

HAVE OTHER FOREIGNERS FOLLOWED BENTON'S FATE?

Villa Tells Why Benton Was Killed--Day's Developments

British Ranchman Came Into Camp Armed and Threatened His Life--Washington Officials Await Investigation Before Forming an Opinion.

England Awaits Report From State Department--Much Anxiety at El Paso Over Report That Oliver Have Shared Fate of Benton.

Foreign lands surrounded the Benton case with more than ordinary interest. Intimations in El Paso that other Englishmen, friends of Benton's, were unheeded from increased the tenacity of the situation.

One outcome of the situation which was thought more than probable, was expected to be a warning by Great Britain to her subjects in Mexico to leave isolated places and retreat to localities where they could place themselves under the protection of the British flag.

Bryan Makes Announcement. Announcement that Benton met death in Juarez after a court martial ordered by Villa was made today by Secretary Bryan, who said he had no further details. His information came in a dispatch from Consul Edwards at Juarez, who said he had read the court martial proceedings which were mailed to Washington.

Secretary Bryan communicated Consul Edwards' latest message to Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador and instructed Consul Edwards to demand adequate protection and a fair hearing for Gustav Bauch, an American citizen for whose safety in Juarez grave apprehension has been felt. Friends of Bauch in El Paso have telegraphed to Representative Smith, of Texas, that he had been shot as a spy.

No report had been received at the state department today on the reported disappearance of two other Englishmen, Lawrence and Curtis, who were said to have gone to Juarez to search for Benton.

An Explanation. Roberto V. Pasquira, constitutionalist agent here, made public the following telegram from constitutionalist headquarters at Juarez: "Benton entered Villa's apartment very unexpectedly, demanding protection for his interests and bitterly insulting Villa and the constitutionalist army. General Villa, to whom he considered him an enemy of the constitutionalist cause and that in order that he might not continue to work against it, he, Villa, was going to pay him the value of his property (Benton's) in the state of Chihuahua. Benton became very exasperated at this and drew his revolver, intending to kill the general but the latter immediately knocked him down, disarmed him and sent him to jail. Benton was afterward tried by a special military tribunal, sentenced to death and duly executed all in accordance with the laws and usages of war."

Were Others Killed? El Paso, Texas, Feb. 21.—El Paso, after a day and night of excitement over the execution of William S. Benton and the indignation meeting which ensued, awakened today to anxiety and conjecture as to the fate of Gustav Bauch, an American accused by the rebels at Juarez of being a spy and of two Englishmen who were lost sight of in Juarez last Wednesday.

Bauch disappeared from his cell last evening. This was discovered by relatives who reported the fact to Thomas D. Edwards, American consul at Juarez. He is believed to have been shot. Of the Englishmen, one is said to be a rancher named Curtis from New Mexico and the other, John Lawrence, chief engineer of the California Development Company at Tuma, Arizona.

Samuel Stewart, known also as Thompson, an English soldier of fortune, reported their disappearance. He said they went to Juarez Wednesday to aid in the search for Benton, a school mate of Lawrence's, and were seen no more by himself or other friends.

Villa Plans Torreon Fight. El Paso, Texas, Feb. 21.—"The Torreon attack will be begun just as soon as I can get at the head of my troops," said General Francisco Villa yesterday before he departed on a special train. It is Villa's intention (Continued on Page Nine.)

Official statements from American consuls here indicate that Benton came to the attention of Villa during the night of the attack on the white house at El Paso. Investigation before the state department is pending. The state department is holding in El Paso any consular papers pending the receipt of a report on the attack on the white house.

Later reports brought to the attention of the state department indicate that Benton was shot by Villa's men on the night of the attack on the white house.

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Secretary Bryan and Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, are expected to receive reports from the state department on the development of the situation.

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HOPE FOR SAFETY OF THE SCHOONER KINEO GIVEN UP

By Associated Press. New York, Feb. 21.—After nearly three days of futile searching for the schooner Kineo of the Diamond Shoals hope for her safety has practically been given up by her agents here. The revenue cutter service however still believes there is a chance the vessel has not gone down.

The revenue cutter Itasca is to join the Onondaga near the reported position of the Kineo. The Onondaga and the Itasca will cruise on parallel lines of about one hundred miles in length for several days in an endeavor to find the Kineo which was last sighted Wednesday in a crippled condition.

By Associated Press. San Francisco, Feb. 21.—While rain was threatened again today for storm swept Southern California, yet it was believed that some estimate could be made of property losses because flooded sections rapidly were being drained.

Scattered reports showed today where J. C. Rockwell, a rural mail carrier from Santa Barbara, was drowned in seeking to discharge his duty. He is survived by eleven children.

The drowning of Santa Barbara of Reuben Hamill, son of a millionaire, increased to five the number of fatalities by storm reported from that vicinity. The private car of Lord and Lady Decies (formerly Vivien Gould) which was marooned in the town two days ago, was pulled out yesterday but advices early today reported it stalled again not far from Los Angeles.

Rain and wind swept over the north central part of the state. At Leland Stanford, Jr. University the wind broke the library windows. Fearing that the great stained glass dome would follow, students of the university fled.

Timber owners, were informed by the bureau that poles, ties, lumber and other valuable products may be cut from blight-killed chestnut trees provided the wood is manufactured while it is sound.

Nation Wide Referendum on Trust Bills. Washington, Feb. 21.—A committee of the chamber of commerce of the United States will prepare a nationwide referendum on the administration of the trust bills. Preparations will be made at a meeting here February 24th. These have been named: R. G. Rheet, Charleston, S. C.; President Charles R. Van Hise, of the University of Wisconsin; G. E. Tripp, of the Westinghouse Company; and W. L. Saunders, of New York.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 21.—Senator Ransdell of Louisiana today introduced a bill to appropriate \$500,000 to fight malaria and typhoid. Senator Ransdell said that the government was justified in fighting typhoid and malaria because the victims of these diseases travelled from state to state. He added that the government could do no better work than to show the farmer particularly how to eradicate the conditions which produced these diseases.

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WHAT ENGLAND THINKS OF BENTON DEATH

By Associated Press. London, Feb. 21.—The British government up to noon today had not taken any action over the execution at Juarez of William S. Benton, the Scottish ranchman, beyond instructing Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, British ambassador, to obtain from Secretary Bryan all possible information.

Although the tragedy has created a sensation throughout the British Isles, it has not aroused any disposition on the part of responsible members of the government to change their policy in regard to Mexico.

There is no concealment of the fact, however, that the murder of British subjects in Mexico unless followed by punishment of the murderers and the payment of indemnities is likely to arouse public opinion here to the point where it will demand that the government take a more aggressive attitude. This fact has been impressed upon the state department at Washington by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice before any British lives had been lost in Mexico.

In its official attitude Great Britain is looking to the United States government to protect British subjects and has no doubt that the United States will do its best.

The state department at Washington has already informed the British government that where there are no British consuls in Mexico the consuls of the United States will look after British interests.

The British government has no communication with the Mexican constitutionalists. Members of the British government consider that the recognition of the constitutionalists as belligerents would be a mistake.

The Evening Standard says: "The execution of Benton emphasizes the fact that some kind of international compulsion will soon be necessary to stop Mexico from wallowing in this sty of corruption and cruelty."

The Globe after asking what is going to happen in case investigation proves the guilt of Villa, says: "The United States has not only the responsibility involved in its assertion of the Monroe doctrine but the responsibility of having supplied Villa and the rebels with arms, thereby promoting the lawlessness which has had much grievous results for British lives and interests. President Wilson has gone too far to shrink from going farther."

By Associated Press. Bellingham, Wash., Feb. 21.—A trail leading along the water front to a boat landing was the clue followed today by possees seeking three bandits who killed three passengers on a Great Northern train near here late last night.

The bandits boarded the train at Burlington, a few miles south of here, and passed from the smoking car into the day coach, tying white handkerchiefs over their faces. One stood on the platform of the day coach, a second stepped just inside and a third walked the length of the car. As the robber started to lock the door the three men sprung at him. While he shot them down the robber at the other end of the car began shooting out the lights. His companion then ran the length of the car, snatching as he ran purses offered by frightened passengers. The train slowed down in response to a pull at the bell cord and the three disappeared.

The victims were Thomas S. Wadsworth, Vancouver, B. C., Canadian Pacific railroad conductor; R. L. Lee, Bremerton, Wash., time clerk, Puget Sound navy yard; R. H. Adkinson, Vancouver, B. C., traveling salesman.

By Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 21.—Notice was received by the senate today of the passage of the house Indian appropriation bill carrying \$9,619,757. The measure went to the committee on Indian affairs. The bill shows a reduction of \$2,165,127 from estimates of the department of the interior.

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ARGUMENTS IN JETTON CASE ARE COMMENCED

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Mrs. Wooten Was Feature Witness Yesterday Afternoon

Mrs. Jetton invited Dr. Wooten and myself to call and see her new dress. Says Mrs. Wooten—E. T. Cansler, Jr. Leads Off For Defense, John McRae For State.

Plummer Stewart, for State Followed E. T. Cansler, Jr. for Defense—Judge F. I. Osborne Begins His Argument for Defense, and Will Finish This Afternoon.

Acrossing among themselves that each side should have four hours to present its side of the case and argue its merits, the attorneys in the case of Munroe Jetton, who shot and killed Dr. W. H. Wooten, began their argument immediately on the opening of court at 9:30 o'clock this morning.

The taking of evidence was finished yesterday afternoon at 5:55 o'clock, the most important witness being Mrs. Wooten, widow of Dr. Wooten.

Mrs. Wooten on Stand. Mrs. W. H. Wooten, the wife of Dr. W. H. Wooten, for the slaying of whom Munroe Jetton is now standing trial, was the principal witness for the state in the closing hours of the testimony yesterday afternoon. When court adjourned shortly after 5 o'clock Judge Adams advised counsel for both sides that it would be wise for them to make some arrangement during the recess of court to allow the arguments to be finished and the large docket today, this being the last day of the court term and Saturday, etc.

Mrs. Wooten, heavily veiled, took the stand and testified that on the afternoon of the homicide Mrs. Jetton visited her at her home and Dr. Wooten was there at the time. Mrs. Jetton offered a sweeping invitation to those present to come down to see her new dress and she also by saying, "Don't you must come down to see it." Mrs. Wooten testified that she had expected the arrival of her daughter from the Presbyterian College in Charleston, on the night of the homicide and that she was due to arrive at 1:30 P. M. Dr. Wooten had made arrangements to meet her at the train. Her statement was corroborated by a carter who testified that Dr. Wooten came into his shop to tell her to hurry and shave him because he had to meet the train.

Mrs. Wooten explained that the reason she did not accompany her husband to the Jetton home on the night of the homicide was that she wore only a pair of bedroom slippers at her feet and was not otherwise dressed suitably for a call. After Dr. Wooten left the home for the depot she called the barber shop for help, but was told that he had left. Following that she called the depot where she talked with him. This was shortly before the arrival of the train.

As to what happened when she was called to the side of her dying husband Mrs. Wooten said: "I took me by the hand and said, 'I am an innocent man. I was standing by the bed looking at my new dress. He shot me in a fit of jealousy. Later he repeated, 'I am an innocent man. I am going to Heaven.'"

As to the relations existing between Mrs. Jetton and Dr. Wooten, she said that it was more similar to those of a father and child than anything she could think of, that Jetton had frequently visited at the Wooten home, staying overnight for protection when Dr. Wooten was away.

Testimony of J. W. McConnell. J. W. McConnell, who was one of the four witnesses who testified at the coroner's inquest and who reached Dr. Wooten shortly after the shooting, had been called to take the stand yesterday morning but was not in the court room at the time, and was therefore put on the stand yesterday afternoon. He gave the same testimony that he had given at the coroner's inquest. He told of going to the Jetton home shortly after the shooting in answer to a telephone call. He stopped at Dr. Wooten's home as he went by and took Mrs. Wooten with him in his automobile to the Jetton home, where Dr. Wooten was lying fatally wounded on the bed. He asked Dr. Wooten what was the matter. The latter said, "Mack, I'm done for. I'm gone." Witness said he asked him further what was wrong and Dr. Wooten said, "Munroe shot me in a fit of jealousy. I could have explained so easily. I'm innocent."

"Can I do anything for you?" I asked, said witness. Dr. Wooten answered.

By Associated Press. Queenstown, Feb. 21.—Fourteen life savers were drowned when they went out from Retard to rescue the crew of the Norwegian bark Mexico, driven on the rocks near the Saltee Islands, Waford, last night. The life boat answered the distress call of the Mexico, bound from Laguna, Mexico, to Falmouth. The first to reach her was stove in but the life savers were able to scramble on board the wrecked Mexico where they remained all night.

When the crew of the bark and the life boat men landed safely on one of the islands today they found that the second life boat had sunk with her crew of 14 men.

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THE RIVERSDALE ASHORE OFF VIRGINIA COAST

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