

APPEAL ADDRESSED TO ALL MEXICAN FACTIONS

Protest is Made on Part of the United States and Diplomatic Corps.

FIRST STEP IS TAKEN.

Joint Appeal Will be Forwarded by Pan-American Countries Expressing Their Views.

New York, Aug. 11.—Secretary Lansing, on behalf of the United States government and the diplomatic representatives of Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Uruguay and Guatemala today signed an appeal addressed to the leaders of all factions in Mexico, asking them in the name of humanity and national patriotism to cease their civil strife and assemble a peace conference.

The action, taken after a two-hour session, was not of a joint character but identical. An informal but unanimous note will be sent expressing the views of the seven governments that the conditions of chaos in Mexico has injured the prestige of the nation abroad and supplicating the Mexican leaders and generals to make a supreme effort to bring together all elements in the creation of a provisional government that can be given world-wide recognition.

Beyond this step, today's session did not go, reserving until a later date consideration of the situation that may be created by refusal of any of the factions to participate in a peace conference. There was no discussion, in fact, of eventualities, notwithstanding that press dispatches reported Carranza's outspoken objections to the Pan-American methods of settling Mexico's struggle. The assembled diplomats took the view that when their appeal is fully disclosed to General Carranza he will not misunderstand their purposes or accuse them, as he has, of attempting to interfere in Mexico's internal affairs.

When the conference adjourned tonight there was a feeling of confidence that a decisive step toward restoring Mexico to her place in the family of nations had been taken. The appeal, which is brief and courteously phrased, calls upon the Mexicans to consider the injurious effect throughout the world which the constant turbulence in Mexico has caused. The petition suggests that a peace conference be held on neutral territory in Mexico, far from the roar of cannon. The governments signing it express their willingness to act if invited in any practicable way to assist in bringing the factions together for the conference.

The communication will be given widest publicity throughout Mexico and will be delivered by the diplomatic and consular agents of the various governments signatory to it. Replies are definitely asked for, hope being expressed that these will be received within 10 days after the communication reaches the leaders unless some just cause for delay presents itself.

Secretary Lansing, who left for Washington tonight, will show President Wilson tomorrow the text of the appeal as finally agreed upon, and a statement will be prepared by Mr. Lansing explanatory of the purposes of the appeal, which in many quarters had come to be interpreted as a forerunner of military intervention.

Not only had the Latin-American diplomats here today made it clear that they would object to such a course or any that would impair Mexico's sovereignty, but President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are equally anxious that the present peace plan be accompanied by no physical act. Mr. Lansing took occasion to explain to the diplomats that the warships ordered to Vera Cruz yesterday were sent for protection of Americans and foreigners. Many of the diplomats said that while this assurance was not necessary, for they thoroughly understood the purpose of the United States, it nevertheless was opportune in removing a possible misunderstanding abroad of the real motives of the American government.

Ultimately—if all peace plans fail—officials of the United States realize that the interests of foreigners may require more drastic steps, but at present it can be stated authoritatively that the plans under consideration contemplate restoration of peace in Mexico by friendly means, by using the power of recognition to assist a government into being.

No steps of definite character in the future have been finally determined on. Tentatively, however, it has been agreed to await the result of the peace conference and if all the factions do not participate, the government set up by those elements

which do attend will be given recognition provided it gives promise of stability. Immediately an embargo on arms would be enforced against all other factions, and amnesty declared permitting contending groups to lay down their arms without fear of punitive measures.

All the ambassadors and ministers, together with Secretary Lansing are firmly determined that the triumph of the revolution in Mexico shall be recognized. There is no intention to afford recognition to any element except those which have overthrown Huerta and fought the present revolution with its reform program. To the revolutionary element professing liberal principles the United States and its Latin-American associates look for the establishment of a provisional government that will conduct a general election.

At the conclusion of today's conference Minister Peset of Peru, called informally and learning what had taken place advised his government. The next session probably will be held in Washington as soon as replies are received to the appeal which is expected to be in two weeks. At the end of that time those who have not responded probably will be regarded as having no intention to answer.

Will Follow Its Policy.

New York, Aug. 11.—It was learned tonight that the Washington government following its traditional policy of abstaining from joint action in a diplomatic sense, suggested that the appeal to the Mexican factions be identical, each government signing it in reality as a separate and distinct expression on its part.

MANNING SUSPENDS NEWBERRY AUDITOR

Action Follows Hearings on Alleged Errors Reported by Grand Jury.

Columbia Special to Charleston News and Courier, Aug. 10.—Governor Manning this morning suspended Eugene S. Werts from the office of auditor of Newberry county. He will report the suspension to the next meeting of the state senate and that body can either confirm or disapprove of his action. The governor will designate some one to fill the vacancy until the senate meets.

The suspension of Mr. Werts followed two hearings. The grand jury presented the auditor for alleged errors, these, it is said, amounting to over \$700. The governor summoned Mr. Werts some six weeks ago and gave him time to straighten everything out and attend to his duties. Some days ago, it was reported to the governor that the auditor declined to meet with the foreman of the Newberry grand jury, Haskell Wright, and Treasurer Epps, and have an annual settlement, telling the foreman that he could have a settlement with the treasurer if he wanted to. The matter was again reported to the governor and at a hearing last week he had all the parties before him and, after considering exhaustively for several days, he this morning suspended Mr. Werts from office.

WOULD RECONQUER DISTRICT IN TEXAS

Raids in Lower Rio Grande Valley Said to Have Been Made to Secure Horses and Guns.

Brownsville, Texas, Aug. 10.—No word had been received here tonight of the result of the search for Mexican bandits who today attacked United States cavalrymen near Mercedes, Texas, about 25 miles north of the Texas-Mexican boundary. One Mexican was killed in the fighting today, which occurred west of the previously disturbed zone, indicating, it is believed here, that there are several bands of Mexicans carrying on a lawless campaign in the lower Rio Grande valley.

An explanation of the purposes and extent of these raids was given today by Jesus Garcia, a Mexican wounded and captured in the Sunday fight at Norias. He said many Mexicans, especially the lower classes, hope to regain possession of that part of Texas between the Rio Grande and the Nueces river and return it to Mexico. Garcia said a political party having that aim exists in the southern part of Texas.

The recent raids he said were intended to equip Mexicans for organized conflict to reconquer the lower end of south Texas. Horses, guns and ammunition appear to have been the objectives of all three raids.

Killed by Rangers.

San Benito, Texas, Aug. 10.—Two unidentified Mexicans were killed by Texas rangers a few miles west of Sebastian, Texas today. They were suspected of being members of the bandit gang operating in the lower Rio Grande valley and resisted arrest.

COUNTY NEWS

NOTES FROM THE MILL VILLAGE.

Mrs. Walker Crenshaw and children of Rock Hill are visiting Mrs. T. L. Chapman this week.

Mrs. Blanche Belk is visiting friends and relatives here this week.

Mrs. Kathleen Goodman of Rockingham, N. C., has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, for the past month. Her baby was seriously sick last week and died Thursday morning and was taken to Rockingham for burial. It was only two months old. Much sympathy is felt for the whole family.

Mr. and Mrs. John Threatt is visiting friends and relatives here.

Mrs. Kirkland of Columbia is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Roberts.

Mr. Oscar L. Hagins and Miss Lolita Baker were married at the Methodist parsonage Wednesday afternoon at five o'clock, Rev. C. W. Burgess officiating.

Thursday morning a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Privett. Rev. W. J. Nelson of Rock Hill will assist the pastor in a protracted meeting at the Second Baptist church next week.

Mr. Enoch Alley, who has been visiting his brother, Mr. Sam Alley, has returned to his home in Ohio.

HEATH SPRING.

Special to The News.

Heath Spring, Aug. 12.—Mr. W. Ed Williams, who has been a student in the Virginia Medical College at Richmond for the past two sessions, has returned home after a trip to Bristol, England, and return on the horse ship Harmatris. He reports that they were sighted by a submarine about six miles off from which they escaped under cover of darkness by putting out their lights and increasing their speed.

The School-Junior picnic at Flint Ridge school house on Wednesday was a pronounced success. Able addresses were delivered by the Hon. J. E. Swearingen of Columbia on public education in South Carolina, and the Hon. J. W. Hamel of Kershaw on prohibition. The meeting was very gracefully presided over by Mr. W. C. Ellis of Heath Spring. After a bountiful dinner had been served the evening was given over to baseball and other pleasures.

Mrs. W. S. McDonald and her daughter, Miss Bernice of Georgetown, are guests of the former's sister, Mrs. J. B. Weldon, at the Methodist parsonage.

Mr. J. G. Walker, who has a position with a mercantile firm at Alcolu, is at home for a two weeks' vacation.

We award the prize to Mr. W. B. Twitty for the largest and prettiest tomatoes sent to the pasturium this season.

The Rev. Fred Horton of Atlanta, Ga., is here on a visit to his sister, Mrs. David Stover, and other relatives.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas of Jefferson spent Sunday with Mrs. N. E. Small. Mr. and Mrs. Irby Hinson of York have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Vaughn.

Messrs. Porter and Caskey of the registration board were here by appointment Thursday. Much interest seemed to be manifested in the matter of registration.

Mr. C. A. Gregory of Clover, Va., with his son, Charlie, and his daughters, Misses Allie and Virginia, is spending the week with his daughter, Mrs. J. W. H. Dyches, at the Baptist pasturium. Master Gregory Dyches came home with them, after a visit of several months at Clover.

Mrs. James Powers of Kershaw and Will Stogner of Lancaster have been visiting their sister, Mrs. H. E. Williams, at this place.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Mobley of Columbia have been here on a visit to Mr. Mobley's sister, Mrs. W. C. Ellis, and other relatives.

Messrs. C. A. and Charlie Gregory and Miss Allie Gregory, accompanied by Rev. and Mrs. J. W. H. Dyches, and Hampton, motored to Columbia and back, Monday. Mr. Gregory says the road from Lancaster to Columbia is the best for its distance that he has seen anywhere.

A protracted meeting is in progress at the Methodist church. The Rev. J. B. Weldon, the pastor, is doing the preaching.

Miss Eloise Barron of Rock Hill, after a visit of several days to her cousin, Mrs. E. B. Mobley, left Tuesday for Lancaster, where she will spend awhile with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Stalnaker of Bartow, Fla., are guests of their son, Dr. B. D. Stalnaker.

PLEASANT HILL.

Pleasant Hill, Aug. 12.—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Robertson and Mrs. Ransom Rollings of Oakhurst spent Thursday with Mr. M. L. Beckham's family.

Stogner of Lancaster spent Sunday with relatives and friends here.

Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Robertson and little son, Leon, Mr. J. K. Beckham and Mrs. M. L. Beckham spent several days in Charleston last week.

Mr. Minor Cauthen of Augusta, Ga., is on a visit to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Cauthen. Mr. Cauthen recently had the misfortune of having four fingers of his left hand cut off.

Mrs. R. L. Turner of Lancaster visited Mrs. S. P. Adams and other friends and relatives in the community last week.

Mrs. Mattie Johnson of Heath Springs is on a visit to her son, Mr. E. B. Johnson.

The Willing Workers will meet Saturday, August 21st, with Miss Estelle Beckham. This society gave a public entertainment at the church some time ago which was enjoyed by all. Much credit is due their leader, Mrs. E. R. Beckham.

HOME COMING DAY IN LANCASTER

(Continued from Page Five.)

The river's tide, and we must bow our hearts, nor e'en our grief allow to break their rest beneath the trees.

Their guns no more
Defiance roar,
With sulphurous breath and hideous glare,
When the order comes,
With blare of bugles and roll of drums,
To rally and charge and dare.

But the proudest guerdon that king e'er gave,
To the bravest knight of all his brave,
And the highest laud by a poet sung,
Were honor scant, it seems to me
For a Southern patriot numbered among
The soldiers led by Lee.

MR. JOHNSTONE'S ADDRESS.
Rev. H. R. Murchison, pastor of the Lancaster Presbyterian church, who is president of the State Movement for the Common Good, was fortunate enough to secure as one of the speakers for the district Conference, which was combined with Home Coming. Mr. Albert Sidney Johnstone, who is secretary of the State Board of Charities and Corrections, and Mr. Johnstone outlined the plans and purposes of his work in a brief but very timely and instructive address. Before presenting Mr. Johnstone, Mr. Murchison told a pointed anecdote and made a few appropriate introductory remarks. He expressed his pleasure at a community gathering like the one before him. Mr. Murchison urged greater thrift and "living at home."

"We haven't a cow to a family in South Carolina," he said, "and we are not making the progress we should." The better development of community life is a common task. There is work for all to do. No chain is stronger than its weakest link and we cannot travel at a faster pace than the weak, the aged or little children can travel. We must look after those in our midst who need our assistance. The last legislature created a board to attend to this work, the State Board of Charities and Corrections and it gives me great pleasure to introduce the secretary of that board, Mr. Albert Sidney Johnstone.

"When I came to Lancaster," Secretary Johnstone began, "the only person I knew here was Luther Ellison, but since my arrival yesterday I have been to your poor house, in the hands of your county engineer, chief of police, sheriff, county jailer and have spent awhile in the county jail. So I have a pretty good idea of one side of Lancaster."

Mr. Johnstone then began to tell of certain conditions which prevail in some of the charitable institutions of the state. The first case he cited was that of an aged woman and her son found in a poor house in another county. The unfortunate creature was seventy-one years of age, a negro who had white blood in her veins. The old woman and her son, thirty years of age, are being gradually eaten up with syphilis and have to be given opium from the county funds to enable them to stand the pain. In this cottage also there lives another child of the old woman, who sleeps with a syphilitic uncle. Within a stone's throw of this cottage is another in which there are six people, the oldest being the mother of six living children. She is the widow of a North Carolinian of unsound mind and went into this South Carolina poor house eighteen or twenty years ago. She has been the mother of sixteen children, ten of whom died before they were six years of age. One other had been adopted into another home, what kind was not ascertained. Mr. Johnstone then described the children who are with the mother in this poor house. The oldest, a girl, was feeble-minded, the second an idiot girl, the third, a boy, also an idiot, squatted under a table and grunted like a pig. The two other children, a boy and a girl, were bright, normal specimens. And what chance have they? Such cases, though rare, perhaps, exist and other conditions. Likewise undesirable are found, for instance, one nearer home. Mr. Johnstone visited the Lancaster county home and this is a sad case he found therein. A woman out there who had been in the home for some time and her five-weeks-old illegitimate child. "These are some of the problems we must work on and remedy," said Mr. Johnstone with great earnestness. "I am familiar with town boosting. I know why it is done and what it is all about. But we cannot with all our prosperity get rid of these unfortunate. We must not forget our weaker brothers." Mr. Johnstone spoke of how in the city the greatest extremes of society meet, how there are more wealth and culture as well as the worst misery and degradation. "We shall grow no stronger unless we realize our social solidarity," said Mr. Johnstone, who next outlined the specific as well as the general duties of the new board of which he is secretary. Heretofore when scandal occurred in any of the institutions of the state there was no way of getting at it. The board is investigating the penal and charitable institutions of South Carolina and is now studying the financial conditions of families of the inmates of the State Hospital for the Insane. The board has already looked into 867 cases. "The duties of the board are advisory and supervisory. Any officer failing to give us full access is liable to suspension," he explained. "If a jail is in bad shape and if in case of fire its inmates would have as little means of escape as in the jail in Lancaster, it is our duty to report it to you. I am sometimes asked: 'Is your job like that of an insurance inspector?' It is not. Some think it is our duty to see if a job is carried on as it should be. It is not that. We are trying to find where

one county is doing right and pass it on to the next county. We suppose that the officers are trying to do their duty and try to help them rather than scold them. Suppose I go into a community and find out some of its institutions are unsafe, suppose I find out all the facts. Suppose I show things up, staying well within the truth. Suppose public opinion will arise and demand something better." County jails, poor houses and chaingangs are just about what the county deserves."

Mr. Johnstone referred to his treatment at the hands of Lancaster officials. Sheriff Hunter, he said, received him very kindly, as did the jailer, and with the sheriff he had quite a long talk. "It is our purpose today to reach others who never go there, others who know little and care less. Our office is one of investigating and reporting. We find out facts and based on this data, we are to make a state-wide program. We want to get action, to make the people see that they have real problems to solve. Where poor houses are taking care of feeble-minded folks, moral degenerates and people of no moral sense, there is economic waste. Curing the case of the mother who had buried ten children and passed one out, while she lives on with five others at a county home, Mr. Johnstone asked, "What sort of burden is that?" And in the vegetable case in our own county home, "the sad thing," he pointed out, "is not the one illegitimate child, but the sad thing is that the mother when sent out again may become the prey of some other man in the stillness of the night, many come back to the same institution and repeat the same process. The great problem is to get action to relieve undesirable conditions. The country and the city are all one. The state is all one. No one of our people lives apart except with danger to the whole. Every citizen of South Carolina is concerned with the facts cited. We are all concerned with them. It is not reasonable to say that you have nothing to do with them. You have. You have paid out money in taxes. In so far as we have seen in the instances cited today, we have failed to prevent the recurrence of crime. If jails encourage crime, if our penal system is not restoring citizens we are footing the bills, not only in dollars and cents, but in our social degeneracy."

Mr. Johnstone then quoted the following from Lecky's Political Value of History, in which the author says:

"The foundation of national prosperity is laid in pure domestic life, in commercial integrity, in a high standard of moral worth and of public spirit, in simple habits, in courage, uprightness, and a certain soundness and moderation of judgment which springs quite as much from character as from intellect."

If you would form a wise judgment of the future of a nation, observe carefully whether these qualities are increasing or decaying."

Secretary Johnstone then referred briefly to the fact that negroes constitute by far the largest class of criminals. On the county chaingangs almost all the prisoners are negroes. They are three or four times more likely to commit crime than white men. They find it harder and harder to make a living. Cotton planters are already experimenting with Italian labor and have found that it is good. "As far as I can see the race problem is getting harder and harder every day," declared the speaker. "Is it true or not that in our penal system we are approaching social equality nearer than at any point in our civilized life?" he asked.

"In our indifference towards our institutions we may be allowing a problem to develop that will give us grave concern. I have no opinion but I believe it is a serious question. As long as there is a difference between the negro and white man as to who is boss there can be no friendly relations. The races do not meet on a common industrial plane. If that be true, is our penal system doing its duty or is it not? Mr. Johnstone closed his very earnest, able address with this thought: "This simply gives you a glimpse at facts.

It is going to take years of intelligent, sympathetic study of such problems to better conditions in this state."

OTHER EVENTS.

Before the gathering dispersed, Secretary Ellison expressed his gratification at the splendid attendance, saying that no person present was more appreciative than he. He asked that the visitors bring their baskets to the tables placed under the trees and announced the remainder of the program. Dinner was eaten on the grounds, a particularly attractive table having been provided for the sixty-odd veterans and an elaborate dinner served them by the Lancaster Chapter U. D. C.

After dinner motorcycle races were run on Main street. Mr. Pierce Horton was the prize winner in this contest. Because of the fact that one of the heavy weights was indisposed, the fat men's race was called off, and because of the fact that the crowd could not be held back, the horse races were not run, although several expert wild west riders were here expecting to participate.

The greatest surprise feature of the day was the balloon ascension at 3:30. Capt Jack Huffslinker, who was formerly a government aeronaut, rose in his balloon from the Wither-spoon lot, now the government post-office site, on Main street, to a height of about 4,000 feet, descending in a tree back of Judge D. A. Williams' home. Thousands of people gathered on the sidewalks opposite to witness the balloon ascension.

Lancaster won in an interesting baseball game with Chester, an account of which meet will be found elsewhere in this issue. A band concert on Main street filled in the interval between the afternoon and evening festivities. When darkness fell the great white way was illuminated and Lancastrians and their guests viewed for the first time the handsome ornamental lights which together with the asphalt street and paved sidewalks, completely transform our Main thoroughfare. Chairs were placed along the quadrangle on Main street between Arch and Gay and here the crowd witnessed a splendid demonstration of the training of Troop 1, Boy Scouts of America, led by Scout Master John H. Poag. Their manly bearing and the military precision of the Scouts is creditable alike to them and their efficient scout master.

After the Boy Scouts had entertained the crowd for awhile a grand march opened the ball, held also in the open quadrangle. Comstock's band from Columbia, which had furnished music all day, played for the dancers, who whiled away a happy evening until rain drove them under cover. The halls, parlors and wide porches of the home of Mr. R. E. Wylie were then resorted to and dancing was enjoyed until a late hour. The special trains on the Southern and the L. & C. both left at 9:30, carrying home many tired but happy excursionists who are all convinced that "Lancaster Leads" in special celebrations, as well as in every other way.

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