

EPITOME OF EVENTS

PARAGRAPHS THAT PERTAIN TO MANY SUBJECTS.

ARE SHORT BUT INTERESTING

Brief Mention of What is Transpiring in Various Sections of Our Own and Foreign Countries

WAR NOTES.

Secretary Garrison announced the embargo against shipment of arms into Mexico from the United States had been restored.

Orders have been received at the Puget Sound navy yard for the cruiser St. Louis to sail immediately for Mazatlan, Mexico, via San Diego.

Japanese government officials have declared that the attitude of the Japanese government in the Mexico situation was naturally one of strict neutrality.

Secretary Garrison has received a number of applications from citizens of border towns appealing for protection against possible attacks from the Mexican side.

Rear Admiral Badger, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, has recommended Admiral Fletcher be kept in command shore after the army arrives.

The rich Tampico oil fields generally have been abandoned. There are a dozen or more important oil companies in the Tampico field, including some foreign interests.

The Navy department has received a report from Admiral Badger at Vera Cruz stating that all of the wounded are improving and that the surgical cases are doing "surprisingly well."

"I am all right," was the text of a cablegram received at Washington from Arnold Shanklin, United States consul general at Mexico City. The cablegram was addressed to Robert E. Tommerson, brother-in-law of Mr. Shanklin.

The American Smelting and Refining company has ordered all its mines and smelters in Mexico closed down. Instructions were sent to all American employes to leave Mexico immediately.

"I'm sorry, terribly sorry," were President Wilson's first words when news of loss of life in taking Vera Cruz first reached him. The president was sad and disheartened. As he walked slowly to his office through the White House his head was bowed and his face a study in deep feeling and gavity.

That General Huerta deliberately planned the arrest of American blue-jackets at Tampico and other offenses against the United States, with a view to bringing an armed intervention and uniting all the Mexican factions behind him, was the substance of a letter received by a high government official from an authoritative source in Mexico City.

William P. Poinsett, a retired business man of Philadelphia received a letter from his son, George, who was one of the sailors written the morning of the day he was killed at Vera Cruz. The young seaman in his letter expressed joy at the thought that he would see his active service. His mother recently was injured in an accident and is in a serious condition.

Quick action on the annual army appropriation bill followed when Chairman Hay of the military affairs committee explained that on account of the Mexican situation the house conferees had agreed to all amendments. The house at once concurred in the amendments and the measure went to the president. It carries a total of approximately \$100,000,000, \$6,000,000 having been added by the senate.

DOMESTIC.

The Hotel Maryland at Pasadena, California, was destroyed by fire. The guests escaped. The loss is several hundred thousand dollars.

Michael P. Mahoney, the gray haired man who shot at Mayor Mitchell of New York and wounded Corporation Counsel Polk, has been indicted for attempted murder.

Heavy shipments of war materials are being made from Fort Stevens to the Mexican border. Shrapnel shells, field gun shells and primers constitute the bulk of the shipments so far made.

Angry because his wife refused to pay half the costs of a divorce action he had instituted against her, John Luggi of Bellaire, O., shot her four times, inflicting probably fatal wounds. He then killed himself. Two of their young children witnessed the tragedy.

Four robbers blew open the vault in the Farmers' State bank at Phillipsburg, Mo., and escaped with \$3,000. More than a hundred shots were fired by the robbers at persons who attempted to interfere.

Transvaal gold output for 1913 is valued at \$185,000,000.

In 1913 over 240,000,000 barrels of petroleum were produced in the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. George S. Schermerhorn of New York City have been married fifty-five years and have never been separated a day in that time. As a result neither one has ever received a letter from the other.

Jacob Ellis, uplifter, lecturer and chum of Theodore Roosevelt, is dangerously ill at a sanitarium in Michigan. Enlargement of the heart, is the trouble diagnosed by physicians, who hope to prolong his life if he abstains from all activities.

The University of Illinois won major honors at the Drake relay meet, and demonstrated in winning the twelfth event in 8 minutes flat that its team will be a factor in the race at the University of Pennsylvania's relay meet.

A secret indictment of 198 counts was returned at Boston in connection with the Henry Siegel Company of Boston. The indictment is understood to cover the alleged receiving of deposits in its savings bank in the two days prior to the institution of bankruptcy proceedings.

The defeat of Congressman Maguire for re-election and the appointment of F. W. Brown as postmaster is the prediction made by members of the Nebraska delegation in congress, who declared that Representative Maguire and Secretary Bryan had locked horns over the Lincoln appointment.

Indications were manifest in Washington that the treaty between Colombia and the United States, for adjustment of the issues growing out of the separation of Panama from Colombia would encounter opposition when submitted to the senate for ratification.

The scout cruiser Salem, one of the fastest vessels in the navy, has left the Philadelphia navy yard for Mexican waters. The Salem is attached to Rear Admiral Winslow's squadron, which includes the battleships New York and Texas. The cruiser will carry a crew of 350 men and 76 marines.

Major General Kelm, president of the German army league, has started an agitation for another billion marks (\$250,000,000) for army purposes, without which, he declares, the safety of the country against the expected French and Russian attack cannot be guaranteed. This demand is in addition to the measure passed only last year voting an extraordinary war tax of \$250,000,000, the first installment of which has yet to be collected.

Secretary Daniels has instructed Admiral Badger at Vera Cruz to issue a proclamation informing all Mexicans in that vicinity that they are free to come and go as they please. This, it is hoped, would induce General Huerta to permit Americans to leave Mexico City, where they have been detained in consequence of the report that the Mexicans were not permitted to leave Vera Cruz.

Mrs. C. J. Walker, one of the most prosperous colored business citizens of Indianapolis and one of the most successful colored women of America, is founding an industrial school in West Pondland, South Africa. The school is modeled after the Tuskegee Institute and has the endorsement of Booker T. Washington. She also is maintaining at Tuskegee institute scholarships, three boys and two girls, with the hope that they will go to Africa to engage in educational work. She was left an orphan at the age of 7 and has won her own way in the world.

FOREIGN.

The returns from the election which began throughout Sweden March 27 and continued to April 7, indicate the defeat of the liberals.

The business section of Brison, Quebec, county seat of Potiac, Canada was wiped out by fire. A hotel and twenty-eight stores were destroyed.

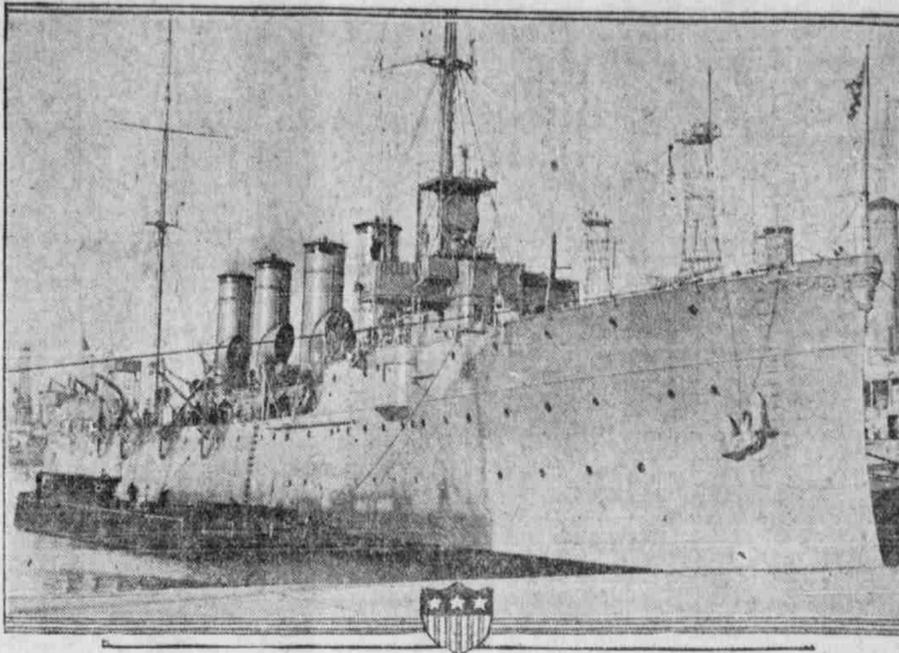
A stormy scene was created in the house of commons when Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition, demanded a judicial inquiry into the naval and military movements recently contemplated by the government in Ulster. The unionists charge a plot to provoke a rising in Ulster.

Angus McLeod, president of the Newport R. I. Trust Co., died, aged 64. Ferdinand Griffin, president of the Fall River National bank, died in Fall River, Mass., aged 70. Both men had been prominently identified with New England financial institutions for thirty years.

The condition of Emperor Francis Joseph is not so satisfactory. The doctors said: "His majesty's rest was disturbed by fits of coughing. The catarrhal symptoms show no signs of abatement."

Mrs. Bernard Shaw, who was Miss Payne Townsend, has just inherited \$150,000 under the will of a cousin, Canon Stewart, of County Amtrim, Mrs. Shaw already has an income of \$15,000 and a beautiful home near Bantry. Shaw, himself, it is understood, pays an income tax on \$75,000 a year.

SWIFTEST AMERICAN CRUISER, THE CHESTER



The Cruiser Chester, fastest of its class in the American navy, took part in the shelling and capture of Vera Cruz.

BROTHER TELLS ABOUT FLETCHER

Career of the Rear Admiral Who Took Vera Cruz.

YEARNED FOR SEA WHEN BOY

Forced to Remain at an Executive Desk During the Spanish War, He Became an Expert on Ordnance.

Chicago.—While Admiral Fletcher, who captured the city of Vera Cruz Tuesday, has never resided in Chicago, he has been a frequent visitor here at the home of his brother, Thomas J. Fletcher, 5237 Cornell avenue. The latter is treasurer of the Co-operative League of Chicago. J. Fletcher, a son of the Chicago Fletcher, is a lieutenant on Admiral Fletcher's flagship.

"We Fletchers do not come of a seafaring breed," said the civilian Fletcher at his home. "On the contrary, we are Iowa men and we should by all rights have lived and died landlubbers. My brother is an admiral now because our representative in congress in Marshalltown, Iowa, decided he would fill a vacancy at Annapolis by holding a competitive examination."

"Tom," said my brother when he saw the notice of the examination, "I'm going to be a sailor. That's the life for me. I never thought of it before, but I see now that I was meant to be a hero of the deep."

He entered the examination, just as he said he would, and took first place over 25 other boys. That was in 1870 and he has been in the navy service since.

According to the Chicago Fletcher, it was one of the bitterest disappointments of the admiral's career when he was compelled to remain at an executive desk in Washington during the Spanish war. But the admiral, as the result of that experience, became an expert on ordnance.

"Secretary Long promised him that if he would remain as assistant chief of the ordnance department until he could get things in order, he could have anything he wished. But before his work was done there the war was over. You see, the country was totally unprepared for war and the ordnance department was placed under a terrific strain."

Invents Recoll Apparatus.

Admiral Fletcher had been in the service but a short time when he invented a recoll apparatus for quick firers, which has been in use ever since. He also improved the Farcot breech mechanism, thereby insuring the success of the system. Whereas to open the breach of the big guns it had been necessary before to depend upon power from the engine-room, the admiral's improvement made it possible to move the huge blocks with one hand. As commander of the torpedo boat Cushing the admiral, then Lieutenant Commander Fletcher, conducted an investigation of the behavior of torpedoes and discovered many errors in range and in almost every instance the correctness of his deductions was proved. He is regarded as one of the first ordnance experts of the navy.

Born in Oskaloosa.

"Admiral Fletcher," said his kinsman in Chicago, "was born in Oskaloosa, Nov. 23, 1855. He was only fifteen years old when he took the examination and entered Annapolis. "My brother was graduated in June, 1875, one of the honor men of his class. He served as a midshipman for one year and then was promoted to the rank of an ensign. On April 1, 1882, he became a Junior Lieutenant,

and at the outbreak of the Spanish war was a lieutenant and had attracted attention by his knowledge of ordnance.

"After the war he was relieved of desk work at Washington and ordered to sea. In March, 1904, he was promoted to the rank of commander after having served as commanding officer of the gunboats Kanawha and Eagle. Soon after this promotion he was made inspector of ordnance in charge of the torpedo station at Newport, where he served until March 15, 1905. "When he again went to sea he was as chief of staff of the Asiatic fleet, which position he gave up to take command of the cruiser Raleigh. After two more years at sea he was ordered to the naval war college at Newport, and later he became a member of the special ordnance board.

"In 1908 he was made a captain and given command of the battleship Vermont. After leaving the Vermont he became an aid on the staff of Secretary of the Navy George von L. Meyer. It was during this service in October, 1911, that he achieved flag rank."

May Succeed Badger.

Admiral Fletcher is regarded as a probable successor of Rear Admiral Badger as commander in chief of the Atlantic fleet, a promotion that will carry with it the honor of commanding the great United States fleet that will be the first to pass through the Panama canal when the waterway is opened to the ships of the world in 1915.

It was immediately following the assassination of President Madero that Admiral Fletcher was ordered to Mexican waters.

Enters Harbor in "Norther."

It will be recalled that Admiral Fletcher in his first cablegram recording the seizing of the custom-house at Vera Cruz said that he commenced operations in the face of an approaching "norther."

The following extract from a navy text-book on navigation may explain why Admiral Fletcher acted without undue delay in carrying out President Wilson's orders:

"To attempt to run into the harbor (Vera Cruz) in a 'norther' is extremely perilous, for it blows more powerfully within than without the shoals. No confidence can be placed in anchors and no assistance can be given from the shore in case of accident."

Admiral Fletcher when not at sea resides at 1441 Massachusetts avenue, Washington. He married Miss Susan Hunt Stetson in 1895. He is a member of the Chevy Chase and the Army and Navy clubs in Washington.

How Seizure Order Was Given.

Washington.—The story of how President Wilson ordered the custom-house at Vera Cruz to be seized has been revealed.

The president had gone to bed Monday night after having read his message to congress. The senate was debating the joint resolution to approve the use of the army and navy, and the president had determined to withhold action until the resolution passed, although feeling that in an emergency the executive had ample authority to act.

At 4 o'clock Tuesday morning Secretary Bryan received a cablegram from Consul Canada telling of the approach of a German vessel with a tremendous cargo of ammunition for Huerta.

A number of locomotives and many cars were in readiness to rush the arms to Mexico City.

Mr. Bryan telephoned Secretary Tumulty, who declined to awaken the president. He telephoned the White House. The servants were timid, but Tumulty insisted. Finally the president came to the telephone, and while Secretary Tumulty was explaining the situation Secretary Daniels called up and was put on the same line.

He, too, had a dispatch about the ammunition. Rear Admiral Fletcher had sent a wireless that 15,000,000 rounds of ammunition and 250 machine guns would be landed from the German vessel by noon that day. The president listened in silence.

"What shall we do?" asked Secretary Daniels.

"Tell Fletcher to seize the custom house," replied the president without hesitation.

"Good night," said the secretary. The telephone conference ended and in a few minutes wireless dispatches were on their way to Rear Admiral Fletcher. He received the message at 10 a. m., and an hour later American marines had landed and taken possession of the custom house.

No War Tax for Six Months.

Washington.—The government's finances are considered to be in excellent condition. The treasury officials informed the house leaders that there will be no occasion for six months, at least, to worry about raising a war revenue.

Chairman Underwood of the ways and means committee said:

"No plans are being considered for raising a war fund. I have consulted with the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy and they both assure me that the current appropriations for the army and navy will be sufficient for the present needs. Secretary Daniels told me that it would cost no more to maintain the navy and the marine corps in Mexican waters than in the waters of the United States.

"If we are forced into a prolonged war with Mexico, which I do not believe will happen, we can easily arrange to raise the revenue necessary to finance it by the same measures as were taken during the Spanish-American war. The extraordinary taxes then imposed increased the revenues of the government approximately \$100,000,000 a year, and the same taxes applied today would yield even a larger return."

There was talk of a new issue of \$200,000,000 of bonds out of the authorized issue of \$240,000,000 Panama canal bonds, which are still in the treasury, but Secretary McAdoo authorized the statement that no such action was planned. The bonds are available at any time and can be issued at the pleasure of the president, without any further action by congress.

It was pointed out that President Wilson has authority under a section of the Payne-Aldrich act of 1909, which has not been repealed by the Underwood tariff act, to raise \$450,000,000 from bond issues, if necessary, to defray the expenses of war. Under section 39 of the Payne-Aldrich act, the secretary of the treasury can use \$250,000,000 of the bonds "to recoup the treasury for moneys used in the building of the Panama canal," which have never been issued.

Wilson Could Raise \$200,000,000.

Under section 40, also, the secretary can issue 3 per cent bonds up to \$200,000,000, it being specified that he may take such action if he deems it necessary. The section of the law permitting the secretary of the treasury to raise \$200,000,000 for emergencies, reads as follows:

"That section 32 of the act providing ways and means to meet war expenditures, approved June 31, 1898 (the so-called Spanish war stamp act), be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

"That the secretary of the treasury is authorized to borrow from time to time at a rate of interest not exceeding 3 per centum per annum, such sum or sums as, in his judgment, may be necessary to meet public expenditures, and to issue therefor certificates of indebtedness in such form as he may prescribe and in denominations of \$50 or multiples thereof, and each certificate shall be payable with the interest accrued thereon at such time, not exceeding one year from the date of issue, as the secretary of the treasury may prescribe; provided, that the sum of such certificates outstanding shall at no time exceed \$200,000,000 and the provisions of existing law respecting counterfeiting and other fraudulent practices are hereby extended to the bonds and certificates of indebtedness authorized by this act."

NEWS FROM STATE HOUSE

Precinct assessors are now gathering data for the 1914 crop statistics. The questions are numerous and complete, covering every phase of farm life, water power development and irrigation.

Dr. Edwin Maxey, professor of public law and diplomacy at the University of Nebraska, has been called east by the government to a conference on foreign relations. Dr. Maxey is an authority on international law, and is well versed in the diplomatic tangle of the Mexican situation.

The state board of control has awarded a contract for the construction of an addition to the state orthopedic hospital at Lincoln. It is to be of pressed brick, three stories and a basement with an attic finished for use. The legislature appropriated \$45,000 for this purpose.

The advisory board of pardons last week heard applications for pardons for Edward S. DePue and W. H. Swan, sent up from Ogallala, convicted of killing a steer which they did not own. Both men have large families, and they told the board they killed the animal because their families needed food.

Thirty university cadets have been given reserve national guard commissions preparatory to spring graduation. Among the number are one colonel, one lieutenant colonel, two majors and ten captains. The entire number will be designated as second lieutenants in the reserve organization.

Petitions for "university week" are now being circulated about the campus. It is proposed to designate a special week in the year for the exploiting of the advantages of the university among the people of the state. At that time various organizations would be sent out for advertising purposes.

Susan L. Sippell, administratrix of the estate of Charles F. Sippell, deceased, has brought suit against the Missouri Pacific Railroad company for \$20,200 damages, the action being brought in the district court here. Mr. Sippell was killed in the switch yards of the defendant at Kansas City on September 22, 1913.

The district debate series in the state debate league contests are nearing an end and the district championship debates are on. The twelve districts will each have held the final debates deciding the champion school of each district in a few weeks, preparatory to the seventh annual state championship debate to be held in Lincoln on High School Fete day in the middle of May.

Eight hundred more cattle which were recently shipped into Nebraska without the proper credentials from federal inspectors showing that they had been inspected for tuberculosis and found free from the disease are now being held in quarantine, subject to tests under the direction of State Veterinarian Kigin, as the result of a trip taken by that official to the western part of the state last week.

Out-of-the-state printing firms may bid on and receive contracts for state work. The state supreme court said so in effect when it dismissed a suit brought by President C. D. Traphagen of the State Journal company to limit such printing to state firms. The state holds that the commissioner of printing has a right to oversee the letting of printing contracts and that this includes supreme court reports over which the suit was instituted.

At a meeting of several well known educators of the state at the Commercial club a tentative plan was adopted for the formation of an organization of boards of education from cities of a certain class within the state. Such towns, cities and districts whose population entitles them to six board members will be eligible to join the proposed association.

From thirty to fifty boys of Omaha and Lincoln will likely make the trip to the Rocky mountains this summer as members of the boys' camp. It will be held under the direction of the University Young Men's Christian association. Prof. C. B. Cornell of the department of philosophy will be at the head of the Nebraska camp. The tents will be reserved at Estes park and the camp will be in connection with the regular Young Men's Christian association camps at that place.

State Food Commissioner Harman has put a ban on the push-in stoppers of pop bottles. The stoppers are made of wire and rubber and in the opinion of the food commissioner they are germ collectors and cannot be cleaned by bottlers.

That many young men and women who have been raised in Christian homes are infidels when they graduate from the university is the belief of the leaders of the university Christian associations, and they are taking steps to prevent this condition.

An appeal to the state supreme court has been taken by Martin A. Sporn, a Norfolk saloonkeeper, and a surety company which had signed his bond. Judgment was rendered against them in the Madison county district court, which awarded a verdict of \$9,000 against the saloonkeeper and \$5,000 against the surety company in favor of Mrs. Minnie Bergman and her children. Mrs. Bergman's husband, William Bergman, was killed by a North-western train June 14, 1913, while he was driving from Norfolk to his home in the country. His widow filed suit against several saloonkeepers,