

WILL TAX TOBACCO AND LIQUOR MORE

Newfoundland Will Get \$360,000

Budget Speech Shows Colony in Prosperous Condition

Remitted \$380,000 Food Duties Last Year and Shortage in Revenue is Much Less Than Expected—Government to Borrow \$2,360,000 for Railway and Public Services.

St. John's, Nfld., Feb. 25.—In the assembly today the finance minister presented the colonial budget, showing that the revenue for the fiscal year ended last June was \$3,920,000, giving a surplus of \$115,000, while for the current fiscal year duties totalling \$880,000, having been removed last season from tea, sugar and salt beef, the customs revenue now shows a shortage of \$180,000, or much less than expected.

A loan of two million dollars for railways, and \$800,000 for the purpose of public services is being proposed at the present session, involving an increased interest charge of \$85,000, besides an increased expenditure on the general estimates of \$115,000.

He proposes imposing a surtax of ten per cent on the existing customs duties, which would yield \$380,000. An increased duty of \$1 per gallon on liquors, which would yield \$160,000; an increased duty of five cents per pound on tobacco, and proportional rates for cigarettes, which would yield \$110,000; an increased duty of one cent per pound on butterine, which would yield \$80,000, and a royalty of \$1 per thousand on the lumber cut by small mills, which at present contribute nothing to the colonial revenue, and which would yield \$25,000.

The minister reviewed, at length, the position and prospects of the country, showing the high prices for fish, with the increased output of the Bell Island Iron Mines, the Harnsworth and other paper mills, and various local industries, created conditions of prosperity never previously known in the colony's history.

MRS. PANKHURST WRITES THE KING FOR AN AUDIENCE

Tell His Majesty It is Futile to Seek Interviews With Ministers—Wants Votes for Women.

London, Feb. 25.—Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the suffragette leader, has written to the king asking him to receive a deputation from the Women's Social and Political Union, to lay before him their claim for the parliamentary vote, and the complaint of the medieval and barbarous methods of torture, whereby your majesty's ministers are seeking to repress the women's revolt against their deprivation of citizens' rights.

Mrs. Pankhurst, in her letter, argues that it is futile to seek interviews with the ministers, because they are the men the union accuses of betraying the women's cause, and torturing the claimants, and also because the women refuse to recognize the authority of men who are elected or appointed to office without their consent. She concluded: "Because women are without the vote there are in our midst today swayed workers, white slaves, outraged children, and innocent mothers and their babes stricken with horrible disease. It is for the sake and in the name of these unhappy members of our sex that we ask your majesty for an audience, and we are confident that it will be granted to us."

THREE BUILDINGS BURNED IN STANLEY

Fredrickton, Feb. 25.—Stanley had one of its most disastrous fires in years last evening, when three buildings were burned to the ground and nearly the stock, etc., in them were destroyed. The fire originated in the building occupied by George Dunham and Fred. Glover. The other two buildings destroyed were owned by William Fairley and used by him as a store and residence, and one owned by Brown & Crilly. Mr. Dunham's loss is about \$8,000, as he lost all his stock and the building was a total loss. Mr. Dunham has about \$1,250 insurance. Mr. Glover's loss is about \$300. Brown & Crilly have insurance to the amount of \$400, but their loss is much greater. Mr. Fairley saved some of his goods and has insurance of \$700.

Declaration proceedings in the probate election took place this morning, and the official returns are: P. A. Guthrie, 5,112; 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.

\$100,000 FIRE LOSS IN MONCTON

City and Other Buildings Totally Destroyed Wednesday Morning

MANY CONCERNS SUFFER

Public Market Laid in Ashes—Some Apprehension for Safety of Contents of Civic Vault—Only \$12,000 Insurance on the \$60,000 Structure.

Moncton, N. B., Feb. 25.—Moncton's market building, in which were located the city offices, is in ruins. About 8:45 o'clock this morning fire was seen in the rear of the city building on the ground floor and it had then made such headway that the flames were ready to burst through the windows.

Less than an hour after an alarm was sounded in the whole city building was in flames. It was practically abandoned and efforts concentrated upon preventing the fire spreading. The brick walls of the burning building kept the flames pretty well in check but the forked tongues leaped from the windows in front and along both sides and in the rear and the interior was a seething caldron with everything consumable being rapidly devoured. The sight was spectacular and hundreds of citizens braved the twelve level zero weather to watch the conflagration.

When the walls began to crumble and fall there were narrow escapes. Several firemen playing on the fire in front of the Bank of Nova Scotia had a close call. A warning cry caused the men to back away from the building and scarcely had they done so when a large section of the city building crashed to the sidewalk where they had stood.

During the height of the fire the electric light and power plant was shut down as there was danger from broken wires. Suspension of operations at the power station made it impossible for the city to be lit at the regular hour and it came out at eleven o'clock. Business in other places depending on the city for light and power also was interrupted.

Notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen the flames crossed West Market street and caught in a two story building owned by J. A. Marven and J. S. Magee and occupied by Patre's fish market on the ground floor and the Liberal Club on the second floor. The building was destroyed. There was \$4,000 insurance on the building and the cost of construction was \$7,000.

The fire loss is estimated at nearly \$100,000. Among the losses are:

City Hall Building	\$80,000
Marven & Magee	7,000
First Baptist Church	5,000
Moncton Public Library	5,000
City offices	5,000
City Engineer's office	2,000
City Assessor's office	1,000
Salvage Corps Room	500
Armstrong & McFarlane	3,000
E. Patre	1,000
Roy D. Biggar	1,000
W. Gross	1,000
Geo. C. Matthews	1,000
E. A. Friars & Co.	1,000
Ellis Scherman	300
Y. M. C. A.	100
Z. M. Leger	50
P. A. Belliveau & Co.	100
John Hall	25
Bank of Nova Scotia	200
I. C. R. Boarding House	200
Olympia Kandy Kitchen	100

The loss in the city clerk's office, with the exception of valuables kept in the vault, will be in the vicinity of \$5,000.

It is impossible to learn whether or not the large vault used by the city clerk is intact. The general opinion is that it did not save the city records and the value of thousands of dollars of records that they are now smouldering in the mass of ruins.

A few months ago it was decided by the council to repair the fall at the rear of the building acting as a fire trap. Formerly the open space for use by the First Baptists in May last were burned out.

Edmund F. C. Robinson, chairman of the finance committee has been working for some time to have the insurance on the city buildings increased. Arrangements were practically concluded yesterday for adding another policy of \$8,000 which would bring the total to \$16,000. Whether or not this policy can be collected seems to be a question.

There is \$18,000 insurance in different companies on the city building which is valued, apart from the contents, at \$60,000. The Baptists have no insurance and their loss of nearly \$10,000 on plans, furniture, etc. is total. The insurance, if any, on the contents of the city offices is small and the loss will be practically total.

Public Library Gone.

On the J. S. Magee and J. A. Marven building there was \$4,000 insurance. None of the staff holders except R. D. Biggar and Armstrong and McFarlane had any insurance. The Free Public Library had no insurance and that also is a total loss. The other losses, it is believed, are covered by insurance.

There are conflicting opinions regarding the origin of the fire. It is said a gas stove was burning in the market. There are rumors of incendiarism and also a report of a man near the rear of the building acting suspiciously a little while before the conflagration started. It is also suggested that the fire might have been started by rats gnawing matches.

Mrs. Gibson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gibson, who conduct the I. C. R. boarding house, was the first to notice the flames and her father rang in the alarm.

The old New England favorite, Jennie W. 2,468, by Alexander, that Ed. Dunham's loss is about \$8,000, as he lost all his stock and the building was a total loss.

BRITAIN WANTS PROOF AS TO HOW BENTON DIED

Would Hold Autopsy on Body

Efforts to Get Villa's Consent Have Failed so Far—United States After Huerta for Slaying of American Citizen

—Bryan Asks Senate to Delay Action Pending Inquiry.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Mexican situation, which has centered chiefly for the last few days upon efforts to determine how and why the Constitutionalist executed William S. Benton, a British subject, was broadened today when Consul Garrett at Nuevo Laredo was instructed to inquire into the hanging by Mexican Federalists 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 Marion Letcher, American consul at Chihuahua, had been instructed to insist that General Villa permit the delivery of the body of Benton to the widow for burial where she may wish.

These, with an explanation by Secretary Bryan to the senate foreign relations committee of all the information on the Benton incident and Mexico generally in the hands of the state department, constituted the principal developments of the day.

General Villa, up to late today, had not replied to the last request of Secretary Bryan for the return of Benton's body, but it is understood the British ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, for the present, will be satisfied if there is an opportunity for an autopsy which would determine whether Benton was shot by a pistol bullet or by rifle bullets from a firing squad.

It is thought the British ambassador is anxious to know the exact circumstances of the killing, and the disposition of the body can be taken up afterwards.

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

Mexican Guests Are Expensive.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Mexican refugees, soldiers, women, children and other guests, who have been housed in the city, have cost the United States \$142,354 so far and will cost \$75,000 a month hereafter, Secretary Bryan so informed congress today.

Time to Act in Mexico.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Representative Alney, urging the adoption of a resolution relating to Mexico, declared that President Wilson's policy of waiting had become actually one of "deadly drifting and wishful thinking." The "sit still" policy of the president has been carried on, he said, until every crime in the catalogue of crime was being committed either by the Constitutionalist or the Federalists.

"We have given him splendid opportunity to work out his policy regarding Mexico," Alney continued. "The people wanted peace, not war. Now the peace and security of this nation and the good will of other nations toward us is threatened. The policy of waiting leads not toward peace, but to war. In place of trying to prevent war in Mexico we are supplying them with means to continue war. The time has come when either we must intervene or adopt a forceful, efficient policy."

Bryan, Counsel, Delay.

Washington, Feb. 25.—Secretary Bryan took the Senate Foreign Relations Committee into his confidence on the Mexican situation in general and the Benton execution in particular, and discussed the foreign relations of the nation as pertaining to other countries. He told the committee that the position of the United States in this regard was being improved, averring that ratification of the arbitration treaties last week had been effective in establishing confidence among the powers.

The committee wanted to learn all the facts it could obtain with relation to Mexico and Secretary Bryan answered frankly all the questions put to him. He emphasized the fact that the policy of waiting had become actually one of "deadly drifting and wishful thinking." The "sit still" policy of the president has been carried on, he said, until every crime in the catalogue of crime was being committed either by the Constitutionalist or the Federalists.

He called attention to the speech in the house of commons the other day by Sir Edward Grey, the British foreign minister, after the execution of Benton, and declared that it was an evidence of the general satisfaction existing in other lands with regard to the attitude of the United States toward Mexico.

It was urged by Mr. Bryan that no action be taken in the senate with regard to the Benton incident until all the facts had been procured by the government and the senators agreed that action of the matter would be ill-advised until the investigation underway had been completed. It also was agreed that no further action by the senate would be necessary at this time with regard to seeking information relating to Mexico.

British Press Comment.

London, Feb. 25.—The London newspapers are still keenly absorbed in the Benton affair.

The Daily Chronicle contends that there is no doubt Benton was foully murdered and that no foreigner's life is safe within Villa's jurisdiction. But, adds the Chronicle, the execution of Benton, the United States will intervene or recognize Huerta, and until it takes one course or the other Villa will enjoy immunity.

The Chronicle suggests joint intervention by the United States and the European powers as a solution, if President Wilson is unable to adopt the easiest path—the recognition of President Huerta.

The Times this morning expresses the hope that the attitude of moderation of ministerial statements in parliament will not be misunderstood by Americans to mean that either the British government or people are indifferent.

IRISH PROPOSALS BEFORE MARCH 31

Premier Asquith Says Announcement About Home Rule Will Be Made When Estimates are Through—Secretary for War Says Britain is Ahead in Sea-planes—Attack on the Insurance Act.

London, Feb. 25.—Parliament met as usual yesterday, Ash Wednesday not being a legal holiday here. Replying to a question at the evening session, Mr. Asquith stated that he would be very glad if the financial business could be so accelerated as to render possible an explanation and discussion of the government's proposals regarding the home rule bill before the close of the financial year on March 31. He further promised to give all necessary facilities for expediting the business and said that if this was done, an early statement on the home rule situation would be forthcoming.

With the house in committee of supplies, Col. Seely's supplementary estimate, Col. Seely's secretary for war, was asked for an additional grant of £190,000 to cover the expenses of the retention of Indian troops in China. He also asked for additions to the military aeronautical service. He stated that it was almost certain that Britain was ahead of all other nations in the development of sea-planes. He explained that the comparative absence of accidents in army flying was due to the scrapping of old machines, the life of an aeroplane being not more than two years.

Mr. Asquith's motion for the appointment of a committee of inquiry into the working of the National Insurance Act led to an attack on the act by several members. Mr. Asquith, however, asserted that the act was a voluntary system of state insurance, which it would be impossible to operate.

LIBERALS WELCOME THE N. T. R. DEBATE

Enthusiastic Caucus Tuesday Decided to Carry the War Into Africa and Attack the Government for Degrading the Transcontinental and Not Fulfilling Contract With the Company.

Ottawa, Feb. 24.—A Liberal caucus was held this morning, principally to discuss organization work for taking up the various phases of the questions to be debated in the commons during the next few weeks.

It was decided to thoroughly ventilate the report of Messrs. Guellet and Lynch-Staunton on the National Transcontinental. The Liberals in parliament will make every effort to secure the full disclosure of all facts bearing on the expenditure of public money on the road.

Both under the late government and under the present government.

They welcome the coming debate on the report as affording opportunity to make a complete and convincing reply to the misrepresentations and inaccuracies of the two scandal-hunting commissions.

The Liberals will carry the war into Africa and make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

They will also make a sustained and vigorous attack on the government's attitude in regard to the degrading of the road and the nonfulfillment of the parliamentary agreement with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

FISHER SCORES COL. SAM AS SLAYERER

CANADA WILL SEND TEAM TO BISLEY MEET

Col. Hughes Makes Announcement at Dominion Rifle Association Annual Meeting.

Ottawa, Feb. 25.—The Dominion of Canada Rifle Association at its annual meeting today elected the following officers:

Patron, the Duke of Connaught; honorary president, Col. Sam Hughes, minister of militia; president, Col. J. H. Burdall, Montreal; vice-presidents, Col. W. C. Macdonald, of Toronto, for Ontario; Col. E. W. Wilson, Montreal, for Quebec; Senator Power, of Halifax, for Nova Scotia; Col. John Tilton, of Ottawa, for New Brunswick; Col. S. B. Steele, of Winnipeg, for Manitoba; Lt.-Col. J. Duff Stuart, of Vancouver, for British Columbia; Lt.-Col. B. McE. Davidson, for Prince Edward Island; Lt.-Col. James Walker, of Calgary, for Alberta; Lt.-Col. R. J. Gwynne, of Ottawa, for Saskatchewan; and Dr. Alfred Thompson, of Dawson, for Yukon Territory.

President Burdall's report showed that the attendance at the D. R. A. had risen from 461 in 1908, to 730 last year, most of the increase being from Ontario, and he recommended that more of the civilian rifle associations be affiliated with the dominion body.

Col. Hughes definitely announced that owing to the satisfactory arrangements of the difficulty with the war office and R. A. the Canadian team would visit Bisley and use its own rifle this year. The militia department was also considering a project to pay the expenses of one qualified rifleman from every company, squadron or battery in Canada to the D. R. A.

The Duke of Connaught congratulated Canada on the winning of the king's prize by Private Hawkins, of Toronto, the world's individual championship at Camp Perry by Major McHare and Lord Roberts trophy by the Canadian cadets.

STEAMSHIP MEN LOOK OVER OAK POINT AS A PORT

Party from St. John Said to Be Favorably Impressed With Its Possibilities.

St. Stephen, N. B., Feb. 25.—Government steamer Lansdowne arrived at Oak Point today with an influential delegation to inspect and receive reports in regard to the possibilities of Oak Point and adjacent coast as a national port. Among those who came from St. John were Engineer Swan, Captain A. J. Mulehary, port warden; John Kelly, inspector of lights; Captain D. Kenny, marine superintendent of the H. B. liners; Captain M. N. Gillies, marine superintendent of the Donaldson line, and Captain G. O. R. Elliot, assistant marine superintendent of the C. P. R. steamship lines. It is generally understood that these officials were very favorably impressed.

SIR EDWARD GREY.

He is all his life a criminal of the worst kind. In the times of Terrazas and Creel, protected by these men, he killed more than four men without any provocation whatever. Then after the taking of Chihuahua, in common with the above named individuals, and according to his own confession, he appropriated more than 1,000 head of cattle which did not belong to him; and furthermore, the day he came to see me he attempted to kill me. Fortunately I anticipated his movement and disarmed him.

"Benton was a criminal, says Villa, Juarez, Mexico, Feb. 24.—In a telegram from General Villa today he says: "I expected the scandalous American press to attack me about the execution of Benton. But I did not have any other remedy to avoid new attempts of the foreign Huertistas who, protected by the flag of their country, believe they are authorized to commit the greatest of crimes."

"Benton was all his life a criminal of the worst kind. In the times of Terrazas and Creel, protected by these men, he killed more than four men without any provocation whatever. Then after the taking of Chihuahua, in common with the above named individuals, and according to his own confession, he appropriated more than 1,000 head of cattle which did not belong to him; and furthermore, the day he came to see me he attempted to kill me. Fortunately I anticipated his movement and disarmed him."

It was learned today that Villa's subordinates are somewhat perturbed at the failure of their chief to grant permission for the removal of Benton's body and one of them, from Juarez, it is promised, will go to Chihuahua to point out to Villa the suspicion that this refusal has aroused on the American side.

At Juarez, officials profess to believe that Villa's attitude is a mere matter of caprice or stubborn pride which friendly argument can overcome. So far Americans do not know where the location of the grave. The state department has instructed Thomas D. Edwards at Juarez to ascertain where it is, but so far he has had no success.

Whitby, Ont., Feb. 25.—Justice Leung, after having heard evidence in the action of Jonathan Hallman, of this city, for the annulment of his marriage to Catherine Hallman, on the ground that she is feeble-minded and had been an inmate of insane asylums previous to their marriage, expressed sympathy with the plaintiff, but doubted his jurisdiction to annul the marriage. He reserved judgment, and suggested that if the court has no jurisdiction Mr. Hallman should apply to the