

VILLA LEADER KILLED IN FIGHT BY AMERICANS

Had Long Been Thorn In Side of Expeditionary Force In Northern Chihuahua

ONE AMERICAN KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED

Bandits Delivered Surprise Attack But Driven Off and Then Pursued Into Hills—Pershing Greatly Pleased at the Result.

(By Associated Press.) Field Headquarters, near Namiquipa, Mexico, May 25.—(By Wireless to Columbus, N. M., May 26).—Cen- dario Cervantes, the Villa bandit leader, was killed by American troops south of Cruces today. One other Mexican and an American was killed. Two Americans were wounded.

Cervantes' end came after he had delivered a surprise attack south of Cruces on a detachment of engineers repairing the motor truck road. He was beaten back and pursued into the hills by the engineers, who had been reinforced by a detachment of the Seventh infantry.

When the engagement began the bandits outnumbered the Americans two to one, there being twenty of them. The engagement lasted almost an hour, with a hot exchange of bullets. Then reinforcements from the Seventh came in sight and the bandits broke for the hills.

Private George O. Hulitt was the hero of the fight. Bullets from his rifle laid low both of the bandits killed. Cervantes' home was in Namiquipa. He had been a thorn in the side of the army in Northern Chihuahua since the expedition began, as he had succeeded in avoiding persistent cavalry searches. His death probably will mean breaking up the Villa followers in this section.

General Pershing was gratified over the latest fight, saying there remains only a few scattered bands of marauders to be hunted down.

JURY BREAKS THE WILL IN ROBESON

Returns Verdict in Favor of the Caveators at Lumberton Trial.

(By R. H. Norment.) Lumberton, N. C., May 26.—The will of the late Miss Athesia Carlyle, who left the bulk of an estate, valued at about \$40,000 to K. M. Biggs, a prominent merchant of Lumberton, was broken in superior court today, the jury deciding in favor of the caveators, nephews and nieces of Miss Carlyle, who alleged undue influence was used by Mr. Biggs.

It is said to be the first case on record in Robeson county where a will has been broken.

It is understood that counsel for the propounders will file notice of appeal. The caveators were represented by Britt and Britt, Lumberton, Bland & Bland, of Burgaw, and Ev-Governor Kitchen, of Raleigh.

SAW NOTHING AMISS.

Lieut. Bessent, of Winston-Salem, Comments on Celebration. Concerning the complaint which members of the W. L. I. made regarding their treatment at the Charlotte celebration, the following is taken from the Winston-Salem Journal of Wednesday.

"To the Editor of the Journal: "I note a news item in your paper of today where the members of the Wilmington company are grumbling about the treatment they received at Charlotte. In my experience as a Guardsman for 23 years, I have never seen soldiers who behaved themselves, treated any better. Of course, a reasonable man would not expect to be fed on fried spring chicken, ice cream, etc. We received good, plain fare. I was satisfied with it. I think it was good enough for any man.

"And as for two of their members being arrested for doing nothing at all, I do not believe it to be true, as kind do not generally arrest people for doing nothing, and I think that the Charlotte boys are treating the Wilmington boys very bad by making these complaints.

"J. C. BESSENT, "Lt.-Col. First Inf., N. C. N. G."

BUILDING A NEW STEAMER FOR LINE

To Go On The New Bern Run. Interesting Case Craven Superior Court.

(Special to The Dispatch.) New Bern, N. C., May 26.—In a letter from Baltimore, Md., by Mr. Roy Taylor, a former resident of this city, he states that the Baltimore and Carolina Steamship Company, who have for some time been planning to operate a line of boats between that port and New Bern, are now building a modern steamer which they hope to have in readiness for operation within the course of a few months.

Not only is the Baltimore and Carolina Steamship Company planning to operate a line of boats to this port, but the M. H. Tracy Company, of New York, have also planned to operate a line of steamers to New Bern and other Eastern Carolina ports and it is believed that they will start their line in operation before the Baltimore company begins operating their boats.

Citizens of New Bern and the surrounding section are greatly interested in these boat lines and have promised the promoters all possible support.

Considerable interest is being manifested locally in the possible evidence that the State may bring out in the case of the State vs. W. R. Hopewell, which is to come up at the term of Craven county superior court, which begins here next week and also in the probable defense which the defendant will make.

Hopewell, a citizen of Bridgeton, just across Neuse river from New Bern, is charged with causing the death of his wife, Rachel, by administering poison to her. Mrs. Hopewell died last June. Several months later a grand jury investigated rumors in regard to the death of the woman and this investigation culminated in the arrest and imprisonment of Hopewell.

After Hopewell's imprisonment, the body of the dead woman, which had been interred about six miles from Kinston, was exhumed, the viscera removed and sent to State Chemist W. A. Withers for an examination. Later Mr. Withers reported that he found no traces of poison and a few days later Hopewell was released from jail on bail.

That the case will be hard fought by both sides there is not the slightest doubt and local citizens are manifesting a keen interest in the outcome.

JAIL GUARDED ALL LAST NIGHT

But No Trouble In Mobile— Militiamen Still On Duty There.

(By Associated Press.) Mobile, Ala., May 26.—The Mobile county jail was guarded all last night by the local company of the Alabama National Guard for the second night in succession. There was no disorder in the streets and no crowd gathered, the sheriff's statement yesterday that the negro wanted here had not been caught, together with use of the militia, apparently putting an end to any talk of lynching.

The militiamen have been ordered out for tonight as a precautionary measure.

VOTE ON BRANDEIS NEXT WEEK.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, May 26.—An agreement was reached among Senators today under which the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to the Supreme Court will be finally disposed of next week, practically without discussion in the Senate. The specific date will be fixed later.

Those opposing Mr. Brandeis admitted that the nomination was virtually certain of confirmation.

COULD A SANE MAN HAVE BEEN SO GUILTY?

That Will Be The Vital Question Waite Jury Will Have To Answer.

DENTIST CONFESSES TO SERIES OF CRIMES

Alienists Closely Watch Him For The Defense—Will Try to Show He Was Crazy

(By Associated Press.) New York, May 26.—Could a sane man commit the series of crime confessed by Arthur Warren Waite?

This question confronts the jury today in the Waite murder case. The young dentist left the witness stand last night after five hours and forty-five minutes crowded with horrors unparalleled in the history of New York's criminal trials.

Every detail of the story was noted by alienists engaged by the defense for the purpose of framing the hypothetical question they will be called upon to answer before Waite's attorneys ask the jury to decide whether Waite was mentally responsible when he killed his father-in-law, John E. Peck.

Waite's testimony left the prosecution's attorneys today nothing more to prove that he committed murder. Their problem is to show that a monster of crime, such as the defendant confessed himself, might have been mentally normal and therefore a fit subject for the electric chair.

Counsel for the defense said today that they had few, if any, questions to ask their client. It is expected that the alienists will take the stand soon after they finished their cross examining of the defendant.

Waite told an alienist engaged for the defense in the trial for the murder of John E. Peck, of the Grand Rapids Mich., millionaire, that he intended to kill his wife, Clara Peck Waite, and that he married her only for her money, according to the testimony by Morris J. Karpas today.

Dr. Karpas added that Waite said he did not intend to stop at anything to gain his end. Waite declares that he did not think he was crazy and denied pretending at any time that he was. He also denied that he never told the prosecution "that the man from Egypt killed Mr. Peck" and swore that he slept perfectly after the murder. He declared that he wanted to kill himself and made a pretty good attempt at it.

MEXICAN MOB JEERED THEM

Americans Are Encountering Animosity Along Line of Communication.

(By Associated Press.) Columbus, N. M., May 26.—American men recently have encountered open animosity on the part of some of the soldiers of Carranza along the American line of communication.

Near Nuevo Casas Grandes, 128 miles south of the border, barbed wire barriers have been thrown across the road several times recently, and last Wednesday a train was halted by a crowd in which there were a number of Carranza soldiers.

The mob jeered the Americans and threw stones at them. No shot was fired. Though several stones struck a number of the Americans the order was given to proceed with out retaliation.

AMERICAN DOES DARING WORK

Lieut. Thaw Shoots Down German Aeroplane at Verdun.

(By Associated Press.) Paris, May 26.—Lieutenant William Thaw, of the Franco-American aviation corps, brought down a German aeroplane in the region of Verdun yesterday.

Lieutenant Thaw has been decorated twice, and twice cited in the order of the day for daring exploits in the air. On April 11 he brought down his first German airship at Verdun. On May 21 he was proposed for citation for driving an enemy aeroplane across the German line and compelling it to descend.

FRENCH GET BACK SOME GROUND LOST GERMANS

But Few Big Changes Have Resulted on The Verdun Front.

FIGHTING IN THE BALKANS EXPECTED

Indications That Allies Are Getting Ready For Action There—The Austrian Drive.

(By Associated Press.) Violent fighting continues on the Verdun front, but, according to the afternoon bulletin of the French war office, it has resulted in few changes. The French have regained some of the ground lost yesterday east of the Meuse, says the official statement, while west of that stream a German attack on Dead Man's Hill was stopped by the French fire.

New efforts by the German Crown Prince to advance against the French left flank, between Dead Man's Hill and Avocourt Wood are probably in preparation, as the artillery bombardment there is reported as intense.

The Austrian drive into Italian territory apparently is not proceeding with anything near its initial velocity. The opinion is expressed in Rome that a continuance of the advance will show a reversal of conditions that heretofore favored the Austrians, owing to the superior line of communication in the Italians' rear.

Indications that some military movement of importance is impending in the Balkans are contained in a dispatch from Greece, which reports exceptional activity in Salonica. The entente powers have had a force of supposedly notable strength massed there for some time.

DALLAS GETS THE NEXT ASSEMBLY

Wins Big Presbyterian Convention Over St. Louis Today.

(By Associated Press.) Atlantic City, N. J., May 26.—Dallas, Texas, was selected today as the place of meeting in 1917 of the general assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America.

The vote was 365 for Dallas and 259 for St. Louis. It was announced that it would cost \$28,000 more to take the 900 commissioners to Dallas than to St. Louis. The friends of Dallas replied that the Texas city would transport 500 commissioners.

It is expected that the holding of the next assembly in the southwest will greatly help the movement to bring about a merger of the two branches of the church.

BELIEVES HUGHES HAS BEST CHANCE

That is The Opinion of The Lone Republican Tar Heel Congressman.

(By George H. Manning.) Washington, D. C., May 26.—Congressman James J. Britt, the only Republican representative in Congress from North Carolina believes that Justice Charles E. Hughes has the best chance of obtaining the presidential nomination at the Republican national convention in Chicago next month, and that Colonel Roosevelt is at present the second choice.

"From the present appearance of things Justice Hughes has the most strength," said Mr. Britt. "Colonel Roosevelt is next and the other fourteen candidates have lesser and scattering strength.

"Most of the North Carolina delegates, I believe, will be for Hughes. One or two are for Roosevelt, one or two for Senator Weeks, and one I understand is for former Senator Burton.

"A majority of forty or fifty is assured the Republicans in the next House of Representatives; we may capture the Senate, and if we can nominate a good presidential candidate at Chicago upon whom the Republicans and Progressives can unite, his victory is almost a certainty.

"Secretary Bryan and other thinking Democrats already concede the

PRESIDENT WILSON READY TO MAKE PEACE OVERTURES

SCHOOL PICNIC IN OLD ONSLOW

Festive Event to Mark Finale to Pollocksville Schools— Jones Wants It.

(Special to The Dispatch.) New Bern, N. C., May 26.—The public schools at Pollocksville will come to a close next Monday and the commencement exercises will continue on through until Wednesday, on which day a big picnic will be held.

Much interest is being manifested in this event and the residents of Pollocksville expect that there will be a large attendance.

"Jones county has not had a representative in the State Senate in thirteen years," said Mr. J. K. Dixon, of Trenton, who is spending the day in the city, "and we want one the next time."

Mr. Dixon stated that the residents of Jones county had selected Mr. F. Brock, a well-known business man and farmer, as their candidate, and that they were doing their level best to have him elected.

Mr. Brock, said Mr. Dixon, is the logical man for this place, and he predicted that when the time for electing senators arrives that he would be found leading the list.

POTATO DRYING PLANT TALKED OF

One May be Established in Pamlico County—Other New Enterprises.

(Special to The Dispatch.) New Bern, May 26.—Information given out several weeks ago was to the effect that Northern capitalists were planning to establish a mammoth potato drying plant down in Pamlico county, and the citizens of that section have been very much interested in the probable outcome of this matter.

Yesterday Mr. Herman Smith, of Williamsport, Pa., and who is the leading spirit in the movement to erect this plant, returned from a visit to Bayboro where he had been to make further investigations in the matter.

In an interview given out here, Mr. Smith stated that no definite decision had yet been reached in regard to the erection and operation of the plant but it was very probable that it would be put up and in operation before the end of the summer.

During the past few days several gentlemen who are familiar with the operation of tobacco drying plants and prize houses, have been in New Bern conferring with the promoters of the proposed drier and stemmery which is to be erected and operated here and it is their desire to operate the plant for the local men.

Ten thousand dollars is needed to erect and equip this plant. Six thousand dollars of this amount have already been subscribed and it is believed that the remaining four thousand can be secured within the course of a few days.

At present all of the tobacco sold on the local market has to be sent to some other town to be dried and it is with an idea of preventing this that the plant is to be erected.

MORE PENSION MONEY FOR THEIR WIDOWS

(By Associated Press.) Saratoga Spring, N. Y., May 26.—The pensions paid by the Methodist Episcopal Church to the widows of ministers will be largely increased. A resolution adopted today by the general conference provides that a clergyman's widow, shall receive three-quarters of the sum paid to a retired minister. The former ratio was one-half.

The proposal that laymen shall be admitted to membership in the annual conference, to which only certain ones are now eligible, will be submitted to referendum vote of the several churches during the next four years, if a resolution offered today is adopted.

The Merry One—Cheer up, old man! Why don't you drown your sorrow? The Sad One—Because she's stronger than I am; and besides, it would be murder.—Passing Show.

election of a Republican president if the Republican party can be reunited.

Thinks War Has Come to Deadlock and Only More Men Will Be Sacrificed by Continuance

GIVING SERIOUS THOUGHT FOR PEACE IN EUROPE

Expected to Make Important Utterance Tomorrow Night—Thinks Peace Sentiment Is Growing Among Belligerent Officials

AGITATION GROWS IN GREECE.

(By Associated Press.) Athens, Greece, May 26.—The agitation throughout Greece, caused by the news that Teutonic submarines had torpedoed three Greek vessels, continues to grow.

(By Associated Press.) Washington, D. C., May 26.—President Wilson is giving more serious consideration to the possibility of restoring peace to Europe than at any time since the outbreak of the war.

From an authoritative source it was learned today that the President is preparing to do everything possible, in an informal way, to bring about discussion of peace between the belligerent nations, although he has not indicated intention immediately to offer his services formally as a mediator. His address tomorrow night before the League to Enforce Peace is expected to be in the nature of a preliminary overture.

The President is convinced that the war is deadlocked and that its continuation merely means the killing of more people and the further impoverishment of the European nations, both belligerents and neutrals.

Through various channels Mr. Wilson has kept in close touch with development of peace prospects. It is understood he will convey a message to his audience tomorrow night which is certain to be read with deep interest by the representatives of foreign governments and by the people of the warring nations.

Mr. Wilson's closest advisers believe the rulers of the belligerent nations, because of the relationship, will have as potent part in the restoration of peace as the ministers of the governments. It will occasion no surprise in official circles if the rulers of the countries at war open the way for peace conversation.

The President's position, it was authoritatively stated, is that neutrals as much as the belligerents, have a right to participate and, if possible, initiate peace negotiations, because of the economic results already developed and those which will follow the conflict.

The President has been deeply interested in the growth of the peace talk among responsible officials in the several belligerent nations during the last three weeks. He has read and filed away recent speeches by President Poincare, Sir Edward Grey and Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg. He has conveyed the impression to those who have talked with him that he thinks that continuation of such discussion is bound to have the effect of restoring peace.

The President has indicated that he desires the United States to show its friendship for all by contending for peace that will be fair to all of them and that will protect each from being crushed or humiliated. Mr. Wilson is understood to agree with the suggestion that a peace following a decisive defeat of one nation or a group would create only a lasting hatred and sow seed for future conflict.

TO ROADS

Zachary Taylor to Spend Eight Months On Highways.

Zachary Taylor, colored, was sentenced to eight months on the county roads by Recorder B. G. Emple, this morning for the larceny of five hogs from Harris Loftin, a colored citizen of Middle Sound. Taylor was recently apprehended in Pender county where he had gone to dodge arrest.

SATURDAY IS CHALLENGE DAY

Speculation as to 700 Registered Who Have Not Paid Poll Tax—One More Week

Challenge day will be from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m. tomorrow, and there is much speculation in political circles if many of the 700 registered voters who have not paid their poll tax will be challenged at the various polling places.

The registrars are required by law to be present at their stations between the hours given tomorrow, when they will receive from any elector objections to any person whose name is on the registration books. The word "challenged" shall be written opposite the challenged voter's name and a time and place set for a hearing.

Should a voter who had not paid his poll tax before May 1, but who has registered, cast his ballot on June 3, he will have committed a misdemeanor. For this reason, it is expected that candidates will challenge but few, if any, voters, the probability being that most of them will not attempt to vote, anyway. It is also probable that most of those who are registered have not paid their poll tax are those who registered two years ago and their names brought over when the new books were made.

There was much discussion in political circles today as to the probable effect of one candidate not having paid his poll tax before May 1. Inquiry by The Dispatch, however, developed the fact that he had paid his poll tax in January, but in listing property in two townships his poll tax was charged twice, thus leaving the record open in one instance. It was stated in answer to inquiry at the sheriff's office that all candidates had paid their poll tax before May 1.

Councilman W. F. Jones, a candidate for county solicitor, asked concerning a report that he would resign as Councilman next week, said that he would not do so unless elected as solicitor, in which event he would resign when he took the new office December 1. He said he did not think any other course would be fair to his supporters.

The primary is one week from tomorrow, and candidates are working hard. However, many wear the baffled look of not knowing where they are "at" by reason of the great mass of voters who are not expressing themselves.

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