

NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE ARE PROCEEDING

Now That Huerta Has Accepted Offer of Mediation "A.B.C." Diplomats Take up Their Task--Gen. Funston's Troops Reach Vera Cruz--The Outlook Brighter.

Federal Troops Are Ordered To The Colorado Strike Zone

After Fighting All Night, Battle Is Renewed With Vigor--Many Already Killed in Fierce Conflict in Colorado Strike Zone.

Rockefeller Refuses to Take Any Hand in Peaceful Settlement--Matter Discussed at Cabinet Meeting--Federal Troops Will Be Ordered to the Scene.

By Associated Press. Denver, Colo., April 28.—The issuance of a proclamation by Governor Ammons to "all law abiding and peace loving citizens" of Colorado, "to give their moral and active support to the effort to restore peace in the strike district" called attention today to conditions which were described as a "state of insurrection."

The proclamation said the state authorities had but one desire, "to restore and maintain order," and declared that until this was accomplished "there can be no machinery to secure justice in the courts."

The proclamation declared there "need be no further bloodshed if the strikers will quit and return to their homes. If they refuse, every available power will be brought to bear to compel them to do so."

The proclamation concludes: "Peace officers throughout the state are urged to arrest and hold for conspiracy every man caught collecting arms or ammunition to ship to any part of the state, calling for volunteers or organizing companies of men to be used against the constituted authorities of the state."

Desperate Struggle Feared. Trinidad, Colo., April 28.—A force of 650 militiamen, split into four divisions, today was facing a body of strikers estimated at more than 2,000. The strikers' army was concentrated in Last Animas and Huerfano counties, the southern field in Fremont county, where on Sunday the Chandler mine was captured, and in Boulder county, the Liggett gold north of Denver.

Troops to Be Ordered Out. At 2:30 o'clock Secretary Garrison left the white house to go to the war department, where he will prepare the order for troops to the Colorado strike region. A proclamation from the president was being prepared for announcement later.

Walsenburg, Col., April 28.—At 7 o'clock this morning Sheriff Farr reported that the fighting at the Walsenburg mine, near here, had assumed renewed vigor. The 50 members of the state militia who arrived last night are outnumbered 10 to 1 and a clash between them and the strikers is expected at any moment.

No further fatalities were reported. The fighting continued all night.

Rockefeller Refuses to Act. Washington, April 28.—After talking with Secretary Garrison the president received a report from Chairman Foster of the house mines committee, on the latter's interview with John D. Rockefeller, jr., in New York yesterday. Mr. Foster said that the interview had failed to relieve the situation. The president delayed action on the matter until it could be discussed at the regular cabinet meeting.

Grave Situation. Denver, Col., April 28.—Conditions in the Colorado coal fields have become more serious than at any time since the inception of the strike last September. Violence spread from the southern fields to those of the extreme north, continuing with vigor in the southern zone which probably cost the lives of seven mine guards at the Walsenburg mine near Walsenburg, and being inaugurated in the northern field by simultaneous attacks on the mines of Louisville, Lafayette and Marshall with an unknown casualty list.

The conflicts between strikers and mine guards at Walsenburg and at the Hecla mine at Louisville continued through the night. The arrival of the militia from Ludlow at the Walsenburg mine apparently had no effect upon the many strikers who kept up their fire at the mine from long range even after the troops reinforced the defenders. At midnight the militia reached Walsenburg and its force of 50 men was divided, half remaining in Walsenburg and the other half going to the Walsenburg mine.

AMERICANS IN JAIL SUFFER INDIGNITIES

Eighty Five Foreigners, Mostly Americans, Held in Jail at Cordoba--Drunken Jailors Offer Repeated Insults While Prisoners Constantly Jeer Americans.

Maas Promises to Set Them Free--Eighty Seven Foreigners Said to be in Jail at Tuxtepec; Consular Agent White Among the Number.

By Associated Press. Vera Cruz, April 28.—Sleeping on the stone flagging of the jail with insufficient food, no sanitation and threatened every night with assassination by drunken jailors is the experience of the Americans and other foreigners, including women and children, confined at Cordoba.

Their release today has been promised by General Maas in reply to a request from American Consul Canada through a messenger who returned to Vera Cruz today.

W. H. Mechling of the Geological Survey of Canada who has been for some time in Mexico in behalf of the Universities of Harvard, Pennsylvania and Columbia, spent two days at Cordoba. He was detained but not put in jail and finally was permitted to go home in reality an American.

Mechling went to the jail in Cordoba Sunday afternoon and talked to the prisoners, among whom are several he is acquainted with. They begged him to communicate their plight to Consul Canada and Rear Admiral Fletcher in an endeavor to secure their release.

The prisoners are herded like cattle and are jeered almost constantly either by the keepers of the Mexican inmates of the jail. They are permitted to have food and drink only when the whim suits the jailors and are kept in a state of terror by frequent threats of death.

Among the prisoners is a young American woman with a four months old infant. There are several other women and children and the total number of all nationalities, according to Mechling is 85.

One of the imprisoned men is Superintendent Emery of the Vista Hermosa sugar plantation of Vera Cruz state, who entertained John Lind, President Wilson's representative, a few months ago. Mechling says there are 87 persons, chiefly Americans, held at Tuxtepec, state of Vera Cruz, from surrounding plantations and that Consul Agent White is in jail at El Hule, near Tuxtepec.

Mechling left Tuxtepec last Wednesday with a pass, giving an assumed name and his nationality as British. An excited crowd of Mexicans surrounded the train and it was with difficulty that he persuaded them to allow him to board it. At El Burro, another mob searched the train and robbed him of all but two bills which he had hidden in his shoe. At Tierra Blanca fourteen whites and thirty-two negroes were brought aboard the train.

A howling mob met the train at Cordoba and shouted insults at the Americans. The crowd surrounded the jail long after the doors had closed on the prisoners.

E. B. Weems, a sugar plantation owner, who was previously held at Cordoba escaped by descending the river in a launch to Alvarado. He arrived safely in Vera Cruz and sailed for the United States yesterday on the steamer Mexico.

WEATHER FORECAST. Forecast for North Carolina: Fair in east, unsettled tonight and Wednesday, probably local showers; cooler Wednesday in west portion.

FEDERALS TRY AGAIN TO CROSS THE BORDER

By Associated Press. Washington, April 28.—Two federal generals and their commands who were driven back by constitutionalists from the southern part of the state of Nuevo Leon, are attempting to cross the United States border about 30 miles above Laredo, Texas, according to a state department report today.

It is supposed here that these federals are part of the command which dynamited Nuevo Laredo a few days ago when it was feared they would destroy the international bridge between the Mexican towns and Laredo, Texas. They afterwards left for the south to join other federal forces supposed to be operating between Nuevo Laredo and Monterey.

Laredo, Tex., April 28.—The constitutionalist commander of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, today reported to the American authorities here that the Federal troops who Friday evacuated the town were trying to reach the Rio Grande above Laredo. United States troops at Minera were ordered to be on the alert.

Army officials said nothing had been seen of the Federals at noon.

REBELS CONTINUE FIRING AT TAMPICO

By Associated Press. Washington, April 28.—Rear Admiral Mayo at Tampico reported today that the Federal forces there are making further overtures to the constitutionalists for a combination against the United States. He said the constitutionalists still are firing.

Rear Admiral Mayo reported that Admiral Craddock of the British cruiser Hermione had despatched Major Clark and a detachment of British marines forty miles inland from Tampico to rescue eight Americans at Orange Hill and was expected back tonight. The Hermione sent 13 refugees aboard the Des Moines today. Admiral Badger reported that it would be inadvisable to send an American ship to the Yucatan district "as it might start anti-American demonstrations."

In regard to the reports from Tampico that American citizens there were being held because of the departure of the American battleships from the river, Secretary of the Navy Daniels said today that this action had been taken after Admiral Craddock had informed Admiral Mayo that he would undertake to receive Americans from Tampico aboard the Hermione and transfer them to the Des Moines upon the American vessel's taking a position at sea. This arrangement it was thought, Mr. Daniels said, would make anti-American demonstration in Tampico less likely.

"It will go in and bring the refugees to you," the British admiral was reported to have said to Admiral Mayo.

OLD GLORY NOW FLOATS O'ER VERA CRUZ

Thrilling Scene Was That Attending the Ceremony of Raising the Stars and Stripes--Women Wept, Bands Played and Big Guns Roared Salute.

British and French Spectators Bareheaded While Stirring Ceremonial Was Performed--A Graphic Story of the Spectacle of Yesterday.

By Associated Press. Vera Cruz, April 28.—History was repeated yesterday afternoon in the ceremony of raising the Stars and Stripes over Vera Cruz. On the same spot in 1847 General Winfield Scott broke to the breeze the American colors as he landed to begin his march at the head of the American troops to Mexico City.

The hoisting of the flag was carried out with full naval ceremony in the presence of Rear Admiral Badger, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet; Rear Admiral Fletcher and the plucky twelve hundred from the Mexicans April 21.

Before the low but imposing facade of the Terminal Hotel where the ceremony took place the broad plaza spreads to the dock, giving a view of the crowded inner harbor and of the great parade armada of battle ships outside the breakwaters.

Long before the time set for the ceremony Americans from all parts of the city started toward the plaza. The first of the fighting men to arrive were Colonel Neville's battalion of marines. Marching in columns of fours and clad in khaki it moved to its place on the right of the line.

Colonel Neville and the field officers who were mounted took their places in front of the battalion while the band men of the Utah, also in khaki, fell in on the left.

Next came battalions of blue jackets clad in white and accompanied by their machine gun section and hospital corps. The Florida's band led them to their place beside the marines, the khaki and white bandsmen forming directly in front of the flag staff where the American national colors were to be raised. Lieutenant Commander Allen Buchanan, of the Florida, who led the bluejackets in landing, commanded them in the parade.

When the long line had been drawn up Captain William R. Rush, of the Florida, who was in charge of the landing of the Americans on Mexican soil, took his place in front of and facing the flagstaff with his staff officers. Behind Captain Rush stood Rear Admiral Fletcher.

Rear Admiral Badger, in supreme command, with the officers of his staff in full dress white uniforms took their places at the right of the center.

Only a few Mexican residents of Vera Cruz were in the throng. From among the half-Indian workmen about the railroad yard came a few vivas and some cheers. Emotion on the part of the American refugees was everywhere noted and not a few of the American women who recently had been in fear of their lives in inland cities, wept with relief when they saw the emblem which guaranteed their safety floating above them.

As the signal to haul away on the halyards was given by Ensign McDonnell, standing almost on the spot where as chief signal officer on the day of landing he had four of his men shot down beside him, the blue jackets snapped their rifles to salute and the band broke into the stirring strains of the American national anthem.

Just as the big banner broke over the first roar came from the Minnesota. The thunderous report sent a thrill through the men standing at attention and facing the flag, for only five days before similar reports meant that death dealing shells were being hurled into the naval academy while the whole city was rattling un-

Mediators Get Down To Work On Their Plan Of Settlement

der the rifle fire of the Americans and Mexican.

During the full period of the Minnesota's 21 gun salute the battalions stood at present arms and the admirals with their right hands at their caps. About the plaza American civilians and British and French spectators stood bareheaded.

By Associated Press. Washington, April 28.—While envoys of Brazil, Argentina and Chile today sought to find some ground upon which to base proposals to the United States and Mexico which would settle difficulties between the nations, work was flashed from Vera Cruz that Brig. Gen. Funston and about 5,000 troops had arrived at the base of American operations in the Mexican republic.

Chief interest in Washington centered however in the activity of the South American diplomats who met early in the day at the Argentine legation to plan the next step in the negotiations for peace. Before then they began their conference. Secretary of State Bryan was formally notified by Ambassador Riano, of Spain, that General Huerta had accepted the principle of mediation proposed.

Coinciding with the conference of the mediators, President Wilson and the cabinet met in regular session, the subject of absorbing interest being the Mexican situation with peace proposals as the particular matter under consideration. Ambassador Da Gama, of Brazil, sought to confer with the secretary of state, but Mr. Bryan being at the cabinet meeting, all of them appeared early in the day at the Argentine legation to plan the next step in the negotiations for peace. Before then they began their conference. Secretary of State Bryan was formally notified by Ambassador Riano, of Spain, that General Huerta had accepted the principle of mediation proposed.

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When members of the cabinet reached the white house at 11 o'clock to enter upon the serious deliberations confronting them, all of them appeared more cheerful than they had been for many days and several expressed hope that something tangible would come from the proposals to mediate the dispute.

No new orders were issued from the navy or war departments, but there was enthusiastic interest among department heads over the arrival at Vera Cruz of the transports bearing the Fifth army brigade under Brig. Gen. Funston.

Secretary Garrison insisted early in the day that the mediation proposals could not affect the orders to General Funston.

General Funston's instructions were to land immediately upon arrival and assume supreme command of the land forces.

Rear Admiral Fletcher, who has been directing operations up to this time, will, therefore, return to his flagship the Florida, withdrawing also all of the bluejackets. That part of the marine force now ashore at Vera Cruz, however, have been detached from the navy and now becomes part of General Funston's command. General Funston also will take up the work undertaken by Admiral Fletcher in directing the administration of governmental affairs in Vera Cruz.

In the absence of definite word, speculation took a wide range among some diplomats, not directly connected with the negotiations, some of whom suggested that one of the possible plans which might be considered would contemplate the establishment of a committee representing all Mexican factions, to take charge of Mexico pending the election of a president and the founding of a stable government. This plan was discussed in Washington and Mexico City sometime ago. It was also considered at a conference between ambassador Gerard at Berlin and Mexican de La Barra, on his way to Japan some time ago.

The cabinet adjourned after a session of more than 2 hours, and no announcement was made as to the progress of the mediation negotiations.

"The tension seems to be less," said Secretary Bryan as he returned to the state department. "Americans are being moved out of Mexico City without interruption."

Mr. Bryan explained that he had not yet received the text of General Huerta's (Continued on Page Nine)

Huerta Has Accepted Unconditionally the Offer of Chile, Brazil and Argentine to Undertake a Settlement of Difficulty Between Two Countries.

Representatives of South American Republics Hope to Find Some Middle Ground Where Both Parties Can Agree--Proceedings Are on the Quiet.

By Associated Press.

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MEXICO CITY IS QUIET TODAY

By Associated Press. Mexico City was quiet today according to a cablegram received from the staff of a British commercial house there. The message said that the employees were well and safe.

May Remain. Rome, Italy, April 28.—A dispatch today from Mexico City says: "The fact that foreigners are authorized to leave constitutes a pledge of safety for foreigners. Very few Italians, French or Spaniards have left, but many Germans and a number of British have departed."

NEXT SUNDAY

The Charlotte News will publish the first installment of the most fascinating serial story of the present day—"Lucile Love, The Girl of Mystery." During the week, following, the leading picture shows in Salisbury, Concord, Gastonia, Rockingham, Rock Hill, Chester, and THE OTTOWAY, in Charlotte, (on Wednesday) will show a two reel picture of the first installment of the story. This story will be published in THE CHARLOTTE NEWS every Sunday morning, for fifteen weeks, and the same program will be carried out at the picture shows the week following. This is the first opportunity ever given THE NEWS patrons to read one of the most thrilling stories, ever produced, with the opportunity of seeing it in moving pictures. Follow the additional announcements to appear in THE NEWS this week and be sure to read the first installment of this interesting story in next Sunday's issue.

SOUTHERN TEXTILE DAY AT CONVENTION

Boston, April 28.—In honor of more than a hundred manufacturers from the southern states who have come to attend the events of textile week, this was known as Southern Textile Day. The principal meeting of the week, the annual convention of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers, will open tomorrow.

Postoffices Discontinued. Washington, April 28.—The post-office department today ordered the offices at Cranfill, Yadkin county; Raby, Montgomery county, and Tex, Transylvania county, discontinued on May 15th.

The postoffices at Kelsy, Watauga county, and Moody, Watauga county, have been ordered discontinued April 30 to be superseded by rural delivery.