

# The Asheville Gazette News.

## PRESIDENT TO ASK CONGRESS ACTION THIS AFTERNOON

### HUERTA IS SILENT WHILE U.S. RUSHES PUNITIVE ORDERS

#### President Will Act as Congress Approves Ports' Seizure.

#### MEETING IS HELD BY WAR COUNCIL General Wood Will Command Land Forces, It Is Decided.

Washington, April 20.—At noon today the Mexican crisis was unchanged; no new proposals had come from Huerta and President Wilson was ready to lay the case before a joint session of congress at 3 p. m.

Charge Algora of the Mexican embassy took a new proposition from Huerta to Secretary Bryan at 10:50 a. m. The charge described it as "hopeful."

Secretary Bryan left the cabinet meeting to go to the state department to meet Mr. Algora and receive Huerta's latest proposition.

Secretary Bryan received Mr. Algora's message and announced that it did not contain any new proposals, but was merely the full text of the communication to Charge O'Shaughnessy which had been delivered there last night. He said the situation was unchanged.

### MOVEMENTS TODAY OF ARMY AND NAVY

#### Joint Army and Navy Board Have Made Plans For Co-operation.

Washington, April 20.—The joint army and navy board, headed by Admiral Dewey, today had its first session in many months. It discusses plans for co-operation of the army and navy in case it becomes necessary to adopt measures in Mexico.

Houston, Tex., April 20.—The second division of the United States army here on a practice march began a hurried movement back to Texas City and Galveston today on orders from Washington. The fifth brigade was rushed aboard troop trains but the remainder of the big army unit, which brought nearly 10,000 men here, was ordered to march back to the coast—60 miles. Plans were made for the fourth brigade to go aboard transports, although it was said no sailing orders have been received.

The plan was to have the fifth, numbering nearly 5,000 men, ready for sailing to Vera Cruz by Tuesday morning if a troop movement were ordered.

### RESOLUTIONS FOR A JOINT SESSION

#### Senate and Congress Leaders Agree to Joint Meeting At 3 O'Clock.

Washington, April 20.—After conferences with White House officials congress leaders agreed on a joint session of both houses at 3 p. m. today and the foreign affairs committee began work on a resolution.

The house upon assembling immediately and unanimously passed a concurrent resolution for a joint session with the senate at 3 p. m.

New York, April 20.—"Congress will back up the president," declared Speaker Champ Clark here early today. "There will be no division between the president and congress on that question. And the whole country will stand behind the president as well as congress."

### NOT WAR WITH MEXICO, HE SAYS

#### The President Says Under No Circumstances Will United States Fight Mexican People.

#### SAYS ISSUE IS ONLY WITH ONE MAN—HUERTA

#### Wilson Does Not Want War—Considers Reprisals Planned as "Measures Short Of War."

Washington, April 20.—President Wilson told the Washington correspondents today not to get the impression that the United States was going to have war with Mexico. He pointed out that under no circumstances would the United States fight the Mexican people; that it was their friend.

Mr. Wilson said he was going to congress to tell of a special situation and to ask approval of plans to meet a special situation. He declared the issue was only between the United States and a man who calls himself president of Mexico but whom the United States had never recognized as entitled to that right.

The president said the intention of the United States was to help the people of Mexico and that he had gotten a feeling of uneasiness when he found the newspapers fired with enthusiasm for war. Mr. Wilson declared he did not want war, but justice and that he did not consider such acts of reprisals as are planned, acts of war, but measures short of war, sustained by the Greytown precedent, for one.

The president said that in reality he was going to congress on an occasion, for which, strictly speaking, it was not necessary to obtain authority but that it was his desire to have the full co-operation and thought and purpose of congress.

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Mr. Wilson said the executive could take steps which would fall short of a declaration of war. He said that he had not lost his patience with Mexico, for to lose patience seemed to him an act of weakness on the part of a person strong enough to do as he ought, but that he felt such incidents as recent ones might go from bad to worse and eventually bring about conflict.

The president added that he thought it was wise in the interests of peace to cut off those repeated offenses at an early stage.

Events of the day, the president repeated, such as a final acceptance from Huerta might alter his plans, and he added that even the course of action by the navy was dependent upon circumstances from hour to hour.

When the president was asked the direct question if the purpose of his action was to secure the elimination of Huerta he replied the Tampico incident did not involve that question. He replied the United States merely wanted full recognition of its dignity and such a recognition as would constitute a guarantee that such incidents as the one at Tampico would not recur.

The president announced he had his message ready, that it was about a thousand words long. He declined to give out copies of it in advance as has been the custom, saying he wanted to keep it under advisement to the last minute. He arranged, however, to have copies given out at the capital simultaneously with his delivery.

### MINISTER DEFENDS MEXICAN POSITION

#### GIANT TASK, SAYS PRESS OF LONDON

#### British Papers Think The U. S. is Foeing Different Proposition.

London, April 20.—Mexico overshadowed all other matters in public interest here today. Important domestic politics had to give way to what has been considered here for a long time the inevitable intervention by the United States to restore order in Mexico.

The Westminster Gazette, a leading government organ, in expressing the view that nothing can now avert war, "or if not war," what the late William E. Gladstone would have called "military operations," says:

"One cannot pretend to be surprised that this could be the end of the refusal of the United States to recognize General Huerta. There are a good many other nations which in other circumstances might have tackled the hornet's nest but this case is one in which the Monroe doctrine adds to the United States with heavy obligations from which there is no escape."

The Pall Mall Gazette, an opposition newspaper, says: "Our sympathy with the Americans does not blind us to the perils of the course to which they seem about to commit themselves."

The Globe says: "Upon the United States will be laid the extremely difficult duty of protecting both its own citizens and foreigners exposed to Mexican barbarity. In all probability an eventual reorganization of the whole country is a counsel of desperation adopted in the hope that all factions in Mexico will unite with him to repel the Gringo attack. Many observers are of opinion that this may prove correct. In that case the United States has before it a gigantic task."

The Evening Standard thinks Huerta is mistaken if he expects to produce a wave of popularity for himself.

### COMMISSION FOR STATE APPOINTED

#### Men Named to Arrange For Participation of N. C. in Panama-Pacific Fair.

Governor Locke Craig has named a commission for North Carolina to make arrangements for the part of that state, which will take in the Panama-Pacific exposition in San Francisco next year. Announcement of this commission has just been made from the governor's office in Raleigh. George S. Powell of Asheville is a member of the commission, the personnel of which follows: Gen. Julian S. Carr, Durham; Stuart Cramer and E. Hutchinson, Charlotte; John C. Drury, Raleigh; G. H. Haldenese, Tarboro; T. D. Brown, Salisbury; R. J. Reynolds, Winston-Salem; Leonard Tufts, Pinehurst; J. A. Brown, Chatham; and George S. Powell, Asheville.

Governor Craig and other leading men of the state are of the opinion that it would be of inestimable value to North Carolina to be well represented at the exposition, since this state offers such excellent advantages to home-seekers and is possessed of marvelous natural resources. It will be the duty of the commission just named to arrange for this representation and decide on its extent. There will probably be a meeting of the commission on May 11 in the governor's office in Raleigh to take up preliminary matters in this arrangement.

### Negotiations With U.S. Are Revealed at Mexico City.

### NO FLAG CARRIED BY MEN ARRESTED

### Acceptance of the Demands Means Humiliation, He Declares.

Mexico City, April 20.—The federal capital awaited with intense interest today next word from Washington in reply to Huerta's refusal to comply with the American demand. Morning papers published a lengthy statement by Foreign Minister Portillo y Rojas outlining reasons for the position Huerta had taken—namely, that the American flag was not flying on the boat when the bluejackets were arrested on shore at Tampico, that therefore the flag had not been insulted and that compliance with the demand for an unconditional salute would be humiliating to Mexico.

This statement was followed by a statement from President Huerta advising Mexicans to refrain from demonstrations which might embarrass possible future negotiations.

Many American residents have prepared to stay in the Mexican capital whatever the outcome of the present crisis unless they are ordered to leave by the Mexican authorities. They express belief that they will not be harmed in any eventuality. Others are going to Vera Cruz or are preparing to leave if necessary.

Roja's Statement. "On April 9 between 11 and noon a boat without an American flag and with nine marines and one officer landed at a point called the Beach of Turbide in Tampico. Colonel Raymond Hinojosa, who has charge of defending that point, detained the marines and officer and conducted them to the presence of the general who had command of the fort Ignacio Morelos Zaragoza.

"It should be remembered that at this time the port not only was under military control but was withstanding an attack by rebels.

"General Zaragoza immediately and without even investigating the case put the marines and the officer at liberty, placed Hinojosa in prison and sent an apology to Rear Admiral Mayo, commander of the American fleet.

"Thought Incident Closed. "We thought the incident closed but unfortunately this was not so, because Mayo sent to him some time afterwards an ultimatum wherein he asked that a second apology be presented to him by the staff of the chief of the fort, General Zaragoza; that the American flag be hoisted at a public place in Tampico and saluted by 21 guns and besides, the severe punishment of Hinojosa, stipulating that all this be done within 24 hours.

"The term was later extended when diplomatic negotiations were begun by the sub-secretary of affairs in Mexico, the minister of war being absent at that date, and continued until now.

Further Investigation. "The president of Mexico when informed of the case ordered another investigation of the facts and punish-

ment of the guilty officer, if it were proved he was blameworthy. He also authorized the minister of foreign affairs to express regret on account of the incident. When he became aware that the American government supported the request of Rear Admiral Mayo relative to a salute of the American flag which had not been insulted, he proposed to show his good will toward the American people, though he did not think that such a request was just, proposing that the flags of the two nations be hoisted and saluted reciprocally and simultaneously.

"When the American government did not agree with that idea, but insisted upon Rear Admiral Mayo's request, giving assurances that according to international practice the salute would be returned by American cannon after the salute to the American flag, this was not accepted by President Huerta, who insisted upon his proposition.

Patrol Proposed. "Then the American government determined that the proposition be brought to an end by the final decision of President Huerta within a term which expired at 6 o'clock tonight, announcing that if by that time he had not agreed to the salute of the American flag as requested the affair would be presented to the American congress for decision.

"The Mexican government, believing that the salute in question was of no importance unless previously and formally agreed upon by both parties, proposed the signing of a protocol and the minister of foreign affairs last night presented a draft of such protocol to the American Charge D'Affaires, Nelson O'Shaughnessy.

"O'Shaughnessy answered that he must consult his government; that he would advise the minister of the nature of this answer and this afternoon he communicated to the minister the fact that his government did not accept the idea of a signature of any protocol whatever but wanted an unconditional salute of the American flag.

Inspired by Honor and Dignity. "This the Mexican government refused, feeling it had done all possible, in view of the friendly understanding between the two governments and believing the acceptance of such an imposition would be equivalent to yielding by Mexico to humiliation. The Mexican government is confident that the civilized world will find its conduct has been wise and temperate, that it has observed all the requirements of international law, and that the refusal to yield further is inspired only by a regard for its honor and dignity."

Draft of Protocol. "The draft of the protocol by Mexico, refused signature by the United States follows: "With a view to putting an end to the lamentable incident which occurred on the ninth instant at Port Tampico, caused by the detention of nine men and one American officer; considering that such marines were immediately put at liberty by General Zaragoza, commander of Port Tampico and that said officer presented an apology to Rear Admiral Mayo, commander of the American squadron in those waters; that afterwards when the president of the republic of Mexico became advised of the facts he expressed regret through the office of foreign relations for the incident and ordered that a full investigation be made to the end that the guilty might be punished if any be found guilty, and finally that the action in question was due to the zeal of a subaltern which might be regarded as excusable if it is taken into consideration that the marines who detained had

(Continued on page 15.)