

## MEXICAN SITUATION IS BECOMING ACUTE

Assassination of American by  
Federals Adds Further  
Complications.

### BRYAN SUMMARIZES

Attitude of Washington Not Changed  
and Investigations Will Be Car-  
ried Out Through Reg-  
ular Methods.

(By Associated Press.)  
Laredo, Mexico, Feb. 25.—Assurances that the men responsible for the execution of Clemente Vergara, an American citizen, hanged by Mexican federals near Hidalgo, Mexico, will be punished have been given United States Consul Garrett at Nuevo Laredo by Col. Alvarez, commanding the Nuevo Laredo garrison.

Just what steps are being taken was not made public, but it is understood the federal officer told the consul that the case would be thoroughly threshed out.

Vergara leaves a widow and three children, the oldest a young man of 20. His friends here are greatly aroused and citizens are preparing to make representations to Washington.

Body Still Hanging.  
Consul Garrett, with S. J. Hill, Vergara's brother-in-law, expect to visit the scene of the execution early tomorrow. In view of the fact that the body has been reported still hanging no opposition is anticipated to their demand, authorized by the state department, that it be surrendered to the family for burial.

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 25.—A. Mitchell, who gave his address as 836 Vernon street, Brooklyn, and who said his father was a director of the Union Trust Company of Brooklyn, late today was released from the Juarez jail. He said Gustav Rauch was still there. Mitchell was arrested eleven days ago, he said, after a fist fight. In jail, he said, were the following Americans besides Rauch: Edward Trabard, Matt Giddens, H. T. Davis, V. E. Goodman and a railroad man named Thornton.

### AMERICAN CONSUL TO INVESTIGATE KILLING.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Mexican situation, which in the last few days has centered chiefly on efforts to determine how and why the rebels executed William S. Benton, a British subject, today was broadened when Consul Garrett at Nuevo Laredo was instructed to inquire into the hanging by Mexican federals of Clemente Vergara, an American citizen.

The consul was directed by the state department to demand the body of the dead American from officers of the Huerta government in the vicinity of Hidalgo, Mexico, where Vergara was killed.

Earlier in the day American Consul Lecher had been instructed to insist that Gen. Villa permit the delivery of that body of Benton to the widow for burial where she may wish.

Gen. Villa's message of last night offering to permit the widow of Benton or relatives and an American official to see the body when exhumed is taken by the American government to mean that a complete medical examination may be performed. Gen. Villa late today had not replied to the last request of Secretary Bryan for the surrender of Benton's body, but it is understood Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador, for the present will be satisfied if there is an opportunity for an autopsy to determine whether Benton was shot by a pistol bullet or by rifle bullets from a firing squad.

The British ambassador early today had a brief conference with Secretary Bryan, and later was kept informed of messages received by the state department.

No Change of Policy.  
That no change of policy in connection with treatment of the Mexican problem was discussed in the senate conference with Secretary Bryan became known afterwards. It is apparent, however, that while officials are not prejudging the Benton affair and are waiting for facts, the danger to the safety of foreigners in northern Mexico and what is being construed as inability of a part of the rebels, at least, to prevent international complications, is receiving deep consideration by high administration officials.

It has developed that the American government is informally looking to Gen. Carranza as titular head of the rebel movement to clarify the situation in connection with the Benton killing. The news that Luis Cabrera was at Juxtepec conferring with Villa's friends, urging immediate delivery of the body, was significant.

Cabrera is understood to be an emissary from Carranza, and it is said the state department on previous occasions.

## AN INVASION OF STATE'S RIGHTS

Lever Bill Killed by House of  
Representatives After All-  
Day Debate.

### (By Associated Press)

Washington, Feb. 25.—Attacked as an invasion of States' rights, the Lever bill to authorize the commissioner of education to co-operate with State educational associations or individuals in plans for the elimination of adult illiteracy in the United States, today met overwhelming defeat in the House after an all day debate.

In the course of debate Representative Fitzgibbon, chairman of the appropriations committee, produced a mass of letters from college presidents and educational workers throughout the country, urging that the increased appropriations asked by the bureau be allowed. He said they were the result of a campaign carried on by the commissioner of education.

## APPROPRIATION BILL BLOCKED IN SENATE

Eurleson's Action in Extending  
Low Rate Zone of Parcels  
Post Criticized.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Criticisms of Postmaster General Eurleson's action in abolishing the fifty mile parcel post zone and extending the low rates of the service to territory within the 150 mile zone, today blocked passage of the postoffice appropriation bill in the Senate.

Sensors Eryan and Bristow led the attack, the latter questioning other senators, one by one, as to whether they regarded the rates as fair to the places having the short haul.

"The American people have benefited from the postmaster general's change," replied Senator Vardaman, "and anyway, no system is perfect."

Senator Williams disagreed with his colleague and declared the express companies would not be permitted for a minute to discriminate against the short haul as the government was doing.

"Oh, the express companies soaked them both on the short and long hauls when it had a chance," interrupted Senator Lane.

Senator Bristow was speaking when the bill was laid aside for the day.

## MURDER AND ARSON AT BARBER'S JUNCTION MAY FOREVER REMAIN A MYSTERY.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 25.—In the light of evidence submitted to a coroner's jury at Barber's Junction today, the most probable explanation of the charred body found in the ruins of H. T. Smithdeal's store last night seems to be that a robber surprised by Manager Preston Lyerly in the act of rifling the safe killed the merchant, upset a kerosene oil tank, fired the building and fled with a small amount of money taken from the cash drawer.

Doctor Burns, who was first to discover the body, testified that blood profusion had issued from wounds in the skull, one seemingly made by a pistol bullet and another by a blow from an axe.

## THE WESTON BILL PASSED BY HOUSE

Requires Medical Examination of  
Students—Other Legisla-  
ture Matter.

### Special Correspondence.

Columbia, Feb. 25.—The Weston bill providing for a system of medical inspection for school children and students in the colleges of the State, was passed to third reading by the House last night by a vote of 52 to 30, after unsuccessful efforts had been made to exempt various counties from its provisions.

The bill was vigorously opposed at both the morning and night sessions of the House.

When the House resumed consideration of the Weston bill last night at 8:15 o'clock, Mr. Fortner, raised the point of no quorum. A roll call showed that 85 members were present.

The various amendments were taken up. The House refused to exempt Berkeley, Hampton, Pickens, Lexington, Laurens, e. l. Jasper, Horry, Anderson, Abbeville, Cherokee, Spartanburg from the provisions of the Weston bill. Several roll calls were demanded.

Message From Governor.  
The House received a special message from the Governor Wednesday night about the report of the special committee appointed to investigate the management of the State Hospital for the Insane. The message said the concurrent resolution adopted to provide rules and regulations for the State hospital is really null on account of the powers conferred on the superintendent and Board of Regents by the State constitution.

Rebate Bitterly Factional.  
The Lumpkin-McMaster resolution providing for the appointment of a committee from the general assembly to investigate any claims presented by J. M. Graham of Columbia, whose contract with the board of directors to operate a hosiery mill at the State penitentiary was abrogated by the general assembly, was killed this morning in the House by a vote of 46 to 43 despite the efforts of the Richard delegation and others to save it. Debate on the resolution was acrimonious and bitterly factional at times.

The Senate bill providing for substitution of stenographers and typists in the engraving department for the bevy of young women employed there was killed by the House this morning.

## OKLAHOMA PROGRESSIVES MEET

Oklahoma City, Okla., Feb. 25.—After adopting resolutions disapproving of any form of amalgamation with another party, and electing John M. Hale, an Oklahoma City banker, State chairman, the convention of progressive party in Oklahoma, which met here today, adjourned tonight.

The platform reaffirms the Chicago platform, favors woman suffrage, national banking laws, guaranteeing deposits, and the proposed immediate sale of public school lands in this State. Stringent laws against usury also were urged.

## RIOT AGAINST CHINESE.

(By Associated Press.)  
Nocales, Sonora, Mexico, Feb. 25.—The anti-Chinese riots in Cananea, Sonora, yesterday grew out of a washwoman's war, according to information received here by Mexican officials. The Women's Protective League of Cananea, recently organized by women who earned their living at the washboard, is said to have been formed to attack the Chinese, who were accused of usurping the women's employment.

## WEST IS NAMED TO FILL VACANCY

Appointed by Governor Slaton to  
Succeed the Lamented  
Bacon.

### VALDOSTA LAWYER

Will Serve Until Next November,  
When State Election Will Be Held.  
Many Prospective Candidates for Place.

(By Associated Press.)  
Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 25.—W. S. West, a lawyer of Valdosta, Ga., late today was appointed by Gov. John M. Slaton as United States senator to succeed the late Senator A. D. Bacon. Mr. West will serve until next November, when a state election will be held.

Indications are that there will be a multitude of candidates for the Georgia vacancy. Senator Bacon's term would not have expired until 1919.

Mr. West was a delegate at large to the democratic national convention at Denver in 1908. From 1892 until that year he served in both Houses of the state legislature and was president of the state senate in 1905-06. The newly appointed senator is 65 years old. He was born in Marion county, Georgia. After he was graduated from the academic department of Mercer university Mr. West taught school for several years, returning later to the same institution and taking a degree in the law department.

No contest over the naming of W. S. West as senator from Georgia, to succeed the late Senator Bacon can develop in the Senate, as the appointive recent law and am. law ob. law recently enacted for such emergencies.

Senator Kern, chairman of the privileges and elections committee, said tonight that Mr. West's credentials would be considered as such as Governor Slaton forwarded them to Washington, and that the committee would favorably report them to the Senate.

## PROMINENT FARMER HAS DISAPPEARED

Many Features Similar to the  
Lee Case.

## TAYLOR IS MISSING

Last Seen on Monday and Now No  
Trace Can Be Found of His  
Whereabouts.

Remarkable on account of the fact that every detail is almost exactly similar to those surrounding the famous Lee mystery, is the latest disappearance sensation for Anderson county. Joseph Taylor, a well known farmer of this county left his home last Monday and has not been seen or heard from since that date. Members of his family are almost frantic from anxiety and say that they are sure he has met with foul play, although no indication of this has yet been brought out.

He lives on the plantation of C. D. Watson, near Dean's station, and last Monday he came to Mr. Watson's home. He arrived there in the morning, left his team at Mr. Watson's and told that gentleman that he was com-

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## FORMER CHIEF CLERK ON TRIAL

Charged With Embezzling Fifty  
Thousand Dollars of State's  
Funds.

### (By Associated Press.)

Montgomery, Ala., Feb. 25.—Harry Dixon, a chauffeur, witness for the prosecution in the trial of Theodore Lacy, former chief clerk of the state convict department, who is on trial charged with embezzling \$50,000 of state funds, today told on the witness stand of driving Lacy to various banks the day he disappeared ten months ago. Dixon said he did not know his passenger the day he drove him through the streets, but today he identified Lacy as the man. He also told of a mysterious pine box that has figured prominently in the case.

Dixon said he was hired by Lacy and drove him to the banks, where money got secured by the former chief clerk. Lacy, he said, dismissed him at a prominent downtown saloon paying him \$20, and told him to keep the change. It is alleged that Lacy placed the \$20,000 of state's money in the pine box in order to get away with it.

When court convened this morning Judge Brown overruled the demurrer filed by the defendant and ordered the case to trial. Lacy was arraigned and pleaded not guilty, and the hearing of testimony was immediately begun.

## NO CAUSE FOR ACTION.

(By Associated Press.)  
Trenton, N. J., Feb. 25.—A verdict of no cause for action in the United States district court late today ended the suit of the Buckeye Powder Company against E. I. Dupont De Nemours Powder Company for \$5,000,000 damages. The suit was brought under the Sherman anti-trust law, charging unlawful interference with the business of the prosecutors thereby depriving them of business and substantially forcing the Buckeye Company from the field as a competitor; because the Dupont Company was alleged to be a monopoly and to have used unfair competitive methods against the Buckeye concern.

The jury deliberated 27 hours. The case was placed on trial Sept. 23 last, and consumed nearly seventy court days.

## AGED WOMAN FATALLY BURNED

(By Associated Press.)  
Richmond, Va., Feb. 25.—Miss Ellen Kelley, aged 73, sister of Bishop Kelley, of Savannah, and of the late Anthony M. Kelley, former mayor of Richmond, and later judge of the International court at Cairo, died this morning of burns received yesterday while stirring a fire in her sitting room.

A live coal, she said, fell upon the skirt of her dressing gown, and she strove in vain to remove them. A negro maid found her semi-conscious on a blazing rug.

## COURT MARTIAL OF OFFICER.

(By Associated Press.)  
Washington, Feb. 25.—Secretary Daniels today ordered the trial by court martial of Lieutenant Commander Charles P. Huff, of the Navy, charged with assaulting J. Phillip Kiesecker in a hotel at Newport News, Va., on February 15. The alleged assault was committed the morning after a valentine party in the hotel at which the naval officer is said to have objected to Kiesecker dancing with Mrs. Huff.

The officer, who said the dance incident did not cause the attack, was fined in the police court.

## ASYLUM REPORT IS READ TO ASSEMBLY

Legislative Committee to Investigate  
Conditions Makes  
Its Report.

### NEW MODEL WORK LAW FOR WOMEN

Now in Operation in Nation's  
Capital—Will Cause Girls to  
Be Displaced by Men.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The new model eight hour law for women workers in the national capital, went into operation today with laundries and many other service establishments threatening increases in charges to the public and moderate priced restaurants preparing to replace their girls with men-waiters. Department stores prepared to comply with its terms by lengthening the lunch hour and five o'clock closing.

The law provides that no woman under 18 years old shall be employed before 7 a. m., or after 6 p. m.

## "AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW."

The above title is the name of a play to be presented at Mountain View schoolhouse on Saturday evening, Feb. 28, 1914, beginning at 8:30 o'clock. Admission 25 and 15 cents.

## REFUSE TO GRANT FRANK REHEARING

Unanimous Concurrence of Su-  
preme Court Against Ap-  
peal for New Trial.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 25.—The supreme court of Georgia, today refused to grant a rehearing of the appeal for a new trial for Leo M. Frank, under death sentence for the murder of Mary Phagan.

Chief Justice Fish and Associate Justice Beck, who dissented from the court's decision last week denying the appeal, concurred in today's decision, which was unanimous.

The motion for a rehearing was filed yesterday, and was based on the contention that certain important counts in the appeal had been disregarded by the court. It is expected that an extraordinary motion for a new trial will be filed within a few days in the superior court.

Notice was filed in the superior court today by attorneys for James Conley, the negro convicted yesterday of being an accessory to the murder, that they would ask a new trial for their client, Conley, who was the principal witness against the young factory superintendent, is under sentence of twelve months on a convict chain gang.

Frank, it is said, received news of today's sentence with the same calmness he has exhibited since his arrest last April, two days after the murder of the little factory girl. He expressed confidence that his death sentence, indefinitely stayed pending final disposition of his case, would never be executed.

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