

HUERTA IS READY TO DECLARE WAR ON UNITED STATES

Hands Passports to American Charge O'Shaughnessy and Latter is Preparing to Leave Mexico City, While Mexican Charge Algara is to Leave at Once.

MANY AMERICANS ARE IN DANGER

Mobs in Mexico Cities Start Hostile Demonstration and the Americans in Mexico City Rush to Embassy For Protection.

Washington, D. C., April 23.—Nelson O'Shaughnessy, the American charge at Mexico City, has been handed his passports by General Huerta and is preparing to leave.

Charge Algara of the Mexican embassy, after conferring with Secretary of State Bryan, said he had made formal demands for his passports.

When told that Charge O'Shaughnessy at Mexico City had been given his passports, Charge Algara had no comment to make, but he stated that he might have something to say later on.

Vera Cruz, April 23.—General Gustavo Maas, the former Mexican commander at Vera Cruz, was reported today to be planning to move against the city with strong reinforcements which were brought up from Puebla.

Vera Cruz, April 23.—Six Americans killed and about 30 wounded marked the complete investment of Vera Cruz at noon yesterday by the United States forces.

Rear Admiral Fletcher at 8:30 o'clock in the morning ordered a general movement for the occupation of all the town.

A column of bluejackets advanced and passed the uncompleted marketplace and naval college. When they had reached the walls of the college, a terrible rifle fire was poured in all directions from the roofs and the windows.

The bluejackets were helpless to return the fire against the stone walls, and scattered.

The machine gun and rifle fire was supplemented by shell fire from the smaller guns of the Prairie and Chester.

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TURLEY CASE HELD OPEN

Judge Slack Reserves Decision About Conducting Second Trial.

Attorneys in the case of state vs. John Turley, convicted of killing McAuley at the Barre quarries and then granted a new trial, argued over a proposed new trial in Washington county court yesterday afternoon.

State's Attorney Carver taking the stand that the trial ought to be set ahead while attorneys for the respondent wanted immediate disposal, either by trial or through some other way.

Turley was in court during the discussion, having been brought in through a proposal by his attorney, T. W. Moloney, after the hearing had been started.

In presenting the prosecution's side of the case, State's Attorney Carver outlined the progress of the case through the courts, with the reversal of the verdict in supreme court, and said that Alphonse Primavera, the chief witness in the previous trial in county court, had left the country with his family and was now in Europe, where Sheriff Tracy sought for him unsuccessfully.

The state had found that Primavera went from New York to Italy and that he later went to a small place in France; but since February 26, 1914, his whereabouts had not been determined.

State's Attorney Carver said he was ready to begin the trial when Primavera was secured, and he thought the witness would be secured.

In opposing indefinite continuance of the case, Attorney Hoar said if the prosecution could give any assurance that Primavera would really be back he would be more favorable toward continuance, but he said he was satisfied the state never could get the man here.

Attorney Hoar said Primavera couldn't be forced to come from Italy. He also doubted if they could use his testimony of the other trial.

Attorney Hoar said it was as the defense argued, the case, Turley had a "little chewing-match" with McAuley but Primavera was the one who testified to any real row.

After the trial continued the attorney, Primavera picked up and got out, and his whereabouts is unknown, although some say he is in the Argentine Republic.

Attorney Moloney followed along similar lines in his statement to the court and he added that he didn't believe Turley should be confined any longer but should be released on his own recognizance.

After having heard these statements, Judge Slack announced that the court would be in session ten days longer and as something yet might develop in the case his decision would be reserved.

The case of James Harry of Northfield, aged 16, charged with a statutory offense, was set for Monday afternoon, the respondent having pleaded not guilty.

A divorce has been granted Sarah Clement from Harry C. Clement on the ground of refusal to support. The case of Cynthia J. Spencer vs. Ira D. Spencer has been discontinued, as it was represented that the parties were likely to settle their own differences.

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ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATION

Being Planned by Mobs in Mexico City.

New York, April 23.—A private dispatch received here this morning from Mexico City, dated last night, said that mobs were forming for an anti-American demonstration.

The executive is holding daily conferences with Adjutant General Hamilton, the administrative head of the National Guard of the state, in anticipation of the federal government calling upon New York for 25,000 volunteers, and said that the state is prepared to respond to such a call upon short notice.

The offer, contained in a telegram signed by Charles J. Crowley of New York, "colonel commanding," said: "I have the honor to offer the services of the regiment of Irish volunteers, a fully organized and well trained regiment, war strength, for service in Mexico in case of need."

The governor said he would await further developments before considering the offer further.

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LARGEST GAIN IN OVER DECADE

Made by Montpelier District of Vermont Methodist Conference

SUPT. LOWE OPPOSES CHURCH FEDERATION

Plan Does Not Work Out Well Among Different Denominations

Hardwick, April 23.—The Vermont Methodist conference was opened this morning with devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. T. Baxendale of Montpelier, after which a vocal duet was given by Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Smithers, who recently were married at Randolph.

The song was so well received that Bishop Leete announced that Mr. and Mrs. Smithers would sing at each morning session for the remainder of the conference.

Bishop Leete then gave an address to the conference on "Spiritual Gravitation." At the business session, which followed, Rev. E. C. E. Dorion, representing Zion's Herald, presented the conference a check for \$88 in behalf of the Wesleyan association.

Supt. Lowe Against Church Federation. Superintendent R. F. Lowe, in presenting his annual report for the St. Johnsbury district, opposed inter-denominational church federation, saying: "The time has about come for a frank discussion of this much advertised term. There was a time when I was rather favorably disposed toward federation, and experienced organization with a history of experience and observation, I must conclude that, for the most part, federation is a failure. Theoretically, it looks plausible for two or three denominations to sink their differences and unite under one pastor. Practically, it does not work. Perhaps it would if all the people were intelligent and broad-minded and intelligent."

"The trouble seems to me that the amalgamation is mechanical rather than vital. The people are forced together on account of circumstances rather than drawn together through an inner compulsion. The centrifugal is not stronger than the centrifugal force. So long as members of the different denominations that worship together really believe that their own form is far preferable and would be delighted to have the federation overturned not much can be expected."

"The original and well meant enthusiasm cannot stand out a long time in our chilly New England conservatism. There is required the well seasoned and experienced organization with a history, a creed—yes, I repeat it—a creed, a policy, and often invested funds to back up a church in this part of the country. It is easy and it sounds liberal to rail against denominations, but when the shouting and the tumult dies the familiar denominational society will still be doing her steady, every-day work."

On the other hand it must be kept in mind that there is a demand for consolidation, that old-time war cries, such as Calvinism and Arminianism, are now meaningless, that the demand for an applied Christianity is every day growing more insistent and that the time is rapidly approaching when two of our struggling denominations in the same village will not continue to receive missionary aid from their respective home boards. Under these stressful conditions is there any via media? The most practicable plan is an exchange method. * * * * * It would seem as though we might go so far as to state that we as Methodists stand ready to meet with any denomination in any village and take just as much as seems wise and practicable in any given instance. * * * * *

At the outset of his report, Superintendent Lowe said: Dear Comrades: The work of the St. Johnsbury district was somewhat handicapped at the start because of changes and uncertainties in the personnel of the ministry. Two of the appointed preachers failed to appear in the body and some time was consumed in finding their successors.

On Sunday morning, July 6, Rev. W. E. Allen passed away at Brightlock hospital, St. Johnsbury. Thus died in the faith one of the best members of the Vermont conference. * * * * *

On July 25 the home of Rev. J. Q. Angell of West Burke was broken by death. Although Mrs. Angell had not been well for some time the end came suddenly. * * * * *

The already announced fact that Rev. Peter Black has been transferred to the New England conference and stationed at Lyan, will bring regret to a large number of ministers and laymen. * * * * *

Changes and Material Improvements. A few weeks ago the parsonage, stable and practically all of the furniture at Bloomfield were destroyed by fire. The plucky little society has taken steps to rebuild. Cabot has made interior improvements in its parsonage at a cost of over \$200. Concord has altered and completed the prayer room and dining room in the church at an expense of over \$300. The church edifice at West Danville has been thoroughly renovated. Hamilton has transferred to the central New York conference, elected to full membership, ordained elder, transferred back to the Vermont conference and appointed to Brattleboro.

Special evangelistic services have been held. * * * * * All report having received probationers ranging in numbers at each church from one to 30. Randolph taking the lead. Twenty-two churches report an increase in membership, 10 report a decrease, and nine report no change. There have been received this year 209 probationers and 281 members in full connection, a net gain of 173.

The aggregate for improvements in church and parsonage property has, this year, amounted to about \$5,000. * * * * *

The federated church at Fairlee has which \$6,000 has already been subscribed. Newport Center has been the recipient of a new pulpit set and chairs and the parsonage has been lighted with electricity. Plainfield, after raising \$2,000 last year, has raised \$500 more this year. At South Albany when our church was burned last spring the abandoned Wesleyan church edifice was bought, so that now all who go anywhere to worship gather under the same roof. Waits River has repainted the church and re-covered the parsonage at a total cost of \$165. At Walden a pulpit set has been secured and at South Walden a new carpet adorns the church. At West Burke an ancient spiral stairway leading into the audience room has been changed over, a new roof put on and memorial windows purchased. St. Johnsbury has placed a ventilator in the church and a furnace in the parsonage. Traburg has entirely remodelled its parsonage, doing a thorough going piece of work. It has also built a new stable. The cost is \$2,000, of which three-fourths has been provided for. Lunenburg has spent \$225 in placing a hardwood floor in the church and another in the parsonage. Lyndonville has completed paying for its new parsonage with the exception of only about \$250 and is making plans to repair the church and the parsonage. Lyndonville has completed paying for its new parsonage with the exception of only about \$250 and is making plans to repair the church and the parsonage.

The little, deaconing church at Jay has been sold and I shall ask authorization to sell our church building at Westfield. * * * * *

Spiritual Work. I confess that I approach this subject with some trepidation, not because nothing has been done but because it is far more difficult to count "twice born" men than to enumerate material gains, and when we think we are through we are probably far out of the way. In spite of the ministerial changes, a considerable work has been accomplished. Despite its flavor of antiquity, positive good was done at Lyndonville camp-meeting last season. One fine young man who had been converted there two years before, decided on the ground to enter the ministry. He was since then granted a local preacher's license and is now engaged to supply a church in another state where he is attending college. * * * * *

Although we have seen no revival of large dimensions, there have been a number of ascertained conversions. Much valuable work has been done through some modern organizations as an organized Sunday school class or boy scouts patrol. * * * * *

Church Federation. In closing his report, Superintendent Lowe said: "Let the policy of last year be repeated and re-emphasized. In spite of a greater interest in and co-operation with Montpelier seminary, our only conference institution. * * * * *

2.—Sustentation is also vital to our Vermont conference. The sustentation society was organized here at Hardwick five years ago this spring and what it has already accomplished fully justifies its existence. * * * * *

3.—We must not diminish but vigorously strengthen our evangelistic efforts. * * * * *

There are large areas of our state that we must evangelize or they will continue to retrograde. If we do not attempt this, false cults, as the Mormons, will carry on a spurious work of pessimism to come between our souls and the shining peaks of God. * * * * *

With gratitude to God for His goodness and to my brothers in the ministry and laity for their uniform courtesy, hospitality and kindness, I leave this report in the hands of the conference. * * * * *

Superintendent Sharp's Report. Superintendent E. W. Sharp of the Montpelier district said in part: In presenting this, my first report, of the district to the 70th annual session of the Vermont conference I feel more keenly than I can tell the force of the words of the King of Israel, who said: "Let not him that girdeth on his harness boast himself as he that putteth it off." I have traced the footprints of my predecessor in the sands of summer and through the snows of winter. * * * * *

Montpelier district is 149 miles long, extending from Worcester on the north to the Massachusetts line on the south; and from the Connecticut river on the east to the center of the Green mountain division on the west. It has an area of more than 3,000 square miles with 349 miles of railroads and 158 miles of stage route over which the superintendent must travel many times during the year to meet his regular and irregular engagements. The district has 61 preaching places and 48 quarterly conferences, 15 effective elders, one retired, one supernumerary and 21 local preachers, are the men who have served the churches on the district this year, among whom are some of the best men that God ever called to His ministry. * * * * *

On account of the serious illness of his wife, Rev. George Smith was unable to take his appointment at Pittsfield and by the request of his people he was permitted to remain at Worcester until September, when he was obliged to give up the work and his place has since been filled by Rev. Clifford Dodge, a student at Montpelier seminary. * * * * *

Rev. Robert Haselton, who had just arrived from England, was permanently appointed to Pittsfield and Stockbridge last September. * * * * * Rev. Thomas Owens, pastor of the church in Brattleboro, was called from the seat of conference last year on account of his wife's illness and was unable to be present to be received into full connection and ordained elder. By the request of Bishop Hamilton he was transferred to the central New York conference, elected to full membership, ordained elder, transferred back to the Vermont conference and appointed to Brattleboro.

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