

BENTON'S DEATH AROUSES THE U. S. LOCAL MASS MEETING IS CALLED TONIGHT SCOTCHMAN IS MURDERED BY REBELS

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WEATHER FORECAST—Unsettled.

ASSOCIATED PRESS LEASED WIRE—Day and Night Reports

VILLA DEPARTS SOUTHWARD HURRIEPLY IN SPECIAL TRAIN

TAKING with him a carload of ammunition and the members of his staff, Pancho Villa left Juarez on a special train early Friday morning for Chihuahua to resume command of the preparations for the march on Torreon.

So unexpectedly did he leave, that there was no opportunity to get from his own lips the story of the execution of William S. Benton, British subject, who "bearded the lion in his den" Tuesday afternoon by telling Villa that he and his men were a crew of robbers.

THE SITE FOR POST OFFICE MAXIMO CASTILLO AND HIS AMERICAN GUARDS

THE proposed postoffice site at the corner of Stanton and Mills streets will not be affected in any way by the decision of the eighth court of civil appeals in the case of Horace B. Stevens and others, versus the Galveston, Harrisburg and San Antonio Railway company, handed down Thursday.

Court of Appeals Decision Has No Bearing on Title to Property.

PROPERTY STAYS WITH RAILROAD

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—Photo by C. G. Rosher.

BRITAN ORDERS PROMPT INQUIRY

Cabinet Meeting Is Held on Receipt of News that Englishman Has Been Killed; Consul Edwards's Dispatch Merely Announces Death of Ranch Owner, It Is Asserted.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 20.—Secretary of state Bryan today ordered an immediate investigation of the killing of W. S. Benton, the English ranch owner, at Juarez.

Secretary Bryan announced the news of Benton's death as he went into a cabinet meeting at the white house. He declared he had absolutely no details. An official dispatch from consul T. D. Edwards, at Juarez, merely announced the death of the Englishman.

Under normal conditions the British government would look to Gen. Huerta for redress but his authority does not extend into northern Mexico and at present there is no disposition to extend recognition to Villa.

Although it will be for the British foreign office to decide what shall be done after investigation establishes the fact in the Benton case, the understanding is that the one immediate result will be formal warning by the British government to all its subjects in Mexico that they are to be treated as British subjects.

Such action will be taken on the attitude that British subjects are not longer safe in the country controlled by Villa.

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MASS MEETING IN CLEVELAND SQUARE

EX-GOVERNOR GEORGE CURRY, of New Mexico, will address a mass meeting in Cleveland square this evening at 7:30 on the execution of William Benton in Juarez.

English Citizen Shot in Juarez, After Being Tried by Courtmartial, It Is Declared, on a Charge of Threatening to Kill Villa—Official Confirmation of His Death Is Furnished American Consul by Gen. Villa.

WILLIAM S. BENTON is dead in Juarez, a victim of the rebel firing squad.

Fears of the family and friends that "Bill" Benton crossed to Juarez Tuesday morning never to return alive were confirmed Friday morning when American consul Thomas D. Edwards went to the Benton home, 816 North Oregon street, as an envoy from Villa to tell Mrs. Benton that her husband was dead.

British consuls, the British minister, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, at Washington, and the British foreign office of the London government had been appealed to by Mrs. Benton to have her husband's body returned to her for a full investigation and to take the responsibility for the death of the Scotchman, who was a British subject, Henry Chamberlain, British consul in Los Angeles, is now speeding across the desert on the limited train to take the first report on the affair to his superior at Washington.

How William Benton met his fate is not known, but it is said to have been before a firing squad and that he died before the British consul arrived. Mrs. Benton informed American consul Edwards that he would give him the desired information relative to the execution, he obtained a pledge of secrecy from the consul not to divulge the details of the tragedy to anyone except the British consul and the Washington government.

Acting upon instructions from his government, Mr. Edwards had informed Mrs. Benton that she must come to Benton, if he was a prisoner, whereupon, at a conference held in the American consulate in Juarez, she was told that she was to go to Juarez, where she would be a witness to the execution.

Consul Edwards's Statement. "Officially I consider Benton dead," the consul said Friday morning. "I say that because I was told officially by the British consul in Juarez that he had been killed."

Nothing was heard from Benton Tuesday night and when he did not return to his home, his family became uneasy. He was missing all day Wednesday and it was announced unofficially that he was in jail in Juarez, although Villa insisted that question as to his exact whereabouts by replying that he was not in jail.

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Tell of Profane Language Alleged to Have Been Applied by Guardsmen.

WIFE OF STRIKER ADDS TO TESTIMONY

TRINIDAD, Colo., Feb. 20.—The conduct of the militia during the Colorado coal strike, in which charges of unnecessary harshness on the part of the guardsmen was alleged, came up for consideration before the congressional subcommittee at today's session.

Miss Helen Ray, a school teacher, testified that on the occasion of an alleged quarrel on December 31, she had heard a soldier use profane language.

Says General Kicked Her. Sarah Slater, a 15-year-old school girl, said she was kicked by general Chase when the general was trying to clear the streets on the occasion of the women's parade.

She said a militiaman tried to hit her with his saber, but hit a telephone pole. She declared that she saw four men arrest two women.

I saw a militiaman threaten to stick a woman with his bayonet because she wouldn't walk fast enough to suit him. She was carrying a baby about three years old.

The girl said she was arrested by the soldiers and placed in a filthy cell, and kept prisoner for about six hours. Captain Danks cross examined the witness.

Alfred L. Whelan, a printer, testified that in the office of a Trinidad newspaper. Dr. Cross examined him by Judge J. G. Northcutt, the witness admitted that he was not certain that Judge Northcutt had said that.

Alleges Militiaman Was Profane. There was a wrangle over the admissibility of testimony regarding the labor conditions in newspaper offices, and representative Austin caused a laugh.

As to the intervenors, the higher court refused the admission of the intervenors to the extent that their estate and the heirs of Hague were given title to the one-eighth claim.

At the end of Hayes's testimony, Capt. Danks said that Gen. Chase would appear before the investigation was over.

I want to ask him about kicking that girl, remarked representative Tyson.

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COURT ACCUSED OF DEED MURDER

MERITZ, Germany, Feb. 20.—Count Matthias Rudawsky and a member of the German imperial parliament, was placed on trial here today charged with killing his wife and her nephew, count Alfred Mizinski. The two were found dead on December 20 at the country seat of the countess in Lakowz Mokra, near Graz.

RAUCH IS ALIVE, THE REBELS SAY

"We have not yet reached a decision in the case of Gustave Rauch," the statement Friday morning of the judge of the military court was trying Rauch on the charge of being a federal spy.

TELEPHONE COMPANY HELD TO BE OUTLAW

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 20.—The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph company was held to be an outlaw operating without a legal right to use the streets and alleys of Denver, in a decision handed down by Judge J. H. Denis in the district court here today.