

Americans and Mexicans In Bloody Battle

FIERCE BATTLE FOUGHT; LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES--AMERICANS AND CARRANZA TROOPS IN CLASH--LATTER REPORT THEIR VICTORY--BLAME UNITED STATES TROOPS FOR AFFRAY AND CLAIM SUCCESS THEIRS--OFFICERS OF ARMY DON'T BELIEVE IT--EL PASO PEOPLE THINK MEXICANS MUST HAVE BEEN TO BLAME--EXCITEMENT SPREADS IN AMERICAN TOWN--JUAREZ REMAINS QUIET THOUGH EVACUATION IS SAID TO BE PLANNED.

El Paso, Texas, June 21--American and Carranza troops fought a sanguinary battle today on the Santo Domingo ranch, near the town of Carrizal, and tonight it had not been learned with which side rested the victory.

The number of dead, American or Mexican, was not definitely known here, but nearly a score of Gen. Pershing's men are said to have been killed and the Mexicans are said to have lost more than 40. Seventeen Americans are declared by Mexican officers to have been captured and to have been hurried to Chihuahua City under adequate guard. A machine gun used by the Mexicans is reported to have done heavy execution.

The scene of the fight was just nine miles southwest of Villa Ahumada, the Mexican field headquarters in northern Chihuahua, and the clash occurred only a few hours after President Wilson's 6,000 word note warning Carranza that the "gravest consequences" would follow an attack upon American troops had gone forward.

Tenth Cavalry Engaged. The Americans engaged are thought to have been members of a troop from the Tenth cavalry, a negro regiment, returning from a scouting trip to Guzman. The size of the Mexican force, whose commander, Gen. Felix Gomez, was killed, is not known.

News of the battle was received in Juarez early this afternoon by Gen. Francisco Gonzales, Carranza commander of the military zone of the border. For some reason Gen. Gonzales kept the story a secret until late in the afternoon when an American, J. C. Hubble, returning to the border from the interior, brought to El Paso the news that he had seen numbers of Mexicans dead along the Mexican Central railroad tracks at Villa Ahumada, and had been told that there had been an encounter.

Gen. Gonzales' first step after confirming the news was to issue a statement placing the blame on the American commander. He charged that the American troops fired first on the Mexicans and that their shots were directed at the courier who had just presented to them a request that they retire.

Think Mexicans Began It. American army officers declared absolute disbelief tonight in Gen. Gonzales' assertions. The opinion was expressed that if the Americans fired on the messenger, it was because it was necessary in order to insure their own safety.

Gen. Trevino's recent warning to Gen. Pershing not to send his troops east, south or west of their positions was recalled. Excitement spread in El Paso as news became known and the news became known in view of Gen. Bell's frequent admonitions that his soldiers could take care of any situation that might arise. While awaiting instructions from headquarters at San Antonio, Gen. Bell kept his entire force in readiness for instant action.

In the meantime, however, word came from Juarez that all was quiet, although the news of the battle was widespread there. Early tonight the only official details of the engagement received here came from the Mexican side of the river. Gen. Gonzales said that his information was transmitted to him from Villa Ahumada by Col. Genovoso Rivas, who commanded the Mexicans after their leader, Gen. Gomez, was slain. Gen. Gonzales also gave the Mexican explanation of how the two forces came in contact.

According to Gen. Gonzales he was informed by Gen. Gomez at Villa Ahumada last night of the presence of the Americans westward from Villa Ahumada and El Estero. He said he immediately ordered Gen. Gomez to proceed to the Santo Domingo ranch, "an unknown force" and advise their commander to retire to their camp. Would Not Retire.

This, he says, Gen. Gomez did this morning. The American commander whose name was not given by Gen. Gonzales is said to have replied that he was instructed to proceed to Villa Ahumada and must do so. The statement issued by the Juarez commander read: "Immediately upon learning of the presence of the American troops in the

vicinity of Carrizal, Gen. Felix Gomez despatched a messenger with a request that the American commander withdraw his camp. When the American troops remained motionless, he sent a second dispatch bearing who was fired upon by the American troops after he had delivered his message. The Americans immediately moved forward and attacked Gen. Gomez's command.

"All the prisoners admitted that the blame should be put on the American commander for having ordered the attack. The prisoners were sent to Chihuahua with the customary protection."

Gen. Gonzales said that the report of the engagement was made to him by Gen. Genovoso Rivas, who succeeded to the command of the Carranza troops with the fall of Gen. Gomez.

Whichever side began the engagement the Mexicans had the advantage for they provided themselves with a machine gun and this is supposed to have done deadly execution in the ranks of the Americans. That the latter were not inefficient, however, was proved by the number of Mexican dead and wounded removed to Villa Ahumada and seen by Americans coming north on a train bound for Juarez.

Short But Bloody. The battle began at 10:30 a. m., and lasted not more than an hour. It apparently ended with both sides withdrawing. The failure of Gen. Pershing to report on it indicated that the American survivors had not yet returned to their base early tonight.

A story brought to El Paso by J. C. Hubble, an American, who has been employed by the Compania Agricola at Bouquillo, bears out several of the details of the engagement presented by Gen. Gonzales. Hubble's story was corroborated by James Maxey, another American, who also was on his way to El Paso from the interior. Hubble and Maxey said that while their train was stopping at Villa Ahumada they noticed numbers of dead and wounded being brought in and were told by a Carranza captain that a battle had taken place. The captain informed them that said, that a number of American prisoners had been taken to Chihuahua City to be hanged.

They met Mexican soldiers who told them of several hundred Americans and 120 Mexicans had been engaged. "The Mexican officers at Villa Ahumada treated us with the greatest courtesy," said Mr. Hubble. "They answered our questions quietly and with no show of antipathy or excitement."

"According to the story they told us the Mexican command was concealed in the underbrush when it discovered the American cavalrymen riding toward them over the sand. Gen. Felix Gomez the Mexican commander, immediately sent a courier asking for a parley under a flag of truce with the American commander. The parley was arranged and as the Mexican leader and two aides started forward the Americans suddenly deployed in a semi-circular skirmish line.

Gen. Gomez apparently believing he was about to be attacked, raised his arm and signaled a machine gun in the rear to open fire on the Americans. The machine gun swept the cavalry ranks, causing heavy losses. "Immediately, however, a detachment of American troops dashed forward and a parley was effected. The Mexican leader and his staff were sitting on their horses. In the resultant encounter one of the cavalrymen killed the Mexican leader with his pistol while the remainder of the Carranza party escaped to their own lines."

Hubble and Maxey said some of the Mexicans openly boasted that the Americans had been drawn into an ambush. The two Americans said their information was that the American dead numbered 17 and that the Mexicans took 40 prisoners. Neither Maxey nor Hubble was able to learn whether the Mexicans had retreated, if be it, pointed out that all of the Mexicans with whom they talked apparently left the field before the engagement had been completed.

Late tonight preparations apparently were under way for the peaceful evacuation of Juarez. Several troop trains were pulled into the railroad yards. Andreas Garcia, Mexican consul in El Paso, crossed the Rio Grande after the first reports of the engagement and remained with Gen. Gonzales through the night. He kept in touch with Gen. Bell on the American side by telephone, however. Neither the consul nor the Mexican military authorities would discuss the report of the proposed evacuation.

A large number of citizens of the town were busy loading their household goods on vans and other vehicles ostensibly to transport them to the south. Numerous persons gathered about the plaza immediately when news of the battle became public but there were no demonstrations. Mexicans apparently confined themselves to speculation as to the consequences. Heavy patrols were thrown into the streets with instructions to put down any disorders.

At Gen. Gonzales' headquarters a victory for Mexico was being claimed.

The scene in the front room of the Comandancia where the younger officers were gathered was holiday like. Several of them, speaking of the battle said, "We won."

They remained composed however, and made little reference to the incident. Juarez first learned of the fight in vague form in the early afternoon. The civilian population then began to pack. Many already had left for interior points by a morning train in anticipation of the trouble. Others crossed to El Paso later in the day.

A procession of civilians carrying arms. In age they ranged from small boys, not as tall as their guns, to old men. Most of them were in the ragged dress of the poor but some belonged to the better class. Like activities was first noted at the railway yard where a number of men were employed in stowing sacks of beans and flour, forage and other army supplies into freight cars bearing the name of the army corps of the north. Late in the afternoon a rather large body of Mexican cavalry passed through the town towards the hills.

Grave Apprehension Over Newest Development in Mexican Situation. Washington, June 21--Reports that American and Carranza troops had clashed aroused gravest apprehension here tonight for future relations between the United States and the Mexican de facto government, already strained almost to the breaking point.

Officials declined to make any prophecy as to the next step of the Washington government, saying that until details of the incident had been cleared up it could not be determined whether a crisis had been precipitated. They made no effort to conceal their anxiety but were not ready to abandon hope that an official account of what happened at Carrizal would remove the more threatening elements of the situation.

San Antonio, June 20.--Facing Carranza's army in Northern Mexico there will be stationed along the Rio Grande within a week or ten days an American force that will total, it was stated today, almost 70,000 men.

General Funston has requested the War Department to send him as quickly as possible a large part of the National Guardsmen and advises received late today indicated that training of the first troops would be begun tomorrow. Some of them will be brought to San Antonio and held as a reserve but others will be with in sight of Mexico when they get off the trains.

General Funston did not announce how many men he has asked for but it is known that he expects not less than 28,000 men will be sent. Already the border army, made up of regulars and the militiamen of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, comprises more than 40,000.

Special officers do not regard the quiet prevailing all along the line today as indicative of any improved condition. Reports continue to indicate that bandits are operating just south of the international line and that new incursions may be expected at any time.

The quartermaster department will probably advertise tomorrow for bids on horses and mules for which the Army must pay at the prevailing market price, more than \$10,000,000. Instructions that Army vessels today announced that the Army was in the market for 26,500 cart mules; 100 artillery horses, 8,000 wheel mules, 8,100 lead mules and 8,000 pack mules.

Army officers here believe it not improbable that Carranza could equip 150,000 men, and the best estimates obtainable indicate his army now is about 100,000.

In the northern States the Mexican force was estimated at approximately 45,000 the greater part of which is within striking distance of General Pershing's column. Additional details about the credit attack on the San Ignacio garrison were contained in General Mann's weekly report to General Funston. Revised figures showed that nine bandits were killed, four wounded and five captured. The Americans killed six horses, captured an equal number and took 15 rifles. When the outlaws were driven off they abandoned 32 bombs and 45 pounds of dynamite near camp. All of the Mexicans killed were found to have 100 pounds of ammunition in their belts.

Foreign Governments Thought To Be Influencing Mexico. Washington, June 21.--While Gen. Carranza is studying the American note rejecting his demand for withdrawal of Pershing's expedition, European diplomats are exerting pressure on the first chief to prevent him from going to war with the United States, it was learned here today. Some indication as to what Carranza's next step will be was expected hourly tonight at the state department.

Special Agent Rodgers reported today that the Mexican cabinet had under consideration the American note but was unable to forecast what action would be taken. His message threw little light on what was going on in the Mexican capital. From other sources, however, came

SHORT NEWS ITEMS

In less than 24 hours after he heard that he had been re-elected mayor of Martinsville, Va., for the next two years, H. H. Hurdley, went into a little room over his hardware store and committed suicide. Business affairs are said to be involved and he was blue, but in good health.

Virginia cities experienced a mildly "blue Sunday" under the new oyster law. Soft drink stands were closed in many places, gasoline sales prohibited in some, cigar and tobacco sales were greatly curtailed and in Newport News and Norfolk the law has resulted in the abolishment of the segregated districts.

The woman suffragists didn't get what they wanted from either the Democrats or the Republicans. They want an amendment to the Federal constitution providing for equal suffrage and both conventions referred the suffrage question to the States. Some of the women boast that they have 4,000,000 women voters and \$500,000 in cash to give somebody trouble.

The estate of the late Dr. T. W. Long of Newton is estimated to be worth \$35,000 to \$40,000 or perhaps more. He owned valuable town and country property, bank stock, etc. The Chimney Rock motor drive, costing \$20,000 and leading to the foot of the famous chimney, will be formally opened July 4.

Mrs. Madalaine Force Astor, young widow of John Jacob Astor, the millionaire who lost his life in the wreck of the Titanic was married yesterday at Bar Harbor, Me., to W. K. Dick, a friend of her childhood. Under the terms of the will of her late husband Mrs. Astor by the marriage loses the income of \$5,000,000 given her in the Astor will and the right to live in the Astor Fifth Avenue mansion, one of the most palatial homes in New York. She retains the property Astor gave her at the time of their marriage.

Thirty American residents of Laredo, Texas, Thursday led Leo E. Walker, Mexican and managing editor of El Progreso, a Mexican newspaper published at Laredo, into Mexico at the point of revolvers and ordered him not to return. El Progreso has recently contained editorials abusing the United States government. The committee of officials of the El Progreso to cease publication immediately.

The Burke County Good Roads Association is planning for a good roads rally at Morganton July 4th.

Col. J. T. Gardner of Shelby, commanding first a regiment of 100 men and for \$10,000 by W. R. Aiken of Lexington who alleges he has been arrested and locked up at Charlotte May 20, on orders of the colonel, who acted illegally and beyond his authority.

During the clearing following the nomination of the president Thursday night a phone wire was connected with the white house and the president plainly heard the cheering in St. Louis.

There are now 1,533 patients in the Morganton hospital for the insane, and the place is crowded. A new building for 100 women patients will be ready in the fall. The rate of applications for admission has been increasing steadily.

V. G. Beckham of Hiddenite writes The Statesville Landmark that it has been 100 years since a supreme court judge had the nerve to run for president and names the judges of that court who have been beaten--Richard H. Harrison of Maryland, 1789; John Jay, chief justice, ran three times; Judge James Iredell of North Carolina ran in 1796; John Marshall ran in 1816 for vice president and was beaten. He was the last supreme court justice to try national politics. If history repeats itself, Justice Hughes is doomed to defeat.

One of the funniest things that have been printed recently is the characterization by Uncle Joe Cannon of Mr. Wilson as a czar. Think of Joe Cannon calling any one a czar.

THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

Principal Planks in Party's Declaration in St. Louis Convention--The Record of Achievement and Promises For The Future--On What It Has Done and What It Proposes To Do, The Party Appeals To The Country For A Vote of Confidence.

The principal planks in the platform of the national Democratic party, adopted at St. Louis, are given herewith: Record of Achievement. We endorse the administration of Woodrow Wilson. We challenge comparison of our record, our keeping of pledges and our constructive legislation, with those of any party of any time.

Our archaic banking and currency system, prolific of panic and disaster under Republican administrations--long the refuge of the money trust--has been supplanted by the Federal reserve act, a true democracy of credit under government control, already proved a financial bulwark in a world crisis, mobilizing our resources, placing abundant credit at the disposal of legitimate industry, and making a currency panic impossible.

We have created a Federal trade commission to accommodate the perplexing questions arising under the anti-trust laws so that monopoly may be strangled at its birth and legitimate industry encouraged. Fair competition in business is now assured.

We have effected an adjustment of the tariff adequate for revenue under peace conditions and fair to the consumer and to the purchaser. We have adjusted the burdens of taxation so that swollen incomes bear their equitable share. Our revenues have been sufficient in times of world stress, and will largely exceed the expenditures for the current fiscal year.

We have lifted human labor from the category of commodities, and have secured to the workingman the right of voluntary association for his protection and welfare. We have protected the rights of the laborer against the unwarranted seizure of assets of injunction, and have guaranteed to him the right of trial by jury cases of alleged contempt committed outside the presence of the court.

We have advanced the parcel post to a point where it has become the postal savings system, added 10,000 rural delivery routes and extension, thus reaching two and one-half million additional people, improved the postal service in every branch, and for the first time in our history, placed the postoffice system on a self-supporting basis, with actual surpluses in 1913, 1914 and 1916.

We affirm our belief in the doctrine of a tariff for the purpose of providing sufficient revenue for the operation of the government economically administered. We unreservedly endorse the Underwood tariff law as truly exemplifying that doctrine. Two years of a war which has directly involved most of the chief industrial nations of the world, and which has indirectly affected the life and industry of all nations, are a record about economic changes more varied and far-reaching than the world has ever before experienced. In order to ascertain just what those changes may be, the Democratic Congress is providing for a non-partisan tariff commission to make impartial and thorough study of every economic fact that may throw light either upon our past or upon our future fiscal policy, with regard to the imposition of taxes on imports or with regard to the changed and changing conditions under which our trade is carried on. We cordially endorse this timely proposal and declare ourselves in sympathy with the principle and purpose of shaping legislation within that field in accordance with clearly established facts rather than in accordance with trade demands or selfish interests or upon information provided largely, if not exclusively, by them.

Americanism. The part that the United States will play in the new day of international relationship which is now upon us will depend upon our preparation and our character. The Democratic party therefore recognizes the assertion and triumphant demonstration of indivisibility and coherent strength of the nation, as the supreme issue of this day, in which the whole world faces the crisis of manifold change. It summons all men, of whatever origin or creed, who would count themselves Americans, to join in making clear to all the world the unity and consequent power of America.

This is an issue of patriotism. To taunt it with partisanship would be to defile it. In this day of test America must show itself, not a nation of partisans, but a nation of patriots. There is gathered here in America the best of the blood, the industry and the genius of the whole world, the elements of a great race and a magnificent society to be melted into a mighty and splendid nation. Whoever actuated by the purpose to promote the interest of a foreign power in disregard of our own country's welfare or to injure its government or to destroy its industries at home and whoever, by arousing prejudices of a racial, religious or other nature creates discord and strife among our people so as to obstruct the wholesome process of unification, is faithless to the trust which the privilege of citizenship reposes in him, and disloyal to his country.

We therefore condemn, as subversive of this nation's unity and integrity, and as destructive of its welfare, the activities and designs of every group or organization, political or otherwise, that has for its object the advancement of the interest of a foreign power, whether such object is promoted by intimidating the govern-

County's Young Manhood Put To Test

The Nation Calls Its Young Men To Rally To Its Defense.

WILL LINCOLN COUNTY YOUNG MEN MEET THIS ISSUE AS DID THEIR FOREFATHERS? IF SO, ENLIST IN TROOP A, 1ST N. C. CAVALRY. THIS IS THE UNIT THE GOVERNMENT HAS PLACED HERE FOR YOU.

Fifty More Men WANTED

The Need Is Urgent Apply At Armory

IT IS UP TO THIS COUNTY TO DO ITS DUTY TO THE NATION.

W. A. FAIR, Capt., Comdg. Troop A.

... party, or representative of the people, or which is calculated and tends to divide our people into antagonistic groups and thus to destroy that complete agreement and solidarity of the people and that unity of sentiment and national purpose so essential to the perpetuity of the nation, and its free institutions.

We condemn any political party which in view of the activity of such conspirators surrenders its integrity or modifies its policy. Preparedness.

We favor the maintenance of an army fully adequate to the requirements of order, safety and of the protection of the nation's rights, the fullest development of modern methods of sea and coast defense and the maintenance of an adequate reserve of citizens trained to arms and prepared to safeguard the people and territory of the United States against any danger or hostile action which may unexpectedly arise, and a fixed policy for the continuous development of a navy worthy to support the great naval traditions of the United States and fully equal to the international tasks which the United States hopes and expects to undertake in the future.

The plans and enactments of the present Congress afford substantial proof of our own purpose in this exigent matter. International Relations.

The Democratic administration has throughout the present war scrupulously and successfully held to the old paths of neutrality and of the peaceful pursuit of the legitimate objects of our national life, which statesmen of all parties and creeds have prescribed for themselves in America since the beginning of our history.

We believe that every people has the right to choose the sovereignty under which it shall live; that the small States of the world have a right to enjoy from other nations the same respect for their sovereignty and for their territorial integrity; that great and powerful nations expect and insist upon; and that the world has a right to be free from every disturbance of its peace that has its origin in aggression or disregard of the rights of peoples and nations; and we believe that the time has again come when it is the duty of the United States to join with the other nations of the world in any feasible association that will effectively serve these principles, to maintain inviolate the complete security of the highway of the seas for the common and unhindered use of all nations.

The present administration has consistently sought to act upon and realize in its conduct of the foreign affairs of the nation the principle that should be the object of any association of the nations formed to secure the peace of the world and the maintenance of national and individual rights. It has followed the highest American traditions. It has preferred respect for the fundamental rights of smaller States even to property interests and has secured the friendship of the people of the States of the United States by refusing to make a mere material interest an excuse for the assertion of our superior power against the dignity of their sovereign independence.

It has regarded the lives of its citizens and the claims of humanity as of greater moment than material rights and peace as the best basis for the just settlement of commercial claims. It has made the honor and ideals of the United States its standard alike in negotiations and action. Mexico.

The Monroe doctrine is reasserted as a principle of Democratic faith. We have of a stable, responsible government in Mexico, capable of repressing and punishing marauders and bandit bands, who have not only taken lives, and seized and destroyed the property of American citizens in that country, but have insolently invaded our soil, made war upon and murdered our people thereon, has rendered it necessary temporarily to occupy, by our armed forces a portion of the territory of that friendly State. Until, by the restoration of law and order therein, a repetition of such incursions is impossible, it is necessary for their remaining will continue.

Intervention, implying as it does, military subjugation, is revolting to the people of the United States, notwithstanding the provocation to that course has been great, and should be resorted to, at all only as a last resort. The stubborn resistance of the President and his advisers to every demand and suggestion to enter upon it, is creditable alike to them and to the people in whose name they speak.

Woman Suffrage. We recommend the extension of the franchise to the women of the country by the States upon the same terms as to men.

The suffrage plank submitted by the minority, which was rejected reads: "The Democratic party has always stood for the sovereignty of the several States in the control and regulation of elections. We reaffirm the historic position of our party in this regard and favor the continuance of that wise provision of the Federal constitution which vests in the several States of the Union the power to prescribe the qualifications of their electors; which said last quoted provision was voted down in said committee by a vote of 26 to 17, and we hereby tender said provision as a minority report and ask its adoption by this convention.

Labor. We declare our faith in the seamen's act, passed by the Democratic Congress and we promise our earnest continuance of its enforcement. We favor the speedy enactment of an effective Federal child labor law

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