

MAY BE TWO OR THREE DAYS BEFORE ARMY STARTS INTO MEXICO, THOUGH REPORTED CAVALRY REGIMENT CROSSED LINE TODAY

Pershing Inquiring of Carranzista Commander Reason for Mobilization On Other Side—Spanish War Veterans Would Like to Go to War—Texas National Guard Going to Full Strength Basis—De Facto Government Troops Seek Honor of Taking Villa Before Americans Can Get to Him—Mexico City Newspapers More Favorable and State Department Says Sentiment Against America Is Dying Out.

(By United Press)

Columbus, N. M., March 14.—Under command of General Pershing, organization of the main division to pursue Villa has begun. Colonel Slocum is expected to head a flying brigade of cavalry. Pershing is conferring with the Carranza General Bertani to find the meaning for the Mexican mobilization.

G. A. R. and U. C. V., Attention!

Washington, March 14.—Representative Dyer, head of the Spanish War veterans, today asked State commanders how many men they could furnish in case volunteers were called for.

Texas Recruiting Up.

Dallas, March 14.—General Lyon, commanding the Texas militia, today ordered companies recruited to full war strength.

Rumored Troops Already Over.

San Antonio, March 14.—A flying column of fifteen hundred troopers with two weeks' rations, crossed the border today, it is persistently asserted.

Mexican Press Calmer.

Mexico City, March 14.—That the danger of a break between America and Mexico has passed inspired articles today in the Mexican newspapers.

May Be Last of Week Before Army Starts.

El Paso, March 14.—The mobilization preparatory to the hunt for Villa is continuing. The Carranzistas are pursuing him in the hope of rendering the American expedition unnecessary. It may be Thursday or Friday before the expedition crosses, although officers say they are ready for the word, the heads of the army are waiting for reinforcements to guard the border. The first aero-squadron, with eight planes, in command of Capt. Benjamin Foulois, is due here today.

Anti-American Sentiment Dying Out, Believed.

Washington, March 14.—Though the Presidents note to Carranza, granting "reciprocity" in troop movements believed to have been received favorably, the State Department is considering issuing a warning to Americans to avoid Mexico as before. Counsellor Polk today told the President he has reason to believe the anti-American sentiment in Mexico is dying out.

FIRST DEMONSTRATION SPRAYING IN COUNTY

B. Szymoniak, of the State Department of Agriculture, gave a demonstration in pruning and spraying fruit trees at Fields' Station today. This is the first time the State has had a demonstration in Lenoir county, and considerable interest had been worked up by Local Demonstrator O. F. McCrary. The demonstration was for the purpose of showing the benefits to be derived from pruning and spraying trees properly. "Most people," Demonstrator McCrary says think that fruit cannot be grown here, but if farmers would take the same care of their fruit trees that they do of their tobacco, fruit could be grown easily."

State Agent B. P. Folk, in charge of the pig club work, will visit this county on Thursday and Friday. Messrs. Folk and McCrary expect to visit the schools whose pupils have shown most interest in the work or would likely be interested. "The pig club work will be discussed fully with the teachers of the schools and the pupils who belong to the club," according to Mr. McCrary. It is hoped to hold the following meetings: Thursday, Farm Valley and Aiky Grove Thursday night, Sand Hill school No. 1. Friday, New Hope, Sandy Bottom, Piney Grove and Coahoma. Friday night, Coahoma again. The older people as well as club members are expected to attend the night meetings. "Several boys have already shown interest in the offer to lend club members money made by the Farmers and Merchants Bank recently," says Mr. McCrary. "Almost every day some boy writes that he wants to borrow money to buy registered pigs."

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

NEW TEUTON ATTACKS.

Paris, March 14.—After a 36-hour bombardment, the Germans launched heavy attacks in the Haudemont Forest, north-east of Verdun and LePretre forest on the southeast. The attacks were broken up by French artillery, it is officially said. The big gun duel continues in the Woivre sector.

NEUTRALITY PROCLAMATION.

Washington, March 14.—The President has signed a proclamation of neutrality as the result of Portugal entering the war, similar to the others issued by him

RUSH ARMY INCREASE.

Washington, March 14.—The House today responded nicely to the Presidents' request for speed. The leaders prepared to push aside all other business in favor of the army preparedness program. A resolution was adopted appointing Garrett of Tennessee, Cantrill of Kentucky and Campbell of Kansas a committee to confer with Speaker Clark.

WELDON CASE WILL GO TO SUPREME COURT.

The Weldon vs. Railroad case, in which \$50 was awarded in Superior Court last term, will go to Superior Court on appeal by the plaintiff, it was announced today. The plaintiff, Ora Weldon, whose husband was killed while in the employ of the Kinston-Carolina Railroad, considers the damages too small.

GERMANS EXPECTED TO MAKE EVEN MORE STRENUOUS EFFORT

Von Mackenzen and Von Hindenburg Both Due at Verdun, Said

BOMBARDMENT CONTINUES

Expected to Cease Suddenly for Great Infantry Attack Any Moment—Italian Artillery Active on the Isonzo Front, Reported

(By the United Press)

London, March 14.—Intense Italian artillery fighting on the Isonzo front apparently is the prelude to an important action, says a dispatch. The Italians have blasted enemy entanglements, the Austrians replying vigorously.

Von Hindenburg Summoned to West.

London, March 14.—Heavy German reinforcements are arriving at Verdun, while the Teuton artillery continues its terrific bombardment.

Swiss dispatches report the closing of the frontier to preserve secrecy regarding troop movements. French aviators are sounding the enemy positions. Marshal Von Mackenzen is now at Verdun. It is said Von Hindenburg also has been summoned. An infantry assault is expected to break the bombardment hourly.

APPEALS FOR MERCY FOR WARREN WOMAN BE HEARD THE 20TH

Governor Will Give Time to Arguments for Clemency On That Date—Murderess Will Be Taken to Penitentiary Immediately

(By the United Press)

Winston-Salem, March 14.—Whether or not the convicted husband murderer will break North Carolina's long record of no capital punishment for women will be decided on Monday when Governor Craig hears appeals for clemency for Mrs. Ida Bell Warren. Unless the Governor grants mercy, Mrs. Warren and Samuel Christy, sentenced for complicity, will die in the electric chair on the 31st of March.

Governor Craig has demanded of the sheriff here why Mrs. Warren has not been sent to the death house. Her immediate removal to Raleigh is expected.

NAVAL BILL READY APRIL THE FIRST, PRESIDENT IS TOLD

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 14.—The President today urged Chairman Padgett of the House naval affairs committee to speed up the bill would be ready by April 1, and that naval bill would be ready by April 1, and that he believed success is assured for President Wilson's wish to increase the navy.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN'S FIGHT FOR PROPERTY BEGINS WEDNESDAY

The motion for an injunction against individuals alleged to be unlawfully holding property here claimed by the N. S. Railroad continuing to occupy it will be brought up in U. S. Court at New Bern Wednesday before Judge Connor, of the Eastern district. Certified copies of papers

TAFT, ROOT, ET AL. OPPOSE NAMING OF BRANDEIS TO COURT

Letter Presented to Senate Committee Signed By a Number

OBJECTIONS OUTLINED

Give Bostonian's Character and Alleged Bad Legal Reputation as Reasons for Withholding Confirmation to Place on Bench

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 14.—Taft and Root oppose the confirmation of Mr. Brandeis to the Supreme Court, they said in a letter signed by them and today presented to the Senate committee by Austin G. Fox, attorney for those opposing Brandeis. The letter also was signed by Simeon Baldwin, former Governor of Connecticut; Joseph H. Choate, Francis Rawley and Moorefield Storey.

The letter cited as reasons for their opposition Brandeis' reputation and the character of his professional career, which it said, made him unfit for the place.

New Bern's post of the T. P. A. known as "W." has been organized. F. H. Shipp is president.

DOZEN SO. KINSTON WOMEN GO ON TRIAL IN THE CITY COURT

Accused Living In Houses Maintained for Immoral Purposes—Eight Cases to Be Passed On By Juries Totalling 48 Men

Ninety-six men were summoned from whom to select eight juries of six men each for trials of women of the segregated district commenced at the Courthouse this morning shortly after 10 o'clock. There were an even dozen defendants, but four of these were said to have waived their right to trial by jury.

The technical charge against all, according to Solicitor H. E. Shaw, was in effect that they "resided in" houses maintained for immoral purposes. The majority of the women were stated to be proprietresses. Recorder Wooten presided, Solicitor Shaw had charge of the prosecution and quite an array of legal talent represented the defendants.

The following were accused: Louise Walker, Margaret Portella, Flonnie Gulley, Helen Smith, Maude Adams, Thelma Earle, Lillian Etheridge, Elsie Doris, Nellie Reid, Lillie Gulley, Lillian Gray and Nettie Andrews.

The cases were expected to consume at least all of today.

THE DAY ON LOCAL COTTON EXCHANGE

Receipts on the local cotton market today up till 3 o'clock were about 12-bales, selling for from 10.82 1-2 to 11.10.

New York futures quotations were:

	Open	Close
May	11.94	12.00
July	12.15	12.18
October	12.32	12.33
December	12.48	12.51
January	12.58	12.60

desired by plaintiff in the matter were forwarded to New Bern today. The property in dispute, as stated in The Free Press several times before, comprises a considerable area lying along the main line track in the southwestern part of the city.

THE GROUP PLAN IN LENOIR COUNTY IS BIG SUCCESS, SAYS

Brogden Notes Progress of Schools—Committeemen Alive to Work—Teachers Like Plan, States State Education Expert

The workings and the benefits of the "group plan" in Lenoir County's schools are described at length in a very interesting letter from Prof. L. C. Brogden, a State Department of Education expert well-known here, to Dr. J. M. Parrott, Chairman of the County Education Board. The plan, suggested by Dr. Parrott, is the latest word in modern school methods. As Prof. Brogden tells Dr. Parrott, he has been especially interested in the successful trial here because of his long residence in the county during former years, and he is gratified over the result also as a pioneer in the group plan movement. By means of the group plan small bodies of teachers are reached at a meeting, whereas, at the old county meetings a majority, possibly, of the ma'ams were too bashful to talk before the gatherings. The group meetings are "heart to heart affairs."

Prof. Brogden's letter follows: "Dr. J. M. Parrott, Chairman, "County Board of Education, "Kinston, N. C.

"My dear Dr. Parrott: "I was very sorry that I did not have the opportunity of talking with you during my last visit to your county. I called at your office, but was told that you had just gone to the hospital.

"However, knowing that you are genuinely interested in the progress of rural schools of the county, I'm taking the liberty of dropping you a line.

"Since it was you who suggested to the teachers and the school committeemen the advisability of substituting the group plan for conducting teachers' meeting for the old county plan which has been in operation up to this year, it is quite natural that you should like to know whether the plan you suggested works, and whether it is an improvement over the old plan, I myself, have been interested in studying the operation of the plan in order to come to some definite conclusions as to its value. Consequently, I have spent several days in your county during the present session studying at first hand the plan in its actual operation.

"As you know, Superintendent Kinsey and his assistant, Miss Hattie Parrott, divided the rural teachers of the county last fall into seven groups, and the county into seven convenient group centers. With this arrangement, the number of teachers belonging to each group ranges from eight to twelve, thereby providing for each group meeting a number of teachers large enough to insure active interest and enthusiasm, wholesome rivalry and friendly competition, but not a number large enough to make almost useless roundtable discussions of the common and vital everyday needs in school room work. These seven group centers were so selected that no teacher in any group is much farther than eight miles from the common meeting place of her group. This has made it entirely practicable for all the teachers to meet at their group center at 9:15 in the morning and remain till 4:15 in the afternoon.

"Last December, during the first series of group meetings, I met with the group at Graingers, Moss Hill, Pink Hill and at Farm Valley. Last week during the second series of group meetings, I met with the group at Airy Grove, Woodington, Moss Hill, and at Farm Valley. The suggestion that you made to the teachers and the school committeemen last fall, that a school day should be taken for these meetings, that the teachers might have ample opportunity for seeing and studying the school actually at work has been carried out by Superintendent Kinsey and Miss Parrott to the letter.

"These meetings have not been 'hot air performances.' They have not been occasions for the teachers to

NO TROUBLE LIKELY TO FOLLOW SINKING OF SILIUS, STATED

Official Doubt If Norwegian Vessel Was Sunk By Torpedo

AMERICANS COME HOME

One U. S. Citizen Was Injured—Germany Willing to Do Right Thing If Proof Is Had That Submarine Was Guilty

(By the United Press)

Washington, March 14.—Trouble between America and Germany over the sinking of the Norwegian bark Silius is unlikely, it is said by best German authority. If it is proved that the vessel was submerged by Germans without warning, endangering the lives of seven American sailors, Germany undoubtedly will disavow and make reparation, it is said.

No report has been received at the Austrian and German embassies. Though still awaiting official information both Secretary Lansing and the Swedish Legation have expressed doubt that the Silius was torpedoed.

One American, John Hartman of Philadelphia, was injured, it was today learned from a dispatch from the consul at Havre. Two Norwegians and one Dane were also injured. Hartman is in a hospital. Three American members of the crew sailed Saturday for America, and are due to arrive on April 2d.

come together to be lectured to. They have been carefully and definitely planned working conferences based upon the common and everyday needs of the teachers in their school-room work.

"At 9:15 in the morning the teachers are expected to be present at the group center school. At 9:30 they go in to observe and to study the morning exercises held at this school. Here the visiting teachers have a splendid opportunity for getting suggestions that will aid them in making the morning exercises in their own school of the most value to their pupils. Exercises in their own school of the most value to their pupils. At 9:45 the teachers with pencil and note book in hand, go into the room, previously designated, to observe and to study the teaching of a reading lesson given by one of the teachers in the group center school. Reading being one of the most important subjects in the school, it was the subject selected to be concentrated upon during this session. From 10:15 to 10:45 the teachers go into the other rooms at this group center school to observe the teaching of other subjects in the course of study which they feel the greatest need to know how to teach, whether arithmetic, writing, geography or history.

At 11 o'clock the children of the group center school are dismissed and the teachers then begin their conference. Thus far the work of these conferences have been chiefly confined to the following important topics: viz.: (1) The working out of the daily schedule so that the teacher might give to each child in the school the largest amount of her time possible; (2) Better organization of the school, better gradation and classification of the individual pupils in the school; (3) How to get all the children

GREEK AND FRENCH SOLDIERS CLASH ON HELLENIC TERRITORY

(By the United Press.)

Berlin, March 14.—Greek and French soldiers have clashed on the island of Mytilene. One Frenchman was killed and another seriously wounded, say Athens dispatches. The French were reinforced and imprisoned the Greek troops, it is said. The Greek government has protested.

LENOIR COUNTY IS UNDER THE PRIMARY ACT, IS DISCOVERY

Not Necessary for Committee to Call It, Says Mr. Cooper

COUNTY IS NOT EXCEPTED

At Request, Senators Had Change Made During the Last Session, and It Has Just Been Found Out—"All Parties June 3"

The Democratic County Executive Committee will not have to call a county primary in Lenoir, as was generally believed, according to County Chairman G. V. Cowper, who has just made the discovery that the legalized primary is applicable here. Chairman Cowper today made the following statement:

"Since calling the Democratic county convention, executives committee and precinct meetings, my attention has been called to the fact that the last Legislature in its closing days did pass a special act making the legalized primary for all officers including county and legislative officers, applicable to this county. I had been misled in this matter in making my call, because the general primary act excepted Lenoir County as to Legislative and county officers. At the time I immediately called the attention of our Senators (our Representative being then dead) and reminded them that our County Executive Committee had gone on record in favor of primary for all officers, but I had understood, in the rush of the closing days, the matter of the change for Lenoir County had been overlooked.

"I now find by Chapter 102, Public Laws of 1916, Lenoir County was stricken from the counties excepted and put in with the counties which are to have legalized primaries for all officers, from county officers up. This will make it unnecessary for the County Committee to call a primary in this county as had been thought before, and there will be one legalized primary on the 3rd of June for both parties, including county and legislative offices. I hasten to make this correction and am very glad to know that the request of this county was not overlooked by the Legislature."

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS FROM OTHER COUNTIES AND TOWNS NEAR HERE

An officer of the Army Medical Corps will inspect the militia hospital detachment at New Bern Wednesday night.

Jeff Laughinghouse, sought on a whisky charge for a year and recently captured by Federal officers, is at large from the Craven county jail after making a hole in the roof and lowering himself to the ground by means of a rope of blankets, etc.

Garland Eastwood, unconscious for two weeks following a fall from a fire truck at New Bern, has recovered his reason and will recover, physicians say.

A delayed report from Robersonville says an unidentified negro was killed by a foreman of a Pitt county road force there Saturday night. The foreman, named Styron, shot the negro, a discharged laborer, following "nagging" by the latter. Styron is under \$1,000 bail.

MUNITIONS SHIP IN DISTRESS, REPORTED

New York, March 14.—The steamship Zealandia, laden with munitions going to British Malta, is in distress in the Atlantic after breaking her steering gear, a message from the tanker Richmond today said. The message failed to state whether the Richmond was going to the aid of the Zealandia.