

VILLA BANDIT TROOPS HOLD AMERICAN TOWN AND PILLAGE, ROB AND MURDER ITS CITIZENS

COLUMBUS, NEW MEXICO, IS RETAKEN BY U. S. SOLDIERS

Four American Soldiers Were Killed and Seven Wounded in Recapture of City Which Was Left in Flames by Mexican Bandits

NATION'S LEADERS VERY MUCH AROUSED

DARING ATTACK OCCURRED AT 4:30 O'CLOCK THIS MORNING, AND WITH HOTELS AND BUILDINGS SET ON FIRE, FIVE HUNDRED MEXICANS MADE SPORT OF KILLING AMERICANS AS THEY WERE DRIVEN INTO STREETS BY FLAMES AND SMOKE; THREE TROOPS OF THIRTEENTH CAVALRY GO TO RESCUE OF AMERICAN RESIDENTS.

(By Associated Press.)

COLUMBUS, New Mexico, March 9.—Five hundred Villa bandits attacked this point at 4:30 o'clock this morning, killing a number of civilian men and women, and had possession of the town for an hour and a half. They were then driven off by three troops of the Thirteenth Cavalry. They retreated at 6 o'clock, leaving part of the town in flames.

Colonel Slocum announced that four American soldiers were killed and seven wounded. Fourteen dead Mexicans were counted near the army camp. A large number of Mexicans were killed, their bodies dotted over the streets where they had been posted, picking off Americans who emerged from the hotels and dwelling houses. There appeared to be none wounded. Several guests were burned in the Central hotel, which was one of the first buildings fired by Villa's men. Mexican bandits standing outside of the burning building shot down A. L. Ritchie, proprietor of the hotel, and W. R. Walker, a guest, as they attempted to dash out of the door. Both were dead when picked up later.

C. C. Miller, owner of a drug store, was shot as he tried to enter the door of the Hoover hotel, an adobe structure whose mud walls protected a score of cowering women and children who remained in the rooms, while a howling mob of bandits surged through the surrounding streets.

During the first attack of the Thirteenth Cavalry it suffered little, although a number of American soldiers were killed and wounded and a number of cavalry horses ridden off by the Mexicans as they fled back toward Mexico after daylight.

WASHINGTON AROUSED BY REPORT

Washington, March 9.—First report of the Mexican raid on Columbus, N. M., was received at the White House while President Wilson was having his first conference with Newton D. Baker, the new Secretary of War.

Officials admitted that the raid put a very serious aspect on the Mexican situation. While the policy of the administration so far has been to look to the Carranza forces to deal with the bandits, some officials declare that it was a grave situation whether such a raid as that on Columbus was not sufficient evidence of inability of the Carranza government to deal with the situation to warrant sending American troops over the line.

There was no intention to impair the sovereignty of Mexico or purpose of occupation of the territory but was simply to deal with a situation menacing the American border even when the Carranza government evidently had no control.

It was said in the White House that vigorous steps would be taken to punish the bandits. The President directed Secretary Baker to do everything possible for the protection of Americans.

Further Details of Raid.

Columbus, N. M., March 9.—Five hundred Mexican bandits, believed to have been led by Francisco Villa, crossed the border under the cover of darkness early today and attacked this town, killing a dozen or more American men and women, including at least six United States soldiers. When the bandits first returned Mexican some hours later they were pursued by United States troops who are said to have crossed the border. A large number of Mexican dead were left lying in the streets of Columbus and at the border the Mexicans were subjected to a flank attack of American troops and eighteen more of their number were killed. Several American citizens in Columbus declared they personally saw Villa direct

"PEACE AND PREPAREDNESS," SLOGAN OF NEW WAR SECRETARY



Newton D. Baker, his wife and two of his children.



NEWTON D. BAKER'S RAPID RISE

Important dates in the life of Newton D. Baker, named by President Wilson as Secretary of War, are as follows:

- 1871—Born on December 3, at Martinsburg, W. Va., son of Dr. and Mrs. N. D. Baker. Early education obtained in public schools.
- 1891—Was graduated from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.
- 1892—Was graduated in law from Washington-Lee. Obtained post of secretary to late William H. Wilson, Postmaster-General in Grover Cleveland's administration.
- 1897—Returned to Martinsburg, W. Va., to practice law.
- 1899—Went to Cleveland January 1. Joined the law firm of Forman, McLaughlin & Baker.
- 1902—Appointed first assistant city solicitor by Mayor Johnson on January 1. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Leopold, Portstown, Pa., July 3.
- 1903—Appointed director of law by Mayor Johnson, January 1. 1904-05-06—Elected city solicitor.
- 1911—Elected mayor by a majority of 17,833, greatest ever given a candidate.
- 1912—Fought for home-rule constitution.
- 1913—Re-elected mayor. He left from law chair.
- 1914—Retired from public office, January 1, to practice law. Accepted post of Secretary of War of United States in President Wilson's Cabinet, March 6.

Cleveland, O., March 9.—Peace, preparedness and efficiency are the words that form Newton D. Baker's policy in accepting the office of Secretary of War. In announcing that he had accepted President Wilson's cabinet office, he stated that he believes in peace—but also in preparedness. And he indicated a resolute determination to remain silent on subjects of national affairs during such an international crisis as that existing now.

"I have always been a peace advocate," Baker said.

"I believe in peace and in the proper enforcement of the laws of peace by force if necessary."

"Does not that amount to a belief in full and adequate preparedness?" he was asked.

"I shall not draw an inference as to what it means, you may do as you wish," the new Secretary of War said.

"I have no statement to make as to the course I shall take, nor as to the duties of Secretary of War. I know nothing about the office."

"I would not be proper for me to talk about the policy of the War Department. Congress now has the matter of national defense under consideration. The Secretary of War talks to Congress only through the President."

HIGHWAYMAN GETS SIX YEARS FOR HOLD-UP

A case of much interest, that of the negro highwayman Jesse Bullock, who was tried for holding up and robbing W. H. Wright, of the Burlington association, attracted much interest in Edgecombe Superior court yesterday. The negro was sentenced to six years in the penitentiary. The highway robbery for which this negro was tried occurred about two miles from this city in Edgecombe county on the Burlington road and the negro was first apprehended by the police here and he was brought to court.

Mr. Wright, viewed the local tobacco market early in December last year and sold a small quantity of tobacco and was returning home with about \$50 in money on his person. Although there were two other men on the wagon with him at the time the negro did not appear suddenly in the road and covering them with a pistol aimed Mr. Wright to hand over his money under a threat of taking his life. Mr. Wright refused the demand to the police and a few days later an arrest occurred.

Mrs. Thomas Moore and son returned on this afternoon to their home in Willsboro after visiting for the past several days at the home of Miss Nannie Walker, also at the home of Miss Nannie Moore.

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WAR SUMMARY

The French official report today claims the repulse of the Germans near Domont and the village of Vaux, after several heavy attacks, accompanied by intense artillery fire and hand-to-hand assaults and declares the Germans were completely defeated after having penetrated the village of Vaux.

The German official statement on the other hand claims that the Germans were successful in taking the village and armed fort of the Vaux.

List of the Vaux fighting has been carried on with great vigor since yesterday. The Germans are said to have directed several powerful attacks in that region but were unable to make any progress, according to a Paris statement.

In the West, there has been an intermittent bombardment on both sides with little infantry activity. In the west of the front, the French are said to have captured a number of prisoners.

In the Argonne the French artillery has been concentrating a fire on the enemy's lines of communication, notably in the western Argonne and in the region of Montfaucon and Montelluis.

The Turkish official statements show the situation unchanged in all theaters of war in which the Turks are operating.

GERMANY DECLARES WAR ON PORTUGAL

(By Associated Press)

Berlin, March 9.—(By wireless to Sayville.)—Germany declared war on Portugal at 3:30 yesterday afternoon and handed its passports to the Portuguese minister.

TWO AMERICANS IN MEXICO KILLED BY VILLA BANDITS

El Paso, Tex., March 9.—Accredited but unnumbered reports today by General Gabriel Garcia at Juarez, state that two Americans named Franklin and Wright, were killed by Villa bandits Monday at a point between Casas Grandes and Janos, Chihuahua.

The services contained nothing as to the fate of the wife and small son of Mr. Wright, who was reported with the men of Poshes.

Garcia declared the men, said to be American painters, resembling many of Casas Grandes, distinguished earnings he had sent to all American residents of northern Chihuahua when he first learned of Villa's movements in that section.

SPORTSMEN HERE TO FORM ACTIVE ORGANIZATION

There has been set in motion a plan for an organization of the sportsmen of this city and section the purpose being the promotion of the best interests along all lines and there was held last night a meeting at the Y. M. C. A., when a temporary organization was formed looking to the securing of wide widespread interest. With upwards of a score of local citizens in attendance there was a marked enthusiasm as to the great needs and the purpose that would be served in an organization of sportsmen here, and there was an informal discussion after which a temporary organization was gone into with a view to eliciting greater interest and looking to the formation of a permanent organization later. The permanent organization will probably be formed sometime during the coming week at which time a name will be selected.

Every citizen is invited to attend next week's meeting if he may be interested in sports and especially hunting and fishing. The temporary organization of last night named Mr. H. M. Finch as chairman and Dr. L. R. Gorham as secretary. There was appointed a committee on constitution and by-laws which was composed of Mr. A. F. Suddister, chairman and Messrs. John Benton, T. E. Jenkins and H. S. Pool. The membership committee named Dr. R. C. Willis, chairman and Messrs. W. A. Bulluck, S. S. Henry, J. L. Horns Jr., and Dr. L. R. Gorham.

WEILDER WITNESS SUMMONED

Local citizens who witnessed the resistance and shooting at Bartholomew by the negro after they yesterday afternoon shot Edgecombe Superior court this morning, when the case is opened by Judge Lyon and Albrook. The fact that the negro is a witness in the case, and it is thought that he will carry a clearer investigation charges against the negro and an increase of the confidence of local citizens had expressed as feeling disappointed for his offense.

NEWTON AUTOMOBILE PARTY WRECK

Newton, March 9.—Every of a Newton motor party on Charlotte suffered more or less injuries yesterday when they dived on a slick piece of road the south of Maiden and turned machine was owned and driven by J. A. Young, who, with Mrs. and Mrs. L. H. Phillips, was while Mrs. D. L. Yoder and Miss Hoyle were more seriously and were taken on to the Lincoln. The party from Newton and the hostess was brought back this morning.

COTTON MARKET

New York, March 9.—Cotton opened steady. May 11.66; July 12.05; December, 12.31; January offered 12.35.

The cotton market opened steady 1 cent lower to 2 higher, 9 to 10 points above last night with May touching 11.76, 11.96. There was enough to check the advance at the market held very steady, no hour on reports of a demand at both New Orleans and Memphis.

STOCK MARKET

New York, March 9.—The advance that demanded late trading particularly shares was resumed with zinc lead that division, 2-3-4 points to the new high. Baldwin Locomotives, General National Lead and Mexican were higher by a point or more. Machine preferred showed strength. United changed hands and rose a fraction over yesterday. Among rails a big advance led for Reading, Harlan and York Central.

FINDS LOCAL MAN IS THE FAVORITE OF CANDIDATES

Citizens Here Enthusiastic Over Indications of Attendants at Meeting. INTEREST FROM ALL SECTIONS OF STATE Dozen or More Citizens Who Attended Meeting of Democratic Executive Committee in Raleigh Are Very Enthusiastic.

IRE OF VILLAS IS STAR BY BANDIT

United States May Pursuit of Bandits in Mexico Territory. WHITE HOUSE KEYS SILENT AS TO A President Wilson That New Secretary of War Will Take On Duties of That Office.

Local citizens are at home from Raleigh, where they yesterday attended the meeting of the State Democratic Executive committee and mingled with the political leaders of the State. They report considerable enthusiasm for the cause of Lieutenant Governor Daughtridge for the nomination for Governor.

Upwards of a dozen local citizens were present in Raleigh yesterday in the interest of the candidacy of the gentleman from this city, and this number, coupled with those now domiciled in Raleigh, where they are directing the campaign from the Daughtridge headquarters, caused a large representation from this city.

The friends from the city give reports of an enthusiastic response for the nomination of the former candidate and the fact that his candidacy is not only being presented by new friends every day and by ever increasing ranks of counties that are assuring Daughtridge vote. As the time approaches, there is an increasing interest in his campaign from all sections of the State and his prospects of nomination at the hands of the voters is growing brighter daily.

(By Associated Press)

Washington, March 9.—President Wilson started a new agitation today when those who have opposed administration's Mexican policy charged that the attack was their repeated declaration that Carranza's government was impeding the situation. At the White House reports of massacre were given with evidences of the great.

Officials most familiar with Carranza's Mexican policy were today indicated that the raid brought the situation to a point where it might be difficult for the policy of non-interference.

After the President and Secretary of War had discussed the situation, President Wilson said that the Secretary of War should take the new Secretary of War office to be sworn in. One of the probable courses most discussed in official circles was to send American troops over the line to clear out the

LOCAL Y'S BOWLERS ROLL GAME TONIGHT

The first and second teams, of the local association rolled a contest game last night.

Team No. 2 winning the game by six pins. However, it was only a practice game for the first team. Owing to the "Bowling by Wire" contest that is to be rolled tonight, the fellows on Team No. 1 did not care to overwork themselves. The following associations are in the bowling by wire contest: Florence, Richmond, Waverly, and Rocky Mount. So far Rocky Mount is leading them all. There will be a large crowd present tonight to cheer the fellows on to victory. All are invited, especially the ladies.