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INDIANS ASK \$6,000 EACH.

Members of Cowlitz Tribe Petition Government for Land Payments.

George Jack of Gate acted as secretary of the sessions of the Cowlitz Indians in Chehalis last week, as the result of which the tribe adopted a strong petition requesting the federal government to grant each individual member of the tribe \$6,000 as compensation for lands taken from them by the government and now occupied by white men. The petition is really another form

of the demand which the members of the tribe made through an attorney several years ago, when they asked that the tribe be paid \$3,000,000. It is estimated that there are between 500 and 600 members of the tribe living today, and if each is given \$6,000 the total figure the government will pay to the tribe will be approximately the same as was asked before.

Mrs. Annie Hiten of Tenino is a member of the committee named to obtain a complete list of members of the tribe, so that the exact number to be provided for may be included in the petition.

FROM PRIVATE TO CHIEF OF STAFF

Rapid Rise in Army of Sir William Robertson.

LEARNED DIALECTS IN INDIA

Through South African Campaign Earned Praise of Roberts and Kitchener—Studied Continental Army Systems—Had Much to Do With Preparation of British Expeditionary Force.

British Headquarters, France.—Little is known to the outside world about Sir William Robertson, K. C. V. O., K. C. B., D. S. O., whose remarkable career from the ranks to chief of staff of the army is so well known to the army itself. His work in relation to that of Sir John French, the commander in chief, has been described as that of the general manager of a great corporation to that of its president.

A powerfully built country boy, he came to London at the age of nineteen and enlisted in the Ninth lancers. Promotion from the ranks is not frequent. The majority of officers come from the military school at Sandhurst. But the door is kept open for a private of good education and character. By passing a stiff examination he may secure a commission.

Young Robertson had had only an elementary education, but set out to make up for the deficiency by study.



Photo by American Press Association. SIR WILLIAM ROBERTSON.

He invested his shilling a day—which is the pay of a British private—in books. As a British regular trooper has none too much time to himself, he used to get comrades to read to him from Bacon and the English classics while he was grooming his horse or cleaning his equipment.

In the course of lineal promotion he could never hope to be more than a major. Special promotion could come only through distinguishing himself. MacDonald, who won fame by his charge at Omdurman, and other eminent British commanders who had risen from the ranks had won their way as natural leaders of men in the field.

Four years after he had received his commission he had won enough attention to be assigned to the intelligence branch of the quartermaster's department in India. There he found his opportunity. Rewards are given officers for learning native dialects. To the average officer there is nothing attractive in spending hours with a native munshi or teacher in acquiring a tongue which can be of use with only some frontier tribe. Robertson offered his munshi a quarter of the reward when he was proficient enough to earn it by passing an examination.

On the staff throughout the South African campaign he earned the praise of Roberts and Kitchener by his capacity for getting things done when others sometimes failed. When in 1910 he was placed in command of the Army Staff college even those who agreed he had shown himself to be the man for the place were amazed at the thought of a man who had been for ten years a private without any groundwork of regular academic education should become the director of an institution which gathers the ablest officers of the army for instruction in the higher branches of war and gives the character to army organization.

Meantime he had kept on with his languages. He now knew French and German, and he had studied the continental army systems. There seems to be a general agreement that his improvement of the Staff college marked an epoch.

As director of military training at the war office he later had much to do with the preparation of the British expeditionary force. He went to France with it as quartermaster general and was responsible for keeping the army overseas supplied. His success in this capacity led to his appointment as chief of staff.

SPAIN WANTS OUR COAL

Turns Here For Her Supply as Result of British Embargo.

Washington.—The British embargo on coal is giving the coal operators of Spain and other countries concern as to the source of future supply. In a report received at the department of commerce Consul Dawson, at Valencia, Spain, says that, while the coal deposits in northern Spain will this year be called on for larger shipments, the low value of the product is such that an outside supply must be had. Railroads and manufacturers rely on the imported coal, and of late there have been large importations of American gas coal for railroad use with good results.

The quantity required for heating purposes among the people is comparatively limited, as the climate is not severe and much charcoal is used. Gas heating is, however, becoming more general, and therefore outside coal is necessary. Before the war England had this trade entirely to herself, but now American coal is being imported in considerable quantities. Whatever gains American coal may make in the Spanish market will in all probability be only temporary, as England takes nearly all the output of many industries in Spain.

CIVIL WAR DISK RETURNED.

Sent to Widow of Soldier Killed at Petersburg.

Harrisburg, Pa.—An identification disk worn by Eli Johnston Ague, a Pennsylvania soldier killed in one of the battles before Petersburg, Va., in the civil war, has been sent to the widow of the soldier, Mrs. Matilde Ague of Oil City, by Adjutant General Thomas J. Stewart after she had been searched for for months.

Officials of the war department at Washington and of the adjutant general's department here, members of regimental associations, officers of Grand Army posts, individuals and newspapers participated in the effort to find the widow.

The disk was dug up on the battlefield of Cedar mountain, Virginia, by J. R. Laman, who took it to Raleigh T. Green, editor of the Culpepper Exposition. It bore a device frequently seen on such articles in the civil war and the name of Ague, stating that he was a member of Company B, Tenth Pennsylvania Reserves.

EYESIGHT CAME BACK AS DEATH DREW NEAR

Soldier, Blinded in War, Saved From the Hesperian

London.—The fact that Private Chambers, a blinded Canadian soldier, who was thrown into the water when one of the Hesperian's lifeboats capsized, regained his eyesight as an effect of the shock of being pitched into the ocean, does not surprise London surgeons who attended him. His blindness, they say, was the result of wrecked nerves.

When he was put in a hospital in April he was not wounded, but was a nervous wreck, absolutely blind and incapable of distinguishing darkness from light. Later he regained his perception of light, but no more.

Chambers was blown into a shell crater on Hill 60. He staggered out blind. He heard a wounded man moaning and told him to get on his back and direct him toward the British lines. In this way both men reached safety. Chambers, unable to see, carrying on his back his wounded companion, who could not walk.

He says that he was dosing on the Hesperian when the explosion occurred. He felt his way to the deck and was put into a boat. Then he was plunged into the water, and when he came to the surface he saw the ship. In a moment somebody began to pull his heel and drag him under. He muttered to himself, he says: "Good God! To be drowned just as I am beginning to see!" Then he kicked hard and, freeing himself, swam to a lifeboat.

Since his arrival in Queenstown he has been roaming about the city enjoying his sight.

CRIPPLES FILE CHARTER.

Sarah Bernhardt is One of Welfare Society's Officers.

New York.—The charter of the Cripples' Welfare society, organized three years ago, was filed in the county clerk's office here along with the certificates of election. The papers showed that all the members of the board of directors had each lost a leg except Charles Noel Douglas and Dr. William Sheldon Coons. One of the vice presidents is Mme. Sarah Bernhardt, who recently lost a leg.

The object of the organization is to procure employment for cripples, elevate their moral and physical conditions, help them earn their livings and supply the needy with artificial limbs.

Mr. Douglas is president of the society. Although not a cripple, he has been bedridden for eighteen years.

Cherry Pies Won Him.

St. Louis.—Fat, juicy cherry pies made by his stepmother's maid won the heart of John L. Brandt, Jr., son of Rev. Dr. John L. Brandt, a leading pastor of St. Louis, the youth has admitted. Then he confessed he and the maid had been married secretly on March 2.

MEXICAN WOMEN PLEAD FOR BREAD

"Shoot Us!" They Cry—Ordered From Food Line.

DESPERATE LIFE STRUGGLE.

"Death Must Come, but Don't Let Us Starve; the Bullet is More Merciful." Meanwhile Mexican Bandits, Bolder Than Ever, Are Sparing Neither Rich Nor Poor.

Torreon, Mexico.—Starvation conditions in Mexico City are fairly typical of central northern, northeastern and northwestern Mexico.

Northern Mexico has long since forgotten the principles of the revolution, the political, agricultural, financial and social "reforms" which were the slogans of Villa and Carranza. To the great mass of Mexicans those principles never were more than campaign talk. They understand that the military leaders are merely playing politics with guns instead of speeches, processions and votes.

To make matters worse, the Mexican bandits never were bolder or busier than they are now. With the always chaotic government of Mexico more chaotic than ever, the bandit raiders are sparing neither the poor nor the rich. They are mercilessly plying their trade.

In Torreon eggs sell for 1 1/2 pesos each; chickens, 25 to 35 pesos each; milk, a peso for half a liter; cigarettes (as much an article of food to a Mexican as bread), 2 1/2 and 3 pesos for a package of ten. A silver peso is worth about 13 cents in United States money and a paper peso about 7 cents. Prac-



Photo by American Press Association.

TIPS OF MEXICAN BANDIT. Typically there is no meat here, though the hotels occasionally are allotted a little by the government.

Torreon always has a bread line. It is a long, patient, black robed line of women with bowed heads. Able-bodied men have either been killed or wounded in the fighting or are in conscript service or in hiding. So women and children stand in the bread line in front of the panaderia, or municipal bakery.

While the supply lasts each is given a pittance of corn, sometimes a mere handful. When the supply is gone some turn away to forage in the garbage cans of more prosperous citizens. Others just wait in the bread line. Sometimes they faint before the doors open; sometimes they drop dead, and their bodies lie in the street. There are several of these panaderias, and a line averages 250 persons all the time. Some buy bread instead of taking flour. A tiny loaf of bread, hardly larger than a roll, sells for 50 centavos.

At one of the larger panaderias the crowd waited thirty-six hours. Then gendarmes appeared and ordered the women to leave. They did not refuse to disperse; they simply didn't go. The gendarmes repeated the order loudly and fired pistols in the air. A torrent of Spanish broke out from the women. "Shoot us!" they cried. "Death must come. Shoot us, but don't let us starve to death. The bullet is more merciful."

Torreon is full of Villa troops, mostly elderly men or young boys. The flower of his army is dead or disabled, principally dead. The army of today is not well uniformed, spick and span, as it was a year ago when Villa was triumphant and his treasury was full of money. Villa's forces are thin, hardened, morose, the result of many battles and a succession of defeats. All that prevents mutiny is fear of the big brown man with the bushy mustache and the blazing eyes—Villa.

The army is sober. So is the civilian population. Knowing that sotol, tequila, mescal and the whole line of native strong drink tend to inflame men and make them ugly, Villa has enforced prohibition.

Northern Mexico is full of wounded men. In the hospitals and on the streets of Torreon and Chihuahua City are about 12,000.

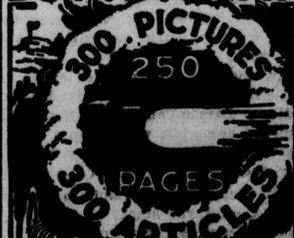
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A feature of the state fair at North Yakima last week was the comprehensive exhibit of the work of the institutions, made by the state board of control, going far beyond the scope of the first exhibit of the kind, made last year. Aside from the previous exhibits of the work and products of the various institutions, small classes from the state schools for the blind and deaf at Vancouver, Wash., under state instructors, gave exhibitions of the useful work that is being taught these afflicted children by the state.