

By the Riggs National Bank. Up to the filing of the suit yesterday the Department of Justice had not had before it for official consideration the controversy between the Treasury Department and the Riggs National Bank, but knew in a general way that these existed and might result in some character of litigation.

Several hours later—apparently after the Attorney-General had learned that the Riggs Bank was emphasizing its discrepancy between its own and Comptroller Williams' statement—the Department of Justice called up the newspapers and added the following sentence to its statement:

The Department of Justice and the Treasury Department are in accord and heartily cooperating in this suit.

It was noted, however, that even in his amended statement the Attorney-General declines to suppress Comptroller Williams' statement that Mr. Brandeis had previously been retained to look into the alleged "irregularities and unlawful practices" of the bank. The Attorney-General refused to commit himself on the question of irregularities and merely announces that Mr. Brandeis has been retained to defend the injunction suit.

**Forced Upon Department.**

The understanding in Washington is that Mr. Brandeis is there upon the Department of Justice by Treasury officials.

It is said that Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller Williams are in the way of the President's legal adviser, the Attorney-General, called in Mr. Brandeis for an opinion as to what could be done in the way of forcing the Riggs Bank to give the Comptroller certain information which he had called for.

Comptroller Williams' statement was criticized by Administration supporters today because of its abusive and undignified character. They felt that the Comptroller had injured his own cause by failing to make a terse and dignified reply setting forth all of the facts.

Many conferences were held during the day by officials in regard to the suit. The temporary injunction issued by the District Supreme Court yesterday was served upon Secretary McAdoo, Comptroller Williams and Treasurer Burke today. It is possible that the defendants may file a cross bill before the case comes up for argument on Friday next.

The political aspects of the fight between the Treasury officials and the Riggs National Bank are already engaging the attention of officials here, for it is realized that the bitter struggle between the Riggs bank group and Mr. McAdoo and Mr. Williams is bound to develop political features of the first importance.

Administration followers are preparing to raise the cry of Standard Oil, although the Riggs bank is merely allied to the national city in the bitter struggle. The fight in the opinion of official Washington is bound to breed intense bitterness and to spread rapidly beyond the mere relations of the Treasury with the Riggs bank.

**Wilson's Friends Depressed.**

The beginning of the fight at this time is particularly depressing to the President's friends who have been supporting him in his desire for a rest from agitation against the banking and business interests of the country.

A majority of the transactions which Comptroller Williams criticizes took place before he entered office and many of them were passed upon by bank examiners under previous administrations. The Comptroller, however, has insisted on laying bare and digging into the record of the bank of the last eighteen years, or ever since its organization.

The bank officers point out that the Comptroller himself acknowledged that the institution is solvent. They add that its financial condition cannot be affected in the slightest by the transactions which the Comptroller is criticizing because a majority of them are matters of ancient history. The officers insist that the Comptroller's desire to dig into the history of the bank and to review matters that are plain to the eye of any administration is evidence of malice and a desire to embarrass the bank.

In regard to the real estate loans, which the Comptroller has attacked, bank officers say they personally took the risks to accommodate customers whose business they desired to keep and that the profits were shared with them. They were willing to assume this personal risk because the customers were large stockholders in the bank and through these advanced profits they obtained increased dividends.

In regard to the Riggs bank suit it was recalled today that the men now under attack are those to whom President Wilson is indebted. They have referred in a speech, after he was elected but before he took the oath of office. It was at Hoboken that a social worker in the Treasury Department was in Washington. The President then said that the remark had excited him because it was put my nose to the grindstone and the end of a trail I will follow with zeal.

**Not Wilson's Fight.**

The present disposition in Washington, however, is that the present fight is a matter of fact it is likely to result in embarrassments for him.

The hearing of the reports demanded of the bank by Comptroller Williams called for all loans to Secretaries of the Treasury, to Comptrollers of the Currency and to national bank examiners in the last ten years. When this information was given Comptroller Williams wrote to the bank:

From your letter of December 9 it is noted that the money loaned by the Riggs National Bank to the Assistant Secretaries of the Treasury during the past ten years was apparently made to those Assistant Secretaries who were or had been in charge of fiscal bureaus embracing the bureau having supervision of the currency and to national bank examiners in the last ten years. When this information was given Comptroller Williams wrote to the bank:

"Not because required to do so, but in defence of its own integrity and honor of the former high government official, the plaintiff addressed to the defendant, Williams, a letter pointing out that out of nine former Assistant Secretaries of the Treasury, named in the report, eight were in the cabinet and the defendant referred to, as above quoted, the loans which five of them had with the plaintiff were made at a time when they had no official connection with the United States Government whatever, and giving him details showing the entire propriety respecting the loans made to the remaining four thereof.

"The plaintiff is not advised how the formation thus demanded by the defendant Williams or in what respect the statement made by him in an official communication and last above quoted were pertinent or necessary to a full and complete knowledge of the condition of the plaintiff bank."

Thompson contained in Mr. Williams' citation of Inspiration Copper in his booklet of stocks is therefore looked upon entirely as a slip.

How far astray the Comptroller went in picking up Inspiration as a cripple caused amusement in Wall Street. Inpiration at 15, the price Mr. Williams cites for cure, as carried in the loan, was within two points of its par value, or at 90 per cent. of full value. Yesterday the stock was quoted at 31, or more than 150 per cent. of par value.

Mr. Williams' criticism of the collateral under loans by the Riggs bank was held to be unjust for the reason that the adequacy of collateral can never be judged from a selection of a few titles making up the total, as indicated in Mr. Williams' selection of Rock Island and Frisco, without naming the whole list.

The character of the borrower is also a consideration. Furthermore, it is shown that the present value of Missouri Pacific is almost twice that appearing in the loan and that of American Can is about ten points higher.

The practice of national banks buying and selling stocks for customers, which received the condemnation of the Comptroller in the case of the Riggs National, is followed by the stronger national banks as a convenience to their customers.

"If, on the other hand, the bank is defeated in the courts, which it does not anticipate, or if by means of the prestige and power of the Comptroller's office, its business can be materially diminished, the occupant of that position will be able to exercise despotic power in the future.

"In this connection it is worthy of note that in his first and only official report, the present Comptroller of the Currency prayed Congress to confer on him authority to remove at his discretion any director of national bank and without trial or judicial procedure to fine personally any officer of a national bank who disobeyed any regulation of the office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

"Under the circumstances this bank feels that it has a fair claim upon all bankers, and particularly members of the national system, for their confidence, indorsement and moral support."

**Full Support Given.**

Big men in the American banking world said yesterday that the Riggs National had all of this. It is not in New York that any big bank will bring any action of its own against the officials of the Treasury Department or take an active part in the pushing of the Riggs National suit or any new suit. It was said definitely, however, that if a number of banks in New York chose to do so, they had better be prepared sufficient to warrant protective action by them, and that many banks outside of New York have likewise.

Another effect of the incident, which in the opinion of national bankers will prove embarrassing to the Administration and the Federal Reserve Board, will be the tendency of State bank trust companies to keep out of the Federal reserve system while existing conditions continue. The reserve board and the directors of the reserve banks, have been trying to make the reserve system a drawing card for the State institutions. It is recognized that without the State institutions, the reserve system will fall short of the powerful position in the country that it was hoped to attain.

Wall Street pointed out yesterday a misstep made by the Comptroller in his reply to the Riggs bank statement, in which he inadvertently reflected on the financial standing of a man generally credited with representing the McAdoo-Williams influence in the disrepute of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, James Edgar Cooper. The president of this company, which is held in high esteem, is W. B. Thompson of New York, a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of this district. Mr. Thompson was noted to the board of the reserve bank as a representative of the smaller banks, and his selection was made at a time when the McAdoo-Williams forces were trying to get representatives on the board who would be in accord with their policies.

**Recorded as a Slip.**

It was considered at the time that Mr. Thompson's election was highly gratifying to the Treasury officials, whose influence was being directly used upon the smaller banks in the election contest. The indirect slap at Mr.

**EX-DICTATOR HUERUASEES BROADWAY WHITE LIGHTS**

Spends Day in Seclusion at Hotel, but at Night He Strolls Forth to See Sights—Is Amused by Agitation of Mexicans Over Him.

Gen. Victoriano Huerta, ex-dictator of Mexico, Hiles New York, or what little he has seen of it. He remained secluded in his apartments in the Hotel Ansonia, but ventured forth at night under the escort of a few friends and had his first sight of Broadway.

He dined at Lorber's Restaurant, where he was recognized and welcomed with the Mexican national anthem by the orchestra. Later he strolled back under the white lights, showing a lively interest in the crowds and the electric signs. But during the day Gen. Huerta was rendered inaccessible by the faithful attentions of his bodyguard, his secretary, Jose Delgado, and his friend, Abraham Ratner.

Reporters, photographers, even personal friends, were ruthlessly repelled by Mr. Ratner, who, with his back against the glass paneled entrance door of the General's apartments at the Ansonia, smilingly reiterated that the General could see no one, that he would make no statement before Friday and that when Friday came everybody would be invited.

As a matter of fact the General spent the morning in bed and the rest of the day in picturesque idleness. He was by no means idle, for he made a great collation of correspondence to read, and the writing of many letters, he had the newspaper accounts of his arrival to skim through, in translation. Also he found considerable amusement in stories published in some of the papers—and it may be a shade exaggerated—of his terrors at receiving on the dock, when he arrived, what was supposed to be those with Haveler imaginations that the General to be a bomb. Of his many callers only a very few were admitted and these were among his closest personal friends. The others, especially those in search of local color, were forced to content themselves with the discreet replies of Mr. Ratner, who the General had no opinions about the European war, save that he was in entire agreement with those potentates who are leading the cause of prohibition in the several realms; that he himself tomes nothing stronger than beer or light wines and resolutely denies himself the stimulating cognac or the enlivening whiskey.

Gen. Huerta's frank scepticism concerning the reported "bomb," or others, is alleged to have been fully shared by his opponent in the middle of all this, Huerta lies on his bed in the Ansonia, chuckling over the enterprise of the American press, what time the faithful Mr. Ratner, who is going to waste his time in killing a man who is already dead.

"We are not interesting ourselves in Huerta's arrival at New York," said Enriquez, the Consul. "Any stories that you hear to the contrary, such as that we have appealed to Washington to have him arrested, are the most nonsense. Why should we trouble ourselves to do anything of the sort? Consider—it is said there are 300 Huertistas, exiles, in New York? How many went down to the dock to meet him? A thousand? Two hundred? No, there were two—only two of the least ten Huertistas, and one of them was Parades, who was formerly his treasurer."

So far from objecting to the General's presence in New York, went on the Villa representative, it would be an excellent thing if he went on to Mexico. Not only would it prove how utterly dead is his cause, but it might have the effect of removing, if not Villa and Carranza themselves, at least many of their followers; they at least were both Mexicans and faithful to their common country even if they differed about the best way in which it should be governed. In fact, he added, were it not for the ineffable obstinacy of Carranza, who he insisted that everything must be done except as he said, it will—all sorts of things were possible.

As to Huerta, went on the Consul, he died politically very shortly after his expulsion from the country. At that time the army was very generally favorable to the Carranzistas, and it was very well known that he was a wealthy man. Many of his exiled followers were quite the reverse. They wrote him from New Orleans, where they were in exile, asking him for money, as they were starving. Did he send it? Not a single penny. And, as the result, even if you grant that many of his partisans might not wish to identify themselves too publicly with his cause at the moment, there are no more than two of them have faith enough to welcome him when he revisits the New World.

Meanwhile it is rumored that a number of Madero partisans are all gathered together, in or about West 42nd street, and that the Carranzistas, who again, have also marshalled their clans, for some purpose unknown. Every Mexican in New York, in fact, feels his bosom thrill with possibilities, and in the middle of all this, Huerta lies on his bed in the Ansonia, chuckling over the enterprise of the American press, what time the faithful Mr. Ratner, who is going to waste his time in killing a man who is already dead.

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Early in the winter the servants in a house on North Washington Square gave a ball to raise money to send comforts to the soldiers in France. The ball had the sanction of the minister in charge of the home, and assisted in collecting the money from the guests.

A postal card has been received from Marseille. It is of the kind often signed by French soldiers, and is signed by Dr. Viardot, formerly of the 302d Infantry. It is dated March 13 and the doctor apologizes for the wording of the letter, which he used English for five years. He writes:

"When the clothes you so kindly sent to our brave troops arrived I was speaking to the officers and two medical officers, opening the bundle I found your letter, which explained how the things came to be sent and asked for some news from the front and make haste to thank you for your kindness and for the good wishes which accompanied your gifts. Just now, as you see, I am in the front, but I have been ill and am now getting better."

"What a terrible war and how many brave young men have fallen! On the 18th of February we had about 250 soldiers killed. The night was at Epargues, but the Bochesmen fallen were 5,000 to 6,000. I would like to write you some news and I'll be very happy to hear from you."

"I am sure you are kind enough to accept my best thanks, my most sincere friendship. Long life to our British friends! That's the wish of a true Frenchman."

Below are given the contributions received for the purchase of the totals of the various war relief funds:

**WOMEN SEEK WAR JOBS**

Want Positions as Ambulance Drivers in France.

Special Table Drafted to Tax Sex.

PARIS, April 13.—Miss Jeanne Pallier, who is trying to persuade the Government to authorize the cooperation of the Women's Automobile Club, in the course of formation, from aviators and at the front, tells the correspondent of THE SUN that she is anxious to obtain an honorary position of the club.

Miss Pallier, who is an aviator as well as a licensed automobile driver, severely criticizes the French authorities for not admitting more aviators or chauffeurs to help the forces in the fighting line. She says:

"I can imagine nothing more inspiring for our women than to see their countrymen flying over the enemy. There are plenty of women of the requisite strength, nerve and experience, but the authorities obstinately refuse."

"There is the same difficulty now in regard to granting permission to women to act as chauffeurs in the trenches. Many hope to surmount it. Women in France are treated too much as objects and too little as individuals. Among the 200 women of the Automobile Club, one of the Digneuse d'Uzeau, who was the first woman to obtain a chauffeur's license in France; Jean Catalie Mendes, Helene Patrieu, Louise Maréchal, and Marie Martini. We would be delighted to have American women members, especially an American woman as honorary president."

**GREEN STRIPE SCOTCH**

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**KRONPRINZ ASKS TIME FOR REPAIRS**

Formal Request Forwarded to Washington—Three Weeks Work Necessary.

**GOES IN DRY DOCK TO-DAY**

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., April 13.—Capt. Lieut. Thierfelder handed to Collector of Customs Hamilton today two formal communications embodying a request for a definite period in which to repair the German converted cruiser Kronprinz Wilhelm, which is at anchor off the custom house here.

The German officer asked only for time to complete temporary repairs to his ship's sides and engines, which are needed to place her in a seaworthy condition. He had been informed by the shipping experts who surveyed the ship yesterday that it would take eight months to repair all of the damage which had been done by her 255 days voyage.

Collector Hamilton refused to disclose the number of days which had been asked for, saying that it was a matter which only an official of the Treasury Department at Washington could discuss. It is known, however, that the supposed representatives of the German Government had asked for and it is believed that their recommendation was accepted by Thierfelder.

Preparations are being made at the shipyard to receive the ship in dry dock tomorrow afternoon. The repairs for which Thierfelder has made tentative arrangements consist of the raked plates in the ship's sides and her boilers.

Thierfelder's request was forwarded to the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury at Washington to-day. The decision of this Government as to the time the Kronprinz Wilhelm may remain here without interfering will be communicated to the 12-man Captain in a day or two.

Capt. Lieut. Thierfelder reiterated today his declaration that he could slip past the allied warships off the Virginia Capes as easily as he could slip them on entering Hampton Roads. Sunday morning he asserted that he would make the attempt as soon as his ship is in condition for him to do so.

"I am a very small man," he said, tapping himself lightly on the top of the head. "I amount to nil if by any act of mine I can serve my country. It was easy for me to get in and it will be equally easy to get out again."

Reminded that almost certain electric searchlights would be directed against him, he bravely the vigilance of the reformed enemy squadron now lying in wait for him outside the three mile limit of the capes.

"I do not want to risk our lives needlessly, but what do our lives matter when we are called on to fulfill a duty to Germany?"

Capt. Thierfelder to-day told a number of petty officers to compile a new crew list, giving the nationality of each member. He acted as he requested them, an officer of Customs Hamilton, who is making an investigation of reports that naturalized Americans formerly in the United States Navy are members of the German crew. Hamilton said that should develop that there are American citizens in the crew he will ask for a conference with them.

Capt. Thierfelder denied that Capt. Roy-Ed. Naval Attaché of the German Embassy at Washington, visited his ship yesterday.

**THE OPEN AIR ROUTE TO PHILADELPHIA**

You Pass Through Beautiful Country—but No Tunnels On the

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—James Eads How, the "millionaire hobo," was ousted as boss of the hobos at the convention at the Holiday Street Theatre to-day by the Industrial Workers of the World faction.

John Murray, James Scott and Ben Fletcher, the last a negro, delegates of the Philadelphia local of the International Brotherhood of Workers of the World, members of the I. W. W. and exponents of the doctrine of physical force, just lifted, brought about the election of a new chairman, Alexander Law of New York, "compromise" candidate, to succeed How and ran things to suit themselves.

**HOBOES OUST JAMES EADS HOW.**

I. W. W. Faction Controls Convention and Elects a New Yorker.

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**WARSHIP TO TUXPAM TO SAVE AMERICANS**

Admiral Caperton Rushing to Mexican Port Where Battle Is On.

**FIGHTING AT MATAMOROS**

WASHINGTON, April 13.—With the army transport Sumner about to leave for Tampico to bring back to the United States 800 American refugees, reports were received today of desperate fighting at Tuxpam, just south of Tampico, where twenty Americans are believed to be in danger.

Rear-Admiral Caperton, commanding the squadron on the east coast of Mexico, reported late today that he was proceeding to Tuxpam in his flagship, the Washington. It is expected that he will take on board the Americans and other foreigners at Tuxpam, if conditions have not improved by the time of his arrival.

Villa forces attacked Tuxpam on Sunday night and captured the town on Monday morning. Later in the day, however, the Carranza forces recaptured the place, but fighting still continues. Meantime Carranza has sent the gunboat Bravo from Tampico to Tuxpam. Additional troops are also being sent from Tampico to Victoria and El Paso, where the Villistas have been making attacks.

Fighting has resumed at Matamoros also, according to advices to the State Department. The Villista attack started at 9:30 this morning, and according to the Villa agency's dispatches is proceeding favorably for their side. The Carranza agency asserted to-night that the Villa force was routed.

With regard to the decree issued in Chihuahua requiring all mines to be operated under penalty of forfeiture, the State Department has been assured there is no intention to injure legitimate mining enterprises and that each company may secure exemption from the provisions of the decree by making representations to the proper authorities at Chihuahua. It is said that it is advisable for all owners of mining property in Chihuahua to get in touch with the Villa authorities in that State.

**"KEEP HUERTA AWAY."**

Villa Says If He Must Enter U. S. Let Him Avoid Border.

El Paso, April 13.—A earnestly protested against allowing this villain to land in the United States, but if you must let old man Huerta land, keep him away from the border," is the message which is being sent to the relative to Gen. Victoriano Huerta, ex-dictator of Mexico. In another message to his counsel here he authorized him to make an official protest to the United States.

"Villa was busy sending messages today. One said that Emiliano Zapata (at this moment has informed me that he is despatching some of his