

NOBODY BELIEVES HUERTA, WHATEVER HE MAY SAY But When Colonel Roosevelt Speaks It Is a Good Deal Different

IT'S BEGINNING ALREADY



FIRM DENIAL BY HUERTA AT LAST

DICTATOR DECLARES HIS DELEGATES HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO ELIMINATE HIM.

WASHINGTON IS SERENE

Diplomats Say the Mexican is Still Bluffing and That the Mediators Will Receive the Resignation Just as Scheduled in the Advance Notices of the Show at Niagara.

Mexico City, May 20.—Provisional President Huerta in an interview today said: "The Mexican peace delegates have no instructions to offer my resignation at the conference at Niagara Falls." The president spoke with energy and emphasized his words with a characteristic gesture of the right hand. Prior to this, the acting minister of foreign affairs, Estevan Ruiz, had declared that the Mexican representatives had been given "ample power" by the government to deal with everything that may be discussed at the peace conference with the object of solving the international difficulty.

Washington, May 20.—News from Mexico City of General Huerta's announcement that the Mexican delegates to the mediation conference had no instructions to offer his resignation was received in Washington with interest, although it was regarded as having no particular significance. Officials of the Washington government had not expected General Huerta publicly to proclaim readiness to eliminate himself.

Authentic advices through diplomatic sources, however, gave Washington authentic information several days ago that the Mexican commissioners were clothed with full power to act, and had been authorized to agree to the elimination of Huerta if necessary to bring about a settlement of their country's troubles. This last step, it was assumed, would be taken only after it was apparent to the commissioners that there was no hope of a settlement.

Reports from the late conference at Niagara Falls had not reached the White House tonight when the president retired. Interest in official circles in the proceedings at Niagara Falls is intense, and will be followed closely by the president and the members of his cabinet by a special wire that has been set up at the White House for the purpose.

Officials are inclined to be very optimistic. The unyielding attitude of the constitutionalists has continued to put a damper on the hopes for a speedy settlement of the whole Mexican problem, but the belief is strong here among high officials that when the Saltillo campaign has been concluded Carranza and his leaders may be induced to enter the mediation negotiations.

The Home Folks.

Niagara Falls, May 20.—The Mexican delegates declined today to discuss the specific instructions given to them before their departure from the Mexican capital, beyond saying that while their powers were broad and ample, such questions as to the resignation of Huerta and the conditions under which it would be submitted would finally have to be referred to General Huerta himself for approval. The Brazilian ambassador received a message today from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City, couched in the most hopeful terms about mediation, and intimating, it is understood, that General Huerta was prepared to relinquish office. Similar intimations have come from European diplomats in Washington and for the last three days it has been taken for granted in diplomatic circles that the problem before the mediators was not so much the elimination of Huerta, but what was to follow his retirement, what kind of government could be established and what persons would be acceptable to all interests in Mexico.

EXILED.

Durazzo, Albania, May 20.—After a long conference today in which the Italian charge d'affaires and the Austrian minister took part, Prince William decided to put Issad Pasha, former minister of war, aboard a steamer bound for Brindisi. Issad Pasha must first sign a declaration promising not to return to Albania without the prince's permission.

WAR CORRESPONDENT DAVIS, CAPTURED HAD TO PROMISE HE WOULD BE GOOD



RICHARD HARDING DAVIS AND FEDERAL WHO ARRESTED HIM.

Vera Cruz, May 20.—Richard Harding Davis, novelist and war correspondent, who was arrested by Mexican Federals between here and Mexico City, is back in Vera Cruz, but before the Mexicans gave him his freedom he was compelled to promise that he would not go on to Mexico City, that he would send no pictures, letters or cablegrams back to the United States, and that he would remain peacefully in Vera Cruz. The other war correspondents who were also arrested by the Mexicans have also returned to Vera Cruz. They are Walter Whiffen of the Associated Press, Medill McCormick of the London Times and A. J. Sutton of the Washington Post. They also were made to promise that they would not continue on to Mexico City.

PARKS AFFAIR UNFRIENDLY DEED

THE STATE DEPARTMENT CONCEDES THAT SOLDIER'S MURDER WAS HOSTILE ACT.

NO WORD OF SILLIMAN

Despite the Unsettled Condition of These Grave Questions, There is a "General Slackening of Tension" and Part of the Atlantic Fleet Will Be Brought Home This Month.

Washington, May 20.—General slackening of tension in the Mexican situation resulted in the consideration of plans at the navy department today which included the withdrawal of a part of the fleet now on the east coast of Mexico.

Acting Secretary Roosevelt said he hoped within a week to have four battleships, five destroyers and a tender on the way north. It is desired to relieve the fleet, a division at a time, to give an opportunity for overhauling and repairs.

Another important development of the day was a conference called by Secretary Bryan at which British Ambassador Spring-Rice and Minister Van Rappard of The Netherlands considered conditions in the Tampico oil fields. Protests, it was reported, had been received from oil operators that during the absence of American leaseholders prior to the capture of the city by the constitutionalists, federal officials had negotiated transfers of the American leases to British and Dutch oil men. Similar protests that Dutch and British holders might suffer since the constitutionalists assumed control. An understanding was reached that transfers made during the absence of Tampico would not be recognized. The state department, still without result, endeavored today to open new lines of communication in order to get information as to the fate of Consul John R. Silliman at Saltillo.

"We are now seeking information of Silliman from sources other than Mexico City," Secretary Bryan said. No official information was forthcoming in the case of Private Samuel Parks. The state department is still without reply to the note in which it requested information about Parks and charged that he had acted as a "hostile agent."

The war department, however, received a copy of an affidavit made by A. V. Bland, in which he repeated a story told him by an alleged eye-witness that Parks was shot to death by a firing squad on order of a Mexican commander. Bland said that the name of the eye-witness must not be revealed, because he would be killed if it were known that he had given the information.

Assurances that the family of T. J. Smith at Toluca, Mexico, is safe under the protection of British and Brazilian diplomatic officers and that every effort is being made to secure the release from imprisonment of Smith himself were received by Secretary Bryan from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City.

JACOB RIBS VERY ILL.

Barre, Mass., May 20.—The condition of Jacob A. Ribs, writer and social worker, was regarded as critical tonight. His physician said there was no hope of any improvement. The patient retains consciousness most of the time. Mr. Ribs came to his summer home here two weeks ago suffering from heart trouble.

NO AGREEMENT YET AMONG DEMOCRATS

Washington, May 20.—Failure of democratic leaders in the senate to get an agreement to vote on the Panama tolls bill at the end of the week resulted in renewed and more determined efforts to hasten delivery of scheduled speeches. Sessions are beginning now at 11 a. m., and next week probably will see regular night sessions of the senate.

Democratic Leader Kern today asserted he saw no reasons why four or five speeches could not be delivered a day and announced that beginning tomorrow he proposed to ask every day for unanimous consent for an agreement to vote.

Three speeches on the tolls question were made today. All favored the repeal bill. Senator Hollis of New Hampshire defended the measure as upholding the treaty obligations of the

REBELS MAKE GAINS ON PACIFIC COAST

ADMIRAL HOWARD REPORTS DEFECTIONS FROM FEDERAL ARMY TO THE FOE.

Washington, May 20.—Constitutionalists who have occupied San Blas on the west coast of Mexico, have enforced order and have guaranteed protection to Americans and other foreigners, according to a report from Rear Admiral Howard.

"It is currently reported," said a statement from the war department, "that large numbers of federals are deserting to the constitutionalists in the Tepic district. The embargo on American shipping has been lifted. In other respects conditions are reported as unchanged on the Pacific coast."

Admiral Howard reports that no information has been received of the Doyle family and that most of the employees of the Tehuantepec railroad left by the east coast.

Admiral Howard also announced that the Nero arrived at Mazatlan and the destroyer Hill, after touching at Guaymas, cleared for La Paz.

SIXTEEN KILLED.

Musquiz, Coahuila, Mexico, May 20.—Sixteen lives were lost in a tornado which swept this town yesterday. Hailstones of enormous size fell, and several of those who lost their lives were killed by being struck by the stones.

KALISPELL PEOPLE BUILD GOOD ROADS

Kalispell, May 20.—(Special)—An amount of road work that no one has attempted to translate into figures of value was done on Flathead county highways today by farmers and city residents, working as volunteers on the first Good Roads day. So successful was the project that everyone is now talking of making it an annual holiday. Governor Stewart, Secretary of State Anderson and State Highway Commissioner Mellen visited each of the camps. They were delighted with the unanimous turnout, and Commissioner Mellen was expert authority for the statement that the work done was done right and of immense value. Kalispell was as deserted as though stricken with a plague. Automobiles with screeching sirens supplemented alarm clocks by dashing through the residence districts early in the morning. By 8 o'clock every man was at work and equipped with some kind of implement, either from his own garden kit or the county of forest-service

Roosevelt Ready for Hot Campaign

The Colonel Announces in General Way His Plans for This Year and They Indicate No Lack of Vitality or Confidence.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., May 20.—On the first day after his return from South America, Theodore Roosevelt got back into touch with the political situation and plans were well under way tonight for the progressive campaign of 1914.

A large part of the day Mr. Roosevelt spent in conference with George W. Perkins of New York, chairman of the executive committee of the progressive national committee. Mr. Perkins has been steadily at work since the 1912 campaign in organizing the new party in all sections of the country and his mission to Oyster Bay was to acquaint the former president with conditions.

Colonel Roosevelt would not discuss his talk with Mr. Perkins. He said he was not talking politics.

Richard Binchot, the progressive candidate for United States senator from Pennsylvania, also had a meeting with Colonel Roosevelt. He reached Sagamore Hill this afternoon and spent the night there.

Colonel Roosevelt's political activities today removed all doubts whether he would take an active part in the campaign this year. It is known that he expects to make one of the most arduous fights of his career. It is probable that in September he will

make a trip from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, speaking in most of the states.

On May 30 Mr. Roosevelt will sail for Spain for the wedding of his son, Kermit. In the intervening period he will attempt to start in motion the machinery for the campaign and with other leaders of the party to decide upon the lines on which the fight is to be made. On his return from Europe about July 1 he will begin the campaign proper.

One day of the quietude and bracing air of Sagamore Hill wrought a great change in Colonel Roosevelt's appearance. Tonight he was full of vigor. There was no trace of the fatigue so noticeable when he climbed slowly up the gateway, leaning on a cane, on leaving the tug which brought him home last night.

Tomorrow morning Mr. Roosevelt will go to New York. The really important thing he has to do, he explained, is to get new clothes for his son's wedding. During the rest of the day he will visit his publishers, go to a museum, spend a few hours at his editorial office and meet several New York state leaders of his party. "The colonel expects to do all of this before 4 o'clock, for he must be back in Oyster Bay by 5:30 for the most important event in the recent history of this village. His old neighbors here are to welcome him back home at the time. The school children, 650 of them, and the village band are to furnish the music.

Colonel Roosevelt will go to his office in New York tomorrow and spend most of the day meeting political supporters. Speaking of the Colombia controversy, he said that payment of \$25,000,000 was blackmail and continued: "In submitting to this, it is just as though some future president of the United States should apologize to the successor of Huerta for the seizure of Vera Cruz."

Here the colonel threw up his hands. "Well, that is unthinkable," he said. In speaking of the tolls repeal, he said he thought it perfectly right to arbitrate the question if the rights of the country to grant exemption were questioned, but he declared that to yield the point unequivocally without arbitration was indefensible, as he was convinced the United States was within its rights in freeing coastwise ships from a tolls payment.

VERIFIED CIRCULATION.

Chicago, May 20.—Publishers, advertisers and advertising agencies joined here today in the formation of an organization for the investigation and verification of circulation of advertising mediums.

WAR TAX DROPPED.

Mexico City, May 20.—The chamber of deputies passed a bill today abolishing the 30 per cent additional tax on real estate recently decreed by the executive.