

The Lancaster News.

VOL. 9, NO. 59, SEMI-WEEKLY.

LANCASTER, S. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1914.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

HUERTA HAS ACCEPTED OFFER OF MEDIATION

Spanish Ambassador Has Private Advices From Mexico City REPORT IS NOT OFFICIAL.

President Wilson Yet Hopes For Peace But is Not Confident of Results.

Washington, April 26.—Spanish Ambassador Riano announced late tonight that he had received private advices from Mexico City stating that General Huerta had accepted the offer of Argentina, Brazil and Chile to use their good offices to bring about an amicable settlement of the difficulty between the United States and Mexico.

This information, though unofficial was accepted as authentic by the ambassador, who expects to be prepared to place General Huerta's formal acceptance before the representatives of the three South American countries tomorrow.

The interests of the Huerta government in the United States were taken over by the Spanish embassy when Charge Algara left Washington. Ambassador Riano received the offer of good offices from the three peace envoys last night. It was cabled immediately to Mexico City.

When the formal acceptance from Mexico City is in hand the South American diplomats will be ready to proceed with their plan, no intimation of the nature of which as yet has been given. It generally has been understood here, however, that the peace envoys expect to deal directly with the situation created by the Tampico incident and other offenses against the honor and dignity of the United States.

Administration officials appeared to be much gratified at the prospect of having proposals of the great South American republics listened to by General Huerta.

Hope Continues For Peace.

Washington, April 26.—Hope for peace—yet no slackening in preparations for war—was the spirit of today's developments in the Mexican crisis.

President Wilson, hopeful though not confident that war may be averted through the efforts of Argentina, Brazil and Chile, conferred with Secretary Garrison, approving orders for the joint jurisdiction of the army and navy over Vera Cruz and vicinity, when Brig. Gen. Funston, who will be in command there, arrives tomorrow to reinforce Admiral Fletcher's forces.

SAFETY OF AMERICANS.

Tension over the one phase of the situation, which may at any moment upset peace plans—the safety of Americans in Mexico City and other interior points—was partially relieved by the announcement of Secretary Bryan that through the British embassy here, the Huerta officials and Admiral Fletcher had arranged for the safe departure of Americans from the Mexican capital and the free exodus of Americans from Vera Cruz.

Thomas B. Hohler, first secretary of the British Legation in Mexico City taking a train load of Mexicans from Vera Cruz to Mexico City informed General Huerta that the American forces were not restraining Mexicans from leaving there and was assured that Americans consequently would be allowed to leave the Capital as they pleased.

MARTIAL LAW IN VERA CRUZ.

Admiral Fletcher's declaration of martial law at Vera Cruz was approved by officials here who realize his difficulties with house-top sharpshooters and concealed enemies. While extreme measures will be taken to enforce order in Vera Cruz no further steps of aggression will be taken while peace plans are being considered.

The Brazilian ambassador and the ministers from Chile and Argentina, who have undertaken to solve the Mexican problem by diplomacy, were in conference most of the day.

They had not received a reply from General Huerta through the Spanish ambassador here, who is caring for Mexico's interests in the United States, as to what he thought of the tender of good offices accepted by the American government, but the three diplomats were confident, they said,

that General Huerta would accept. OPENING FOR MEDIATION.

Acceptance of good offices is in no way binding on either party to agree to any conditions but it opens a way for discussion of proposals of mediation.

Members of the Latin-American diplomatic corps were called in during the day by the three envoys of peace and informed of the envoy's hopes.

WAIT ON HUERTA.

Announcement of plans necessarily is dependent on General Huerta's first reply. Well-posted members of the diplomatic corps were of the opinion tonight that Huerta would accept the proposal of good offices and that the acceptance in principle at least, would not be long deferred. They pointed out that it would be difficult and ungracious for him not to consider such a friendly tender, coming from countries largely of his own race and language.

Secretary Bryan was visited at his home during the day by the peace envoys. Mr. Bryan afterwards communicated its nature to the White House.

Reports from the East and West coasts of Mexico from Admirals Badger and Howard respectively, described energetic efforts, not only of the American navy but German and British vessels to assist refugees in leaving.

Secretaries Garrison and Daniels conferred early about the rank of officers who will be in charge of the joint operations of the army and navy around Vera Cruz. War department officials busied themselves with preparations for a possible call for volunteers under the new volunteer militia law.

FEDERALS OPERATE ALL MEXICAN R. RS.

Huerta Drives All Foreigners Away and Runs Lines With His Own Men

Vera Cruz, April 27.—With the exception of the Pan-American Railway, extending from Guatemala up the west coast to connection with a Tehuantepec road, General Huerta now is operating with his own men every railroad in Mexico without regard to the rights of foreigners. He has driven away every foreigner. The last road to be taken over was the Tehuantepec Nacional, connecting the Pacific and Atlantic ports of Salina Cruz and Coatzacoalcos. This property is owned jointly by the government and Lord Cowdray and has been operated by Cowdray.

J. B. Boyd returned Sunday from Coatzacoalcos, where he effected the release of all foreigners who had been arrested under Huerta's order and held at Rincon Antoni, the headquarters of the road. More than 50 foreigners had been detained, including officials of the railroad, conductors, engineers and machinists. Poyd had the men and their families sent to the coast, some to the Atlantic port and others to the Pacific port.

The Vera Cruz and Isthmus railroad line between Tierra Blanca and big bridge of Boca del Rio, eight miles from Vera Cruz, over which it enters this city, has been dynamited.

PRISONERS TO BE MOVED FROM BORDER

Mexicans Held at Fort Bliss Since Battle of Ojinaga Will be Transferred to New Mexico.

Washington, April 27.—Orders were issued by the war department today transferring the Mexican prisoners held at Fort Bliss near El Paso, to Fort Wingate, New Mexico. The war department believed it necessary to move the prisoners further from the Mexican border in view of possible developments.

The third squadron of the 12th cavalry now at Fort Meade, S. D., will be sent to Fort Wingate to guard the prisoners.

The Mexicans, soldiers and other refugees have been held at Fort Bliss since they fled across the border seeking refuge on American soil after the battle of Ojinaga. The defeated federals, pursued by victorious Constitutionalists, crossed the Rio Grande and were rounded up by United States troops. The war department feared that so large a colony of Mexicans near the border might excite the Mexicans across the river and perhaps lead to an effort to liberate the prisoners.

CLEMENT CONVICTED; MISS PENDLETON FREE

Jury Recommends Mercy for Man Found Guilty of Murder.

THE VERDICT APPLAUDED.

Spectators Show Approval When Young Woman is Acquitted of Charge.

Spartanburg Special to Charleston News and Courier, April 27.—Clyde C. Clement was found guilty of murder, but recommended to mercy. Miss Fieda Pendleton, jointly charged with him of the murder of their baby, whose body was found January 31 in a mill pond, was found not guilty. The jury returned the verdict at ten minutes after 7 o'clock tonight, after having been out since twenty-six minutes after 5 o'clock.

The court room was filled with spectators when the verdict was returned. When Foreman J. W. Gaston read the jury's finding the crowd gave a demonstration of approval, cheering and clapping their hands. Judge Shipp made no effort to stop the applause. Clement rose to his feet, staggered over to his mother, who sat nearby, threw his arms around her neck, buried his face in her bosom and went to sobbing. Mrs. Clement also wept piteously. The boy, after a few minutes, was led back to jail.

Mr. and Mrs. Clement and other members of the family left in an automobile for their home in North Carolina. By the time they boarded the car Mrs. Clement was in hysterics and had to be supported. "Oh, may God save my son," she sobbed. "Oh, will they kill him? Oh, save him."

Miss Pendleton had bowed her head when the jury entered. When the words freeing her were pronounced she straightened up with a jerk, her face lighted up with a smile and she clasped her attorney's hand and shook the hands of all of them. Mrs. J. H. Pendleton, her mother, was also overjoyed.

The funeral of the drowned baby will be held tomorrow at 4 o'clock at Oakwood cemetery and will be conducted by the Rev. C. C. Herbert, pastor of Central Methodist church. Miss Pendleton and her mother will attend the funeral.

Miss Pendleton will leave Wednesday morning for her parents' home in Durham, N. C.

E. J. WATSON HEAD OF DRAINAGE CONGRESS

Elected President of the National Organization at Its Annual Meeting in Savannah, Ga.

Savannah, Special to The Columbia Record, April 25.—Choosing officers and selecting Washington, D. C., for the next annual convention, the National Drainage Congress this afternoon wound up all business and adjourned last night after hearing an address by Sir William Willcocks, K. C. B., on "River Regulation and Control in Antiquity."

The officers elected were as follows: President, E. J. Watson, South Carolina; vice presidents, F. B. Knight, Illinois; D. E. King, Missouri; Gen. W. C. Gorgas, U. S. A.; Edward Wisner, Louisiana, and L. J. Craig, California; treasurer, A. M. McLachlen, District of Columbia.

Sir William Willcocks was made honorary vice president and the title of honorable past president was permanently bestowed on the retiring president, Edmund T. Perkins of Illinois.

The convention adopted resolutions recommending an international drainage and flood control congress at San Francisco in 1915.

Taking Care of Refugees.

Washington, April 26.—Secretary of State Bryan was today advised that British and German war vessels have left Tampico, bound for Vera Cruz loaded with refugees, mostly Americans. The secretary said that all nations represented by Mexican waters were co-operating with the United States in handling the refugees. The refugees from Tampico will be transhipped at Vera Cruz for transportation to Galveston.

REFUGEES IN MEXICO CITY REPORTED SAFE

Diplomats Who Offered Their Good Offices Hold Conference

WILSON GREATLY PLEASED

Germany, France and England Notify Bryan That They Will Support the Proposals.

Washington, April 27.—Conferences of the Latin-American diplomats representing Brazil, Chile and Argentina, who offered their good offices to compose the Mexican situation, followed quickly today assuring messages from Mexico City that General Huerta had agreed to the first steps in the intermediation negotiations.

The Spanish ambassador, Mr. Riano, was in early conference with the Argentine minister, Mr. Naon, concerning the next move to be made by the mediators, and Ambassador da Gama, of Brazil, with Chilean Minister Suarez and Mr. Naon, held a lengthy conference. Mr. da Gama, after his conference, called upon Secretary of State Bryan and a statement was expected later in the day relating to the next move to be made in the mediation.

Soon after Secretary Bryan informed President Wilson of the advices from Mexico City that Huerta had acceded to the preliminary steps in the mediation proposals, further encouragement in the situation came in advices from Berlin that Germany, France and Great Britain had urged Huerta, through their diplomatic representatives in Mexico City, to yield to the American demands. When this was communicated to the President, he was greatly pleased.

Later the German ambassador, Mr. Bernstorff, informed Secretary Bryan that his government would support the mediation proposal.

CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM.

Another cause for optimism among Washington officials was the assurance from Admiral Badger that through the efforts of British and German officials in Mexico, apprehensions over American and other foreign refugees in Mexico had been greatly dispelled. An official dispatch from Admiral Badger to the navy department declared that the authorities in Mexico City had agreed to provide transportation for all Americans from Mexico City as far as Soledad, the Mexican controlled end of the railroad to Vera Cruz. It also announced that the first train with 250 American refugees would leave Mexico City today. The conclusion of negotiations in this connection as gratifying to the President and Secretary Bryan as well as to the war department officials.

MEXICAN PRISONERS TRANSFERRED.

Announcement also was made today that Mexican refugees who are being held by this government at Fort Bliss since the battle of Ojinaga, would be transferred to Fort Winthrop, N. M., in order to get them away from the border where trouble may be expected. It is expected that Brig. Gen. Bliss will start the movement of the exiles as soon as possible.

Mexican soldiers and camp followers at Camp Bliss number 5,000 and some difficulty may be experienced in procuring transportation facilities.

Activity continued at the war department and the navy department during the day, word being expected before night that Brig. Gen. Funston and the troops en route to Vera Cruz to reinforce the naval forces there had reached their destination.

Efforts at mediation, however, were the most in evidence of all other elements in the crisis. It was reported here that General Huerta had been communicated with through private sources before the mediation proposals were announced by the Latin-American diplomats and that they had at that time practical assurances from close associates of the provisional Mexican president that he would accept their good offices.

TENSION PARTLY REMOVED.

Success of the first step toward mediation, coupled with the apparent effort of the big European powers to prevent war and secure a settlement of this problem, removed from the situation some of the elements of

tension which has gripped it for several days.

Chairman Stone of the senate committee on foreign relations, who conferred with the President, said members of Congress generally would approve of the mediation efforts.

The adding of European influence to the generally sympathetic attitude which practically allied American diplomats have assumed toward the mediation idea, gave many administration officials a confident feeling that after all Huerta might be disposed to end the present crisis in a manner satisfactory.

Advices received from many official sources from South America indicate that the press and public of Latin-American countries are almost a unit in approving of the mediation program.

ULSTER PREPARES TO FIGHT.

Consignment of Rifles and Ammunition Landed to Aid Home Rule.

Belfast, Ireland, April 25.—A consignment of 40,000 rifles and half a million rounds of ammunition from Germany was landed at isolated points on the coast of Ulster last night and distributed by means of 200 automobiles to the various headquarters of the Ulster "volunteers."

The Ulstermen who declare themselves determined to offer armed resistance to the introduction of home rule were mobilized early last night and guarded the landing places and roads until the distribution of the arms had been completed.

The police were powerless and all communications were interrupted.

BIG MINE PROPERTY IS DYNAMITED

Strikers Near Canyon City, Colo., Fire Possessions of the Colorado Fuel Company.

Denver, Colo., April 26.—It was reported here tonight by former Governor J. H. Peabody, who is in the Fremont County strike zone, that property of the Chandler mine, Colorado Fuel & Iron Co., near Canyon City tonight, occupying the mine camp.

According to the Governor's advices, seven men were killed in the Chandler fight. The fighting opened at 1 o'clock, said reports, and shortly before 3 the strikers were in possession of the town.

An appeal to the governor for help from the sheriff of Fremont county resulted in orders being issued tonight to General Chase to proceed to Canyon City with 200 militia to take protective measures and endeavor to bring about a truce.

Strikers and their sympathizers swarmed to a mass-meeting of the Workers' Defense League here today. "Mother" Mary Jones, direct from Washington—created a sensation when she appeared, unannounced. She declared that had she stayed in Washington she could have out the strike situation up to the President, but the call of the mass-meeting had been too strong to resist.

Just before the arrival of "Mother" a resolution was adopted denouncing absentee landlordism.

State officials tonight, including Governor Ammons, declared the truce between strikers in the Southern coal fields and the state militia had been broken by the strikers and that the militia now is under no obligation to refrain from aggressive acts to restore peace.

SEVERE LOSS BY FIRE.

Thomas H. Hardin Loses New Barn and Stable.

Chester Special to Columbia State, April 24.—Fire of an unascertained origin caused a heavy loss to Thomas H. Hardin of Lowryville Wednesday night when the large new barn and stable on his farm in the New Bethel community was destroyed, along with two mules and a quantity of feed and some farming implements. The loss will amount to over \$1,900 with no insurance.

Latest War News.

As we go to press, Mr. J. M. Madras, telephoned us that the latest over the wire from Mexico is that Huerta accepts mediation proposals with Argentina, Brazil and Chile in conjunction with England, France and Spain. The six are to select another country, as umpire.

MEDIATORS WORKING OUT PLANS FOR PEACE

Diplomats Get Busy After Huerta's Formal Acceptance.

TENSENESS RELIEVED

War Talk Gives Way to Spirit of Conciliation Among Congressmen.

Washington, April 27.—Formal acceptance by the Huerta Government of the offer of Argentina, Brazil and Chile to use their good offices to bring about an amicable settlement of the difficulty between the United States and Mexico was cabled to Spanish Ambassador Riano here tonight by Portillo Rojas, foreign minister in the Huerta cabinet.

Senor Roja's note was transmitted at once to the three South American diplomats, who began a conference which lasted far into the night, discussing the next move in their peace plan. Secretary of State Bryan, having accepted the offer of good offices Saturday, the first step now is completed and the way paved for actual negotiations looking to a peaceful clearing up of the situation.

HUERTA'S REPLY BRIEF.

Neither Ambassador Riano nor the peace envoys would make public the text of the Huerta acceptance. It was said, however that Senor Roja's reply, accepting the offer and thanking the South American plenipotentiaries and the Spanish ambassador for their good offices, with a reference to "the real spirit of solidarity between peoples of a same race."

No conditions are imposed in the offer of good offices, consequently the reply from Mexico City was not expected to deal with conditions. That stage will be reached when the peace makers formulate their plans. It was suggested to-night that they probably would ask the Washington and Mexico City Governments to-morrow for Statements as to what each would demand in the event formal mediation were untaken.

MR. WILSON PLEASED.

Unofficial advices from Mexico City already had made it virtually certain that Gen. Huerta would accept the offer of the peace envoys, but the formal announcement to-night tended to further relieve the tension. President Wilson expressed himself as greatly pleased, though he would make no further comment.

White House officials disclosed that they were earnestly desirous of aiding the South American diplomats and that no announcements as to points that would be insisted upon by the United States would be made, or anything else now done which might embarrass their efforts. Throughout official and diplomatic circles the belief was expressed that success of the peacemakers so far necessarily would have a favorable effect upon the situation; that even though their efforts ultimately failed indirect diplomatic communication between the United States and the Huerta Government has been restored temporarily and the chance of a better understanding greatly improved.

DENIES KILLING GIRL.

Schmidt Tells New Story of Aumuller Murder.

New York, April 24.—District Attorney Whitman today received a letter from Hans Schmidt, the former priest, awaiting execution for the murder of Anna Aumuller, in which Schmidt charges that the Aumuller girl died as the result of a criminal operation performed by whom he named. He admitted he himself had disposed of the body.

Salisbury Three-Year-Old Starts Off to Mexican War.

Salisbury Special to Charlotte Observer, April 26.—Declaring that he was going to the Mexican war Wayne Duttera, a three-year-old son of Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Duttera, of Salisbury, slipped off from his home and was found by an officer as he was in the act of boarding a South-bound passenger train at the depot yesterday. He asserted his determination to help fight for Uncle Sam, although he did not complain when taken in charge by Policeman Thompson as a prisoner of war. He was returned to his parents.