

VERA CRUZ IS ORDERED TAKEN; REBELS RALLY TO HUERTA

PRESIDENT MAKES WAR MOVE; CONGRESS DEBATES

REBELS ESPOUSING FEDERALIST CAUSE

German Ship Bearing Huerta Supplies Is Nearing Port.

AMERICAN EXODUS FROM MEXICO CITY

Cabinet Considering Crisis And Congress Takes Up Resolution.

Washington, D.C., April 21.—While congress is debating the Mexican situation, President Wilson has ordered Rear Admiral Fletcher to seize the Vera Cruz customs house and prevent Huerta from getting several millions rounds of ammunition and two hundred field guns now on a German steamer bound for that port.

The orders went out from Washington early today when it became apparent that delay in congress was accruing to Huerta's advantage.

At noon the cabinet was in session and so far as was known no word had been received from Admiral Fletcher of his action. The orders, officials said, left to the admiral's discretion when and how to act. As there is no blockade the American forces could not interfere with the German steamer. The orders were to seize the guns and shells after they had landed or to seize the customs house to prevent their landing and thus keep them from going to Mexico City.

Officials declared that President Wilson had ample authority for his action without the approval of congress.

Meanwhile both house and senate reconvened and the senate went to work on the resolution of approval of the president's course.

Broad Authority. The orders went out to Admiral Fletcher at daybreak after President Wilson and cabinet officials had been in conference since 4 a. m. mostly over the telephone.

The orders to the admiral, it was said, conferred the broadest authority upon him, and directing that if necessary he take the city of Vera Cruz as well as the customs house to prevent the landing of the munitions.

Officials here said the admiral might act in several ways. He might wait until the German steamer had landed her cargo unopposed and then take the customs house and the munitions; or when the German steamer comes to the port he might seize the customs house and if the guns were landed they would come into possession of the American forces. That the steamer might take her cargo to some other port was a possibility of which officials were certain.

Expect Report. Some report from the admiral was being awaited momentarily. Democratic senate leaders believed the order to Admiral Fletcher would serve to speed up action in the senate on the resolution to support the president's course. Before the senate met, it was apparent however, that republican leaders were planning to champion the presidential substitute submitted by Senator Lodge which refers to the long series of outrages against Americans in Mexico. That has not been accepted, however, by democrats

of the committee and there is no disposition on the part of the majority to accept it. The Lodge substitute will not be accepted by house leaders. It was authoritatively stated early today.

The house resolution as amended by the senate foreign relations committee was laid before the senate soon after noon. A resolution accepting the apologies already offered by Huerta as "insufficient reparation" for the Tampico incident was introduced in the senate by Senator Weeks, who proposed it as a substitute for the resolution calling for the use of armed forces in Mexico.

When the house foreign affairs committee met Chairman Flood said the house democrats would not oppose the Mexican resolution in the senate. War department officials said there was nothing to indicate necessity for immediate orders for troop movements. No unusual alarm is reflected in border dispatches over anti-American outbreaks but such communications as came from frontier towns were forwarded to Brigadier General Bliss, commanding the border patrol.

Secretary Bryan said he was in uninterrupted correspondence with Charge O'Shaughnessy in Mexico City. He gave no intimation as to the nature of the exchanges, although he said he had heard nothing concerning possible presentation of the American charge with his passports.

Secretary Bryan said just before entering the cabinet meeting that there was a general exodus of Americans from Mexico City to Vera Cruz and that many Americans at the latter place were getting aboard the Ward line Esperanza.

Landing Delayed. Washington April 21.—Landing of American bluejackets and marines in Mexico was delayed today while President Wilson awaited congressional approval of his purpose to use armed forces to compel respect for the stars and stripes from Huerta. Objection to the form of the resolution passed by the house last night to endorse the president's plans had prevented action in the senate, which after a spectacular midnight session recessed until noon today to take up a substitute measure reported by its foreign relations committee.

This substitute, which administration leaders expected to see adopted after brief debate and sent over the house for concurrence, would broaden the congressional declaration and eliminate direct reference to Victoriano Huerta. It would specifically disclaim on the part of the United States any hostility to the Mexican people or any purpose to make war upon them.

The president told congress yesterday that he had full constitutional powers to act in this crisis to uphold the nation's honor and dignity but desired an expression of congressional determination to use the army and navy to force reparation for the arrest of American bluejackets at Tampico. Orders for reprisals will not go forth until congress has voted its endorsement.

Fleets Nearing Shores. Fleets of the United States are nearing the shores of Mexico. Rear Admiral Badger with four dreadnoughts is expected to reach Tampico tomorrow. Two of his ships probably will go on to Vera Cruz while two will join the vessels off Tampico. Seizure of these two ports has been determined upon as the first step in the administration's reprisal program. When Vera Cruz has been taken a force probably will be sent inland to seize the railway tracks upon which communication with Mexico City depends.

Active preparations for immediate action continued at the navy and war departments today. What the two

branches of the service are ready to do had been explained to President Wilson at a White House conference last night.

Substitute Resolution. The senate had agreed to consider the committee substitute or the house resolution upon convening today. This substitute had been agreed to by administration senators after Acting Chairman Shively of the foreign relations committee had conferred with Vice President Marshall, Secretary Garrison, Postmaster General Burleson and Secretary Tumulty, who went to the capitol at midnight when word came that objections to the "individualizing of Huerta," was about to hold up action in the committee indefinitely. President Wilson himself had retired about 10 o'clock after hearing the house had passed the resolution.

The substitute is as follows: "In view of the facts presented by the president of the United States in his address delivered to congress in joint session on the 20th day of April, 1914, in regard to certain affronts and indignities committed against the United States in Mexico, be it

Resolved, that the president is justified in the employment of the armed forces of the United States to enforce his demand for unequivocal amends for the affronts and indignities committed against the United States; be it further

Resolved, that the United States disclaims any hostility to the Mexican people or any purpose to make war upon them."

Another Substitute. Senator Lodge, ranking republican member of the foreign relations committee, has submitted another substitute. It would declare that in view of a state of anarchy existing in Mexico, making it impossible for Mexico to discharge its international obligations, and the unprovoked insults and indignities inflicted upon the flag and the uniform of the United States by armed forces there:

"That the self respect and dignity of the United States and the duty to protect its citizens and its international rights require that such a course be followed in Mexico by our government as to compel respect and observance of its rights."

Arrangements for Blockade. Arrangements for participation of the revenue cutters in a Mexican blockade were under way today. There are now twenty-three cutters available for immediate operations along the Mexican coast; seven on the Pacific side and sixteen on the Atlantic.

There has been no instruction so far as to what part the army is to take in carrying out the president's program. For months past to all inquiries as to action by the army in Mexico, Secretary Garrison's invariable reply has been "Semper paratus" (always ready).

Ready for Duty. New York, April 21.—The new superdreadnoughts New York and Texas the two largest battleships in the world, are expected to be on duty in southern waters soon. It was announced at the Brooklyn navy yard that the New York, which was placed in commission last week, would sail for Guantanamo, Cuba, on Sunday. The New York has been under orders for some time to proceed to sea for her "shaking down." Since the Mexican situation became acute finishing touches on the vessel have been rushed. Ammunition was being stowed away on the New York and the Texas today.

The Texas is ready for sea duty on short notice.

Cakes on Coal. San Francisco, April 21.—The cruiser South Dakota from the Puget Sound navy yard with 240 marines aboard entered San Francisco harbor early today and proceeded to California City to take on coal preparatory to departing for Mexican waters. About 500 marines from the Mare Island navy yard will be taken aboard the South Dakota.

NANTUCKET CAPTAIN'S LICENSE IS REVOKED

Washington, April 21.—Captain Osmy Berry of the Merchants and Miners packet Nantucket which rammed and sank the Old Dominion liner Monroe with a loss of 41 lives off the Virginia coast in January, has been found guilty of negligence and his license has been revoked.

A board of steamboat inspectors at Philadelphia divided responsibility for the disaster between Captain Berry and Captain Johnson of the Monroe. On appeal to Captain Seeley, the inspector commanding, Captain Berry has been held alone guilty. Captain Seeley's decision holds that the Nantucket might have seen the Monroe nearly a mile away; that the Nantucket heard the Monroe's whistle and that the collision could have been avoided.

13 KILLED IN STRIKE BATTLE

Militiamen and Deputy Sheriffs Engage in a Desperate Fight With Srikers At Ludlow, Col.

RENEWAL OF CONFLICT EXPECTED ANY MOMENT

The Colony Presents Scene of Death and Desolation—Fight Raged Over Three Square Miles.

Trinidad, Col., April 21.—Thirteen persons were believed to be dead but the number of wounded was unknown when day dawned on the Ludlow battlefield where yesterday 100 militiamen and deputy sheriffs fought a battle with strikers. Renewal of the conflict was expected momentarily. The militiamen were reinforced during the forenoon.

The Ludlow colony presented a scene of death and desolation today. Soldiers declared quantities of ammunition were exploded by the blaze that swept the colony during the night.

Yesterday's battle centered about the big trestle of the Colorado and Southeastern railroad and several dead are said to be lying along the tracks behind which the strikers took refuge.

Throughout the day and intermittently during the night the fighting raged over an area of approximately three square miles. The battle field was completely isolated by the cutting of telegraph and telephone wires. Fighting began early yesterday when a militia detachment under Lieutenant Linderfelt started to investigate the cause of firing near Cedar hill. As the day progressed word of the clash reached officials and a relief militia expedition was sent. They found the strikers barricaded in the pumping station. At dusk the strikers retreated along a gully back of the blazing tent colony, followed by the militia who swept the valley with machine guns.

With the arrival of reinforcements today Major Hamrock had approximately 175 men opposed to strikers variously estimated at from 400 to 800.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN CHICAGO AT WAR NEWS

Chicago, April 21.—News that the house had passed the resolution authorizing President Wilson to use armed forces to compel respect to the Stars and Stripes was greeted with cheers by throngs in Chicago theaters and cafes last night.

In one theater the news from Washington was flashed on a screen as the orchestra began to play "The Star-Spangled Banner." The music was drowned by cheers.

A demonstration lasting 15 minutes occurred in another theater when an address appeared on the stage carrying a large American flag. "His America," called someone in the audience. The orchestra played America and every person in the house stood up and joined in the singing. "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean," "Maryland," "The Star-Spangled Banner," and "Dixie" followed in rapid succession and the audience gave three cheers for President Wilson.

Shortly before midnight a student on the campus at Northwestern university blew the whistle. Inside of five minutes 400 shouting, singing students had piled out of their beds and formed a parade. The students marched in company formation to Willard hall, the girl's dormitory and the "co-eds" were aroused by the strains of "The Girl I Left Behind Me."

THINKS MONROE DOCTRINE CAUSE

English Paper Says It Has Made The United States Schoolmistress of Central America.

DECLARES WAR WOULD BE PURELY RITICULOUS

Liverpool Post Says Crisis Is Inevitable Culmination of Refusal to Recognize Huerta.

London, April 21.—The Manchester Guardian, organ of the English peace party, says of the Mexican situation today:

"War, should it come, would be purely ridiculous if the stakes were not human lives and national reputations. If both sides are itching to be at each other's throats it would be discreditable to them both to have no better occasion for beginning. The originating cause of the dispute is undoubtedly the execution of the Monroe doctrine, which from being a mere notice board to Europe against political trespassing in the new world, has become a sort of gazetting of the United States as the political schoolmistress of Central and South America.

"President Wilson was strong in refusing to recognize General Huerta. The resulting intervention will put Pancho Villa in the position Huerta now occupies. This is not an attractive prospect, for Villa possesses in a higher degree every fault that President Wilson has found with Huerta."

The Liverpool Post says: "President Wilson's message was the inevitable culmination of American policy in refusing to recognize General Huerta. States cannot cause with a mere consequent under arms and the upholding of American dignity, nor can it be confined to the immediate protection of international commercial interests.

"The further responsibility will devolve upon the United States of taking such steps as may be considered necessary for the permanent protection of those interests of government as will insure the greatest degree of orderly life. The civilization of Mexico would have a beneficent influence throughout the world."

The Daily Telegraph says: "One of those great waves of national feeling which from time to time sweep aside political dissensions among Americans has gone throughout the United States. There is no nation on earth more punctilious over the honor of its flag, and it is merely just for Americans to say that if an insult had come from a more formidable aggressor the manifestation of the public resolve to have reparation would only have been stronger and more violent. There is of course no question as yet of war, in the strict meaning of the term."

The Globe says: "In the declaration that the military operations of the United States are being taken not against the people of Mexico but against General Huerta we have the root of weakness of President Wilson's policy. He undertakes to say who does and who does not represent the Mexican people. That is a pretension to which there is no other issue than annexation or a protectorate as valid as that now exercised over Cuba."

INDIAN BASEBALL PLAYERS' CASE UP

Cincinnati, April 21.—Directors of the Cincinnati baseball club were to meet today to decide on action in the case of George Johnson, the Winnebago Indian, who jumped to the Kansas City Federals.

President Herrmann said Johnson would not be permitted to come back to Cincinnati even if the matter was taken to court and decided in favor of Cincinnati. He declared the directors would probably decide to ask for an injunction to prevent Johnson from playing with the Kansas City club and also seek to have the court pass upon the legality of his contract with Cincinnati.

Repel Invader Is Cry In North Mexico Say Refugees.

LEADERS CONFER; CARRANZA SILENT

Rebel Sympathizers to Make Common Cause With Huerta, Is Belief, Although Chiefs Are Non-Committal—National Honor at Stake Say Juarez Constitution- alists as They Demand Action Against The United States.

El Paso, Tex., April 21.—Six Americans, eight Germans and nine Frenchmen and women arrived here today from Chihuahua. The Americans confirmed the statement that they were instructed to leave by American Consul Letcher. They said Mexicans in Chihuahua believed the rebels would be unable to remain out of the Huerta-Washington complication and added that rebel leaders feel compelled to accept the view that the blockading of Tampico and Vera Cruz would be a national matter affecting the honor of every Mexican regardless of political affiliations.

Letcher, they said, was endeavoring to get the Americans out without attracting undue attention and his efforts in this direction were being assisted by General Carranza.

Most of the latter's conference with General Villa yesterday, they asserted, was devoted to consideration of the Tampico incident and its developments as affecting the rebels. The gravest view was taken:

"Affront to Mexican Nation." In the cafes, clubs and other gathering places Mexican citizens, practically all of whom are rebel sympathizers, said openly that President Wil-

son's course was a affront to the Mexican nation and that a common enemy must be met by a united country.

Meanwhile there was no definite announcement of policy by Carranza, the Americans reported, adding that it seemed to be his purpose by silence to imply the truth of reports that he would continue with the revolution regardless of foreign complications. This they said in view of the excited talk in the cafes and elsewhere deceived nobody.

In El Paso prominent rebel sympathizers were unanimous so far as they could be questioned in the view that not Huerta alone but the national honor was at stake. Soldiers patrolled the Mexican section of this city last night but there was no disorder.

Notified to Leave. Chihuahua, Mex., April 20.—(Via El Paso, Tex., April 21.)—Consul Letcher on instructions from Washington is notifying Americans here and in other towns of the state to leave the country as a precaution against possible unfortunate eventualities growing out of the decision of the Washington government to seize Tampico and Vera Cruz.

They will be sent out in small groups if time permits, as a general exodus, it is feared, might precipitate trouble.

Quiet at Vera Cruz. Vera Cruz, Mex., April 21.—A large number of Americans and other foreigners are on their way here from the capital today. Everything remains quiet in this city. The American war vessels have not changed their positions.

Vessels Out of Harbor. Vera Cruz, Mex., April 20.—Commander Charles F. Hughes, chief of staff of the United States Atlantic fleet, today called on General Gustavo Masas, commander of the federal troops at Vera Cruz, and on the commander of the port, and instructed them to order all merchant vessels out of the harbor.

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