

U.S. GOVERNMENT TRIES TO PROTECT MEXICAN RAIDERS

Judge Who Convicted Mexican Bandits of Columbus, N. M., Bandits of Attack Urged To Stop Prosecutions.



Mrs. Marie Kroll

IT Passes Feb. 7—Repeated warnings that Mexicans had planned to raid Columbus, N. M., received little credence by the commanding officer there than when the attack was made on March 9, 1916, no unusual precautions to prevent a surprise and heavy loss of Americans told the subcommittee investigating the Mexican situation.

See Ruggles, a lawyer supreme, called in and urged that the information of Capt. H. J. Sims, commanding the cavalry post at Fort Meade, S. D., be used to secure information concerning the movements of Villa's men, all of which he reported on the spot before the fact that a body of the Mexicans was then marching on Columbus. W. A. Murphy, a telegraph operator, testing that wire because of warning from the American military headquarters at Douglas also had been sent to inform Sims and other witnesses described the known claim that no less than four miles south a raid had been imminent.

A. P. Man knew of raid. Murphy told the committee that H. L. Sasse, an associate, was convinced a raid would be attempted that he appeared on Columbus two or three days before it did occur and made arrangements to have sent these men to a ranch owner to assist in the rescue work of the still-hopeful rebels.

Accounts of the raid, given by different witnesses, agreed in the statements that when the Mexicans did appear they met no opposition until much of their killing, looting and burning had been accomplished. When they did withdraw they took with them many of the American cavalry horses and left 47 dead Americans and about as many wounded.

Judge P. J. Medlar, who tried and convicted seven of the captured Mexicans, testified that Agent representations had been made to him by the attorney general of the United States not to proceed with the case on the ground that they should not be tried in a federal court for murder, since they were taken prisoners in combat with an invasion, and the affidavits and messages delivered to me give me no cause to cease proceedings and I ought hold up the case because of the result of diplomatic complications with Mexico.

Wouldn't Hold Proceedings

The judge refused to hold the proceedings and seven of the men were condemned to death. Six were executed, the sentence of the seventh being changed to life imprisonment by the governor of the state.

Judge Medlar told the committee the suggestion that he had the proceedings traced him through an agent of the Mexican government of justice, who gave to him the code of the message from the attorney general, another from the military commander of the southern department, and a third from either the secretary of war or the secretary of state, he was unable to remember from whom.

"I sent back word," said the witness, "that the men had been duly indicted by the grand jury and that I could see no reason for not proceeding with the trial. I told the writers of the messages there would be no 'watchful waiting' on my part."

Raiders Burn Hotel. Raiders, led by Mrs. Anna Ritchie, widow by the Mexicans on the night of the raid, developed the possibility of further discussion as to the legal classification of the raiders. She and her husband were operating the largest hotel on Columbus. The raiders burned it and her efforts to obtain the insurance she told the committee had been unsuccessful, because the insurance company adhered to that clause in the policy exempting them from payment in case of invasion.

Mrs. Ritchie's description of the attack on the town and especially on the hotel where two Americans were killed was graphic. She was thrust to one side when her husband was dragged off to be shot. Mexicans then ransacked the building in search of plunder but not until they had removed from her fingers and those of her three daughters the rings they wore. One of her daughters was 8 years old, one 15 and the other 20.

After they had been rescued from the burning building by a neighbor the 15-year-old girl insisted she was going out of the building where they had been hidden to recover her father's body which she had seen on the way to their hiding place. Against protests she started and when not more than a few feet from the house, her coat was pierced by bullets.

Funeral of Mrs. C. M. Lentz To Be Held Monday Morning

Funeral services for Mrs. Charles M. Lentz, 2008 Poplars Avenue, who died last Friday at Baltimore, Md., will be held from St. John's church, Twenty-first and California streets, at 9:30 Monday morning. Burial will be in the Holy Sepulchre cemetery. Six Creighton classmen of her dead son, Dr. Carlisle Lentz, will act as pallbearers.

Carpenters to Get Dollar An Hour After April 1

At a meeting of the contractors and builders of Omaha, held at the Service Auditorium Friday night, it was unanimously agreed to pay carpenters \$1 an hour after April 1, and under no circumstances to yield to demands for a higher wage.

A committee was appointed to assist in drafting amendments to the city building code.

Woman Asks for Second Divorce From Husband

Martha Trumbull asked the district court yesterday for a divorce from Robert Trumbull on the ground of non-support. Once before seven years ago she secured a divorce from him, but they decided she could agree and so they got married again last August. She asks for custody of their 10-year-old daughter.

Spiritualism Causes 100,000 Cases Insanity

London, Feb. 7.—One hundred thousand cases of insanity in Britain have been caused by spiritualism, according to Dr. A. T. Schofield, a prominent London physician.

GREAT BRITAIN IS BACKING DOWN, FRENCH ASSERT

Profound Astonishment Caused By England's Willingness to Appear Germans.

Paris, Feb. 7.—Profound astonishment has been caused in French circles by a change of attitude on the part of the British government regarding the extradition of Germans accused of violations of the laws of war.

While it was understood that Great Britain was the most interested of all represented at the peace conference in demanding the trial of former Emperor Wilhelm and other prominent Germans, the British now are showing a tendency to leave the initiative to the others.

Baron Bardenhead, head chancellor of England, is understood to have made it clear that the British government favors a judicial investigation of the test in order that an agreement with Germany might be reached.

Premier Millerand deplored in the Chamber of Deputies last evening the idea would not execute the bill of the British and Germans.

After committee members read Mr. Daniels' communiqué, statements made in recommending Admiral Sims he made a permanent affidavit for his war service, Secretary Daniels declared he would not now make such a recommendation, as developments had caused him to change his mind. He cited what he characterized as "Admiral Sims' efforts to quantify achievements of the British army and navy and to minimize results obtained by the United States in judicial state trials contained in a series of articles by Admiral Sims regarding the navy's part in the war, including 'Graduation' (action on the British navy) and the others' action giving out confidential names as having led to a change in his views on nomination for the admiral.

Waived Regulations.

Mr. Daniels, said he had waived regulations requiring officers to submit articles to the department before publication because he wished to show Admiral Sims every consideration and courtesy, and expected the admiral to be confined to America's naval war activities.

"I am very sorry now that I gave Rear Admiral Sims this latitude," the secretary said.

Chairman Hale placed in the record a letter from C. V. Gadsden, formerly a lieutenant commander in the navy and assistant naval attaché to Spain during part of the year. Gadsden said he was recalled after Ambassador Willard had told the State department that Mr. Uruguay, owner of a Madrid newspaper, had informed the ambassador that Gadsden had sold him the United States contemplated establishing naval bases in Spain, the ambassador's message adding, he said, that "Gadsden's indiscretion is fatal to our interests."

Cudsack Denied Statement.

The Spanish editor, Gadsden, said in a letter to him later denied having ever made the statement attributed to him by Ambassador Willard. Ambassador's behavior in telling him gossiped the former officer wrote as "a piece of impudent chit-chat."

Senator Utman, Democrat, New Mexico, in a comic reply to a former Hispano who had by his action and "feeling" reported to him that Gadsden had sold him the United States contemplated establishing naval bases in Spain, the ambassador's message adding, he said, that "Gadsden's indiscretion is fatal to our interests."

Favors Modification.

London, Feb. 7.—Premier Lloyd George is reported to favor a slight modification of the bill of the British, who have lost the vote in a house of commons, but have not yet voted on the new bill.

The new bill contains charges against 97 members and groups of the British, the total now 900, but there are rare duplications. Ten naval commanders are asked for in the British list.

Twelve Men Initiated Into Gamma Eta Gamma

The Gamma Eta Gamma, legal fraternity of the Creighton College of Law, initiated 12 men into its ranks last week between the halves of the academic year.

The captain of the Polaris and the Eleventh, 26 men of the crew who remained in the vessel through the night were taken by two coast guard crews and transferred to the coast guard cutter Avondale.

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Woman Not Guilty of Killing Rich Sheepman

Marysville, Calif., Feb. 7.—Mrs. Gertrude Wilson was found not guilty of the murder of Charles Brown, wealthy sheepman, on the 20th anniversary of his birth.

The defense attorney, Mrs. Wilson, said that her husband, Frank A. Wilson, 40, and his brother, Frank A. Wilson, 26, were present during the trial that she shot Brown in self-defense.

The state contended the shots were fired by both Mrs. Wilson and her brother, Ed Brown. The defense's testimony was to the effect that Mrs. Wilson had fired after Brown had been killed.

Ten Italians Arrested in Soft Drink Place

A soft drink conducted by police last night 10 men and the proprietor of a soft drink place at Twenty-ninth and Pierce streets were rounded up and taken to the Central police station.

Sam Ingals, giving his address as 2250 Pierce street, the proprietor was arrested on bond. All the men arrested in the soft drink parlor were Italians.

Death to Be Investigated

Los Angeles, Feb. 7.—Unusual conditions surrounding the death by accident of Leon C. Riggs, wealthy restaurant man of New York City, have caused announcement by the county coroner that he will conduct an investigation and inquest Monday.

Riggs was picked up by an unidentified autoist and taken to a hospital Thursday evening. The autoist said he found Riggs in the street and the circumstances indicated he had been struck by a street car. Riggs died without regaining consciousness. His skull had been fractured.

Riggs had been living here, and a nurse employed to assist him said that he had left the house to assist a guest to the street car. The nurse said she did not know the name of the guest. The next word of Mr. Riggs, she said, was report of his death. The person reporting it did not disclose his identity.

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Local Real Estate Deal Involves Over \$125,000

Mr. Burkley III—Mrs. H. V. Burkley, 3137 Davenport street, widow of H. V. Burkley, Jr., seriously ill at home, will die Saturday morning, will be held in St. Cecilia's cathedral Monday morning at 9:30. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre cemetery.

Leave for Coast—Mr. and Mrs. John W. Trumbull

Martha Trumbull asked the district court yesterday for a divorce from Robert Trumbull on the ground of non-support. Once before seven years ago she secured a divorce from him, but they decided she could agree and so they got married again last August. She asks for custody of their 10-year-old daughter.

Postpone Funeral—General

Services for John W. Trumbull, 3137 Davenport street, who died Saturday morning, will be held in St. Cecilia's cathedral Monday morning at 9:30. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre cemetery.

Wants Maiden Name.

Anna Higgins says a petition for divorce filed yesterday in district court that Joseph Higgins, her husband, begged her and finally deserted her. She asks to have her maiden name, Westerman, rest

DANIELS ADMITS HE AND SIMS DID NOT AGREE WELL

Main Point of Issue Acceptance of Foreign Decorations by American Naval Officers.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Concluding his testimony before the senate subcommittee investigating naval decorations awards, Secretary Daniels disclosed that a wide difference of opinion existed between himself and Rear Admiral Sims during the war in the acceptance of foreign honors and decorations by American naval officers. The admiral, who favored recommendations while Mr. Daniels opposed them, will again be before the committee Tuesday.

After committee members read Mr. Daniels' communiqué, statements made in recommending Admiral Sims he made a permanent affidavit for his war service, Secretary Daniels declared he would not now make such a recommendation, as developments had caused him to change his mind. He cited what he characterized as "Admiral Sims' efforts to quantify achievements of the British army and navy and to minimize results obtained by the United States in judicial state trials contained in a series of articles by Admiral Sims regarding the navy's part in the war, including 'Graduation' (action on the British navy) and the others' action giving out confidential names as having led to a change in his views on nomination for the admiral.

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Baron Bardenhead, head chancellor of England, is understood to have made it clear that the British government favors a judicial investigation of the test in order that an agreement with Germany might be reached.

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