

## RANSOM IS DEMANDED FOR AMERICAN AIRMEN CAPTURED BY BANDITS

Marfa, Texas, Aug. 17.—Letters purporting to be from Lieut. Paul H. Davis and Harold G. Peterson, American army aviators missing since last Sunday, were received here today at military headquarters. The letters stated the aviators were being held by bandits for \$15,000 ransom somewhere in Mexico and were threatened with death unless the ransom was paid.

The demand for the ransom was received here today and a report made at once to Major General Dickman, commander of the southern department. An unconfirmed report also was received here that the aviators were being held at a point close to the American border and that Chico Cano, a famous bandit of the Big Bend Ojinaga district, was the leader of the bandit band holding the aviators.

According to the demand, the ransom must be paid tomorrow. It is to be delivered in gold to an American, supposed to be an agent of the bandits at Candelaria, Texas, on the Rio Grande 60 miles south of Valentine, Tex. Ransom Must be Paid by

### Today Says one Message

El Paso, Aug. 17.—An official statement was issued at military headquarters here tonight signed by Brig. Gen. James B. Erwin, district commander, announced that Maj. L. A. Walton, commander of the aero unit at Fort Bliss, had received a message from the two missing aviators saying they had been captured by Mexicans and were being held for \$15,000 ransom. The ransom must be paid by August 18, according to the message.

Arrangements were being made here tonight to obtain \$15,000 gold coin and to send it to Marfa early tomorrow for payment of the ransom. This action was deemed advisable to protect the men.

The full text of the statement issued at military headquarters tonight by General Erwin follows:

"A telegram was received this afternoon by Maj. L. A. Walton, commander of the aero unit at Fort Bliss repeating a message signed by the two aviators who have been missing since Sunday, stating they had been captured by Mexicans and were being held for \$15,000 ransom which must be paid by August 18 or they would be killed.

"This message was brought into a town in the Big Bend district by a well known bandit, Col. G. L. Langhorne, commanding officer of the eighth cavalry and the Big Bend district wired the commanding general of the El Paso district that the message is authentic and he is taking all necessary measures to secure the release of the aviators and has presented this matter to the proper authorities. The name of the place from which the message was sent, as well as the place where the ransom is to be paid, is not given as it might interfere with the release of the aviators."

Lieut. Peterson is 25 years of age and is from Hutchinson, Minn. Lieut. Davis is 23 years old and is from Strathmore, Cal.

Aviators Peterson and Davis are a part of the personnel of the Fort Bliss aviation corps but were on detached duty with the Big Bend district military headquarters at Marfa, Texas, when they disappeared. They left Marfa last Sunday morning for the usual patrol of the border, planning to follow the north bank of the Rio Grande to the end of the district.

It is believed by aviation officers here they confused the Conchos river, which flows in the Rio Grande near Presidio, Texas, with the Rio Grande, and followed the course of this river into the interior of Mexico. Another theory advanced here by fellow aviators is that they were forced to land, either on the American or Mexican side of the border in the wild country of the Big Bend district, and were made prisoners by the Mexican bandits, who made marauding trips across the border at frequent intervals in search of cattle and other property which

## CHARGE OF MURDER AGAINST JERRY DALTON

Asheville, Aug. 16.—Charged with double murder in the first degree, Jerry Dalton will face trial for his life in Macon county superior court next Monday, after having been kept in the Buncombe county jail since last September, because it was feared that he could not be kept in the jail of his home county.

Dalton is charged with the murder of Merrill Angel and Maude Grant, and the double killing occurred in Macon county last September. It is charged that Dalton was driving along the public road and met the couple in an automobile. He drew his pistol and fired on them the couple dying soon afterward, it is charged.

The grand jury returned two indictments against Dalton for murder in the first degree. It is supposed that he was in love with the Grant girl and resented the attentions of Angel, a traveling salesman. Sheriff Alex Moore, of Franklin, arrived here yesterday and took Dalton back to that town, the county seat of Macon county, where Dalton will be tried next week. Dalton was taken to Franklin several weeks ago for trial, but was not tried on account of the illness of the judge and was returned to this city for safe keeping.

## FORCE HOARDED FOOD ON THE MARKET AT ONCE

Washington, Aug. 17.—The government's fight to reduce the cost of living is expected to result in action in many states this week to force hoarded food on the market while Congress is debating legislation dealing with the question.

Reports to Attorney General Palmer have indicated that instructions to district attorneys to proceed vigorously in the enforcement of the food control law were being obeyed literally. Instances of the seizure of foodstuffs in St. Louis, Chicago, Kansas City, San Diego and the south, officials here believe, will be multiplied in the next few days. Mr. Palmer, directing the campaign from Washington, will go to New York tomorrow to confer with the fair price board for that city.

Senate and house agriculture committees will report this week—the latter committee probably tomorrow—on amendments to the food control law giving a criminal penalty which hitherto has been lacking and expending the law to cover clothing. Cold storage legislation also may be acted on by the house interstate commerce committee.

Consideration of requests by several departments for appropriations to carry on work in reduction of living costs will be inaugurated tomorrow by the house appropriations committee. The senate district of Columbia sub-committee will continue its hearings with a view to framing "model" legislation for legislation of prices.

Closely akin to the consideration of the living cost question will be the hearings to be started tomorrow by the senate interstate commerce committee on the Kenyon-Hendrick bills to license meat packers. W. B. Colver, member of the Federal Trade commission, which has investigated extensively the packing industry, will be the first witness. Leaders in the industry are expected to be heard next week.

### they carry off to Mexico.

When it became known at Fort Bliss tonight that the aviators were reported held by bandits, there was much discussion among army officers of the possibility of American troops crossing the border in search of the bandits. This was discredited by higher officers for two reasons. The principal one advanced was that the American aviators would be killed if an expedition crossed in pursuit. The other was that order for expeditions to cross the border in the Big Bend district apply only to the pursuit of bandits who have stolen property on the American side and then only to follow a "hot trail."

## FIRST AMERICAN TROOPS BACK FROM SIBERIA



First American troops to return from Siberia. They arrived on the transport Thomas at San Francisco.

## SIX CENTS DAMAGES: SIX CENTS IN COSTS

Mount Clemens, Mich., Aug. 15.—The amount of costs that Henry Ford may receive from the Chicago Daily Tribune, in addition to the six cents damages awarded him last night by a jury which heard his libel suit against the Chicago newspaper, will not exceed 50 cents. Under a Michigan law, where nominal damages are awarded, not more than 50 cents can be assessed against the losing party.

Alfred Lucking, senior counsel for Mr. Ford, said this morning that little attention had been given to the matter of costs and until he had looked up the law covering the case, he could not say how much the plaintiff could expect to receive. Among other attorneys, however, the opinion was held that in cases where damages awarded amount to less than 50 cents the costs collectible may not exceed the judgment awarded. In this event Mr. Ford could only demand six cents costs from the Tribune.

Mt. Clemens, Mich., Aug. 15.—A jury last night awarded Henry Ford six cents damages against the Chicago Tribune for calling him an anarchist.

Orvy Hulet, foreman of the jury, said that they took "nine ballots that I can remember," the first one, according to Leonard Measel, another juror standing 8 to 4 in favor of awarding Mr. Ford some damages.

Attorney Alfred J. Murphy for Ford said:

"The important issue in this case has been determined favorably to the plaintiff. He has been vindicated. Money damages were entirely subordinate and were not sought by Mr. Ford. He stands not only vindicated but his attitude as an American citizen has been justified after a trial which raised every issue against him which ingenuity and research could present. His friends are entirely satisfied."

Weymouth Kirkland, of counsel for the Tribune, said:

"We consider it a victory for the reason that Attorney Alfred Lucking, in closing for Mr. Ford stated that anything less than substantial damages would be a defeat for his client."

## SAMUEL GOMPERS TO SAIL FOR HOME TODAY

Paris, Aug. 15, Friday.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, who attended the labor congress at Amsterdam and has been spending a few days in this city, will sail from Brest Sunday for America on board the steamer George Washington. He is going home in response to urgent cable messages calling upon him to cut short his visit in Europe.

In speaking with the Associated Press today, Mr. Gompers said he regretted the necessity of breaking a number of engagements and the impossibility of continuing his study of the European situation, adding:

"But matters at home are more urgent and I want to get back as soon as possible to help all I can in the solution of problems which are uppermost there."

## LAST BRITISH DIPLOMAT ORDERED FROM MEXICO

Washington, Aug. 16.—More friction between Great Britain and Mexico appeared today to complicate the Mexican situation.

Britain's last remaining diplomatic representative in the Mexican capital—William Cummings in charge of the archives of the legation there—has been ordered from the country by mandate of Carranza.

The action amounts to the British representative's practical deportation.

Great Britain, never having recognized the Carranza regime has had no minister in Mexico City since Sir Lionel Carlen. The charge d'affaires, Thomas Hoehler, was withdrawn some time ago, and Cummings was left as charge d'affaires, in charge of the legation records, and acting as a medium of communication for his government although without official authority.

In a strict sense Cummings has no diplomatic standing although he has delivered communications from the British government protesting against mistreatment of British subjects and interests.

Now, wholly without representatives in Mexico City, England probably will rely on France or the United States to represent her.

At the same time, dispatches, telling of Carranza's decision to inform the Mexican congress at its opening September 1 "fully as to the state of relations with the governments of the United States and England," were received here and attracted considerable attention.

## AMERICAN 1ST DIVISION IS LEAVING THE RHINE

Coblenz, Thursday, Aug. 14.—(By the Associated Press.)—The American first division, the first division to and in France and the captors of Cantigny, will begin leaving the Rhine for home tomorrow. The taking of Cantigny, in the Montdidier sector, was made in the first attack by an American division on the western front. It is expected all the troops to leave will have arrived at Brest within a week.

The Coblenz bridgehead has been held by the first division since the departure of the second, now will be taken care of by French troops and the Eighth infantry regiment of the American army which will remain on the Rhine probably for several years. The Eighth infantry occupies the southern half of the bridgehead, which has been under American control since last December 13, when the first American troops crossed the Rhine.

The Americans will retain control of Coblenz, of the fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, and of the castle of Moleberg, the outermost post of the bridgehead.

The first division, many members of which wear four service stripes, is bound for Camp Taylor, Ky., where, it is expected, the division will arrive in about a month.

## MISSING GIRL IS FOUND THE QUEEN OF GYPSIES

New York, Aug. 17.—Louis Mitchell, a resident of Richmond hill, has found his daughter, Louise, 18, who three years ago, according to the story she told yesterday, was kidnapped by a band of gypsies, made a "queen" and forced to marry the son of a gypsy chief. She appeared in the federal building in Brooklyn in her gypsy regalia with her father and asked Peter McCabe, assistant district attorney, to help prosecute her abductors.

The girl said she was stolen when her family lived in Roanoke, Va. She traveled with her enforced companions through many of the southern states, plying the art of fortune telling and entering fully into gypsy life. Before the band turned north she married Joe John, son of Gregory John the chief. They have a two-year-old son she said.

The band reached Newark several days ago and purely by chance Louise was found by her sister, Mr. Mitchell was notified at once and the girl was taken to her home. When she disappeared from the gypsy camp Gregory John was seized with fear and gathered his band for the road. They left Newark at night and have not yet been found.

Assistant District Attorney McCabe referred the girl to the federal authorities in New Jersey for lack of jurisdiction in the case.

## GREENSBORO AIRPLANE CONCERN IS CHARTERED

Raleigh, Aug. 15.—A Greensboro concern today secured a charter for the conduct of an airplane business on a commercial scale. The Greensboro Aviation Company is the name of the concern, and the charter gives the company the right to buy and sell airplanes, air ships of all kinds and balloons, and to buy and sell all kinds of parts necessary to the conduct of such a business.

The company also has the charter rights to engage in a freight and passenger service of the air, carrying freight and passengers to and from any point in the state. Its aviators and machines will also have the right to give flying exhibitions when these can be arranged. A general automobile and truck business is also authorized in the charter, which likewise carries all of the other rights that the average commercial concern would hold under a charter.

The authorized issue of stock is \$25,000 and the par value of each share is \$50.00. Fifteen thousand of this will be issued as common stock and the remainder as preferred stock, which will pay at the rate of not more than ten per cent. per annum. Three shares of stock have been subscribed for by John R. Atwell, Edwin C. Klingman and John Y. Stokes, Jr. who are incorporators of this new concern.

## NOTE TO CARRANZA-LITTLE SHORT ULTIMATUM.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The state department's latest note to Mexico, warning President Carranza that if murders and indignities of American citizens continue the United States may be forced to adopt a radical change in attitude toward that country, was the chief topic of interest and discussion in official and diplomatic circles here. The note made public yesterday, along with a reply from the Mexican government, lacked only diplomatic technicalities to make it an ultimatum and was couched in probably the strongest language used in any communications since the exchanges have been prior to the occupation of Vera Cruz by American forces.

While no official statement was made concerning the announcement at this time in the change of policy and outwardly there was no apparent reason other than the mistreatment, robbery and murder of American citizens in Mexico it generally was the opinion today that the pressure from foreign governments demand in congressional circles for some prospective action hastened the announcement.

It was pointed out that should some drastic step become necessary the United States from a military point of view is now in better shape to act than at any time in its history of long-drawn-out controversy with the Mexican nation as to American rights and privileges.

The note was presented to the Carranza government at Mexico City by Charge Summerlin, of the American embassy, acting in the absence of Ambassador Fletcher. The reply was made July 28 by Salvador Diego Fernandez, in charge of the department of foreign relations.

Forces Still Loyal. Washington, Aug. 15.—Denial of reports that the Carranza government forces at Chihuahua had mutinied with the intention of going over to the Villa forces was made in a statement. The statement said:

"The Mexican embassy has received a telegram from General Manuel M. Dieguez, commander of military operations in the state of Chihuahua, stating that no mutinies have taken place in the capital of said state, and that no conspirators have been executed. General Dieguez adds that only petty officers who planned to commit treason are implicated in the movement which is of no importance whatever. These petty officers have been placed at the disposal of the military judge for trial."

## SUGAR OVER 11 CENTS MAKES SELLER LIABLE

Asheville, Aug. 14.—A price of more than 11 cents per pound for sugar makes retailers liable for prosecution as profiteers, according to instructions from Washington received today by William C. Hammer, United States district attorney for the western district. Mr. Hammer left Asheville this afternoon after spending several days here attending the sessions of the United States district court, which were presided over by Judge James E. Boyd, of Greensboro.

The district attorney and Special Agent Fred Handy, of Raleigh, will at once hold conference with the North Carolina food administration to make plans for reporting to the department of justice all violations of the food control act discovered in western North Carolina.

## Negro Narrowly Escapes

## UNCLE SAM'S BIG BLANKET SALE ON

Washington, Aug. 15.—The war department offered for sale to the public today its surplus supply of wool, cotton and mixed fabric blankets, of which approximately 2,000,000 are now available for the market under conditions which will make them directly available to the ultimate consumer. It was announced that instead of restricting the sale of bale lots to twenty or twenty-five blankets, as was originally planned, an individual

## FARMERS GIVE WARNING OF TROUBLE IN FUTURE

Washington, Aug. 16.—Warning was given today by representatives of farmers' organizations testifying before the house and senate agriculture committees that unless present disturbed conditions resulting from profiteering "in goods and wages" and strikes were settled soon the country would face a far worse situation from the high cost of living next year than at present.

Farmers, they said, are preparing now for next year's crops and under present conditions they could not estimate what the probable market would be. Fear was expressed that there would be decreased production both on this account and because of President Wilson's statement in his message vetoing the repeal of the daylight saving law, placing industrial production ahead of farm output.

The house and senate committees are considering amendments to the food control act designed to enable the department of justice to wage a more active campaign to prevent hoarding and profiteering and the joint session was held to hear the farmers' representatives. The committee hope to act finally on the amendments next week and rush the legislation through Congress.

Seizure of foodstuffs held in cold storage was continued today by federal agents in several cities. Further seizures under libel warrants were expected next week and special grand juries were summoned in several states to hear evidence in cases of alleged hoarding and profiteering.

Goods taken over today by the government included 16,500,000 eggs at St. Louis; 7,500,000 eggs and 300,000 pounds of butter at Detroit and large quantities of food at San Diego, Cal.

Announcement was made by the postoffice department that the postage rate on surplus army food, sale of which through the parcel post system will begin Monday, would be the same to persons living beyond the first zone from the supply centers as those living in the first zone. This will equalize the postage to all purchasers and the difference will be made up by the war department deducting the extra postage from the sale price and turning it over to the postoffice department.

Surplus army food sold to municipalities now totals 8,500,000 pounds, but huge stocks still are on hand and these will be sold through postmasters.

Attorney General Palmer today accepted an invitation to meet with the fair price board of New York there Monday night.

## JAMES R. COLLIE, JR., IS KILLED IN NORFOLK, VA.

Raleigh, Aug. 16.—Mrs. James R. Collie, who was called with Mr. Collie last night to Norfolk by a telegram announcing the fatal injury to their youngest son, James R., Jr., today telephoned to the state prison some of the details of the accident.

The young boy of 17 years was working at the army base in Norfolk and was driving a heavy truck. He was cranking the machine when either it slipped into gear or was geared when he undertook to give a start. It ran over him and killed him outright.

The accident has dreadfully distressed Raleigh. No boy here was liked better. He was a spendid mechanic and one of the best drivers, despite his age, in town.

The funeral will take place Sunday afternoon in Louisburg, the old home of the Collie family.

may buy one or more blankets up to the limit of one sale. This change in the sale conditions was made in order to prevent the large buyer from "cornering" supply.

In addition to distributing the blankets between sixteen designated sales centers they will be made available to other communities thru bulk sales \$4 for new all wool blankets to \$1.25 for reclaimed cotton blankets. The prices in bale lots are cheaper.

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