

THE WEATHER

Thunder showers Thursday, Friday partly cloudy, probably showers in east portion.



BUSINESS SENSITIVE

It is the water driving forcefully over a definite spot that turns the wheels. Advertising is the well-wirected water that creates energy.

VOL. XXVI—NO. 143. WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 12, 1915 WHOLE NUMBER 39,289

TEXANS UNDER ARMS IN THREE COUNTIES IN FEAR FACE FIGHT

Scheme of Ignorant Mexicans to Regain Control of Part of Texas.

DISORDER IS SPREADING

Reported That Former Carranza Soldiers Have Crossed Rio Grande.

Organized Gang Endeavoring to Start Revolt.

Brownsville, Texas, Aug. 11.—Practically every American citizen in three southernmost counties of Texas—Cameron, Hidalgo and Starr—is resting under arms tonight in fear that the overwhelming Mexican population of this section may break out in a racial fight.

The Mexican disturbance spread rapidly westward today until rumors of trouble developed at Laredo, 200 miles along the border from here. The disorder is reported here to be connected with an attempt to turn part of Texas back to Mexican control—a wild scheme backed by ignorant Mexicans, escaped convicts, fugitives from justice on the American side, and some Mexican soldiers.

Trying to Start Revolt.

The disturbance has been fanned by some of the bitter disputes of border political conditions, which, in some instances, kept the American residents of this section from realizing how strong the under current of Mexican feeling was growing.

Rangers in Hidalgo county, pursuing some of the gang which killed an American trooper near Mercedes last night, captured a flag today bearing in Spanish the words "Army of Liberation of Mexicans in Texas." They took also some literature urging Mexicans to revolt.

Army and Federal investigators declared the organizers of the trouble are working under the plan of San Diego, which calls for the death of every American male over 16 years of age in communities along the Rio Grande, and also along the border of New Mexico, Arizona and California. It has been reported to General Funston that more than 30,000 Mexicans are pledged to the organization.

Federal officials last winter believed they nipped an attempt to put this revolution into effect when they arrested a Mexican on charges of sedition, discovering in his possession details of the plan, which were published at the time.

Authorities here tonight are watching the river at a point ten miles below Brownsville, where it was reported several hundred armed Mexicans had gathered on the Mexican side, waiting to cross the Rio Grande under darkness. A Mexican rancher in Hidalgo county, fifty miles up the river from Brownsville, reported that 50 armed Mexicans were hiding on his ranch. He said they had threatened to kill him if he reported their presence.

There were many reports here that officials on the Mexican side of the river, which is under Carranza control, are reported for some of the troubles on the American side, either by laxness of discipline or by direct connivance.

However, there is no evidence that any high Mexican authority is involved. Officials here have reports that 1,700 former Carranza soldiers have crossed the river along a zone 120 miles wide, from a point below Brownsville to Rio Grande City, up the river. At least 30 different parties are said to have crossed.

Arrival of Troops Drive Bandits.

Arrival of troops in force from Laredo appears to have caused the bandits to shift rapidly westward today from the less populous sections between here and Laredo. Telephone messages tonight from the portions of Cameron county north of here, where disorders had been going on for two weeks, indicated that the outlaws either had left or were hiding.

About Mercedes a few miles northwest of here, rangers and cavalrymen pressed the bandits so hard today, that some of them fled across the river. Cavalry captured 35 horses from one band near Mercedes, after a long chase, in which, so far as could be learned, no one was wounded.

Reports that politicians on the American side were responsible for the uprising aroused much resentment here.

At San Benito a mass meeting of Protest was held. This meeting declared the outbreak was mainly an outgrowth of an old epidemic of lawlessness on the Mexican side.

Mexicans along the American side of the border appear to be entirely innocent of causing trouble, and hundreds of Mexican families are seeking (Continued on Page Eight.)

INQUIRY IS SENT TO MUNITIONS MAKERS

War Department Asks Information About Facilities.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Makes Particular Reference to What Service Government Could Expect Provided Need Should Become Pressing.

Washington, Aug. 11.—American manufacturers of war supplies have been asked by the War Department for information concerning their facilities with particular reference to what service the United States government could expect from them in emergency.

With virtually every private plant in the country taxed to capacity filling orders from Europe, army officials want to know whether expansion of facilities has kept pace with the demand.

Even in ordinary times the government factories produce only a part of the arms and ammunition for the army. Measures to strengthen the national defense, are expected to result in vastly increased demands for supplies, aside from any emergency that may arise.

The following statement was issued by the department:

"Recognizing the fact that the arsenals would be unable to produce an adequate supply of war materials to meet an emergency of war, it has been the practice of the government, both in time of peace as well as in war, to purchase from private establishments a considerable part of the war material currently required.

"This policy makes it necessary for the department to obtain from these establishments from time to time information as to their ability and capacity to produce various classes of such material.

"Such extraordinary changes and unprecedented expansion of the facilities of American manufacturers, have resulted from the demands for material by the warring nations of Europe, particularly for the production of certain classes of ammunition, that it has been necessary for the department to correspondingly increase its activity to keep in touch with this industrial development. It is probable that the expansion noted has not been equal to the demand, but officials believe that a stage has been reached which renders desirable a general inquiry as to the manufacturing facilities now in existence, and with view to obtaining information on the subject, the department is sending out letters of inquiry to a number of manufacturers, which may be used for such purposes.

"The War Department expressly states that it does not now contemplate purchasing any of the material manufactured as it has no special funds which may be used for such purposes. No special inquiry is deemed necessary for the expenditure of limited funds from current appropriations which are at the bureau's disposal."

OFFICIAL DUTIES CALL PRESIDENT TO CAPITAL

Returning to Confer With Cabinet Members.

Developments in Regard to Mexico Expected in Few Days—Left Cornish Yesterday, and Will Reach Capital Today.

On Board President Wilson's Special, New Haven, Conn., Aug. 11.—President Wilson was on his way back to Washington tonight to confer with Secretary Lansing and other members of his cabinet on the Mexican and other problems. He left the "Summer White House," at Cornish, N. H., this afternoon, and will arrive in Washington tomorrow morning.

With the President back in Washington, developments are expected within the next few days in regard to Mexico. He is desirous of following the plan inaugurated when the Latin-American representatives were invited to confer on Mexican affairs, but he is also determined to afford protection to foreigners in Vera Cruz.

The President was notified late today that General Carranza had sent word to Secretary Lansing that the Mexican people view with displeasure any attempt tending to frustrate the success of Carranza forces. It was understood the President will continue with his Mexican plans regardless of Carranza's attitude. Carranza is to be given an (Continued on Page Eight.)

WILL STRENGTHEN TEXAS FORCES IF FUNSTON ASKS IT

Officials Along the Border Request War Department for More Troops.

MEXICANS CROSS LINE

Reported Carranza Troops Try to Rally Uprising in Southeast Texas.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Raiding and guerilla fighting along the Mexican border in Texas will be met by the strengthening of the United States forces there, if Major General Funston requests it. Secretary Garrison and other officials insisted today, however, that any such troop movement had no connection with Mexican internal affairs, and would be only for protection of Americans in that district.

Department officials could get no satisfactory information of the character of the raids. One report said about 1,000 Carranza troops from the Tamaulipas garrison had been crossing into Southeastern Texas, in the vicinity of Brownsville, to rally Mexicans in the State to an uprising.

Secretary Garrison said he had no official information of that character, and added that if Carranza troops were found in Texas, they would be disarmed and shot if they resisted.

Advices from Carranza sources at San Antonio denied that any Carranza troops had crossed the line.

Rangers Capture Flag.

Texas rangers in Hidalgo county captured a flag bearing in Spanish the inscription: "Army of Liberation for Mexicans in Texas," and officers at Brownsville said that for several days 30 or 40 Mexicans had been crossing into Texas each day, some of them having the appearance of soldiers and carrying cartridge belts.

Requests for more troops came to the War Department from officials along the border, and have been referred to General Funston, upon whom Secretary Garrison depends to report whether he can handle the situation with the force available.

Funston has ready on the border and at Texas City about 17,000 troops, infantry, cavalry and artillery.

Secretary Garrison telegraphed him today that the 12,000 mobile troops remaining at other posts in continental United States would be sent to the border if he asked for them.

General Funston reported that the best information he could gather indicated that the raids in Cameron, Hidalgo and Starr counties were directed by Texans having headquarters in Brownsville, who, after a political feud, sent bandit gangs to rob and attack each other.

Secretary Garrison expressed doubt that Mexicans from over the border were responsible for all the disturbances.

Probably Not All Mexicans.

"Conditions on the border," said Mr. Garrison, "have no political significance. Lawless people are using this time of excitement to plunder and steal, and we are not sure that all the law-breakers are Mexicans."

Further strengthening of the border forces will take virtually all available regular troops in the country. Officials today were considering whether it (Continued on Page Eight.)

WESTERN FREIGHT RATE INCREASES ARE DENIED

But Few Advances Allowed by Commission.

Railroads Had Petitioned For Increase on Grounds of Poor Financial Condition and Decreased Earnings.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Sweeping freight rate increases sought by railroads of Western territory on the ground of generally poor financial condition of the lines and decreased earnings, were refused by the Interstate Commerce Commission today, advanced rates approved representing a comparatively small portion of the amount sought. The commission voted 5 to 2. Commissioners Daniels and Harlan holding that additional increases had been justified by the carriers' showing.

An incomplete summary of the commission's action shows that rates estimated to produce \$5,871,860 were rejected, while approved increases will add \$1,632,287 to the carriers' revenues.

The decision follows extended hearings, the tariffs having been filed December 15, 1914. Further applications from the same roads are pending, affecting passenger rates, various special services to shippers and miscellaneous commodities not previously covered.

The incomplete summary of today's (Continued on Page Eight.)

CHEMICALS CAN'T DISPLACE COTTON

Britons Agitate Putting it on Contraband List.

TO KEEP IT FROM ENEMY

It is Stated in Meeting That Had Cotton Been Declared Contraband a Year Ago, the War Would Be Near an End.

London, Aug. 11.—At the meeting held tonight to impress on the government the necessity of declaring cotton contraband, Sir William Ramsay, the scientist, declared cotton was the only substance required for the manufacture of munitions with which the Germans could not supply themselves. He said no chemical products could take the place of cotton in propulsive ammunition.

Sir Charles Macara, president of the Master Cotton Spinners' Association of Great Britain, presided at the meeting. An inspired statement published this morning deprecating the agitation to make cotton contraband, and intimating that negotiations with the United States on this subject were proceeding, had the effect of lessening interest in the meeting. Both the presiding officer and Secretary William, the chief speaker, were insistent, however, that immediate action should be taken, and Sir Charles said he had no doubt that the explosives manufacturers had consumed a large part of the cotton surplus created by the war and added: "We must utilize our command of the highways of the sea, both practically and diplomatically, to prevent cotton reaching enemy countries while at the same time acting fairly in the interests of neutral countries."

Turkish Guns Disabled.

Simultaneously the French battleship *St. Louis* attacked the Turkish battleships on the Asiatic side of the straits, which had been bombarding the allied positions on the peninsula, and put five guns out of commission. These actions are believed here to be preliminary to a much more ambitious attempt planned by the Anglo-French commanders to sweep the Turks before them. Very heavy losses have had a discouraging effect on the Turks, according to reports from Greece.

On the Eastern front Kovno is the danger point in the Russian line. The armies of Grand Duke Nicholas apparently have arrested the German offensive against Riga and Dvinsk, are being hard pressed on the Kovno front which the Germans are attacking with guns of all calibres, including the famous 16-inch cannon, which no fortress hitherto has withstood.

On the western front little has happened beyond the usual artillery engagements.

German Submarines Active.

German submarines have renewed their activity, and in the last three days have sunk 18 vessels, 10 of which were British trawlers and four of which belonged to neutral countries. The British patrol boat *Rosey* also has been sunk by the German auxiliary *Meteor* in the North sea. The commander of the *Meteor* realizing that escape from pursuing British vessels was impossible, abandoned his ship and blew her up.

There have been frequent reports today of firing heard off Helgoland but no explanation has been forthcoming.

RESERVE BOARD CONSIDERING COTTON RELIEF PROPOSITION.

Involves Issue of \$500,000,000 in Bank Notes to be Used in South.

Washington, Aug. 11.—After a talk today with Commissioner Harding, Representative Henry, of Texas, telegraphed Joseph Hurst, of Corpus Christi, that the Federal Reserve Board is considering a cotton relief proposition he presented involving the issue of \$500,000,000 of Federal Reserve notes for deposit in the sub-treasury nearest the Southern Reserve banks.

He proposed that the reserve board advise member banks to loan these notes to them at 2 per cent annual interest if the banks will make reasonable loans to cotton producers at 4 per cent interest for six months periods. Mr. Henry said the amount of interest was the real question at issue.

THREE BATTLESHIPS ORDERED TO WATERS OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

Secretary Daniels States No Definite Purpose for This Action.

Washington, Aug. 11.—After two days of uncertainty and wire conferences between navy officials and President Wilson, Secretary Daniels announced tonight that three battleships of the Atlantic fleet had been ordered to Southern waters for any duty that may be required.

The ships are the *Louisiana* and *New Hampshire*, which sailed from Newport, R. I., last night, and the Connecticut, which is en route. Whether they will be directed by wireless to proceed to Vera Cruz or will be kept in readiness somewhere in the South Atlantic or the Gulf of Mexico will depend on developments.

TEXAS GOVERNOR WANTS U. S. TROOPS DOUBLED

Houston, Texas, Aug. 11.—Governor Ferguson, of Texas, tonight telegraphed President Wilson asking him to double the number of Federal troops in the Rio Grande valley. He says conditions are "now perilous and grave."

The result of the new plan is that New York receives for supplies and ammunition \$47,000 more than last year. (Continued on Page Eight.)

BRITISH COLONISTS ASSUME OFFENSIVE AND GAIN ON TURKS

Australians and New Zealanders Almost Treble Their Former Area.

HOPE TO HELP RUSSIA

Efforts to Open Dardanelles.

London, Aug. 11.—While the Russians are fighting desperately to extricate themselves from the cordon of Austro-German troops steadily pressing them more closely in Poland, their allies are working feverishly and with considerable success to open the Dardanelles, through which they hope to pour into Russia much needed war munitions.

Since Saturday night, when French-British forces were landed on Gallipoli peninsula, there has been almost continuous fighting on the Krithia road. In these operations the Australians and New Zealanders in the Anzac region, and those north of the initial lines of the words "Australian New Zealand army corps," co-operated with new forces further north. Following the successes of the troops on the Krithia road and those north of the Anzac zone the Australians and New Zealanders took the offensive yesterday and almost trebled the area formerly held by them. Their comrades on the north who assisted them made no further progress, however.

Simultaneously the French battleship *St. Louis* attacked the Turkish battleships on the Asiatic side of the straits, which had been bombarding the allied positions on the peninsula, and put five guns out of commission. These actions are believed here to be preliminary to a much more ambitious attempt planned by the Anglo-French commanders to sweep the Turks before them. Very heavy losses have had a discouraging effect on the Turks, according to reports from Greece. On the Eastern front Kovno is the danger point in the Russian line. The armies of Grand Duke Nicholas apparently have arrested the German offensive against Riga and Dvinsk, are being hard pressed on the Kovno front which the Germans are attacking with guns of all calibres, including the famous 16-inch cannon, which no fortress hitherto has withstood.

On the western front little has happened beyond the usual artillery engagements.

German Submarines Active.

German submarines have renewed their activity, and in the last three days have sunk 18 vessels, 10 of which were British trawlers and four of which belonged to neutral countries. The British patrol boat *Rosey* also has been sunk by the German auxiliary *Meteor* in the North sea. The commander of the *Meteor* realizing that escape from pursuing British vessels was impossible, abandoned his ship and blew her up.

There have been frequent reports today of firing heard off Helgoland but no explanation has been forthcoming.

ALLIES INCREASE HOLDINGS. Gain Positions on Gallipoli. Nearly Trebling Their Area.

London, Aug. 11.—General Ian Hamilton reported from the Dardanelles (Continued on Page Eight.)

GARRISON APPORTIONS \$4,000,000 ALLOWED BY CONGRESS.

North Carolina is Among States Receiving Increase for Supplies and Ammunition, Being Allowed \$2,000 Over Last Year.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Four million dollars, this year's Federal appropriation to the organized militia, was apportioned today by Secretary Garrison. Half of the amount is for actual field service and rifle practice, and is divided among the states according to Congressional representation.

Of the \$2,000,000 for supplies and ammunition \$400,000 is reserved for special emergency allotment and the remainder goes to the states on the basis of efficiency plans adopted by the War Department.

Instead of making the distribution of supplies and ammunition according to paper strength of the various state organizations as last year, Mr. Garrison took into consideration actual strength at the annual inspection and the number of auxiliary branches. Every man in a field hospital and the ambulance companies was counted twice, and every man in the other branches of the auxiliary services three times so that these arms should receive adequate funds.

The result of the new plan is that New York receives for supplies and ammunition \$47,000 more than last year. (Continued on Page Eight.)

REPRESENTATIVES OF SEVEN GOVERNMENTS ASK PEACE IN MEXICO

IMPORTERS URGING STRENUOUS ACTION

Toward Britain for Release of Austrian and German Goods.

HOKE SMITH SPEAKS

Tells New York Importers That Great Britain's Blockade is One of Most Flagrant and Inexcusable Violations.

New York, Aug. 11.—After listening to a speech by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, more than 300 New York importers today adopted a petition urging President Wilson to take prompt and strenuous action to relieve American importers of the embarrassments of Great Britain's refusal to allow German and Austrian products to be shipped from neutral ports to the United States. Senator Smith declared that the blockade, as carried out by Great Britain, was one of the most flagrant and inexcusable violations of neutral rights in naval history.

"I have determined the only thing to do," said Senator Smith, "is to tell Great Britain to revoke the blockade order, or she can have no neutral trade with us."

Excuse Don't Make Seizure Lawful.

The excuse that Great Britain seized vessels having cargoes of goods produced in Germany or Austria, or of goods intended for Germany or Austria, but consigned to a neutral port, as a retaliatory measure against Germany, does not make the seizure lawful.

"There is no justification for the second contention that the British were justified in their action because the United States had violated Great Britain's rights during the Civil War. The United States never committed an act, nor did our courts ever write a line, that justified the British action."

Senator Smith declared that during the Russo-Japanese war Great Britain asserted the rights of India to ship cotton to Japan. He also pointed out that the British first placed cotton on the list of articles not to be classed as contraband.

Discusses Civil War Cases.

As a contention that rulings by the United States Supreme Court did not justify Great Britain's action, Senator Smith discussed the *Bermuda* and *Peterhof*, or *Matamoros* cases, which arose during the Civil War. In the latter case he noted the ruling of the United States Supreme Court which held that although *Peterhof* sailed from England for Matamoros, Mexico, with contraband, conditional contraband and non-contraband goods, all intended for shipment to Texas, during the war, only the actual contraband could be seized, as a blockade could not extend to a neutral port.

Senator Smith said he had been surprised to find that the people of the United States "made so little of Great Britain's attack on our commerce," and added that the neutral countries had suffered by the war.

"We can command this! Recognize our rights, or what will you eat?" The Administration's point of view is all right, but it has acted slowly."

Great Britain herself, Senator Smith (Continued on Page Eight.)

MILITIA APPROPRIATION DIVIDED AMONG STATES

Garrison Apports \$4,000,000 Allowed by Congress.

North Carolina is Among States Receiving Increase for Supplies and Ammunition, Being Allowed \$2,000 Over Last Year.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Four million dollars, this year's Federal appropriation to the organized militia, was apportioned today by Secretary Garrison. Half of the amount is for actual field service and rifle practice, and is divided among the states according to Congressional representation.

Of the \$2,000,000 for supplies and ammunition \$400,000 is reserved for special emergency allotment and the remainder goes to the states on the basis of efficiency plans adopted by the War Department.

Instead of making the distribution of supplies and ammunition according to paper strength of the various state organizations as last year, Mr. Garrison took into consideration actual strength at the annual inspection and the number of auxiliary branches. Every man in a field hospital and the ambulance companies was counted twice, and every man in the other branches of the auxiliary services three times so that these arms should receive adequate funds.

The result of the new plan is that New York receives for supplies and ammunition \$47,000 more than last year. (Continued on Page Eight.)

Appeal to Factions in Name of Humanity and National Patriotism.

REPLIES ARE REQUESTED

Further Steps Reserved, Pending Action of the Divergent Factions.

Governments Anxious for Peace Without War.

New York, Aug. 11.—Secretary Lansing, on behalf of the United States government and the diplomatic representatives of Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Uruguay and Guatemala, today signed an appeal addressed to the leaders of all factions in Mexico, asking them in the name of humanity and national patriotism, to cease their civil strife and assemble a peace conference.

The action, taken after a two-hour session, was not of a joint character, but identical. An informal but unanimous note will be sent expressing the views of the seven governments that the condition of chaos in Mexico has injured the prestige of the nation abroad and supplicating the Mexican leaders and generals to make a supreme effort to meet together and elements in the creation of a provisional government that can be given worldwide recognition.

Beyond this step today's session did not go, reserving until a later date consideration of the situation that may be created by refusal of any of the factions to participate in a peace conference. There was no discussion, in fact, of eventualities, notwithstanding that press dispatches reported Carranza's outspoken objections to the Pan-American method of settling Mexico's struggle. The assembled diplomats took the view tonight that when their appeal is fully considered, Carranza, he will not misunderstand their purposes or accuse them, as he has, of attempting to interfere in Mexico's internal affairs.

Feeling of Confidence.

When the conference adjourned tonight there was a feeling of confidence that a decisive step toward restoring Mexico to her place in the family of nations had been taken. The appeal, which is brief and courteously phrased, calls upon the Mexicans to consider the injurious effect throughout the world which the constant turbulence in Mexico has caused. The appeal suggests that a peace conference be held on neutral territory in Mexico far from the roar of cannon. The governments signing it express their willingness to act, if in any practical manner, to assist in bringing the factions together for the conference.

The communication will be given widest publicity throughout Mexico, and will be delivered by the diplomats and consular agents of the various governments signatory to it. Replies are definitely asked for, hope being expressed that in any practical manner within ten days after the communication reaches the leaders unless some just cause for delay presents itself.

Secretary Lansing, who left for Washington tonight, has already taken the appeal as finally agreed upon, and a statement will be prepared by Mr. Lansing explanatory of the purposes of the appeal, which in many quarters had come to be interpreted as a forerunner of military intervention.

Not only had the Latin-American diplomats here today made it clear that they would object to such a course or any that would impair Mexico's sovereignty, but President Wilson and Secretary Lansing are equally anxious that the present peace be accompanied by no physical act. Mr. Lansing took occasion to explain to the diplomats that the warships ordered to Vera Cruz yesterday were sent for protection of Americans and foreigners. Many of the diplomats said that while this assurance was necessary, for they thoroughly understood the purpose of the United States, it nevertheless was an opportunity in removing a possible misunderstanding of the motives of the American government.

Ultimately—if all peace plans fail—officials of the United States realize that the interests of foreigners may require more drastic steps, but at present it can be stated authoritatively that the plans under consideration contemplate restoration of peace in Mexico by friendly means, by using the power of recognition to assist a government into being.

ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR RUSSIAN IMPORTS

Forwarded to Petrograd to be Ratified.

Modifying the Russian Embargo Will Permit Importations to This Country Amounting to Millions of Dollars Annually.

Washington, Aug. 11.—Arrangements for handling shipments of Russian goods to the United States under the recent agreement modifying the Russian embargo were completed today by the Commerce Department. Under the plan already approved by the Russian embassy here and forwarded to Petrograd for ratification, all imports from Russia consigned to the Secretary of Commerce will be received at the office of the commercial agent of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce in New York, who will undertake to distribute to importers, under guarantee that the goods will not be re-exported in any form.

Shippers desiring to import Russian products will be required to submit to the commercial agent a statement of the goods to be secured and to deposit a bond to be held pending the consumption of the imports, or until the end of the European war.

The Russian embargo has held up importations amounting to millions of dollars annually, importers being particularly anxious to secure the release of vetch seed, used as fertilizer, hides and skins, and mineral oils. (Continued on Page Eight.)