

YANKEES ARE SLAIN BY ZELAYA

United States Makes Peremptory Demand for Explanation of Killing

War Vessels Ordered to Nicaraguan Ports When News of Executions Is Received

Government Practically Recognizes Rebels Who Are Seeking to Overthrow Dictator

Taft and Knox Determined to Make Central American States Realize Responsibilities

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—A peremptory note, couched in diplomatic language, but none the less direct, was delivered to Senor Felipe Rodriguez, charge d'affaires of the Nicaraguan legation, demanding a full and complete explanation of the execution of two Americans, Leonard Grace and Leroy Cannon, killed by order of President Zelaya when they were found in the insurgent army.

Pending a satisfactory explanation of the occurrence President Taft has refused to recognize Isidore Hazera, the new Nicaraguan minister. Taft is thoroughly aroused by actions of the Zelaya government and apparently is determined to make the lives of American citizens much safer and much more respected in Central America than they have been hitherto.

Attitude of Government

The attitude of the government was clearly shown late today when the state department sent a dispatch to the Bluefields steamship company, the headquarters of which is in New Orleans. The company's regular steamer was about to sail for Bluefields with a miscellaneous cargo, in which were a number of rifles and other munitions of war. The corporation was warned by agents of the Nicaraguan insurrectionary forces that the vessel would be liable to seizure. The steamship people promptly called on the state department to declare the protection of the government in such cases. The state department replied promptly. The answer was the result of a conference between the president and the secretary of state, and carried full weight.

It gave the steamship concern no encouragement and practically recognized the revolutionary forces operating against the Zelayan administration, a proceeding for which there probably is no parallel in the records of this government.

Secretary's Knox's Reply

The dispatch, directed to the steamship company at New Orleans and signed, "Knox, secretary of state," read:

"If the announced blockade or investment of the Nicaraguan port of San Juan del Norte (Greytown) is effectively maintained and the requirements of international law, including warning to approaching vessels, are observed, this government would not be disposed to interfere to prevent its enforcement. A naval vessel will be ordered to Greytown to observe and report whether the blockade is effective."

Nicaragua has given this government more trouble in the last few years than any other save, perhaps, Venezuela.

The attitude of the United States, as shown by its apparent recognition of the Nicaraguan insurgents, indicates to diplomats that this government would welcome the overthrow of the present administration. It is well known that President Zelaya's attitude toward Americans and American interests for some time has been anything but satisfactory.

The state department today maintained a reserve that was described by one diplomat as "ominous."

Forceful Moral Suasion

It was learned, however, that both President Taft and Secretary Knox practically have determined on the execution of some forceful moral suasion, if nothing more, with a view of bringing Central American states to a realization of their responsibilities.

Aside from acknowledgment that a demand had been made on the Nicaraguan legation for a detailed and comprehensive report of the killing of the two Americans the department declined to discuss the existing crisis.

The execution of the Americans is held here to be indefensible. In the absence of complete details this government is reserving judgment, but if the men were captured in the ranks of the enemy with arms in their hands they were entitled to military trial under international law. It is inconceivable that they should have been

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PUBLISHER LAFFAN ILL.—New York, Nov. 18.—William M. Laffan, publisher of the New York Sun, is critically ill, following an operation for appendicitis on Monday.

KILLED IN STREET DUEL—Hominy, Okla., Nov. 18.—Wesley Fraley, a merchant, was shot and killed by W. C. Wood, his former partner, in a street duel here early today.

GIRL SLAYER'S RIVAL IS USED AS "EXHIBIT"

Pretty Minnie Foster Placed on Stand to Prove State's Theory of Jealousy

Tiny Sisters of Joe Armes Testify at Alma Bell's Trial for Sweetheart's Death

By ARTHUR L. PRICE
[Special Dispatch to The Call]

AUBURN, Nov. 18.—To piece out the tale of shame, deceit and death, which is the Alma Bell case, there went on the witness stand today two of the quietest and littlest witnesses who ever figured in the trial of a woman charged with murder.

They were Evelyn Armes, aged 10 years, and Gracie Armes, aged 8 years. Their testimony was sandwiched in on the record of the day's proceedings—a record crowded with testimony regarding threats which Alma Bell is said to have made against the life of her lover, Joe Armes, and also against Manuel Neves, the young man who she declared had told the lies about her which led to the last estrangement and quarrel with Armes. The children's testimony concluded the morning session, and Minnie Foster, of whom Alma Bell was jealous, ended the afternoon session.

Joe Armes' mother took the stand today and testified that Alma Bell had told her on the day she slew the woman's son that she would kill Neves for having spoken of her as he did to Joe.

Alma heard the story stoically. She shed no tears today, but she aided her attorneys materially in the cross examinations.

John Armes, a brother of the dead man, testified that three weeks before the killing Alma came to him and said: "Is Joe going with other girls. I am watching him and if I find that he is I'll kill him."

John also testified that some time previous Alma had said to him: "Joe is never going to marry me, but I want still to go with him anyway."

Witness Is Confused

On cross examination John was mixed up regarding his dates, but he held steadfastly to his story.

Joe Garcia testified that Alma had told him that she was going to kill Joe, as he went with another girl, and Frank Peters, an alleged former lover of the girl and a cousin of her victim, also repeated a threat which he said Alma had made against Joe's life.

And to bind all that testimony given by friends of Joe and consanguinously biased against the prisoner came out the echo of the girl's statement made to District Attorney Charles A. Tuttle and Sheriff George McAulay on the day after the killing, in which she said: "I told Frank Peters and Johnnie Armes that I was going to kill him."

The statement was read in court in the face of strong objections made by the defense. It related the incidents of the tragic night. She said in the statement that she had gone to Joe Armes' cabin to see him about the report which Manuel Neves had been circulating. She declared the reports were false. She related how she and Joe had left the cabin.

"I tried to apologize to him and tell him I did not telephone to make dates with other fellows. I said, 'We are engaged to be married, and I told you long ago I'd kill you if you didn't marry me.'"

"Kid, I ain't afraid," he said. Then said I 'very well, then we'll die together."

"He pushed me away and said, 'Kid, I'll have no more to do with you. I couldn't get along with you as a wife. Then I shot.'"

"I held the pistol about a foot and a half from him."

Alma Bell Is Unmoved

Alma Bell sat unmoved through the reading of that simple narrative of the killing of her lover, to whose grave she now almost daily sends flowers.

What was expected would be one of the sensations of the trial passed off quietly today. Minnie Foster, the 15 year old girl from Pilot Hill, Eldorado county, of whom Alma was jealous, was put on the stand at the close of the afternoon session and was examined in the face of violent objections from the defense. Her testimony was not exciting.

Alma had betrayed certain symptoms of dislike toward the younger and prettier girl from the mountains. Probably Minnie Foster was intended by the prosecution to be a sort of "exhibit" in the case. She is so much prettier than is Alma Bell. Alma Bell is nine years older than Minnie Foster, though the latter has the maturity of a girl of 18, instead of 15. Minnie Foster has big brown eyes and she is not entirely ignorant of how to use them.

If Alma Bell had thought Joe Armes had become satiated with her own too freely offered favors she could well imagine that Minnie Foster was receiving the protestations of love which had once been hers.

The state is basing its prosecution on the motive of jealousy. To produce Minnie Foster as a witness to show

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BROKE PROMISE TO WED, AVOWS CHAMBERMAID

Harry Ramsey, Wealthy Mining Man, Defendant in \$50,000 Damage Suit

Elderly Mrs. S. Derby Says He Brought Her From South, Then Forsook Her

A suit for \$50,000 damages on the grounds of breach of promise and physical impairment filed yesterday by Mrs. Sarah Derby, a chambermaid at the Hotel Balboa, 170 Eddy street, against Harry Ramsey, a wealthy mining engineer and broker in oil lands, cast a veritable bombshell of consternation and surprise into the quiet and exclusive circles of Berkeley and Fruitvale in which Ramsey is a popular and well known personage.

According to the contretemps, Ramsey was married to Miss Elsie Harwood, a member of a Fruitvale family, a year ago yesterday. He and Mrs. Ramsey had apartments at the Key Route hotel until yesterday, but on learning of the suit which had been brought against him they left immediately, refusing to reveal where they intended taking up their new residence. Ramsey made a fortune several years ago in Goldfield and such was his standing in that community that a street was named after him. He settled in Berkeley with his wealth, living at 2412 Piedmont avenue, and sought his friends among persons of education and refinement.

According to the complaint filed by Mrs. Derby and the story told by her, Ramsey met her about three years ago in Los Angeles. She then was a waitress. "He told me I looked like his dead wife," she said, "and because of that he loved me."

After a short courtship, she declared, he persuaded her to leave Los Angeles and reside in Oakland. "He provided me with apartments at the Hotel Metropole," she said, "and later on we moved to other quarters. During all these days he would keep putting off our marriage."

His Affection Dwindled

Finally, according to her tale, his provision for her became less generous and ultimately she was forced to secure a position as chambermaid in order to earn a living. Three months ago she learned that he was married, and then put her case into the hands of Attorney Carroll Cook, who filed the suit.

The romance of the situation is rather hampered by the fact that both are elderly. Mrs. Derby being 50 years of age and having a son 21 years old, and Ramsey a few years her senior. Despite the autumnal stages of their lives, Mrs. Derby declared that it was customary for them to wander through the thrilling processes of "queening" on the Berkeley campus and along the hillsides.

Miss Elsie Harwood, whom Ramsey married a year ago, lived in Davis avenue. The wedding took place in St. Elizabeth's church, the ceremony being performed by Rev. Father Victor, the pastor.

Apart from making a general denial of the charges, Ramsey would not discuss the suit.

SUICIDE OF PROFESSOR DUE TO BABY'S NOISE

University Chemist Found Dead on Campus

CHAMPAIGN, Ill., Nov. 18.—Aversion to babies and domestic life is ascribed as the cause for the suicide today of Prof. Wilfred C. Wheeler, first assistant in chemistry at the University of Illinois. The chemist's body was found on the university campus.

Wheeler took his meals away from home after a baby came into the household. He could not endure the noise of the infant, he said, and expressed a great dislike for babies.

A note left by the professor directed his wife how to collect his life insurance and referred to his premeditated death as follows:

"I am tired of living, so goodbye. There is no use trying to find out what happened to me, as 3 1/2 G. (grains) of KCN (potassium cyanide) are responsible for my fate."

Wheeler was 30 years old and was liked by his colleagues.

T. M. SCHUMACHER SLATED FOR HIGH RAILROAD JOB

Reported to Have Been Named Vice President of Gould Line

From sources high in the councils of the Western Pacific railroad came the semi-official announcement yesterday that T. M. Schumacher, general traffic manager of the El Paso and Southwestern, with offices at Chicago, has been made vice president in charge of traffic of the new western Gould line. Schumacher was formerly general agent of the Union Pacific in this city.

Charles H. Schlacks, vice president of the Western Pacific, declined yesterday to discuss the reported appointment. Schumacher's appointment, it is stated, is effective December 1 and in time to get the road into preparation for through traffic about January 1. Local traffic is now being carried on over a great part of the line.

NURSES ARE HEROINES SAVE PATIENTS' LIVES

Four heroines and one of the heroes whose presence of mind saved helpless patients in hospital fire, and the man who is suspected of having deliberately started the fire.



SOUTHERN PACIFIC BLOCKS OAKLAND

Railroad Forbids City to Proceed Under Agreement With Works Board

OAKLAND, Nov. 18.—By forbidding city employees to construct crossings in Fifth avenue over the railroad rights of way the Southern Pacific company has served notice that it will not allow the city to proceed under the memorandum of agreement drawn up by the board of works and the corporation until the city council has ratified the settlement. Whether or not the railroad will itself sign the agreement after the council has passed it is not known.

The city was proceeding to pave a crossing into the Sessions basin as if the unsigned agreement, by which the railroad relinquishes claim to certain tidelands under the Stratton patent in exchange for rights of way elsewhere along and between First and Seventh streets, was already signed and in effect. The Southern Pacific, by having its state railroad police order off the city employees, has shown it does not propose to allow any work to be done on the assumption that the agreement will be ratified by both sides.

The Great Western power company, constructing high power electric cables over the tracks, also was forbidden to proceed, but it conceded to the railroad the title to the disputed tide lands, and with its point thus gained the Southern Pacific allowed the wires to be strung.

This action on the part of the railroad means an assertion of title to the valuable tide lands in the East Oakland basin, all of which are involved in the grants of the legislature years ago to Robert T. Stratton, but it does not necessarily mean that the amicable settlement drawn up in the memorandum of agreement is at an end. The railroad company tells the city to keep hands off until the agreement has really ended the years of litigation.

The late John E. McElroy, former city attorney, advised the city that the Stratton patent claims were invalid, as they covered lands within four miles of an incorporated city. A clause in the state constitution prohibits the cession to private individuals or corporations of tide lands within that distance of the incorporated limits.

Legal difficulties at present prevent the confirmation of the agreement, but after they have been removed nothing will interfere with the council acting upon the matter at once.

CHESS GAME RESULTS IN DRAW

LEXINGTON, Nov. 18.—The chess game tonight between J. W. Showalter and Frank J. Marshall in the American championship series resulted in a draw after 61 moves. Marshall has won three games, Showalter one and three were drawn.

HOSPITAL SET AFIRE BY FIEND

Mills Ward of St. Luke's Burned, Following Discharge of Drunken Employee

Brave Nurses Rush to Aid of Their Patients and Save Many Lives

Dismissed Scrubman Driven Away by the Police After Making Threats

When Accused of Crime Offers Resistance and Is Overcome by the Officers

THE presence of mind and courage of three remarkably self-possessed young women saved the lives of many helpless persons when the Mills ward of St. Luke's hospital, Twenty-seventh and Valencia streets, burned at an early hour yesterday morning through the alleged incendiarism of Thomas E. Saunders, a discharged employe of the hospital. Saunders is in the city prison, awaiting a formal charge of committing the crime. He was arrested in Michael's saloon, Twenty-eighth and Valencia streets, at 10:45 o'clock yesterday morning. The wing of the hospital which he is accused of maliciously setting on fire was not entirely destroyed, but the flames and smoke which ruined it jeopardized the lives of 17 bedridden sufferers. Fortunately all of them were rescued unscathed. Frank White, an orderly in the ward, being the only person in-

Nurse Sees Smoke

It was 3:45 o'clock Thursday morning when Miss Luna Tully, a nurse on night duty in the Mills ward, discovered smoke seeping through the holes made for radiator pipes on the first floor of the building. She realized the peril of a hospital fire, particularly as the structure was a frame one, but she did not scream or indulge herself in a fit of hysteria as was her feminine prerogative. Quickly and quietly she aroused the 17 patients and informed her sister nurses, Miss Maud McLoud and Miss Kittie Ivory, that the ward was on fire. Miss McLoud hastened into the other wards and awakened the internes and the other nurses, while Miss Ivory turned in the fire alarm. These three modest heroines undoubtedly prevented the loss of many lives and the destruction of the entire hospital.

Carries Out Patients

Mills ward is one of a group of frame buildings connected by covered passageways and in a few moments the entire hospital was aroused. The first able bodied man on the scene was Frank White, an orderly and assistant steward, who was sleeping in the Keene ward, immediately adjoining. He was awakened by Miss Tully and seizing a sheet, which he soaked with water, he rushed into the burning building, which by this time was enveloped in smoke and flames at each of its four corners. Reckless of consequences he made his way through the rooms to the rescue of the patients. He carried three of the four who were utterly helpless to points of safety and assisted several others to escape from the burning building before he was overcome by smoke. Those whom he bodily carried out are Mrs. George Munger and her newly born daughter and Mrs. F. F. Dunn.

Doctor Is a Hero

Another hero is Dr. Lloyd A. Craig, resident physician of St. Mary's hospital, who has been seriously ill at the hospital for two weeks. Until the occurrence of the fire he had been unable to help himself in the slightest degree, but under the stress of the excitement he jumped from his bed, hastily threw on a few garments and started to make his escape. As he was feeling his way out of the smoke filled building he heard the cries of Mrs. J. Simpson, another patient, and went to her rescue. With a strength almost miraculously returned he lifted the woman from her bed, carried her to the entrance of the building, down a flight of steps to the lawn and 100 feet beyond, when he fainted from exhaustion.

Dr. F. W. Birch, resident physician of St. Luke's, directed the work of removing the patients from the Keene ward, which was threatened by the conflagration, his working force consisting of Drs. Herbert Bowles, G. A. Wrinkle, Edward Shoff, Edgar Leavitt and William Wood, internes. Doctor Birch accords the nurses named, particularly Miss Tully, the greatest credit for saving the menaced patients.

Among the thrilling incidents of the