

WITHDRAWAL OF THE AMERICAN FORCE IN MEXICO IS ORDERED

Within Week Pershing's Entire Command May Re-Cross Border Into United States.

AFTER 10 MONTHS' ABSENCE Big Portion, If Not All, of the National Guardsmen on Border Will be Relieved.

KEEP RIGID BORDER PATROL. Bandit Problem in Mexico Left Entirely Up to Carranza.

Washington, Jan. 27.—Withdrawal of the American military expedition in Mexico was ordered by the War Department today, and by the end of another week the entire command, after ten months on Mexican soil, probably will have recrossed into the United States.

The order went to General Funston, in command at the border, and left to his discretion the exact date of starting the northward movement and the details of carrying it out. Under his direction the expedition has been concentrated for the long march.

Officials here understand that some advance units already have started north and believe that within 48 hours, the whole column will be in motion.

At the border the regulars will receive a considerable portion, if not all, of the National Guardsmen remaining on duty there. Already about 25,000 of the state troops in the border patrol have been ordered home, and their movement probably will be under way by the time Pershing's men arrive on American soil.

Although officials have been silent on the subject of Mexico since failure of the joint commission negotiations, developments outwardly have coupled the troop withdrawal with Carranza's refusal to accept the Atlantic City protocol and have plainly forecast an intention to let the first chief settle for himself hereafter the many problems endangering the tenure of the defacto government. A patrol considered adequate to protect the border will be maintained rigidly, however, and no use has been served on Carranza that the United States will not hesitate to use its armed forces again, if necessary, to protect American territory and American rights.

Probably to Re-Group Men. That Pershing's command, sent into Mexico last March to disperse the bandits who raided Columbus, will be re-grouped at the border and put into a condition of preparedness for a recurrence of raiding, is not doubted here; and in that connection army officers are observing with keen interest the preparation being made by Villa and his followers and allies to debate the territory that Pershing will evacuate.

All the recent moves in the situation, however, and all those in contemplation, were kept secret. The War Department, the State Department and the White House rigidly preserved silence about Mexico.

Plan of March. Of the 12,000 men in Pershing's command, 10,000 have been concentrated at Colonia Dublan for the march north. Most of that number have been there many weeks, but a large part arrived within the last two days from El Valle, the southernmost point of the expeditionary force being sent to Carranza. The plan is to march the entire force out at the same time, leaving a detachment far to the rear as a bait for attacks from wandering bands of rebels.

The first stop after leaving Colonia Dublan probably will be at Corralitos, 15 miles to the north, where there is a large quantity of stores, including 20,000 mules, and it is believed here that General Pershing will force his command to a fast pace after leaving the second water hole. From Ojo-de-Federico there will be forward with the column a string of water tanks.

Whether the railroad will be utilized for transportation of any of the supplies will depend upon General Pershing's judgment. There is at Colonia Dublan a huge quantity of stores, including 20,000 mules, and it is believed here that General Pershing will force his command to a fast pace after leaving the second water hole. From Ojo-de-Federico there will be forward with the column a string of water tanks.

OBREGON DECLARES BANDITS WILL BE CRUSHED BEYOND RECOVERY

Obregon Says Murguia Has Been Given Orders Not to Stop Until Villa is Captured.

HE IS GIVEN A FREE HAND Complete Preparations Made for Occupying Positions Formerly Held by Americans.

Mexico City, Jan. 27.—General Obregon, minister of war, announced today that complete preparations had been made for the occupation by government troops of the positions in Northern Mexico from which General Pershing withdraws and that orders had been given to General Murguia for such disposition of his troops as will prevent any raid by Villa's command.

"The military situation through the republic has improved immeasurably during the last month and General Murguia's campaign in the north is proceeding with the utmost success," said General Obregon. "This is the first real campaign in the north against Villa and will be pressed home to the end. The government never again will make the mistake of simply defeating and scattering the bandits, but will crush them beyond any chance of recovery or of future menace."

Villa, said General Obregon, now is in the mountains of western Chihuahua, near the Sonora border. The assignment of General Manuel Dieguez to the command of the de facto troops in the Laguna district, near Torreón, he said, gives General Murguia a free hand for the pursuit of Villa and he has been instructed not to stop until he captures the bandit.

General Obregon expressed an urgent hope that, on the departure of General Pershing's command, the American embargo on shipment of arms and ammunition to Mexico would be lifted, saying that such action would be material aid toward the prompt pacification of the entire country.

CLAIMS FULL CONTROL FOR VILLA AFTER WITHDRAWAL

New York, Jan. 27.—Villa and his troops are in potential control of northern Mexico and await only the withdrawal of the American punitive expedition to make that control an actual one, according to John J. Hawes, Villa's official agent in New York.

Hawes has his assertions upon information that he has heard he says, by messengers direct from Villa, who is declared to be in command of the forces investing Chihuahua. Hawes asserted today that 20 Carranza generals commanding nearly 15,000 Mexican troops in several divisions adjoining the international border have made representations to Villa that when the latter gives the word they will turn from Carranza. This word will be given, according to Hawes, as soon as General Pershing's troops have returned to the United States.

Hawes said he had been told by the Villa messengers that the defection of the Carranza forces would be accomplished peacefully. The reason for awaiting the retirement of the American expedition, Hawes asserted, was that Villa's men intend to avoid any clash with the Americans.

When the Carranza troops have placed themselves under Villa's command, Hawes said, the Villa messengers, described as a Mexican spring drive, would be begun immediately against those Carranza forces who remain loyal to the de facto president. According to Hawes, this offensive will be conducted in a manner which will insure protection for American and other foreign interests in Mexico. Permanent guards of soldiers will be thrown about foreign-owned oil wells, mines and other property, and every force will be made to operate harmoniously with Americans, Britons, Germans and other citizens from outside of Mexico.

Meanwhile, Hawes said, Villa is undertaking to prove to the American government that he did not lead the troops in the retirement of the Carranza forces. Between 1,500 and 2,000 affidavits, of which 90 per cent are signed by Americans residing in Mexico, are being prepared tending to prove that Villa was elsewhere on the night of the raid; these, Hawes asserted, would be filed with the State Department.

The last two weeks, according to Villa's agents reporting to Hawes, have seen the retreat of Carranza troops from Santa Isabel, San Andres, Palomas and other Mexican cities and their retirement into Chihuahua.

SPEAKER CLARK AMONG THOSE TO ATTEND FINLEY FUNERAL

Washington, Jan. 27.—A congressional committee, including Speaker Clark, left here tonight for York, S. C., to attend the funeral of the late Representative Finley, of South Carolina, a veteran representative in Congress, who died yesterday. The funeral will take place tomorrow.

MEXICANS ROUTED BY COWBOYS AND AMERICAN TROOPS

Driven Across International Boundary at Ruby, Ariz., After Two Days' Skirmish.

NO AMERICAN CASUALTIES

Mexicans, Said to Have Been from Carranza Garrison, Pursued Across the Border.

Arivaca, Ariz., Jan. 27.—The Mexicans who have been in a skirmish since Friday morning with American troops and cowboys at Ruby, Ariz., were driven across the international boundary today. The Mexicans took refuge in adobe houses, but were routed and the houses burned. The Mexicans have fled to the hills.

American cowboys saw Mexicans rounding up cattle on the American side of the boundary line, according to several statements here tonight, and the clash followed. Fifteen troopers and several cowboys, it is asserted, returned the fire of about 20 Mexicans. No Americans were killed or wounded, but a bloody blanket found in an adobe house the Mexicans used as a fort indicated that the Americans' shots took effect. There were other traces of wounded Mexicans. When Troop F of the Utah cavalry, under command of Captain Bassett, arrived at Ruby tonight to relieve Troop E, Lieut. C. E. Arns reported all quiet along the border.

Fighting was resumed by the Mexicans at daybreak after a lull during the night, returning cowboys said tonight. When the fighting began, American troops charged the Mexicans. The invaders were driven across the line and Americans followed them. Another lull occurred when the Mexicans took up positions in several abandoned adobe houses one mile south of the boundary line. Another rush on the part of the Americans, it was stated, caused the Mexicans to flee and take up positions in the distant hills. The troops returned to the American side after destroying the adobe house this morning.

FIGHTING AT STONEHURST CEASED YESTERDAY AT NOON

Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 27.—Fighting at Stonehurst, on the border, between Mexicans and United States cavalrymen, stopped at noon today, according to reports tonight. No casualties were reported on the American side. Mexican losses are unknown.

Mexican Consul Delgado, at Nogales, telephoned to Sheriff Rye Miles, of Pima county, here today, that he believed they had today captured the bandit.

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MAYOR AND CHIEF OF POLICE ARE INDICTED

Together With Eleven Other Members of Police Force.

Seattle Men Charged With Conspiring to Violate the Federal Liquor Statutes—Two of the Men Plead Guilty.

Seattle, Wash., Jan. 27.—Mayor Hiram C. Gill, Chief of Police Beekingham and 11 other members of the local police force were indicted by the Federal grand jury today charged with conspiring to violate the Federal liquor laws.

Mayor Gill also is accused of having accepted a \$4,000 bribe from Logan Billingsley at the time the alleged conspiracy began. Several instances where Chief Beekingham took substantial bribes from Billingsley and in which it is charged, he aided them to steal liquor consigned to other persons, are alleged by the Federal authorities. Indicted in 1916 for conspiracy to violate the Federal liquor laws, Logan and Fred Billingsley entered pleas of guilty in the United States District court and became witnesses for the government.

Twenty-seven men plead guilty of vote selling.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 27.—Twenty-seven men arrested on indictments returned by the Federal grand jury which investigated alleged frauds at the last presidential election, pleaded guilty to vote selling when arraigned in the United States District court here today.

SENATE WOULD PUT BAN ON CURES FOR "INCURABLE" ILLS

House Passes Bill to Allow "Absentee Voting," After Two Hours of "Cross Firing."

REPUBLICANS OPPOSE IT

Both Houses Getting Ready to Press Legislation Necessitated by the Amendments.

(Special Star Telegram). Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 27.—The bill by Senator Bennett, of Swain, to prohibit the sale or advertising in North Carolina of proprietary medicines purporting to cure diseases pronounced by the medical authorities to be incurable was passed by the Senate today, without a dissenting vote, as was also another bill by the same author to put medicines under the pure food law to prevent adulteration or misbranding.

The House spent a couple of hours arguing and cross firing over the substitute House bill to provide "absentee voting" in this State and finally passed it without amendment by a vote of 62 to 19, in which the Republicans voted practically to a man against the bill.

Minority Leader McRary had offered amendment to strike out the words "incurable" as giving too wide discretion to one man, but the majority disapproved and the amendment met defeat along with one by Haymore, Republican, to require that the prospective absentee voter must specify the reason for his absence when he registers. Under the bill, this registration can be made at any time of the year except during the 20 days prior to the election.

The House and Senate are both getting ready to press along the legislation to prohibit, as giving too wide discretion to one man, but the majority disapproved and the amendment met defeat along with one by Haymore, Republican, to require that the prospective absentee voter must specify the reason for his absence when he registers. Under the bill, this registration can be made at any time of the year except during the 20 days prior to the election.

Large numbers of legislators left for their homes this afternoon for the week-end. Monday sessions being set for 3 p. m. to give time for them to get back before legislation is resumed. Both legislative halls will be turned over to vacuum cleaners all Monday forenoon to thoroughly clean the carpeting after eradication of lurking microbes.

In the Senate leaves of absence were granted Senators Oates, Cranmer, Gough and others. New bills were introduced as follows: To prohibit the sale or advertising of remedies purporting to cure incurable diseases.

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REAFFIRMS PROMISE THAT GERMAN SWORD WILL ENFORCE PEACE

REUNION SET FOR WEEK OF JUNE 4

Confederate Veterans Urged to Attend the Gathering in the National Capital.

HARRISON ISSUES ORDERS

June 5 to 7, Inclusive, Decided Upon as As Dates For Business Session. Members Requested to Wear Their Uniforms.

New Orleans, Jan. 27.—Officials of the United Confederate Veterans have decided upon June 5 to 7, inclusive, as the dates for the business sessions of the twenty-seventh annual reunion to be held in Washington, according to general orders issued by General Geo. P. Harrison, commander in chief, and announced here tonight by Adjutant General William E. Mickie. Other features connected with the re-union, the announcement stated, will occupy the entire week beginning June 4.

In urging the veterans to attend the gathering, General Harrison mentioned that this will be the first Confederate re-union ever held outside the Confederate States and he praised the members of the G. A. R. in Washington for taking the initiative in inviting their former opponents on the battlefield to meet in the Nation's Capital. Members of the various camps are urged to attend in uniform.

The orders also stated that the Confederate Southern Memorial Association and the Sons of Confederate Veterans will hold their conventions in Washington simultaneously with the veterans' reunion. The prominent speakers for the afternoon called Mrs. Margaret Howell Butler, widow of Lieut.-Col. Malcolm C. Butler, for whose slaying Spanell is also under indictment.

STATE ATTEMPTS TO IMPEACH THE TESTIMONY OF SPANELL

Widow of Colonel Butler Repeats Her Previous Testimony. San Angelo, Texas, Jan. 27.—In an effort to impeach the testimony of Harry J. Spanell, on trial here for killing his wife at Alpine, Texas, July 20, 1916, the state has today called Mrs. Margaret Howell Butler, widow of Lieut.-Col. Malcolm C. Butler, for whose slaying Spanell is also under indictment.

Mrs. Butler's testimony was a repetition of her previous testimony that Mrs. Spanell had accompanied Colonel Butler and herself to the Butler room in the Holland hotel at Alpine a short time before the shooting, and that Mrs. Spanell had not been insulted and there had been no quarrel.

Four reported killed in passenger train collision.

Several said to have been hurt on the Rock Island at Mounds, Ark. Memphis, Tenn., Jan. 27.—Four persons were reported to have been killed and several injured in a rear end collision late tonight between passenger trains of the St. Louis, Southwestern & Rock Island railroad at Mounds, Ark., a junction point near Memphis. A relief train was sent from this city.

Half of business block in Pittsburg fire-swept.

Pittsburg, Jan. 27.—Sixteen hours after the disastrous fire which swept through half of one of the principal business blocks of Pittsburg early today, causing the destruction of a number of retail establishments and entailing a loss of \$2,000,000, workmen tonight began raising the ruined buildings preparatory to the rebuilding of the block.

Emperor William's Declaration Received as Surprise in Some Entente Capitals.

BIRTHDAY IS CELEBRATED

Teutonic State, Military and Naval Leaders Assemble at Great Headquarters.

REVIEW OF THE WAR NEWS

Verdun and Riga Regions Scenes of Principal Activity.

Emperor William, of Germany, repeated on his fifty-eighth birthday anniversary Saturday his promise previously made to the German army that Germany would enforce peace with the sword. His message was sent to Berlin from the German great headquarters in reply to birthday congratulations, according to German newspapers.

It was contrary to expectations in some of the entente capitals that the emperor would make a notable peace move in an address he was expected to deliver at a meeting of Teutonic state, military and naval leaders, assembled at the headquarters to celebrate the anniversary.

French Attack Falls. The vicinity of Hill 304, in the Verdun sector, and the Riga region of the northern Russian front continue to be the chief centers of military activity.

After subjecting the German defense works at Eparges and Hill 304 to an intense bombardment, the French stormed the trenches recently occupied by the Germans, but according to the Berlin war office, the attack failed with heavy losses.

Fresh Russian troops have reinforced the line east of the river Aa in the Riga district, but were unable to drive the Germans from ground they recently captured. On the other hand, German attempts to throw back the Russian line in the vicinity of Kalnsi were unsuccessful. The artillery has been active on the Franco-Belgian battle line, between the Somme and Ancre rivers, as well as in the vicinity of Riga.

Activity on the other fronts is limited mainly to artillery duels, trench raids and aerial combats.

"WILL FORCE BY THE SWORD THE PEACE NECESSARY."

London, Jan. 27.—Telegraphing from the German great headquarters to the Berlin Academy of Science, in reply to birthday congratulations, Emperor William reiterated today the assertion that the German people will obtain peace by the sword, says a Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam, which declares this information was obtained from German newspapers. The Emperor's message, as quoted read: "The unshakable will to victory of the German people, who are prepared for every sacrifice of blood and treasure, will, I trust God, preserve the Fatherland from the ruin contemplated by its enemies and will force by the sword the peace necessary for the blessed development of the people."

Formal congratulations cabled by the president.