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Street Railway Year Shows $66,328 Profit

Annual Meeting Is Being Held This Afternoon

THE DIRECTORS' REPORT

Amount Paid Out in Wages $208,186—Extension and Improvements—Gas For Fuel—Nothing in Rumor of Sale Matter, it is Said Today

The report of a successful year's operations, during which extensions have been made to the railway lines, new buildings completed, additional equipment purchased, the price of gas for fuel lowered, and a balance of more than $15,000 carried to profit and loss after paying a six per cent dividend, was submitted to the stockholders of the St. John Railway Company at their annual meeting this afternoon in their offices.—Colonel H. H. McLean presiding.

In spite of the rumors regarding the possible purchase or change in the control of the company it was understood that this meeting would pass without any change in the situation. Officers of the company say that no offer has been submitted and those mentioned as possible purchasers say they are not submitting any offer.

The report of the directors for the fiscal year ending Dec. 31, 1913, is as follows:

"In submitting their nineteenth annual report, your directors wish to congratulate the company on the steady progress that it is making. The statement of the past year's business shows a net profit of $66,328.85, after providing for interest on the bonds and all other charges. Out of this net amount your directors have declared and paid four quarterly dividends of one and a half per cent, amounting to $50,609.48, leaving a balance of $15,719.38, which has been transferred to profit and loss account.

"The property of the company has been maintained in a high state of efficiency. A considerable sum has been spent in the up-keep of the tracks, rolling stock, plant and buildings. We have completed an extension of our street railway tracks from the foot of Brussels street to Kane's Corner on the Westmorland road, thence along Douglas street to the One Mile House, and from there along Rothesay Avenue to Cooper's Corner, a distance of one and a half miles.

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CONDENSED DESPATCHES

Marquis Aguilar De Campo, former minister of foreign affairs in Spain died yesterday.

United States immigration officers refuse deportation of Rev. J. E. T. Williams, of Newcastle, Pa., arrested with Mrs. Geo. Thomas in Toronto. They say he belongs to Australia and is not a United States citizen. Ottawa has been notified.

The Gloucester fishing schooner George Bradley, battered by storm, was towed into St. John's, Nfld., today.

In New York yesterday two actresses appeared in colored wigs to match the gowns they wore. One wig was green and the other purple. This is the latest Paris fad.

Citizens of Denver donated one thousand dollars to enable the members of the National Grand Opera Company of Canada to return to their homes in Montreal, Chicago, New York and Italy.

In connection with the Japanese naval scandal three prominent contractors for supplies have been arrested, charged with bribery.

David Dunn, a burglar aged nineteen, shot Harry Edwards, cashier of an express company in Corning, N. Y., who gave him permission to sleep in the office last night. He tried to open the safe but failed. He was captured and confessed the crime.

Leopold and Felix Melmick, brothers, charged with being members of an arson gang in Chicago, causing losses amounting to $500,000 have been arrested in Toronto.

Wireless messages today indicate that the German steamer Wildenfels is in trouble in the Bay of Biscay. A later message said she did not require further help.

THE ATHENIA

Donaldson Liner Athenia is due at St. John on Wednesday night or Thursday morning.

Phelix and Pherdinand

WEATHER BULLETIN

Issued by authority of the Department of Marine and Fisheries, R. F. Stupart, director of meterological service.

Another severe cold wave covers the greater part of Canada, while a marked depression is situated in the lower Mississippi Valley. Fine, very cold weather prevails generally.

Very Cold.

Maritime—Fair and continued very cold today and on Tuesday.

New England forecasts—Snow and much colder tonight; Tuesday, probably snow, brisk northeast to north winds.

FREIGHT TRAINS ON THE I. C. R. COLLIDE

Quebec, Feb. 23—Two freight trains collided on the I. C. R. near St. Louis yesterday. Both engines and two cars were badly damaged, but no one was hurt. The Maritime Express from Halifax was delayed five hours.

MONCTON MINISTER ILL IN FLORIDA; UNABLE TO ATTEND MOTHER'S FUNERAL

(Special to Times)

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 23—The body of Mrs. D. C. Lawson, whose death occurred on Friday evening, was taken to Amherst yesterday afternoon. The funeral service at the home of her son, Rev. G. A. Lawson, was conducted by Rev. E. H. Cochrane, of the Highfield street Baptist church, assisted by Rev. W. B. Wiggins, of the Reformed Baptist church, and Rev. G. E. Whitehouse of Berlin, N. Y., who has been supplying at the First Baptist church. The funeral was held this afternoon in Amherst from the residence of her son, B. J. Lawson.

Rev. G. A. Lawson is in Florida recovering from the effects of his recent serious illness. Much sympathy is felt for him.

Mrs. Lawson had been a resident of Moncton for three years and was held in very high esteem. She was the relict of Rev. D. C. Lawson, well known among the Baptist people. She is survived by the following sons: B. J., of Amherst, Alfred C., of Boston, Rev. George A., of Moncton and one daughter, Mary A., wife of Rev. A. S. Lewis, pastor of the Baptist church in Windsor, N. S.

WEATHER MAN PLAYFUL AGAIN

After a comparatively lengthy period of inactivity, the mercury has again started its fluctuations. On Saturday it went to zero, and registered one below on Sunday morning. Then it turned right round and started to climb again, nor was it contented until it had registered thirty-two degrees above during Sunday afternoon. Whatever its intentions might have been cannot be ascertained but the city population awoke this morning to find that the thermometer had returned to the depths again, being only slightly above the cipher. At nine o'clock this morning it was four degrees above and has been on the ascent since. Just what its future plans are cannot be conjectured, but we are liable to have a change. Verily we are in a very fickle atmosphere.

"SMOKY JOE" WOOD UNDER KNIFE

Twin Lakes, Pa., Feb. 23—Joe Wood, pitcher for the Boston Red Sox, underwent an operation for appendicitis at his home here on Sunday. It was successful and he was resting comfortably later in the day. His condition indicates early recovery.

Wood had been under a physician's care for several weeks, but his condition became serious late on Saturday night, and the operation was thought necessary.

FUNERALS.

Many friends this morning attended the funeral of John E. McDonald, from the residence of his brother, William P. McDonald, Mecklenburg street. The body was taken to the Cathedral where requiem high mass was conducted by Rev. C. J. McLaughlin, with Rev. Miles Howland, as deacon, and Rev. M. O'Brien as sub-deacon. Interment was in the old Catholic cemetery.

The funeral of Mrs. A. J. Wilson took place at 2.30 p. m. today from her late home, Paradise Row. Rev. M. F. McCutcheon officiated, and interment was in Cedar Hill.

Many friends will sympathise with Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Murphy in the loss of their little girl, Dolly, aged four years, who was buried yesterday. The funeral was from their home in Drury Lane.

The funeral of J. V. Troop was held yesterday afternoon from the residence of his brother-in-law, Charles McLauchlan, 193 Princess street. Many floral tributes were received. Funeral service was conducted by Rev. W. H. Barraclough and interment was in Fernhill.

MRS. JEMIMA FRIARS.

The death of Mrs. Jemima Friars, widow of Simon P. Friars, occurred this morning at 234 Britain street, the home of her son-in-law, R. McLeod. She had been ill only since Friday last with pneumonia and pleurisy. Mrs. Friars was sixty-nine years of age and had been a resident of Sussex for many years, though for the last seven years she had lived in St. John. Three sons survive, William and Peter, of Sussex, and John, of New London, Conn., and four daughters, Mrs. McLeod and Mrs. Howard B. Whitnect, of St. John; Mrs. Joseph Richardson and Mrs. Fred Radcliff, of Sussex. Services were held this afternoon by Rev. W. Camp at the home of Mr. McLeod and the body will be taken to Sussex. The funeral will be from the home of Mrs. Radcliff on Wednesday.

THE LEGISLATURE.

In preparation for the opening of the provincial legislature on Thursday the local members will meet this afternoon to consider matters which will be coming up and also to discuss some minor appointments. Hon. John E. Wilson will leave this evening for Fredericton to attend the meetings of the government which will continue until Wednesday.

The missing Maine schooner Kineo, has meen towed into Lewis, Delaware.

Rogers To Boss The Redistribution Work; Will be Star Chamber

(Special to Times)

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 23—The redistribution will be made with Hon. Robert Rogers acting as the judge to settle all differences arising between the four liberal and the four conservative members of the committee. He was appointed chairman this morning at the first meeting. It was decided to sit behind closed doors and to remake the electoral map of Canada in star chamber.

It is probable that the re-adjustment of the Manitoba constituencies will be the first problem. This is not expected to be difficult, as there are seats to be added. The troubles are expectd chiefly over Ontario, where there are seats to be taken away, and Quebec, where Hon. L. P. Pelletier has some ideas which he wants to have carried out and which are not likely to meet with the approval of the Liberals.

Survivors of Bark Rescued On The Coast of Wexford

(Canadian Press)

Wexford, Ireland, Feb. 23—The survivors of the crew of the wrecked Norwegian bark Mexico were today taken off the Barren Island on which they had landed on Saturday and where they had been since then without food Fourteen men were drowned in the various attempts made to rescue them.

The Mexico went ashore on Friday when on her way from Laguna, Mexico, to Falmouth. Her distress signals were answered by two life boats, one of which was stove in on reaching the vessel, but its crew managed to scramble on board. The other capsized and sank. The Mexico was dashed to pieces on the rocks, and her crew and the remaining lifeboat men were washed ashore, where they had no shelter except that formed of pieces of wreckage.

It has been a terrible week end along the British coasts. Fierce westerly gales have prevailed and many wrecks are reported.

SUBURBANITES NOW COME TO THEIR CITY WORK BY FREIGHT

An Hour Late, They Were Brought in This Morning at the End of a String of Box Cars

New changes in I. C. R. suburban service announced from the office of Manager Gutelius in Moncton are certainly not expected to cause him to be regarded in any more favorable light by the many who have homes between the city and Hampton. Already before the new schedule has been in operation a whole day there is dissatisfaction.

A freight train is now scheduled to bring the suburbanites to the city in the mornings. That is to say they are given the privilege of riding to the city on passenger cars attached to the year of a string of boxes numbering from fifteen to twenty. This morning on the initial trip the train reached the depot just about one hour behind schedule time, and the murmurings of the passengers would hardly be appropriate reading for youthful or even adult minds in a respectable newspaper.

Formerly the early suburban reached the city at 7.45. This morning with the addition of twenty freight cars to the four passenger cars the train arrived at 8.45. The passengers cars were at the rear of the freight and on arrival in the Island Yard with the aid of a shunter they were transferred so as to be brought into the depot, the box cars being left outside.

With fifteen stations between Hampton and St. John for stops it is not considered that there is a rosy time ahead. Nor is this all. In the evenings it will not be possible for those who have been working all day in the city and who are anxious to get to home and supper as soon as possible to leave the city before 6.35 p. m. for the suburban cars are to be attached to the Quebec express, instead of leaving at 6,15 as was formerly the case.

This means that there is only one suburban train in the service—the noon train, and suburbanites are asking whether or not it will be possible for Manager Gutelius to arrange to have another freight or a milk train pass between stations about this time to replace it. These changes will probably remain in effect until May 1, when there is hope for better things.

ORDERED TO SOUND THE RETREAT; HIS BUGLE GAVE CHARGE INSTEAD

French President Presides at Banquet in Honor of Veteran Who Won Day in Algeria

Paris, Feb. 23.—President Poincare presided at a banquet given last night to Bugler Rolland, sole survivor of the battle of Sidi Brahim, in 1845. in the French war of subjugation in Algeria. Rolland is now ninety-five years of age, and recently was decorated with the Legion of Honor.

While wounded and a prisoner, he was ordered at a critical stage of the battle by Abdel Kader, the Arabian chief, to sound the retreat in order to deceive the French troops. Instead he sounded the charge and in the clash that followed the French carried the day.

President Poincare, who was a reservist officer in Rolland's old regiment, embraced the veteran amid thunders of applause from the diners, who included several celebrated generals.

MANITOBA TEMPERANCE MEN PREPARING FOR ELECTION

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 23—To decide on a stand in the provincial elections, the temperance organizations of Manitoba will hold a convention here on March 24 and 25. If satisfactory arrangements cannot be made with the Liberal party, the temperance people may run their own candidates.

To Ottawa Congress

Winnipeg, Feb. 23—His Grace Archbishop Matheson of Rupert's Land, primate of all Canada and Rev. C. W. Gordon will be among the Winnipeg delegation to the Dominion Social Service Congress in Ottawa in March.

DECLARATION DAY IN YORK COUNTY

Serious Fire in Stanley—Eight Divorce Cases

Fredericton, N. B., Feb. 23—Declaration proceedings in the York by-election took place this morning and the official returns are: P. A. Guthrie, 3,112; James M. Scott, 2,468. Guthrie's majority is 644. Scott carried fifteen out of thirty-six polls and Guthrie twenty-one.

Two divorce cases will be before Judge McKeown for judgment and six for trial.

In Stanley last night a building owned by Michael Crotty and Fred Brown was destroyed by fire. Dunham's drug store and Glover's tailor shop were in this building. An adjoining building owned and occupied by William Fairley also was destroyed. The loss is several thousands of dollars.

WORK DID NOT MAKE STRONG APPEAL TO THEM

Only Three Out of Thirteen Turned to at Metropole Ruins

Most of the men who get free meals from the Salvation Army have a rooted dislike for work. Adjutant Cummins proposed that those who received breakfast go down to the wrecked shelter afterwards and work for two hours, and they would be credited with that for their next meal. Of thirteen who took breakfast this morning only three went to work. The others said they would not work "for nothing." They want to live on a too indulgent public.

The mattresses for the new shelter are expected tomorrow. All else is in readiness.

Methodists Plan New Churches Here

The Methodists of St. John soon will be called upon to contribute $25,000 for the extension of the church work in and around the city. At a meeting of the Methodist ministers it was decided that the time was ripe for building operations in various sections to meet the needs of the growing city. It is thought desirable that the church should have places of worship in the Courtenay Bay district, near Haymarket square, and in the north end, and in order to provide an opportunity for laying this matter before the contributors, it is probable that a meeting of the laymen of the city will be called at an early date. The gathering probably will take the form of a banquet.

ENGINEER TELLS OF FATAL WRECK

Inquest Into Disaster on Moncton and Buctouche Railway

(Special to Times)

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 23—The coroner's inquest into the ralway fatality at Scotch Settlement was begun here on Saturday afternoon by Coroner R. L. Botsford. T. W. Bell, foreman, Thomas Larracy, William Murray, D. B. McKinnon, William Sullivan, John Gillespie and Horace Murray compose the jury.

Daniel McKinnon, of Scotch Settlement told of seeing the train plunge into the river, killing four men.

The evidence of Engineer Alex. McKie was taken in the Moncton Hospital. He said that the train was running about eight or ten miles an hour. The snow was flying and it was difficult to see. As they ran on to the bridge he realized something was wrong with the plow, and he whistled for brakes, but the locomotive behind was pushing hard against his locomotive, the driver behind evidently not hearing the signal. He called out to his fireman, Sylvain Bourque: "We're all going to be killed." He recalled nothing more until he was taken from the wreckage.

The inquest was adjourned until this evening. Superintendent Frank N. Hall, one of those killed was a resident of this city and had a very large circle of friends. He had worked untiringly in the interest of the Moncton and Buctouche Railway for years and had been successful in building up the business. He could turn his hand to almost any part of the work. About sixteen years ago he organized the Cape Breton Coal and Ice Co., which was later taken over by the J. E. Masters Co., Ltd. About three years ago, with J. D. Irving, of Buctouche, he bought land at Notre Dame and organized the Kent County Freehold Company of which he was managing director.

On last Thursday Mr. Hall, feeling that the mails would be got through, although the M and B. line was tied up as a result of the storm, left Moncton with a team to deliver mail along the route, and meet the train. This is how he came to be on the train at the time of the wreck.

More than 500 Monctonians visited the wreck on the M. & B. Railway yesterday. General Manager Evans says the line will be in operation again the first of next week. He has secured an I. C. R. engine for two months. In the meantime there will be a tri-weekly mail service.

HOLD BACK THE BIG C.N.R. LOAN TILL LAST THING

(Special to Times)

Ottawa, Ont., Feb. 23—With R. B. Bennett threatening to vote against the Canadian Northern aid bill, the government has decided not to bring down the measure for a loan of $25,000,000 to MacKenzie and Mann until just before the close of the session. It will then be said in justification for that loan that the government has to take over the Transcontinental and could not overload itself by taking over the Canadian Northern at the same time.

It is said that MacKenzie and Mann will give assurance of interest and principal to the government.

GORMLEY LET GO AS EVIDENCE CONSIDERED NOT STRONG ENOUGH

William Gormley, of North End, seventeen years old, was arrested on Saturday evening charged with attacking Lena Katinsky, and threatening to kill her. The complaint was made by Samuel Katinsky, her husband. Gormley was allowed to go as it was held that there was not sufficient evidence against him.

Mrs. Katinsky said he called at her home in Ann street about nine o'clock on Tuesday evening and took her by the hands and said he would kiss her.

She said Gormley told her he was a bad man and would kill her if she made a noise. This was when he was leaving the house.

The defendant said that he went to the house to sell rubbers, as Mr. Katinsky was a junk dealer. He denied having laid hands on her or having threatened to kill her.

Policeman Briggs told of making the arrest.

The magistrate said he felt he would have to dismiss the case for lack of evidence. A six year old girl who Mrs. Katinsky referred to in her evidence as having seen the assault was in court, but was not called as a witness. E. S. Ritchie appeared for the prisoner.

THE STEAMERS

R. M. S. P. Liner Chignecto is expected to arrive in the morning from the West Indies.

The Robert Reford Co., Ltd., have received a cable advising that the new quadruple screw steamer Aquitania will enter the New York-Liverpool service, leaving Liverpool May 30 on her maiden trip. The return trip from New York will be made on June 10. The Aquitania will replace the Campania on this route.

The Dominion Coal Co's steamer Hochelaga sailed yesterday from Louisburg for St. John.

Battle Liner Tanagra, Captain Dalton, from Cardiff to Buenos Ayres Road, passed Las Palmas this morning.

The Sellasia, of the Battle Line, Captain Hatfield, sailed this morning from Rio Janeiro for Antwerp.

British Intervention Will Not Be Undertaken

KADUNA 26 DAYS ON VOYAGE HERE FROM CARDIFF

The South African Liner Kaduna is now on the twenty-sixth day of her trip from Cardiff. Although some anxiety is being felt it is thought that the rough weather which has prevailed on the Atlantic for the last few weeks is responsible for the delay and that the steamer will be along in a few days. The fact that the steamer Carindon arrived in New York from London last week after a voyage of twenty-eight days, makes the local agents of the Kaduna believe that she is being held back on account of the heavy weather too.

'PHONE BOX AND CONTENTS IN OPERA HOUSE STOLEN

One of the most glaring cases of sneak-thievery reported of late, even on a par with those of entering churches in daylight and robbing the poor boxes, was that of a few days ago when the telephone booth in the lobby of the Opera House was visited and the box containing the collections of the month taken with its contents.

Evidently however who took the box knew that the following day it was to have been emptied. It is not thought it contained much money as the number of pay calls on this station is not so numerous as elsewhere.

BACK TO ST. JOHN AFTER THE WAR

After an absence of eighteen months during which he served through the Balkan war in the Greek navy, Nicholas Aliotis has returned to St. John with interesting tales to tell. He was one of the first of the local Greeks to return to bear his share of the fighting. He was assigned to a post on the destroyer Aitos, on which he served throughout the war. His vessel was in the two important naval engagements on December 12, 1912, and January 18, 1913, in both of which the Greeks were victorious. His craft also played an important part in several minor engagements.

Aliotis escaped wounds during the war and was paid off about two months ago. After a short rest at his former home he again embarked for Canada, bringing with him his younger brother. He is a cousin of Nicholas J. Aliotis of King street, with whom he was employed before leaving for the war.

CROWDED POLICE COURT.

The police court was crowded to the dors this morning with spectators evidently attracted by the case against the girls charged with street walking. They were disappointed however, as that case will not come up until tomorrow morning, then probably behind closed doors. One of the spectators who seemed especially anxious to see what was going on inside the rail was called to order by the court when he was seen sitting on a window ledge with his hat on his head. The magistrate remarked that the offender could have been sent to jail for seven days for contempt of court.

COMMON COUNCIL.

Instead of the meeting of the common council, for which there is very little business this week, Mayor Frink is endeavoring to arrange for this afternoon a conference between the city commissioners and the local members of the legislature regarding city legislation for the coming session. If the council does meet, the letter from the premier regarding the report on the police investigation will be submitted.

FOR SUBSIDY INCREASE.

A special committee of the board of trade met this afternoon to consider the request of the owners of the steamer Granville, plying between St. John and Nova Scotian ports, for supoprt in their request for an increase in their subsidy.

For Free Trade

Ottawa, Feb. 23—Dr. Michael Clark, M. P., for Red Deer, addressing the local Canadian Club on Saturday, spoke of the benefit of free trade, describing tariff for revenue as breaking every maxim of wise taxation.

Truth Telling Advertisements

Quite a natural text for a little talk on the anniversary of Washington's birthday.

There is some sentiment and also good, plain, business sense in the idea that an advertisement must be an exact statement of fact—that it must be without exaggeration.

The old policy of "let the buyer beware" has become obsolete. In the same way the tendency to have alluring advertising without the goods to back it up has gone into the discard.

It did not pay.

There is more care exercised today in the preparation of an advertisement than ever before.

People are greater readers of advertising than ever before, and are more severe critics.

They know the ring of the true from the noise of the counterfeit.

The advertising in the good newspapers like The Telegraph and Times is subjected to careful scrutiny. Publishers are jealous of the character of their columns. Standards are getting higher—the business world is getting more exacting in its ideals and its practices.

Announcement From English Foreign Office

OUTLINED IN COMMONS

British Press Talk Plainly and Declare Benton Case One of Murder — Some Agitation in States and Whole Question Is Being Reopened

(Canadian Press)

London, Feb. 23—"The pacification of Mexico is an object we honestly desire to see accomplished, but it is impossible to effect it by British intervention. We do not intend to make any attempt of that character, which would be both futile and impolitics."

This is the attitude of the British foreign office as outlined today in the House of Commons by Francis Dyke Acland, parliamentary under secretary for foreign affairs, after full consideration of the series of victimizations of British subjects in Mexico culminating in the death of William S. Benton in Juarez.

London, Feb. 23—The killing of William S. Benton, a Scottish ranchman, by the rebel leader Villa at Juarez, occupied the most prominent place in the newspapers of the British Isles today.

The Manchester Guardian, regarded as one of the principal Liberal papers, says:—"It is impossible not to suspect that the execution of Benton was no better than murder. There are too many Huertas. Felix Diaz, Huerta himself, Carranza, Villa, there is little reason to suppose that any of them would be less despotic than the others or would consent to let Mexico say by whom she would be governed."

The Pall Mall Gazette, an opposition organ, under the heading, "It's Murder Most Foul," says the slaying of Benton touches the honor of the British name to the quick. "If this pretense at a court martial should be the only result of the inquiry being made by the United States government, the obligation of the United States to act as the mandatory of civilization will remain."

The Globe says:—"If it be proved that Villa has unjustifiably done to death a peaceful British resident, how can the principles which condemn Huerta be reconciled with the approbation and support of his adversary. As the American government has undertaken to protect British subjects in Mexico, its obligation to act promptly and effectively in the present case is clear."

The Standard says:—

"We cannot believe that the United States government intends to refer Great Britain to General Huerta for satisfaction. Such a policy would be inconsistent with the sense of responsibility which President Wilson must feel for Mexico."

The Westminster Gazette takes the stand that Villa's proceedings in regard to Benton must be illegal as the rebels have never been recognized. "The investigation may possibly show that Benton himself, was responsible, but short of that, we believe public opinion on both sides of the Atlantic will demand that the murderers of Benton be brought to book."

Not the First Time

Aberdeen, Scotland, Feb. 23—Two cousins of William S. Benton, living here said today that another of their cousins was killed in Texas in 1875 and that eighteen months ago, William S. Benton and a cousin had trouble with the Mexican rebels. They were arrested and threatened with death but were released.

El Paso, Texas, Feb. 23—Consular authorities at Juarez and at Chihuahua were spurred to unusual efforts to learn the fate of Roger Laurence, Gustave Bauch, Harry Compton and a rancher named Curtis, all believed to be victims of General Villa. Late yesterday American consuls Edwards at Juarez and Letcher at Chihuahua, received orders from Secretary of State Bryan to proceed diligently in their search for the missing men.

In El Paso the feeling is strong that Curtis and Laurence have met the same fate as did William S. Benton. In spite of the fact that Consul Letcher had been unable to find trace of Compton in Chihuahua, his friends here believe he was taken prisoner there and probably returned to Juarez and was executed.

Re-opens While Question

Washington, D. C., Feb. 23—Detailed reports containing General Villa's personal explanation of the Benton affair to United States Consul Edwards at Juarez, were due here by mail today. Judgment is to be reserved by the American government, until other details sought by independent investigation are received.

In the meantime, the feeling of apprehension for the safety of Gustav Bauch, Roger Laurence and an Englishman named Curtis, as well as other missing foreigners, served to emphasize the extent to which the United States government had become involved in securing protection for foreign residents in Mexico. Especially difficult is the task of the American government in undertaking to care for foreigners in Northern Mexico, where European powers have no consular representatives.

Although Benton was a British subject, the United States feels called upon to render to Great Britain, a full explanation of the circumstances under which he met death.

Thus far the state department, has learned only Villa's side of the case, which sets forth that Benton, a high tempered individual, provoked a quarrel, was armed and threatened the life of

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