

FERGUS COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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MAKE LEWISTOWN A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1916.

THE ULTIMATUM.

President Wilson's final note to Germany, announced by him to the joint session of congress yesterday, is the natural, logical and inevitable climax to the long series of events that has finally forced the administration to exercise this last resource of diplomacy.

The German government, with seeming deliberateness, has proceeded by a succession of illegal acts, to increase the growing tension until it has finally reached the breaking point.

and if the matter can only be well launched, the project will take care of itself. A good representative ball team is a splendid thing for any town. It is good for the people, and creates interest in all healthy sports.

and the whole neutral world is in absolute accord with the declaration. Germany may accept it or reject it. The decision rests with her.

SENATOR T. J. WALSH.

One of the candidates for delegate to the democratic national convention at St. Louis is Senator Walsh. We deem it proper to direct the attention of all democratic voters to the fact at this time because there are only eight such delegates to be elected and there are fourteen candidates and in the make up of the ballot, the name of Senator Walsh is the very last one on the ticket.

Democratic voters who admire Mr. Walsh and recognize his splendid accomplishments, and that includes all of them, should remember when they go into the booths to vote first for the last name appearing on the democratic ballot. Then there will be no chance for a mistake.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION.

Based upon what is taken to be a general lack of interest in the presidential primaries there is a good deal of comment in the press these days criticising the law. Yet this legislation was enacted in response to a very distinct demand as something that would largely do away with manipulation by professional politicians and put the machine out of business, along with its steam roller.

NOW FOR A BALL TEAM.

We are pleased to note that the Chamber of Commerce has taken up the matter of securing ball grounds and getting a Lewistown team in the field this season. Lewistown is a splendid baseball town,

Banking Service

Banking service is not an expensive luxury. Some of the greatest services now performed cost our clients absolutely nothing.

The individual needs this bank to help him make his income go farther, and to turn some of it into a permanent asset.

The small business man needs this bank's help to make his business grow.

This bank is here to serve all the people, and its officers will be glad to talk to any having need of banking service.

Bank of Fergus County

Lewistown, Montana

CAPITAL and SURPLUS \$500,000.00

The Oldest State Bank in Montana

and if the matter can only be well launched, the project will take care of itself.

A good representative ball team is a splendid thing for any town. It is good for the people, and creates interest in all healthy sports.

Tomorrow will be a legal holiday in Montana, but you are not likely to guess it unless you exercise your great American privilege and cast your ballot at the presidential primary election.

"We have got down not to the sentiment of national defense, but to the business of national defense."—Woodrow Wilson.

BELIEVE IN VILLA'S END

IN SPITE OF EVERY DENIAL AND DOUBT MEXICANS CONFIDENT OF TRUTH OF REPORT.

EL PASO, Texas, April 19.—In spite of every denial and doubt and in the face of the statement of Governor Enriquez at Chihuahua that the story of Villa's death was only a rumor, General Gavira and Consul Garcia reasserted tonight their confidence in the truth of the finding of the body of the bandit.

General Gavira said he had learned unofficially today that the father of Colonel Cavazos, who went to San Francisco Boria, to examine Villa's body, to arrive at Cuernavaca, was due to the fact that he had changed his program and was taking the body to Santa Ysabel.

The latter town is 25 miles north of San Francisco Boria and about an equal distance from Chihuahua, with which it is connected by the Mexican Northwestern railroad. At the same time, both General Gavira and Consul Garcia expressed uneasiness over the continued absence of direct news from Colonel Cavazos. He is not supposed to have had more than a small body of troops with him and it is feared he may have fallen into a trap laid for him by the Villistas.

SAYS IT'S VILLA'S BODY.

MEXICO CITY, April 19.—A dispatch received by the war department today from military headquarters in the state of Chihuahua said the telegraph operator at San Antonio, Chihuahua, had reported that the party which recently disinterred the body of a man at San Francisco Boria had declared it was that of Francisco Villa and that it would be shipped to headquarters for the purpose of identification.

BIRKLAND INSPECTS THE BIG PLANT OF HANOVER GYPSUM CO.

City Engineer A. C. Birkland paid a visit to the new Hanover gypsum properties in company with Manager D. R. Brown a day or two ago and praises the new plant very highly. Mr. Birkland states that the company has one of the most efficient and economically arranged mills of the kind he has ever seen, and its location on two railroads gives it a greater shipping advantage than almost any in Montana.

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VERDICT AFTER LONG SESSION

MRS. CHRISTIANSON IS FOUND GUILTY BY JURY OF THIRD DEGREE ASSAULT. WILL BE SENTENCED ON FRIDAY

After having been out 12 hours, the jury in the case of Mrs. Lennie Christianson Tuesday returned a verdict of guilty of assault in the third degree. Judge Roy Ayers announced that sentence would be passed at 10 o'clock Friday morning. Mrs. Christianson was charged with assault in the first degree four times at the Lehigh hotel on February 7 last.

The state was represented by County Attorney Frank A. Wright and Assistant County Attorney Raymond Dockery, while William H. Smith and Charles J. Marshall represented the defendant.

The truth of the old saying that there are two sides to every story was again illustrated on this trial. One side was given to the public in February. The state's side has now been heard, and between the two there is a striking contrast as to the essential points.

O. P. Christianson, an electrician employed by the coal mining company had been residing at the Lehigh hotel, kept by Mrs. Matson. Mrs. Alice Kirkpatrick was employed as book keeper and a sort of assistant manager at the house, taking the place in October, 1915. Mr. Christianson was stopping at the hotel when she first went there.

Others who testified for the state Saturday were Mrs. Matson, E. Boles, Mrs. C. Plumb, Dr. C. W. Wilder, E. Bonstead and Miss Dunn. Their evidence was as to preliminary or minor matters, while all more or less corroborative of the state's theory. Attorney Marshall caused a slight diversion in his cross examination of Mr. Bonstead by addressing him as "Mr. Bonehead." He was promptly called by the witness and gracefully apologized.

Of course the feature of Monday's proceedings was the appearance of the defendant on the stand. She left the impression that she is a woman of very strong character and much determination, testifying very freely and with emphasis upon all material points. She is a quick-witted and very intelligent woman and made an excellent appearance. She stood the ordeal of the cross-examination very well, indeed, although the state went into her past a little and developed a few interesting facts.

The arguments were made Monday when Mr. Dockery opened for the state with a terse summary of the testimony, weaving all the more or less disconnected facts together with deftness. William H. Smith opened for the defense and made a most excellent argument, indulging in some effective word painting and dwelling effectively upon the instinct for the preservation of the home. Charles J. Marshall closed for the defense in which was contained a host of the ablest arguments he has ever made. There was not a fact nor a suggestion developed anywhere in the case which could be dwelt upon to aid the defense that he overlooked.

County Attorney Wright closed for the state. He confined himself to the testimony altogether and made his appeal wholly to the logic and reason of the jurors.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick's Story.

Mrs. Christianson's version of the affair has already been given to the public. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was seen and heard in regard to it for the first time Saturday. She was taken to the Deaconess hospital at Great Falls immediately after the shooting and finally recovered from her wounds, arriving in Lewistown at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. It may be stated that she made an excellent witness, testifying with apparent frankness, while her answers were concise and altogether she stood the ordeal remarkably well, although Attorney Smith subjected her to the most rigid and searching cross examination.

of her highly and in answer to other questions denied that she had been sunning around with him or that he had paid her undue attention. Mrs. Christianson said something about having heard in regard to it at Windham and closed the interview by telling the witness she "had better pack up and get out." She seemed to entertain a slight toward the witness from the first, and in the dining room one evening said to those at the table that she would "get" her yet. After this, while the witness was in the kitchen one day, the defendant came in and making a jump, caught the witness by the hair with one hand, while she struck her with the other, breaking her glasses and injuring her. It was a violent assault and the witness had the defendant arrested. Questions as to the result of that trial were ruled out. Finally, on Feb. 7 when the witness was in charge of the hotel, one of the girls, who was leaving, but who had been told by Mrs. Matson she would remain until she was ready to leave, came for a suitcase, which was difficult to make in the absence of the proprietor. Mrs. Christianson interfered in the matter, disputing the basis on which the girl was to be paid and advanced her some \$30. Mrs. Christianson went to the store to get it, reckoning the amount on her theory of the pay, and the witness also went down and told the proprietor that she would be taking a risk if he advanced that money. Because of her previous threats and assaults, the witness was afraid Mrs. Christianson at the time. She went back to her room and was not stepping out to go to the kitchen when she saw Mrs. Christianson at her door, directly opposite Mrs. Christianson was partially behind her door, her head and shoulder and arm being in view and she held a revolver. Instantly, while the witness was at the threshold and before she had stepped into the hall at all, the defendant fired and the witness said she started to run down the hallway. As he did so Mrs. Christianson followed and shot her twice more, when the witness fell, and Mrs. Christianson fired the fourth bullet into her as she was lying on the floor. This, of course, is a totally different version from that given heretofore by Mrs. Christianson, who said that Mrs. Kirkpatrick came from her room, jumped at her in the hall and hit her in the face with a bunch of keys. Mr. Smith did not shake her testimony in the slightest although his cross-examination was ingenious and severe.

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The Defendant's Story.

Rapid progress was made yesterday in the examination of witnesses and at 5 o'clock the testimony was all in, both sides resting. Both the morning and afternoon sessions were full of interest and the court room was crowded with spectators during all three sessions. Chief interest attached to the appearance of the defendant on the stand when she gave her version of the shooting. It did not differ materially from the statements previously given by Mrs. Christianson, but some additional facts were developed.

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Business Cards section containing names and addresses of professionals like Axel Refer, Dr. Stryker & Taylor, Edgar G. Worden, J. G. Smith, Miss Ruth P. Cook, and Dr. L. H. Tooley.

heavy bunch of keys and making some kind of a move which the defendant interpreted as an intent to draw a gun. Thereupon she began firing while Mrs. Kirkpatrick ran until she fell on the porch. The witness then returned to her room.

On cross examination it was also brought out that Mrs. Christianson had been married three times. She admitted that she had shot at her husband, an attorney named Jolly, for good reason. She had not shot at Christianson, although her son shot at him once when he was beating her up.

Mr. Wilder testified to being called to attend Mrs. Christianson soon after the shooting at her room at the hotel. He found her in a sort of a stupor and she did not answer his first questions. He observed that one eye was discolored and that there was an abrasion above it. He saw a few drops of blood on the floor, but it was old. There was some blood on a towel, the towel being damp.

Supt. William Navin, of the local mine, testified that he went to Mrs. Christianson's room soon after the shooting, the conditions being the same as related by Mr. Wilder. Two weeks before the shooting the defendant had come to his office to see about getting funds, on her husband's account, to leave Lehigh.

Clara Moody, the girl over whose pay the defendant had interested herself, testified to her observations in the hotel prior to the shooting. She had left Lehigh before the shooting occurred. She had observed, she said, some indications of intimacy between Mrs. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Christianson, but the testimony as to this was not very definite.

The attention of the witness was directed to a conversation had by her with Mrs. Matson at the noon recess in an apparent attempt to show an attempt at intimidation, but this fell absolutely flat. Mary Honolulu, Olga Hildea, and Emma Dunn, all employes or former employes at the hotel, were called by the defense to show acts of familiarity between Mrs. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Christianson, but the testimony soon amounted to little in this regard except for a statement of one witness to the effect that following some entertainment at Lehigh one night, Clyde Peterson, Christianson, Mrs. Kirkpatrick and the witness were in the parlor at the Lehigh Hotel, and Mrs. Kirkpatrick and Christianson were very familiar.

The Rebuttal. To clear up a number of points the state called several witnesses in rebuttal. Ed Bonstead, Ed Hill and Mrs. C. P. Plumb testified to seeing Mrs. Christianson on the stairs as she was going back to her room immediately after the shooting of Mrs. Kirkpatrick. She had the revolver in her hand and there was no blood on her face or any sign of an injury. It was also shown that there was no bunch of keys at the place where the shooting occurred or where Mrs. Kirkpatrick fell, a witness who picked her up testifying as to this, Clyde Peterson, who roomed with Mr. Christianson, testified positively that on the evening following the entertainment in the parlor, there was no act of familiarity or intimacy between Mr. Christianson and Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Mrs. Matson, proprietor of the hotel, corroborated Mrs. Kirkpatrick's testimony to the fact that the latter was left in charge of the business of the hotel during the absence of the proprietor. A. Frico, manager of the company store, testified as to the conversation the day of the shooting in regard to the pay of one of the waitresses. He said that Mrs. Kirkpatrick did not speak to Mrs. Christianson, directing her conversation to him, in the office. Mr. Jameson testified as to the question put by Mrs. Kirkpatrick to Mr. Christianson following the arrival of the defendant at the hotel, simply asking if Mrs. Christianson's account was to be charged with his, to which he answered in the affirmative. Mrs. Kirkpatrick was testifying as to the question.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick again testified positively to the entire propriety of her association with Mr. Christianson, and said that various remarks attributed to her by other witnesses were all made jocularly. This was agreed to by those witnesses.

Ralph Curtis, the 16-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Curtis, who underwent a serious operation a few days ago is now improving, and his speedy recovery is anticipated.

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