

The Mount Airy News.

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A PAINFUL DUTY.

The modern newspaper that succeeds is conducted on business methods. To allow men to take a paper and not pay the sum charged for subscription is suicidal to the business. No paper that does this can have a standing among people who think. The publishers of The News always regret to lose a subscriber, but it is better to lose the man who neglects his subscription account than to carry him.

It will become our painful duty to drop from our list all those subscribers whose papers this week have a blue mark at this article. Why not send a dollar and let us send the paper on? Won't you do this and not place us in the awkward position of discontinuing the paper.

Call Issued for Meeting Progressive Democrats.

Raleigh, March 20.—The call issued by Messrs. Poe and Bailey to the Progressive Democratic Convention to be held here reads as follows:

"Whereas, we have come upon a signal hour of Democratic achievement in our State and the Republic, an hour when the people having wearied of the standstillism of its opponents have given leadership to the Democratic party, and the party in return is demonstrating its power and readiness as the champion of the masses, the foe of privilege, and the vehicle of general public progress; and

"Whereas, the widespread and deepfelt interest in certain great measures for the further upbuilding of North Carolina and the inspiring record of progress our Commonwealth has already made under Democratic administration alike indicate that the Democratic voters of our State are athrob with the same passion for large and historic service that is distinguishing the Democracy throughout the United States and especially the Administration of President Wilson; and

"Whereas, there is a general feeling of indignation in North Carolina shall now take course together in order to put before their party for consideration in due season a definite program of constructive legislation for the immediate future; now therefore—

"The undersigned do hereby call a meeting of Democratic citizens to be held in Raleigh on April —, 1914, at noon, for the purpose of giving expression to such a program of constructive measures for consideration by our people in all sections of the State; and

"Whereas, as it is desirable to give more definiteness to this call we hereto append one statement which has been made and widely commended of measures and policies which should have consideration at such a meeting—our purpose being not to commit the meeting hereby called to these policies, nor to limit its deliberations, but to suggest a basis for a meeting and for discussion by the voters:

"Some subjects for consideration: Legalized Statewide primary, covering all elective offices and all parties, with a powerful corrupt practices act.

"Revision of our system of taxation—a more just and equitable system along lines contemplated in the Constitutional Amendment proposed on this subject.

"The adoption of other proposed Constitutional Amendments as follows:

"Restraining private, local and special legislation, and thus enabling the General Assembly to attend to important matters.

"Giving more elasticity to our judicial circuit system.

"Preventing special charters to corporations by General Assembly.

"Strengthening and enlarging wherever we wisely can, our work in:

"Public education and public health, in which things are being done;

"Public roads, including wiser expenditure of funds and putting convicts on roads instead of giving away their labor for worthless railway stock.

"Public industry, including the advertising of the State's resources and the development of agricultural and manufacturing interests.

"Public morals, including rigid enforcement of existing statutes and such advances in legislation as localities may demand for

themselves.

"Unrelenting fidelity to the position already taken with respect to freight rates and the discriminations against North Carolina, and searching investigation of insurance rates and discriminations.

"Earnest consideration of the demands of the organized farmers of the State for rural credits for the segregation of lands between the races wherever it may be demanded, and for agriculture in the schools.

"An improved child labor law.

"A better business system for the State, insuring economical expenditure of appropriations and a better co-ordination of the activities of State institutions."

Texas Governor Wants Men Who Will Shoot.

Austin, Texas, March 20.—Reports of new disorders along the Mexican border, including the attempted kidnaping of an American citizen by five Mexicans, today caused Gov. O. B. Colquitt to order the ranger force recruited with "men who can shoot."

"I have instructed Captain Hughes to look for more men suitable for the Ranger service. My instructions to him are to get men who can shoot and will shoot when necessary," said Governor Colquitt tonight.

Captain Hughes commands the Ranger force which has headquarters in the extreme southeastern section of the state. Governor Colquitt would not discuss tonight the conference of Adjutant General Hutchings with the Federal commander, General Guajardo, at Piedras Negras today.

Two telegrams today formed the basis of the Governor's action in ordering the Ranger force increased. The first reported the kidnaping of an American, Chas. Ballard, by five Mexicans, near Carrizo Springs. The second was the petition from Cameron County citizens.

Ballard was tied by the Mexicans and hustled to the border, according to the report made to the Governor but while the party was crossing the Rio Grande, he cut the rope which held him and escaped by diving. Ballard's captors shot at him without effect several times and then escaped.

Sheriff Gardner of Dimmitt County went in pursuit with a posse and the Rangers and United States Army border patrol also began a search for the men, but they were thought to have escaped into Mexico.

The Cameron County petition declared "murder and robbery are being committed freely," and appealed for Ranger protection. The killing of two wealthy men, both Mexicans, was cited.

Notice.

The undersigned, who was convicted of shooting at a Railroad train, at February Term 1914 of Surry Superior Court, and sentenced to 12 months on the roads of Rockingham county, and at the same term of Court convicted of carrying concealed weapon and sentenced to 30 days imprisonment, and assigned to the public roads of Rockingham county, will, on the 15th day of April 1914, apply to His Excellency, the Governor of North Carolina, for a conditional pardon. All persons desiring to oppose the granting of the pardon are notified to present their protests to His Excellency, the Governor, on or before said date.

This March 21st, 1914.
Richard Lankford,
J. H. Folger, Atty.

VILLA AND HIS ARMY CAMP ON OUTSKIRTS OF CITY OF TORREON.

Opposing Him in a Well Nigh Impregnable Position is General Velasco with 9,000 Men.

Constitutionalist Headquarters Yermo, Durango, Mex., March 20.—Gen. Villa and his army of 12,000 rebels today invested the federal stronghold of Torreon. They occupied the environs of the city without opposition and today was spent in wheeling and dragging field pieces into place to shell the federal trenches, dug at every point where the federal commander, General Refugio Velasco, expects attack.

Velasco's army is estimated to number 9,000 men. South and southwest of the city his position is regarded as almost impregnable through which only three passes run, and these have been rendered almost impassable by fortifications and barbed wire entanglements. In other directions the city is reached through the desert and high hills.

Villa's progress has been slow because it was necessary to repair railroad tracks and bridges. Early today, however, the road was open from Yermo, where the troops have been mobilizing, to Mapimi and Bermejillo, which are only a few miles north of Torreon and virtually are suburbs of that city.

Little Time Lost.

At these two cities the troops detrained and formed in columns. There was little loss of time in plunging into the desert. Great tank wagons laden with the water supply which has been Villa's greatest problem, rumbled in the trail. The lips of the few foreigners in the army were cracked and swollen from the heat and alkali dust, but the Mexicans, better. In this way the outskirts of Torreon were reached.

There was no opposition and General Villa declared there had been none since he began to repair the railroad south of Jiminer. The federals contented themselves with throwing all possible obstructions except bullets in his way. There were occasional exchanges of shot, between outposts, but nothing that assumed the dignity of a skirmish.

General Villa was everywhere, for now that the eve of the battle is at hand, he is a fury of energy, now snatching at the halter of a refractory mule, now criticizing the lashings of a pack saddle, or snapping orders at a lesser leader.

Take Torreon in a Week.

"Torreon will be mine in a week," he exclaimed jubilantly. "Never has a revolutionary army in Mexico had better men, and never have they been so thoroughly equipped. Every preparation has been made and we can't fail."

It is no figure of speech to say that the light of battle burned in the rebel leader's eyes. They are extraordinarily wide set, so that when he looks at a visitor at close range they seem almost to cross, and their dark depths, always glowing seem actually to flame in moments of excitement. His subordinates rarely ever argue with him and in such moments never. It is a danger signal—one which the Scotchman, Benton, is said to have failed to heed.

Gen. Felipe Angeles, chief of the military corps, was named in command to take full charge in the event of the death of incapacitation of Villa.

Gen. Aguirre Benavides was placed in command of the disposition of troops, although Angeles himself selected the position for his guns.

Food For a Month.

Virtually all of the rolling stock of the railroad is congested on the line between Chihuahua, Juarez, Escalon (where there is a water supply), and the front. Villa has food for a month, 2,000 rounds of cartridges to the man and his railroad service, unless cut, can maintain the water supply indefinitely.

It is believed here that the federals are completely cut off from the outside world, even by wire, although the wireless stations

may permit them to communicate with the national capital, 700 miles to the south.

Villa professes to believe that he will capture the entire army.

Torreon, although founded less than 30 years ago, has a normal population of 26,000. It has great soap, cotton, flour and iron manufacturing and a great smelter receives ores from the mines. Normally there is a large foreign colony, but most of these residents have fled, leaving only a few as caretakers of important property.

General Carranza and Provisional President Huerta some time ago agreed to the establishment of a neutral zone, where foreigners would be safe from bullets, but foreigners said they would stay in the city to guard as far as possible the interests left in their care.

The Immoral Mixing of the Races.

The Progressive Farmer.

The white people of the South intend to leave plenty of communities in which the Negro can buy land, nor do they intend to interfere with the rights of negroes who have already bought in white communities. But where the white people desire it for the protection of their social life, their homes, their institutions and their women, they may be pardoned if they resent being denounced as criminals if they simply propose to set apart certain communities in which the land now held by whites shall remain in white hands.

Certainly the progress of the idea will not be hindered by such men as the Rev. I. N. Moss, the Washington City negro preacher who was cheered by his negro hearers as he told them to quit buying pianos and go to buying guns, and to quit going to dancing schools and begin going to military schools. Only two days later LaFollette's Magazine printed a letter from "a refined, intelligent, colored woman, the mother of two finely educated sons studying in Paris," as it said, wrote herself from Paris, "where there is no race discrimination," and referred boastfully to the bloody struggle of the French Revolution, declaring that this spirit of Paris was also in her blood. "Will not the white man hear before it is too late," she demands, "or is he determined to bring about war, revolution and bloodshed?"

We do not, of course, anticipate any present outcome from all this "war, revolution and bloodshed" talk of negro leaders in the North, but we may well begin to inquire what such talk signifies. In our opinion, its significance lies in the fact that the infamous mixing of the races in the South, the sickening mixing of white blood with negro, in immoral relations, is fast changing the character of the negro. The full-blooded negro is submissive and easily managed, but when our imperious, commanding, domineering white blood, the blood that knows no master, mixes with negro blood in the mulatto, it begins to work like a smouldering volcano.

Notice.

To the Deeds at Law of James Y. Fulp, dec'd. Mrs. R. E. Lawrence, Mrs. L. Levy, and G. G. Redman:

You will take notice that in pursuance to an Act passed by the Extra Session of the Legislature of 1913, and to Ordinances passed by the Board of Commissioners of the town of Pilot Mountain, N. C., at an adjourned Session held on the 17th day of October, 1913, you are hereby notified that you are required by said ordinances to build a cement sidewalk on front of your lots on Depot and Main streets within 30 days from the date of this notice, of the material and formula required by said ordinances (copy of which will be furnished on request to the undersigned) or the Commissioners of the Town of Pilot Mountain will build said sidewalk and assess the cost thereof against your property.

This March 25, 1914.
R. E. Holland, Chief Police of Town of Pilot Mountain, N. C.

STORM AT SEA.

Mrs. John Astor's Guests Feast Undisturbed by the Turmoil.

New York, March 20th.—With the bronze wings of her big eagle clipped by a 50-foot wave, the Emperor, monarch of ships, came back to port yesterday after an absence of four months. She brought a new commander, Capt. Thomas Kier, junior commodore of the Hamburg-American line, and 3,872 persons, including 2,692 passengers. Among the latter were some Americans as familiar in London as in New York. The Emperor's log recorded happenings and events as various, picturesque and tragic as the day's news of a city. Since she was here she has submitted to some alterations, chief among which are the shortening of her three smokestacks by 10 feet, which lowers her center of gravity.

On Friday, the 13th, a hurricane began. It snatched four boats from the fo'c'sle head, broke off both immense wings of her imperial eagle figurehead 76 feet above the water line and flung them upon the fo'c'sle head, flooded three rooms on the E deck and drowned music and the orders to the waiters at Mrs. John Astor's dinner in the Ritz-Carlton restaurant. The spray struck and danced upon the gas skylight above the heads of the merry-makers, among whom, as Mrs. Astor's guests, were Mr. and Mrs. John Hays Hammond, William Spencer and Mrs. Warren Robbins. Capt. Kier hove the ship to for six hours.

A cook died just before the gale during its height a baby was born.

Passengers and captain, according to their lights, gave different versions of the storm. M. Nixon, a newspaper man of Indianapolis said that when the ship "went down" sometimes, the passengers thought she would never come up again. Some of the passengers, he said, feared, remembering the Titanic, that they would not survive the hurricane.

Capt. Kier was born in Hamburg, 44 years ago, his father having been an admiral in the North German navy before the consolidation of the states into the German empire. Since he sailed on a wind jammer, at 16 years of age, he has been at sea, much of the time in Chinese and Indian waters, and he has been nine years a captain. Under Capt. Albers and Barends respectively he was chief officer on the old Deutschland. In the West Indies he was in charge of the old Meteor.

Here is how Capt. Kier described the storm:

"It reminded me of a typhoon; but a hurricane is like a typhoon, except that a hurricane revolves in the direction of the hands of a watch. The spray came up just like fog, and you could not see anything." For one stretch Capt. Kier was on the bridge 76 hours.

"The wind blew between 60 and 100 miles an hour," continued Capt. Kier. "I put her head into it at a rate of three knots an hour, barely holding steerage way. But between Friday noon and Saturday noon, I am proud to say, the log showed a record of 290 sea miles.

"The worst part of the storm was at 7 P. M. Friday when the wave plucked the eagle's wings. Although the eagle is 76 feet above the water and the wave was only 50 feet high, you must make allowance for the depression of the hull in the valley.

"It is not correct to say that the eyes of the eagle are intended for a lookout to peep through. The eagle is purely ornamental.

"I spoke with your ice-patrolting cutter Seneca, which reported no ice, although she had found some lumps north of the steamer track.

"The storm lasted 24 hours, six hours of which were really bad." While the patter and pelt upon the glass dome drowned the voices of Mrs. Astor's guests, the turmoil did not spill a drop of wine upon the cloth under the brilliant candelabra.

More than 200 of the most notable of the Emperor's passengers signed a testimonial of the seamanship of Capt. Kier and the steadiness of his ship.

BENTON SITUATION NOT NEW TO ENGLAND

Many Other Britons Have Met Death in Mexico.

London, March 21.—The situation which Great Britain is facing as a result of the shooting of William S. Benton in Mexico not only is not novel, but even almost unimportant compared to the events of 1869-'62. A list of outrages committed during those three years before the British Government joined France and Spain in the intervention which led to the seating of Maximilian of Austria upon the Mexican throne, has been brought forward in part as follows:

Doctor Duval, a British subject who was arrested in April, 1859, by the Clerical General Marquez while attending to wounded Juarists after their defeat at Tacubaya, was shot without trial.

A British subject named J. L. Innes was hunted through the mountains about Oaxaca with a price on his head.

British Vice Consul Bodner was shot dead on his own balcony while trying to save a Mexican.

Mr. Beale was shot by bandits on his farm near Mexico City.

There were several other murders of British subjects of humbler positions.

A Mr. Burnand's factory was twice plundered and he was severely wounded by the robbers, so that he lost an arm; his wife went mad from the shock.

Financially, too, British subjects suffered greatly through these three years. Claims submitted by British subjects to their legation up to April 28, 1861, amounted to \$18,000,000 for such outrages as "to steal, oppress, stoppage of factory," "plunder, death and mutilation," "imprisonment and sentence of death," and simple plunder.

In November, 1860, the Clerical General Miramon seized \$600,000 in silver which had been deposited at the British legation as the property of bondholders, and a few months later a Juarist general seized a convoy of some hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of silver bullion belonging to British subjects and on its way to the coast. The Juarist Government also suspended payment of the interest on its foreign loan, which was then mainly held in England.

In the face of all these outrages, Earl Russell and Lord Palmerston refrained from intervention, despite the fact that it would have been a comparatively easy thing since the Juarists held the ports. They were, moreover, not faced with the necessity of policing the country after the intervention, since both France and Spain were ready to take up the work and France had definitely decided to obtain a permanent hold on Mexico. When France determined to move, Great Britain left the field to Napoleon III.

Chinese Are Thrifty Farmers.

"In the utilization of every square foot of soil and every leaf or root that is grown thereon, the patient, working farmers of China could give points even to the thrifty rural population of France," says the Philadelphia Public Record. "Land is never wasted. There are no such pasture and meadow lands as we know here. If a traveler wants to pitch a tent anywhere in the settled provinces of China he must drive the stakes in a bean patch or a rice field or amid potato hills. The native would receive with scornful amazement a suggestion of a public pleasure ground. The only 'parks' are the groves about the temples.

"To the tops of the hills the terraces climb, holding their tiny plots of wheat and corn, sometimes at a house roof angle of 45 degrees. Inhabitants of crazy huts and cave dwellers, barely making room for themselves to sleep and cook at the intersections of the vast checkerboard, climb out of their holes and hovels at dawn like prairie dogs or rabbits in a warren, and fight the soil till dark for a meager living."