

HUERTA SAYS HE'S QUITE WILLING TO BE ELIMINATED

Which Leads to the Discovery That There Are Other Problems Yet

AFTER HUERTA--WHAT?



WILSON INSTRUCTS DELEGATES REGARDING POWER AND POLICY

President Tells the American Members of the Conference His Hopes and Wishes and Counsels Them to Maintain a Receptive Attitude.

Washington, May 18.—President Wilson told the American commissioners today, who leave for the mediation conference at Niagara Falls, Ont., tomorrow, that the United States will keep its troops at Vera Cruz until a definite settlement of the Mexican problem.

The president gave the American commissioners—Justice Lamar of the United States supreme court; Frederick W. Lehmann, former solicitor general, and the diplomatic secretary, H. Percival Dodge—no specific instructions. They were told to place themselves in a receptive mood and await proposals from the three South American mediators. But at the same time he outlined that peace seemed to him to be conditioned on the elimination of the Huerta administration and the establishment of a strong provisional government which would conduct an election giving fair treatment to all factions and parties and guaranteeing, moreover, a solution of the agrarian problem and other internal difficulties that have bred revolution.

Comprehensive.
The president wishes the Mexican question settled on comprehensive lines that will take into account the economic principles for which Zapata in the south, as well as Carranza in the north, has been fighting, and will at the same time conserve the rightful interests of the people in the territory now controlled by the Huerta government.

During the day a dispatch came to one of the foreign diplomats here from a diplomatic source in Mexico City, stating that General Huerta was ready

to resign and would permit his representatives at the mediation conference to eliminate him if necessary.

Intimations that have come from the three Huerta delegates since their visit to this country showed they had realized Huerta's elimination was regarded as essential to a settlement.

The Huerta delegates, it is learned from persons who have talked with them, also understand thoroughly that the scope of the mediation has been broadened beyond the differences that arose out of the arrest of American blue-jackets at Tampico, and now comprises the entire Mexican problem.

Conditional.
The Huerta delegates are said to be ready to recommend Huerta's retirement, but only on the condition that a definite understanding is reached on the kind of government that is to follow.

President Wilson, in his final talk with the American commissioners, at which Secretary Bryan was present, indicated that every power and legitimate influence at the disposal of the American government would be exerted to make it succeed.

The president laid before the commissioners the Mexican problem as he saw it, emphasizing that the duty of the United States was to seek unselfishly to assist Mexico to set up a constitutional government which could be recognized by the world because of its capacity, not alone to maintain peace within its confines, but to observe international obligations.

Land Question.
The mediators have worked out a general plan which they will submit to all factions. One feature of it became definitely known today. It seeks to eradicate the perplexing agrarian question by prescribing a division of lands in a way that will be satisfactory to the masses, but its details have not been revealed. Economic questions, however, will not be submitted until a satisfactory agreement is reached on political phases.

In his talk with the commissioners the president touched briefly on the

land question, speaking of it as a perennial cause of discontent and dissatisfaction which has made it comparatively easy to raise a revolutionary army in Mexico.

Signed Credentials.
The president gave his representatives autograph letters to present to the mediators. These letters refer to the unofficial character of the representatives and indicate clearly that the final decision on all questions propounded so far as the United States is concerned will be made by the government at Washington.

If the Huerta delegates are conciliatory and show themselves amenable to the plans proposed by the mediators and acceptable to the United States, an effort to draw the constitutionalists into the agreement undoubtedly will be made by the American government as well as by the mediators.

Rebels Are Chary.
In constitutionalist quarters the talk of a compromise agreement by which Huerta would retire in favor of a neutral person and cabinet who would conduct an election and guarantee certain immediate reforms, has not yet made much of an appeal. Constitutional representatives here say their military campaign is daily growing more aggressive, and that in another month they will have settled the Mexican question by forcibly taking possession of Mexico City.

In Mexico.
The military situation in Mexico City, however, is giving the Washington government some concern, and while confidence that mediation will be successful runs high, there are those in the cabinet and the administration who are apprehensive lest a sudden and unexpected turn of events may affect the entire status of the negotiations. Some sporadic outbreak among Huerta's troops, irresponsible hostilities against American forces or complications at Tampico, where the constitutionalists are in control, it is realized may at any moment alter the whole situation.

The Money Feature.
The preservation of the status quo, at least as far as the international situation is concerned, while the mediators at Niagara Falls undertake their delicate mission, is at present the main concern of the state department. For this reason it has acted promptly upon suggestions from foreign sources that European interests were endangered in the territory newly fallen under control of the constitutionalists in the neighborhood of Tampico. Forced loans upon the principal merchants and wealthy citizens in the Mexican towns and cities, which have suffered from the military invasion by one side or the other during the present rebellion, have been quite common and excited little comment.

For the most part the exactions have been laid upon native Mexicans and a few Spaniards, the owners of the principal business concerns in the towns affected.

Now, however, with the occupation

CONSTITUTIONALISTS ARE NOT DECEIVED BY THE PROPOSED ABDICATION OF HUERTA

El Paso, May 18.—The reported authorization given his delegates to the mediation conference by Huerta to present his resignation if necessary to insure peace in Mexico and the intimation that Luis Cabrera, a constitutionalist leader, would be acceptable to the federals as a provisional president, are regarded by constitutionalist leaders here simply as an attempt by the Huerta party to win some concessions from a struggle in which they have been defeated at every turn.

The constitutionalists reiterated that the contest must be pressed through to the end. They said they were not fighting an individual, but a political condition, supported and backed by the party of which Huerta is the head. They indicated they thought any compromise whatever with the so-called "cientificos" would be fatal to their plans for reform and that such a compromise would be followed by other periods of unrest and revolution.

Regarding the proposal to make Luis Cabrera provisional president, it was stated that Senator Cabrera was thoroughly conversant with the conditions which confronted both the federals and constitutionalists and with the purpose of the proposal. It was said by constitutionalists that it was most improbable that Senator Cabrera would lend himself to such a proposal or allow his name to be used in connection with the provisional presidency.

TWO ON DECK MUCH TROUBLE FOR PEACE TALK IN MEXICO CITY

DA GAMA AND NAON ARRIVE AT NIAGARA FALLS AND RECEIVE GREETINGS.

Niagara Falls, Ont., May 18.—Two of the representatives of the three South American countries which are to try to solve the Mexican trouble by mediation, arrived today preparatory to the commencement of their sessions next Wednesday.

Domício Da Gama, the Brazilian ambassador, who is the ranking diplomat of the three mediatory powers, and Romulo S. Naon, minister for Argentina, were the mediators who arrived today. Eduardo Suarez, the Chilean minister, and the third mediator, is expected tomorrow.

On reaching the hotel where the conference is to be held, Mr. Da Gama found awaiting the mediators the following message from the Duke of Connaught, governor general of Canada:

Official Welcome.
"As governor general, I welcome you on your arrival on Canadian soil and express my fervent hope that the efforts of yourself and your colleagues to preserve peace may meet with speedy and lasting success."

The ambassador immediately replied, thanking the duke for his message.

It was learned today that the governor general of Canada will send Assistant Secretary of State Pope and Secretary of Agriculture Burrell tomorrow to welcome in person on his behalf the mediators and the delegates of the United States and Mexico.

Arrangements.
The Argentine minister spent the afternoon in looking over the arrangements for carrying on the work of the mediators and directed several changes. He showed much interest in the large telegraph office from which will travel the news of the proceedings and diplomatic messages. Over 40 extra wires have been installed.

BUT THE CAPITAL HAS ITS CUSTOMARY NEWS OF A FEDERAL VICTORY.

Mexico City, May 18.—The resignation of Genaro Fernandez MacGregor, chief clerk of the foreign office, was demanded today by Acting Foreign Minister Esteva Ruiz. The reason given was that he had ordered General Joaquin Maas at Saltillo to take measures against the American consul, John R. Silliman.

According to advices received here several hundred bales of cotton have been destroyed by the constitutionalists in the neighborhood of Saltillo because the owners refused to deliver over certain monies demanded of them.

General Blanquet, minister of war, is authority for the statement that fierce fighting is in progress north of the city of Tepic and that the federals have gained the advantage.

No News of Villa.

El Paso, Texas, May 18.—Developments in the movements of General Francisco Villa and his army against the federal garrison at Saltillo had failed to reach here at a late hour tonight. It was learned, however, that the single wire from the front to Torreon was in bad condition and it was thought that military messages to the Torreon base may have made the handling of dispatches concerning the city's developments at the front impossible.

Bandits Busy.

El Paso, May 18.—James Skousen, a Mormon colonist at Colonia, Juarez, Chihuahua, was seized and carried off to the mountains by bandits Sunday, according to a message which reached here from Pearson, Chihuahua. Skousen's fate is unknown. General Rodrigo Quevedo, who has harried the ranchers along the border for months has threatened to take three American lives for each of his men killed by the constitutionalist soldiers sent to wipe out his band.



Here's a new picture of General Huerta, the Mexican dictator.

Mob of Mexicans Demands Revenge

Vera Cruz, May 18.—Hooted and jeered by a small mob of Mexicans, and called an assassin by one who alleged that his brother had been killed by order of the ex-minister of the Interior, Dr. Aureliano Urrutia, who held that office and was once Huerta's most trusted counselor, was arrested for the second time today since his arrival here a few hours earlier among refugees from the capital.

Dr. Urrutia had fled from Mexico City to escape the wrath of the president and had the appearance of an ordinary laboring man when he disclosed his identity, on board the American train, this side of the gap. He was detained by the American officers and taken before Brigadier General Funston, who, however, ordered him set free. He was again taken into custody because of the demonstration made against him, but was released for the second time and sent to his room, where he is guarded by a marine, whose presence was requested by the fugitive in the belief that his life was in danger from his own people.

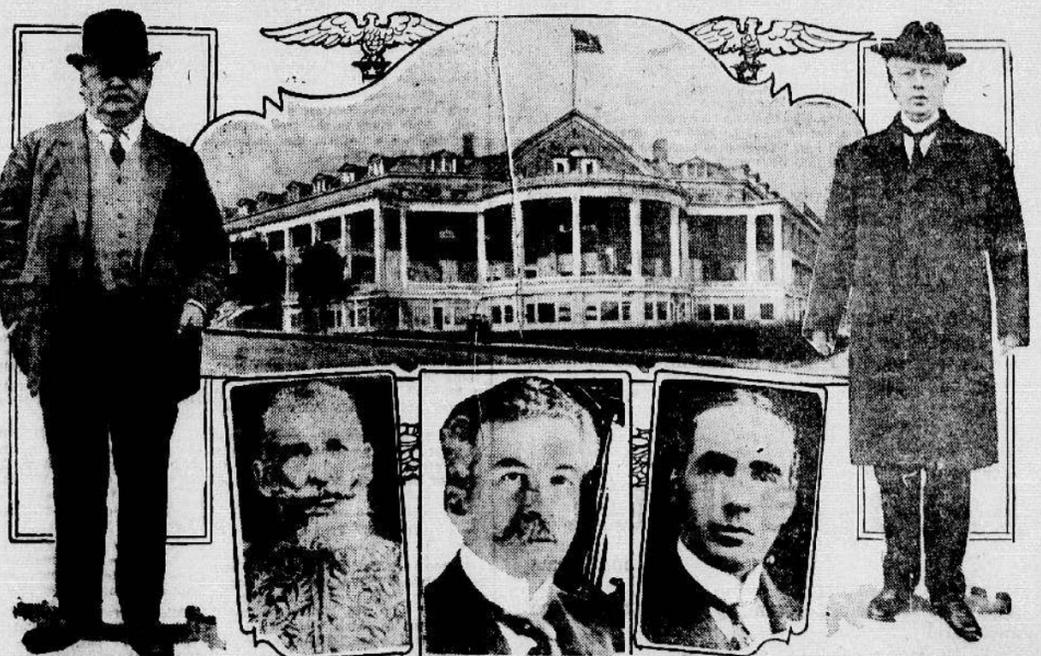
Antonio Rivero de La Torre, editor

of El Dictamen, was the leader of the demonstration against the former minister. He appeared in the street beneath the window of the room occupied by Dr. Urrutia at the Diligencias hotel and began an impassioned speech. He shouted: "Assassin! Coward!" and charged that Urrutia was responsible for the execution of his brother, one of the deputies of the congress which Huerta dissolved. He challenged Urrutia to appear before the small crowd of his countrymen who already had gathered.

De La Torre was arrested and a few minutes later Dr. Urrutia also was taken to police headquarters, but as there was no evidence warranting his detention, he was led back through a great crowd to the hotel. A guard was placed outside his door. The ex-minister of the interior was one of the coolest men in the crowd. As he was being taken to his room a correspondent said to him: "De La Torre accuses you of killing his brother."

"As to that," replied Dr. Urrutia, smiling, "I do not think that he will be able to prove it."

THIS IS WHERE THEY'RE GOING AND THEY'RE ON THE WAY.



Cliff Hotel at Niagara Falls, Ont.; U. S. representatives at conferences and A. B. C. envoys. Left to right: Frederick W. Lehman, Eduardo Suarez, D. Da Gama, R. S. Naon and Joseph R. Lamar.

MEXICANS PLEASED BY RECEPTION HERE

New York, May 18.—A day of rest here sought by General Huerta's mediation representatives before their departure late tomorrow for Niagara Falls was accomplished to the highest degree of success. Repeated efforts during the day to obtain some inkling of their plans were met with the same reply: "We have nothing to say."

Tonight, however, Senator Emilio Rabasa gave out the following statement:

"The discretion which the delicacy of their mission imposes, as an elementary consideration, upon the Mexican delegates, has prevented them from making any statements; but in their desire to meet the wishes of the

press they beg to state that they have been most courteously treated by all authorities and officials of the United States; that they have received proofs of cordial sympathies from the representatives of various South American nations, and that they go to Niagara Falls animated by the earnest hope that an honorable and satisfactory conclusion will be arrived at at the meetings to be held there."

Announcement was made tonight that the delegates would leave tomorrow afternoon at 6 o'clock for Niagara Falls. They will travel on a regular train, having decided not to accept the proffer of the United States government of a special train.

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