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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1911.

WHOLE NO. 2646

TO MASS 20,000 SOLDIERS ON MEXICAN BORDER.

Most Extensive Movement of Troops and War Vessels Ever Executed in This Country in Time of Peace.

Washington Dispatch, 7th.

The most extensive movement of troops and war vessels ever executed in this country in time of peace is now under way by order of the President as commander-in-chief of the army and navy, the objective being the country north of the Mexican boundary and the waters of the two oceans at either end of it.

Twenty thousand soldiers—more than one-fourth the army of the United States—all of arms of the service, are moving toward the Mexican border; four armored cruisers comprising the fifth division of the Atlantic fleet, have been ordered from Northern waters to the naval station at Guantanamo, Cuba, and most of the Pacific fleet is, or shortly will be, on its way to assemble at San Pedro and San Diego, California, and two thousand marines are preparing to make the Guantanamo station their headquarters.

It was officially announced at the White House and at the War and Navy Departments today that the purpose of this great mobilization, unprecedented save in war time, is the training of officers and men under service conditions and practice in co-operation between the land and naval forces. Unusual pains were taken by all officials concerned in the matter to develop this color to the sudden activities; but these statements were accepted with increasing reserve.

Movements of Troops Interesting.

Washington Dispatch, 5th.

The officers who set the machinery going for the great gathering of United States troops and warships from end to end of the Mexican frontier, today drew their first long breath in 36 hours, and sat back in their chairs in the War and Navy Departments to "watch the thing work." From all directions trains are carrying soldiers, horses, field guns and ammunition toward the places of rendezvous.

Official Washington still insists, for publication, that the sole purpose of this sudden and unexpected display of the military resources of the Nation is to engage in field maneuvers and practice of officers and men in land and naval activities under service conditions; in private they make little attempt to conceal the relation of the "maneuvers" to conditions actual and potential over the Mexican border line.

Mexican Leaders Baffled.

New York Dispatch, 8th.

The Mexican ambassador to the United States and the United States ambassador to Mexico; and the Mexican minister of finance and the representative here of the Mexican insurgents, all professed themselves unable to offer any explanation today of the movement to the Texas border of a formidable United States army. All alike were unwilling to believe intervention in Mexico is imminent.

Jurors for April Term of Court.

At the meeting of the county commissioners Monday the following were drawn to serve as jurors at the term of Robeson Superior Court beginning Monday, April 3:

First week—J. Luther McLean, Jno. L. Wiggins, W. G. Herring, C. H. Lewis, Purdy Prevatt, D. B. Walker, Haynes Barnes, Alva Parker, E. J. McGuire, B. L. Page, John French, Wm. Little, Love Chason, R. S. Dixon, Allen Pittman, Daniel Page, L. McKenzie, J. W. Hodgins.

Second week—W. H. Allen, C. L. Page, J. G. McGoogan, I. J. Belch, N. Wade, Jim Freeman, A. E. Boney, Claude Barfield, C. M. Oliver, W. B. Andrews, J. D. McBryde, A. C. Davis, A. H. Tyson, R. L. Stewart, G. W. Ford, S. G. Pittman, I. B. Russell, Melton Sellars.

Representative W. A. McPhaul returned home this morning from Raleigh.

TOWN CHARTER CHANGES.

Provisions of Act Amending Charter of Lumberton—Street Paving, Cemetery Association, Selling Light and Water Plant, Compulsory Sewerage Connections, Moving Bodies From Elm Street Cemetery, Pay for Commissioners.

Changes, which give the board of commissioners of Lumberton power to do some much-needed work have been authorized by the Legislature.

A paving district is created. Elm street is to be paved from the Seaboard depot, clean down to the tracks, to its intersection with Sixth street at the law office of McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor. Abutting property owners on each side are to bear one-third of the cost, the remainder to be borne by the town. For its part of the cost the town is authorized to borrow \$10,000 from the sinking fund of the town, it having been found, as has been stated in The Robesonian, that the amount being paid to this fund is more than sufficient to redeem the bonds when they become due. Sidewalks around the court-house square are to be paved at the expense of the county. Provision is also made for paving sidewalks on Elm, Walnut, Chestnut, First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth streets, property owners to bear the cost. These sidewalks are to be 4 feet wide.

The commissioners are authorized to create a cemetery commission to take charge of Meadowbrook cemetery.

The town commissioners are authorized to sell the electric light plant and the water plant, both or either, upon a vote of a majority of the qualified voters of the town.

The act makes it compulsory for all residences within 200 feet of sewer lines to be equipped with sewerage. This is not at the discretion of the commissioners, who must merely see that all who own residences that come within the limit comply. Notice of 60 days must be given.

The commissioners are authorized, after giving proper notice to all concerned, to remove bodies from the old cemetery on Elm street to Meadowbrook cemetery, where they must be interred with stones bearing proper inscriptions. No bodies can be moved in cases where objection is made by relatives of the deceased. When reversionary interest is obtained by the town in the old cemetery the act gives the town authority to sell any part or all of said property and the funds so obtained shall be used, after bearing necessary expense of removing the bodies, by the cemetery association in keeping up and beautifying Meadowbrook cemetery.

Another act which has been passed, unless it has been lost in the final shuffle, provides compensation for the town commissioners at the rate of \$1.50 for each commissioner for each regular monthly meeting. No compensation is provided for called meetings.

To Encourage Drainage of Lands in Robeson.

An act to encourage the drainage of lands in Robeson county was passed by the Legislature providing for a tax of 3 cents on the \$100 valuation of property and 9 cents on the poll for making surveys and investigations for the purpose of ascertaining cost of draining the lands of the county. A committee of five, composed of J. S. Oliver, J. S. McRae, J. A. Singleton, J. B. Sellars and Dr. R. G. Rozier, is appointed for this work. In the House Representatives McPhaul and McArthur had the bill amended providing that it shall be effective only upon the approval of the majority of the landowners of the county and that then it shall be approved by the county commissioners. The tax provided will raise about \$5,000 for the investigation and report will be made, in case the investigation is authorized by the landowners, to the next Legislature. This does not interfere with drainage districts established under the present law.

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TOWN AFFAIRS.

Fire House to be Built by Private Subscription, Town to Furnish Hose Wagon and Horse—Pump and Heater Purchased—Committee to Consider This Afternoon Purchase of 1,000-Gallon Pump—To Abate Whistle Nuisance.

The regular monthly meeting of the town commissioners was held yesterday afternoon, having been postponed from Tuesday evening.

Mr. J. P. Townsend, assistant chief of the fire department, made a report of the installation of the fire-alarm system and recommending sufficient fire equipment to place the town in the second class as regards insurance, decreasing insurance rates one third. The report was approved and referred to the audit and finance board and the fire department was authorized to build a fire house on the corner of Seventh and Elm streets, on a lot belonging to the town. Mr. Townsend being authorized to solicit subscriptions for this purpose. When the house has been built by private subscription the town will buy a horse with hook and ladder wagon and 500 feet of hose and will employ a man on the job all the time.

The mayor and town attorney were requested to stop the unnecessary blowing of railroad-engine whistles within the corporate limits of the town.

A representative of a machinery company appeared before the board and submitted prices on a 1,000 gallon pump. This matter will be taken up again this afternoon by a committee and probably final decision as to purchase will be made.

The matter of an electric line to the residence occupied by Mr. Jas. Kerr, owned by Dr. W. A. McPhaul, corner of Pine and Twelfth streets, was brought before the board and was referred to Mayor Rowland.

A number of bills were ordered paid.

An order was passed authorizing the purchase of a pump and heater for the power house, including fittings to cost \$110, total cost \$450, \$100 to be paid on delivery and the balance to be paid in the fall.

At the Opera House.

The Kate Puller Company, the fifth attraction of the lyceum course, will hold the boards at the opera house tomorrow evening. The Charlotte Observer said recently that one of the ladies of this company has the finest voice ever heard in Charlotte. Seats are on sale at the McMillan drug store.

The Toymakers, a musical comedy, will be the attraction Monday evening. The show has a good reputation and will no doubt be witnessed by a good crowd. Prices—25, 35, 50 and 75 cents.

A home-talent minstrel show was the attraction at the opera house Monday night for a large crowd, and while the show was not as good, possibly, as some of the home-talent shows given in the past it was very good for the time spent in rehearsing—there were hardly over ten hours spent in rehearsing from beginning to end. Mr. Rube Freeman, a professional actor who is making his rounds over the country, had charge of the drilling and he received all of the proceeds above the expenses. The total receipts amounted to something over \$100.

Godwin A Favored One.

Washington Cor., 6th. Greensboro News.

The Washington Times today prints what purports to be a list of committee assignments tentatively agreed upon by the ways and means committee, and mentions the name of only one North Carolina member as being in line for a chairmanship. This is Representative Godwin, who is mentioned in connection with the chairmanship of the census committee.

—The Virginia & Carolina Southern has completed its handsome new depot at Elizabeth town, and beginning last Monday another competing steamboat line was put on from that town to Wilmington.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Adjourned Sine Die Yesterday Afternoon—Teeth of Anti-Trust Bill Pulled—Name of Croatans Changed—Health Laws Amended.

At 2:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon the Legislature adjourned for the session, which held over four days longer than the 60 days the constitution provides pay for. There were passed and duly ratified during the session 1,460 acts and 55 resolutions, compared with the record of the 1909 session of 1,319 bills and 56 resolutions.

The bill to change the name of Croatan Indians to "Indians of Robeson county" and provide a separate ward for them in the insane hospital a Raleigh passed final reading in the House Tuesday.

The substitute for the Turlington House anti-trust bill passed the Senate Tuesday and was concurred in by the House. Mr. Turlington claims that its teeth are completely extracted and that he could hardly recognize it.

Senators Hawkins of Warren and Cobb of Robeson were appointed members from the Senate of the committee to consider the advisability of consolidating the Agricultural Department and the A. and M. College.

The Senate Monday passed a committee substitute bill for the Brown bill against liquor in clubs, the provision being practically the same as the bill that passed the House, which does not interfere with the individual members of regular social and commercial clubs having liquors in personal lockers.

The Senate passed the bill to adjust the boundary lines between Washington and Chowan counties, making the line the middle of Albemarle Sound. This is for an adjustment of the litigation involving the taxes on the Norfolk & Southern bridges across the sound.

The House refused to concur in the Senate amendment to the appropriations bill increasing the Soldiers' Home appropriation from \$30,000 to \$40,000 and the Senate receded from it.

Senate amendments were concurred in to provide for a State central highway from Beaufort harbor to the Tennessee line; allow county commissioners to make appropriations for railroad improvement demonstrations.

Among the bills tabled were the solicitors' salary bill; prohibit marriages between first cousins and provide State traveling auditors.

The Senate passed the bill to amend the health laws of North Carolina just as it came from the House. It prescribes more stringent rules for the protection of water-sheds of municipalities and enlarges the powers of the State Board of Health in a number of respects in dealing with health problems.

Ratified bills Monday included, authorize erection of animal industry building at the A. and M. College.

Among notable bills passed Monday by the House: Provide for State text-book commission to be composed of Council of State and six teachers; resolution for committee investigation into advisability of uniting the A. and M. College and the Department of Agriculture.

The bill to establish free ferry across the Cape Fear river at Wilmington was ratified Monday.

The House Monday passed a bill cutting the appropriation to public high schools from \$76,000 to \$50,000, but at the night session the \$25,000 was restored, making the fund \$75,000, and the bill was also amended so as to require only 5 per cent. levy taxes in counties before receiving benefit from the State school fund. It had passed requiring 10 per cent. levy.

Notices of New Advertisements.

The message of the Bank of Lumberton to you.

A feast of laughter and music at the opera house.

Dr. Jno. Knox, Jr., professional card.

Solicitor wanted.

Savings banks and cash prizes to right boys—J. D. McMillan & Son.

Administrator's notice.

COUNTY SCHOOL MATTERS.

Special Tax Petitions—Special Appropriations.

The county board of education held its regular monthly meeting Monday in the office of Supt. J. R. Poole.

Special appropriations were allowed the following districts in order to give a 4-months' term: No. 1, Red Springs township, \$220; No. 2, Alfordville, \$35; No. 9, Thompson's, \$35.

Petitions for special school tax elections were received from district No. 1, Red Springs township, to vote on a tax of 30 cents on the \$100 valuation of property and 90 cents on the poll, and district No. 1, St. Paul township, to vote on a tax of 20 and 60 cents. The petitions were approved and sent to the county commissioners and the commissioners ordered elections to be held in both districts on April 17.

A rebate of \$1.25 was allowed Arch. Baker, district No. 3, Alfordville township.

Bills were ordered paid as follows: Chas. J. Parker, bookcases for district No. 3, Thompson's, and district No. 5, St. Paul, \$15; Annie Bracy, repairs for district No. 1, Alfordville, \$21.68.

Mr. Thomas L. Johnson, of Lumberton, has been appointed by the Legislature a member of the board to succeed Mr. E. C. Nye, whose term expires July 1.

Mr. A. Davis Here—Defective Bars in Steel Cells at Jail to be Made Good.

Mr. A. Davis, who made many friends in Lumberton while he was superintending the construction of the new court house three years ago, and who had been visiting his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. A. Ward, since Monday night, went today to Raeford to put in bids for the new court house and jail. While here Mr. Davis had up with the McAllister Hardware Co. the matter of making good the defective bars in the steel cells at the jail, the contract for this work having been let to the McAllister Hardware Co. through Mr. Davis, who was then superintendent of construction for the B. F. Smith Construction Co., of Washington, D. C. The cells were manufactured by the Stewart Jail Works Co., of Cincinnati, O., and it will be recalled that some prisoners cut through one of the bars and made their escape on the morning of December 28th, last. The defective work will be made good by the Stewart Co. Mr. Davis is now general manager of the South Eastern Jail Co., a new company recently organized in connection with the Chesapeake Iron Works of Baltimore, Md., and which has offices in Washington, Baltimore and Charlotte. He has been out West for several months for his health, which has been very much improved. If he secures contracts for the Hoke county buildings Mr. Davis will make headquarters here for some time.

New Road Commission to Meet Tomorrow With County Commissioners.

The county commissioners will meet tomorrow morning in the court house with the members of the new road commission, named in the new road law for Robeson county. This new law was published in The Robesonian of February 9 last. As stated in that issue, this new law is a cross between the township system and the county unit system. It divides the county into six districts and provides that the taxes collected in each district shall be spent in that district. The districts are as follows:

No. 1, Lumberton, Britt's, Howellsville, Back Swamp, Raft Swamp, Wishart's and Saddle Tree townships.

No. 2, White House, Sterling's and Orrum townships.

No. 3, Thompson's and Alfordville townships.

No. 4, Maxton, Smith's and Pembroke townships.

No. 5, Red Springs, Blue Springs and Burnt Swamp townships.

No. 6, Parkton, Lumber Bridge and St. Paul's townships.

The road commission is composed of six members, one from each district.

LOCAL BRIEFS.

—Quite a crowd boarded the Seaboard train here this morning for Wilmington to attend the aviation meet beginning there today.

—The safe ordered by the town recently arrived this morning and was installed in the office of Town Clerk and Treasurer W. Lennox.

—Wilmington has an aviation meet lasting three days, beginning today. No doubt many from this section will go to see the flying men.

—Mr. R. H. McMillan, of McDonald, boarded the Seaboard train here Tuesday afternoon for Hot Springs, Ark., where he goes to take treatment for rheumatism.

—Among the changes made recently by the Seaboard authorities in and about the freight depot is a new stock shoot completed a day or so ago, near the passenger station.

—Mr. Scott Stone, who lives near McDonald, is among the business visitors in town today, and he says that the farmers out his way started to work early in the preparation for this year's crop and that they are in the best shape for the season he ever saw.

—Jno. Stubbs' house near Fairmont was destroyed by fire Saturday afternoon while the family were away from home and nothing was saved. A subscription paper was circulated here yesterday to help the family and liberal contributions were made.

—Dr. J. S. Norman, who had been in town a day or so with his wife, who is undergoing treatment at the Thompson hospital, returned to his home at Bladenboro this morning. Mrs. Norman is not suffering from any serious trouble and it is thought that she will be able to return home in a few days.

—Mrs. E. D. McNeill left yesterday morning for Baltimore to enter Johns Hopkins hospital for treatment, and a message was received this morning to the effect that she had arrived safely and was getting along nicely. She was accompanied by her daughter and son, Mrs. Joe Stone and Mr. Sandy McNeill.

—At the Methodist church Sunday foreign mission pledges made Christmas Day were called for and over \$200 was contributed. The pastor, Rev. E. M. Hoyle, stated that he had called for a special missionary offering the first Sunday in March for a number of years and that for the past seven years this Sunday had been a bright and beautiful day.

—Mr. J. C. Baxley, of route 1 from Buie, who was a Lumberton visitor yesterday, says he has all the fellows who have been bragging about their hogs skinned. He killed the other day a Poland-China pig into which for the space of 12 months he had put all the corn and stuff it would get on the outside of, and when dressed it tipped the scales at 34 pounds.

—Mr. R. J. Leggett, of St. Paul, came to Lumberton Monday night to see Commissioner S. A. Edmund in regard to his son, who reached through a post-office box that had been left open Monday, secured some stamps and sold them. Mr. Edmund was not in town at the time but the matter has since been reported to District Attorney Seawell. The boy is under ten years old and it is hardly probable that anything will be done in regard to the matter.

—Mr. E. E. Page, local agent for the American National Life Insurance Co., of Lynchburg, Va., left this morning for McDonald to make settlement with Mrs. Elizabeth R. Inman, widow of the late Joel B. Inman, for a \$1,000 policy held in his company. Mr. Page says that Mr. Inman took the insurance 13 days before he died and gave his note for the first premium, which Mr. Page had in his pocket at the time of death, but the policy is paid without any kick on the part of the company. Mr. Page received the check, which amounts to \$979.28, for Mrs. Inman yesterday.