



U. S. ORDERS HUERTA TO PRODUCE PARKS; WAR RULES VIOLATED

Execution of Insane Soldier in Uniform Likely to Prove Parting of Ways in Mediation—Dictator's Foes Closing In.

PEACE CONFERENCE IN CANADA PUT OFF

Upset in Mediation Plans Denied as Cause of Two-Day Postponement—Saltillo Under Rain of Shells as Villa Makes Assault with 25,000 Men.

The United States, through the A B C mediators, has sent a demand to Huerta to produce Private Samuel Parks, who is believed to have been shot by Maas's troops when he wandered into the Federal lines outside of Vera Cruz.

Huerta has been told that failure to act on this demand will lead this government to consider that the dictator has committed a hostile act.

Alarm was felt in Mexico City when Zapatistas attacked the Federals within a few miles of the capital.

The conference of the A B C mediators and representatives of the United States and Huerta has been postponed from next Monday until next Wednesday, at Niagara Falls, Ont. Both the mediators and the State Department assert that the postponement is solely to give Huerta delegates a little rest after their long trip from Mexico City before beginning the work of the conference.

No objection will be raised by the United States to the importation of arms and ammunition by the Constitutionalists at Tampico, as the recent order restoring the embargo on arms applies only to the border and not to Mexican ports.

Twenty-five thousand rebels, under General Villa, began an assault on the Federals at Saltillo, and their leaders are confident the Huerta stronghold soon will be in their hands.

John R. Silliman, American Vice-Consul at Saltillo, for whose safety there had been grave fears, was reported by the British Minister to Mexico to be on his way from Saltillo to Mexico City.

Villa has ordered an immediate attack on the Federals at San Luis Potosi.

SILLIMAN SAFE, GARDEN REPORTS

Washington, May 15.—John R. Silliman, American Vice-Consul at Saltillo, who was arrested by Mexican Federal officials and over whose safety there have been grave fears, left Saltillo yesterday for Mexico City, according to a telegram to-night to Ambassador Spring-Rice from Sir Lionel Carden, British Minister in Mexico City.

RUSHING WORK ON 30 WAR AEROPLANES

Army and Navy Experts See Tests—Burgess Plant Busy Day and Night.

ONE MACHINE ON WAY TO BORDER

Despite Activity at Factory Federal Officials Deny Government Is Interested.

By GORDON BRUCE. Marblehead, Mass., May 15.—The Burgess company here is working its entire force day and night and Sundays on a big rush order for aeroplanes and hydro-aeroplanes that has been recently placed with the company, generally reported to be for the United States government.

Two navy officers, Lieutenant Richardson and Lieutenant Herberster, are to-day making official tests of the Burgess water machine and will report to the Navy Department immediately as to its efficiency. If the report is favorable, and the indications are that it will be, the government will probably accept it at once, and it is likely that deliveries of this type will follow rapidly.

Machines and parts are now being shipped from the Burgess plant to Texas border points, and it is strongly rumored that the government has placed the biggest single order for aeroplanes and "hydros" ever known in this country, and one that in itself will provide for use in Mexico more machines than have been bought by the United States since the first purchase, in 1909.

Army Expert at Test. Captain A. S. Cowan, who has been in charge of the aeronautical activities of the army in San Diego, arrived here yesterday, and witnessed a demonstration of the Burgess machine by Clifford L. Webster, chief pilot and instructor of the Burgess company.

While Captain Cowan did not commit himself, it was evident that he was much impressed with the performance of the machine. The writer of this article was taken to an altitude of several thousand feet by Webster, and the flight made it clearly apparent why the government should have taken a fancy to the Burgess flyer. Fifty per cent of the time the machine was in the air Webster had his hands off the controls.

He tried its flying qualities in every conceivable manner. He would start a corkscrew glide, lock his levers and fold his hands behind his head for minutes at a time. When the motor was cut off the machine would glide through the air without power and on an even keel for more than a minute.

For some time past there has been a persistent rumor that the government had placed an order for thirty machines with the Burgess company. Although it is admitted at the plant that they are working at top speed both nights and Sundays, W. Starling Burgess and F. H. Russell, his business manager, deny the truth of the report.

When the authorities at Washington were approached in the matter vigorous denials were made by those in both the Navy and War departments.

Representatives Sharp and Padgett freely admit that they have heard rumors of a large order for flying machines having been placed, and Representative Padgett asserted that the Navy Department will have ample funds after July 1 to make a large purchase of machines. In case the emergency appropriation asked for war purposes is voted, such part as the authorities see fit could be applied to the purchase of aeroplanes, and it is known that high officials in the War and Navy departments feel that the excellent showing made with the meagre equipment at Vera Cruz warrants immediate action in the line of increasing the strength of the "fourth arm of the service."

Want Thirty Military 'Planes. Another feature that would tend to support the likelihood of such an order being placed is that for several weeks inquiries have been made among the motor manufacturers abroad as to the possibility of making immediate deliveries to the United States government of from twenty to thirty motors for use in the operations against Mexico.

It is known, too, that other aeroplane manufacturers have been asked

MRS. "LEFTY LOUIE" ON THE WITNESS STAND.



PUT MELLEN DEAL UP TO MCLELLAN

Members of Estimate Board Which Voted Unanimously for Westchester Franchise Changes Refer Inquiries to Ex-Mayor—Ahearn and Haffen Deny Responsibility.

Records show that every member of the Board of Estimate voted for the changes in the franchise and route of the New York, Westchester & Boston Railroad desired by President Mellen of the New Haven. It was because he desired these changes, he testified in Washington on Thursday, that he was induced by Thomas F. Byrnes, former Police Inspector, to set aside 8,000 shares of the New Haven, valued at about \$1,200,000, to buy minority shares of the Westchester.

The application for the changes was made on June 19, 1908, and was granted on December 29 of the same year after a number of hearings. The members of the Board of Estimate at that time were:

Mayor George B. McClellan, Controller Herman A. Metz, Patrick F. McGowan, president of the Board of Aldermen; John F. Ahearn, President of the Borough of Manhattan; Bird S. Coler, President of Brooklyn Borough; Louis F. Haffen, President of The Bronx; Lawrence Grosser, President of Queens, and George Cromwell, President of Richmond.

All But One Democrats. All were Democrats except Cromwell. Mayor McClellan had been fighting Tammany, as had Controller Metz.

All the members of the board who could be reached yesterday seemed rather hazy on the details of the transaction. Ahearn, the Tammany leader of the 4th Assembly District, said Mayor McClellan was the man to talk to, as he controlled the board at that time. Haffen said the same thing.

"That's it, McClellan is the man to interview," said Haffen. "He and some other fellows."

"Who are the other fellows?" he was asked. "Well, never mind," was the reply. Haffen grew peevish when asked for some details.

"I don't know anything about it," he said. "I don't want to know anything about it. I haven't read Mellen's testimony, and I don't want to read it. Mellen can testify to a great many things for all I care."

"Everything I ever did is a matter of record and you can go to the record and get it. Everything I have done in a public career of twenty-seven years has been in the interests of the public."

Former Borough President Ahearn spoke very decidedly. "If you want to get any information on the passage of those amendments concerning which Mr. Mellen is testifying, I would advise you to write to George B. McClellan in Europe. Mr. McClellan was Mayor, and controlled the Board of Estimate at that time; that is, he controlled nine votes, which was a majority."

"The Mayor's three votes, and the three each of the Comptroller and the President of the Board of Aldermen, making a majority of sixteen votes in the board, are cast before the names of the borough presidents are called. Therefore, it is absurd to try to make any sensation out of how the borough presidents voted on that matter, because it did not make a particle of difference, and McClellan controlled the situation absolutely."

When told that he was a member of the sub-committee which reported to

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VINCENT ASTOR NO BETTER TUXPAM YIELDS TO REBELS

Fails to Gain Strength and Honeymoon Trip Is Put Off. The condition of Vincent Astor, according to unconfirmed reports which reached this city last night, has not improved since his marriage to Miss Helen Huntington, three weeks ago.

It is said that he has not gained in strength as was hoped, and that the expected honeymoon trip on his yacht, the Noma, will have to be postponed indefinitely.

At the home of his physician, Dr. James F. McKernon, 62 West 52d st., it was said that the doctor had been out of the city for two days. Servants at the Astor home have also received depressing reports from Rhinebeck of the young millionaire's condition.

VEUVIUS ACTIVE AGAIN High Column of Vapor and Tongues of Flame Issuing. Naples, May 15.—Mount Vesuvius again is active. To-night a high column of vapor and tongues of flame are coming out of the crater.

Catania, May 15.—Earthquake shocks continue with alarming frequency. Mount Etna is extremely active. A number of the houses, weakened by previous shocks, have fallen. Fortunately, however, there have been no fatalities, as the populace of the city and countryside is camped in the open.

DEAD GUNMAN'S WIFE ADMITS HIS CRIME TO STRIKE AT BECKER

Swears Rose Told "Lefty Louie" Killing Rosenthal Was Only Way to Thwart "Frame-Up" by Ex-Lieutenant.

WIDOW'S STORY STARTLES DEFENCE

Lied at First Trial to Save Husband's Life, She Testifies—Plitt, Former Aid to Ex-Head of "Strong Arm" Squad, Turns and Will Help State.

Breaking the silence beyond the electric chair, Mrs. Lillian Rosenberg, widow of "Lefty Louie," the gunman, virtually confessed her husband's part in the killing of Herman Rosenthal in testifying yesterday at the trial of Charles Becker, who is charged with the same crime.

She was the people's witness, and her startling admissions created the first big sensation of the trial and brought gloom to the Becker camp. The prosecution's promise of new corroboration of "Bald Jack" Rose's story of the murder plot was forcefully realized.

The gunman's widow testified that Rose came as Becker's agent to the apartment where she and her husband lived and told "Lefty Louie" that the only way he could keep Becker from "framing up" himself and the other gunmen for carrying concealed weapons was to kill Rosenthal. Subsequent events showed that the gunmen took Rose's tip.

"I lied to save my husband," she told Martin T. Manton, Becker's chief counsel, when he pointed to the record of her testimony at the gunmen's trial, which showed that she denied she heard any talk about Becker or killing Rosenthal between Rose and "Lefty Louie."

Inadvertently, counsel for the defence emphasized the aging nature of her testimony when he sought to discredit the witness by asking her if she had ever told it to any one besides the District Attorney.

"I told Rabbi Kopfstein," she said, "and I promised my husband"

Her answer was cut off at this point with an objection by Mr. Manton.

Rabbi Kopfstein walked with "Lefty Louie" to the electric chair. He is rabbi of the Bronx synagogue where the parents of the dead gunman worship. In the last interview with "Lefty Louie" before he went from the death house to the chair, obtained by The Tribune, speaking from the lesson of his own upward experience, he said:

"Tell the young men of the East Side for me that God is their best friend and the synagogue their best home."

The gunman's widow furnished another prop for Rose's story by testifying that on the evening after the murder "Lefty Louie" came home with a package of money, and she practically saw him distribute it among the other gunmen, all of whom were there. That night, she said, they "packed up their things" and left the city.

Big Day for Prosecution. Yesterday was a big day for the prosecution. The added strength to the case against Becker over that presented by the people at the first trial began to show. Beyond the shadow cast over the defendant by the doll-like wife of the dead Rosenberg lurked another foreboding influence in the testimony of George H. Young, formerly secretary to George Dougherty, Second Deputy Police Commissioner under Rhineclander Waldo.

Young almost clinched the contention of the prosecution that Becker made no effort to apprehend Rose when he knew the police and the District Attorney were looking for him after the murder, and when he (Becker) also knew that Rose was in hiding at the time in the home of Harry Pollok.

Young testified that when Rose was at Police Headquarters, the day he gave himself up, and Becker had seen him in Dougherty's office with the Deputy Commissioner and Inspector Hughes, he met Young outside in the corridor of the building and said:

"I am glad they got Rose. I was just going up and tell the Deputy Commissioner all I knew about Rose and see if they couldn't get him."

The prosecution contends that this was practically a guilty admission of knowledge of Rose's whereabouts and that Becker was trying to "cover" himself after he realized that Rose had turned on him.

Aid Turns on Becker. The opening of the second chapter of the people's case—the chapter of new witnesses—promises further sensational testimony when court reconvenes on Monday. It became known yesterday that Charles B. Plitt, onetime press agent for Becker when the latter was in command of the famous "strong arm" squad, has turned state's evidence and will testify for the people. District Attorney Whitman declined to discuss the possibility of Plitt's testimony or his being called as a witness, but it is said that his testimony is bound to go a long way in corroborating the story of Rose.

Plitt is expected to furnish corroborative evidence of the now famous "Harlem conference," where Becker is said to have given Webber and Rose the final word to "croak" Rosenthal, according to the testimony of the three informers. His close association with Becker up to the very night of the murder raises the possibility of damag-

Excursion to Washington, D. C. Via New Jersey Central, Reading & Baltimore, Sunday, May 17. Leaves N. Y. 11:30 Saturday Night. Liberty St. 12:01 P.M. Return from Washington P.M. May 17.—Adv.

TRAIN HELD UP BY BANDITS Two Masked Men Get Little of Value in Montana. Spokane, Wash., May 15.—Great Northern passenger train No. 1, the Oriental Limited, was held up by two masked men early to-day near Rexford, Mont., but little of value was obtained by the bandits, as the registered pouches had been brought west earlier by the fast mail.

As soon as the train was stopped the mail clerk and baggageman jumped off the train, locked the doors of the combination mail and baggage car, and hid in the bushes alongside the track. When the bandits could not open the doors they dynamited the car and rifled it, after detaching it from the train and running it four miles west to Rondo.

PARKS DEATH VITAL IN MEDIATION WORK

Dictator Must Account for Insane Soldier Reported Executed.

Washington, May 15.—A demand from the State Department has been made to the A B C mediators, who now operate as a means of communication between this and the Huerta government, for a satisfactory explanation of the disappearance within the Federal lines outside of Vera Cruz of Samuel Parks, a private of the 28th Infantry, who, apparently insane, wandered away from his command and entered the district occupied by the Mexicans.

The American army is convinced that Parks was killed by the Mexicans. A note to General Funston asking information about Parks has elicited the reply that Funston is convinced that Parks was shot without the formality of a court martial.

Representations from the State Department to the Mexican government through the mediators have been unsuccessful, and now the United States has made a definite demand on Huerta to produce Parks. The administration takes the ground that in no circumstances was there any justification for the killing of Parks. He went into the Mexican lines with two horses belonging to the lieutenant colonel of the 28th Infantry. There are indications that

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This Morning's News.

THE MEXICAN SITUATION. Mediation Meeting Postponed... 1. Rush 20 Planes for Air Fleet... 1. Huerta Foes Near Capital... 2. War Preparations Rushed... 2. Attack on Saltillo Begun... 3. Bryan Here to Urge Mediation... 3. LOCAL. Gunman's Widow Accuses Becker... 1. Put N. H. Deal Up to McClellan... 1. Suicide's Prayer May Free Convict... 6. Feast Discoverer of Eden... 9. Notables at Army and Navy Ball... 9. Sees City Ruled by Commission... 9. Annual Police Parade To-day... 20. Five Die in Three Fires... 20. Burton Gibson Sentenced... 20. GENERAL. Rural Credits Bill Makes Progress... 4. Youth Confesses Killing Three... 5. Gianini Testifies at Son's Trial... 5. Opponent Predicts End of Penrose... 5. Says Miners Killed Their Leader... 5. MISCELLANEOUS. Woman's Married Interests... 7. Editorial... 8. Society... 9. Obituary... 9. Literary... 10 and 11. Sports... 12 and 13. Religious... 14. Court Calendars, Police, Fire Dept... 15. Financial and Markets... 16, 17 and 18. Real Estate... 18. Army and Navy... 18. Shipping... 19.

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