

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD BOYS ARE DRAFTED

TAKEN FROM WEEPING MOTHERS BY HUERTA'S MEN.

An Example of How Recruits Are Secured for Huerta's Army. — Farmer Boys 12 and 14 Years Old Attending Provision Carts With Their Mothers Are Seized. And Amid the Weeping of Their Mothers Are Taken Off to Be Sent to Army.

Mexico City, Feb. 27.—An example of how Huerta recruits for the army was given today when a detachment of soldiers suddenly surrounded a market place and drafted two hundred farmer boys who, with their mothers, were attending their provision carts. Some are not over 12 and 14 years old. Amid the boys' cries and the efforts of the weeping women to rescue them, the "recruits" were dragged to places of confinement where they will be kept until Huerta is ready to use them.

EVELYN "NOT AFRAID OF THE PREACHERS"

Appeared Before Record-Breaking House in Atlanta Last Night.

Atlanta, Feb. 27.—Traveling in a private car, abusing the preachers who had criticized her, and declaring that she was still afraid of Harry K. Thaw, Mrs. Evelyn Nesbit Thaw arrived in Atlanta yesterday and appeared last night before a record-breaking audience at the Atlanta theatre.

She answered some of the ministers who criticized her in the north of being paid to do so by Mrs. William Thaw. Others, she said, were jealous because she got more newspaper publicity than they did.

"But I'm not afraid of the preachers, though they cause me a good deal of annoyance," she added. "The only person in the world I am actually afraid of is Harry, and I don't think I will ever feel really safe until he is back in Mattewan again."

"Even down here in the south I am afraid to go out on the streets alone for fear in some manner he has tracked me," she told the Atlanta reporters, whereat those shrewd-eyed young men grinned at one another and figured that with a line of talk like that the young woman had no need of hiring press agents to work up interviews for her.

She also handed them a line of talk about being an "unhappy woman who has had more than her share of trouble, and who is only trying to make an honest living for herself and child."

Honor Roll.

The following is the honor roll for Rocky River Annex:

Marquette Garmon, Leroy Garmon, Edna Furr, Willie Russell, Zeb Smith, Odessa Dees, Jackson Dees. These pupils have been neither absent nor tardy for one month.

MRS. ED. ERVIN.

Thomas D. Warren, of Newbern,

may succeed Marshal Webb as chairman of the Democratic State Committee. He is one of the leading young Democrats of eastern North Carolina, and has been a close friend of Senator Simmons for a number of years. Mr. Warren graduated from the State University in 1895, and has practiced law since.

MAIL SACK TORN UP.

Train No. 37 Practices 38's Tricks And Rips Up Mail Sack.

Train No. 37 ripped a mail sack open at the depot yesterday morning. It was an incoming sack and the contents were scattered along the track for a considerable distance. Only a few days ago train No. 38 ripped a sack open and scattered letters to the four winds.

Even though the Southern Railway does not show this town sufficient consideration to stop its trains here it looks as if it might regulate the speed through the city limits so that the mail sacks would not be ripped open.

Concord citizens, under the present plans of operating trains, which, by the way, is a direct violation of the agreement made with the city last year when the matter of stopping the trains was under consideration, cannot ride certain fast trains, but it is becoming so that they cannot mail a letter without its being likely to take a flight with the birds by the mail pouch being ripped up on account of the high rate of speed the trains maintain through here.

PLAY NEXT WEEK.

King's Daughters to Present a Delightful Drama at Opera House.

Next Thursday, March 5, a drama, "Bread on the Waters," will be presented at the opera house, under the auspices of King's Daughters, by home talent. The drama is a sweet and touching story with enough of human life portrayed to make it interesting.

The characters are as follows: Dr. Harlem, principal of Greenleaf Seminary—Mr. Clarence Norman. Harry Harlem, his son—Mr. Parker.

Fred Hastings, Bob Winders, pupils—Mr. Maek Buchanan and Mr. Robert Ridenour, Jr. Jonathan Wild Butts, town constable—Mr. R. E. Ridenour. Lucy Harlem, the Doctor's daughter—Miss Nell Herring. Mrs. Loring, housekeeper—Mrs. R. M. King. Dilly (picked up from the streets)—Miss Maggie Hendrix.

Plan to Change Athletic Rules.

New York, Feb. 27.—More than ordinary interest is manifested in this city tomorrow by the Intercollegiate Association of Amateur Athletics of America. It is expected that several important amendments to the constitution and by-laws of the association will be adopted with a view to increasing the desire for participation in competition and encouraging keener interest and enthusiasm for athletics among college students.

The most important of the proposed changes is the suggestion to add a fifth place in each event in awarding the championship cup for the annual track and field meeting, according to five for first, four for second, three for third, two for fourth, and one for fifth place, a total of fifteen points for each event instead of eleven points—five three, two and one, which has been the method in vogue since 1898.

The Speaking Fest.

The annual "Speaking Fest," held under the auspices of the Lantz and Lanier Societies will be held in Central School Auditorium at eight o'clock Friday, March 6th.

All the long term schools of the county have been invited to send representatives and the responses indicate that there will be a full program. There will be no medal but each speaker will strive to uphold the honor of his school. Ten cents will be charged at the door.

District Attorney Hammer desires to keep his office in Asheville. Why not? It is his old home. Webb was permitted to move the marshal's office to his home town of Asheville.

LIQUOR CASE.

Ada Parker, a Negro Woman, Fined \$50 for Selling Liquor.

Ada Parker, colored, was convicted on the charge of selling liquor at the police court this morning. There was a gathering at Ada's house last evening and it concluded by a fight and cutting scrape. After the smoke of battle had cleared away Willie Holdbrooks, a colored woman, who had received a sizable gash on her arm and shoulder with a sharp instrument judged to be a "razor," told Policeman Fisher that she had purchased a pint of liquor from the Parker woman.

At the trial this morning Ada protested that she was innocent, declaring that there had been no liquor at her house since Christmas and besides she could not secure enough to drink not to mention selling any.

She was fined \$50 including the cost by Police Justice McConnell. The fine was paid.

MAPS READY.

Showing Survey of Union Street for Proposed Permanent Pavement.

Preliminary arrangements are being made for making a permanent pavement on South Union street from the Lutheran Church to the Gowan Medical Company's office. The pavement will be of bitulithic or some other permanent pavement.

City Engineer Long has made a map of the street showing the distances and property owners. Any one desiring one of the maps can secure same from Mr. Long at the city hall.

Alderman C. A. Cook, chairman of the street committee, stated that the city hoped to begin the work early in the spring. It is estimated that the work will require from two to three months' time.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton M. Powell Entertained.

Kannapolis, Feb. 27.—Mr. and Mrs. Clinton M. Powell entertained with a tea at their home in Kannapolis Thursday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Ladee, a recent bride and groom. The table had for its center decoration a lovely cut glass vase of pink carnations and ferns.

At the bride's place was an exquisite basket of valley lilies tied with pink ribbon, while favors of pink carnations were placed for the other guests. The place cards were quite unique, being tablets written for the occasion by a friend of the hostess at her former home in Georgia. Covers were laid for the following: Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Ladee, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton M. Powell, Miss Nell Haynes and Dr. H. H. Couble.

Brown University 150 Years Old.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 27.—Brown University reached its 150th anniversary today, having been incorporated February 27, 1764. The institution was incorporated as Rhode Island College and continued its existence under that name until 1804, when the name was changed to Brown University in recognition of liberal benefaction received from Nicholas Brown of this city. Plans are now being made for an elaborate celebration of the 150th anniversary to take place next October. Four hundred of the leading universities of the world will be invited to send representatives to the celebration.

Jury in Noted Case Is Unable to Agree.

Raleigh, Feb. 26.—The jury in the case of Citizens Bank of Norfolk against Mrs. M. E. and Adam McArthur, involving the genuineness of the \$25,000 note held by the plaintiff, is unable to agree and is being held together by Judge Connor until 1 o'clock tomorrow morning, by which time he hopes a verdict will have been reached. The jury took the case at 4 o'clock, and at 7 o'clock reported inability to reach a verdict by supper time.

Iredell County Boy Dies By His Own Hand.

Statesville, Feb. 26.—Tragic death by his own hand was the fate of Willie Austin, the 10-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Austin, who lived in the manufacturing suburb known as Diamond Hill, a mile east of town. About 8 o'clock last night the boy picked up a pistol which he supposed to be unloaded, the weapon was discharged and the bullet entered his right temple, resulting in his death two hours later.

Meeting of Progressive Democrats.

Richmond, Va., Feb. 27.—Delegates from many parts of Virginia assembled here today to take steps to form the State Progressive Democratic League. The objects of the proposed organization will be to secure the initiative and referendum, reform in the primary election law and other so-called progressive measures. Secretary of State William J. Bryan has accepted an invitation to address the conference tomorrow night.

Serious Rioting at Lisbon.

Madrid, Feb. 27.—A report of serious rioting at Lisbon and other Portuguese cities is confirmed by public statements of the Spanish department interior office. It is reported that practically a state of anarchy prevails at Portugal.

WILL ACCEPT THE OFFER OF VILLA

ENTIRE BENTON MYSTERY TO BE CLEARED.

Villa Has Consented That American Army Surgeon and Mrs. Benton May View Benton's Body, Which, He Says Positively is Buried in the Cemetery at Chihuahua.—Offered to Furnish Special Train to Send Them There.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The State Department received a telegram from Consul Letcher, at Chihuahua City, saying that Villa had consented to have an American army surgeon accompany Mrs. Benton to view Benton's body. In explaining that he believed that the entire Benton mystery will soon be cleared, Secretary Bryan said:

"Villa's offer seems perfectly frank. He says positively that Benton's body is buried in the national cemetery at Chihuahua and offered to furnish a special train to convey Mrs. Benton, two representatives of the British government, all of whom may be physicians, is desirable. The body will be disinterred and every opportunity furnished for its examination and identification. Consul Letcher has been directed to notify Villa of the acceptance of his offer. General Scott will select the American surgeons and the body probably will be examined in the near future."

Because the body has been buried twelve days officials are doubtful whether an inspection will show much in the decomposed condition in which it must be. Villa's action has materially cleared the air, today, Secretary Bryan is very much more hopeful that international complications will yet be averted.

The mystery of the fate of Gustav Bauch seemed even more impenetrable today, following a report from Consul Edwards at Juarez. Villa Enlists President Wilson. El Paso, Texas, Feb. 27.—A Chihuahua dispatch said that Villa, in discussing the Benton case, eulogized President Wilson, saying that he regarded him as one of the few great rulers of the earth.

"NO MARINES GO IN TO MEXICO"—WILSON

President Says the Sending of Armed Forces There Would Mean War.

Washington, Feb. 26.—President Wilson today took the position that for the United States to send marines or armed forces of any kind into Mexico without the consent of the governing authorities there would be an act of war. He declared emphatically that permission never had been sought either of General Huerta or General Carranza, and indicated clearly that no request of that character would be made in the near future. The President also announced that no change in the policy of the American Government toward Mexico had been decided upon.

Taft Dines With Wilson Today.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Former President Taft lunched today as a guest of President and Mrs. Wilson. This is the first time since the Harrison administration that a President and his predecessor in office have dined together at the White House. Mr. Taft condemned the recall of judges and the decisions before the house committee in urging the simplification and believed the judiciary is full of good, strong men. He favored a life tenure of judges saying election weakened the judiciary.

Congressman W. S. Hammond,

the only Democratic representative from Minnesota, is being urged by his friends to enter the race for the Democratic nomination for governor of his State to succeed Governor Eberhart.

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NEW VERSION GIVEN OF THE KILLING OF BENTON

According to New Version Benton Was Trapped in Villa's Headquarters and Murdered.

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 26.—A new version of how William S. Benton met his death at Juarez, especially differing from the one official account given by General Villa, and believed by Benton's friends and countrymen to be authentic, has reached here.

According to this new version, which is said to come from Villa, Benton went to Villa's office in Juarez and abruptly entered the latter's quarters without a formal invitation. Villa at once recognized Benton as an old enemy dating back to times prior to the insurrection, and slipping behind his visitor, barred the door. Benton, they said, did not reach for his hip pocket or make any menacing motion and neither did he use abusive language or give utterance to threats, but began to complain strongly about repeated robberies of his ranch and wanted to know when he would be allowed to return to it without further molestation.

Then, according to this version, Villa, pretending to walk to the door, slipped behind Benton and felt his hip pocket in which he found a revolver. Holding Benton, he immediately called in his guards and placed him under arrest, charging him with attempted murder. Benton was then locked in another room and later he asked for a personal interview. In this talk, it is said, Villa claims that Benton confessed to him frankly that he had intended to do him harm, and Villa then admitted that he immediately ordered Benton shot. Apparently there was not court-martial or trial. None was mentioned by Villa and his questioners did not ask him the direct question, believing it disposed of by his statement that he himself had ordered Benton's execution.

MEETING OF THE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

Held at the Central School Auditorium Last Saturday.

The Teachers' Association met in Concord graded school building last Saturday.

Rev. W. F. Albright conducted the devotional exercises and, afterward made a few remarks to the teachers on the great work in which they are engaged.

An essay on "The Life of Charles B. Aycock" was read by Miss Maude Cook, of the Kannapolis school.

A paper by Prof. Vanhoy was very fine. His subject was "The Greater Work of the Teacher," and his idea was to make the subjects taught more practical and that the teacher should see that a pupil is able to use the knowledge he gets from the text books.

We hope Prof. Vanhoy will allow his paper to be printed in The Times and Tribune.

Prof. Webb conducted the recitation on "Every Day Problems in Teaching," and every one seemed to enjoy the discussion of the ideas gained from the lesson.

Dr. Bikle was present and from time to time gave us bits of his experience in the many problems the teacher has to solve. We hope the Doctor will be present at every meeting.

The meeting was well attended and Superintendent Lippard is to be congratulated on the success of the third meeting of the association.

MRS. ED. ERVIN, Secretary.

SECOND 38 RAN INTO THREE FREIGHT CARS.

Open Switch 200 Yards from Passenger Station. With No Light Burning.

Greensboro News, 12th. The second section of northbound passenger train No. 38, the "New York and New Orleans Limited," was wrecked here at 11:37 o'clock last night when the engine ran into an open switch 200 yards west of the passenger station and crashed into three cars of southbound freight No. 177, from Pinher's Point. The train was due in Greensboro at 11:06 p. m. and was 31 minutes late. It was running at only about seven miles an hour, however, having stopped at the coal chute a quarter of a mile away, and being near the passenger station.

Fireman Ellis Davis, negro, of Spence, who was on the side next to the freight, had a narrow escape when several pieces of flying timber came through the front window by his head. One piece was 20 feet long and missed him by an inch. He was thrown against the water tank and received slight injuries on his left hip. No one else on the train was scratched, nor was there much of a jar felt in the Pullmans at the rear.

Engineer Harry Elmore, of Spence, the moment he felt the engine swerve from its track, threw on all the emergency he had, which probably saved a great disaster and possible death.

ED. McINTYRE ARRESTED.

Alleged Sender of Infernal Machine Which Injured Agent Busbee Apprehended in Marietta, Ga.

The following dispatch has been sent out from High Point: "Chief of Police Ridge received a telegram today that Ed McIntyre, wanted here, had been arrested by Sheriff W. E. Swanson, at Marietta, Ga. McIntyre was going under the name of Ed Hill. He is wanted for an assault here several months ago by sending an 'infernal machine' by express, which exploded for an assault here several months ago by sending an 'infernal machine' by express, which exploded here at the Southern Express office nearly killing two men. Also for using the United States mails unlawfully.

"The infernal machine was addressed to a High Point young lady, who, it is said, had refused to receive McIntyre's attentions.

"Chief Ridge was asked to forward at once a photograph of McIntyre, who is being held by the Georgia officers for identification.

Express Agent Busbee at the local office opened the machine and was one of the men that came near being killed by the explosion. Mr. Busbee was at that time agent at High Point. The package containing the machine had been in the High Point office for some time and Mr. Busbee was preparing to send it along with numerous other packages to a sale of undelivered packages. The manner in which it was wrapped indicated that it was a package of value and according to the custom of the company with such packages, Mr. Busbee attempted to open it when the explosion occurred. He was severely injured and spent some time in a hospital undergoing treatment.

Petition for Bolejack's Pardon.

Charlotte Observer.

Addressed to Governor Locke-Craig and asking that the sentence of death in the electric chair imposed upon James L. Bolejack, wife murderer, be commuted to life imprisonment, a petition was in circulation in the law building and courthouse yesterday which was being largely signed. This petition did not ask for any definite term of years but simply that the old man, who was sentenced to die Friday, April 24, be commuted to imprisonment for life. There were four pages of names late in the afternoon and more were being added all the time. The signers included many of the most prominent people of the city.

Says Texas Will Protect the United States.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Representative Slayden, of Texas, referred to the Mexican situation in a speech in the House today, ridiculing the "war scares" as pleas for an increase of naval and army appropriations. He sarcastically said that Texas would cheerfully undertake to protect the United States should Villa attempt to invade it. "Every year we are terrified by the fear of war in a move to create more army officers and social conquests," he asserted.

Bryan Wires Colquitt.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Secretary Bryan tonight telegraphed Governor Colquitt, of Texas, that the sending of the state militia into Mexico to apprehend those responsible for the hanging of Clemente Vergara, an American citizen, would involve a responsibility which the federal government alone was in a position to assume.

GOVERNOR COLQUITT'S DEFIANT ATTITUDE

THREATENS TO INVOLVE GOVERNMENT IN TROUBLE.

The State Department Officials Intimated that the Texas Situation Has Its Inspiration in Political Motives.—Keeping Close Watch on Them.—Endeavoring to Complete Arrangements for the Inspection of Benton's body.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Interest in Mexican affairs centered on Chihuahua City today. There Special Agent Carr and others of the State Department and Consul Letcher are endeavoring to complete the arrangements for inspection of Benton's body by the American army surgeon and British Consul Percival. Mr. Percival remained without fear of death.

The State Department is keeping a close watch on the Texas authorities. Governor Colquitt's defiant attitude has serious times threatened cases of serious trouble which would involve the national government. The State Department officials intimated that the Texas situation has its inspiration in political motives.

TEXAS GOVERNOR SAYS HE WILL GUARD TEXANS

In Message to Wilson He Asserts State Sovereignty as to Mexico.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 26.—A request to know "whom the United States Government now recognizes as the constituted authority in Mexican States bordering on the Rio Grande, went forward late today to President Wilson from Gov. O. B. Colquitt of Texas. The request was made for the purpose of demanding the surrender of the "abductors and murderers" of Clemente Vergara, a Texas citizen, executed by Mexican federals.

Then apparently answering the question himself, the Governor asked consent of the United States "in view of the condition of revolution and anarchy in these border States, to send hangers across the Rio Grande in pursuit of the lawless element of either faction when they cross into Texas and commit crimes."

"I insist, Mr. President, that Texas as a sovereign State is entitled to the protection of Texas citizens on the border from an unbearable condition like that which now exists," concluded the message.

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