

## PROMISE MADE BY MEXICANS IS SATISFACTORY

Officials at Washington Are Much Pleased By Gen. Carranza's Letter

WILSON, HIMSELF, DELAYS COMMENT

Mediation All Right, Says Note, But Negotiations Can Achieve Results

Washington, D. C., July 5.—The reply of the de facto government of Mexico to the demands of the United States, conciliatory in terms and giving assurances of a desire to reach a friendly adjustment of the difficulties between the two countries, was delivered to the state department today by a Mexican embassy attaché. The text follows:

"Mr. Secretary:

"Referring to the notes of June 20 and 25, last, I have the honor to say to your excellency, that the immediate release of the Carrizal prisoners was a further proof of the sincerity of the desires of this government to reach a pacific and satisfactory arrangement of present difficulties. This government is anxious to solve the present conflict and it would be unjust if its attitude were misinterpreted.

"It was also the Mexican government that earnestly suggested a plan for cantonments along the boundary line during the conference of Ciudad Juarez and El Paso. This government is disposed now, as it has always been to seek an immediate solution of the two points which constitute the true cause of the conflict between the two countries, to-wit:—the American government thinks reasonably that the insecurity of its frontier is a source of difficulty and the Mexican government on its part believed that the stay of American troops on Mexican territory, aside from being a trespass on the sovereignty of Mexico, is the immediate cause of the conflict.

"Therefore the withdrawal of American troops, on the one hand, and the protection of the frontier, on the other, are the two essential problems, the solution of which must be the directing object of the efforts of both governments.

"The Mexican government is willing to consider in a quick and practical way and promptly by a spirit of concord the remedies which should be applied to the present situation.

"Several Latin-American countries have offered their friendly mediation to the Mexican government and the latter has accepted it in principle. Therefore, the Mexican government only awaits information that the government of the United States would be disposed to accept this mediation for the purpose mentioned above or whether it is still of the belief that the same results may be attained by means of direct negotiations between both governments.

"In the meantime this government proposes to employ all efforts that may be at its disposal to avoid the recurrence of new incidents which may complicate and aggravate the situation. At the same time it hopes that the American government on its part may make use of all efforts to prevent also new acts of its military and civil authorities of the frontier that might cause new complications.

"I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) "C. Aguilar."

Note Satisfactory.

As soon as a translation of the Spanish text could be made it was sent to the white house. Until Secretary Lansing and President Wilson have had an opportunity to confer, there will be no formal comment. But some state department officials did not attempt to conceal the fact that they considered the note most satisfactory and likely to remove all danger of war.

Troops Cause of Trouble.

Brief and free from all superfluous language of diplomacy, the communication points to the release of the American troops captured at Carrizal as proof of the Mexican government's sincere desire to avoid a conflict; states as the outstanding issue the reasonable belief of the United States that the insecurity of its frontier is a source of difficulty and the belief of the Mexican government that the presence of American troops in Mexico is a trespass on that country's sovereignty and the immediate cause of trouble.

In offering to consider in a "quick and practical way" the remedy which should be applied, the note gives notice that Mexico has accepted in principle Latin-American offers of mediation and awaits information that the United States is disposed to accept mediation or still is of the belief that

## MEXICANS DRILL VOLUNTEERS AS A MERE PRECAUTION

WORD COMES THAT MEASURES ARE BEING TAKEN TO INCREASE DE FACTO ARMY.

El Paso, Tex., July 5.—While national guard organizations on the American side of the border are being recruited, drilled and equipped, the Mexican de facto government is taking similar steps with volunteer troops, concentrated in some of the larger cities of northern Mexico, according to Mexican reports here today.

These reports indicate that large commands of volunteers have been mobilized at Chihuahua City, Jimenez, Parral, Rosario, Torreon and Durango City and are being drilled daily.

Mexican military authorities assert that these activities are merely "measures of precaution."

COMMAND STILL INTACT.

San Antonio, Tex., July 5.—Failure of the war department to notify Gen. Funston of the division of his command was regarded by some military men today as a reflection of the hope of the administration that an open break with Mexico might be avoided.

When Gen. Funston recommended the plan that would place the big border army on a basis for general field operations, army officers were convinced that war was unavoidable should amicable relations be restored, however, army officers believe the recommended war measure may be abandoned.

Gen. Pershing's reports today indicated no aggression by the Mexican troops concentrated close to El Valle. Notable relaxation in the movement of national guardsmen was admitted. The first big rush was nearing completion. Almost 45,000 guardsmen are either at border stations or on the way.

MEXICANS THREATENED.

Vinita, Okla., July 5.—Violence was threatened in the Mexican residents here last night by a mob of 500, engaged by reports that a Mexican waiter had slapped an American boy's face. A number of Mexicans were driven from the city while others were forced to take refuge in the county jail. Mexican residences and stores were draped with flags and bunting by the mob. Several arrests were made.

MESSAGE FROM BRAZIL.

Rio Janeiro, July 5.—The chamber of deputies Tuesday voted to send to the United States congress a message carrying best wishes of Brazil in commemoration of the date of North American independence and expressing hope that the United States will preserve peace on the North American continent.

## REFUGEES TELL OF HARSHIPS

AMERICANS REPORT BEING DRIVEN OUT OF MEXICO AFTER GIVING UP MONEY.

San Diego, Cal., July 5.—W. A. Holton of St. Louis, an employe of the United Sugar Co. of Los Mochis, Mexico, who arrived here last night on the naval transport Buffalo with 538 other American and British refugees from west Mexican towns and ranches, said today that he was one of a party of eleven Americans who were held recently by Carranza soldiers near the town. Money, arms and ammunition were taken from them and they were told to get out of Mexico as quickly as possible.

Twenty-three Americans were left at Los Mochis, guarding the big sugar refinery there, and they have been given word by Carranza officials that they will not be molested within twenty-four hours after a declaration of war between the United States and Mexico. Holton said. The men were heavily armed. Mexicans around Los Mochis depend upon the operation of the refineries for a living.

Mrs. E. E. Watson, aged 65, of New York City told a story of how, hiding in a caboose attached to a Mexican Southern Pacific pay train carrying more than \$145,000 in gold, she escaped possible harm from bandits in a wild ride from Ortiz to Empalme.

More refugees will arrive here from Salina Cruz and Manzanillo on the supply steamer Glacier early next week.

Many of the refugees landed here are penniless and they were being cared for today by the San Diego chapter of the Red Cross.

## INSIST THAT VILLA NO LONGER LIVES

El Paso, Tex., July 5.—Former Villistas here who assured Dr. Atl, the Mexican peace conference delegate now in Washington, according to yesterday's dispatches, that Villa died in the southern end of Chihuahua, based their assertion on circumstantial evidence. A person who was present at the time Dr. Atl received his information said today that the Villistas considered their evidence conclusive.

## PRESSURE UPON TEUTONS HEAVY

Britons and French Take Small Towns and Get Nearer Objectives

CAVALRY OF USE AFTER LONG DELAY

Trench Defenses Pierced and Fighting Carried Into Open Fields

Press Camp in France, July 5.—The total number of prisoners taken thus far in the Anglo-French offensive probably has reached 150,000. Judging from these figures, the German losses as a whole, it is estimated here, have been at least 60,000.

The British have taken eleven towns. The Germans anticipating the attack withdrew their guns to longer ranges.

Rome, July 5.—New successes have been won by the Italians in their offensive in the Trentino, the war office announced today. They have occupied the summit of Monte Corno, northwest of the Pasubia, and captured the crest of Monte Sellugio.

London, July 5.—Pressure of the entente allies on the central powers continues without abatement and while nowhere has any great amount of territory been recovered, great strategic gains are claimed on the western, eastern and Italian fronts. So far as the western front is concerned, the first phase of the Anglo-French offensive is thought to be nearing the end. Both north and south of the Somme the French and British are engaged in organizing positions captured since Saturday. The French, having taken all the German defensive positions south of the Somme, are now fighting in open country and cavalry, which has been so long idle, is being employed for patrol work.

The next objective of the French in this region is the village of Barleux, which is the junction point of three highways leading to the Somme south of Peronne. If this point is gained the French will be in position to attack the bridgeheads opposite Peronne, which the Germans are strengthening.

North of the river the Anglo-French advance is slower because the Germans have massed between the river and Hebuterne the bulk of the twenty-six divisions which originally held this front and the reserves they have since brought up. After the ground gained has been concentrated it is expected artillery preparations for a second big thrust will be made.

The Italians, after regaining territory in the Trentino, are going to their original plan and are attacking along the lower Isonzo, where they have gained some lesser successes.

Victory for Russians.

Important news comes from Petrograd. Russian advance guards on Gen. Letchitzky's extreme left are engaged with Austrian rear guards on the spur of the Carpathians and official reports even say Cossacks have been raiding Hungary. Gen. Letchitzky's right has opened a passage in the direction of the stretch of railway connecting the rear of the entire Austrian front—Kolomea-Stanslau-Lemberg—while the occupation of Deltayn, for which the Russians are making, would sever the communications of Gen. von Bethmer's army.

Both Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Field Marshal von Mackensen are reported to have arrived at Kovel to direct operations designed to break the Russian rear in Volhynia. The latest official dispatches contain claims by both sides to successes in this region. Press dispatches this morning emphasize the importance of the Russian victory near Baranovichi where the latest stroke of Emperor Nicholas' forces has been delivered.

Meanwhile military activities in the Balkans are being revived and successes of the entente allies are reported to have caused a renewal of the propagandas of pro-entente politicians in both Greece and Rumania.

REINFORCEMENTS CALLED.

London, July 5.—A Reuter dispatch from the western front says the Germans made a counter attack on the new British positions at Thiépvalle, after a heavy bombardment, but were easily repulsed. Prisoners are quoted as having stated that German units are being rushed to the Somme front from as far as Verdun to the east and Lens to the north.

According to this dispatch, a German officer who surrendered 150 men in a body said he thought they would be of more use alive in Germany after the war than dead.

## GERMANS INSIST ALLIES GAINS ARE NOT VERY GREAT

OFFICIAL REPORT FROM BERLIN ADMITS OF BUT SLIGHT REVERSES IN BATTLES.

Berlin, July 5.—Violent fighting between the Germans and entente allies on both sides of the Somme river has been continuous since last night, says today's German official statement. Up to the present time, the statement adds, the allies have nowhere obtained serious advantages.

French troops on the right bank of the Meuse, in the Verdun sector, repeatedly tried to advance with strong forces against the German positions northwest of Thiaumont works but, as the statement says, the attempts were fruitless.

Russian troops are again attacking the German line, from Zirlin to the region southeast of Baranovichi, in Lithuania. Very stubborn hand to hand fighting is in progress, the announcement adds, and the Russians have either been repulsed or driven back from the places where they had broken into the German lines. The heaviest losses, it is added, were sustained by the Russians.

FRENCH REPORT GAINS.

Paris, July 5.—The French have captured a line of German trenches east of Curis, the war office announced today.

They have also captured Sormont farm, facing Clerly.

The advance reported indicates that the French are moving eastward along the north bank of the Somme river toward Peronne in the Anglo-French offensive in Picardy. The most advanced point mentioned is four and one-half miles northwest of Peronne.

The French resumed the offensive during the night on both sides of the Somme. South of the Somme they made further progress toward the river, particularly at Sormont farm. This position is on the left bank opposite Clerly. All the region between the farm and Hill 63 on the road leading from Flaucourt to Barleux is now dominated by the French.

After a heavy bombardment the Germans captured part of the village of Belloy-en-Santerre, but the French quickly expelled them, taking the entire village. The Germans still hold part of the town of Estrees, where severe fighting is still in progress. German attacks on French positions there were stopped by the French fire.

The number of prisoners taken thus far exceeds 9,000. The number of cannon captured has not been ascertained. On the Verdun front heavy fighting is still in progress. West of the Meuse the French repulsed a strong German attack in the region of Avoucourt and Hill 304. East of the river there was a violent bombardment of Thiaumont redoubt and the Chenois sector.

CASUALTIES ARE LIGHT.

Paris, July 5.—The astonishing feature of the Picardy battle so far as the French are concerned is the small loss incurred. Reports thus far show that one army corps which took a prominent part in the West of Flanders battles which took Flaucourt did not lose a single man. All wounded brought to Paris hospitals speak of this extraordinary immunity.

## RUMANIANS TALK OF JOINING ALLIES

London, July 5.—Bucharest dispatches to Amsterdam state that the parties of Take Jonescu, former minister of the interior, and M. Filipescu, former minister of war, and leaders of the conservatives, have joined forces. Both parties are frankly in favor of intervention in the war by Rumania on the side of the entente allies.

## Fourth of July Accidents Less Than for Years

Chicago, July 5.—Revised figures issued by the Chicago Tribune early today showed twelve deaths and 378 persons injured throughout the United States as the toll of Fourth of July celebrations, as compared with nineteen killed and 903 injured in 1915. There were no deaths and only five injured in Chicago. Worcester, Mass., had two deaths and the following cities one each: Athol, Mass.; Glassboro, N. J.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Lee, Mass.; Natcon, Pa.; Portland, Ore.; Scranton, Pa.; Toledo, Ohio; Waverly, Ia.; Wheeling, W. Va.

## TODAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE—Amendment to naval bill proposed by Senator Oliver directing inquiry by federal trade commission into private armor plants to determine a fair price for armor plate. Army appropriation bill, carrying more than \$328,000,000, was reported. Debate resumed on agricultural appropriation bill.

HOUSE—Revenue bill reported.

## SOLDIERS' FUND BEGINS TO GROW

Contributions Beginning to Pick Up After Few Days of Very Slow Progress

COMMITTEE GIVEN GOOD SIZED CHECK

Cash and Pledges From \$1 to \$100; Some Are Given in Monthly Payments

Contributions toward the Soldiers' fund for the aid of those left at home dependent on the wages of the militia and bandmen now in camp, took on a brighter aspect today.

The first thing this morning the committee was presented with \$50 in cash toward the fund and other smaller sums have been added in the past day or two. Much remains to be done yet by the patriotic people of the city if they are to supply the aid that the committee upon investigation says will be needed. Some help has already been given in urgent cases by the committee in charge and the members are desirous that the fund grow sufficiently large to provide for all who will be in need. They say that some money will have to be raised to make up the difference in the wage of the soldier's wife which was earned as civilians and what the government will pay them for army service. Their families know only too well the difference and in some cases it has been felt keenly.

Mayor Carter who is chairman of the committee, and L. A. Andrew, the treasurer, will accept any sums that people care to give toward the movement and any member of the committee will gladly accept sums of money or pledges for same toward providing aid for the soldiers' dependents. The other members of the committee are: Mrs. F. B. Thrall, Mrs. W. T. Wilson, 221 East Pennsylvania avenue, and G. F. Spry.

The amounts already received in money and pledges range from \$1, \$5, \$10, \$15, \$50 to \$100. The smaller amounts are pledged monthly as long as needed or in some case the definite time the pledge is in force is stipulated by the donor.

## PEACE ADVOCATES HOLD CONVENTION

Washington, D. C., July 5.—A conference called by the American union against militarism to find a solution of the difficulties between the United States and Mexico was begun here today. The American delegation is composed of Dr. David Starr Jordan, chancellor of Leland Stanford university; Moorfield Storey, Boston lawyer, and Amos Pinchot of New York. The Mexicans are Dr. Atl, a Mexico City editor; Luis Manuel Rojas of Mexico City, and Modesto C. Rolland of New York.

## MEXICANS RETURN STOLEN BULLION

Washington, D. C., July 5.—Special Agent Rodgers at Mexico City reported today the return by local Mexican authorities at Manzanillo of all the American owned gold and silver bullion, worth about \$500,000, which had been seized. Return of the American property was ordered by the de facto government following a protest from the state department.

## POSSIBLE SPY IS HELD AT BORDER

Albuquerque, N. M., July 5.—On orders from Gen. George Bell, Jr., Albuquerque police have under arrest today J. E. King, charged with representing himself as a federal officer, to obtain information of troop movements.

King is said to have claimed to be a lieutenant in the aviation corps. He was arrested late last night.

## SENATE DEMOCRATS READY TO ADJOURN

Washington, D. C., July 5.—Democrats of the senate will caucus tonight to consider the legislative program for the remainder of the session with a view to bringing about an early adjournment. A fight is expected on the administration shipping bill, to which there still is strong opposition.

## PROHIBITIONISTS TO PRESENT TICKET

Oskaloosa, July 5.—Iowa prohibitionists, in convention here today, decided to place a state ticket in the field this fall. The ticket will be nominated late today.

Only twenty-eight delegates attended today's meeting of the party, the smallest delegation since 1885.

STEAMER GOES DOWN.

Dover, England, July 5.—The American steamship Jacob Luckenbach was sunk today in collision with an unidentified ship off Dover. Her crew of thirty-one was rescued.

## IOWA GUARDSMEN NEARLY EQUIPPED FOR REAL SERVICE

CLOTHING AND SHOES FOR THE MEN REPORTED ON THE WAY TO CAMP DODGE.

Camp Dodge, July 5.—The second shipment of clothing destined for soldiers of the Iowa national guard, it was announced today, has been shipped from the government arsenal at St. Louis and is due here tomorrow or Friday. This, it was believed, would complete the equipment of the Iowa guard and put them in readiness for service anywhere. The St. Louis shipment, it was said, includes clothing and shoes of which there now is a shortage at the camp.

Recruiting of the first cavalry, which is still short of the minimum peace strength due to the refusal of the troop from West Branch to take the federal oath, is proceeding slowly, according to Maj. R. P. Howell, commanding the cavalry. Hope was virtually abandoned today that the troop would return. Commercial organizations of the town, on account of the adverse advertisement given West Branch, are doing everything in their power to persuade the men to come here and take the oath but efforts thus far have been unsuccessful. It was expected an effort would be made within a short time to recruit the required two score men in Des Moines and neighboring cities.

The guardsmen of the camp resumed their routine drills today after the July 4 holiday. A battalion drill, with more intricate formations and longer marches, was on the program for today. The easy routine was abandoned and every effort was made to condition the men for hard service in the shortest possible time.

## MOUNTED GUN COMPANY.

Muscatine, July 5.—This city may be the first in Iowa to supply a second military unit since the mobilization of the state guard.

Capt. W. S. Norton, commanding officer of the reserve company organized here last week, is in receipt of word announcing that a mounted machine gun company is to be formed as an auxiliary of the first Iowa cavalry and Muscatine is afforded the first chance to qualify. Fifty of the lately signed members of the new organization have already signified a willingness to serve in the machine gun platoon and a meeting has been called for this evening to bring the company up to the recruited strength of sixty-five men. The company may entrain for Camp Dodge before the close of the week to be mustered in.

Muscatine has already contributed 175 men in the artillery section.

## MEAT PRICES TO CONTINUE HIGH

FEDERAL REPORTS SHOWS THAT THE PRODUCTION IS NOT UP TO THE DEMAND.

Washington, D. C., July 5.—High meat prices probably will continue indefinitely.

This is the conclusion of the department of agriculture as set forth in an exhaustive report on the situation made public today.

High meat prices prevail throughout the world. One reason is that production has failed to keep pace with increase in population. Other contributing causes given are the increased cost of production and diminished purchasing power of the money unit.

While holding out little or no hope for a lowering of meat prices in the near future, the report says that there probably will be a gradual growth and expansion in the world's production of beef, mutton and pork, which may or may not equal the rate of increase of the meat eating population.

The available supply of meat in this country would be much greater, the report states, were it not for the enormous losses caused by disease and exposure. It points out that the United States still is not only the greatest meat eating nation but the greatest producer.

## SHACKLETON IS SAFE.

Punta Arenas, Chile, July 4.—Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Antarctic explorer, arrived here today.

Punta Arenas, the most southerly town in the world, situated on the Strait of Magellan, is the port where the Uruguayan government has fitted out another relief expedition to rescue the main body of Lieut. Shackleton's Antarctic party left on Elephant island. Shackleton's first attempt to reach Elephant island on a vessel lent by Uruguay failed and on June 25 he returned to Port Stanley, Falkland islands.

SOME WILL STICK.

Washington, D. C., July 5.—Special Agent Rodgers informed the state department today that over 200 Americans remained in Mexico City and all these probably would stay in the city no matter what happened.

## COMMITTEE IS MEETING WITH SOME SUCCESS

Commercial Club Road Body Gets Results From Plan Adopted to Raise Fund

OILED HIGHWAYS ARE IN PROSPECT

Contributions Coming in to Help Defray Expense of Work; Must Act Soon

The replies to the letter sent out over the county a few days ago by the oiled roads committee of the Commercial club are being received in a substantial form rather than numerous. The practical response—donation of persons to whom the letters were sent and the committee is taking heart in the project. It looks now as if the plan to oil probably four roads will be carried out, according to a member of the committee, who stated today that at least as regards persons living along the highway north of the city, practical response is being made to the appeal.

The committee decided that the plan of making a personal canvass and soliciting money for this purpose in the old manner would not be attempted this time. "If the people are interested and want oiled roads they will pay as much attention to a letter as to a personal visit of the committee and if they are not sufficiently interested, there is no use in the committee members wasting their own time trying to interest them." Thus declared members of the committee. They insist that in order to get oiled roads in the county the people must raise the money as the county cannot be expected to do it and is doing its share by supplying the work on the roads in preparation for the oiling and will put the oil on after it is purchased.

It is now probable that the first road to get the oil will be the north road as the people along that route have begun to come in with donations toward the purchase of oil. Those wanting their roads oiled will have to show their interest in the movement by contributing to the fund for the committee insists that only those roads on which the people residing along the plan, will be given the treatment. The local business men are lending their aid to the movement and are contributing to the fund. The money will have to be raised soon if the work is done this year. The oil has to be purchased and the roads prepared for treatment and this will take some time, hence the committee is desirous to get an immediate response to its letter sent out over the county.

## SIMPLE FUNERAL FOR HETTY GREEN

Bellows Falls, Vt., July 5.—The body of Mrs. Hetty Green was buried here today in the family plot adjoining the Episcopal church in a grave beside that of her husband, Edward H. Green. A plain granite shaft inscribed only with the family name marks the spot. The rector, Rev. Alfred C. Wilson, read the service. Two hymns were sung. At the grave there was a brief and simple ceremony.

Floral pieces in great number were received. The body arrived late in the forenoon. The pall bearers, all from the village, were old friends of Mrs. Green.

It was understood that Mrs. Green's will would be read at the Green home later in the day and offered for probate here probably tomorrow.

## NEW YORK INFANTS FLEEING PLAGUE

New York, July 5.—The epidemic of infantile paralysis here has hastened the departure of thousands of families who usually leave town for the summer. Health department officials estimate that fully 50,000 children have been taken out of the city since the epidemic became serious.

Thus far 524 cases have been reported and 126 persons have died. It is most prevalent in the Italian quarter of Brooklyn where the paralysis made its first appearance. The death toll has reached approximately that of the entire epidemic of 1907 when 2,500 cases were reported.

Although the health commission said the outlook was "a little encouraging," he made requisition for fifty additional field nurses and eighty-seven hospital nurses. The order excluding children under 16 years from moving picture shows went into effect today.

## ORPET TRIAL RESUMED.

Waukegan, Ill., July 5.—Judge Donnell, who resides over the trial of Willie H. Orpet, charged with the murder of Marion Lambert, arrived here from his home at Woodstock today to hold a forenoon session of court.