

SHELLS HIT BRITISH LEGATION IN MEXICAN HOT CANNON DUEL

WEATHER—Fair To-Night and Friday; Warmer.

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ROW AT SUBWAY HEARING BRINGS POLICE RESERVES ON M'CALL'S HURRY ORDER

Crowd Breaks Into Uproar When Hinrichs Denounces Commissioner Williams as Attorney for B. R. T.

The new subway contracts were the subject of a hearing before the Public Service Commission in the Council Chamber of City Hall this afternoon. The big room was jammed to its uttermost capacity. Long lines of persons anxious to enter were curled around through the halls and the stairways of the building, regulated by a squad of policemen under Inspector Daly, who at 2 o'clock was compelled to send for reinforcements. Eight men arrived from Greenwich street station on the double quick, in charge of Lieut. Alken.

The call for reinforcements followed the declaration of F. W. Hinrichs of Brooklyn, who charged that Commissioner Williams was disqualified to sit in judgment on the contracts in behalf of the city because at one time he had represented the Brooklyn Rapid Transit Railroad Company as an attorney, and had received a retainer from that company.

This was prior to the appointment of Mr. Williams as a member of the Public Service Commission. Mr. Hinrichs declared that a question of positive bias entered into the situation in connection with Commissioner Williams.

The utterance of Mr. Hinrichs started an uproar. Chairman McCall's gavel was at first ineffective in quelling the shouting, cheering and cat-calls which arose. Mr. Williams commanded silence for a brief space and, partly arising from his seat, pale and nervous, he waved his right arm and shouted: "Let them go on! Let them go on!" Then the crowd broke out afresh and Chairman McCall with difficulty compelled quiet.

POLICE SENT TO PICKET DUTY IN CROWD.

The police went among the spectators and stationed themselves in the quarters of the room whence the greater volume of noise had emanated.

President Mitchell of the Board of Aldermen said he was anxious to be heard, but had an important hearing in his own office regarding the regulation of traffic on Eleventh avenue. Chairman McCall said that it was the wish of the Commission to end the hearing to-day and that time would be held for Mr. Mitchell.

Clarence J. Shearn acted as floor manager for those protesting against the contracts. He introduced F. W. Hinrichs, a member of the Citizens' Union, as the first speaker. It at once became apparent that violent feelings were loose in the audience. Mr. Hinrichs's outburst against Williams acted like a match applied to oil-soaked kindlings, and the uproar broke forth and continued until the arrival of the extra police and the order to station them in the crowd.

The appearance of their uniforms and the sound of their angry growls seemed to have a sedative effect.

Magistrate Hylan, representing the Allied Board of Trade of Brooklyn, and advocating better facilities for Brooklyn, was patiently heard.

Many persons in the audience had his cards like this:

THE CRY OF THE SUFFERING
STRAP-HANGER:
SIGN THE CONTRACTS.

Several husky individuals sat well to the front, holding these cards up to the constant view of the members of the Commission.

Mr. Shearn followed Magistrate Hylan. When he mentioned President Mitchell's name he was loudly applauded, and again when he said that amendments of two items in the contracts alone would save \$60,000 to the city. There were also "boos" and hoots from the more densely packed parts of the room. Mr. Shearn at last appealed to Chairman McCall.

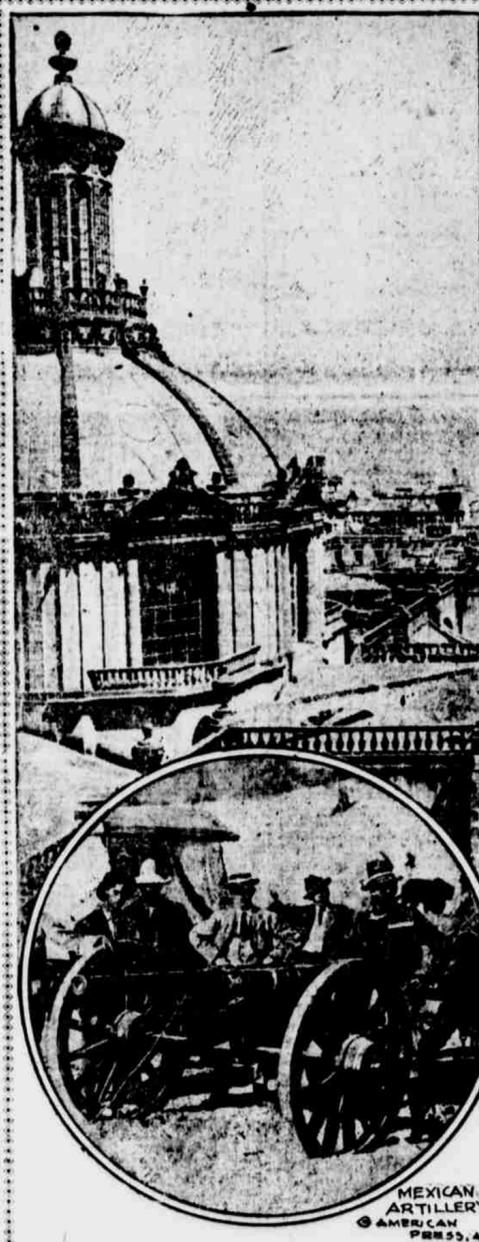
"I think, Mr. Chairman," he said, "that we could make better time if we left out the applause and the contradictory expressions of opinion." (Cheers and hoots from the crowded corners.) Chairman McCall jumped to his feet. "That is a perfectly good suggestion," said the Chairman. "There will be no more interruption. Speakers will be asked questions and will answer them at the conclusion of their remarks."

Mr. Shearn urged an attempt to try the marketing of subway bonds in the public market. "If we could market

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200 REFUGEES IN THE U. S. EMBASSY; AMERICAN CLUB STRUCK BY SHELL

Centre of City of Mexico Wrecked in Artillery Duel And the Men Behind Guns



Many Bullets Fired by the Rebels Fall in the U. S. Embassy Grounds While the Entire City Is Shaken and Buildings Are Wrecked by the Terrific Cannonading on Both Sides.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 13.—The forces of Madero and Diaz still fight on in the ruins of the heart of the city. Neither side seems to have gained an advantage, though hundreds of shells and thousands of rapid-fire cartridges have been fired during the course of the day's insensate fighting.

The Red Cross has tended to 2,000 wounded in three days' fighting. A messenger, bearing despatches from Ambassador Wilson the whole of the shell-swept zone unharmed. He says that though

Solid Shot Pierce the Walls of the Hotel Jardin, Filled With Women and Children—Thousands of Mexican Families Are in Danger, but Most of the Americans Are Safe.

for filing, has arrived at the cable office after having traversed bullets have fallen in the yard of the American Legation all the refugees there are unharmed.

Shrapnel from Diaz's heavy power guns are bursting over outlying sections of the city hitherto unharmed in the two days' bombardment. Diaz succeeded during the night in hiding sharpshooters on the roofs of houses in the American colony, some distance away from his stronghold in the Arsenal. To-day they repulsed a detachment of Federals riding unsuspecting in from Chapultepec.

BRITISH LEGATION UNDER FIRE. The British Legation has been under fire almost constantly all day; first because of the planting of Federal artillery before it and latterly by the fire of Diaz's sharpshooters, picking off the Federal gunners.

Shortly after noon a shrapnel shell from the Diaz batteries penetrated the wall of the American Club on the Calle Independencia, just around the corner from the Calle San Juan de Letran.

It burst in the library, completely wrecking that room and doing damage to adjacent rooms on that floor. Handsome oil paintings of Washington, Lincoln and President Taft hanging on the walls were ripped to shreds by the shrapnel bullets.

No one was in the club when the shell burst, and consequently no loss of life was entailed. But within five minutes two non-combatants were killed on the sidewalk in front of the club.

These events occurred during a fierce bombardment of the National Palace by Diaz's heaviest guns.

SHOT PIERCES WALL OF HOTEL. A minute or so after the explosion of the shell in the American Club a solid shot bored its way through the heavy walls of the Hotel Jardin at the Calle Independencia and the Calle San Juan de Letran, a few doors away. Women and children were huddled in the great patio of the hotel praying when the solid shot came in one corner of the building and fell harmlessly among them.

The mad battle in the heart of a half-deserted city still continues with unabated fury and, seemingly, without advantage to either side.

Up to noon, when the shells of the contending forces had torn their way through the heart of the city for four hours, nothing like a decisive result had been achieved either by the Federals or the rebels. It had been practically an artillery duel, although occasionally small arm fire played a vicious part in the battle.

The swift and crushing action promised by the Government was not realized. On the contrary, the fighting was of a monotonous regularity, the Federal troops slowly pounding the rebel position and endeavoring to silence Diaz's guns in order that the final charge might be made with less of sacrifice of life. To this the rebels replied with a steady fire, but they were more chary in throwing away their ammunition and appeared to take better aim than ever.

BOTH SIDES RELY ON BIG GUNS. The first really sharp small arm engagement occurred at half past 10, when the Federal forces moved into range. The infantry fighting lasted only a few minutes and was succeeded by a more intense cannonade from the rebels at the arsenal.

No serious attempt had been made till 11:30 to rush the fortifications of the rebels, but Gen. Huerta had dispatched from the vicinity of the National Palace a considerable force of Federal cavalry.

The cannonade then lost most of its viciousness and it seemed the rebels were conserving their fire, although they continued to throw shells toward the Palace. One Federal battery kept steadily in action at the Colonia station on the Paseo Reforma and another on San Juan de Letran street.

RAIN OF SHRAPNEL ON CABLE OFFICE. Between 9 and 10 o'clock shrapnel from bursting shells in the Calle San Francisco rained upon the steel shutters of the cable office, wherein the correspondents were filing their accounts of the battle. The manager thought seriously of closing down the office to protect his operators, but was prevailed upon by the correspondents to remain open, even under fire. There is no way of getting news out of this mad city except by the two wires connecting the office here with the cable end in Vera Cruz.

In spite of the fact that many of the women and children in the

VINCENT ASTOR, GUIDED BY SULZER, TO AID HUMANITY

Wants to Be Useful and Chooses Agriculture as Field for Helping Others.

ALBANY, Feb. 12.—Vincent Astor has selected the field of agriculture for aiding humanity. He has so informed Gov. Sulzer, who to-day announced he had appointed Mr. Astor to head a delegation which will represent New York State at the meeting of the General Assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture, to be held in Rome, Italy, next May. The delegation also will investigate European systems of agricultural finance.

The other delegates are: William C. Brown, President of the New York Central Company; Benjamin F. Yoakum, Frederick H. Allen and Henry Morganthau Jr., New York; Elliott B. Norris, Sodus, and J. William Sanbury, Busti. The delegates expect to sail for Naples on April 28 and will be received by the King and Queen of Italy on May 10.

Gov. Sulzer said Vincent Astor recently asked him for his advice on how to be a useful man. Various plans were discussed, including the naval militia, but the young man selected agriculture. He told the Governor he would use the Astor farm at Rhinecliff for scientific and experimental purposes with a view to benefiting the farmers of the country.

WOMAN TAKES POISON IN THE HOTEL EMPIRE; FAILS TO END LIFE.

A woman who gave the name of Emily Wagner and her address as No. 26 West One Hundred and Second street attempted suicide this afternoon by taking poison in the Hotel Empire, Sixty-third street and Broadway. She was removed to Bellevue Hospital, a prisoner.

The woman registered at the hotel on Feb. 10. A messenger boy with a telegram addressed to her was sent to her room this afternoon. He knocked on the door and heard groans.

Hotel attaches found the woman unconscious. Traces of poison were evident and an ambulance was called. The City Directory gives No. 26 West One Hundred and Second street as the residence of Dr. John J. Mazza.

PANAMA CANAL CRUISES. The Panama Canal Cruises, 126 ALL LINES AT THE WORLD TRAVEL BUREAU, 100 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Phone West 4000.

GRAND JURY AT SICK-BED HEARS WALSH'S TESTIMONY

An unprecedented step in grand jury procedure was taken to-day by the Extraordinary Grand Jury investigating police graft, when that body went from the Criminal Courts Building to the home of Capt. Thomas W. Walsh, at No. 195 Madison avenue, to take his testimony against

Inspector Dennis Sweeney. This step was made necessary by the precarious state of Capt. Walsh's health; doubt exists that he will ever be able to appear in the Grand Jury room at

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

MOBS THREATEN AMERICANS AT FOUR POINTS IN MEXICO

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—The rapid spread of an anti-American sentiment and violent demonstrations against Americans in various parts of Mexico add a new and disquieting element to the perilous Mexican situation confronting the Government.

It has been held during the last few days that the incidental injury to or killing of Americans during the battle now waging in Mexico City could not constitute sufficient cause for intervention, but that the report of overt acts directed with intent against Americans would bring the necessity for intervention squarely before the President and Congress.

From four points in Mexico came to-day reports of direct assaults upon Americans or of threats, which have made them fear for their lives.

Capt. Thomas Washington of the A. M. & C. TOMATO CATS—12c. Round, 25c. Square—carefully coated and sealed. All stores Acker, Merril & Condit Co.—Dist.

World Building Turkish Baths. Always open. Bath with private rooms, 51. Barber and Manicure. Chicago-style in attendance. 62 Park Row, near Brooklyn Bridge.—Advt.

FOR RACING SEE PAGE 6.