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JETTON AND WIFE ON STAND; SAME TESTIMONY

N C State Library

Senator John Sharp Williams, of Mississippi, Character Witness for Mrs. Jetton.

Mrs. Jetton on Stand Repeats Story Told at Habeas Corpus Hearing—"I Never Liked Dr. Wooten" She Said—Tells of His Kissing Her Once.

John Sharpe Williams, and Other Prominent Mississippians Testify as to Good Character of Mrs. Jetton—Evidence by Neighbors of Jettons.

[illegible] this morning the [illegible] Henry Jetton, the young [illegible] who shot and killed [illegible] on the evening [illegible] the Jetton home [illegible] began in the criminal court here morning. The court [illegible] to its utmost capacity, every available inch of space being occupied, the case being one of [illegible] interest, both parties being prominently connected.

Jetton Calm.

The prisoner entered the room with Deputy Sheriff Fesperman and took a seat near his counsel immediately in front of Judge Adams, before whom his case is to be tried. As on other occasions of his appearance in court he seemed calm, showing no emotion whatever.

Mrs. Jetton Enters.

Mrs. Jetton entered later, during the presence of John P. Christie of Davidson, a second door neighbor of the Jettons.

Sheriff Wallace cleared a lane in the mass of humanity packed between the judge's stand and the door of the jury room and Mrs. Jetton, her sister, Mrs. Thomas McCoy, wife of Dr. McCoy of Mount Holly, and Dr. McCoy entered. They were given seats behind the attorneys for the defense. Mrs. Jetton sat beside her husband, to the left, with Mrs. McCoy next to her and Dr. McCoy next to his wife. Messrs. Will and John Jetton, brothers of the defendant sat on the right side of the defendant, while Mr. G. R. Kent and Mr. Stewart of Gulf Port, Miss., sat on the left of the defendant and beyond Dr. McCoy.

A striking resemblance between Mrs. Jetton and Mrs. McCoy was noted as they entered. They are about the same size, were dressed very much alike and bear a very striking resemblance to each other, in face and figure. Mrs. Jetton wears nose glasses.

Mrs. Jetton was dressed in a blue suit with blue hat and veil, the same she wore at the habeas corpus hearing. She appeared to be calm and self-possessed, showing no nervousness at the prospect of telling again the story of the shooting. She and her husband did not rise and greet each other with a kiss as they did at the habeas corpus hearing, but merely greeted each other with a pressure of the hand and a smile.

The first three witnesses on the stand this morning, in order, were: C. M. Stiles, John P. Christie, T. F. Lothery, who appeared before the coroner at the inquest and told of how they were attracted to the Jetton home of the evening of the homicide on the call of Mr. and Mrs. Jetton for help and what they found when they arrived there.

Stiles' Evidence.

C. M. Stiles said he lived next door to the Jettons at Davidson, with only a vacant lot between his house and theirs. He repeated minutely the story of what he saw at the Jetton home on the evening of the shooting. He heard calls for help and, running to his door, he saw Mr. Jetton standing on the front porch of his residence. In answer to Stiles' question as to what was the matter he said, Jetton said: 'He has ruined my home; he has wrecked it.' Jetton still had the pistol in his hand and when Jetton led the witness into the room he (Jetton) pointed to where Dr. Wooten was lying diagonally across the bed, on his back, and said, waving the pistol toward Dr. Wooten: 'I saw him in a compromising attitude with my wife right there on the bed; right there.' Dr. Stiles started to telephone Dr. McDonnell and when Jetton followed him out on the porch he reached for the pistol, telling Jetton he had had it long enough. Dr. Wooten did not make any statement when witness was in the room the first time, and he thought he was unconscious, as he did not utter a sound.

When I came back from telephoning Dr. McDonnell," continued Stiles, "Dr. Wooten was talking. He asked to be turned, as he seemed to be hot. He perspired and gasping for breath, I found Dr. Wooten's raincoat and pajamas unbuttoned, his other clothes intact. I tore open the doctor's shirt and collar to allow him to breathe more easily. He said 'Oh! If I just had another chance! I could have explained so easily.' Dr. Wooten kept exclaiming 'I could have explained so easily. It is so hard to die.' He advised all in the room to live good lives and serve God.

Christie's Evidence

There was no attempt by the attorneys for the defense to cross-examine the witness with a view to breaking down his testimony.

John R. Christie, who also testified at the coroner's inquest, was the next witness. He repeated the story he told to the coroner's jury: "I went to the Jetton home on hearing calls for help and saw Jetton and his wife standing on the porch, Mrs. Jetton holding her husband by the left arm. I asked: 'What in the world is the matter?' Jetton replied: 'He has ruined my home; I caught him in a too intimate situation with my wife and shot him.' Jetton did not say whom he meant by 'he' but presently Jetton told me to go to Dr. Wooten. I asked him what Dr. Wooten was doing in the room in that condition, when he (Jetton) was out there on the porch. Jetton repeated: 'He ruined my home and I shot him.' When I went i to the room I saw Dr. Wooten lying on the bed and asked him what the trouble was. Dr. Wooten replied that Jetton had slipped in and shot him without giving him a chance to explain. Dr. Wooten asked me to go for Mrs. Wooten. Dr. Wooten told me that if his wife did not get there before he died to tell her good-bye for him. 'I will tell you good-bye now,' said Dr. Wooten. Dr. Wooten took off his glasses and gave them to me."

Lothery.

J. F. Lothery was the next witness on the stand. "When I got there," said the witness, "Mr. Jetton was standing on the porch with his wife. When I asked him what was the trouble he said, 'He has ruined my home and I shot him.' Mrs. Jetton said, 'I am innocent.' Mr. Jetton said, 'I saw, I saw.' Mr. Jetton asked me to send for his brother Will. I went into the house and saw Dr. Wooten lying on the bed and asked him what was the matter. He told me that Munroe had slipped in and shot him without giving him a chance to explain."

Mr. Cansler, of counsel for defense, asked witness if Dr. Wooten made any further statement. Witness replied that he did not.

Dr. McLaughlin, County Physician.

Dr. C. S. McLaughlin, county physician, was also placed on the stand and told of the examination of the body of Dr. Wooten, the direction of the bullet and the nature of the fatal wound. The bullet entered the left side between the sixth and seventh ribs, said Dr. McLaughlin, and cut the sixth rib in two. This deflected the bullet upward, the witness said, and made it come out near the angle of the shoulder blade on the right side of the body and about an inch and a half higher than where it entered.

State Rests Its Case.

After Dr. C. S. McLaughlin had testified as to the nature and direction of the wound, explaining that it was a fatal one, the attorneys for the state announced they would rest their case.

Character Witnesses.

After Dr. McLaughlin's testimony and the state resting their case, Mrs. Jetton, G. R. Kent of Gulf Port, Miss., and W. B. Stewart of the same place were called and sworn in, Mrs. Jetton kissing the book first. Mr. Stewart was put on the stand first.

Stewart.

"Do you know Mrs. Jetton?" asked Mr. Cansler for the defense.

"I do," was the answer.

"How long have you known her?"

"About eight or nine years."

"Do you know her general character?"

"I do," was the answer.

"What is it?"

"Good."

Mr. Stewart said he was vice president of the Gulf and Ship Island Railroad. He testified that he had known Mrs. Jetton's father, who died about 1904, also her brother and her sister, who lived with her mother, Mrs. Shipp, in Gulf Port.

Kent.

G. R. Kent, claim agent for the Gulf and Shipp Island Railway and former clerk of the court of the county in which Yazoo City, Mississippi, is located, stated that he had known Mrs. Jetton all her life. He said he had known her intimately for 13 years.

"Do you know her general reputation?" asked Mr. Cansler.

"I do," was the answer.

"What is it?" he was asked.

"Good," was the emphatic answer.

He stated that Mrs. Jetton was born in Yazoo City, Miss., and that she lived afterward in Gulf Port. It was at the latter place he knew her most intimately, he said. She had often been a visitor at his home and he knew her people.

Mrs. Jetton On Stand.

Mrs. Jetton stated that she first visited Davidson ten years ago and visited each time at the home of her

Coninued from Page One.)

EXTENSION OF ARBITRATION TREATIES BEFORE SENATE

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Extension of eight general arbitration treaties still was before the senate today, discussion centering upon an amendment to exempt from arbitration the paramount issues now involved in foreign relations of the government.

The Chamberlain amendment would exempt from arbitration all questions of immigration, the admission of aliens into public schools, the Monroe doctrine and all that it might imply in relations with other American nations and the provision of the Panama canal act exempting American coastwise shipping from tolls.

Senator Shively and others in sympathy with the desire of President Wilson for the extension and for the repeal of the tolls provision predicted ultimate ratification of all the treaties.

BURGLAR LEFT TELL TALE HAT BEHIND

By Associated Press.

New York, Feb. 20.—The initials in a hat left behind by a burglar in a Bronx flat led to the arrest and confession, according to police announcement today of George W. Asker, 23 years old, professional choir singer, whom detectives were loathe to accuse because of his high standing in church circles.

The arrest of Acker followed an attack made on Mrs. Charles Rose on Wednesday night by a burglar, who, after failing to cow her at the point of a revolver, beat her with his weapon and escaped, leaving his hat behind.

The burglar had posed as a gas inspector to gain admission to the flat.

The initials in the hat were "G. W. A." and the space under the band served as an envelope for several tracts issued by an uptown church and also for several colored cards awarded for continuous attendance at the Sunday school of that church.

Going to the church the detective got a list of every member whose name begins with "A" and found the name "George W. Acker."

SPANIARDS BURIED ALIVE AT TORREON

By Associated Press.

Madrid, Spain, Feb. 17.—Stories of the killing of seventy-five Spaniards and the burial alive of a number of others by Mexican rebels at Torreon are published at length in most of the newspapers of Madrid and the provinces today. The incidents were narrated by passengers on board the Spanish steamer Antonio Lopez which sailed from Vera Cruz on January 27 and has arrived at Cadiz.

SENATOR MAULDIN ELECTED JUDGE.

By Associated Press.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 20.—Senator T. J. Mauldin, of Pickens county, was elected judge of the newly-created 13th district at a joint session of the house and senate today. Mr. Mauldin's name was the only one placed before the general assembly.

THE WEATHER.

Forecast for North Carolina:

Rain tonight, probably turning to snow in north portion; colder on the coast; Saturday fair; high northeast winds shifting to northwest.

SOUTHERN SELLS TEN MILLIONS OF NOTES

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The sale of $10,000,000 five per cent three-year notes of the Southern Railway Company secured by the general mortgage four per cent bonds of the company was announced today by President Fairfax Harrison.

The financing of a ten-year $5,000,000 equipment trust also was announced. The short-term notes were sold, it was announced, "pending improvement of the market for long-term securities" and the proceeds will be used for betterments in shops, yards and terminals.

President Harrison stated in his an- "The Southern Railway Company, believing in the continued prosperity and growth of the territory it serves and, recognizing the necessity of enlarging its facilities to keep pace with that growth, has, peding the improvement of the market for long term securities, sold $10,000,000 of five per cent three-year notes secured by the pledge of development and general mortgage 4 per cent bonds of the company which for some time past have been held in the treasury of the company available for sale.

This new capital is to be applied by Southern Railway Company in carrying through its completion plans for improvements and betterments to and upon the property of the company which were included in the general plan for the future of the railroad made at the time the development and general mortgage was created in 1906.

"The particular improvements now to be undertaken are chiefly additional and enlarged shops, yards and other freight terminals which have been greatly desired and have been earnestly recommended for several years past to facilitiate economical operation and to enlarge the opportunity of the company for securing competitive freight traffic as well as for taking care of local business. These improvements will be undertaken at once and pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

"In addition to the improvements provided for Southern Railway Company he also arranged to finance, through a ten-year equipment trust the acquisition of additional modern rolling stock, largely of steel construction, representing an aggregate cost of more than $5,000,000. Bids for this additional rolling stock are now being received and the orders for immediate construction will be placed promptly."

LIEUTENANT CURLIN DEAD.

Annapolis Md., Feb. 20.—Lieutenant Commander Roland I. Curlin died at the naval hospital here today. His death was due to the hardening of the arteries. Commander Curlin was appointed from Pennsylvania.

"Boarders Wanted"

"Boarders Wanted" signs have been discarded from the windows of high grade boarding houses. The modern way to get desirable boarders in this city is by "Using THE NEWS Want Ad Way."

98 "WANTS"

PRINTED YESTERDAY

96 Wednesday—1853 to date in February—today not included—2651 in January—4504 since New Year.

THE NEWS is not giving prizes for "want ads"—IT GIVES RESULTS—the charge is one-cent-a-word — the page, eight—and you reach the people, 'cause "In Charlotte, It's THE NEWS." 'Nuf 'Ced

THREE BANDITS ROB TRAIN OF LARGE SUM

True Wild Western Hold-up Occurred on Queen and Crescent Near Alabama Town Last Night—Got Over Forty Thousand.

Had Little Difficulty Holding up Crew and Looting Express and Mail Car—Bloodhounds Have Difficulty in Following Trail.

By Associated Press.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 20.—Definite information of the amount of money taken last night by three robbers who held up a Queen & Crescent passenger train near here was lacking today. Estimates indicated the loss was more than $40,000.

Posses with bloodhounds set out today but had difficulty in following the robbers' trail. It was reported an automobile was seen near the robbery scene and it is thought the bandits may have escaped in it.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 20.—Railway detectives and police with bloodhounds early today began a search for three robbers who last night held up the Queen & Crescent's passenger train No. 1, known as the New Orleans limited, 12 miles north of Birmingham, and robbed mail pouches of registered mail said to contain more than $40,000.

Just how much was taken it was said would not be known until post-office authorities had checked up. In their haste the robbers overlooked a sack containing $10,000 consigned to New Orleans and a big consignment of stamps.

The train, crowded with passengers on their way to the Mardi Gras at New Orleans had just left Attalla, Ala., when three masked men emerged from places of hiding on the tender, covered the engineer and fireman with revolvers and stopped the engine. The robbers then forced the engine crew to uncouple the locomotive and mail car. One of the three manned the throttle, the other two jumped aboard and the detached section speeded away.

Two miles down the track the robbers stopped and went back to the mail car. Realizing a robbery was planned, the five mail clerks had extinguished the lights in their car and had locked the doors. They opened up to the robbers, however, when threats to dynamite the car were made and the robbers entered unresisted.

"Who's the chief clerk?" the leader asked.

"I am," replied A. B. Merville.

"Well, let's have the registered mail and be quick about it," was the order.

The bandit leader's two companions forced Merville's four assistants to leave the car. Merville himself was slow about complying with the order to disclose the whereabouts of the registered mail and one of the robbers stabbed him in the shoulder with a dirk.

The robbers set about their task merrily, whistling as they ripped open the sacks. One took the registered account book and checked over the parcels while the others worked.

Having, as they thought, obtained all the registered mail, the robbers wished Merville "good luck" and after cutting the mail car from the locomotive climbed aboard and were off.

The locomotive was abandoned near Birmingham and at this point early today officers started the bloodhounds in a search for the robbers.

Amount Not Known.

Cincinnati, Feb. 20.—Official reports of the hold-up of the "New Orleans Limited" on the Queen and Crescent, received here today stated that the amount of booty taken by the bandits was not definely known.

HAMMER IS NOMINATED BY PRESIDENT

Special to The News.

Washington, Feb. 20.—William C. Hammer, of Asheboro, was nominated by President Wilson today to be district attorney, this being the most important step in the matter since he was recommended by the senators back in November.

Senator Overman said today he will try and call a special meeting of the judiciary committee, of which he is chairman, tomorrow and have the nomination approved. It is possible some little opposition may be made to confirmation but it will amount to little because Overman is chairman of the committee, and President Wilson has found the charges against Hammer insufficient to hold him up.

General Villa Has William Benton Shot --A Big Sensation

AS TO CONSERVATION OF WATER POWER PROJECTS

By Associated Press.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Conservation, particularly as it affects the building of water power projects in navigable streams, was added today to the chief administration policies under public discussion.

Conservationists learned in a preliminary way the answer which the administration has prepared to the question of whether the federal government or the states shall be supreme in the matter of water rights in navigable rivers. Secretary Garrison has written a letter on the subject addressed to Chairman Adamson of the house commerce committee. Until he has consulted Mr. Adamson, Secretary Garrison will withhold formal announcement of his views. Interest in the detailed explanation by the secretary was apparent in congressional circles.

General principles of the administration's proposal contemplate no surrender of the constitutional power of the government to regulate what shall or shall not be done in navigable streams but to the states is given practically the entire supervision of the actual operation of the plan. The administration view is that mere possession of the right to control should not influence the government to operate the system for the benefit of the national treasury but for the interests of communities and states through which the streams pass.

Co-operation between the government and the states is sought, with such safeguards that the administration believes all parties will be satisfied. President Wilson has endorsed the Garrison plan. Its general outline is:

Federal permits for water power projects would be given only to concerns incorporated as public utilities.

The public utility commissions of the states would be expected to regulate the operation of the plan to prevent discrimination or monopoly.

Water power rights would be given only to those states which had good public utilities laws.

All benefits, financial and otherwise, would accrue to the states.

Congress would be asked to vest the war department with authority to issue all permits.

THAW'S FIGHT FOR LIBERTY IS RENEWED

By Associated Press.

Concord, N. H., Feb. 20.—Harry K. K. Thaw's fight for liberty was renewed today before Federal Judge Aldrich.

There were two points at issue—the discharge of the prisoner on a writ of habeas corpus thus preventing his extradition to New York as a fugitive from justice, the alleged offense being conspiracy to escape from Matteawan, and the right of Thaw to bail pending the disposition of the case by the federal courts.

Opening argument upon the habeas corpus petition was made by former Governor Stone, of Pennsylvania, who held that Thaw was not subject to extradition upon the charge in the indictment against him in New York. Mr. Stone said that the indictment did not charge an overt act or crime, but the court pointed out that Governor Glynn's requisition charged Thaw with conspiracy.

THE DAY IN CONGRESS.

Washington, Feb. 20.

Senate:

Arbitration treaties again discussed in executive session.

Administration bill introduced to raise the Argentine legation to an embassy.

Disagreed to the house amendments to the Alaska bill and sent it to conference.

House:

American Bankers' Association urged modification of the interlocking directorates bill.

Labor committee arranged hearings next week on the Palmer bill to bar child labor products from interstate commerce.

Territories committee asked to authorize a two million dollar private railroad in Hawaii.

Wealthy British Ranchman Was Tried by Court Martial and Convicted of Complicity in a Plot to Take Villa's Life.

He Was Executed by a Firing Squad Tuesday Night — Benton's Wife is Informed of Her Husband's Death.

By Associated Press.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 20.—William S. Benton, of El Paso, Scotchman, subject of Great Britain, is dead. That was confirmed by Gen. Pancho Villa and was officially conveyed to the widow here by United States Consul Edwards of Juarez.

Mystery surrounds the report of the death. William Benton, a cousin of the dead man, confirmed the report.

"Consul Edwards told Mrs. Benton," he said, "that her husband was dead in Juarez. The consul said Villa had confirmed this but said that he had asked him not to make public the details except in official dispatches to his government."

Benton was executed Tuesday night after a trial in Juarez by a military court of which Federico Gonzales Garza was the head, according to what appears to be a correct version of the affair. The charge against Benton was that he was implicated in a plot to take Villa's life.

Villa left for the south this morning.

Benton was last seen alive in Juarez Tuesday morning. He was going to Villa's home and said he was going to "tell Villa what he thought of him," for the manner in which his ranch, 'Los Remedio,' in western Chihuahua had been looted by rebel soldiers.

Instructions had been sent by the American state department yesterday to Consul Edwards, it was reported, to see that no harm should come to Benton, the orders being sent at the request of the British ambassador. The warning, it now appears, came too late.

It is supposed that Villa's defense will be that the man was shot because he entered Villa's office and started to draw a gun although the cousin says Benton did not go to Juarez armed.

Benton had been in Mexico for about 25 years. He was about 45 years old.

Benton and Villa have been acquaintances for many years. Benton knew him when as an outlaw more or less accepted as part of the Mexican social fabric, the then bandit crossed the Benton ranch west of the city of Chihuahua. The ranch of 100,000 acres is considered one of the best in Mexico. It was well watered, contained fine pasturage, and the owner was particularly proud of his orchard which succeeding bands of revolutionists cut into firewood. Benton paid $125,000 for it but improvements were said to have brought the value close to $1,000,000.

It was with the assurance of this acquaintance behind him that the Scotchman went to Villa with complaint of the depredations. Yesterday Villa, who has consistently denied that he had Benton in custody, told a reporter that Benton was armed when he made his visit.

Friends of the ranchman assert that Benton while of fiery temper and ready to use fists, was of sober habit and never known to carry a gun. His great reason for going unarmed was his own knowledge of his temper.

In the course of the interview, Benton and Villa quarreled and Benton was lost to view of his friends.

James Hambleton, an Englishman, and others, including reporters exhausted every means of ascertaining the fate of the missing man but everywhere were met with evasions and denials.

Consul Edwards was the first to learn the true facts. He gave Mrs. Benton only a bare outline of the case.

"I have telegraphed all details at my command to Washington," said the consul, "and if made public it must be from there. I pledged my word to Villa not to make the details public."

Asked what disposition had been made of the body, Edwards replied: "I do not think it will be seen on this side of the border."

Villa's sudden departure today is regarded as flight from the storm of indignation which was precaged by the interest manifested in Benton's disappearance.

As the forenoon wore on talk of a mass meeting grew but took no definite shape. Excited groups of American, English, French and German refugees who have lost their property in Mexico, or compelled to abandon it temporarily, asserted that the time had come for foreigners to protest against treatment being dealt out to them.

Since the revolutions began they have never had such a meeting but have accepted their burdens stoically.

Statement Discredited.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 20.—It is understood among border newspaper men that names of foreigners who divulge news aren ot to be made

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