soldiers.

The federal garrison of Monclova, numbering 4500, had evacuated that town May 15 in five troop trains on the approach of General Francisco Murguía, constitutionalist commander at Piedras Negras, who was advancing from the south to attack. Warned by Murguía and by his scouts that the federals under General Charles Alvarez, Guardiola and Munoz, were attempting to consolidate their forces with the Saltillo garrison, General Villa prepared to receive them at Paredon. Villa divided his forces into three columns, the center one of which he led in person.

**Led Force in Person**  
As the first two troop trains steamed into the trap prepared for them May 17, Villa swung forward his three columns simultaneously. The constitutionalist attack was brilliantly executed. In forty minutes the federals not dead, wounded or prisoners were scattered in flight, leaving their ammunition and provisions behind them.

The constitutionalist cavalry dismounted and acting as infantry fairly swept the federal lines back with the rapidity of their recent fire. As the federals swarmed out of their cars and took up positions in open order along the railroad track they were met by a withering volley. For a time

**FRANK'S TESTIMONY  
BARRED FROM JURY  
IN BECKER TRIAL**  
NEW YORK, May 20.—The confession that "Dago Frank" Crofici made an hour before he went to the electric chair at Sing Sing will not help Charles Becker in his fight to prove his innocence of the murder of Herman Rosenthal, for which Crofici and his three companions already have paid the penalty. The supreme court, before which Becker is on trial for the second time, refused today to admit the testimony dealing with the confession.

### FIRST SESSION OF PEACE MEET IS TALK FEST

Gathering of Mediators at Niagara Purely Informal—Time Devoted to Getting Acquainted—Welcomed by Delegation of Canadians Appointed by Governor General.

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., May 20.—The mediators and the representatives of the United States and the Huerta government began at 3 o'clock the first formal conference looking to a settlement of the Mexican problem. Rules of procedure and preliminary organization of the mediation proceedings were discussed. After an address of welcome by Ambassador Da Gama and suitable responses by representatives of the Mexican and American delegates the first session of the mediation conference recessed until tonight.

**NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., May 20.**—Preliminary to the first session of the mediation conference set for this afternoon at 3 o'clock, two of the three South American mediators, Ambassador Da Gama and Minister Jaon, the American representatives, Lamar and Lhuann, and the Mexican representatives, met informally and remained together for nearly an hour. One of the American delegates after the conference explained that in their meeting with the mediators and the Mexicans, the subjects to be taken up at the mediation conference were now even approached.

**NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., May 20.**—The Mexican peace commissioners arrived here early today from New York, while the American delegates reached here shortly before midnight. To welcome the visitors to Canadian territory, the Duke of Connaught, governor general of Canada, delegated Martin Burrell, minister of agriculture and Senator Laugheed, Conservative leader, all to come here from Ottawa.

This, the second time the Americans, the Mexicans and the mediators have met in a social way, served to bring all parties to the negotiations into more intimate contact. While there has been no definite decision yet as to how much of the negotiations shall be conducted with all parties present and how much in separate consultations, the way was opened for a general conference if it should be deemed advisable.

**Elimination of Huerta**  
The question of the elimination of Huerta was believed to be paramount in the minds of the mediators. It was realized the final solution of the

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**STOCK LIST INCLINES  
TO HIGHER PRICES**  
NEW YORK, May 20.—The stock market closed irregular today. Except for increased weakness in certain stocks, due to more or less specific reasons, the list inclined to recovery. Business continued in very light volume, however, and left no doubt of its professional character.

### MELLEN TELLS OF MILLIONS PAID BY NEW HAVEN

Billard Made Profit of \$2,700,000 From Stockholders on Deal Ordered by Morgan—Purchase of Nashua Road Cost Three Millions—Morgan Alone Responsible.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Details concerning the relations of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad and the Billard company, through which the latter, or John L. Billard, made a profit of \$2,700,000, were given today to the interstate commerce commission by Charles S. Mellen, former president of the New Haven.

Toward the close of the morning session the purchase of the Worcester, Nashua & Rochester railway by the Boston & Maine was discussed. It developed that it was brought about by the late J. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Mellen testifying that Mr. Morgan handled the details of that purchase. The road cost the Boston & Maine nearly \$3,000,000. Mr. Mellen, while he considered the property valuable, frankly said he had not approved of the purchase of the property.

"When was a loan of \$300,000 made to Haskell of the Boston Herald?" began Mr. Folk.

**Boston Herald Deal**  
"Two years or more before notes of Haskell were sold to Mr. Billard," Mr. Mellen replied. "I had known Mr. Haskell some years and laid the case before the finance committee, and they agreed to the loan."

"Did you have anything to do with the reorganization of the Boston Herald?" asked Mr. Folk.

"I attended a meeting at which the reorganization of the Herald was considered. I was there merely as an observer."

Mr. Folk turned to the Boston railroad holding company bill which Governor Draper advocated. Mr. Mellen testified copies of the bill had been sent him by "Mr. Choate or Mr. Byrnes."

"That is Timothy E. Byrnes, vice-president of the New Haven, and publicity man?" asked Mr. Folk.

"No man can be in the railroad business nowadays and not get publicity. Sometimes he gets too much."

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### SWEDISH CROWN PRINCE, WHO MAY ATTEND PANAMA-PACIFIC EXPOSITION



PRINCE GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS OF SWEDEN.  
Word comes from Stockholm, Sweden, that Crown Prince Gustavus Adolphus may attend the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco. He is very desirous of visiting the United States and will do so unless the health of his father or the political situation should prevent.

### BENSON LEADS OVER McNARY IN JUDICIAL COUNT

PORTLAND, Ore., May 20.—The count of the ballots today cast in last Friday's elections still left undecided the contest between Charles L. McNary and Henry L. Benson for the republican nomination for supreme court justice. With this one exception all contests had been decided.

Complete unofficial returns from all but six counties and scattered returns from these latter gave Benson a lead of fifty. The vote was: Benson 34,038, McNary 33,988.

### COXEY TO SPEAK ON WHITE HOUSE STEPS

WASHINGTON, May 20.—"General" Coxe of Massillon, O., who marched into Washington yesterday with a small group of stragglers, constituting the so-called army of the unemployed, was today granted permission to speak from the steps of the capital at noon tomorrow.

### JUNIOR ROCKEFELLER RETURNS FROM HIDING

NEW YORK, May 20.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has returned to work after twenty days at the county estate of his father at Pocantico Hills. Since May 1, when he went into retirement, most of his tormentors, under the leadership of Upton Sinclair, have been silenced, several by being sent to jail.

**Railroad Rehearing Denied**  
WASHINGTON, May 20.—The interstate commerce commission today denied a petition for a rehearing of the Industrial railway cases recently passed on by the commission.

### TOLL EXEMPTION ECONOMIC ERROR DECLARES KENYON

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Declaring the exemption of American coastwise ships from tolls was an economic mistake and a "special privilege," Senator Kenyon in the senate today announced he would vote for the repeal bill. The question of the right of the United States to exempt coastwise ships, the senator said, was one which should be submitted to arbitration.

Senator Hollis said good faith and the honor of a great nation require that the tolls exemption plank of the Baltimore platform be disregarded.

He said the country would not ask performance of the pledge in the plank if it was violative of treaty obligations. Senator Hollis protested against referring the question to the courts.

### NO FOREIGN BOYCOTT ON PANAMA FAIR

LONDON, May 20.—A specific denial of the repeated assertion that Great Britain's attitude in regard to the Panama Pacific exposition at San Francisco was due to an agreement between her and Germany, was given today in the house of commons by Francis Dyke Acland, parliamentarian under secretary for foreign affairs. In reply to a question on the subject, he said:

"There has been no understanding and no obligations, moral or otherwise, existing between Germany and Great Britain in regard to the Panama Pacific exposition."

### NO WORD FROM MISSING CONSUL FROM MEXICO

Although Huerta Officials Reported Silliman Released From Saltillo a Week Ago, Whereabouts Still Unknown—Bryan Wires for Information—Will Send Messenger.

WASHINGTON, May 20.—Anxiety among officials here over the inability to get definite word from American Vice Consul John R. Silliman, who was reported released from prison at Saltillo, more than a week ago, aroused the state department to renewed activity today.

Evidencing his own apprehension, Secretary of State Bryan telegraphed to American Consul Hanna at Monterey, asking if it would be feasible to send a messenger to Saltillo to determine if Silliman ever had been released.

**Silliman Is Persistent**  
Secretary Bryan's directions to Consul Hanna made it plain he was to use his discretion in prosecuting his inquiries.

So persistent has been the silence for the last few days of the Mexican foreign office with regard to the American requests for actual information regarding Silliman that anxiety in many minds has turned to apprehension that Silliman may again have been held in custody. Some officials fear he may have been killed. It is more than a week since the Mexican foreign office and the Brazilian minister in Mexico City declared Silliman had been released.

**Samuel Parks Shot**  
Captain Percy Willis of the coast artillery at Key West notified Secretary of War Garrison today he had obtained an affidavit from A. W. Bland, lately arrived from Vera Cruz, declaring Samuel Parks, the American soldier who wandered from the American lines at Vera Cruz, had been executed.

According to Captain Willis, Bland talked with an acquaintance in Vera Cruz who saw the body of Parks and who declared the young American orderly was shot by Mexican soldiers and that his body later was destroyed.

### CARTOON CAUSE OF PORTLAND INDICTMENTS

PORTLAND, Ore., May 20.—No arrests had been made early today of the seven prominent business men who were indicted by the Multnomah county grand jury yesterday for alleged libel against George F. Heuser, a Portland railroad man and capitalist. It was understood that no warrants for their arrests would be issued and that the district attorney would merely summon the men to appear before him and arrange a time for their preliminary hearing.

The indicted men are J. C. Beck, T. Scott Brooke, T. A. Linthicum, E. Henry Wempe, E. T. Ames, H. W. Plering and J. A. Johnson. Mr. Wempe is ill in Southern California. The indictments are the outgrowth of the defeat at a municipal election a year ago of Mr. Heuser's application for a street railway franchise, the specific offense being the publication of a cartoon opposing the franchise.

### HUERTA AUTHORIZES RESIGNATION OFFER

MEXICO CITY, May 20.—Provisional President Huerta today gave out a statement in which he said he had authorized the Mexican peace delegates to the Niagara Falls mediation conference to offer his resignation if that were necessary to bring about a solution of the Mexican situation.

### ROOSEVELT TO DEVOTE TIME TO CAMPAIGNING

Colonel in Thick of Politics—Plans Trip Throughout Country, Including Coast—Barring Trip to Spain, Will Spend Entire Time in Effort to Revive Bull Moose.

OYSTER BAY, N. Y., May 20.—Twelve hours after Theodore Roosevelt returned from South America he was back today in the thick of politics. He was up early and after breakfast, he was hard at work, picking up the threads where he dropped them seven months ago.

Colonel Roosevelt, it was learned today, looks forward to one of the hardest political campaigns of his career. Except for the time occupied by his trip to Spain for the wedding of his son, Kermit, he expects to devote to politics most of his time until November. Already a tentative plan of action has been mapped out. Colonel Roosevelt has in mind one of the longest campaign trips he ever has made, taking him from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and several shorter trips in nearby states.

**Conference With Leaders**  
For the ten days before he sails for Europe, Colonel Roosevelt has mapped out a program which will keep him busy. It is present desire is to get back in touch as soon as possible with the affairs of the machinery for the coming campaign. Before he left South America he planned his work, arranging by cable for conferences with leaders of the progressive party. The first of these was set for today. George W. Perkins of New York, chairman of the national executive committee, and O. K. Davis of Washington, secretary of the committee, were expected at Sagamore Hill to give Colonel Roosevelt a report on the situation.

Colonel Roosevelt will go to his editorial office in New York tomorrow and will spend most of the day in meeting political associates.

**At Washington Tuesday**  
The address which Colonel Roosevelt is to make before the National Geographic society in Washington has been set for Tuesday evening. It is in this address that Colonel Roosevelt will make the first formal announcement of his discovery of a river in Brazil.

The Wilson administration's attitude in the controversy with Colombia over the Panama canal was criticized by Colonel Roosevelt. He objected strongly to the payment of what he termed "blackmail" to Colombia.

"In submitting," he said, "it is just as though some future administration should apologize to the successor of Huerta for the seizure of Vera Cruz. As for the payment of \$25,000,000 to Colombia," here the colonel threw up his hands—"well, that is unthinkable."

**Oppose Canal Tolls Increased**  
Colonel Roosevelt expressed him-

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### WOMAN DENIES PAYING \$100 FOR HUSBAND'S DEATH

SEATTLE, Wash., May 20.—Mrs. Magdalena Werner, on trial for the murder of her husband, a farmer living near Issaquah, went on witness stand today and repudiated her alleged confession, which was offered by the prosecution yesterday. The confession written and signed, said that Mrs. Werner employed Frank Piconi to kill her husband, promising to pay him \$100 for the work.

Mrs. Werner denied making the confession and said that at the time she is alleged to have made it she was in a dazed and irresponsible condition.

### GENERAL FUNSTON'S REGULARS IN CAMP AT VERA CRUZ OUTPOST.



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