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ALL AMERICANS IN MEXICO IN GRAVE DANGER

Reports of Murders And Arrests Cause Apprehension-- Three South American Republics Offer Plan Of Mediation -- Huerta Is Truculent.

Offer Of Mediation Comes From South American Republics

President Wilson Accepts the Offer of Mediation But Makes it Clearly Understood That Any Indignities to American People Will be Revenged.

Stresses Fact That Huerta Must Go--No Check on Present Naval Movement Contemplated -- Ambassadors Agree That Offer of Mediation May be Too Late.

BY JOHN EDWIN NEVIN,

(United Press Staff Correspondent.) Washington, April 25.—From out of the maelstrom of anarchy, bloodshed and rapine in Mexico tonight these facts stood out in sharp relief:

Attempt at Mediation. That the United States will accept the good offices of Argentine, Chile and Brazil in an attempt at mediation—but only on positive assurances that Huerta will go and order and peace be restored in all Mexico.

What We Demand. That there has been no cessation in our military and naval preparedness and that this country is prepared to exact a bloody revenge for any massacre of Americans in Mexico.

Offer From the "A. B. C." President Wilson, tonight, through Secretary of State Bryan accepted an offer of mediation from the "A. B. C." Confederation of South America, Argentine, Brazil and Chile. The offer came unsolicited. It was unqualifiedly accepted so far as the spirit went. But in his acceptance the president emphasized that if word comes that Americans have fallen victims to Mexican lust and hate those responsible must face the consequence. And the three ambassadors who accepted the offer of this government told Secretary Bryan they realized that conditions in Mexico were such that their efforts may already have come too late.

The offer and acceptance were couched in the formal phrases known to diplomacy. The offer was appreciated by this government. President Wilson took occasion in his reply again to tell the civilized world that we have no designs on Mexico and are willing to meet with her in the frankest and most conciliatory spirit. However, in his conference with the diplomatic representatives of the three Latin-American nations, Secretary Bryan very frankly told them that President Wilson stood squarely today on the doctrine enunciated when he took office that "Huerta must go."

The correspondence showing the offer as made by the three ambassadors and the acceptance of the United States was as follows:

The Correspondence. Legation of the Argentine Republic, Washington, April 25.—Mr. Secretary of State: "With the purpose of subserving the interests of peace and civilization in our continent and with the earnest desire to prevent any further bloodshed to the prejudice of the cordiality and union which have always surrounded the relations of the governments and people of America we, the plenipotentiaries of Brazil, Argentine and Chile, duly authorized thereto, have the honor to tender to Your Excellency's government our good offices for the peaceful and friendly settlement of the conflict between the United States and Mexico.

This offer puts in due form the suggestions which we had the occasion to offer heretofore on the subject to the secretary, to whom we renew the

assurances of our highest and most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) "D. DA DAMA, R. S. NAON, EDO SUAREZ *UJICA."

To this message President Wilson through Secretary of State Bryan sent the following reply:

"The government of the United States is deeply sensible of the trendiness, the good feeling and the generous concern for the peace and welfare of America manifested in the joint note, just received from Your Excellencies tendering the good offices of your government to effect, if possible, a settlement of the present difficulties between the government of the United States and those who now claim to represent our sister republic of Mexico. Conscious of the purpose with which the proffer is made, the government does not feel at liberty to decline it. Its own chief interest is in the peace of America, the cordial intercourse of her republics and her people, and the happiness and prosperity which can spring only out of frank, mutual understanding and the friendship which is created by a common purpose. The generous offer of your governments is therefore accepted. This government hopes most earnestly that you may find those who speak for the several elements of the Mexican people willing and ready to discuss terms of satisfactory and therefore permanent settlement. If you should find them willing this government will be glad to take up with you for discussion in the frankest and most conciliatory spirit any proposals that may be authoritatively forthcoming and hope they may prove feasible and prophetic of a new day of order and operation and confidence in America.

"This government feels bound in candor to say that its diplomatic relations with Mexico being for the present severed, it is not possible for it to make sure of an uninterrupted opportunity to carry out the plan of intermediation which you propose. It is, of course, possible that some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might oblige the United States to act to the upsetting of hopes of immediate peace but this does not justify us in hesitating to accept your generous suggestion. We shall hope for the best result within a time brief enough to relieve our anxiety lest ill-considered hostile demonstrations should interrupt negotiations and disappoint our hopes of peace.

The complex character of the language of the offer and acceptance puzzled the members of the senate and house foreign relations committees who were consulted by the president before it was made public. The president explained that no definite offer had been made. He told the senators and representatives that the three countries named, through ambassadors at Mexico City, would ask Huerta whether he too, will accept. The president would not venture a guess as to what Huerta's reply will be. After leaving the executive offices Senator Stone of Missouri, chairman of the senate committee, said:

"I hope that this may be a move of far reaching importance. But anyhow it has enabled us to tell the people of the world, especially the Latin-American nations that the United States has nothing but the purest motive in what it has done and that there is no plan of territorial aggrandizement hidden in our massing of the army, and navy of the United States. But it is just as well to let it be known here and now that this country has not the slightest intention of relaxing its grip on the situation. Our warships are in Mexican waters. Our troops are on her borders and en route to her shores. They are going to enforce our demand that this government be respected and to uphold our national honor. And if Americans are killed they go to avenge them. Whether Huerta will accept, I don't know. Of course he must go. And his successor must represent the people of Mexico. But it was a splendid tribute to this country to receive this offer of mediation and we do ourselves and these nations honor in accepting it."

Representative Flood of Virginia, chairman of the house committee on foreign affairs echoed Senator Stone's sentiments.

Sunday is a holiday throughout Mexico and especially in the capital. Am- Continued on Page Twelve.

BADGER PUSHING HIS LINES OUT

Washington, April 25.—Admiral Badger tonight reported to the navy department that he was extending lines of bluejackets and marines two miles farther into the country from Vera Cruz and that a battalion from the South Carolina is well entrenched about a mile and a half from the city's center. No Mexican forces have been encountered and no attack is expected at present. Marines were landed from the Mississippi today.

GENERAL YOUNG IS PREPARED TO MOBILIZE N. C. STATE GUARD

Special to The News. Raleigh, April 25.—Adjutant General Lawrence W. Young, of the North Carolina National Guard, is preparing orders in detail today for mobilizing that organization immediately on receipt of orders from Washington in preparation for Mexican service. The fact is that this preparation in advance for mobilization is ordered by the war department. Detailed instructions are being issued to Adjutant Generals in all the states. General Young is confident now that there will be no re-enlistment of the guard for Mexican service.

AREOPLANE TO BE USED IN WAR

Washington, April 25.—Aeroplane tonight loomed large as a prospect for serious use in the Mexican war. A. B. Lambert was speeding his way westward to Chicago, there to confer with aviation experts of his reserve air corps. This action followed a conference today with Captain Bristol. Lambert planned to round up his men and machines with a view to putting them into active service when things warm up to the southward.

NO CHANGE IN NAVAL PROGRAM

Washington, April 25.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels announced tonight that the question of mediating this government's differences with the Huerta government will make no change in the movements of the navy in Mexican waters, at least for the present.

EMPEROR IS IMPROVED.

Vienna, April 25.—Emperor Francis Joseph was somewhat improved today. He is still bothered by coughing, but the attacks are less severe than during the past two days.

STANDING AT BAY IN THE EMBASSY.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—"There is a mob around the embassy but they have got to kill me before they get in."

These words spoken over the telephone by Louis Dantin, legal adviser of the American embassy at Mexico City comprises the latest news received here. Dantin was speaking to W. K. Burns, who called him on the phone from the railroad station to tell him the last refugee train was about to leave and implore him to go.

"They are threatening to burn the building," said Dantin, over the phone to Burns, "but we have eight rifles and two machine guns which we hid from Huerta's agents and we will fight to the last. I am going to stay right here."

Charge O'Shaughnessy left Dantin in charge of the building and the archives of the embassy.

HUERTA, DOOMED, SELECTS AGENT OF DOWNFALL

Well Informed Persons Believe That Mexican Dictator is Deliberately Seeking Intervention at Hands of Uncle Sam as Choice of Evils.

Hard Pressed by Villa on North and Zapata on South His Only Chance of Surviving Lies in Capture by Americans.

(BY WILLIAM G. SHEPPARD.)

Vera Cruz, April 25.—Dictator Huerta is willing to be whipped by the United States. He has chosen that course rather than fall before his own countrymen. He wants to go down in a sea of blood as the defender of Mexico.

After nearly a year spent in the Mexican capital I can state that this is the opinion of all who have seen Huerta almost daily, have observed his habits, know his temperament and his feelings toward the American government. He would stop at nothing to save his own life, or at least cause the Mexican people to believe that his shell of a government is real.

Drunk, Huerta, has ordered the execution of friends who for a moment had opposed him. Sober, he has repented.

Eight hundred Americans are now in Mexico City at the mercy of this stolid, cruel Indian who has built up a semblance of government through treachery, cunning and bloodshed. The sacrifice of eight hundred lives to appease his wild rage would mean no more to him than one. Spartan-like, himself, in the face of certain destruction, he is prepared to take the possibility that the Mexican troops may now beat the hordes of Villa from the north and the bands of Zapata from the south into Mexico City, means that Huerta and the men who have stood by him in his astonishing career will be saved from unspearable deaths.

Before the Tampico incident, Huerta was defeated and overwhelmed by his own people, the revolutionists. The fall of the capital was not far distant. With his army at outside points deserting him he read the story of his finish as soon as the real extent of his military weakness became generally known. Huerta knew that within a short time it would be useless for him to expect support from his army in the capital. He might have found a small body of men willing to stand by him to the death, but his end would have been innumerable under such circumstances.

It was merely a choice with the dictator whether he would be crushed by the constitutionalists or by an outside power of far superior strength. He chose the latter. His obstinacy in regard to the Tampico incident was brought on by his desire to have Americans take a hand in the crisis. The same iron power which kept news of the fall of Torreón from the people has also stifled word of desertions in the south and the general weakness.

The tide which Huerta coolly calculates would carry him out as a martyr, has set in. He has inflamed the populace against Americans. They have trampled the American flag in the dust and torn the American coat of arms from the door of the United States consulate. They have acclaimed the dictator. His hand is poised now. No earthly power may know whether he will strike a final blow before he falls.

Federal authorities are investigating case and arrests may be made on charges of white capping. Moore is unable to say who the men are, a sack having been thrown over his head at the time of the assault.

EX-GOVERNOR HADLEY VISITS ASHEVILLE.

Asheville, April 25.—Former Governor Herbert S. Hadley of Missouri arrived in Asheville this week and is a guest at the Manor, where he will be for several days. This is Governor Hadley's second visit to Asheville this year and he expressed himself as being well pleased with Western North Carolina and says that the trips he makes to this section always make him feel like a new man.

Ammons to Appeal for Federal Troops. Denver, Colo., April 25.—Yielding to the importunities of 800 militant Colorado women, Governor Ammons announced tonight that he was preparing a telegram to President Wilson requesting that the chief executive send federal troops into the Colorado coal strike zone to take complete charge of the situation.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, April 25.—North Carolina: Generally fair in eastern portion; local showers in the western portion Sunday. Monday fair. South Carolina and Georgia: Fair Sunday and probably Monday. Virginia: Showers Sunday. Monday fair and warmer.

REFUGEES FLOCK TO EL PASO

El Paso, Texas, April 25.—By tomorrow night or Monday morning approximately 6,500 United States troops composing the two arms of the army will be camped in El Paso ready to invade Mexico if President Wilson gives the word.

Nearly two hundred Americans and other foreigners flocked to the border from all parts of northern Mexico today, in response to Bryan's warnings. They came by train and automobile. Most of them are employees of the large mining companies in the Parral district. Thirty comprised the entire forces of the Teopolitos mine, a German property in Santa Barbara.

Automobiles brought eighteen residents of Chihuahua among whom were J. R. Enlow, superintendent of the Guggenheim smelter at Chihuahua; J. E. Lockhart, a smelter official, Donair Gillies, a wealthy mine owner and a number of mining company officials. There are still many Americans in the district controlled by the constitutionalists, but almost to a man they are preparing to leave. On instructions from their own governments nearly all foreigners are preparing to go to the border.

MORE AGGRESSIVE ACTION WANTED.

Washington, April 25.—An undercurrent desire in congress for more aggressive action in Mexico became apparent today, several members of the house and chairmen of important house committees agreeing that the plan to "sit tight" at Vera Cruz awaiting legislative developments, might result in embarrassing international complications.

Some members argued that this government eventually would be forced into war against Huerta and that more troops should be sent at once to the Mexican border and also to Vera Cruz. That congress would take some action as soon as the troops arrive at Vera Cruz to reinforce the naval forces there was predicted by several who declared that they were refraining from a public expression of view until the regular troops of the United States could reach Vera Cruz Monday.

Some members have urged upon cabinet officers that a declaration of war could not be long averted, asserting that congressional action soon would be taken. Representative Hay, chairman of the military affairs committee, conferred today with Secretary of War Garrison with reference to the situation.

DENIES THAT HUSBAND MISTREATED HER.

Meridian, Miss., April 25.—Mrs. L. M. Moore, wife of L. M. Moore, proprietor of the Southern Hotel, at York, Ala., whom a party of unknown men whipped and ordered away from York last Monday night, issued a salty statement here Saturday afternoon declaring that the charge that her husband beat her or mistreated her was untrue. Mrs. Moore said that when she went to York, Wednesday to settle up her husband's business, she found everything they owned attached and that she was treated very discourteously by officials.

More after he was assaulted and beaten by the men walked to Russell, Mississippi, a short distance from York, telephoned his wife, who joined him and both came to Meridian. Moore is still in bad condition.

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Reign of Mob Violence In Mexico City Is Reported

ELECTIONS IN FRANCE TODAY

Paris, April 25.—The general elections which occur every four years for the purpose of renewing the chamber of deputies will be held throughout France tomorrow, when it is admitted, the shooting of Gaston Calmette, editor of Le Figaro, by Mme. Joseph Caillaux, wife of the former minister of finance, will have great effect.

Feeling is high against the radical socialist party, which the imprisoned woman's husband led. Certain papers have gone to the extreme to intimating that Caillaux was the real instigator of the murder of Calmette. Political capital has been made of the shooting, which resulted from the attacks made upon Caillaux.

CHOICE OF SPAIN CAUSES SUPRISE.

Washington, April 25.—Announcement today by the Spanish ambassador, Mr. Riano, that Mexico had turned its affairs in the United States over to his government came as a surprise to officials here, the general expectation having been that France would be asked to act on Mexico's behalf. Following reports from Madrid yesterday the King Alfonso was willing to act as mediator in the differences between this government and Mexico, the selection of Spain to look after the affairs of Mexico was regarded with significance. Although there have been several informal suggestions of diplomatic intervention from various quarters, it is declared at the state department that no formal offers had been made, nor were any expected.

FEAR FOR SAFETY OF VERA CRUZ BRIDGES.

Washington, April 25.—Officers of both the war and navy departments were concerned today over the report from Vera Cruz that a small Mexican force was prepared to blow up the railroad bridges between Vera Cruz and Mexico City. Several of these could not be replaced. The plans of the navy and war departments for possible operations out of Vera Cruz hinge on the possession of the railroad.

The navy department believes that an expedition out of Vera Cruz along the railroad could insure the safety of the bridges, but it is pointed out that this would be an act of war. This probably would be the first move in case of war actually is declared. Meantime the naval forces in Vera Cruz must confine their operations to that city and its immediate environs.

MEXICANS MAY COME AND GO AT WILL IN VERA CRUZ

Washington, April 25.—Secretary Daniels has instructed Admiral Badger at Vera Cruz to issue a proclamation informing all Mexicans in that vicinity that they are free to come and go as they please. This, it was hoped, would induce General Huerta to permit Americans to leave Mexico City where they have been detained in consequence of the report that the Mexicans were not permitted to leave Vera Cruz.

DYNAMITERS LOOT BANK; ESCAPE WITH \$1,500.

Little Rock, Ark., April 25.—Burglars early today dynamited the bank at Casa, Ark., and escaped with \$1,500. The vault and fixtures were demolished.

Washington Officials Are Fearful Over Safety of Americans in Capital and Other Parts of Mexico--Reports of Wholesale Massacre Come in.

Refugees Flocking Out in Large Numbers—Violent Anti-American Demonstrations Are Reported—Many Arrests of Americans—Full Story of Saturday's Developments in War Drama.

DAY'S DEVELOPMENT IN WAR.

United States accepts mediation by Brazil, Argentine and Chile; but aggression on Mexico's part will end negotiations stated President Wilson.

Huerta must go. President signed voluteer militia bill, making entire national guard available for immediate service in Mexico.

More than 3,000 refugees en route to Galveston; 1,300 more to be taken from Mexico next week.

Detention of Americans in Mexico City, wholesale arrests and reports of massacres of Americans terrorizes official Washington.

Women and children refugees ejected from trains for Vera Cruz left to their fate.

Direct communication with Mexico City cut off; rumors of reign of terror in capital; four Americans killed is unconfirmed report.

Arizona appeals for border protection. Four new marine recruiting stations to be opened.

More orders issued to army and navy officers for Mexican duty as troop laden transports approach Vera Cruz.

Vera Cruz resuming normal conditions under American land forces; fighting over.

Washington, April 25.—Wholesale massacre of Americans and other foreigners fleeing to Vera Cruz were reported today which struck terror to all official Washington.

Detention of all Americans in Mexico City by Huerta's orders was officially reported. Some were taken from trains leaving Mexico City. Four Americans were reported killed by mobs in the capital, but this report was not officially confirmed.

Reign of Mob Violence. A reign of mob violence in Mexico City, threatening 800 Americans there was officially confirmed. Nineteen Americans and one Englishman were reported to have been taken from a train near Orizaba, by federal soldiers. Consul Canada cabled that it was reported the party "may be executed." No confirmation was received during the day.

Ejection from a train of 125 refugees men, women and children at Yripata, leaving them stranded, destitute and liable to personal violence was also reported. They have not been heard from since Tuesday or Wednesday, when the incident was said to have occurred.

All wires to Mexico City were said by Secretary of State Bryan to be down. Efforts to communicate by wireless with the German embassy there were made.

Violent anti-American demonstrations from practically all Mexico were reported in official dispatches. A dozen ships were engaged in taking refugees from both coasts. Complete severance of communications was reported. (Continued on Page Twelve.)