

### MEXICO STANDS PAT ON JENKINS AFFAIR

Carrazza Insists That His Own Courts Deal With Accused Consul

AVERS DISPUTE IS ENDED

By the Associated Press  
Mexico City, Dec. 17.—The release of William O. Jenkins, American consular agent at Puebla under bail, has removed all motive for misunderstanding between the Mexican and United States Governments regarding the Jenkins case, according to the reply of the Mexican Government to the second American note.

The Mexican reply was handed to the American charge d'affaires last evening. The note declares that Jenkins's case has taken on altogether different aspect since the American agent's release. To invite terms it differs with the American objection to furnish legal technicalities, realising that the Jenkins case is entirely a legal one. Moreover, the Mexican answer points out that the American Government's belief in Jenkins's innocence is the charge against him is not enough to warrant setting aside Mexican laws.

"Note No. 1556"  
The text of the reply follows:  
"With reference to note No. 1550, dated the 30th of November, which your excellency transmitted to the Mexican Government, setting out instructions from the American Government, relative to the case of Jenkins, I have the honor of saying that, under instructions of the president of the republic, the Mexican Government, in replying to this note, will confine itself to considering some of the principal points of that note without taking up and examining its arguments, trying only to establish certain necessary precedents in international law and in order to make clear before the people its official conduct, for since a verdict has been rendered under bail deposited in the Puebla court by an American citizen, the Mexican Government thinks that any motive for misunderstanding between the two countries has disappeared and that the Jenkins case has taken a very different form than it previously presented.

Sick to Mexican Laws  
"The United States Government says that it refuses to enter into any judicial discussion of the different points brought forward by the Jenkins case, but the Mexican Government, on the contrary, thinks that a discussion of legal questions in a matter which is essentially judicial, and from any other point of view, is not improper or inadequate, and that the ministry referred very extensively to some points related to the Jenkins case it was due to the fact that the Mexican Government deems that a complete exposition of the Jenkins case is its best justification and conclusive proof of the legality of its procedure.

"The Mexican Government cannot admit that American citizens can be tried and absolved on simple reports from the State Department nor on recommendations or suggestions from the United States, instead of trying them by Mexican courts and according to Mexican laws.

"Jenkins, having been granted freedom by the Puebla court, which case now is being considered by the highest court of the republic in order to determine which judge is competent to try him, the Mexican Government takes the liberty to hope that this case shall no longer disturb the good relations which it sincerely hopes exist between the American and Mexican peoples."

\$325,000 Loss in Cleveland Fire  
Cleveland, Dec. 17.—(By A. P.)—Firemen fought for five hours this morning to save the wholesale clothing district from fire which started in a four-story brick building, entirely destroying it, with a total loss estimated at \$325,000.

### RECALL RAIL BILL, GOMPERS PLEADS

Brotherhoods Seek Wilson's Influence Against Cummins Measure

URGE PEACE-TIME CONTROL

By the Associated Press  
Washington, Dec. 17.—Protests against enactment of the Cummins railroad bill, now before the Senate, were voiced today by Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and representatives of the railroad brotherhoods, together with spokesmen for some farmers' organizations.

Chairman Cummins of the Senate interstate commerce committee, was urged to withdraw the measure and give government operation of the roads a fair and thorough peace-time test. The brotherhood representatives said they planned to go to the White House during the day to urge President Wilson to use his influence against the bill. Senator Cummins replied he had no authority to withdraw the bill, but expressed the intention of laying the request before the full committee.

Mr. Gompers declared organized labor wanted the government to retain control of the railroads for two years. "For the purpose of testing out the best method for their continued operation." Referring to the anti-strike provision of the bill, Mr. Gompers said: "It is drifting, and on that point I am apprehensive. This proposal is filled with the gravest consequences. It will not stop strikes, but will make respected citizens law breakers."

The injunction against the coal miners, Mr. Gompers declared, did not produce an ounce of coal. "Injunctions cannot make men work," he added, "and it is well to remember that if men cannot get justice in other ways they will stop work."

### 97,000 WAR-RISK CLAIMS REFUSED

Only One in Thirteen Settled, Due to Lack of Co-operation by Veterans

LEGION MEN IN CONFERENCE

By the Associated Press  
Washington, Dec. 17.—Only 23,400 of the 97,000 claims for compensation for disability filed with the war risk bureau up to December 5 have been settled definitely.

Director Cholmelley-Jones told representatives of the American Legion in conference here today. Approximately 97,000 claims, he said, have been disallowed because the injuries proved only temporary. Lack of co-operation by former service men was given by Mr. Cholmelley-Jones as one of the reasons for delay which, he said, have given rise to innumerable complaints against the bureau.

"Literally thousands" of claims lie dormant at the bureau, he added, because the applicant for compensation failed to furnish requested information without which no further action can be taken on the claims.

Eagerness of men to obtain their discharge from service was assigned as another reason for the bureau's troubles. Mr. Cholmelley-Jones said that in "an amazing number of cases" the former service men had camouflaged their ailments in order to be released. The bureau now must seek out these men and examine and rate them according to their disability.

Mr. O'Connor Declares There is Plot to Prevent Settlement  
London, Dec. 17.—(By A. P.)—Mr. T. P. O'Connor moved adjournment of the House last night over the Freeman's Journal incident, the debate became languid by the announcement by James Linn MacPherson, chief secretary for Ireland, that the Freeman's Journal had served a writ on the government, and he hoped the members would remember that the question was still judicial.

Mr. O'Connor declared that these acts of provocation in Ireland were the result of a plot to prevent the settlement of the Irish question and reconciliation of the Irish people. He implored the House to realize the tragedy of this mad policy.

McNARY FOR SUGAR BILL  
Will Urge Concurrence by Senate in House Measure

Washington, Dec. 17.—(By A. P.)—Senate concurrence in sugar relief legislation as passed yesterday by the House, making conference on the bill unnecessary, will be urged by Senator McNary, Republican of Oregon. The House measure proposes to continue licensing of the sugar trade and seizure of refiners' stocks, by the authorities, in addition to continuing the sugar exportation board during 1920.

Vigorous opposition to continuing the licensing system was in prospect, however, and supporters of the legislation were doubtful today of securing final action before the holiday recess.

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### BRITISH REFUTE SOVIET LIE

Garrison of 1300 Men Not Massacred by Hostile Persians

Official denial of a report circulated by the Russian Bolsheviks that hostile Persians had massacred the British garrison of 1300 men at Meshed, Persia, was made by the war office today.

Officials here declare that the report was obviously propaganda intended to stir up trouble in the East, particularly in India, by persuading the natives that such massacres were easily possible.

### MARE NOSTRUM

The New York Times Book Review says editorially: "Mare Nostrum stands supreme in contemporary fiction."

By VICENTE BLASCO IBANEZ

In a column-long editorial discussion of this book the New York Times Book Review says: "It is after all as a novel, a story, a series of subtle portrayals of character, rather than as a war book, that 'Mare Nostrum' stands supreme in contemporary fiction. As a novel 'Mare Nostrum' is greater than 'The Four Horsemen.' There is a daring originality in the way its plot is worked out that is unique in contemporary fiction. . . . It is small wonder, indeed, that a book of the wide catholicity and the consummate art of 'Mare Nostrum' should have achieved its present popularity."

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