

KORRIBLE OUTRAGE BY MEXICANS

AMERICANS MURDERED IN COLD BLOOD BY ARCH FIEND VILLA AND HIS GANG

Worst Massacre in Mexican History Marks Villa's Band as Savages, More Cruel Than the Ignorant Cannibal.

SHOT EIGHTEEN, ONE AT A TIME

Horrible Story has Aroused Officials Along the Border and in Washington to High Pitch of Indignation.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] EL PASO, Texas, Jan. 12.—The worst massacre of peaceful Americans in Mexican history was detailed in official messages received here today, telling of sixteen United States citizens and two British subjects dragged from a Mexico Northwestern train, Monday, robbed of \$25,000, stripped of their clothing and stood naked along the railway-track to be shot down in cold blood.

The murders resulted from orders given by Francisco Villa, the bandit, to kill every American and foreigner his followers meet. Villa was reported personally to have commanded the firing squad.

The firing squad started to shoot the eighteen, men one at a time. Seeing death was inevitable, several attempted to flee but were shot and killed as they ran.

The shrieks of the murdered men were heard by Thomas Holmes who had hidden in the train's lavatory and later escaped to carry the first news of the massacre to Chihuahua.

The bodies of the eighteen men were expected to reach El Paso today. The probability that they will never be avenged has aroused the border. Slowness of Carranza officials here to take sympathetic action, resulted in a mass meeting being

held last night at which mine owners denounced the Washington policy toward Mexico.

Lured back to their work by passports granted in Washington and the Carranza government's guarantees of protection, the mining party was refused an escort of one hundred Carranza soldiers. If Gen. Jacinto B. Trevino in Chihuahua had granted this request, the lives of the eighteen men would have been saved.

Confirmation of the massacre was contained in messages from British Consul Scobell, of Chihuahua to H. C. Myles, the British diplomatic agent here.

Fifteen bandits stopped the train at Santa Isabel, Chihuahua. The mining party consisted of officials and employees of the Ousi Mining company, of which Potter Palmer of Chicago, is president. The men were going to re-open the company's rich silver mines at Cusiuhirachic, Chihuahua. They were first robbed by the bandits of a \$25,000 pay roll and several thousand dollars worth of supplies. The bandits then attired themselves in the clothing they forced the men to disrobe.

The naked group was then marched to a ravine close by the track and shot, the Americans having to await their turn for execution. The horror of

those last moments may never be known. None escaped.

The official list of dead: Charles E. Watson, general manager of the Ousi Mining Co.; Wm. J. Wallace, E. L. Robinson, George W. Newman, M. B. Romero, T. M. Evans, Richard T. McHatten, Charles Wadleigh, J. P. Coy, Avery A. Couch, Alexander Hall, J. W. Woon, Charles A. Pringle, W. D. Pearce, Maurice Anderson, H. C. Hasse, R. H. Simmons, J. Adams.

The majority lived in El Paso. Evans and Couch were Canadians. Romero, though Mexican, was a naturalized American citizen.

Indignation Aroused. WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Indignation swept official Washington today over reports of the wholesale massacre of American miners by Villista bandits near Chihuahua city.

Prompt action for redress and to guard against repetition of outrages upon Americans, was set in motion by President Wilson and the state department. American consular offices in northern Mexico and on the border were ordered to forward at once all information regarding the incident.

Immediate results of the massacre outlined by officials today, will be sharp and urgent representations to Carranza. The defacto Mexican president will be advised of serious results which may attend lack of protection for Americans. This government will hold the Carranza government responsible and look to it for reparation for the lives lost.

Formal action was deferred to wait official confirmation and details of the massacre. Messrs. and preliminary reports from border officials, said that statements reaching them told of the death of fifteen or seventeen Americans and three British miners.

The British embassy today inquired informally of the state department regarding the report concerning British subjects. It is expected separate protests will be made to Carranza by England.

State department officials expressed belief today that guerrilla troops of General Rodriguez were responsible for the murders.

The department expects that Carranza will promptly dispatch troops to the scene of the massacre to search for the murderers and also provide protection for other Americans in the Chihuahua mining territory.

Senators and representatives were expected today to make the murders subject for open discussion in congress.

Men Were Not Afraid. CHICAGO, Jan. 12.—In a statement issued today for Honore and Potter Palmer, owners of the Cusiuhirachic Mining company, eighteen employees of which were massacred by Mexican bandits, efforts that the Palmers made to get their men out of the danger zone were detailed.

"The men said they were having a good time and there was no danger," the statement declared.

Henry L. Hollis, of Chicago, engineer for the mining company, left today for El Paso.

Helpless Rage. EL PASO, Texas, Jan. 12.—In helpless rage at the murder of sixteen United States citizens and two British subjects in Mexico, the city awaited this afternoon the special train bringing their bodies from Chihuahua city. Apparently nothing has been done by either Zack Cobb, representing the Washington state department or General Garcia, the Carranza commander in Juarez, to avenge the massacre.

The fact that General Villa and fifteen men were at Lajunta two days ago, within fifteen miles of the spot where the Americans were dragged from a train, stood up naked and shot in turn, strengthened the belief that Villa personally commanded the bandits. Col. Jose Rodriguez, the other bandit leader in Chihuahua territory, is known now to have been in the immediate vicinity.

Arrangements have been made to admit the eighteen corpses without the usual formalities. J. F. Ryan, representing the Ousi Mining company, chartered the special train that is bringing the bodies. It was expected to arrive here late tonight.

At least a hundred telegrams of protest have been sent by leading mining men in this district to Washington, demanding immediate action effectively to safeguard Americans in Mexico. Most of the telegrams have

FRANCE

[By William Philip Simms, United Press Staff Correspondent.] PARIS, Jan. 12.—The Germans lost more than 25,000 men in the Sunday onslaughts against the French lines in Champagne, according to Chalons dispatches today, describing the battle as the bloodiest on the western front since the allied offensive last September.

Great numbers of wounded German prisoners have reached Chalons. They confirm the report that General Von Eimern planned to break through the French line and bend back the whole front from Rheims to Verdun.

The prisoners complained that the German artillery failed to do its work. Instead of silencing the French batteries, the German guns only wrecked portions of advanced French trenches.

The heavy bombardment, lasting for nearly twenty-four hours, gave ample time for the French to hurry up reserves to meet the attack.

Aphyxiating gas shells forced the French to retire from several advanced positions before the Germans charged. The first rush of the teutons carried them into the French first line trenches, but their ranks were riddled when they attempted to push on.

Without giving the enemy time to fortify the newly conquered positions, the French swept forward in a daring charge that regained practically all the lost ground. Hundreds of bodies of German soldiers were found in the first line works and between the first and second line trenches.

Among the German prisoners reaching Chalons were a number of soldiers belonging to the imperial guard.

A combined Austrian assault carried the second line positions near the summit. Harassed by a terrible fire from artillery and machine guns, the Montenegrins were pushed over the summit, fighting desperately after suffering enormous losses.

Cettinje stands on an elevation about 2,000 feet above the sea, completely dominated by Mount Lovcen, nearly 1,000 feet higher. In their retreat, according to Berne despatches, the Montenegrins were unable to destroy or remove their heavy guns which presumably are already being trained on Cettinje.

BERLIN, (via wireless w. sayville, L. I.) Jan. 12.—Seventy persons were killed and fifty seriously injured by the explosion of an ammunition depot in Lille yesterday, it was officially announced today.

The ammunition depot was lodged in the casement of the southern fortifications of Lille. The explosion wrecked buildings along many neighboring streets, killing many persons outright and causing fatal injuries to others.

"A French attack northeast of Lemesnil on German positions on a front of about three-fifths of a mile, failed completely," the official statement reported this afternoon. "The Germans hurriedly retreated to his own trenches."

PRINCE CALLED HOME. ROME, Jan. 12.—Unconfirmed advice from Swiss sources today reported that the German crown prince has been recalled to Berlin, probably to assume the regency, on account of the kaiser's illness.

It was stated that the reports reached Switzerland directly from Berlin.

Rome dispatches a few days ago said it was learned there on good authority that the kaiser's illness was not serious and that he would be out within a few days. Within the last twenty-four hours, however, rumors that the kaiser's condition was serious have been revived. An Amsterdam dispatch to the London Daily Express reported rumors in circulation in Germany that the kaiser is dying.

The Amsterdam correspondent said that color was lent to this report by the fact that the German press is full of extravagant eulogies of the crown prince.

Twelve Workmen Killed. BRANDON, Manitoba, Jan. 12.—Twelve workmen on the Canadian Pacific railway work train cleaning snow from the yards here, were run down and killed by a yard engine that had just gathered speed for a run out of the yards.

BALKANS

[By Henry Wood, United Press Staff Correspondent.] ROME, Jan. 12.—The early fall of Cettinje, the Montenegro capital, was forecasted in dispatches received here today confirming the news that the Austrians have occupied Mount Lovcen, "the Gibraltar of the Adriatic" dominating the roads to Cettinje and less than seven miles away. Military evacuation of King Nicholas' capital began on Sunday, according to advices received here. This news preceded a message from Berne, Switzerland, reporting the fall of Mount Lovcen.

The arsenal at Cettinje has been dismantled and everything of military removed. Preparations were being made Sunday to transfer the capital, but the new seat of government has not been settled on. Austrians are striking hard blows at the valiant Montenegrin army, which is handicapped both by lack of equipment and by the need of food supplies.

Mount Lovcen fell after five days of terrific and uninterrupted bombardment from the Austrian squadron in Cattaro harbor, the harbor forts and lighter Austrian artillery brought up to close range. The bombardment blew to pieces the first line trenches of the Montenegro on the lower slopes, slaughtering hundreds of Mount Lovcen's defenders before they could escape.

A combined Austrian assault carried the second line positions near the summit. Harassed by a terrible fire from artillery and machine guns, the Montenegrins were pushed over the summit, fighting desperately after suffering enormous losses.

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TWENTY-FIVE BELOW ZERO FOR IOWA BY MORNING

Coldest Weather for Several Winters is Due to Spread Over the State During the Night.

BLIZZARD IN THE MIDDLE WEST

Twelve Below in Kansas Today, With Cold Wave Still Blowing and Mercury Steadily Falling.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] DES MOINES, Iowa, Jan. 12.—With twenty-five below zero predicted for tonight and a blizzard from the north raging, Iowa is in for the worst weather of the winter.

Charles Golden, a farm hand, was struck by a train in the blizzard near Homer, Nebraska, and killed.

Swan Nelson was found lying on a Sioux City street with both feet so badly frozen that amputation will be necessary.

Wires all over the state are in trouble and street car service interrupted in many places. Railroad trains are behind schedule, but are able to get through the drifting snow.

From Out the North. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 12.—From the northwest came a wave of bitter cold this morning that sent the mercury to zero and brought a forecast of fifteen degrees below for tonight.

Twelve below is already reported out in north central Kansas and the state is being swept by a near blizzard. Snow is drifting and railroads have ordered out their snow plows. Wire service is interrupted to many points.

Much suffering of live stock is reported.

Blizzard Today. CHICAGO, Jan. 12.—Sleet and snow combined early today in a blizzard that crippled wires and transportation in the middle west.

Elevated trains in Chicago were stopped for an hour during the early morning hours.

A blinding snow paralyzed street traffic and caused many accidents.

August Schultz was killed by a fall on the icy pavements.

Weather bureau reports said the sleet storm was general.

LITTLE LUMP OF SUGAR WOULD COAX HIM INSIDE

Bull Moose Hanging Around on Outside of the G. O. P. Pasture Fence.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] CHICAGO, Jan. 12.—The bull moose stood just outside the fence of the G. O. P. pasture today, with olive branches on the antlers. A little coaxing, said progressive party leaders today, will bring him inside the pasture, for a double harness race with the republican elephant, against the democratic donkey.

Frank statements today by George W. Perkins, who presided at the progressive national committee yesterday which voted to hold a national convention in Chicago on the same day, June 7, that the G. O. P. national convention meets, bore out the impression that peace between the progressives and republicans now rests with the latter.

"We are all hoping," Perkins said, "that both parties will agree on somebody and it need not necessarily be Colonel Roosevelt."

Perkins and other progressive leaders who remained in Chicago today were hopeful, but not certain, that it would be Roosevelt. Just how many second choices the party has is yet to be shown.

considerable strength among the progressives, both in the east and the west. Some committeemen, who attended the meeting were frankly for him as the second choice. But nine out of ten believe Roosevelt will be the republican—and therefore progressive—nominee.

Medill McCormick of Chicago, it was intimated today, will be one of the principal intermediaries between the moose and republicans in their negotiations for a compromise. McCormick, formerly a progressive chief, has frankly become republican again, but is so close to the moose leaders that he attended all conferences of the committee here yesterday. Despite the virtual agreement of the progressives to combine if possible with the republicans on national issues, there will be several hot fights in individual states before local amalgamations can occur, it was stated today.

Missouri progressives already have announced they will put a future ticket in the field. The Pacific coast progressives are hopeful of continuing the fight, regardless of national events.

Though republican and progressive leaders say they are apparently agreed on a platform of extensive preparedness for war, there are still many issues to be ironed out before the reunion can take place. If standpatters are in control of the G. O. P. convention here June 7, the peace plans, according to progressive chieftains, will go to smash.

NOTICE

The subscription price of The Daily Gate City by mail has been \$3.00 in the towns and \$2.50 on rural routes. These two different rates have caused so much confusion and dissatisfaction that after February 1, 1916, there will be but one price for the daily by mail and that \$3.00 per year. The subscription price of the daily in Keokuk remains the same—10 cents per week.

THE WEATHER.

For Keokuk and vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Thursday. Severe cold wave tonight, with temperature below zero and strong northwest winds.

For Iowa: Severe cold wave tonight with strong northwest winds and temperature much below zero. Generally fair tonight and Thursday. Colder east portion Thursday.

Weather Conditions. The advance of the northwestern field of high pressure has been retarded by this storm, pressure increasing and temperature falling in the northern plateau region, where the temperature is from forty to fifty degrees below zero this morning.

Local Observations. Jan. 11 7 p. m.—29.83 32 E. L. Rain 12 7 a. m.—29.78 26 NW Sleet Precipitation 24 hours, .50. River stage 7 a. m., 4.8 feet. Mean temperature, 26. Highest, 33. Lowest, 19. Lowest last night, 25. FRED Z. GOSEWISCH, Observer.

(Continued on page 5.)