

WILSON'S STILL HOPING FOR PEACE

VILLA HUNT COST U. S. 67 MILLION

HUGE SUM HAS BEEN SPENT AND MORE IS YET TO COME. VILLA IS STILL FREE AS THE AIR. COST MORE IN WINTER

ITEMIZED ACCOUNT FOR CHASE AFTER MR. VILLA

- WASHINGTON.—The little bagatelle that it has cost Uncle Samuel to "get Villa" and yet not get him, amounts to some \$67,000,000, the items of which may be briefly tabulated as follows:
Transportation of regulars and militiamen to border, \$5,000,000.
Transportation of food to border, \$200,000.
Transportation of baggage, tentage and impediment to border, \$3,000,000.
Subsistence of regulars and militiamen, \$15,000,000.
Pay of officers and enlisted men in regular army and militia, \$25,000,000.
Special motor transportation equipment purchased especially for use on border and in Mexico, \$5,000,000.
Clothing equipment issued to militia, \$5,000,000.
Ordnance equipment to regulars and militia, \$5,000,000.
Medical supplies, \$2,000,000.
Purchase of horses for militia, \$3,000,000.
Payment by federal government to dependent relatives of militiamen, \$2,000,000.
Transportation of militiamen discharged at border stations to places of enlistment, \$1,000,000.
Total, \$87,000,000.

(By Parker B. Anderson) WASHINGTON.—Trying to "get Villa" is as expensive as it is futile, according to those who are concerned themselves with the high cost of military expeditions. It is estimated that Uncle Sam already has spent approximately \$67,000,000 in cool cash for military purposes incident to the pursuit of Villa.

Today the "Pancho" is not only as free as the air he breathes, but each day's dispatches bring fresh news of his triumphs in the field and his readiness to power in trouble-torn Mexico.

With the "get Villa" bill already near the \$70,000,000 mark, there is considerable speculation as to what the total cost will amount to before the bandit is actually "gotten" or General Pershing's column of regulars withdraws from Mexico and the 30,000 militiamen still on the border are ordered home.

The cost of maintaining an army in the field during winter months is much greater than in summer, because a large number of items, such as heavy clothing, cooperation of cantonments or semi-permanent barracks and fuel must be added.

It is therefore thought probable that if General Pershing's men and the militia remain in the field until spring, as seems likely, the bill will be increased by another \$75,000,000.

The war department has paid a great number of his bills since the "get Villa" order was issued and the militia was federalized, the largest single item being that of salaries to regular and citizen-soldier officers and men.

In totaling up the "get Villa" bill, the cost of mobilizing and maintaining the national guard is figured in because the militiamen were called out after the Carranza battle, which was an episode in the hunt for the bandit leader.

The transportation of regulars and militia is estimated to have cost the government at least \$6,000,000, the average distance traveled by the citizen-soldiers being about 1,000 miles, with an allowance of four cents a mile per man.

DANIELS SURE TO BE IN OFFICE AGAIN, DECLARES MR. SMALL

Congressman Does Not Believe That There Will Be Any Great Changes in Cabinet

Congressman John H. Small stated yesterday that he firmly believed Secretary of the Navy Daniels would be recommended for re-appointment by President Wilson to the office he now holds.

"I believe that Mr. Wilson thinks highly of Mr. Daniels' services," said Mr. Small. "The President has one high qualification; he doesn't desert a friend if the latter happens to be under fire of criticism. If Mr. Wilson feels satisfied that Mr. Daniels is making a good Secretary of the Navy, all the outside criticism in the world would have no effect in changing his views.

"There is still some uncertainty as to the membership of the cabinet for the next term. I am inclined to believe that Secretaries Lane and Wilson will be reappointed and that Mr. McAdoo can retain his position as Secretary of the Treasury if he so desires. In fact, I believe there will be very little change in the personnel of the cabinet."

Robert Smith, the white man who was attacked by negroes at Bayona about a month ago, has been in a precarious condition at the Fowls Memorial hospital and has been suffering greatly from the wound in his head.

It was thought yesterday that he would not survive through the night. His condition gave no hope of encouragement. This morning, however, he appeared to have improved some. The man's vitality is remarkable and after having gone through the suffering which he has, physicians are inclined to believe that he will pull through.

From Blount's Creek. "Lester Latham, of Blounts Creek, was in the city yesterday attending to business matters.

NEW THEATRE TONIGHT. The 13th episode of "The Grip of Evil" is the feature picture at the New Theatre this evening. In addition, "The Market of Val de Vire" is a Triangle feature in five acts.

Thousands of tons of food, baggage, tents, artillery guns, ordnance and combat wagons and other impediment, the railroads are estimated to have received not less than \$3,500,000.

The government allows 30 cents a day for the feeding of each man. With 100,000 men in the field, the food bill is \$45,000 a day. On December 31 the militiamen will have been in the field 195 days. This makes a total of \$9,000,000 for daily food bills. The cost of kitchen equipment, pay of cooks and reserve supplies of food has run the bill up to \$15,000,000, according to estimates made at the war department.

Fully \$25,000,000 already has been paid to the regular and militia officers and men engaged in the Villa hunt since the citizen-soldiers were mobilized. The pay of the officers ranges from \$15 a month for privates to \$500 a month for brigadier generals.

LATEST NOTE FROM GERMANY HAS ARRIVED

IS PRACTICALLY THE SAME AS TEXT PUBLISHED BY NEWS PAPERS ON TUESDAY.

NO MESSAGE TO WILSON

(By United Press) BERLIN.—The general opinion is that Germany's answer to President Wilson's note showed warm appreciation of Mr. Wilson's intentions. It also perhaps adds practical suggestions for a conclusion of peace overtures, the Press Bureau announced today.

(It is further said that the Teutonic answer has been handed to American diplomatic representatives at all the capitols of the Central Powers.)

(Note.—The above dispatch was apparently filed before the text of the German note was made public, but the text came through on the first day.) Answer Reached State Department. WASHINGTON.—Germany's answer to President Wilson's peace note reached the State Department today. It was stated by an official that nothing of a confidential nature was attached to the answer, although it had been suggested that Germany might give her terms secretly in accompanying the message to Gerard for transmission here.

Copies of the note have been sent to President Wilson. It is understood that they are practically the same as the press text.

Reply to Switzerland. AMSTERDAM.—Germany and Austria today replied to Switzerland's reiterated of President Wilson's peace suggestions with practically the same phraseology in which the American note was acknowledged. German dispatches stated today.

U-BOAT TO CARRY MAIL TO AMERICA

AMSTERDAM.—A Berlin message announces that ordinary mail to the United States and neutral countries, via the United States, will shortly be forwarded by a commercial submarine.

An official announcement of the sailing dates will be made later.

CRESCITE CLUB MEETING

Entertained Yesterday Afternoon by Miss Mary Carter. Interesting Papers Read.

Miss Mary Carter charmingly entertained the Crescite Book Club yesterday afternoon. The program was very interesting and instructive.

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\$320.70 RAISED FOR CHARITY

Many Citizens of Washington Have Not Yet Been Heard From. Many Letters Sent Out.

Two hundred and twelve letters have been sent out to citizens of Washington, asking them to contribute to the fund for Associated Charities, which is now being raised. Only sixty-three replies have been received. If the other one hundred and forty-nine would respond, the fund could easily be made \$500. The letters have been sent only to those citizens who can afford to contribute.

The citizens who have not yet returned the cards which were enclosed in the letters are urged to do so as soon as possible.

The fund to date is as follows:

Previously reported	\$289.70
W. H. Ellison	5.00
G. A. Spencer	6.00
Chas. M. Little	2.00
R. Lee Stewart	12.00
F. T. Paul	1.00
Rev. E. M. Sulpes	5.00
Total	\$320.70

BILL FOR BELHAVEN ROAD TAX DISTRICT

Would Do Away With All Free Labor in Said District. Expression of Opinion Requested.

An important announcement, regarding a bill which it is proposed to introduce on the first day of the session of the legislature, was made today by Senator Lindsay C. Warren and Representative Wm. M. Butt. It reads as follows:

Washington, N. C., Dec. 28th. To the Citizens of the Belhaven Road Tax District:

The Road Commissioners of the above named district have presented to us a bill, and have requested that we pass same, to do away with all free labor in said district; to leave it discretionary with the Board of Commissioners to levy a road tax of not less than ten cents and not more than twenty cents on the \$100 valuation; and to provide a poll tax of \$3.00 on each person in said district liable to a poll tax, said poll tax not to apply to anyone residing in the city of Belhaven.

The Constitutional Amendment prohibiting legislation of this nature does not go into effect until January 10th, 1917, and in order to secure the passage of this Bill, it would be necessary to introduce same on the first day of the session, which is January 3rd.

If any person residing in the above territory has any objection to this bill, let him communicate with us at once, and set forth his objections. WM. M. BUTT. LINDSAY C. WARREN.

COL. RODMAN HAS RESIGNED

Colonel W. C. Rodman, commanding the Second Regiment North Carolina Infantry, now on guard duty on the Mexican border is to quit the service, according to reports coming from Camp Stewart and carried in the Raleigh News and Observer Wednesday morning.

Colonel Rodman has been connected with the State militia for a score of years and is popular with the men of the regiment. Business reasons are assigned for his resignation.

UP BEFORE RECORDER

The following cases, all of them being colored, were brought up before the recorder yesterday afternoon:

- Jim Worklock, speeding, costs.
- Alonso Parker, turning around on Main street, costs.
- William Graddy, throwing bottle through John Phillips' store, costs.
- George Moore, not having front lights on his auto, not guilty.
- Joe Gorman, libelous Joyce and Joe Gorman, not guilty.
- Joe Johnson, not guilty.

Claim \$60,000,000 Made On Advance Information Regarding Wilson's Note

(By United Press)

WASHINGTON.—Over sixty million dollars was made in Wall Street by those having advance information on President Wilson's peace note, according to a telegram received by Representative Wood from Thomas Lawson.

There is to be a real investigation of last week's "leak." Much indignation has been expressed from all sections of the country and every effort is to be made by the investigating committee to determine whether the statements are true.

BELIEVE CARRANZA WILL MAKE COUNTER PROPOSALS TO U.S.

(By United Press)

WASHINGTON.—That Carranza has not signed the troop withdrawal protocol but, on the other hand, has again submitted counter proposals to the United States, is the growing belief here, even in those official circles where earlier today it was hoped that the first chief would ultimately sign.

Men, close in touch with the situation, stated that they believe Carranza will seek another peace conference. This request is expected to be submitted by Chairman Carrera of the Mexican commission when he sees Secretary Lane early this afternoon.

GUARDSMEN HAVE SKIRMISH WITH MEXICANS ON BORDER

EL PASO.—Because of conflicting reports of the affair, an investigation is under way regarding the skirmish today between Mexican snipers and a patrol of Third Kentucky guards, in which more than three hundred shots were fired across the Rio Grande by the guardsmen after the fusillade of shots from the Mexican side.

The entire city was aroused early this morning by heavy firing. Regular army officers in the vicinity declare that they heard no shots from the Mexican side, while others, officers and guards on patrol, state that a scattering fire continued several minutes from the other bank.

MUCH SUFFERING CAUSED BY THE LACK OF FOOD

(By United Press)

LONDON.—Daily food demonstrations in the chief cities of Austria-Hungary and great misery, with hundreds of suicides during the month of December, were reported here today in dispatches from Geneva.

It is stated that the crops in Austria-Hungary proved a failure this year and that food is exceedingly short. In several of the demonstrations that have taken place there has been considerable bloodshed and much property has been damaged.

STEAMER OZAMA IS REPORTED SAFE

(By United Press) BOSTON.—Coast guards have received word that the supposedly lost steamer Ozama is safe in the Clyde harbor. A search for the vessel has been in progress for several days but no trace of her was found until today's reports were received.

CENTRAL POWERS GAINING IN EAST

Berlin Reports Russian Losses Exceed and Many Prisoners Taken.

(By United Press) BERLIN.—The capture of three thousand more prisoners, bringing the total Russian soldiers imprisoned during the engagements about Rimples Barat up to ten thousand, was announced officially today. The Germans have pushed beyond Rimples Barat while the Hungarian troops, south-east of that point, have pierced the Russian lines.

Spending Holidays With Relatives. Mrs. Thomas J. Latham, Jr., and daughters, Misses Kathleen and Marjorie of Norfolk, are spending the holidays with relatives in this city.

Returned to Norfolk. Thomas J. Latham, Jr., cashier of the Fidelity Savings and Trust Bank of Norfolk, who spent Christmas day with his parents in this city, returned to Norfolk Tuesday morning.

Spending Holidays Here. Misses Henrietta and Rose Susan of Richmond, Va., are spending the holidays at the home of their uncle, Mr. J. J. ...

FAILURE OF PEACE MAY MEAN TROUBLE

NOW GENERALLY CONCEDED THAT WILSON'S NOTE WAS REALLY A WARNING TO BELLIGERENTS.

BREAK IS FEARED

(By United Press)

WASHINGTON.—The fear that present peace negotiations will fail and that this nation must then clear away the submarine situation with Germany, grew apace today. However, as stated yesterday, President Wilson intends to push peace work to the limit in order to avoid possible subsequent unpleasantness with Germany, if possible.

Both Mr. Wilson and Secretary Lansing are maintaining a discreet silence regarding the situation. This is due, it is believed, to the fact that they do not wish to appear to be wearing a chip on their shoulders while peace is being talked. There is no mistaking, officials declare, that President Wilson's peace note to the belligerents and the explanation of same by Secretary Lansing in effect constituted a warning to all belligerents against unbridled acts of war which would involve American lives or rights. Since this government's attitude regarding the violation which might effect property is not to be compared to the violations affecting lives, the warning is generally interpreted as being directed against the Central Powers.

ATTACKS PLACE GREEK QUESTION ON A NEW BASIS

LONDON.—Lord Robert Cecil states in parliamentary papers that the Allied governments consider the unjustifiable December 1 attacks in Athens place the whole question on a fresh basis and the British Minister at Athens was instructed so to inform the Greek Government and not to regard the surrender of batteries as reparation for outrages committed.

Mr. A. J. Balfour says the Allied governments base their December 14 ultimatum on the primary consideration of the safety of the "armee d'Orient." They are now considering the exact form which should be given to their further demands, which, in any case, include a demand for the release of political prisoners and compensation for those who have been unjustly suffered.

The British Minister in Athens has been instructed to secure, if possible, the publication of M. Venizelos' denunciation of the factory published in Athens.

On Hunting Trip. A. M. Latham left today for Blounts Creek on a hunting trip.

LAY THE FOUNDATION OF YOUR OWN HOME By Taking Stock in the Home Building & Loan Association Office in Savings & Trust Building A NEW SERIES OPENS JANUARY 6, 1917. It is independent of every other institution; it is owned and operated by its stockholders. W. E. SWINDELL, Pres. JNO. B. SPARROW, Sec. & Treas.

TODAYS PROGRAM AT New Theatre 13th Episode of "THE GRIP OF EVIL" Triangle Feature "The Market of Val de Vire" Seen in Five Acts. Admission ...