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 THE CHARLOTTE NEWS AND EVENING CHRONICLE  
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# CITY ON EVE OF MECKLENBURG CELEBRATION

## Webb Wins Over Preston in Primary

### McKae to Senate

Freeman, Hutchison, Renfrow, Matthews All Receive Majority Votes For House—Convention Will Probably Decide.

Sheriff Wallace, is Renominated by Good Margin—The County Commissioners and County Education Board.

Practically complete returns from every precinct in the county show the following in Saturday’s primary:

Webb carried the county for congress by a vote of 3,053 to 1,724 for Preston.

For the state senate McKae was nominated having received 2,492 votes to 1,170 for Brenner and 970 for Justice.

For the house the vote stands as follows: Freeman, 2,900; Hutchison, 2,189; Matthews, 2,734; Renfrow, 3,451. All four received a majority. The custom in such cases is for the convention to declare the three highest the nominees.

For sheriff, Wallace was renominated, having received a majority over all as follows: Wallace, 2,640; Cochran, 1,017; Hunter, 300; Johnston, 802.

For coroner Hovis was renominated by a vote of 2,781 to 1,702 for Sikes.

For county commissioners the vote is as follows: Berryhill, 1,437; Bradford, 2,815; Garrison, 2,175; McDonald, 3,055; McKee, 1,471; Newell, 2,447; Parks, 2,352; Phillips, 534; Rhyme, 1,145; Smith, 1,830; Stroup, 1,015; Sustar, 2,902; Taylor, 2,864; Hutchinson, 2,815; Morrow, 2,517; as against Ardrey, 1,831; Estridge, 1,725; Reid, 1,977; Watt, 1,680.

For solicitor Wilson carried the county over Hunter. Incomplete returns by 1,383 to 781.

For tax collector, District No. 1, Mayes defeated Barnhardt by 833 to 839.

For tax collector, District No. 2, J. W. Hood was nominated without opposition.

The following county officers were nominated without opposition: Moore, for clerk of court; Stinson, treasurer; W. M. Moore, register of deeds; Walker, surveyor, and Withers, cotton weigher.

The state ticket also received a unanimous vote.

For constable Charlotte Township Austin and Garrison were nominated.

The primary in Charlotte and Mecklenburg passed off quietly yesterday afternoon. The returns were arriving from some of the county precincts by 9 p. m., the city returns being somewhat later.

The results showed that Mr. John A. Webb was far in the lead for state senator and that Congressman E. Y. Webb had received also a handsome majority in his fight.

The appearances were at a late hour that the present school board would be defeated. Other candidates were holding their own in some sections and losing in others.

The detailed story of the county race is shown in the tabular returns printed in The News today.

**Crowds at News Office.**

The official returns were received at The News building on Church street and hundreds of interested voters, and a number of the local candidates were on hand early in the evening to get the returns.

The various precincts were somewhat slow to get the vote counted in many instances so that it was late before the final outcome was fully known.

The service supplied by The News was as prompt as it could be made and there was evident satisfaction on the part of the crowd at the manner in which the great task was handled.

The primary election closed in the county at 6 p. m., and in the city at 8 p. m.

Before the polls closed the crowds were beginning to gather, and the number increased steadily. The whole upper floor of the building was turned over to the political hosts, the telephones and all things that could help them know the result of the primaries in the state, county and township.

The keener interest centered in the outcome among the candidates for the board of education and in the congressional race, with the nomination of county commissioners next in general interest.

The large vote accorded to J. A. McKae was quite gratifying to his friends in this city.

There was also a large degree of interest in the three-corner 1 race for sheriff, it appearing at a late hour that Sheriff N. W. Wallace was holding his own. The primary as a whole was (Continued on Page Three.)

## MYSTERY AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF HUERTA

### Various Rumors Are Afloat—One Report Has it That Huerta Has Taken a Warship and Flew—Another Declares Him to Be On a Periodical Spree.

When Crowds Heard Report that Dictator Committed Suicide Conditions Became Serious—Absence of Huerta From Public Places for Three Days Causes Many Reports.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, May 16.—General Huerta is believed to be seriously ill in Mexico City. Though the extent of his illness is not known, he is confined to his home, and is known to have suffered a cerebral attack while riding in his automobile Thursday evening. He had been drinking and had just left the Globe cafe when stricken.

General Huerta has not appeared in public in Mexico City for three days. Stories of the confusion and consternation prevailing in the capital as a result of the success of the rebels at Tampico and Tuxpam and rumors as to the dictator were brought here today by refugees from the capital, all of whom expressed the belief that the reign of Huerta was near the end.

It was reported that the dictator was ill, but his continued absence from the cafes and the abandonment of his automobile rides about the city has caused many to doubt this report. Rumors are growing that Huerta has fled to the United States and that he may board a foreign warship. There are many things to bear out this rumor but it is possible the mystery may be explained by genuine illness or by the fact that the old Indian has disappeared one of his periodical drinking bouts.

One of the developments considered significant with the rumor of Huerta’s disappearance is the recall of General Maas from the vicinity of Vera Cruz. Maas is a close relative of the dictator and one of his most trusted officers. If Huerta had planned to seek refuge through Vera Cruz, Maas would have remained here to assist his entry into the American lines.

It is also declared that some of the members of Huerta’s family are now at Guadalajara, which is on the road to Manzanillo.

The request of the opening of the Niagara Falls conference from Monday until Wednesday is believed to have been due to Huerta’s disappearance. The delegates expected to receive instructions from the dictator on their arrival in Washington, but his continued absence is supposed to have made it impossible for acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Ruiz to furnish them with any information of the position they will be expected to take.

The absence of the dictator from his usual haunts for three days resulted in a widespread belief that he had committed suicide. As soon as his illness became generally known, demonstrations against him became more open, indicating what has long been known that it is only the dominating power of the old Indian which keeps the people at bay in submission. Rebel sympathizers drove openly through the streets in cabs throwing out Carranzista circulars. Crowds eagerly grabbed the revolutionary literature without being molested by the police. Even the soldiers did not interfere until it was learned that the rumors of suicide were erroneous. The rapidly growing menace then immediately ceased, and though missing from the cafes and the boulevards, and known to be unable to go about, the power of the dictator still cowed those who would overthrow him.

Oliver Hueffer, correspondent of the London Express arrived here today after being arrested and deported from the capital.

“It is impossible,” said Hueffer, “to send reliable news from the capital. One of the members of the Huerta cabinet told me that they did not know of the whereabouts of the dictator from the outside world in the city.”

“The local papers are enough,” the cabinet minister told me.

Four newspaper men are still held in jail in Mexico City, Hueffer said. He talked with Editor Hiron, of the Nacional, regarding the imprisonment of the correspondents and Hiron explained the fact that they had been jailed by saying:

“The government requires hostages to guard against the further dissemination of American lies.”

With a gaping wound in the side of his head and the iron pipe on the ground beside him with which he was evidently struck, Sidney Swain, a well-known grocerman operating store at the corner of Mint and the Southern Railway track, was found perhaps fatally injured this morning a few minutes after 1 o’clock near the store on a short distance from her home to see what was keeping her husband. Lying in the doorway she stumbled across the form of her husband lying face downward on the ground. She instantly gave the alarm and the police patrol wagon, with Assistant Chief of Police Elliott, Sergeant Pitts and Patrol Driver A. B. Moore, were on the scene in a few minutes. The wounded man was found to be still alive and was rushed at once to the Presbyterian Hospital, where Drs. C. M. Strong and J. C. Montgomery made an examination to ascertain the extent of his injuries.

The circumstances surrounding the robbery must have been the motive of those who attacked Mr. Swain. He ran a successful grocery and was known to have usually a pretty good sum of money at the store at the closing hour on Saturday night. It was also his custom, it is said, to take the money home with him on leaving the store on Saturday night. It is the theory of the police that someone who knew Mr. Swain’s habits well deliberately lay in wait for him, attacked him with the intention of taking his money.

This theory is borne out by the fact that only about \$2 was found on him, while there was practically none left in the cash drawer at the store. It is believed that the robbers must have got then between \$250 and \$300 from the man they waylaid.

The iron pipe, with which Mr. Swain was evidently struck with was about three feet long and about an inch in diameter. There was only a blow made with the iron pipe, the police believe, though it was almost impossible to tell exactly what condition his head was in owing to the fact that it was literally covered with blood.

The house where Mr. Swain and his wife live is to the rear of the Garibaldi, gin house just beyond Vance street. The alleyway leading from Mr. Swain’s home to his store is very dark and an ideal place for a footpad or a sand-bagger to lurk and lie in wait without being seen.

The police have no clue as to the identity, or practically none. They immediately began an investigation last night to see if late visitors to the store saw any suspicious characters around the store and it is hoped to pick up a clue from the source.

There is thought to be very slight chance of the wounded man’s recovery.

Lancaster, Pa., May 16.—The general synod of the Reformed Church in the United States today set aside \$250,000 to aid foreign missions. This action was taken on the recommendation of the foreign mission board of the church.

THE WEATHER.

Washington, May 16.—North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia: Generally fair Sunday and Monday. Moderate east winds.

Virginia: Fair and moderate temperature Sunday and Monday.

## REIGN OF HUERTA AS DICTATOR IS AT AN END

### He May Choose Between Safety in Europe and Death Before the Guns of the Constitutionalists—It is thought the Mediators Will Agree That Huerta Must go.

Significance Attached to Signing of Bills Raising to Embassies the Legations in Chile and Argentina—Mediators are Well Posted on the Situation.

(BY JOHN E. NEVIN.)

Washington, May 16.—General Victoriana Huerta may choose between safety in Europe or death before the guns of a victorious constitutionalist army. But he will have to make the choice. His reign as dictator of Mexico is about to end. No matter what the ultimate result of the mediation conferences that start in Canada next week—whether they suggest that Carranza or a commission shall succeed Huerta—it was already a certainty tonight that the mediators will agree that Huerta must go.

All Agree That Huerta Must Go.

Simultaneous with the arrival here today of Huerta’s commissioners the sentiment was echoed throughout the entire diplomatic corps. Ambassadors and ministers who are in complete touch with the situation passed the word along. They would not talk about it for publication. But they called attention to the deep significance of President Wilson, at the very moment that the Huertista commissioners reached the city, signing the twin bills raising to embassies the legation of the United States in Mexico and to embassies the legation of the United States in Mexico City.

“Two of the mediators who will try to end all at one time the Mexican rule of blood shed stood by his side as he signed the measures. They emphasized by their presence their belief that a united North and South America will in the future dictate the affairs of this continent.”

Stomachs looking to be bewitched, Suarez and the almost boy-like Naon squarely in the eyes, he said:

“Let me say how gratifying it is that it should fall within my time that the long-desired recognition of the full rank and sisterhood of your two countries should have been accorded. You so thoughtfully and graciously offered to show our common interest in the peace and righteous government of America that it is particularly fitting that this thing should occur.”

Envoys Well Informed.

Diplomats pointed out that as a result of the frequent conferences between the mediator and Bryan the president realizes their views. Much has been communicated in these conferences that has been withheld from the public. Consequently, the declaration that the mediators “had a common interest in the peace and righteous government of America” was believed to be no idle phrase, but a declaration of principle that will be reflected from the meetings at Niagara Falls next week.

The mediators during the last 36 hours have received at first hand exhaustive information regarding exact conditions in Mexico. From representatives of their nations in the north and from sources controlled by the state department, they have now complete knowledge of the exact territory held by the constitutionalists, and they

## Flags And Bunting are Flying From Buildings On Trade And Tryon

### Red, White and Blue Lights on the Great White Way Add Their Patriotic Tints to the Decorative Effects of the City For Celebration Week.

Atmosphere of Excitement Ushers in the 20th of May Week Which Brings Vice President Marshall as Celebration Orator, and Thousands of People to Charlotte.

The one hundred and thirty-ninth anniversary of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20, 1775, the first declaration ever made in America freeing the colonists from the yoke of England, will be celebrated this week in style of such magnitude that thousands of people will be brought to the city to participate in the celebration.

Three days are to be given over to celebrating—May 19, 20 and 21.

Vice President Marshall will deliver the address on May 20 in Vance Park. This event, in itself, sufficient to load all incoming trains. Celebration enthusiasm is already abroad. There is a spirit and atmosphere of excitement, that has given stimulus to all things civic for a week. Everybody is restless with anticipation of the big celebration and all plans and projects are interpolated with: “Not until after the 20th.”

City in Gala Attire.

Trade, Tryon and intersecting streets in the uptown district are flying bunting and flags. From the dragon atop of the central mall to the smallest shop on the Great White Way, the celebration is told of in the tricolors of American independence, and here and there the word “Wellcome” is displayed in big letters.

Tri-Color Lights on Great White Way.

Great beauty of effect has been wrought at the suggestion of city electricians and building inspector, R. P. Connelly, in adding red lights and blue lights to the white lights of the White Way.

The lights were tried Friday night. The effect was magnificent, the red, white and blue globes being fairly like in loveliness, Mr. Connelly yesterday finished putting in the tri-color lights—16 reds and 16 blues, 100 power Watt Mazda’s at the intersection of Trade and Church; 16 at Tryon and Fourth, 8 at Trade and Caldwell, eight at Trade and College.

Charlotte’s patriotic spirit will be told in the big globes of the White Way through all the nights of celebration week. Happy idea it was in Mr. Connelly’s!

The final plans for the Twentieth have been completed with the exception of a few details which necessarily can not be arranged until the last moment. The ray flags and bunting artistically arranged on streets gives the city the gala appearance befitting the celebration.

The office of the Mecklenburg Denational Society in the Selwyn hotel has been a busy place for weeks past, with the consultation of committee and the conferring of chairman who have the preparations in charge.

The arrival of the carnival herald—yesterday added to the spirit of anticipation of the big day. Pennants on walking canes with the name “Charlotte” and a hofnets’ nest on them, were bought by many on the streets.

Vice President Arrives 10 A. M.

Vice President Marshall and Mrs. Marshall will arrive at the Southern passenger station in their special car attached to train No. 37 at 10 a. m. A detachment from the Fifth Artillery Company, Capt. W. R. Cox commanding, will fire the vice presidential salute of nineteen guns, announcing the arrival of the distinguished guest. The Arab Patrol of the Oasis Shrine in their brilliant uniforms will be the official escort to the vice president. Lieutenant Hudson C. Millar, of the Fifth Artillery Company, has been appointed by Governor Craig as personal aide to the vice president and will attend him during his stay here. The vice presidential party will be escorted to celebration headquarters at the Selwyn hotel to await the forming of the parade on East Morehead street at Dilworth.

A detachment of the Fifth Artillery will also be detailed to meet Governor Craig and his staff at the Seaboard Air Line station on the night of the 19th. They will fire a salute in honor of his arrival and will escort him to his hotel. The governor and his staff will be part of the official welcoming delegation at the Southern station on Wednesday morning.

**M. E. CONFERENCE REPUDIATES VAN DERBILT**

Oklahoma City, Okla., May 16.—Vanderbilt University is no more a Methodist institution. By a vote of 152 to 134, the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, late tonight severed all connection with the institution. This vote was on a majority committee report in favor of such action. Previously a vote on the minority report to continue the present control resulted 144 to 151 against.

GOETHALS GIVEN WIDE AUTHORITY IN ZONE.

Washington, May 16.—Widest authority in the punishment of against against the law in the canal zone has been conferred upon Colonel Goethals by President Wilson. In an executive order today the governor of the Panama canal is empowered to grant pardons and reprieves for offenses against the laws and regulations and to commute sentences and remit fines. He also may establish a parole system and prescribe regulations for the employment and welfare of the prisoners in the penal institutions.

**CHRONICLE READERS MAY ENTER “SONG AND STORY” GAME.**

To the large circle of Evening Chronicle readers who have joined THE NEWS’ family, a cordial invitation is tendered to participate in the “Song and Story” picture-puzzle contest which this paper is conducting.

One Thousand Dollars in gold prizes will be awarded to those who successfully solve the largest number of a series of puzzle-pictures—and any of our readers is welcome to enter and win one of the prizes.

An entire week is left for submitting answers, which gives abundance of time to those who decide immediately to participate.

Complete instructions for playing the interesting game and the full series of 70 puzzles will be given free with the two handsome books which all participants should have. The price of these two books is \$1.10 over the counter or \$1.20 by mail.