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THE EVENING HERALD. VOL. 4, NO. 16.

VILLA IS LOSING GROUND TODAY

Every Report Filtering Through from Torreon Tells of Repulse for Troops of the Bandit.

FEDERALS STILL HOLD IN GOMEZ PALACIO

Atmosphere of Pessimistic Anxiety Prevails in Juarez While Mexico City Claims Federal Victory

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Juarez, Mex., March 26.—At noon an unofficial report was received saying that an intermittent artillery duel was carried on at Gomez Palacio during the night. There were no details.

PESSIMISTIC ANXIETY PREVAILS AT JUAREZ

Juarez, Mex., March 26.—An atmosphere of pessimistic anxiety enveloped constitutional sympathizers here early today over the possible fate of General Villa and his 12,000 soldiers, who, at last reports, were engaged in desperate fighting at Gomez Palacio, a suburb of Torreon. Not for two days has any authoritative word come from the front, and press dispatches, which so far have been more reliable than the so-called official dispatches, have been as lacking.

Not even a courier has penetrated the desert between Torreon and Chihuahua, and no communication by wire, of any nature, has been received for 48 hours.

REBELS REPULSED AT EVERY TURN, IS REPORT

El Paso, Tex., March 26.—That the rebels have been repulsed every time they have taken the offensive at Gomez Palacio, was the assertion made here today by Miguel Diebold, inspector of Mexican consulates. Senior Diebold exhibited messages from Mexico City as his authority for the statement. One message declared that the rebels have not even approached Torreon properly, but have had their hands full at Gomez Palacio, three miles distant. He asserted that the federals are about to take the offensive, to which end a flanking movement is being started.

MEXICO CITY WITHOUT DEFINITE NEWS OF BATTLE

Mexico City, March 26.—The federal capital was today still without definite information as to the fighting between the federals and rebels at Torreon. The war office appears to have received no direct news and the published reports of the success of the federal troops are based on consular dispatches from border points.

A telegram from a newspaper correspondent at Saltillo reports severe fighting at Atrenga, east of that city, where 247 rebels are said to have been killed by the federals. The same correspondent also reports fighting at Cuatro Ciencogas, west of Monclova, but gives no details. The banks here today curtailed their exchange operations, owing to the uncertainty of the situation.

REBELS AGAIN REPORTED BEATEN AT GOMEZ PALACIO

Washington, March 26.—This message, sent from Mexico City last night, was received at the embassy here today: "Rebels once more routed and repulsed at Gomez Palacio with heavy losses, while trying to approach Torreon."

The state department had only the report from El Paso, saying that up to yesterday afternoon results "were still undetermined."

Other dispatches reported there was absolutely no foundation for stories that danger threatened five Americans in the Tlahualilte district of Coahuila. Consular representatives report all foreigners within territory under constitutional control being protected.

PRISONERS AT LAREDO SET FREE TODAY

Laredo, Tex., March 26.—A number of rebel and federal Mexican prisoners who have been confined at Fort McIntosh since the battle of Nuevo Laredo, January 1, were released last night, by order of the war department. About 500 federal fugitives from the battle of Guerrero reached Laredo last night. Most of them announced they would return to Mexico.

Mme. Caillaux Went Prepared to Shoot

Frenchwoman Declares She Went Determined to Get Satisfaction from Editor or Use Her Revolver.

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Paris, March 26.—"Why did you buy a revolver?" Henri Bourcard, the examining magistrate today asked Madame Caillaux. It was her fourth appearance before the magistrate who is investigating her assassination of Gaston Calmette, editor of Figaro. "Why did you buy a revolver?" asked Bourcard. "If your object in calling on Calmette was to talk about letters which you feared would be published?"

"I was prepared for eventualities," was the reply. "If he did not give me satisfaction, I meant to shoot him and create a scandal."

The next question the magistrate asked was:

"Then why did you not speak to Mr. Calmette about the letters before shooting him?"

"I lost all idea of the object of my visit when I entered his office. My voice seemed stifled. A fear took hold of me which even today is insupportable. I lost my head and fired," replied Mme. Caillaux.

M. Bourcard reminded Mme. Caillaux that her statements to him were inconsistent with those she made to the police commissary an hour after the shooting occurred.

Mme. Caillaux replied: "That may well be. I had no luncheon or dinner. This fact and the emotion which overpowered me made it impossible for me to give the commissary a coherent explanation. I meant to shoot if M. Calmette gave me no satisfaction, but I did not mean to kill him."

Examined as to why she had practiced pistol shooting, Mme. Caillaux replied:

"I did not practice with the object of learning to shoot, but merely to familiarize myself with the working of the automatic pistol."

KOETTERS IDENTIFIED AS MAN WITH MRS. KRAFT IN CINCINNATI

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Chicago, March 26.—John W. Martin, an actor, today testified to the identity of John H. Koettters as the man who registered at a hotel in November, 1912, with Mrs. Emma Kraft of Cincinnati, who was found dead after being slain with a hammer in a room of the hotel later. Koettters, who is on trial for the alleged murder of Mrs. Kraft, was remembered by Martin because he had rudely shoved the actor about in the lobby and had refused to apologize.

Letters from Mrs. Kraft to Koettters, ranging from affection through anxiety to accusation, charged that he had caroused in Detroit with \$800 obtained from her, were read as evidence.

BULGARIAN QUEEN COMING TO VISIT US EARLY IN MAY

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Sofia, Bulgaria, March 26.—Queen Eleanor of Bulgaria today announced that she would start on her journey to the United States the third week in May. Her majesty will presumably proceed to Hamburg and embark there on May 23.

Queen Eleanor will be the first reigning queen to visit the United States. She intends to make a study of American institutions and people, in which she has always been greatly interested. Her majesty was touched during the recent Balkan war by the practical sympathy displayed for her suffering subjects by Americans.

RIVERS AND HARBORS BILL PASSES HOUSE CARRYING \$43,400,000

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Washington, March 26.—After many days of debate the rivers and harbors appropriation bill, carrying an aggregate of \$43,400,000, was passed by the house today without substantial amendment. The measure now goes to the senate.

FOREIGN CONVICT LABOR BILL GOES TO SENATE

Washington, March 26.—The bill barring convict made in possession of property from competition with the products of American free labor went to the senate today from the house where it was passed yesterday following a vigorous partisan contest. In the senate the measure was referred for committee consideration.

LOUIS TERRAZAS IN NO IMMEDIATE DANGER SAYS TELEGRAM TODAY

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] El Paso, Tex., March 26.—General Luis Terrazas received a telegram from Chihuahua today stating that his son, Luis, who was in no immediate danger, it was reported that he was to have been executed yesterday unless he contributed \$50,000 pesos to the rebel cause.

ONE HUNDRED SPEECHES ON CANAL TOLL READY

House Rule Finally Submitted Carrying Twenty Hours for Debate for all Sides of Question

FURTHER DELAYS AT THE FINAL MINUTE

Rivers and Harbors Bill Crops up with Right of Way and Actual Debate will not Start Today.

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Washington, March 26.—A rule to limit debate on the Panama tolls exemption repeal bill to twenty hours was presented to the house at 4 o'clock this afternoon. A vote on the rule was expected before adjournment.

WILSON SURE OF VICTORY

Washington, March 26.—President Wilson declared today that with the united protest of the South American press, the opinion of the entire world was unanimously in favor of the repeal of the Panama tolls exemption.

All prospect of the tolls debate proper beginning today went glimmering when the house dragged along on the rivers and harbors bill and the leader agreed that if the debate rule were brought in and disposed of before adjournment today, they would be satisfied. Such an arrangement would leave the opening of the repeal debate for tomorrow.

The bill was introduced in the house today by a parliamentary situation, rich in motions, roll calls, demands for a quorum and all the agencies of delay at the command of its opponents.

Just when the rules committee had agreed on an arrangement to parcel out 20 hours for debate between the contending factions and the first skirmish of the fight was about to start, a new stumbling block—a controversial report on the urgent deficiency bill—was inserted. A threatened filibuster on that prolonged the situation.

The administration supporters, chafing at the delay, got their forces in a position to take advantage of every technical opportunity, the opponents drew on their resources to hamper the measure.

President Wilson, confident of the success of the fight, received reports of the situation at the White House, leaders assuring him a safe majority would carry the repeal.

The senate began its own debate with a speech by Senator Owen. Senator Levin introduced a resolution for equal tolls for all. Representative Kindel of Colorado, spoke on his controversy with the post office department over the franking privilege.

The president told callers that the South American press had joined the opposition of European countries and regarded the Panama canal as a violation of a treaty. Mr. Wilson pointed out that perhaps there was a mistaken impression in congress as to his reason for desiring the repeal. He emphasized that it was not in his opinion alone that a mistaken economic policy and a breach of treaty was involved, but it was a universal opinion that an international situation needed correction.

Mr. Wilson told his callers that he was asking no man to reverse his opinion, but merely to correct a situation. He feels that those who share their opposition on the question whether there was a breach of a treaty do not realize that their own opinions are not the main point involved. Their chief issue, as pointed out, was the attitude taken by the foreign governments and just so long as they considered that the United States was violating a promise, it would be difficult to make any more new treaties with them. Mr. Wilson said that congressmen were not being called on to compromise their attitude, because the necessity for a repeal was based on a consideration which was not in their minds when the original action was taken.

The president denied that he had ever seen any document alleging that the British government would not oppose a tolls exemption, if confined "exclusively" to customs shipping.

ONE HUNDRED SPEECHES IN TWENTY HOURS

Washington, March 26.—Democratic house leaders abandoned the idea of only 15 hours' debate on the Panama tolls exemption repeal today and agreed to twenty. This would bring a vote probably Saturday. Such a provision in a special rule.

SPIES INTERESTED IN BIG CLEAN UP PROPOSITION

[Special Dispatch to Evening Herald.] Santa Fe, N. M., March 26.—Chas. A. Spiess, Republican national committeeman for New Mexico today was named as a spy agent in New Mexico for the Aero Sweeper company, with a capital stock of \$250,000, incorporation papers for which were filed with the state corporation commission. The purpose of the new corporation is to manufacture a new vacuum cleaning device. Most of the incorporators are Trinidad, Colo., men.

TRINIDAD LUMBER DEALER BEATEN IN HIS OFFICE

William M. Williams, Aged Pioneer Merchant Expected to Die as Result of Assault Last Night.

AUTHORITIES LAY CRIME TO STRIKE AGITATORS

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Trinidad, Colo., March 26.—William M. Williams, 65, pioneer lumber dealer and a former director of the Trinidad chamber of commerce, was found in his office early today unconscious from an assault supposed to have been committed last evening.

He was taken to a hospital, where he was reported to be in a critical condition. His skull was fractured and he sustained other injuries.

Williams was found by his partner, A. E. Messer, when the latter opened the office, at 7 o'clock. The room was spattered with blood and there was evidence of a struggle. The authorities said today they were investigating the case on the theory the assault was the deed of parties in some way connected with the coal miners' strike. Williams last Friday signed a statement, with other business men, endorsing the policy of Governor Ammons in sending troops into the strike zone, and urging him to keep the militia on duty.

That the assault may have been committed for the purpose of robbery is suggested by A. E. Messer, business partner of the injured man, who says that he found that \$25 in bills, which were in the cash drawer last night, were taken, and that a nickel was found on the floor, apparently dropped by the assailant of Williams. The pockets of the injured man are declared by Messer to have been turned inside out and what money he had at the time taken. The investigation has so far led to no arrests.

Week of Monroe Blown Up. Norfolk, Va., March 26.—The wreck of the Old Dominion liner Monroe, sunk in January by the Merchants and Miners' packet, Nantuxet, with a loss of more than forty lives, has been blown up by the revenue cutter Onondaga, which returned to port here today.

brought as soon as the house assembled, at 11 a. m. today divided the time as an to give ten hours for those supporting the repeal, to be controlled by Chairman Adamson of the commerce commission, five hours for the Democrats opposed, to be controlled by Representative Duran of Michigan, four hours for the Republicans, to be controlled by Representative Knowland of California, and one hour for the President, to be controlled by Representative Lafferty of Oregon.

There was a tacit understanding that the debate on adopting the special rule will be more limited than was at first proposed and probably would be held to two hours or less.

These arrangements cleared the way for the launching of the actual fight in today's session. Nearly 100 speeches have been prepared on both sides of the question and the fight promises to be the most spectacular since the Democratic administration came into power.

While the opening skirmish was on in the house, the first guns were being heard in the senate, where Senator Owen delivered a speech supporting the president's contention for a repeal.

Then, just as both sides were prepared for the beginning of the struggle, and house galleries were packed with an expectant crowd, another delay dropped up. Although the rivers and harbors bill was in direct line to be speedily finished to make a place for the tolls repeal bill, Representative Fitzgerald, Democrat, fighting the repeal, brought up the conference report on the urgent deficiency bill. A conference report always is in order under the house rules, so that displaced the river and harbor bill, which still has the right of way over the Panama bill.

To add to the delay, the conference report contains a provision for paying for the care of the Mexican refugees from the camps at Fort Bliss. That question, which disputed, precipitated a near-filibuster and long debate. The parliamentary situation was such that the actual debate on the Panama bill is several hours off.

DEMOCRATS WILL MEET IN ELKS TONIGHT

Central School Auditorium Considered too Small and Theatre will be Used for City Convention.

SELLERS HAS TWENTY-NINE VOTES FOR MAYOR

Third and Fourth Wards Stand Solidly by Mayor Giving Majority of Five. Others Said Wavering

The Democratic city nominating convention will be held tonight in Elks' theater, instead of in the Central school auditorium, as announced in the call.

Chairman Louis A. McElroe, of the city committee, told the Herald this afternoon that because of the interest in the convention it was feared the school room would not hold the crowd and therefore with the consent of a majority of the committee Elks' theater.

The meeting will be called to order by Mr. McElroe at 8 o'clock sharp.

Immediately after calling the convention to order Mr. McElroe, as a question of privilege, will ask for a silver collection to defray expenses of the theater. Any amount over and above this expense which may be contributed will be given to the Non-Sectarian Benevolent association.

All Democrats, good, bad and indifferent, are asked to bring some change with them.

Visiting Republicans are especially invited to contribute.

SELLERS HAS TWENTY-NINE VOTES STANDING PAT

All rumors to the contrary, D. K. E. Sellers has twenty-nine votes for his nomination as Democratic candidate for mayor of Albuquerque, which will be cast for him on the first ballot in Elks' theater tonight and which will give him the nomination on the first ballot. During the day rumors of defections from the mayor's forces have been in circulation. These have been run down by the Herald in a number of instances and have been found to be without any basis. Up to late this afternoon the delegations from the Third and Fourth wards stand solidly for Mayor, giving him a majority of five. It is said with some show of authority that the bitterness of the fight on the mayor has served to lose two or more votes to the opposition from the Second ward delegation. Also, it is said, there are a number of room boys of the First ward delegation who will refuse to obey instructions to leave the convention following the mayor's nomination.

Thomas J. Passmore will be nominated from the Second ward delegation for mayor, but it is expected his name will later be offered for the council from that ward, should he not head the ticket, which under the circumstances seems probable.

The war on Mayor Sellers has served to add unusual interest to the convention tonight and early in the day the city committee determined to hold it in Elks' theater in order to accommodate the crowd which is expected.

Hot Fight for Clerk

The clerkship nomination will bring on a contest on the floor of the convention. Baker, Baker, T. J. Naylon, C. E. Hinds and Herbert Asselin are candidates for the position and all have a following. Baker and Naylon being the leaders. The fight will settle down to these two after the first ballot, it is said.

REPORTED EXPLOSION ON HAWAIIAN BOAT PROVES FALSE ALARM

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Honolulu, March 26.—The inter-island steamer Maui, reported to have gone down last night with all hands, after an explosion, reported today from Kauai by wireless that she had arrived there safely after an uneventful voyage.

Nevertheless the reports of an explosion of some sort off Pearl Harbor are so circumstantial and come from so many independent sources that it is still believed that some vessel must have been blown up.

The navy tug Navajo and the private tug Intrepid, together with many launches are still cruising for wreckage or bodies.

Many persons think it probable that a large gasoline fishing sloop from Japan blew up and was mistaken in the dusk for the Maui by watchers on shore.

Letters from Son in Frozen North

Boston Man has Word from the Polar Bear Reporting that no News of Lost Karluk has been Heard.

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Boston, March 26.—Two letters were received today by Dr. Samuel J. Miskler from his son, Samuel Miskler, who is with the members of the Polar Bear party that remained with the power schooner chartered by the Harvard expedition when she was frozen in the Arctic ice.

One letter was dated December 9 on board the Belvedere at Collinson Point, where the writer was the guest of Dr. Anderson of the southern division of Professor's party, and the other was written on December 23 on board the Polar Bear. The mail was taken on foot and sledges much of the way to Fairbanks, Alaska.

The first letter says: "Still no word of the Karluk. This bunch, however, is all right and will continue the three years' trip, anyhow. Tomorrow we start for the Polar Bear, some sixty miles, with Dr. Anderson and a couple of others."

The second message says: "Stefansson, on his way out, has just advised, through the Karluk, is still in the ice. The same block of September 23 that let us into shore took the Karluk to the westward—how far, goodness knows. The Transit, a big freight schooner, piled up on an ice cake and had to be beached just west of Barrow. The Polar Bear is as safe as a church. We have just had four days of a fifty-mile north-easter and the ice has not cracked for ten miles off shore."

TWO FIREMEN KILLED IN DISASTROUS SIOUX CITY FIRE

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Sioux City, Iowa, March 26.—Two firemen were killed and three injured and between \$200,000 and \$400,000 damage done in a fire which swept the quarter block at the southwest corner of Fourth and Nebraska streets, the heart of the business district, early this morning.

The dead are: FRANK FULTON, pipeman, company No. 1. SEELYE LAWTON, driver for Fire Chief Kollage.

Neighboring Town Fire Swept. Sioux City, Iowa, March 26.—Escherville, Iowa, was swept by a disastrous fire at 5:30 a. m., due to a lantern explosion. Loss is \$135,000. The fire is reported under control.

Lantern Caused the Fire. Escherville, Ia., March 26.—The explosion of a lantern in a fivory barn in the heart of the downtown section of Escherville today caused a fire which wiped out nearly an entire block of business houses and entailed a loss of \$150,000, about half covered by insurance. The fire started at 4 a. m., and it burned so rapidly that a three-story brick building and several smaller structures were completely destroyed, and the flames were not controlled until an hour and a half later.

The newspaper plant of the Escherville Enterprise was completely destroyed, the loss being estimated at \$10,000.

The dry goods stock of L. M. Christman, valued at \$5,000, was a total loss.

ENORMOUS SUITS FOR BEATING THE REVENUE ON PINEAPPLE JUICE

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] New York, March 26.—Two suits aggregating \$60,000 were filed in the federal court here against the J. S. Johnson company, dealers in pineapple juice, on behalf of the government. The actions were instituted under the revenue laws and allege misclassification and under-valuation of juice imported from the island of Samoa, where the company has a plantation and canning plant. It is alleged that since 1912 the company has been importing pineapple juice which is dutiable at 10 cents a gallon, as pineapple preserved in its own juice, which is dutiable at the lower rate of 20 per cent ad valorem.

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Houghton, Mich., March 26.—Earth shocks were felt throughout the Michigan copper country about 4 o'clock today. No damage was done. The disturbance is supposed to have been caused by an air blast in one of the mines, as such explosions are common in this district.

EARTH SHOCKS FELT THROUGHOUT THE COPPER COUNTRY

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] Lima, Peru, March 26.—The resignation was announced today of Roberto E. Leguia, who as first vice president took over the duties of president of Peru after President Billinghurst had been sent into exile. A new government council is being formed to arrange for the April election.

ACTING PRESIDENT OF PERU RESIGNS

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] London, March 26.—Although it was generally expected today that Premier Asquith had tendered the resignation of Field Marshal French and the reported resignation of General Ewart.

A question was asked at the opening of the house of commons regarding the resignations. Mr. Lloyd-George replied in the absence of the premier, who had gone to Buckingham palace to see King George.

The reply of Mr. Lloyd-George was taken generally by members as a confirmation of the report that both generals had tendered their resignations. One evening newspaper says definitely that Ewart also has resigned.

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NEW CRISIS CONFRONTS ASQUITH TODAY

English Premier Face to Face with Blunt Resignation of Virtual Head of British Army.

RESULT OF REPUTATION OF IRISH GUARANTEE

Ministry, Parliament and Public Anxiously Awaiting Result of Meeting of Army Chiefs this Afternoon.

[By Leased Wire to Evening Herald.] London, March 26.—Premier Asquith was brought face to face today with a new crisis by the resignation of Field Marshal Sir John French, chief of the imperial staff, and virtual head of the British army. Other leading officers of the army were also expected to hand in their papers as a direct outcome of the repudiation of the guarantees given to army officers in Ireland. The premier yesterday declared that these guarantees were not sanctioned by the cabinet. Colonel Seely, secretary for war, subsequently resigned from the cabinet but the premier refused to accept his resignation.

The result of a meeting at the war office of the principal commanding generals of the British army was awaited with anxiety by the general public and in political circles today, as it was thought they might take some step which would virtually disrupt the army administration.

In the north of Ireland, where the controversy between the Nationalists and Unionists has been the cause of so much difficulty to the British government, there was no disturbance today. The two parties were seemingly content to await events in London.

FIELD MARSHAL FRENCH RESIGNS HIS COMMISSION

London, March 26.—Field Marshal Sir John French, chief of the imperial general staff of the British army, resigned his commission today.

The field marshal, who was one of the signatories of the memorandum to Brigadier General Hubert Gough, giving guarantees to the army officers that they would not be ordered to fight the Ulster unionists, regarded the repudiation of the document by the government as a slight on himself. For this reason he resigned.

Premier Asquith, according to a statement by David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer, will make an announcement tonight on the resignation of Field Marshal French and the reported resignation of General Ewart.

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