

## REAL WAR IN MEXICO AT OUTSKIRTS OF TORREON

Rebels Have Taken Suburbs and Main Battle is Being Fiercely Fought Today.

### HAND GRENADES USED

Tide of Victory Ebbing and Flowing About Gomez Palacio While Town is in Flames.

CONSTITUTIONALIST HEADQUARTERS, VERJEL, DURANGO, Mexico, March 24.—Gomez Palacio, the principal suburb of Torreon, fell into the hands of General Francisco Villa's constitutional troops during the night.

With this suburb and Lerdo controlled by the rebels, the fall of Torreon itself now seems only a matter of hours.

After having been driven out of Gomez Palacio at 9 o'clock last night and sustaining tremendous losses, the federals returned to the attack at midnight. At last reports they were still engaged in a desperate conflict, but steadily retreated. The town is on fire in a dozen places and is threatened with destruction.

The downfall of Gomez Palacio witnessed the most tremendous fighting since the Torreon campaign began. Early Monday the combined forces of Generals Urbina, Hernandez and Rosales personally commanded by General Villa, occupied Lerdo after scarcely more than a perfunctory resistance. Immediately, Villa threw a large portion of this force, mostly cavalry men, into the battle at Gomez Palacio, relieving the strain that had been placed upon the column headed by General Torrito Ortega. He had shelled all morning but did not open serious attack until Villa's men arrived in the afternoon. Villa's cavalry reinforcements were sent to the firing line at once, while his foot soldiers were held in reserve behind Ortega's column.

For hours the fiercest fighting proceeded. The rebel horsemen charged repeatedly, but apparently could not disorganize the defenders. As night came on, the superior constitutionalist artillery began to have its effect and the federal outposts were gradually withdrawn. Seizing his opportunity, Ortega ordered a final assault on the suburb.

The cavalry men, screaming and cursing at the top of their voices in an effort to terrify the defenders, were sent forward at a gallop and Ortega's main body followed. At 9 p. m., the assault was successful and the victorious rebels swarmed into Gomez Palacio, driving the garrison out. But this did not end the battle. Seeing the desperate plight of Gomez Palacio, General Refugio Velasco, federal commander of Torreon, sent heavy reinforcements out from Torreon itself. Retreating federals immediately reorganized and returned to the attack. Both armies used artillery with deadly effect and in some quarters the fighting was so close that hand grenades were brought into play. Bursting shells and the hand grenades quickly set fire to a dozen warehouses in Gomez Palacio, but neither forces paid any attention to the threatened conflagration.

With the federals slowly giving ground, General Villa early today ordered up all reinforcements available from his troops in other parts of the field. The present indications are the final battle for possession of Torreon will be fought in a large irrigation field lying between that city and Gomez Palacio. This is in a valley

through which runs the street railway line connecting Torreon with the suburb. It has been formidably fortified, not only with rifle pits, but also with barbed wire entanglements of all descriptions. Villa realizes his reputation as a military leader depends on what he is able to do in this emergency and he is determined to carry the fight at all hazards.

Meantime, the other constitutionalist field commanders have been fighting savagely. General Eugenio Aguirre Benavidez and General Maclovios Herrera, who were in Matamoros Sunday, are attacking Torreon from the east while General Calixto Contreras and General Panofli Natera are conducting an assault from the south. The three Arrieta brothers are active to the southwest. These attacks are generally regarded as mere feints, ordered by Villa to force Velasco to divide his garrison.

Shooting Across River.  
EAGLE PASS, Texas, March 24.—Mexican federal soldiers are dead today because they fired on a detail of American cavalrymen on border patrol at McKeague's crossing near Del Rio, but the number is not known.

Colonel Sibley at Ft. Clarke, receiving an official report saying the federals continued to fire on fleeing rebels after they had crossed the border; that Captain Winterburn ordered the fire returned after three horses of the troop had been shot and the federals had disregarded his signals to cease firing. The marksmanship of the Americans proved superior to that of the Mexicans and after a brief exchange of fire the Mexicans withdrew, removing their dead and wounded. No Americans were hit. Fearing further trouble, the patrol at the ford was strengthened by the addition of a machine gun platoon and another troop.

Rebel Successes.  
JUAREZ, Mexico, March 24.—Continued success of the constitutionalists near Monclova, Mexico, is reported in dispatches received at General Venustiano Carranza's headquarters here today.

General Cesario Castro has captured the town of Salome Botello, after routing the federal garrison. He dynamited the federal troop trains, killing sixty federals, wounding twenty-nine and capturing a large supply of arms and ammunition.

Later, General Castro and General Murguia joined forces and captured Monclova, taking 300 federal prisoners, many arms and a quantity of ammunition. Murguia then marched against San Buena Ventura and Castro against Nadoares.

General Carranza says the south of Piedro Negras is now controlled by rebels.

Colquitt Offers Reward.  
WASHINGTON, March 24.—Apprehension was felt in official circles today because of the latest action of Governor Colquitt, of Texas, in offering rewards for the slayers of Clemente Vergara, the Texas ranchman, murdered by Mexican federals. The department today received the following dispatch from Brigadier General Bliss at Fort Sam Houston:

"General Hutchins at Eagle Pass stated that the governor offers a reward of \$200 each for the delivery to the authorities of any of the following persons this side of the river: Captain Apolonio Rodriguez, Mito Ceara, Juan Castillon, Andrews Rodriguez, Dominico Martinez.

Hutchins is the adjutant general of Texas. The men are charged in the newspapers with complicity in the death of Clemente Vergara.

It is felt in the department that this action of Governor Colquitt may add difficulties to an already delicate situation. Confirmation was received today from General Bliss of the exchange of shots between Mexican fed-

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## HOME RULE BILL DECLARED DEAD

Near Mutiny by Officers and Soldiers Has Been the Death Blow.

### ULSTER IS QUIET NOW

Compromise Suggested by King George is Believed to Have Ended Turmoil.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] LONDON, March 24.—With the Ulstermen and unionist press jubilant and gloating over what they term the government's forced backdown in the army tangle growing out of the home rule fight and the liberal press chagrined and dispirited, the belief that it was King George who forced the hand of the ministers in placating the recalcitrant officers, was growing today.

Absolute quiet having prevailed throughout Ulster, the threatened disruption of the army completely overshadowed the tense situation resulting from the movement of troops in Ireland. The unionists take the view that attempts of the government to explain the misunderstanding of orders which brought on the resignation of General Gough and other officers, failed completely. Many papers hint that King George caused the reinstatement of the officers, which action, they declared, had completely blocked the cabinet.

The Manchester Guardian, an influential liberal paper, today declares: "The officers should have been court-martialed. The reinstatement shows there is one law for the rich and another for the poor; one standard for the loyalty of Tory officers and another for privates with labor sympathies. Acquiescence to this interpretation of military duty is not only a serious blow to the army, but false to the whole conception of democratic progress."

The bullies are cowed now, is the statement of the Daily Mail. "The government, after panic conferences held ever since the cavalry officers at the curragh resigned, shuffled with the facts in the debate in the house of commons yesterday. As Mr. Balfour said, General Gough, who resigned because he would not fight against Ulster, has been reinstated though he still says he will not fight against Ulster."

The Times declares the army "has been saved from complete destruction by the timely retreat of the government from a position which they should never have assumed. The paper declared further that it understands General Gough resumed his command with written assurances that his brigade will not be used in Ulster in any attempt to force the people there to accept the home rule bill.

"The home rule bill is dead," the Daily Express declares.

The Daily Telegraph says: "The impossibility of coercing Ulster has been demonstrated at the first attempt. The thing cannot be done with British soldiers."

"It is a question whether we govern ourselves or are governed by General Gough," says the Daily News. "Though every officer in the British army be dismissed, we will have no mailed hand raised in menace against our parliament. We will make the army democratic as we have made parliament democratic."

King George's part in the handling of the army crisis is not definitely known, but as it was reported he suggested to Premier Asquith the compromise which was offered Ulster. It is also believed he insisted that resignations of officers be not accepted. The king is a strong believer in the power of compromise and is believed to have brought pressure to bear upon the cabinet to give ground.

In unionist quarters it is firmly believed the government has been checkmated by the army.

Special Election Today.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] TRENTON, N. J., March 24.—Seventh congressional district voters flocked to the polls today to nominate candidates to succeed Representative "Smiling Bob" Bremner, who died after a heroic fight in which the new radium treatment was used against the insidious encroachments of cancer of the shoulder. The election proper is to be held April 7. Today's special primaries were called by Governor Fielder.

—Read The Daily Gate City.

## RICHARDS BACK TO PEN

Former U. S. Deputy Marshal Caught While Attempting to Hold up a Woman.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] DES MOINES, Iowa, March 24.—Police today say that "Bill" Richards, former United States deputy marshal, paroled after serving part of an eighteen year sentence in the Fort Madison prison for robbery, and last night arrested for being one of three men who held up Mrs. H. B. LaFaro in her rooming house, is the leader of a gang of burglars who are implicated in the attempted robbery of the state treasury and numerous post-offices and banks.

Richards had a revolver and two caps and a hat in his pocket when caught fleeing from the place, and confessed he was one of the men, but refused to give the names of the others.

Richards, 59, is a noted character, and will probably be sent back to serve out his term. He was paroled to M. J. Wragg, a nursery man, who today said he considered Richards' case hopeless.

### GAVE HIS LIFE FOR HIS CRIME

Dorr Electrocuted Early Today for the Murder of Retired Manufacturer.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BOSTON, Mass., March 24.—Wm. A. Dorr, Stockton, California, paid with his life for the murder of Geo. E. Marsh, wealthy retired soap manufacturer of Lynn, Mass., early today, walking calmly to his fate in the death house of the Charlestown state prison.

Dorr slept peacefully until less than an hour before the end. As he was being strapped into the electric chair he waved farewell to Rev. Harriman, of Lynn, his attorney, Neal C. Baker, and General Ridges, warden of the prison. The prisoner received letters from his mother and a telegram from his aunt in Bethany, Calif., late yesterday, reading: "I wish my end were to be as painless as yours."

The aged mother will take the ashes to Stockton, Calif., after the body has been cremated.

### Steamboat Mate Killed.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PUTNAM, Ill., March 24.—John Ogan of Bloomington, Ill., mate of the packet steamer David Swain, was killed here today under a freight train. He was on his way to LaSalle, where the packet has been in winter quarters.

## THE WEATHER

For Keokuk and vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday. Warmer tonight. Brisk winds.

For Iowa: Mostly cloudy tonight and Wednesday with possibly showers. Warmer east and south portions tonight. Brisk winds.

For Illinois: Fair tonight and probably Wednesday. Slowly rising temperature. Moderate to brisk winds.

For Missouri: Generally fair tonight and Wednesday. Warmer tonight. Brisk southerly winds.

### Weather Conditions.

The Utah depression has moved to Colorado since yesterday, deepening as it advanced, and the pressure remains low throughout the west, with somewhat higher temperature. Precipitation has been confined to light snow in portions of North Dakota and Montana, and light rain in Utah. East of the Mississippi the weather is fair and moderately cool, with high pressure in the Atlantic states.

Conditions indicate generally fair weather tonight and Wednesday, and warmer tonight for this section.

Daily River Bulletin.

Station	Stage	Height	Change	Wind	W'th'r
St. Paul	14	1.5	0.0	Clear	
La Crosse	12	2.2	x0.1	Cl'dy	
Dubuque	18	3.6	-0.2	Pl. Cl'dy	
Davenport	15	3.0	-0.2	Pl. Cl'dy	
Keokuk	14	4.4	x1.1	Clear	
St. Louis	30	9.1	x0.7	Clear	

River Forecast.  
The river will fall slowly from Davenport to Keokuk during the next forty-eight hours.

Local Observations.

March	Bar.	Ther.	Wind.	W'th'r
23 7 p. m.	30.00	45	SE	Clear
24 7 a. m.	30.00	33	E	Clear

River above low water of 1864, 4.4. Change in 24 hours, rise 1.1. Mean temperature 23rd, 35. Lowest temperature, 26. Highest temperature, 49. Lowest temperature last night, 32. FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.

## SOLDIERS AWE THE STRIKERS

Work Train Makes Trip Without Being Molested, While Guardsmen Watch.

### WAS A NOISY NIGHT

Half of the Town of Depew Was Armed and All Night Long There Was Promiscuous Shooting.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] BUFFALO, N. Y., March 24.—The bayonets of their rifles glistening in the sun, militiamen stationed on the platforms of coaches composing the Buffalo work train for Depew, presented a formidable appearance as the local passed Lancaster today and there was no attack by strikers and their sympathizers, who lined the depot platform in large numbers. The train continued into the stockade of the Gould Coupler company's yards at Depew, where a battalion of the Seventy-fourth regiment under Major Athur Kemp was on guard. The appearance of the soldiers awed the strikers, for the time being at least. Knots of men gathered at a point outside the stockade gates and watched the proceedings in silence. Less than 200 strike breakers made the trip from Buffalo on the work train today. Usually there are from 700 to 1,000.

"There will be law and order at Depew if it becomes necessary to call out the entire Fourth brigade," declared Sheriff Baker who was on the ground early today. He said he had at first hoped to handle the situation without resorting to the militia, but found it was hopeless. To send his handful of men out to Depew to tackle from 500 to 1,000 rioters. All night there was promiscuous shooting. It seemed as if one half the village had supplied itself with guns and ammunition and was bent on seeing how much damage it could do. When Sheriff Deputy Thomas Fogart, in charge of deputies, was shot through both jaws by a striker last night, Sheriff Frederick C. Becker called on Brigadier General Samuel M. Welsh of the Fourth brigade and asked for aid. The Seventy-fourth regiment was assembled at 12:30 this morning and at 1 o'clock an order was issued assembling the Sixty-fifth regiment. Only about 600 soldiers are now on duty, but an order for more will be followed by the departure of special trains carrying another thousand to the scene of the trouble. Present indications are that the Gould plant may be closed down indefinitely. This will be a great blow to Depew in as much as the company has employed 2,800 men and is the chief industry of the town.

Bezdus Stanlaus Skonlonski, killed in yesterday's strike riot, nine men were badly injured. They are in hospitals today suffering from gunshot wounds, knife wounds and bruises.

Several times during the morning, gathering mobs were quickly dispersed at the point of the bayonets. There were no serious disorders. When the strikers began to gather about the entrances of the Gould Coupler company, they were met by armed troops. Patrols were established and went through the entire town of Depew, dispersing crowds which gathered at every corner. This display had a very quieting effect on the men and no signs of disorder were shown. Colonel Wolf of the Seventy-fourth regiment stationed men in all of the shops and this afternoon he will hold a conference with saloon keepers and warn them that unless they keep within their bounds, he will close their places.

It is the belief of the train crew and officials of the Gould company that many men injured in yesterday's battle are being cared for at the homes of strikers in Depew.

The one display of resistance the soldiers encountered, came with the refusal of the street car crews at Buffalo to man the trolley cars carrying the militia to the Lackawanna railroad station. The demonstration occurred in front of the Seventy-fourth regiment armory and was quickly ended when the troops drove the motormen and conductors into the street at the point of bayonets.

Street car men affiliated with the union, which formed the great street car strike last April, were today discussing what action between men and soldiers should be taken. Talk of another street car strike was heard about headquarters, but such action is very improbable, they say.

## FORCED TO MARRY GIRL AT POINT OF REVOLVERS

Three Brothers Kidnaped the Priest and Took Him Before Protestant Minister.

### JEALOUSY OF SISTER

Bride Says There Was No Reason for the Sensation Which Stirred Church Circles.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 24.—The Rev. Miles Michael Sweeney, pastor of the Roman Catholic church at Swickley, Pa., and Miss Mary Christiana Moran, of this city, were married in Wellsburg, W. Va., by a protestant clergyman, on January 28. The ceremony was performed while three brothers of the bride surrounded the principals, each with his right hand closed over a revolver concealed in his overcoat pocket. The forced marriage was the result of false allegations made to the three brothers by Miss Elizabeth Moran, a sister of Mary Moran, and has not been consummated.

With this statement made in affidavit form on the advice of A. V. D. Waterson, her attorney, Mary Moran today gave her explanation of an affair that has caused Sweeney to be restrained by church authorities from occupying his pulpit and stirred church circles to the depths. Several days ago Daniel J. Moran, of Hammond, Ind., wrote an open letter to the Pittsburgh newspapers in which he charged that his sister Mary, better known as Lena Moran, was married to Father Sweeney by the Rev. Francis Biddle, pastor of the Christian church at Wellsburg, W. Va. He was led to make the news of the marriage public he said because Father Sweeney had continued to fill his church office. Correspondence from the Rev. Biddle and from K. C. Brashear, clerk of the marriage license court at Wellsburg, supported the brother's statement.

According to the affidavit Miss Moran's alleged improper relations with the priest existed only in the mind of Elizabeth Moran, who circulated false stories because her sister, Lena, refused to lend her her dresses and hats to wear to social gatherings. Elizabeth recently wrote the three brothers, Daniel, Frank and Emmet, all in Hammond, Ind., and told them that Lena and the priest were often together and that their sister was receiving handsome gowns, hats and other apparel from him. She also told them that Lena's room was hung with improper pictures.

The three brothers surprised them all, Lena sets forth, by coming to this city on the night of January 25, arriving at the house after midnight, breaking into Lena's room and beating her. Her cries, she said, attracted the police and a patrol wagon shortly afterward clanged up to the house. After Daniel had explained to the police that he and his brothers had just made a racket getting in, the statement continues:

The trio turned to Lena and beat her more. Then they stripped her and one of the brothers rubbed her swollen limbs and marked features with liniment. On the evening of January 27, Lena states farther, she was ordered to call up the priest and make an appointment for 6:45 p. m. at Walnut and Bank streets, Swickley. She did and her brothers went there in an auto. The brothers, hands gripping their revolvers, spread out around the car and when the priest appeared they forced

## HANDSOME JACK'S FAMILY ARE PRESENT AT HIS TRIAL

Charged With Cold Blooded Murder and Smiles in Court.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, March 24.—With his aged parents and his pretty young sisters seated directly behind him, "Handsome Jack" Koettters heard As-

him into it. Then Daniel accused him of ruining her and the priest answered with a blow from his fist that laid him low. Fearing a crowd, Daniel jumped into the car and the party came to the Moran home here, where the priest was made to spend the night. The next day, still under threats, she and Father Sweeney were escorted to Wellsburg. There was no trouble in procuring a license and they went to the office of a magistrate. The magistrate said they must be married by a preacher and they sought the Rev. Biddle. In his study the brothers stood about them and made it plain that there must be no failure to obey instructions. After the ceremony, the affidavit concluded, they threatened to kill the priest unless he gave up his pulpit and supported their sister. The young woman stated that she was never given presents by the priest and that her sister was unable to prove her story on the night of the fight in her room, or show her brothers the improper pictures she had written about.

Ellis is Suspended.  
INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 24.—That the Rev. John R. Ellis, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Bloomington, Indiana, is suspended from office as a minister of the church in the United States, "because of conduct unbecoming a minister of the gospel," is the finding of a special committee of the Indianapolis Presbytery announced today.

The minister who is the father of five children and who was pastor of a fashionable church in the university town, was found guilty on three of the six counts. The committee recommends that he "devote a year to outdoor life and recuperation." Ellis was found guilty of unbecoming conduct towards three women, one of whom was leader of the choir in the church. The charge sustained is that in February, Ellis in the vestibule of the church placed his arm about Mrs. Anna Schram and said: "You are sweet enough to kiss. They were alone at the time.

The other two charges sustained are that he associated with women of questionable character, attempted to make appointments with them and appeared with them at various times on the streets. He visited them in their homes, the finding is, and was seen with one of them in Gasport, a neighboring village.

Ellis is a man of strong physique. His defense is understood to have been that he was suffering from nervous breakdown and was not accountable for his acts. He came to the Bloomington pastorate from a New York church. He is a graduate of London university. One of his sons is prominent in the law school of Indiana University, and defended him before the committee. Ellis has the right of appeal to the Indiana synod.

He Will Appeal.  
BLOOMINGTON, Ind., March 24.—When John R. Ellis, deposed pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city, received notice from the committee of the Indianapolis Presbytery today that he had been found guilty of unbecoming conduct and had been suspended from the church, he said that he would appeal from the commission's finding.

"The finding was contrary to the evidence," he said. "I will appeal to the synod."

Will Wear White Caps.  
[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, March 24.—White caps will be worn by women who participate in the suffrage demonstration here May 2. It was announced today after a long struggle over the question of appropriate millinery.

"The sentiment for the suffrage yellow was very strong," said Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen, "but how would we have looked in yellow caps? We aren't all youthful."