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CONVICT ATTEMPTS TO MURDER ANOTHER ONE

VILLA IS WARNED HE MUST GIVE UP BENTON'S BODY

Promise to Let Widow See Remains and Then Inter Them Immediately Does Not Satisfy Washington--The Situation in Washington Most Tense of Any Time Since Madero Was Killed--Reports That Americans Have Been Put to Death--Legation at Mexico City May Be Guarded--Efforts to Locate Carranza Fail--Bryan's Statement of Situation.

BY JOHN EDWIN NEVIN. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Washington, Feb. 25.—Strong pressure on General Villa to surrender William H. Benton's body was brought today by the Washington administration. It was believed President Wilson's policy toward the Mexican rebels hinged on the result. The situation unquestionably was most serious. England was incensed by Villa's refusal to hand over Benton's corpse to the widow. Secretary of State Bryan plainly was greatly worried, though he said nothing. He left the president's army and navy reception at 12 last night and went straight to the state department, where he spent most of the rest of the night. Demands Body's Surrender. He carefully re-read the report by United States Consul Letcher at Chihuahua City, saying that Villa would allow Mrs. Benton to see her husband's body but would immediately re-inter it. Then he sent fresh instructions to Letcher, in which it was understood he renewed in strong terms his demand on Villa to surrender the body at once. The local Mexican rebel junta was also warned that the administration intends fully to investigate the Benton case whether Villa likes it or not. Bauch Also Reported Dead. Ugly rumors were current. The state department was nearly convinced that Gustav Bauch, the German-American accused by Villa of being a federal spy, and Lawrence, the Englishman who went from El Paso to look for Benton, had been executed. Not a clue could be found to the whereabouts of either. Army officers on the border reported an intense anti-Mexican feeling. Unless Villa surrenders Benton's body, they said they were afraid his friends would cross the border and attempt to recover it forcibly. They were threatening to do so openly. A report was current here that the war department had ordered the commanders of the four United States border cavalry posts had received orders to be ready to take the field on short notice. May Guard American Legation. The scout cruiser Chester left Mobile this morning conveying the transport Prairie, with 850 marines on board and the monitor Tonopah, loaded with arms and ammunition, to Vera Cruz. It was said the administration was seriously considering placing a guard of marines over the American legation in Mexico City. President Wilson and Secretary Bryan conferred at the White house this morning before the president went to his office, and later Bryan and English Ambassador Sir Cecil Spring-Rice talked together. It was agreed that the chief essential was to determine the truth or falsity of reports that Villa beat and shot Benton to death first and then had him court-martialed and propped against a wall before a firing squad to avoid the appearance of having murdered him. Bryan's Statement. Bryan would not give out a statement except to say that the Mexican general's first reply to the demand for the surrender of Benton's body was a refusal even to let anyone see it, but

that when American Consul Letcher told him he considered this unfriendly, Villa consented to let the widow view the corpse in the presence of American representatives. The secretary did not say how he replied to this proposition but it was understood he reiterated his demand for the body's delivery. It was intimated, however, that if he persisted in his refusal the government might send an army surgeon to examine the corpse. Tensest Day for Year. So far as the Mexican-American relations were concerned, the day was the tensest since Madero's assassination. There was a constant interchange of messages between Secretary Bryan, Consul Edwards at Juarez and Letcher at Chihuahua City, John Lind at Vera Cruz and Charge d' Affaires O'Shaughnessy at Mexico City. The administration, in short, in its negotiations with the English foreign office, had accepted the obligation of determining the exact circumstances of Benton's death and of being satisfied with nothing less, and was worrying over the question of means to fulfill its obligation. Aside from the Benton case, all efforts to learn the fact of the two other Englishmen, Lawrence and Curtis, and of the German-American, Bauch, had failed, Villa denying knowledge of any of the three. Battle Is Imminent. Mexico City, Feb. 25.—A battle between federals and rebels was imminent today at the Tepicahual, on the Inter-Oceanic railroad, where the rebels have been delaying Vera Cruz passenger trains. A strong federal force has been sent against them. War Minister Blanquet was authority for the statement that the rebels are gathering again to attack Mazatlan. Bauch Reported Executed. El Paso, Tex., Feb. 25.—That Gustav Bauch was executed by the Mexican rebels at Juarez last Friday was reported today among the United States army officers here. They would not divulge the source of their information, pending an official investigation. Will Send Warship. Paris, Feb. 25.—A second French warship will be sent to Mexican waters shortly, it was learned here today from an authoritative source. The foreign office stated, however, that a guard will not be placed over the French legation in Mexico City at present. Cannot Make Villa Do It. Douglas, Ariz., Feb. 25.—Members of the constitutionalist junta at Agua Prieta, Mexico, across the border from here, asserted today that General Carranza cannot undertake to compel General Villa to surrender the body of William H. Benton, an English subject, he executed last week. Carranza, they said, is without means to enforce any orders he might issue to constitutionalist field commanders. American army officers here were awaiting dispatches today regarding the whereabouts of General Carranza. (Continued on page 4.)

PURE FOOD AND DRUG ACT BADLY DISABLED BY RECENT RULINGS

Former Chief Chemist Wiley Says Law Has Been Dealt Body Blow. POISONS MAY BE USED Bars Are Also Let Down in Drug Section by Permitting Misleading Statements as to Contents.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Washington, Feb. 25.—That the United States supreme court had drawn the teeth of the pure food and drugs act by recent decisions was the declaration here today of Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, food expert and former chief chemist in the department of agriculture. Dismissing the courts ruling in the bleached flour case yesterday that adulteration must be harmful to health to come within the prohibition of the law, Dr. Wiley said: "To permit the unrestricted addition of poisons to foods unless such can be proved specifically injurious, is to paralyze that section of the act relating to harmful adulterations. The court also dealt a body blow to the drug section of the law when it announced, in the Jansen cancer case, that the clause forbidding false and misleading statements applied only to the constituents of the medicines and not to their drug properties. "According to the court's latest ruling, a man may add traces of arsenic, strychnine and other drugs to food with impunity. The fault, according to the court's decision consists in the phrase 'which may prove harmful to health.' The people should demand that congress immediately eliminate that phrase." TWO RESIDENTS DROWN. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Marysville, Cal., Feb. 25.—The drowning of two residents of this county during the recent flood was reported here today. Their names are William Yoon of Challenge and Frank Gerig, a Wheatland dairyman. Young's body was found on a mountain road last night and that of Gerig was washed alongside a fence by flood waters today. AMENDED COMPLAINT IS FILED IN CASE AGAINST STATE PRINTER The amended complaint in the case of W. C. Francis, James Archer and P. B. Buzzard against Chris Schumann, Governor West, Secretary Olcott and State Treasurer Kay, with 79 defendants in all, the others being members of the typographical union of Salem, has been filed and summons were served this morning. The suit is brought to restrain the state printer, the board and the members of the union from carrying out any of the agreements made between the state printer and the unions concerning the employment of printers. Just what is expected to be accomplished by this suit is hard to discover, as the agreement which the suit attacks was abrogated January the 6th, last, and, consequently there is nothing from which the defendants are restrained that they have not already acquiesced in. It is stated that the object is to get an opinion of the supreme court on the question raised, but as it is, under the circumstances, but a moot case, it is not probable the supreme court will listen to it at all. The supreme court has work enough keeping track of the troubles that are past or present, without theorizing on what the law would be on something that might happen sometime. We never heard of a bride that was not vivacious, dainty and charming.

SLAYER PEPPER NOW OUT OF DANGER AND EXPRESSES REMORSE

Police Guard Placed Over Him and He Will Be Charged With Murder. DID NOT WANT TO DO IT Merely Wanted to Kill Himself, But Her Coldness in Final Interview Aroused His Ire.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] San Francisco, Feb. 25.—Abraham Pepper, the lace salesman, who yesterday shot and killed Mrs. S. L. Johnson of Tacoma, a bride of a week, and then fired a bullet into his own head, was pronounced out of danger today. While the missile fractured Pepper's skull, it did not penetrate the brain. Pepper expressed deep remorse today over the shooting, and said he hoped he would be placed on trial as soon as his condition would permit. A police guard was placed over him at the hospital today. He will be charged with murder. Pepper denied that he had threatened on several other occasions to kill Mrs. Johnson. Never Threatened Her. "I never had occasion to threaten Dorothy's life before," he said, "because I did not know she was to marry Johnson until the day of the wedding. Then I got a letter from her telling me that she found that she loved Johnson better than she did me. She said she would return the presents that I had given her, and added that it would be better for us to be friends thereafter. "Before I came to San Francisco I had guessed that her mind was unsettled as to whether she would marry me, but I thought she would think more favorable of it when I was absent." Pepper said he was sorry that he had made such "a poor job of himself." "I didn't want to kill her," he said over and over again. "I merely wanted to kill myself. But when she seemed so cold and indifferent I lost my mind and fired the shot that killed her before I knew what I was doing. "I am perfectly willing to pay the full penalty. I have nothing to live for now. I feel mighty sorry for my mother, though. She is heartbroken. Had I thought of her at the time this thing never would have happened." Janitor Only Witness. William Adams, a janitor at the Hotel Sutter, was the only witness to the shooting. He declared today that only two or three remarks were exchanged before Pepper shoved a pistol into Mrs. Johnson's face. "The woman threw her hands before her eyes and turned half around, screaming, just as the revolver flashed for the first time," said Adams. DRYERS CONTRIBUTE HEAVILY. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Pasadena, Cal., Feb. 25.—Ten thousand dollars has been contributed today to the California "dry" campaign fund by nine residents of Pasadena, all prominent church and temperance work. The individual contributions range from \$500 to \$2,500. DIEDRICHS LIKES DEWEY. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Baden-Baden, Feb. 26.—Admiral Von Diedrichs today admitted there was a friction between himself and Admiral Dewey, but attributed it to English mischief-making, and said they became good friends later. The Dickey Bird says: Fair tonight and Thursday, colder east portion, westerly winds.

Feminine Steve Brodie Takes Big "Leap for Life"



Miss Bennett in leaping regalia and her descent with parachute. New York, Feb. 25.—It takes nerve—feet above the East river. She descended all right and was fished out of the water by Rodman Law, a companion daredevil, who leaped separately, and by others who were waiting on a tug-tan and Brooklyn. Using a small parachute, Miss Bennett risked her life and limb for the movies. She leaped from the middle of the big span, which is 157

GOVERNOR LEAVES NEXT SATURDAY FOR WASHINGTON

Governor West leaves Saturday for Washington and will be away for probably three weeks. His object is to get several matters settled concerning state lands and some irrigation matters settled. One of the things he will take up is the forfeiture of the Coos Bay Wagon Road Grant, which, originally granted to the state to build a road from the valley to Coos Bay, was farmed out by the state to a private company and the road was never built. The governor will ask that these lands instead of going back to the general government which, they do under the decision of Judge Bean, will be turned over to the state to build roads into the Coos Bay and coast sections, as was originally intended. That is a sparsely settled section through which the road will have to be built to give the rich coast section access to the valley, and is therefore unable to build its own roads. The governor would have a road built from some point in Douglas county to the coast and another from some point in Jackson or Josephine to Marshfield or that vicinity. The governor will also take up the matter of exchanging state lands for a tract in one body, as provided in a bill which has already passed the senate and is now pending in the house. He will also take up the matter of irrigation with the departments and try and reach some agreement as to mutual aid in completing these projects. PROB NOT DESIRED. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Washington, Feb. 25.—By a vote of 32 to 25, the senate this afternoon tabled the Norris resolution asking the department of justice to inform the senate of the exact negotiations carried on with the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad regarding its reorganization.

BLANKETS AND TENTS ARE DEMANDED FOR MEN OUT OF WORK

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] San Francisco, Feb. 25.—Blankets, one day's rations and shelter tents for 2,500 men were demanded of the board of supervisors here today by "General" Kelley, leader of the San Francisco's unemployed army. "If our demand is granted," Kelley said, "we will leave next Monday morning at the latest. Otherwise we intend to stay until it is, even if we remain in San Francisco all summer. "Give us blankets and tents and we will leave at once for Washington. We will ask for relief there. The nation asks for our lives in time of war, and we ask for subsistence in time of peace. Grant our demand, and we soon will be on our way." BATTLE THREATENED. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Grass Valley, Cal., Feb. 25.—Gun-fighting between farmers and miners on Slate creek, this county, and employees of the Excelsior Mining and Water company was threatened today. The company claims the creek water, ordered everyone to cease using it and destroyed the irrigation ditches tapping it. The farmers and miners repaired the ditches and were guarding them today with shotguns, rifles and pistols. WILL TAKE NO PART. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] London, Feb. 25.—Great Britain's final decision to take no part in the Panama-Pacific exposition in San Francisco in 1915 was expressed before the members of parliament yesterday by Sir Edward Grey. He had been invited to take step to retrieve the government's position, but Sir Edward, speaking as England's foreign minister, said the government could not modify its previous decision.

STABS HIM TWICE WITH RUDE KNIFE

Guards Overpower Clark Before He Accomplishes His Purpose at Prison. AN OLD GRUDGE IS CAUSE OF ATTACK. Affray Happens While Men Are Being Taken From Cells for Exercise.

Thomas Clark, sentenced from Lane county to serve from 2 to 5 years for burglary, this morning stabbed Herman Reynolds, another convict, in the head and arm with a knife he had concealed about his person. Reynolds' injuries are not serious and he will be all right in a few days. It was unnecessary to send him to the hospital. Clark and Reynolds were being taken down a corridor on the third tier of cells for exercise in the courtyard when the affray occurred. Clark attacked Reynolds with a rather dull blade he had fashioned out of some iron and it was evidently his intention to kill the other. Guards soon overpowered him and he was taken back to his cell. An Old Grudge. It was stated that an old grudge existed between the pair. They have been classed as trouble-makers and have not been given any of the special privileges of other convicts. This afternoon County Attorney Ringo went to the penitentiary to ascertain the facts and he will bring the case to the attention of the grand jury, with a view of securing the indictment of Clark. His action will probably bring him another and longer term in the penitentiary. SNOW IN GALVESTON. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Galveston, Tex., Feb. 25.—Snow and sleet fell in Galveston today for the first time in 17 years. FAIL IN ATTEMPT TO LOOT IOWA'S STRONGBOX IN CAPITOL [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 25.—Four masked crackmen tried to blow the state treasurer's safe in the Iowa capitol building early today. In it was \$7,000 cash and about \$1,000,000 in securities. All the robbers got, however, was \$5, taken from the cash drawer. How the quartette got into the capitol was not known. They were hidden in the parole hours room when Watchman Russell entered soon after midnight, pounced on him, tied and gagged him and dragged him into the treasurer's office. Later Watchman Carpenter passed the door and was treated as Russell has been. Watchman Gay, the third man of the force at the capitol slept peacefully in the supreme court chamber while the thieves worked. After drilling for two hours at the safe an unsuccessful attempt was made to blow it open. It failed; another two hours drilling and another unsuccessful explosion followed. Preparations were being made for a third attempt when a noise in the capitol frightened the crackmen into flight. Russell succeeded in releasing himself and his companion sometime later and gave the alarm.

The Weather. The Dickey Bird says: Fair tonight and Thursday, colder east portion, westerly winds.