

# The Columbus Commercial.

VOL. XXII.—No. 19.

COLUMBUS, MISS., THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 29, 1916.

Semi-Weekly, \$2.00; Weekly, \$1.00 Per Year.

## LOCAL COMPANY NOW AT JACKSON

COLUMBUS RIFLEMEN MOBILIZED AT CAMP SWEP TAYLOR.

## WILL SOON GO TO MEXICAN BORDER

Health of Soldiers Good, and All Are Eagerly Awaiting Orders to Move Forward.

Together with other commands forming component units of the Mississippi National Guard, the Columbus Riflemen and the Caledonia delegation which left with them over the Southern Railway in Mississippi last Saturday night, are now bivouacked at Camp Sweb Taylor in Jackson, and are said to be eagerly awaiting orders to move forward to the Mexican border. Jackson papers state that all of the boys are in good health and are in every way ready to undertake the hard campaign which lies before them.

That local interest in the Mexican fight is very keen is evinced by the fact that twenty-four young men have expressed a desire to join the volunteer company which Capt. T. H. Sharp and Mr. J. G. Weatherly have announced their intentions of organizing here. No attempt to secure recruits has been made, those who have signified their willingness to join the command having done so voluntarily, and Capt. Sharp and Mr. Weatherly believe they will have no trouble in organizing a company of 150 men.

The following have signified their intention of joining the company: Messrs. Leo Flynn, Dr. J. W. Cox, John Oliver, Jr., Frank Betts, S. M. Rainey, J. E. Miller, W. E. Ramsey, Woodruff, P. E. Egan, Hudson Brooks, H. M. Young, Rowan Dashiell, F. E. Armstrong, W. C. Stephenson, L. F. Swoope, Jr., M. C. Jensen, Penn, Miss.; J. H. Harper Steens, Jesse A. Lollar, R. F. D., city; Dud Schoolar, R. F. D., city; Josephus Woods, John Sykes Marshall, Paul Zwingle, Nelson Beard and Robert Lipsey.

Now that the young men of Mississippi are enlisting as soldiers their friends and relatives unfamiliar with military details will read with interest the kind of oath they take when they enlist. Following is the regulation oath of enlistment which all of the boys must sign before they are mustered into service: I do hereby acknowledge to have voluntarily enlisted this... day of... 191... as a soldier in the National Guard of the United States and the State of Mississippi, for the period of three years in service and three years in the reserve, under the conditions prescribed by law, unless sooner discharged by proper authority.

And I do solemnly swear that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the United States of America and to the State of Mississippi, and I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies whomsoever, and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and of the Governor of the State of Mississippi, and of the officers appointed over me according to law and the rules and articles of war.

Credit taken on this enlistment for the period of time from... 191... to date.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed and sworn before me at \_\_\_\_\_ this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 191...

Credit given this enlistment for the period of time from... 191... to date.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Consent of Parent or Guardian. I, \_\_\_\_\_ parent of legal guardian of the above...

do hereby give my consent to his enlistment in the National Guard of the United States and the State of Mississippi.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ NOTE.—This form will be filled out in duplicate, one copy to be retained by the company or organization commander, and one to be forwarded to the adjutant general. Consent of parent or guardian for the enlistment of recruits under the age of twenty-one will, in all cases, be secured in above space.

Mr. Marion J. Wise, of Mobile, assistant to General Manager R. V. Taylor, of the M. and O. R. R., was in Columbus Monday.

## TUPELO LOSES TWO GAMES TO LOCALS

COLUMBUS WON LAST OF SERIES YESTERDAY BY SCORE OF 6 TO 3.

## ABERDEEN WILL PLAY HERE TODAY

Crowds Have Not Been Large, and Better Patronage Is Hoped For.

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.

	P. W. L.	Pct.
COLUMBUS	8 5 3	.625
Aberdeen	8 5 3	.625
West Point	8 5 3	.625
Tupelo	8 1 7	.125

The third game of the series between Columbus and Tupelo was played yesterday afternoon, and was won by the locals by a score of 6 to 3. The feature of the game was the hitting of Lusk, who in the first inning slashed out a three-bagger bringing in two men.

Aberdeen plays here Thursday and Friday, and it is hoped that the attendance will be larger than at the Tupelo series, most of these games having been witnessed by small crowds.

The score on Wednesday's game follows: R. H. E. Columbus 300 020 01—6 7 3 Tupelo 000 000 120—3 10 7 Batteries: Trenchard and Stapleton; Thompson and Parrish. Umpire, Smith; time, 1:35.

Columbus and Tupelo opened a series of three games on the Lake Park diamond Monday afternoon, and the locals won by a score of 7 to 2, the contest having been too one-sided to be interesting.

Cullom pitched for Columbus, while Tupelo worked two twirlers, Shook and Owen. Features of the game were a sensational running catch by Beanland, center fielder for the visitors, and the hitting of Fuech, Stapleton and Land for Columbus, and Anderson for Tupelo.

Score— R. H. E. Columbus 020 200 21—7 11 5 Tupelo 000 011 000—2 9 3 Batteries, Cullom and Stapleton; Shook, Owen and Parrish. Umpire, Smith; time, 1:45.

In the closest and quickest game Continued on page four.

## MOVEMENT FOR LOCAL Y.M.C. A. TO BE LAUNCHED TONIGHT

MEETING WILL BE HELD AT CIVIC CHAMBER AND FOLLOWED UP AT CHURCHES.

Although several vain efforts to organize a Young Men's Christian Association in Columbus have been made during the past few years local enthusiasts on the subject do not seem to be discouraged, and are to undertake another campaign with that in view.

A citizen's meeting at the Chamber of Commerce tonight will inaugurate the impending campaign, and on Sunday the need for an organization of this character will be emphasized by the pastors of all the churches in their sermons, while on Sunday evening the importance of the undertaking will be specially stressed at a union service which is to be held at the First Methodist church.

Those leading the movement are thoroughly impressed with its importance and are determined to do everything in their power to bring it to a successful consummation.

## Barelli Singers Held Over for Balance of Week at Princess. Marguerite Clark Today.

The Barelli Singers, who have been such a success at the Princess during the first part of this week, will be held over for the balance of the week. Their songs will be changed daily. These excellent players are far above what is usually offered at twice the admission charged at the Princess, and they are drawing large crowds each day. If you haven't heard them you are missing a treat.

The photo-play feature for today, Thursday 29th, is the dainty little Marguerite Clark in a delightful romantic drama, "Silks and Satins." The admission is 5c and 15c.

## TIME TO STRIKE.



—Hodge in Spokane Spokesman-Review.

## HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST GATHERED HERE AND THERE

GIST OF NEWS FROM OVER THE COUNTRY GIVEN IN A BRIEF FORM.

Corinth Baracas won the handsome loving cup by an easy majority, in the contest which has been in progress between Columbus, Meridian, Corinth and Jackson.

Pupils in the high schools of Freeport, Ill., are taught how to read gas and electric meters, and to figure out how much the bill will be.

American negro troopers faced almost certain death at Carrizal with smiles on their lips and they burst into songs once or twice as they fought with grim odds against them. This was the story told by Capt. Lewis S. Morey, when he arrived at Field Headquarters. "For forty-five minutes the men fought, joking among themselves all the while even though they realized we had been trapped and little chance of getting out alive," he said.

W. I. Swain, manager of the Swain shows, which has been filling an engagement in Sheffield, Ala., for the past week, is a member of the Mississippi National Guard, and also of the governor's staff, and while in Sheffield telegraphed Gov. Bilbo his readiness to be called into service against Mexico at any minute. On the evening of his final engagement in Sheffield he had as his guests the entire membership of the Sheffield militia.

The oldest living graduate of any college in the country is claimed by Union College, N. Y., in Hon. S. K. Williams, of the class of '37.

Public opinion in Spain is greatly impressed by the Mexican situation, says the Temps' Madrid correspondent. Despite the talk of intervention by King Alfonso in favor of peace between the United States and Mexico, no official move in this respect has been made. The feeling in Spain is that it is of the greatest importance and urgency that peace and order in Mexico be re-established. It is pointed out that there are 300,000 Spaniards in Mexico who would be unable to carry on business and many would be virtually ruined unless this country should intervene.

## SUICIDE NOTE IS FOUND ON BRIDGE BY CITIZEN

EPISTLE IS UNSIGNED AND LOCAL POLICE ATTACH NO IMPORTANCE TO IT.

A suicide note found on the county bridge which spans the Tombigbee river at the foot of Main street created passing excitement here Monday. The note, which was written on a crumpled sheet of paper and wrapped around the stub of a lead pencil, read: "My dear wife and mother: My troubles are more than I can bear. Meet me in the beyond—where?"

A prominent white citizen found the note and turned it over to Chief of Police John Morton. No one has been reported missing at police headquarters, and Chief Morton is inclined to regard the note as a fake.

## HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS DECLARED TO BE VALID

ATTORNEYS FOR PURCHASERS ARE SATISFIED AND ADVISE COMPLETION OF DEAL.

All doubt concerning the legality of the issuance of bonds in the sum of \$50,000 for the erection of a high school building in Columbus which were voted by qualified electors, several months ago has been settled in a letter recently received by Capt. D. P. Davis, municipal secretary and treasurer, from the Interstate Bank and Trust Company of New Orleans, which concern, after having agreed to purchase the bonds, hesitated at concluding negotiations because they feared the law had not been fully complied with.

Fear that the bonds were not legal was occasioned by the fact that they were issued by the Columbus Separate School District, and not by the city of Columbus as a municipality. Messrs. Dillon, Thompson and Clay, attorneys residing in New York, to whom the matter was referred, could not at first understand why the bonds were issued by the school district instead of the municipality, but an examination of local laws thoroughly satisfied them as to their legality and they have advised the Interstate Bank and Trust Company to complete the purchase.

There still remain a few formalities to go through with, but it is believed that negotiations will be completed and the money available for use within a very short time.

## GREAT ALLIED OFFENSIVE BELIEVED TO BE NEAR

GERMAN POSITION IN SOMME VICINITY BEING POUNDED BY BRITISH GUNS.

London, June 28.—Evidence of what it is hoped here is the long expected simultaneous offensive by all of the allies continued today.

At the northern end of the western line, from south of Arras to Flanders, the British and French guns are still pounding the German positions, and are directing an especially violent fire in the vicinity of Somme. At some points the bombardment has been incessant for 72 hours.

In the Verdun section on this, the 127th day of the battle, the French have made a slight advance east of the Meuse in a strong effort against the Thiamont works, and, according to Paris, have repulsed a series of German attacks west of the river.

In the Tyrol, the Austro-Hungarian army, according to late Rome reports, have developed their retreat into a flight, in which the wounded, guns and stores are abandoned. For the first time since hostilities opened, Italy is using cavalry in the pursuit.

On the eastern line the Russian either continue their pursuit of the Austrians in the Carpathians or are fighting pitched battles with the Germans in the northern sections of the long line.

## UNCLE SAM'S SHOPPING BILL FOR MEXICAN WAR IS READY

HOUSE PASSED ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL AFTER MAKING INCREASE.

Washington, June 27.—The House passed the army appropriation bill yesterday by a unanimous vote after its total had been increased to \$150,000,000 through the addition of \$26,000,000 for many separate items. The appropriation bill now goes to the Senate.

Discussion of the amendments reflected the threat of the Mexican situation. Members demanded that there be haste in perfecting the bill and putting it through.

Some of the increases were made on recommendation of the military committee, which, after framing the bill, advised increases when the situation along the border became acute. Others were added by the House itself. The bill Uncle Sam will be called on to foot by means of this measure calling for the increases is as follows:

For field artillery for National Guard, increased from \$3,000,000 to \$8,000,000; artillery ammunition for National Guard, \$3,000,000 to \$8,000,000.

For citizen military training, \$500,000 to \$2,000,000. Horses, \$800,000 to \$3,800,000. Medical hospital supplies, \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000.

Engineering department, \$500,000 to \$2,000,000. Small arms ammunition, reserve, \$2,500,000 to \$4,500,000. Small arms, \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000. Ordnance, \$3,600,000 to \$5,000,000.

Machine guns for the army, \$1,400,000 to \$3,600,000 and a separate appropriation for the National Guard of \$2,000,000, a new provision.

Armored motor cars, \$15,000 to \$300,000. The House decreased some items, particularly appropriations for the National Guard, whose supplies after federalization will obtain through army appropriations.

Representative Parker, of New Jersey, made an unsuccessful fight for \$20,000,000 for small arms.

## HUGHES' CANDIDACY WILL BE CHAMPIONED BY PROGRESSIVES

FOLLOWING ROOSEVELT'S ENDORSEMENT, THIRD PARTY IS KILLED.

Chicago, June 28.—The Progressive national committee Monday night by a vote of 32 to 6, with nine declining to vote, decided to endorse Hughes for president. The nine not voting said the committee was exceeding its power. The earlier committee, by a vote of 31 to 15, decided not to put a third ticket in the field and voted down a motion to substitute Victor Murdock for Roosevelt, who declined the nomination.

Hughes, according to reports in New York, has asked Roosevelt to dine with him, and the latter has accepted the invitation.

## RANGER AND WIFE SLAIN BY BANDITS

RANCH EMPLOYES FIND BODIES OF MR. AND MRS. PARKER.

## AMERICAN TROOPS IN HOT PURSUIT

General Trevino's Army Numbers Nearly 40,000 Men—Will Oppose Americans.

Columbus, N. M., June 28.—American troops were hot on the trail of the 25 Mexican bandits who foully murdered Parker and his young bride near Hachita. Later reports state the bandits were overtaken by a posse in autos, and were received by Parker's relatives at this place.

El Paso, Texas, June 28.—Excitement here over the Mexican controversy was renewed tonight with receipt of the news of a bandit raid across the border near Hachita, N. M. The general sentiment seemed to be that the incident demonstrated anew the inability of the Carranza government to offer any protection to the American frontier, and would serve to bring matters to a head quickly.

Preparations are being rushed in this city to supply the National Guard of the different states which will begin arriving in the next few hours, and it is believed they will reach completion by the time the first trainload of troops roll in.

Mexican reports indicate that General Trevino, commanding the Carranza army corps of the north, has practically completed the disposition of his troops in preparation for possible hostilities with the United States. The command, the strength of which is variously estimated from 25,000 to 40,000 men, has been distributed along the two railroads of Chihuahua, the Mexican Central and the Mexican Northwestern, and in the Santa Maria river valley, in such a way as to menace the American line of communication and present an obstacle to a possible American drive towards Chihuahua City. For more than a week the troops have been concentrated in force at strategic points north of Chihuahua City along the line of the Mexican Central, running di-

Continued on page four.

## ROOSEVELT WILL LEAD 1,200 MEN TO MEXICAN WAR

ELABORATE PLANS FOR MOBILIZATION ALREADY WORKED OUT.

New York, June 28.—Theodore Roosevelt is preparing to offer a division of approximately 12,000 men to the United States government, accompanied by his application for a commission as major general, in the event of war with Mexico and a call by the President for volunteers it has been learned from authoritative sources.

Elaborate plans have been made quietly to recruit the organization from picked men throughout the country and it is said that Colonel Roosevelt has worked out every detail that would expedite the mobilization of the large fighting force. Even the horses and mules necessary are said to have been pledged.

The division will consist, it is reported, of four brigades, instead of three as prescribed in the army regulations. In the division will be cavalry, infantry, field artillery, aeroplane detachments, engineers, signal corps and the most modern field hospital equipment. An ample number of machine guns will accompany the division.

Dividend Notice. The directors of the Merchants & Farmers Bank, of Columbus, Miss., have declared a regular semi-annual 5 per cent dividend, payable to stockholders of record June 30, 1916.

Checks will be mailed July 1, 1916. Parker Reeves, Cashier.

Mr. Paul Smith, of Birmingham, who is a reporter for the Birmingham Ledger, is the guest of his mother, Mrs. Gessner T. Smith.

## PRESIDENT MAY GO BEFORE CONGRESS

CARRANZA MUST RELEASE PRISONERS OR HE WILL USE FORCE.

## FINAL ACTION IS EXPECTED TODAY

State Department Has No Intimation as to When Carranza Will Reply to Note.

Washington, June 28.—Eliaseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, this afternoon received official word from Mexico City that the demand of the United States for the release of the American soldiers taken prisoners at Carrizal would be refused by the Mexican government.

Washington, June 28.—Unless Gen. Carranza surrenders the 23 American troops held at Chihuahua City before Thursday night, President Wilson will probably go before Congress today and ask for authority to rescue them by force. Pending their release the United States government will not consider any offer of mediation or arbitration.

The state department has no intimation as to when a reply to the note sent Sunday morning demanding the immediate release of the soldiers, might be expected. It was delivered Tuesday at 11 a. m. Special Agent Rodgers has been unable to forecast the action of the de facto authorities.

Prompt compliance by Congress with any request the President may make as to Mexico was foreshadowed today by the calm which prevails in both houses. Although measures designed to prepare for war were under consideration and the corridors of the capitol hummed with rumors there was no excitement and discussion of the subject on the floor was avoided. The legislative branch of the government was plainly waiting to do its part when what the majority regarded as inevitable, should come.

Eliaseo Arredondo, Mexican ambassador designate, said he had received no intimation of the course his government intended to pursue, and had not even been advised of the receipt of the American note. On his own responsibility, however, he sent to the State Department two communications. One complains of the enforcement of a general embargo on shipments to Mexico; the other recites that Mexican citizens have been arrested without cause in California and Arizona. They warn Secretary Lansing that the present situation between the two governments can not fail to be gravely aggravated by these matters, although setting forth that the ambassador assumes that local authorities, not the State Department, was responsible for the trouble.

So far as is known the State Department has not been advised of the detention of the Mexicans. It is an open secret, however, that an embargo on commerce between the United States and Mexico is being enforced effectually by custom and army officers, without the authority of a formal proclamation.

Efforts to sound the administration officials anew as to their attitude toward some form of arbitration met with a chilling reception. Charles A. Douglas, recently re-employed as Gen. Carranza's legal adviser here, called on Counselor Folk at the State Department. He and Dr. Victor A. Rendon, head of the Yucatan sial commission, had received word from Luis Cabrera, the Mexican finance commissioner, that Gen. Carranza was disposed to appeal to the arbitration provisions of the treaty of 1848, provided the United States was willing to submit the dispute to peaceful negotiation.

Mr. Douglas is understood to have suggested that the arbitration provided for under Section 21 of the treaty could well be employed to formulate a definite question as between the two governments, which in turn might be settled by mediation. He left the conference with the clear impression that the Washington government would listen to no mediation suggestions.

It has been very plainly indicated that unconditional surrender of the American prisoners held at Chihuahua would be the only immediate step Carranza could take to avoid hostilities. Whether a mediation proposal might be considered after their release is a matter of speculation.