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THIRTY-SIX DEAD AND SCORES INJURED IN FIRE

TEXAS AUTHORITIES MUST ASSUME BLAME FOR RAID IN MEXICO

President Wilson Announces He May Call by Telegraph for Full and Satisfactory Explanation of Trip After Body-- Denies Administration Had Any Advance Information Regarding Raid--Rebels Attack Torreón--Passenger Train Dynamited and Many Killed--Poet and Four Others Executed.

BY JOHN EDWIN NEVIN. [UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] Washington, March 9.—The Texas authorities must assume responsibility for Saturday night's invasion of Mexican territory by the party which brought back the body of Clemente Veragor, the American, recently executed by federals near Nuevo Laredo.

Unless Governor Colquitt makes an immediate and satisfactory report, President Wilson will call for one by telegraph.

The president made these two things plain to White House callers today. He made it clear, too, that he would not consider the raid's object—he would take into account only the fact that it was an unauthorized invasion of Mexican territory.

May Rebuke Governor. If the invasion was by Texas rangers, it was explained, it might be necessary for the government officially to disavow their act and to rebuke those who permitted it.

The president did not intend to act hastily, however. He indicated that a full investigation was being made, and until it was finished neither he nor Secretary of State Bryan would have anything further to say on the subject.

The executive did, however, deny that the Washington administration had advance knowledge that a raid was intended, and he also discredited reports that United States Consul Garrett, at Nuevo Laredo, was cognizant of it until it was over.

Has Opposed All Invasions. The administration, said the president, has made every effort to prevent armed Americans from crossing the border into Mexico. It was true, he explained, that the Veragor case had

been taken up with the Huerta government, but there had never been a thought of armed invasion.

After sending for Secretary Bryan, the first thing in the morning, and demanding a quick and thorough investigation of the incident, the president instructed Secretary of War Garrison to call for a report from General Bliss, of the border patrol, considering the occurrence, from a military standpoint.

Germany Not Belligerent. The chief executive was much exercised by reports that Germany had notified the administration it would act independently in Mexico unless the United States furnishes effective protection for German subjects there. The story, he said, was maliciously untrue.

Wilson let it be known that he does not look for the passage of the Poinsett and Jones resolutions asking him to explain to the senate the meaning of the veiled allusions in his Panama canal tolls message. Even if they should be adopted, it is intimated, he probably would ignore them.

Consul Garrett, in a telegraphic report to the state department, said Veragor's body had been turned over to an undertaker, and would be buried today. Garrett was reporting more fully by mail.

Wilson Displeased. The president told his callers frankly that he was displeased at the delay of congress in disposing of pending trust legislation. He was to confer with Chairman Clayton, of the house judiciary committee, this afternoon in an effort to secure speedier action.

The executive refused to discuss prospective appointments to the reserve

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Second Trial of Becker to be no Farce, Despite Rumors



District Attorney Whitman, Who Will Push Trial of Becker.

BY CARLTON TEN EYBOK. (Written for the United Press.)

New York, March 9.—The trail of the serpent goes on and on, its daily slimes befouling all it touches. New York seems destined never to forget the sensational murder of Gambler Herman Rosenthal. Shortly after midnight on a July morning two years ago, shots rang out on the still air of Forty-third street in the Upper Tenderloin and their echo has reverberated throughout the Greater City ever since.

Becker added fuel to the flame by beginning to talk as soon as he was taken from the death house on the life side of the little green door and he has continued to talk volubly ever since. He began by reiterating that he is innocent of the gambler's murder and knew all the time that he would get justice. Then

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the state of New York sitting at Albany on purely technical grounds, reversed the conviction of former Police Lieutenant Charles Becker, in Sing Sing awaiting death in the electric chair for the murder of Rosenthal, and ordered a new trial for him. The court's order revived the case in all its startling features and the newspapers of New York repeated all the sordid and ghastly details of the actual murder and the year of investigations and trials that it had brought on.

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ST. LOUIS CLUB BURNS AFTER AN EXPLOSION

Building Burning Fiercely Before Many of the Occupants Are Warned and There Is Frantic Effort to Escape--Terrible Scenes Enacted and Scores Who Escape Death Are Badly Injured--Telephone Operator Sticks to Post and Gives Warning to Many, But Wires Finally Fail to Work--Moans and Screams Heard by Firemen on Arrival--Bodies Recovered Are Badly Charred and Identification Difficult--List of Those Known to Be Dead and Missing.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.] St. Louis, March 9.—Thirty-six men were believed at noon today to have perished in a fire, which, breaking out between 1 and 2 a. m., destroyed the ultra-fashionable Missouri Athletic club's seven-story building here, with the Boatmen's bank on the ground floor, and damaged several adjoining structures.

Of those thought to have died the bodies of several had been recovered at noon. Three of them were identified. Four were buried by debris. Many were missing and it was assumed that their corpses were buried in the ruins which were too hot for a thorough search.

The identified dead: John M. Riekey, 40 years old, St. Paul; S. F. Kessler, 49 years old; James Riley, 55 years old; W. J. Kinder; L. O. Ruff; William Erd, real estate dealer.

The club was among the most fashionable in the city. The building it occupied was a fine seven-story structure at Fourth and Washington streets. On the ground floor was the Boatmen's bank, which also was destroyed. Early reports of the loss of life were greatly exaggerated.

Scores Injured. Besides the dead and missing there was a list of injured running into the scores. The register of those spending the night in the club house was lost, so there was some uncertainty concerning numbers, and it was admitted that this might mean some variation in the figures given. Fire Chief Swingley thought there were about 90 guests in the building, either still sitting up, asleep in their bedrooms or in the Turkish baths.

Night Clerk Reisinger, however, put the number at 50 to 75. Contradictory Stories. As to the manner in which the fire started there were conflicting stories. First reports were that it began with an explosion. Subsequently Fire Chief Swingley said he thought not. He believed it began either in the club kitchen or main dining room. Still later, Edward Hell, an oyster house proprietor who was early on the scene, was so positive that there was an explosion that he shook even Chief Swingley in his belief.

The club's loss was placed at \$100,000 and the Boatmen's bank at \$250,000. Begins With Explosion. The fire began with an explosion shortly after midnight. The flames spread with frightful speed, quickly cutting off the Fourth street fire escape.

But for the heroism of N. Rowe, the telephone operator, a man, the number of killed probably would have run into three figures, as indeed, it was at first reported to have done. Rowe stuck at his post, arousing the occupants of the rooms, until his wires failed.

Crowd to Windows. In the meantime the guests of the club were crowding to the windows, seeking means of escape. From one window on the fourth floor 20 men slid down a rope of twisted bed clothing to the roof of an adjoining building.

At 3 a. m., the building's east wall collapsed upon the bank on the ground floor, burying the vaults. Bank officials said they contained \$1,349,499 in currency and \$27,464 in specie.

night not one is under the age of 67 years and many will top the 85 mark. The special agents came to Salem last Saturday and, getting in touch with the police, prepared the raid. Both are young men, probably not over the ages of 24 and 25. The raid was made about 9 o'clock last night.

According to the testimony given by Police Officers Gains, Shedeck, White, Welch and Stanton and the two special agents, several of the Chinamen were caught either actually smoking the opium or lying on rude cots in a "dream." One old fellow, so aged that he might have been a relic of the dark ages, from appearance, was dreaming when he was escorted to the jail, declare the police. Others were in a half stupor from the effects of the drug, two of the men had just "hit up" and were sending out the clouds of foul smoke when interrupted by the police.

Would Break Circle. It is claimed by the two Portland agents that there is an organized opium ring in this state which the state board of Pharmacy is seeking to destroy. Mr. Lightner stated this morning that there is not a Chinaman in Portland who smokes opium since the raids have been made so often in that city. He declares that the Portland Chinamen have given up the drug and in its place now smoke pipes and tobaccos.

Five Different Outfits for Smoking Opium were confiscated by the officers in their raid and they were introduced as evidence at the hearing this morning. The outfits contain pipes opium in small quantities, "insechin," a black substance which is removed from the top of the pipes after the "culch" have been fried and which, it is claimed, is much stronger than the pure drug.

With the wall's fall the fire spread to an adjoining building occupied by the St. Louis Seed company, which was still burning fiercely at 8 a. m.

Thirty nozzles were at that hour playing on the fire, but the club's south wall was momentarily expected to fall.

Missing Clubmen. The missing clubmen were: William Becker, president of the Brocker-Moore Paint company; Thomas Wright, auditor of the Lemp Brewing company.

Allan Dancock, prominent amateur baseball and football player; John Kinder, president of the Kinder Construction company.

William Shields, president of the Shields Lye company; George Goerner, president of the Holstein Commission company.

L. P. Puff, buyer for the Simmons Hardware company; Benjamin Westberry, salesman.

Allen Dow, salesman; Bert Crouch, salesman; John Chasoff, publicity agent; Thomas Sklyne; J. T. Haelen; Marx Hammar.

D. E. Fitzgerald, of the Pierce-Arrow corporation; Two club visitors whose names were known only as McKane and Jennings.

F. W. Williams furrier; F. W. Albyght; E. P. Williams, salesman; L. A. Tilley, of the Buick Automobile company.

J. E. Chesley; W. A. Hunieke, a Missouri Pacific employe; Roby Green.

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LEADERS UNEMPLOYED ARMY PLACED IN JAIL AND OTHERS ROUTED

Thorne and Others Make Fruitless Efforts to Resist Officers.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AIDS

Many of Men Knocked Down and Injured by Officers and Lot at Sacramento Is Finally Cleared.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.]

Sacramento, Cal., March 9.—Threats of the leaders of the unemployed army to clash with the authorities if an attempt were made to oust them from this city were wiped away today when Charles Kelly, William Thorne and "Roughneck" Teesdale were placed under arrest. Although Thorne attempted to arouse his followers when the police squadron hove into sight at the Southern Pacific sand lot stockade, there was not the semblance of resistance when the leaders were surrounded. The officers were armed with shotguns, rifles and riot clubs.

The warrants, issued by District Attorney Eugene Wachhorst, charged the leaders with vagrancy. A score of other members of the army were ar-

rested on John Doe warrants, which also charged vagrancy.

All were taken to the jail. When the police entered the field the thousands of onlookers expect a battle and scrambled for places of safety. There was no demonstration however, the members of the "army" failing to take up the gauntlet on behalf of their leaders and lying flat on the ground. Their jeers were silenced when the officers got busy.

Flashing union cards, the men arrested appealed to union men in the crowd to help them. There was no response, however, the onlookers cheering every time an automobile load of the prisoners was taken away.

The next move was to clear the lot. It was proposed to give the men transportation to San Francisco, whence they came, and no trouble was expected when orders were enforced dispersing the army and directing the men to board a barge bound for the bay city.

The men arrested were unarmed. Shout "Kill the Cops." As fast as the men were ordered out of the field they raced to another side and got back in again, shouting, "Kill the cops, burn the town."

The first real act of violence was when Patrolman Ash attempted to disperse a crowd which was making incendiary speeches around an American flag. The patrolman made a pass at the man holding the flag and was immediately attacked. It was necessary to call for assistance. Brother officers rushed up, and night sticks riot clubs and fists were soon flying freely, scalp were laid open, men's clothing torn, and one member of the

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SPANISH BLINDPIGGER TRAPPED BY OFFICER WHILE PLYING TRADE

Albert Sensenta Is In Jail, Together With His Partner, W. Dairy.

OFFICER SEES SALE MADE

Large Quantity of Whiskey Is Found in Trunks and Suit Cases of Rooms Occupied by Men.

Albert Sensenta, a Spaniard, was caught in a trap set last night by Officer Jack Welch, who suspected the man of being a bootlegger. Sensenta "fell" for the officer's game and consequently was held on a charge of selling liquor in a dry territory, and is also facing a complaint sworn out against him on a similar charge in Justice Webster's court.

Wm. Dairy, a partner of the Spaniard, was also arrested at the same time on the same charge.

Works Trick. Officer Welch, having suspected Sensenta of being a bootlegger, engaged another man to make a date with the Spaniard in the rear of the old Council saloon building, on State street, and then a second party was induced

to buy the booze from Sensenta, the money for which was furnished by the officer. Officer White was then instructed to station himself near at hand to watch proceedings, and just as the third person was taking over the liquor and handing Sensenta the money, Officer Welch stepped out of a shadow and arrested the bootlegger.

Find More Boozes. The Spanish gentleman was then taken to his room on the corner of church and Trade streets, where they found another party, who was identified as a man who has been soliciting people to buy booze at different places in the city. This man was Dairy.

Upon searching the room occupied by the two men, a large quantity of whiskey was found in trunks and in suit cases scattered about. Sensenta at first denied that he was bootlegging, but later confessed.

These are first real bootleggers to be arrested since the new laws went into effect, according to the police.

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The Weather

The Dickey Bird says: Fair tonight and Tuesday; northerly winds.



NINE CHINAMEN ARE CAUGHT IN AN OPIUM DEN RAID IN SALEM

Special Agents of State Board of Pharmacy Aid Police of City.

ALL ARE OVER 67 YEARS

Five Different Outfits Are Secured by Officers in Raid and Are Submitted in Evidence.

The police, assisted by Michael O'Mara and David Lightner, two special agents employed by the State Board of Pharmacy to run down opium smokers in this state, made the arrest last night of nine local Chinamen, five of the number being directly charged with smoking the drug and four accused by the officers of being in a place where opium is smoked. Enough smoking kits to supply a small newspaper were found during the raid on the Chinese houses on the corner of Ferry and High streets.

Those caught in the net were Jim Bow Ah, Ching Ray Low, Ah Sun, John Dow, Louieon, Seok Sing, and Lee Jim, they were locked up in the jail and their trial started this afternoon.

Aged and Feeble Arrested. Of the nine orientals arrested last

night not one is under the age of 67 years and many will top the 85 mark. The special agents came to Salem last Saturday and, getting in touch with the police, prepared the raid. Both are young men, probably not over the ages of 24 and 25. The raid was made about 9 o'clock last night.

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lamps, needles, trays and what not. prosecution insisted today that the outfits were sufficient evidence to convict the nine defendants of a violation of a provision in the statute prohibiting residence in places where opium is smoked.

Claims Raid Injustice. Judge P. H. D'Arcy defended the Chinamen. He asserted that the raid was made unjustly on his clients and that friends of the accused have asked him to intervene with a legal defense. The majority of the defendants, it could be plainly observed, have used the drug for many years. They are perfect wrecks of humanity, who have evidently been habitual smokers since boyhood. They are all well-known in this city and are seen on the streets every day. Louieon formerly conducted a noodle house on Ferry street while Ah Sun is a hale and hearty looking Chinaman despite his age and does not appear to be a smoker of the vile preparation.

The hearing resulted in seven of them being turned loose and the assessment of a fine of \$15 on one and \$25 on another. The fines were paid by friends of the convicted ones.

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