

INVESTIGATION IS UNDER WAY

State Department Takes Cognizance of Press Reports of the Execution of Eight American Citizens by Mexicans.

MORE EVIDENCE PRESENTED AS TO CONVERSE AND BLATT

It Tends to Show That Both the Men in Mexican Prison Were Captured While on American Soil.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Taking cognizance of press reports that four Americans were executed by Mexican soldiers in Chihuahua and four other Americans at Agua Prieta, the state department has instructed United States consular officer in the vicinity of the two places to investigate the reports immediately.

The consul at Chihuahua was instructed to inquire into the report that John Hamilton Dignowity and three other Americans were shot to death in Chihuahua under orders of a Mexican court martial.

The consul at Nogales will investigate the reported execution of four Americans, Adams, Young, Howard and Shanley, after being captured by insurgents.

Mexicans Ready to Repel Attack.

El Paso, Tex., March 24.—The Mexican troops' activity at Juarez continues. The sentries were doubled last night in expectation of a possible attack by insurgents.

C. H. Converse of Glendora, Cal., has filed additional evidence that his son, Lawrence, and Edwin Blatt of Pittsburg, now in jail here, were captured on American soil. He has forwarded to the state department county and federal officials' statements that what is called Ancon DeGuadalupe, where the men are said to be captured, is in the United States and that the United States has exercised de facto jurisdiction over that territory for two years.

RAILROAD MEETING HELD IN GREENVILLE

Whether the Line Comes Through Here Depends on What Asheville Will Do for It.

Special to The Gazette-News.

Greenville, S. C., March 24.—At an enthusiastic meeting of the board of trade here last night stirring addresses were made in the interest of the Greenville & Knoxville railroad.

It is practically assured that Greenville will raise the \$200,000 which is asked. W. J. Oliver, the well known railroad contractor, who is greatly interested in the Knoxville, Sevierville & Eastern railroad, and W. H. Patterson of Atlanta, president of the Greenville and Knoxville railroad made talks which indicated that they "meant business."

Mr. Oliver brought loud applause with the statement that Knoxville will do her part and that the road would be built if he lived. Major Lee, the consulting engineer of the Piedmont & Northern Interurban lines, the Duke lines, is to go over the proposed route between Greenville and Knoxville and make a detailed report within two months.

It was stated that the road would certainly come through Brevard and Canton but whether it comes through Hendersonville and Asheville depends upon what the people of Asheville do for the enterprise. If they give proper encouragement—and this seems certain—then the line will come to Asheville. In fact it is stated that Asheville is a point which the railway proposition can hardly afford to give the go-by. Among the visitors to Greenville for the meeting were: William J. Oliver, R. E. Oliver, Sanford H. Cohen, James K. Kelley vice-president of the Bituminous Coal company, of Knoxville; E. C. Chambers, of Asheville; (representing the mayor of Asheville); president good roads association of North Carolina and one of Asheville's leading business men; H. W. Plummer, of Asheville, first vice-president of the Asheville board of trade; N. Becker, of Asheville, secretary of the Asheville board of trade; Hilliard Stetson, mayor of Hendersonville; W. A. Smith, of Hendersonville; William P. Chamberlain, of Knoxville, president of the Manufacturers and Producers' association; J. M. Starrett, of Knoxville, secretary of the Manufacturers and Producers' association; Wiley L. Morgan, managing editor of the Knoxville Sentinel; David C. Chapman, of Knoxville; James A. Hensley, secretary of the board of trade, Knoxville; J. J. Bell, Welch Galloway, Benjamin Bates, of Brevard.

Owner of St. Louis National League Club Is Dead.

Cleveland, March 24.—Stanley Robinson, owner of the St. Louis National League baseball club, died today of blood poisoning, at the home of his daughter.

LETTER RECEIVED BY MRS. J. B. HOOD

Purports to Be from Her Daughter, Mrs. Cavendish, Unheard of for Six Years Past.

Asheville people have heard so many stories during the six years intervening since Miss Hood's marriage to C. A. Cavendish, a reputed wealthy Englishman, at New Iber, La., that Asheville people have become decidedly Missourian on anything touching her whereabouts.

One of the things that makes a lingering of doubt in the minds of many people that she is still alive is that for six years she has not been heard from while even the United States and Mexican authorities have been searching for her at the request of relatives. From time to time reports have been received here that a person resembling Mrs. Cavendish had been located in the west but no actual proof has been received. About three months ago there was a story to the effect that Mrs. Cavendish stayed for while at Cor de Alene, Idaho, but she could not be located. The whole affair is still one of mystery, the supposed letter adding even more to the situation.

FORMER'S STORY IS BEING RELATED

Defense of the Camorristi Will Be That Abbotemaggio, the State's Witness, is Insane.

Viterbo, Italy, March 24.—Today's session of the trial of the Camorristi was devoted almost entirely to an interrogation of Genare Abbotemaggio, the Camorristi informer, about whose confession the state built up the evidence upon which it is hoped to rid the country of the criminal organization that for years has exacted tribute from rich and poor, robbing and murdering with practical impunity.

RUSSIA TO DECLARE WAR SOON, SO REPORTS SAY

Rate at Lloyd's to Cover Risks on War Within Ten Weeks Is Increased 100 per Cent.

London, March 24.—Private cables received by London business houses from representatives in the far east are disquieting. They assert that it is expected Russia will soon declare war against China.

BRYAN, CLARK AND WILSON WILL BE CHIEF ATTRACTIONS

Will Speak from Same Platform at Democratic Meeting in Burlington, N. J., April 5.

Burlington, N. J., March 24.—William Jennings Bryan, Champ Clark, and Governor Woodrow Wilson will speak from the same platform Wednesday evening, April 5, following a dinner of the Burlington County Democratic club.

NO DARK SPOTS, NO MENACE, SO FAR AS HILL CAN SEE

Says Sentiment for Canadian Reciprocity is Increasing as People Understand It.

Washington, March 24.—"Sentiment for reciprocity with Canada is growing steadily," said James J. Hill, a caller at the white house today. "The subject is very little understood in this country, but it will be in the near future. Business is good. There are no dark spots, no menace anywhere, so far as I can see."

It Is Now Major Archibald Butt.

Washington, March 24.—Captain Archibald W. Butt, President Taft's military aide, who served in like capacity with Roosevelt, today became a full-fledged major in the army. Capt. Butt passed his examination some time ago, but his promotion was not ready to be signed by the president until today.

Shakespeare Memorial Theater for London



The Shakespeare Memorial theater enthusiasts in England are becoming more energetic than ever. The London county council is building for itself a beautiful playhouse of the Times embankment. It will then have to vacate its offices in Spring Gardens, which will undoubtedly be destroyed and the space immediately occupied by buildings. A donation of Lord Lytton, Sir John Lubbock, Sir Arthur Pinero, Sir Herbert Tree, Robert Donald, and Bernard Shaw submitted a plan for erecting the theater upon the site which it is desired the county council should give up for the purpose. The artist has constructed a theater upon this site, his theater being based upon the National theater at Vienna.

BUSINESS MEN ENTHUSIASTIC

Expressions of Hearty Approval of Plan Looking to Establishment of Hardwood Manufacturing Industry by Co-operative Efforts of the People of Asheville.

So far as The Gazette-News' inquiries have extended, the business men of Asheville appear to be practically unanimous in favor of the plans outlined by The Gazette-News for the erection of a wood-working factory of some description by the co-operative efforts of the people of Asheville. Below are interviews with various representative men on this subject. Many others have promised to give expressions and suggestions as soon as they have time to think the matter over carefully. No one of course is yet committing himself to anything definite, for nothing definite has been presented.

ROUTE INTO CITY HAS BEEN CHOSEN

Interurban Company's Agent Making Arrangements to Press Application for Franchise.

George I. McKay, financial agent of the North Carolina Interurban Railway company, is in the city making arrangements to press his application for a franchise in the city of Asheville. Some while ago Mr. McKay filed an application but this was held up until he was able to assure the board of aldermen just what streets the company proposed to use. Mr. McKay stated that he probably would be unable to have the matter in shape for tonight's meeting but would do so within a short while. The line is to enter the city in the Victoria section near the Swannanoa hill property and come through the Victoria section to Southside avenue, across that street on a high trestle or bridge and thence up the branch between Ashland avenue and Church street to a point back of Paul's bakery on the Cox estate property. This would give the line a convenient terminal near the business center of the city.

STEAMER LOST: THREE PERISH.

Newfoundland Mail Vessel, Bruce, Strikes Rocks Off Scattered, in the Night; Will Be a Total Loss.

Louisburg, C. B., March 24.—Three persons perished in the wreck of the Newfoundland mail steamer Bruce, which struck the rocks off Scattered during the night. The steamer is a total loss. The Bruce was on her way to Newport when the disaster happened. Twenty-one men were on board. The vessel was carrying mail and passengers. The crew and passengers were rescued by a nearby vessel.

George S. Powell.—Asheville is the commercial, geographical, and railroad center of the hardwood district of the Southern Appalachian mountains and out of this territory there is shipped each month about 1500 cars of what should be termed rough lumber. This converted into finished products before shipment would make this section rich in a few years. I do not know enough about manufacturing to give an opinion, but (Continued on page 2)

A CONTRACT FOR 5,000,000 BRICKS

An Asheville Man Gets the Biggest Brick Contract Ever Let in North Carolina.

MILLION DOLLAR COTTON MILL TO BE BUILT AT GREENVILLE

Brickton Product Wins on Quality—About Eight Months Required to Fill Contract.

The largest contract for brick ever awarded a North Carolina brick concern is held by D. S. Hildebrand. It will take about 5,000,000 brick and these are to be used in the construction of a million dollar cotton mill known as the Duncan Mills, at Greenville, S. C.

Mr. Hildebrand will manufacture these brick at his plant at Brickton, Henderson county. The magnitude of the contract can be grasped with the statement that it will take about 350 freight cars to haul these brick. The contract was let by W. S. Pack for this mill, of which J. Edgar Swythe of Greenville, is president.

The contract was awarded Mr. Hildebrand upon the quality of his brick, the mill men believing that the kind of brick made by Mr. Hildebrand would be the most substantial. He was in competition with Charlotte and Augusta brick men.

The new mill at Greenville will make lumps and lines and will be the second one in the south manufacturing this kind of goods. The first mill, also a million dollar plant, was completed a short while ago and is near the location of this one. Mr. Swythe is prominent in cotton manufacturing in the south and his father only a few days ago perfected a \$12,000,000 cotton mill merger in South Carolina.

The delivery of the brick will begin about April 15. About eight months will be required to complete the contract.

SUPPLY OF COTTON AND DISTRIBUTION

Report of Census Bureau for Six Months Period Ended February 28 Issued.

Washington, March 24.—The census bureau report of the supply and distribution of cotton for the six months period ending February 28, 1911, shows the total supply 12,764,172 running bales, made up of stocks at the beginning of the period, 1,940,949; ginnings, 11,588,552; net imports, 135,581.

WORKMEN COMPENSATION LAW UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Appeals Court Holds That New York Law Would Take Property Without Due Law Process.

Albany, N. Y., March 24.—The workmen's compulsory compensation law, passed last year, is declared unconstitutional by the Court of Appeals. The court holds that it takes property rights without due process of law.

FLAVORING EXTRACTS, COFFEE, MISBRANDED

These Constitute the Most Common Violations of the Pure Food Law, Government Reports.

Washington, March 24.—The misbranding of coffee, Geneva gin, vanilla and lemon flavoring extracts constitutes the most common violation of the pure food law, according to the department of agriculture. Upon analysis it was found that many vanilla and lemon extracts are imitation products colored with coal tar dyes.

Government sleuths recently seized many consignments of food products, Asheville, finding the capital on the charge of receiving stolen goods in that article stolen by his son and others were found on his premises, he insisting that he knew nothing of the theft. There is the further complication that the trial judge changed the sentence to one year and that the clerk not being at his desk there was no entry. He has already served over twelve months.

There is a charter issued for the Caldwell company of Winston-Salem, capital \$50,000 for doing a general house decorating and contracting business. The incorporators are F. D. Caldwell, C. M. Phillips, T. J. Caldwell and others.

There is also an amendment to the charter of the Millard Livery company, Asheville, reducing the capital from \$12,000 to \$1,000. H. R. Beard is president of the corporation.

TRAIN ROBBERS GET BURNED

Bunch Hold up St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Train, and Blow up Express Safe.

CHOSE STRATEGIC POINT, WORKED LIKE ARTISTS

Six in Bandit Gang—Get Away in Automobile—Sheriff and Deputies Are in Pursuit.

Coffeyville, Kans., March 24.—For two hours last night six masked men held St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern train No. 104 at a standstill six miles south of here while they blew open the safe in the express car and escaped in two automobiles, carrying money and valuable amounts to \$20,000.

The train left Little Rock at 8:50 a. m. yesterday for Kansas City. It was made up of a combination baggage-express car, six coaches, a chair car, sleeping car, dining car, and observation smoking car.

Just after the train left Lenape, Okla., about 10:30 p. m., Engineer Lynch heard a cry, "hands up!" A masked man sitting on the tender, pointing a revolver at him, said, "I'm going to ride a little way with you, drive on!"

About four miles out of Lenape the men made the engineer stop the train over a clump of trees. Five more masked men came up, taking positions on either side of the train, and began shooting in air alongside of the train. Then while two men stood guard preventing passengers from coming out the other four marched the engineer and fireman to the day coach and locked them in.

One man took position to guard the rear of the train. Three went into the express car and forced two expressmen to jump out and stand where one of the side guards could keep them covered with revolvers. After nearly an hour's work the men succeeded in inserting a charge of nitro-glycerine into the "through" safe in the express car. They blew the safe to pieces and scattered the contents over the floor of the car. They made no haste.

They held the chosen strategic position in which to stop the train. They were three miles from any human habitation.

After the three men spent nearly an hour over the packages taken from the safe, lights of two automobiles drove near from the Oklahoma line. Within 200 yards the automobiles stopped. The lights were put out, men and automobiles disappeared. When the train reached here, the sheriff was notified and with two deputies started on horseback southward in pursuit of the six bandits.

PARDONS GRANTED TO BUNCOMBE MEN

Gazette-News Bureau, Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Holleman Building, Raleigh, March 24.

Four pardons are granted today by Governor Kitchin, two for prisoners in Buncombe county and one each in Haywood and Henderson counties. The Buncombe prisoners pardoned are Thomas Gudgeon and Palmer Goughly who has each served over three years of four years and eleven months sentences for larceny, the amount Gudgeon stole having been one dollar and the amount Goughly stole \$27. In each case the reason for the pardon is that the punishment is already sufficient the solicitor and other recommending pardon on this ground. Both are conditioned on good behavior. Another pardon is for J. B. Farrret of Haywood county, who has served 15 months of a five year sentence for larceny and receiving, the pardon being on account of his having had his arm broken and the bones have failed to properly knit and his condition is such that the pardon is recommended by court and county officers. The other pardon is for David M. Record of Randolph county. This is the case of an aged man serving 15 months on the charge of receiving stolen goods in that article stolen by his son and others were found on his premises, he insisting that he knew nothing of the theft. There is the further complication that the trial judge changed the sentence to one year and that the clerk not being at his desk there was no entry. He has already served over twelve months.