

ESTABLISHED 1854.

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WE'VE GOT TO LICK 'EM

Huerta Refuses to Salute Stars and Stripes. President Wilson Sustained by Senate and House. Four Marines Killed at Vera Cruz Tuesday.

Galveston, Texas, April 21.—United States marines have seized the cable office and customs house in Vera Cruz and four marines were killed and twenty wounded.

More than two hundred Mexicans were killed in the fighting that followed the landing of United States sailors and marines.

Those killed were Coxswain Shoemaker, Corporal Haggerty and Seaman Poinsett, all of the battleship Florida. The name of the fourth man could not be learned.

The wounded included: C. L. Leahy, U. Schwarz, C. D. Cameron, J. F. Piaz, seaman of the Florida; electrician Geisburn of the Florida, and D. D. McMillan, private, second marine regiment from the transport Prairie.

Admiral Fletcher's Report.

Washington, April 21.—Secretary Daniels made public the following dispatch received from Admiral Fletcher at 6 p. m.:

"Tuesday in face of approaching norther, landed marines and sailors from battleships Utah, Florida and transport Prairie and seized customs house. Mexican forces did not oppose landing but opened fire with rifle and artillery after our seizure of customs house. Prairie shelling Mexicans out of their position. Desultory firing from house tops and streets. Hold customs house and section of city in vicinity of wharves and consulate. Casualties four dead and twenty wounded."

American consul Canada reported as follows:

"Marines and blue jackets landed at 11:30 this morning, immediately taking possession of cable office, telegraphic offices and customs house, also railroad terminals and yards with rolling stock. Notwithstanding firing from house tops we are masters of the situation so far without use of heavy guns. Our men are simply defending themselves. Some resistance from naval vessels soon silenced by guns on Prairie. At this time reported four of our men killed and twenty wounded. American newspaper men and several other Americans in consulate. Several Americans including some women who refused to go aboard refugee ship are now marooned in hotels within firing line. Trains from Mexico City did not arrive."

It is to be war. That is the result of the negotiations with Huerta, the Mexican dictator. Following Huerta's refusal to salute the Stars and Stripes, arising over the arrest and imprisonment of the American blue jackets, President Wilson has placed before congress his ultimatum in the trouble with Mexico. The honor of the United States was in question. It was a question of whether we would submit to the indignities heaped on us by Huerta or resort to extreme measures. The patience of President Wilson and the American people had been sorely tried in the past few months, but finally the limit was reached. War is now on with Mexico. President Wilson insists that it is not war with Mexico, as this country desires peace, but affairs have reached the limit and when the American blue jackets were placed under arrest, the president demanded that in addition to the personal apologies of Huerta that the flag of the United States be saluted. This Huerta refused to do, unless a simultaneous salute was given him by the United States. We could not conscientiously do this, and the result, while still not being a formal declaration of war amounts to the same thing.

On Monday President Wilson submitted a special message to congress, which is printed in full elsewhere in this issue. The house promptly sustained him in his request that he be authorized to use the navy and the army to enforce his demand. To the sorrow of the great state of Iowa it is to be recorded that two Iowa congressmen, Wood and Good voted against sustaining the president, but the vote in the house was 337 to 37. The senate took time to consider the question, but on Wednesday morning at 3:21 the senate passed the resolution requested by President Wilson by a vote of 72 to 13.

The United States does not court war. We have submitted to many indignities, but forbearance has at last ceased to be a virtue. The great powers are looking to the United States, and we are going to take action.

On Tuesday the first blood was spilled in the war with Mexico. Admiral Fletcher landed a force at Vera Cruz, seizing the customs house, but it was not without resistance, and the press reports say that four marines were killed and twenty wounded, while 200 Mexicans were killed. Those four American marines were worth more than four hundred yellow skinned Mexicans. If we must have war with Mexico, the only way is to give them a trouncing they will not forget.

It looks to us as if Huerta, realizing that the rebels have him whipped, is courting war with the United States, in order to have an excuse for being deposed by the rebels.

The people of the United States, aside from a few small bore politicians are standing behind President Wilson. From every part of the country offers of volunteers are being telegraphed in. The United States could raise in a few days an

army sufficient to wipe Mexico from the face of the earth. Yet in the face of this trying hour President Wilson stands firm in his avowal that we do not want war, and if permitted this country will be satisfied with seizing the principal ports of Mexico and maintaining a peaceful blockade.

Huerta is a doomed man. When your Uncle Sam starts after him he will find there is something doing. We don't want to annex Mexico, far from it, but this turbulent country may be forced on us, in spite of ourselves.

The war spirit has taken a firm hold on the American people as against Mexico, not as a country, but the despot who is attempting to control the country by military force.

Price Clothing Store Improvements.

Ever since G. B. Price purchased the Arthur Forbes clothing store in this city he has been remodeling the store and getting ready to make it an up-to-date clothing store. The improvements are now completed and Mr. Price has as neat and nobby a clothing store as can be found in southern Iowa. He completely remodelled the interior of the store, installing new fixtures throughout. In place of the old fashioned tables on which the clothing was displayed he now has a fine oak cabinet, which while not occupying much room handles an unusually large line of clothing. The new cabinet is dust proof with glass doors and has a capacity of three hundred suits, and the case is filled with the latest in clothing styles. There is also an enclosed dressing room for trying on suits, and a three sided mirrored alcove, which shows the customer how a suit looks on all sides. There is also an enclosed case for hats. New show cases with plate glass tops throughout have been installed, and the shelving has also been remodelled. It does not look like the same store at all. Mr. Price is a newcomer to Leon, but from the way he has improved the store which he purchased he is going to be one of the foremost businessmen of Leon. He has a large stock of new goods, embracing everything in the line of men's and boys' wear, and anything purchased at the Price store is bound to be right. The Price store is a credit to Leon and is going to be one of the leaders in the clothing trade. Drop in and see what a hustler has done in the way of remodeling a store. You will not recognize the old place of business. The lines of goods carried are in accordance with the fine new fixtures, and you will find anything you want in the way of clothing or furnishing goods at the G. B. Price store at the northwest corner of the square, just across the street from Hansell's.

Will Change Davis City and Lamoni Road.

The board of supervisors and county engineer were down at Davis City Monday, meeting with superintendent Card of the Burlington railroad, and viewing the proposed change of the road between Davis City and Lamoni at what is known as the Griffin crossing, and arrangements were made for changing the road so that two dangerous railroad crossings will be eliminated. There is also another change which will be made on the road between Leon and Garden Grove, eliminating the dangerous overhead crossing and the underground crossing at the Simon Goodman corner east of Crown, it being proposed to change the road so as to run on the east side of the railroad track, which will do away with two railroad crossings. On account of superintendent Card not being able to remain long enough to view this change on this trip, no definite action was taken, but the matter will be taken up later and there is no question but what the change will be made.

Leon Streets Should Be Looked After.

We hear considerable complaint about the country roads not being dragged according to law, but we will have to admit that we hear a great deal more complaint about the streets of Leon over which the farmers have to drive in order to get into Leon. The main traveled streets have been in horrible condition this spring, badly cut up with deep ruts, and in places almost impassible. Something should be done by the city authorities to remedy this and provide some means of working the streets.

Cherrington's New Fountain Here.

The fine new soda fountain recently purchased by C. A. Cherrington for his drug store has arrived and will be erected the coming week. The new mahogany fixtures for the store have also been shipped from the factory and are expected within a few days. The entire interior of the store will be rearranged and the Cherrington store will be one of the finest in southern Iowa. Charley Cherrington is a hustler and he proposes to be right up in the front ranks in the drug business.

Motorcycles.

New and rebuilt, on monthly payment plan. Dealers and riders wanted. Eagle Motor Co., Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Q. WRECKED AT LEROY. Passenger Train Strikes Switch Point and Is Derailed—No One Injured.

The engine on Burlington passenger train No. 2, east bound and due here at 4:08 p. m. had a little mishap at Leroy Wednesday evening. The engine struck a switch point just before pulling into town and was derailed and turned on its side. The baggage car was also partly derailed. William J. Nickett, engineer, and John Cambron, fireman, of Centerville, were on the engine but escaped injury.

The wreck is classed among the lucky ones, as it could easily have been a bad one. The train was going about thirty-five miles an hour, and the engine did not see the disarranged switchpoint until he was almost upon it, and he only had time to turn on the emergency brakes, but it was impossible to stop short of the switch. Fireman Cambron climbed up on the cab and neither had to jump. The water tank was wrenched loose from the engine, and some damage done. The passenger coaches remained on the track and no one was injured. The passengers were shaken up and badly frightened.

A work train, working on the west end of the line, came to the aid of the wrecked train. A track was constructed round the engine and the train pulled out of Leroy at 10:10 that night.

As the result of an investigation conducted by Special Agent Glasgow of the Burlington it is known to a practical certainty how the wreck came about. Rex Boor, little seven year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Boor, has confessed that it was he who left the switch partly turned, so that the flange on the engine wheels struck the point of the switch, ditching the engine, and nearly doing the same thing to the train. The boy declared that he found the switch unlocked and his story is generally accepted. He was playing with the switch and after finding that he could not turn the switch back to its place he hid the padlock, which he later showed to the detective.—Humeston News Era.

Leon Boy Will Tour Europe.

Brown Caster, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Caster, of this city, who is a student at the University of California at Berkeley, California, is going to have a fine vacation trip this summer, having been selected as a member of the University Glee Club which will make a tour of Europe. Brown has been one of the leading members of the Glee Club ever since he went to the University three years ago, and has gained an enviable reputation as a singer, piano player and composer, a number of his compositions having been used by the Glee Club. There were twenty-eight members selected from the Glee Club to make the European tour, and Mr. Caster was one of the first selected from the list.

Mrs. John Woodmansee Has Serious Accident.

Mrs. John Woodmansee met with quite a serious accident Monday evening a little before six o'clock, which will confine her to her bed for many weeks. She had been down town and when in front of O. H. Stoner's grocery, stepped on a small round stone about the size of an egg, which turned under her and she fell to the cement pavement, fracturing her limb just above the knee. Owing to her advanced age, being past 65 years, the fracture is a very serious one and will probably cripple her for life. She was removed to her home and is receiving every attention.

Had to Make Second Trip to Market.

Jas. W. Hurst went to Chicago again Saturday evening to buy more new goods for the big dry goods store of J. W. Hurst & Co. Only a few weeks ago Mr. Hurst was in Chicago and made the heaviest spring purchases in the history of the Hurst store, but they have enjoyed a phenomenal trade this spring, and in order to keep all lines unbroken it was necessary for Mr. Hurst to make a second trip for market for more new goods. He is now busily engaged in scouring the big wholesale houses of Chicago for more bargains and the late additions to the spring styles. When he returns the ladies will again have an opportunity of seeing the latest things for spring and summer wear, and they can depend on it that Mr. Hurst will secure everything right up to the minute for his big store.

Lamoni Turned Down as Convention City.

Independence, Mo., April 15.—By a vote of 191 to 159 the general conference of the Reorganized Latter Day Saints declined to accept the invitation of the church at Lamoni, Iowa, to meet there next year. The conference voted to leave the selection in the hands of the presidency.

New Court Cases.

Gustav Gust vs. O. L. Vantrees and wife. Suit is brought to quiet title to the north half of the southwest quarter and one-third of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 8, and the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 7, township 70, range 25, Decatur county, Iowa. Varga & Son, attorneys for plaintiff.

Brethren Church.

Preaching services at 11 o'clock Sunday morning. Sunday school as usual at 10 o'clock. Prayer meeting at 7:30 Thursday evening.

State Highway Commission Commends Decatur County Plan of Working Roads.

The plan of joint payment of township road superintendents by the township trustees and the board of supervisors, which was adopted by the Decatur county board, is highly commended by the state highway commission, who seem to think it is a splendid idea, and the board should receive credit for the idea. In the April number of the Service Bulletin of the Iowa State Highway Commission they say:

Joint payment of the township trustees and the supervisors is to be tried out in Decatur county.

The superintendent will perform the township duties as provided by law and in connection will look after the repairing of the culverts and bridges, county work, for which he will be paid by the county.

The plan has met with the approval of the Highway Commission. Its adoption in every county is being urged in a letter sent out to the county engineers. With the letter is a copy of the communication which the Decatur county supervisors are sending out to each of their township trustees and clerks:

Our plan is this—to make the township road superintendent paid partly by the township and partly by the county. He will of course have the township duties as defined in section fourteen and also look after the repairing of the culverts and bridges, for which he will be paid by the county. When acting in the latter capacity, he must keep itemized accounts of the labor and material, these to be signed and sent to the county engineer at Leon, who will pay these bills as itemized or otherwise if so instructed.

We feel this is an economical method from the fact that the superintendent can have the culvert repair work in view when doing the township work and vice versa. Also he is near at hand and complaints can be sooner taken care of by him, than by someone in Leon or elsewhere.

Akes & Pullen's Big Opening.

There was a grand opening at Akes & Pullen's new garage last Friday afternoon, which attracted quite a large crowd of people, and is an opening out of the usual line. S. S. Oiler had just the previous day purchased a new Ford auto and had the car out for a trial spin. When he returned to the garage he found the pesky critter was lightning quick on the turn and when he attempted to turn in at the big doors he miscalculated the steering qualities of the car and the result was he crashed into two of the big plate glass windows in the front, demolishing them completely and shattering the marble base. One of the wheels caught against the heavy door which held and only a part of the car got inside of the big show window. Mr. Oiler held onto the lines and shouted "whoa" at the top of his voice, but the Ford had the reins in its teeth and wouldn't stop. The Ford was not damaged much, one of the headlights being caved in and a few scratches where the falling glass struck the car being the only evidence of his wild plunge. The damage to the garage will amount to from \$75 to \$100, and Mr. Oiler is congratulating himself that he was not injured, although he admits that he was just a little bit "fussed up" over the way the new car acted.

Impersonator and Entertainer.

The program presented by Rev. J. G. Duling next Wednesday evening, at the Methodist church is characterized as "interesting, inoffensive, instructive, independent and entertaining," also as being "popular, practical, pleasing, progressive and educational."

A Good Year for Wolves.

The crop of young wolves is unusually good this year, twenty-one cubs being brought in to county auditor McLaughlin during the past ten days, to claim the bounty of \$4 each allowed by the law. Last week H. O. Boor, of Franklin township, brought in six, and Monday Jink Wells, of near Decatur City, came in with seven and the same day Ed Bartlett, of west of Garden Grove, brought in eight.

Death of Mrs. J. F. Smith.

Mrs. J. F. Smith passed away at her home in this city Tuesday evening about 5 o'clock, her death following a lingering illness of over a year, and while her death was expected, the news of her passing came as a shock to the entire community, for she was a universal favorite with everyone. Funeral services will be held this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the M. E. church.

Decatur City to Have New School Building.

At the special election held at Decatur City Monday to vote on the proposition to issue bonds in the sum of \$15,000 for the purpose of erecting a new school building, the proposition carried by a majority of 21 votes. It is expected that the new building will be erected in time for use when school opens in September.

Elected Two More Teachers.

The Leon school board held another meeting Monday evening and succeeded in electing two more teachers for next year, Miss Margaret Hurst in the High School and Miss Nita Cherry as one of the primary teachers. There are several teachers yet to be elected.

TWENTYFIVE YEARS AGO

Items Taken from the Files of the Reporter Published a Quarter of a Century Ago.

There was a very enjoyable Easter party out at George Wadsworth's and the boys speak in highest praise of Old Rusty as an entertainer.

That great and good man, John C. Newton, owner of the Narrow Gauge railroad had issue notice that after May 1st trains will run on his railroad but one way a day. He would have carried out his program long ago but for the fact that he could not make a deal with "Uncle Sam" in relation to the mail service, but boss Clarkson has bridged this little difficulty for him and now he is happy in being able to boycott the people of this county. After the manner of Boss Tweed he is asking, "What are you going to do about it?" The attention of the railroad commission should be at once called to this flagrant outrage, and in that event we believe justice will be done in the matter.

Sheriff Honnold went to Princeton, Mo., and secured a fellow by the name of A. Hartley, charged with burglary committed in Hamilton township, and he is now boarding at the county jail awaiting the action of the next grand jury.

Quite a number of Leon people went to Des Moines to hear Booth and Barrett.

Miss Alma Fullerton, of Princeton, Mo., was a guest at the home of her aunt, Mrs. F. P. Thompson.

Bert Gafford and wife, of Burlington, were visiting with friends in Leon.

Judge A. M. Post and family, of Columbus, Neb., were visiting at the home of his sister in this city, Mrs. H. R. Layton.

Dave Overholzer, the jeweler who has been working for J. R. Bashaw went to Glenwood, Iowa, where he will work for Scott Robinson in his jewelry store.

A special train was run over the Burlington for the accommodation of stock men who wanted to attend Geo. R. Bathe's big stock sale at Tuskego.

Mor Sankey purchased the bakery owned by S. A. Miller and had started a delivery wagon which made daily trips over the city delivering fresh bread.

E. W. Curry was at Memphis, Tenn., visiting his daughter, Miss Grace, who was attending college in that city.

Marion Thompson died on April 19th, and was buried by the G. A. R. Posts of Weldon and Van Wert.

T. E. Horner was creating a sensation with his new fountain drink, "Whipped Cream."

John Arnold was appointed postmaster at Davis City.

Francis Varga and Rev. M. Noerr inside at Des Moines attending Presbyterian, representing the Leon Presbyterian church.

"The Adventures of Kathleen" Tonight.

The second of the series of thrilling wild animal pictures in the intensely interesting serial play "The Adventures of Kathleen" will be shown at the Idle Hour theatre this evening. It is the greatest picture play ever produced, and when the first pictures were shown two weeks ago standing room was at a premium. In the picture tonight there are many thrilling climaxes, the beautiful Kathleen, who is forced to become a queen of a fanatical people against her wish still refuses to order to undergo two terrible ordeals, being lashed as a human bait to a leopard's trap, but through the timely intervention of an American sportsman appears and shoots the leopard. She is then ordered to appear in an amphitheatre into which are released a number of ferocious lions. But again she is saved through the American sportsman and a native whom she had saved from death, who secure a number of land mines which had been smuggled into the country by revolutionists, and they are buried in the arena of the amphitheatre. At the crucial moment just as the lions are about to rush upon Kathleen the mines are exploded and a great chasm opens between the lions and their helpless victim. The natives flee in a panic and the American sportsman leaps into the arena and seizes Kathleen in his arms. The pictures keep the spectators wrought up to a high tension all the time. On account of the great length of the films the first show will commence tonight at 7 o'clock and run continuously until all patrons have seen the complete picture.

A Wedding Shower.

A number of the lady friends of Miss Lucy Truitt tendered her a wedding shower at her home last Wednesday evening, and the bride-to-be was the recipient of many wedding presents of china and linen, as testimonials of the esteem in which she was held by her friends in this city. Miss Truitt departed Monday for Enterprise, Oregon, and on her arrival there will be united in marriage to Mr. Fred Williams. The many friends of the bride in this city extend congratulations and wish her unbounded happiness.

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POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Candidates' announcements will be run in this column until the June primary election at the uniform charge of \$5.

For Representative.

I will be a candidate for re-nomination for a second term as representative from Decatur county in the general assembly, subject to the decision of the democratic voters at the June primary. M. F. Thompson.

For County Treasurer.

I will be a candidate for the democratic nomination for county treasurer at the primary election in June, subject to the decision of the democratic voters of Decatur county. John W. Wasson, of Center Township.

For County Auditor.

I will be a candidate for the republican nomination for treasurer of Decatur county, subject to the will of the republican voters at the June primary. Elba Shewmaker, Grand River, Iowa.

For Clerk of the Courts.

I will be a candidate for re-nomination for the office of clerk of the district court, subject to the decision of the democratic voters at the June primaries. E. E. Beck.

For County Auditor.

I hereby announce by name as a candidate for the office of Auditor of Decatur county, subject to the decision of the democratic voters at the primary election in June. Walter Osborn.

For County Auditor.

I hereby announce my name as a candidate for the office of Auditor of Decatur county, subject to the will of the republican voters at the primary election in June. A. W. Stearns.

For Sheriff.

I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for a second term as sheriff of Decatur county subject to the will of the voters of the republican party at the primary election to be held in June. F. L. Lorey.

To the Republican Voters of Decatur County.

I hereby announce by candidacy for the republican nomination for the office of county attorney of Decatur county, Iowa, subject to the will of the voters at the republican primary, and, if nominated, will be thankful to the voters of the county, regardless of politics, for their support. John S. Parrish.

For County Attorney.

I hereby announce my candidacy for nomination on the republican ticket in the June primary for the office of county attorney. Wm. J. Springer.

For County Attorney.

I hereby announce that I will be a candidate for the office of county attorney, subject to the decision of the republican voters of Decatur county at the June primary. Francis Varga.

W. S. Potorff Receives Government Appointment.

W. S. Potorff, manager of the Leon Telephone Co., took the civil service examination last December, and has just received notice from John A. McIlhenny, president of the United States Civil Service Commission that he has successfully passed the examination for the position of telephone inspector of the Interstate Commerce Commission, securing grade 1, and is eligible for appointment. The duties of his office will be to inspect the lines of common carriers and secure the valuation of their property for the commission. The position carries a salary of \$1,300 a year and expenses. Mr. Potorff expects to be assigned to duty within a short time.

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