

DURANGO CITY IS CAPTURED BY CARRANZA

PRESIDENT NOT TO CHANGE HIS POLICY

El Paso, Dec. 9.—Durango, capital of the State of the same name, was captured by the Carranza forces under Col. Castanos of the Arrieta Brigade on Monday, according to reliable information received here today. The Villa garrison was in command of Gen. Calisto Contreras. The attacking force took the town after brief resistance by the defenders.

Jiminez Now Carranza's

It is claimed by Carranza agents here that confirmation has been received of the report that Jiminez is now in the hands of forces loyal to Carranza, the garrison having melted in favor of the First Chief. Carranza's agents here claim that it is very doubtful whether the troops will attempt to hold the town, as they are surrounded by garrisons loyal to Villa.

Prepares for Big Move

All telegraph and railway lines in Carranza territory have been taken over by the "First Chief" in preparation for extensive military movements. It is stated that Gen. Obregon has been despatched to Villahermosa to look after the campaign against Torreón. Should the campaign develop favorably it is believed that Obregon will assume personal charge and that he will be allowed to make heavy raids on garrisons in the American side controlled by Carranza, as the plan is then to follow Villa to Mexico city.

DIAZ MAY ENTER LISTS

El Paso, Dec. 9.—News was received here tonight that Felix Diaz, nephew of the President of Mexico, had left New York for El Paso to join the revolution of Jose Ynez Salazar. This is said to mean that he is to be proclaimed provisional President by Salazar and that his capital will be established at Juarez. Salazar can capture the border town from the Villistas. It has been rumored ever since Salazar reappeared in Mexico that his revolt is being financed by the Cientificos. Diaz has always been identified with that faction.

NO SHIFT IN POLICY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Indications appeared here today that the Administration is finally preparing to deal with the situation at Naco, Ariz., where during the last two months forty-four persons have been struck by bullets fired on the Mexican side of the border. Gen. Bliss and other military officials of artillery are on their way to Naco.

Aggressive Action Not Intended in Sending Troops to Naco

While the White House announced today that no aggressive action is contemplated, it is pointed out that any movement there might well be called "defensive." In other words, the artillery being sent to Naco might be used to shell the Maytorena forces beyond Naco, Sonora, without doing any injury to the town and effects on the Maytorena side of the present menace of stray bullets.

Statement Given out at the White House on the subject was as follows:

It has been thought wise to strengthen the forces at Naco because of the reckless carelessness of the Maytorena forces in failing to control the action of their fire. Of course no aggressive action is contemplated.

Gov. Hunt Delays Allen Law

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 9.—Gov. Hunt issued the following statement today on the alien labor law recently favored by referendum: "The statutes of Arizona direct me to issue my proclamation relative to initiative and referendum measures forthwith and the certification of the election returns by the Secretary of State. I interpret 'forthwith' to mean within such a brief period of time as is necessary for the preparation of the proclamation in connection with other duties of my office."

FRENCH UNIVERSITIES REPLY TO GERMANY

Blame Prussian Militarism for War and Destruction of Historic Edifices.

The answer of the universities of France to the recent address of German universities to American universities was made public yesterday by Dr. A. Geoffroy de Lapradelle, visiting French professor at Columbia University. Dr. de Lapradelle is the official representative of the universities of France, all of which, with the exception of Lille, which is in territory occupied by the Germans, were consulted before the answer was prepared.

The manifesto follows: "The universities of France address the following manifesto to the universities of neutral countries: 'The German universities have just protested against the accusations made against their country upon the occasion of the recent address of the American universities. We limit ourselves to submitting the following questions: 'Who started war? 'Who strove to find means of conciliation during the two short times left to Europe for its deliberation? Who refused all proposals of conciliation emanating from England, Russia, France and Italy?'

'Who, at the very moment when the conflict seemed to have been averted, unloosed war as if a propitious opportunity had been watched for and awaited? 'Who violated Belgian neutrality after having solemnly promised to respect it? 'Who, upon this occasion, declared that neutrality was but a word, that treaties are mere scraps of paper and that in time of war 'one does what one can?'

'Who holds as void those international conventions by which signatory Powers agreed that in the conduct of war force should never be exerted barbarously or perfidiously and that historical monuments, hospitals, scientific, artistic or religious structures should be spared excepting when used for military purposes by the enemy? 'Who, in violation of the Convention of Louvain destroyed? 'Under what conditions was the Cathedral of Rheims burned? 'Under what conditions were incendiary bombs thrown on Notre Dame of Paris?'

'To these questions the facts alone may give an answer. 'You may consult the documents published by the chancellors, the results of investigations by neutral countries, the evidence found in German notebooks, the evidence afforded by the ruins of Belgium and the ruins of France. These are the facts.

'Against these proofs flat denials such as have been given by representatives of German science and German art, supported by the German press, are not sufficient. Nor is it sufficient to say as do the German universities that 'the world knows our teachings and that they could not have made a nation believe in such conditions as these. 'We know what has been the value of those teachings. But we also know that Germany having forsaken the traditions of Liebniz, Kant and Goethe, German thought has declared itself one with and subject to Prussian militarism and carried away by its present claims to universal dominion.

'We have abundant proofs of such pretensions. Just recently a professor of the University of Leipzig wrote: 'The fate of future European culture rests upon our shoulders. 'The universities of France, however, continue to believe that civilization is the work not of a single nation but of all nations and that the moral and intellectual wealth of humanity is created by the mutual rivalry and necessary independence of the manifestations of the genius of all nationalities.

'The universities of France for their part, together with the allied armies, are defending the liberty of the world. 'The manifesto is signed by the universities of Paris, Aix-Marseille, Alger, Besancon, Bordeaux, Caen, Clermont, Dijon, Grenoble, Lyon, Montpellier, Nancy, Poitiers, Rennes and Toulouse.

PHONE PLANT IN CITY VALUED AT \$65,961,661

Public Service Commission Gets Appraisal in Rate Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Secretary McAdoo said today that he expected soon to reach some determination as to the exercise of the discretion vested in him of making the Federal reserve banks depositaries of the Government. A report has been received that Mr. McAdoo intended to deposit the bulk of the Government funds in the banks of the three Southern districts, at Atlanta, Richmond and Dallas.

WILL FIGHT M'ADOO ON BIG DEPOSITS IN SOUTH

Reserve Board May Try to Derive Secretary of Discretionary Power.

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Explains Darkened Lights

Commissioner Williams Answers Charge That Lives Are Endangered.

Answering the charge that the city is endangering the lives of its citizens by discontinuing street lights in poorly lighted sections, Commissioner Williams of the Department of Water, Gas and Electricity issued a statement last night. It was intimated that murders such as the Hoff murder are facilitated by the removal of lights in question.

ESTATE TO PAY THE TAX

The reappraisal of the estate of Benjamin Altman, which Surrogate Fowler ordered because he was not satisfied with the valuation of \$125 a share for stock in the corporation of B. Altman & Co., was filed yesterday by Appraiser John V. Hoag.

NEW VALUE OF \$225 ON B. ALTMAN STOCK

Reappraisal Affects About 2,500 Shares Out of Total of 30,000.

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PLEADS LACK OF CASH FOR BEDFORD NEEDS

Miss Rebecca Moore, Superintendent, Questioned by Investigators.

Miss Rebecca Moore, who succeeded Miss Katherine B. Davis, as superintendent of the Bedford Reformatory for Girls, testified yesterday when a committee from the State Board of Charities resumed its investigation of the charges made against the present management of the institution by Dr. Rudolph P. Diedling, State Commissioner of Prisons. She met some of the points of attack by saying unfortunately conditions exist because of poor facilities and economy by the State, and other points of criticism she left unanswered because she said she was not acquainted with the inner details of the institution's management.

Members of the commission poked-nood the suggestion that Miss Moore might be replaced as a result of the inquiry, intimating that suggestive criticism would probably alter for the better any unfavorable conditions that may exist at the Bedford reformatory.

One line of inquiry with which Miss Moore was pressed related to the number of girls kept in disciplinary wards for continued periods, but whose mental deficiency gave the Bedford authorities the right by law to return them to the districts whence they came. Secretary H. W. Heberd was told that since Miss Moore took charge twenty-two of these girls had been sent away. Miss Moore said there were probably 100 others who might be sent away.

A letter which Miss Moore read, written by James B. Wood, a resident officer of the reformatory, to Gov. Glynn early last August, threw light on the reasons for poor food and heating facilities of which Dr. Diedling complained. It was to the effect that the State's appropriation was not large enough to pay adequate running expenses.

When instances of low temperatures in some of the dormitories were brought to Miss Moore's attention she said it was next to impossible to keep all the buildings warm in cold weather with the boiler house as it is now.

"I don't see any way of keeping the boiler house warm," said Miss Moore. "It is not money in any way. I would like to have dynamite with which to blow it up, it is such a menace to us. Our boiler house is being remodelled and new boilers installed, but contractors' delays have held up completion and I can't say when the new system will be entirely completed."

"When one day in cold storage is likely to cause a girl illness from which she will not wholly recover," said Mr. Heberd. "Is it true, as has been stated in a printed account, that girls in the Heberd house had their shoes taken away as a disciplinary measure when their temperature was 92 degrees?"

"I don't know any girls at Rebecca Moore had their shoes taken away to keep them quiet," said Miss Moore. "The inquiry will be resumed Monday."

August E. Moran, managing director of the Hotel Nederland, has opened the main restaurant in the hotel after having decorated it. It is a large room, Romanesque in style and is expected to be one of the most beautiful of its kind.

Considerable interest is being taken by women visitors at the Hotel Algonquin in West Forty-fourth street, of which Frank P. Jones is manager, in the work of making dolls' dresses, which will be sent to many poor children for Christmas.

Improvements and alterations have been made on the Hotel Algonquin in West Fifty-seventh street, of which J. A. Peabody has charge.

Raymond Ortega, proprietor of the Hotel Brevoort and the Cafe Lafayette, was entertained at lunch by friends in honor of his safe return after many weeks stay in the war zone. Among those who attended the luncheon were: J. J. Page, M. J. Sanger, J. Bloch, E. Blockard, H. Adelman, H. Prince, J. Weil, S. Lowenstein, M. Chappelle, William Healy, A. Guggenheim, Charles E. Gehring, E. Lambert, J. Michaels, B. Kandler, Louis Bus-

At the thirty-sixth annual meeting of the Hotel Association of New York City, held last night at the Hotel Astor, the following officers were elected:

Thomas D. Green, proprietor of the Hotel Woodward, president; David H. Knott of the Hotel Erie, vice-president; William H. Valiquette of the Hotel Woodstock, treasurer; Harry P. Stimpson of the Hotel Cumberland, secretary.

The following were elected to the executive committee: George C. Boldt of the Waldorf-Astoria, Fred A. Reed, Park Avenue Hotel, and John M. Bowdman of the Hotel Marlborough.

For the first time in the history of the Horse Show in this city there will be a horse show ball. It will be given in the Cascade ballroom on the nineteenth floor of the Biltmore Hotel, to-morrow night, under the patronage of women prominent in society, for the benefit of the Red and White Crosses. There will be exhibited at the ball by some well known dancers the latest variations of the fox trot and oyster. Maurice and Florence Walton will introduce a new dance based on the canter, trot and gallop of some of the blue ribbon winners at the Garden State at \$2.50 each on sale at the Biltmore and at Madison Square Garden.

Among the patronesses are Mrs. E. Henry Hardman, Mrs. Leonard Wood, Mrs. Henry Fairfield Osborn, Mrs. Colgate Hoyt, Mrs. James H. McKee, Mrs. William Curtis Demorest, Mrs. Lindsey Tappan, Mrs. J. Rich Steves, Mrs. J. Ferguson Kellogg, Mrs. C. Vanderbilt Barton, Mrs. Henry W. Taft and Miss Mabel Boardman.

Arrivals at the Hotel Astor were: Mr. and Mrs. H. Strickman, Kansas City; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Clarke, Cincinnati; John P. T. Evans and Mr. and Mrs. Wertheimer of London, England; Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Gregory of Salisbury, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Stevenson, Wheeling, W. Va., and Leut. R. B. Homer, Paymaster, U. S. Army, and Ensign E. M. Collins of the United States navy.

Arrivals at the Vanderbilt Hotel were: Col. Nicola Golejewski, Military Attaché of the Russian Embassy in Washington, who has returned to his apartment; Princess Engelichoff, who has returned from Chicago and rejoined the Prince at their apartment; Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster P. Clark of Watertown, Conn.; W. C. Johnson, vice-president of the Columbia National Life Insurance Company of Boston; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Meadman of Pittsburgh and Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Hampton of Montclair.

Arrivals at Hotel Marlborough were: W. E. Barrett and wife of Newport News, Va.; Mr. and Mrs. J. Goodrich of Lynn, Mass.; Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Coe of Guilford, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Butler of Bridgeport, Conn.; S. V. Lippitt of San Juan, P. R.; J. B. Williams of Stroudsburg, Pa.; and H. L. Mckenahan of Baltimore, Md.

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NEW OFFICERS CHOSEN BY CITY HOTEL ASSOCIATION

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CHARGE PACT TO FIX RATES OF FIRE RISKS

Insurance Commissioners Act to Discourage Monopolistic Tendencies.

Charges of combining to prevent competition in rates were made yesterday against the fire insurance companies of the country at the second session of the national convention of insurance commissioners at the Hotel Astor. The commissioners, representing twenty-six States, adopted a resolution which provides a tentative plan for legislation to discourage monopolistic tendencies.

The resolution recommends that laws be enacted enlarging the reviewing power of Western State insurance commissioners. It is intimated that such new laws will lead to the abolition of the present rate control as it exists in New York, New Jersey and other Eastern States. The resolution reads in part as follows:

"The business of fire insurance is conducted practically without competitive rates. Fire insurance companies adhere to a common schedule of rates. The agreement, if not expressed is implied. Where such general practice is justified and demanded by economic conditions it should be recognized and not prohibited. The public can be protected by requiring such agreements to be definite and in writing and to be made openly and publicly, and by prohibiting agreements which are found to be contrary to the public interest."

The second meeting of the convention probably will be concluded to-morrow morning, the third session to be held next April in Chicago. The first was held at Nashville in September.

Life Insurance Presidents to Meet To-day

The eighth annual meeting of the Association of Life Insurance Presidents will be held to-day and to-morrow at the Hotel Astor. Jesse H. Clark, president of the Union Central Life Insurance Company of Cincinnati, will be chairman. Among the speakers will be A. Barton Hepburn, State Commissioner of Education, John H. Finley and Arthur Hunter.

BIG TIM'S ESTATE MILLION NET

\$10,718 Blumenstiel Claim to Be Paid on Ellison Examination.

Ex-Corporation Counsel William R. Ellison, who has been appointed receiver of the estate of Timothy D. Sullivan to act with the executors in administering the affairs of the estate and in passing on the validity of claims, announced yesterday that on each Tuesday he will summon creditors before him and by virtue of his power as a court officer will examine the claimants under oath.

The first creditor to be examined, summoned yesterday, was Emanuel Blumenstiel, a lawyer, who for many years was a political adviser of Big Tim Blumenstiel. He announced that the estate will amount to at least \$1,000,000 net, even if the total of \$700,000 in claims is paid.

This advertisement could announce what a record breaking feat of journalism rests in the publishing of the splendid

Christmas Number The Sun NEXT SUNDAY

but will only let you know that the features contained therein have been selected by men trained for years in preparing special numbers of newspapers in all their departments, who really believe this Christmas Number is the best thing they have ever produced.

A FEW OF THE EXTRA FEATURES ARE "Evening News"

Is a picture reproduced from a painting by F. Luis Mora and fairly sings in its glowing colors. Experts who have compared it with the finest of the prints published by London illustrated newspapers say it is far finer in color work and printing. It is essentially a picture for New Yorkers and possesses that charm which makes it worthy of a frame.

"Picturesque New York"

Here is a collection of Mielatz etchings, eight in number, and printed on fine paper in a separate section of sixteen pages, which are at once a valuable historic record and an artistic treat. Charles F. Mielatz has been making etchings of New York since boyhood and in this collection he gives to you the very soul of the city in beautiful and quaint spots which you never realized existed. The section makes an important addition to your book shelf.

The War Illustrated

Is an eight page section containing scenes sketched on the battle fronts of the German and Allied armies by Europe's foremost illustrators.

Pictorial Magazine

An eight page section full of timely articles, fiction and good features.

Although many thousands of extra copies are printed The Sun's Special Numbers sell out early at the newsstands. So to avoid missing yours next Sunday

ORDER TO-DAY