The Evening Herald

E. J. MURRAY, Editor
JAMES S. SHEEHY City Editor

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ACTION IN MEXICO

Having suffered the humiliation of being obliged to pay a ransom for the lives of two American army officers who were forced by some mishap to land on the presumably friendly soil of Mexico, the government of the United States calls upon Mexico for "immediate adequate action." Its own action in immediately sending the $15,000 seems to be the only thing that is adequate, and at that the government had to race with a meeting of Texas cowboys to decide which should be first to get the money into the hands of the bandits. The government having neglected to fight in defense of American citizens, the cowboys had good cause to doubt whether it would pay a ransom for them.

Secretary Lansing's demand sounds peremptory, but not more so than several other notes which have gone to Mexico. The killing of Americans and the wrecking and confiscation of their property went on regardless of notes, regardless, also, of the fact that Carranza's has been recognized as a fully established, orderly, civilized government, which it is not. However, the tone of the last preceding note is such as to raise hope that at last President Wilson is about to do his plain duty, which is to defend the lives and the property of Americans abroad as well as at home.

He entered on the policy of watchful waiting until the Mexicans had completed the process of self-determination in their own peculiar, revolutionary way. In fact, several rival bandit chiefs, whose forces probably at no time exceeded 1 per cent of the population, fought to decide which of them should have the exclusive right to rob the other 99 per cent. Carranza won, was recognizzed as president, and it was supposed that watchful waiting had ended.

During that agonizing process hundreds of Americans were murdered or subjected to unspeakable outrage, more often by Carranza's adherents than by others. The railroads, oil wells, mines, ranches, industries, which had brought prosperity to Mexico and had lifted the peon from serfdom to some approach to comfort, were wrecked in whole or in part. When American troops went in pursuit of Carranza's enemy, Villa,, they were ambushed by Carranza's soldiers. But nothing effective was done. American troops twice entered Mexico, but they came out empty handed.

When we were drawn into the world war, Carranza repaid our forbearance by harboring all the Germans and pro-Germans who fled for shelter, by permitting his country to be made the center of German intrigue for the entire American hemisphere, and by threatening to shut off the supply of oil for the American and British navies. Since the war ended he has begun to carry out plans to systematize and legalize the process of robbery in which he excelled rival bandits. Americans are murdered every few days, the murderers are never captured and are usually soldiers or officials of Carranza. But Carranza pretends to pursue them and to have established peace and order in three-fourths of the country.

The farce is played out. The Mexicans have not been fighting to decide by whom and how they shall be governed. The rival revolutionary chiefs have been fighting to decide which of them shall ravage a derelict country, and 99 per cent of the people, in the words of Secretary Daniels, have thanked God they were alive ,though it is doubtful whether they had good cause for such thankfulness. The land is full of the ruins of what Americans had done for it, and the progress of a full generation has been wiped out.

Carranza plans to continue his brigandage under the forms of law, but it is high time for civilization to call a halt and for the United States to execute its mandate. Mexico stands in as dire need of rescue from savagery and plunder as Turkey has stood, and the difference between Carranza and Enver probably consists only in a difference between the dates at which their marauding ancesters started from Central Asia.—Oregonian.

At the Theatres

Clara Kimball Young and Her Own Company will be seen at the Star Theatre tonight, in her latest Select Picture, "Cheating Cheaters," a film adaptation of the famous Broadway stage success of the same name.

"Cheating Cheaters" is one of the most unusual plays ever produced on either stage or screen. In it Miss Young has the role of a clever secret service operative, who apparently is a member of a famous band of crooks. As the leader of one band she plans to rob the home of the supposedly wealthy Palmers, but at the last minuate she learns that the Palmers also are crooks, and are themselves planning to rob the Brocktons, the name which the first band has taken. There is a general mix-up of families crooks, and secret service people but in the end things are smoother out, and the seed of an unusual romance takes root.

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Seldom in his picture career has House Peters been given the opportunity to rise to the heights of inspired emotional acting he reaches in "The Forfeit," which will be shown for the first time tonight at the Liberty Theatre. Repressed, yet throbbing with the outraged emotions of a man whose love and faith in life are torn by the revelation that his wife, though innocent, has sent his young brother to a criminal's grave, the popular star portrays the role in a gripping manner.

The story concerns "Jeff" Masters who assumes his mother's maiden name when disinherited by an unreasonable father, goes into the cattle country, and, in time, amasses a fortune. A weak younger brother, Bob, is also cast out when he marries against his father's wishes.

Two Year's later, unknown to his wife, Bob is the leader of a notorious gang of cattle thieves. She, reared on the lap of luxury, tires of their poverty. She finds the hiding place of the rustlers, receives the $10,000 reward and learns, after he has been hanged, her husband's connection with the gang.

She meets and marries the brother, Jeff, four years later. Neither is aware of the other's relation to Bob. When the truth is revealed a gripping situation presents itself. To divulge the climax of the story would be unfair. It can best be appreciated when seen on the screen at the Liberty Theatre tonight.

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Another of the excellent Triangle features will be shown at the Temple Theatre tonight, when the bright little comedy star, Hazel Daly, featured with Sydney Ainsworth, appears in "The Little Rowdy."

This picture is based on a story by Harry Beaumont, who also directed the picture, and portrays the daring exploits of a little hoyden, the daughter of a millionaire, who is expelled from school after she has disgraced herself in the eyes of one Miss Elliott.

Brimful of life and vitality, she completely wins over her parents, who know not how to discipline their unruly daughter whose pranks threaten to lead her along the paths that end in disaster.

ELKS CONVENTION COMMITTEE.

We have received check for $12.50, second prize for new lawn, and wish to take this means of expressing our appreciation.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Buesing.

MARTIAL LAW IN ORDER.

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 21.—Martial law has been proclaimed thruout Hungaria, according to a Budapest dispatch received here today.

The tusks of the African elephants sometimes weigh as much as a hundred pounds and reach a length of eight or nine feet.

BIG PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO PENDLETON ROUND-UP STARS

PENDLETON, Ore., Aug. 21.—Gold and silver belts, silver studded saddles and coin of the realm in larger quantities than ever before are attracting the best cowboy and cowgirl performers in the United States to the tenth annual Round-Up which opens September 18 and closes September 20. The Police Gazette belt for the world's champion cowboy is again in competition and three silver studded saddles, one valued at $400 are up for the roping and bull dogging events. Champions from every range and show in the West will compete for the recignised world's championship titles.

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