

his cabinet, appointed a commission on the 3d to investigate the Benton case. Great Britain's assurance that the American government would be given a free hand to deal with the Benton case, has led to Carranza's gradually yielding his original contention that he would answer only to England for Benton's death. Constitutionalist friends at Washington have also brought pressure to bear. Evidence of the desired effect is seen not alone in the General's investigation of the Benton and the Bauch cases, but in the fact that General Villa did not execute Terrazas, Jr., when his father failed to pay the \$250,000 demanded. As soon as it became apparent that the Constitutionlists would lose standing with the United States because of their lawless policy, a decided change came over them. Villa now announces that it was not the ransom money that he sought but the suspension of the elder Terraza's aid to Huerta. [See current volume, page 230.]



Wanton murder seems to have been established in the case of the Texas rancher, Clemente Vergara, who was decoyed into Mexico by Federal soldiers, on the plea of settling for horses that had been stolen from his ranch. Officers in charge of the post at Nuevo Laredo declared to the American authorities that Vergara had escaped and had joined the Constitutionlists. But on the night of the 7th the body was exhumed from the Hidalgo cemetery, and brought across the Rio Grande to American soil. Press dispatches report it as the exploit of Texas rangers and friends of Vergara, who crossed the river in the middle of the night to accomplish their purpose. But Governor Colquitt declares that the rangers did not cross the river; but that the body was brought to the American shore in the middle of the night by persons whose identity is unknown. Vergara's family and friends have identified the body.



General Huerta took a bold step on the 7th, in creating a government bank, which will issue 400,000,000 pesos (\$200,000,000) in fiat money, based on the \$160,000,000 bonds authorized by President Madero, but which Huerta has been unable to sell for lack of recognition by the United States. The dictator is reported to be rapidly completing plans for taking the field in person; and the rumors are reviving that he will appoint as his successor in the Presidential office some one acceptable to the Administration at Washington.



#### Rebellion in Brazil.

Not to be outdone by Peru, Brazil presents to the World a complete and going revolution without previous warning. Rio de Janeiro and the neighboring cities of Nictheroy and Petropolis

were proclaimed in state of seige on the 5th, and the troops held in barracks in anticipation of trouble. The government censorship of the telegraph has prevented more than meager reports of the causes and extent of the trouble. The managing editors of three of the principal newspapers of Rio have been placed under arrest, together with a number of officers of the army. [See current volume, page 32.]



The states of Ceara, Para, and Pernambuco in the northern part of Brazil are struggling with revolutionary movements, said to be due to racial questions, but circumstantial details are lacking. The three states in question have 533,729 square miles, and 2,472,633 population. Business is reported virtually suspended. Appeals of the Governor of Ceara and citizens for assistance have been received at the capital, but the government, mindful of the naval mutiny of 1910, is cautious. Advices received at the Brazilian embassy at Washington are to the effect that there are no disturbances in Rio de Janeiro, and that martial law, which is merely precautionary, may be revoked before the 31st of March, as originally fixed.



#### English Politics.

Premier Asquith presented to the House of Commons on the 9th the government's plan for the conciliation of Ulster, in connection with the Home Rule bill. The terms of the Premier's offer are that a poll of the parliamentary electors be taken in each of the Ulster counties to decide whether it shall be excluded from the operation of the bill for a period of six years from the first meeting of the new Irish parliament. It is understood that such a vote would exclude four of the nine Ulster counties, Antrim, Armagh, Londonderry and Down, which have Protestant majorities. [See current volume, page 231.]



Mr. Asquith said the government named a period of six years because it would give ample time to test the working of the Irish parliament, and also an opportunity to the electors of the United Kingdom, guided by experience, to pronounce whether the exclusion of the counties of Ulster should end or be made permanent. Two parliaments would be elected before the expiration of the exclusion, which would give the people of Great Britain ample opportunity to reverse the action of the present parliament.



Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition, opposed the six year limit, urging the dissolution of the imperial parliament, and the same sort of referendum for the United Kingdom as the government was offering to the counties of Ulster.

John E. Redmond, the leader of the Irish Nationalist party, said his party was willing to make great sacrifices for peace, but, he declared, the Premier had gone to the extreme limit of concessions. Though the Irish Nationalists disliked the proposals, he said, if their opponents accepted them frankly, his colleagues were prepared to do the same. Sir Edward Carson, leader of the Ulster Unionists, pointed his fiery speech with the declaration, "Ulster will not have this proposal, which means a sentence of death with a stay of execution." If the government, he said, would withdraw the six year limit he would call an Ulster convention to consider the plan.



While the proposed modification of the Home Rule bill is resented by some home rulers, others look upon it as a possible advantage, in that it would free the new parliament from much friction and contention during its formative period. It also frees both the Irish Nationalists and the Liberal party from even the appearance of injustice or intolerance.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—John Bassett Moore, counselor of the Department of State, resigned on March 4.

—George W. Vanderbilt died of heart disease on March 6 at Washington, D. C., aged fifty-two.

—The Joseph Fels memorial meeting in Boston was held on March 7 at the South Congregational Church. The speakers were Reverend L. M. Powers, William Lloyd Garrison, Jr., and Hon. Josiah Wedgwood of England. Professor Lewis J. Johnson presided.

—Hiram C. Gill was re-elected mayor of Seattle on March 3. He had been elected to the same place in 1910, but was recalled in 1911 on account of his toleration of a "wide open" town. He claimed this time to have changed his views. [See current volume, page 206.]

—Loss of wages to organized workers in the United Kingdom on account of strikes during the last ten years amount to \$84,741,000. The gain in wages was \$13,209,000. Of every 100 strikes, or other disputes recorded during the ten years, one-half were won by the employers, one-quarter by the workers, and one-quarter were compromised.

—Plumbers in Switzerland, according to Consul Philip Holland, are anything but the plutocratic workmen newspaper humorists would have us believe them in this country. The expert plumber receives 14 cents an hour. Helpers receive while serving their apprenticeship 60 cents a week the first year, \$1.20 the second year, and \$1.80 a week the third year.

—Radical sentiment is increasing so rapidly in Italy that Premier Giolitti, in spite of an administration that accomplished the annexation of Libya, restored the finances after the Turkish war, extend-

ed the franchise, and effected various reforms, has been obliged to resign because of the defection of the radicals in the Italian parliament. [See current volume, page 36.]

—The Swedish Parliament was dissolved on the 5th. The defense measures, against Russian aggression, announced by the government include the formation of a fleet of airships and a tax on large incomes. In dissolving Parliament King Gustav announced strict adherence to the constitution and to his motto, "With the people for the fatherland." [See current volume, page 180.]

—The action of the Vienna City Council in barring women from new places on the teaching staff of the public schools is said by some to be due to the agitation of the women teachers for equal pay with men. Although the women are required to go through the same course as the men, and to take the same examination, the Christian Socialist majority of the council argues that as women are not heads of families with children dependent on them for support, they are not entitled to the same pay as men.

—Sixty-five miles an hour is the speed of the latest military Zeppelin, which crossed Germany on a trial trip. Steady advance in dirigible ballooning continues, despite disasters. The new airship can operate at a height of a mile and a quarter, and carries a more efficient battery of machine guns than any of its predecessors. It also has a device to carry escaping gas clear of the car to prevent explosions. Experiments are being made with an unsinkable gondola to be attached to the Parseval balloons. The gondola, which resembles a submarine, can be quickly detached in case the airship is driven down to the surface of the sea. [See current volume, page 1140.]

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## PRESS OPINIONS

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### Equal to Whites in Heroism.

Puck, February 14.—A newspaper account of the Old Dominion steamship disaster spoke thus of the work of the Monroe's stewards: "They fastened the preservers about the passengers, they helped them over the side to the boats, they cheered and encouraged them, and—let this be remembered—these stewards were black men." None too respectfully referred to Governor Blease, of South Carolina, and Senator Vardaman, of Mississippi.



### How Universities Suppress Economic Truth.

Arthur Wallace Calhoun, Professor of Sociology and Economics, Maryville College, in *The New Review* (New York), February.—With a tinge of sadness, I recall the case of a head professor in a State college, who in response to a casual remark that the author of a certain gentle book on sociology would never get himself into trouble, replied, "Now you're hitting at me, aren't you? Well, I've a family to support, and I propose to tread carefully till I become indispensable to my institution." And he is still pursuing the same policy. "Poor chap," thought I to myself, "you'll never become indispensable." For,