

FIGHT FOR KEY TO CAPITAL RAGES

Rebels Make Desperate Attempt to Take Cuernavaca, the Last Defense of Mexico City

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 10.—Scores of federal troops, among them some of the most trusted of the Huerta army, are deserting daily to the ranks of the rebels and hastening the day when, as is confidently believed here, the avalanche will be upon Huerta and his government.

It became known here today that some of the most trusted soldiers in the garrison of Cuernavaca, where desperate fighting has been going on for several days, have decamped to the Zapatistas, taking with them large quantities of ammunition and provisions. The latest reports from the battle are that General Buelna, commanding the federal forces, is still holding his own.

If Cuernavaca falls to the rebels the situation in Mexico City will be very serious, as this will bring the foes of Huerta to the very gates of the capital. Most of the federal garrison from here has already been sent to Cuernavaca to repulse the rebels.

URGED TO SAVE AMERICANS

PASADENA, Dec. 10.—Further action to obtain the release of W. S. Windham and J. M. Dunn, former Pasadena men held by the constitutionalist rebels in Sinaloa, Mex., was taken today by the general board of trade and other organizations. W. F. Knight, president of the board of trade, wired to Secretary of State Bryan the following message:

"Nine days having elapsed and no word as yet received from W. S. Windham, former cashier of the National Bank of Commerce, who is held in Mexico for ransom, we again earnestly request that further action be taken immediately to insure his release."

BATTLE ON BORDER PREDICTED

JUAREZ, Dec. 10.—Events today indicated that Ojinaga, sometimes called Presidio del Norte, the small Mexican village on the border opposite Presidio, Tex., would probably be the scene of the next important move in the Mexican revolution. Rebel leaders were more than ever convinced that Ojinaga, where the federal troops have concentrated, can not be ignored by General Francisco Villa, the rebel leader. Within the town are fortified practically all the federal troops of the north, with most of their important generals. Their retreat thither would be to obtain money and provisions, because in the interior they had been on the verge of famine and the troops had been without pay. Reprovisioned and provided with money, the federals would be in a position to renew hostilities.

Should he determine to attack the federals in force, General Villa, now at Chihuahua City, would have to check temporarily his advance southward toward Torreon, but it would be in line with his plan to leave only conquered territory behind him in his southward march.

The rebel forces about Ojinaga are greatly in excess of the number at first reported. It was said that the 2,000 troops which Villa sent south of Juarez about 10 days ago have been detoured eastward and are now on the road to Ojinaga.

The threatened mutiny of the federals, shown by their calling across the river to the American side that they would desert if attacked, is being relied upon by the rebels.

REBELS THREATEN TAMPIOCO

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 10.—An overwhelming force of rebels threatens to attack Tampico at any moment, according to advices received by wireless telegraph from Clarence A. Miller, American consul at that port.

NULLIFICATION EXPECTED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Nullification of the recent elections by the Mexican congress and ratification of Huerta's provisional presidency to continue until other elections are held, probably next July, occasioned no surprise among officials here.

CONTINENTAL HEAD FACES 18TH JUDGE

When William Corbin, secretary of the Continental Building and Loan association, appeared before Judge Lawlor this morning for trial on a charge of making a false report to George Walker, state building and loan commissioner, he appeared before the eighth judge who has handled one phase or another of the troubles of the defendant within the last year.

The jury was chosen last Monday. Assistant District Attorney Cotton in the opening argument for the prosecution told the jury that the state expected to prove that Corbin had overstated the assets of the Continental by more than \$63,000.

Frequent and vigorous objections by Bert Schlessinger, attorney for Corbin, were overruled.

"The corporation lends money to borrowers," Cotton said, "and sells real estate on the installment plan. It has more than \$1,000,000 out on this plan. We contend that the defendant in his report overstated the amount of these loans by more than \$50,000."

Elopers Return After Santa Rosa Wedding

Eloping to Santa Rosa last Saturday, Miss Margaret Williams, teacher in the Berkeley school department, and William J. Avery of Richmond were married in the Sonoma county seat. They returned to Berkeley today and informed their friends and relatives of their marriage. Mrs. Williams is the daughter of Mrs. Margaret Williams of 1348 Henry street, Berkeley. Avery is a business man of Richmond. Mr. and Mrs. Avery will make their home in Walnut street, Berkeley.

Holdup in Glare of Hall of Justice Lights

With the lights from the hall of justice full on them, two holdups robbed Mike O'Brien, a laborer, of \$5 last night in Portsmouth square. Detectives A. J. McCarthy and Richard Hughes arrested William Carr as one of the suspects.

He Threw a Steak at Her, She Says in Court

In 1904 there was less worry over the high cost of living than now. That is why William Phipps took a sirloin steak from the stove and threw it at his wife, Charlotte, because he didn't like her cooking. So she alleges in a divorce complaint filed today through Attorney M. M. Getz. They were married on St. Patrick's day, 1904, at Vancouver, B. C.

HOUSEWIVES LEAGUE WAR ON HIGH PRICE OF EGGS



Left to right, Dr. Caroline Cook Coffin, Mrs. J. M. Bailhocke, Mrs. R. W. Davis, Mrs. Sol Hyman. Eggs "ain't" eggs these days. San Francisco is the dumping ground for all the poor quality cold storage eggs in the state. Many grocers in this city are selling cold storage eggs under the label of "fresh country eggs." Eggs were put in storage when they could be bought for less

POLICE DECLARE SMASHERS IN TOILS

Patrolman Surprises Two Prowlers as One Draws Back to Hurl Brick

Two men, believed by the police to be the window smashing burglars, who have broken thousands of dollars' worth of plate glass and robbed scores of downtown business houses in the last few months, were captured by Policeman H. Smith of the central station shortly after 3 o'clock this morning.

While standing in a doorway at Montgomery and Washington streets Smith saw two men approach the second hand store of M. Pomerantz at 655 Montgomery street. One of them and start to hurl a brick through the plate glass front.

Smith ran across the street with drawn revolver and commanded both men to throw up their hands. They were taken completely by surprise.

They gave their names as Charles Irvine and James Kennedy. Irvine is a negro and says he is a molder. Kennedy is a teamster.

Smith took the men to the central station. Both were charged with malicious mischief and attempted burglary.

The detective bureau is looking into their records.

WOMEN RAGE IN BATTLE FOR GIRL

Eight Year Old Consuelo Hess Innocent Sufferer of Strife; Fisticuffs Threatened

While mother and foster mother rage at each other and hurl charges that nearly precipitated a fistie battle among women in Judge Thomas Graham's courtroom, little Consuelo Hess, eight years old, for whose possession the litigation is being waged, today is the innocent cause and innocent sufferer of the strife.

The little girl was left by her mother, Mrs. Georgiana Hess, seven years ago with Mrs. Rebecca Hess Tyrrell, who is her sister in law. Mrs. Tyrrell took the child to her home at McAllister hall, Kentfield, where she and her husband, former State Senator John R. Tyrrell, lived before removing to 460 Ellis street, San Francisco.

Recently, Benjamin Hess, the father of Consuelo, died, leaving the child \$200, and it is for the possession of the little girl and the \$200 that goes with her that the women are seeking.

Mrs. Tyrrell charged that Mrs. Hess abandoned the girl. Mrs. Hess hotly denied the imputation, and the various relatives, including Miss Viola Hess, a daughter of Mrs. Hess, became involved in a wordy battle that only the intervention of Clerk F. W. McNulty and Bailiff Lemcke prevented from turning to fisticuffs.

DOCTOR HUNKIN CLEARED OF GIRL'S ACCUSATION

Dr. S. J. Hunkin, bone specialist, was cleared of unprofessional conduct with a girl patient by the San Francisco County Medical society after a hearing in executive session last night. The vote stood 85 to 40.

The charge against Dr. Hunkin was preferred by Dr. E. G. McConnell, his former friend. An exhaustive report was made by the committee on ethics, which conducted the investigation into the charge.

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GRILL PREPARED FOR MANY

FOUR WILL INVESTIGATE

Mrs. Coffin, acting as president of the egg campaign committee, appointed as her assistants Mrs. J. M. Bailhocke, Mrs. R. W. Davis, Mrs. Sol Hyman and Miss Frances V. Meeker. This committee will start on a campaign of investigation this afternoon, and after it makes its first report the league will hold a mass meeting to decide on a definite plan of action.

"We are determined to protect the public from falsely labeled eggs and we are equally determined to see that the present famine prices are cut down to a reasonable figure," said Mrs. Coffin this morning.

From over in Berkeley came some observations on the high price of eggs. Prof. J. E. Dougherty, assistant professor of poultry husbandry in the university. He says that discontented hens are an important factor in the scarcity of eggs.

HENS NEED AMUSEMENT

Professor Dougherty asserts that hens must be amused and comfortably sheltered and always contented, or they lay fewer eggs. They must be protected against colds and they must have playgrounds, or the equivalent in scratching pens for rainy weather.

\$1,100 in Cash, Gems Stolen by Hotel Thief

Jewels and cash worth \$1,175 were stolen from the room of W. L. Clayborne in the Atlas hotel, 117 Fourth street, according to a complaint he has made to the police.

The door of his room was forced, the lock being smashed. The jewels and cash were in one wallet. His loss is: Diamond ring, valued at \$400; diamond pin, \$450; diamond locket, \$87.50; watch, \$33; chain, \$20, and cash, \$92.50.

Victim in Mann Act Case Weds; Flees U. S.

Information has been received by the United States district attorney that Myrtle Kelle, wanted as a witness in the prosecution of Dr. Harrison H. Keane of Eureka for violation of the white slave law, is now married to Charles Cunningham, a real estate agent, in Alberta, Can. Consequently she is beyond the reach of any law to compel her testimony in this city. Doctor Keane is in the Alameda county jail.

Doctor Cures Mother; Wins Daughter's Hand

Called to attend Mrs. Bertha Sieber, a wealthy widow of 1902 Virginia street, Dr. J. W. Jones succeeded in three weeks' time not only in curing her illness, but in winning the hand of her daughter, Miss Caroline Sieber. The marriage will take place tomorrow at the bride's home. Miss Sieber is the daughter of the late Gottlieb Sieber, an old resident of Berkeley, who amassed a fortune.

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than 20 cents a dozen. There is no reason why retailers should not sell them for 30 cents a dozen. That would leave a big margin of profit.

These startling declarations were made yesterday by Mrs. Caroline Coffin to members of the Housewives' league. Mrs. Coffin is state chairman of the organization. After her address several dozen determined women announced that, under the auspices of the Housewives' league, they would start a campaign in San Francisco to force a reduction in the price of eggs, both fresh and cold storage.

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Christmas Present With \$23 Charges Only a Red Brick

Christmas is coming. Beware! Some one phoned William Chicos, a fruit dealer of 431 O'Farrell street, that there was a present for him, with \$23 delivery charges due. Chicos paid when it came. There was a brick in the box.

CONFESSION EXPECTED IN RED LIGHT

Two Arrested Petition Circulators Expected to Make Clean Breast to Jury

BULLETIN. Louis Ferrari, assistant district attorney, believes that Henry Barron, arrested for his connection with the circulation of the early closing saloon petitions, on which there were many forged names, will make sensational disclosures this afternoon when he is taken into court. When quizzed by the assistant district attorney yesterday Barron asked for more time before giving any information. It is hoped by those who are in charge of the investigation that Barron will furnish evidence that will connect higher ups with the wholesale forgeries on the petitions. Detective Prohl is subpoenaing witnesses.

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Mushroom "Don'ts"

Read These and Live. If you eat mushrooms, observe implicitly the following rules and you may escape toadstools: Avoid mushrooms in the young or button stage. Avoid those covered with pores on the underside of the cap, unless botanical acquaintance teaches the difference between edible and poisonous varieties. Avoid all species with gills, white spores, a ring and a valve or bulb-like base. The most poisonous toadstools are in this group. Avoid all those having a milky juice unless the milk is red. Avoid all those having a thin cap, with gills, especially if they are bright colored. Avoid all which are not strictly fresh, as sometimes decay greatly increases poisonous substances. Even the most nutritious mushrooms are of little nutritive value, but are valuable as food accessories or condiments, not in any wise as substitutes for the meat or vegetable ordinarily consumed.

TOADSTOOL? MUSHROOM? READ THIS

University of California Lays Down Rules on How to Tell Poisonous Fungi. Nobody but a botanist really knows when he partakes of a plate of mushrooms on toast or a juicy porterhouse Bordenaise whether he is not eating toadstools and gambling with the undertaker.

The only way to tell mushrooms from toadstools, according to Prof. W. A. Setchell of the University of California, is to know them botanically. Being a professor of botany, Setchell is one of the comparatively few persons who are thus secure.

He has prepared for the college of agriculture of the university a brochure on mushrooms and toadstools, in which he condemns every time honored test. He says: "There is no single test, short possibly of chemical analysis, that will give results of any value whatever. Most so called tests are conspicuous for their unreliability and their danger."

"There are just two ways to tell toadstools from mushrooms. One is by eating them. That is attended with more or less danger. It is not to be recommended to the beginner. "It consists in chewing a bit of the fungus without swallowing the juice, and waiting a few hours. If you do not die or get sick then chew a little more and swallow the juice. Then wait a few more hours. "If nothing happens you may take a chance still in cooking and eating the supposed mushrooms. "The other method is to learn to know the various species by study, as one learns to know the ordinary plants of hill and forest and garden. "The so called silver test is most prevalent. It is of no value, for there are both mushrooms and toadstools which will color black a silver spoon or coin, and both toadstools and mushrooms which will not. "So it is with other popular tests."

Home Proves Cache For Stolen Goods as Owner Attends Church

PACIFIC GROVE, Dec. 10.—While Albert Hall, a negro, was singing psalms at a little church around the corner, Constables Tuck and Wilcox were unearthing evidence of wholesale burglaries in his home in this place. Armed with a search warrant, the