

CARRANZA TRYING KEEP CONFIDENCE OF MEXICAN PEOPLE BY NOTE TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT; IN NO SENSE ULTIMATUM

Request for Negotiations Looking to Withdrawal of Army Couched in Mild Spanish Phraseology and Intended to Impress Own People More Than Anything Else, Believed—Parleying Would Require Weeks and Villa Might Be Caught Before Culmination—Sniping Over Line and Bad Attitude Toward U. S. Soldiers—Pershing's Men Undergoing Remarkable Hardships for Modern Campaigning

(By the United Press)

Washington, April 13.—Carranza's note is in no sense an "ultimatum" or "demand" that American troops be withdrawn, it was stated at the Mexican Embassy today after the official translation had been made. It was characterized rather as a "request" for negotiations looking to Carranza troops taking over the Villa hunt. The note was not expected to be delivered to Secretary Lansing until late this afternoon.

Mexican officials indicated today that unofficial translations might easily make it sound more emphatic than intended. Officials here are optimistic, since negotiations would take several weeks. In the mean time, they pointed out, the hunt may be successfully concluded. Many here believed the note was meant more for "home consumption" than anything else.

No Steps to Humor Carranza.

Washington, April 13.—The Mexican protocol situation, State Department officials today said, stands the same as it has been, the War Department taking no steps toward concurring with Carranza's demand for withdrawal of the expedition. The hunt is going on as before, as far as army men know. Today upon receiving the official text of Carranza's note, asking the army to be called back, the State Department said it had no announcement to make yet.

Funston Speaks in No Uncertain Terms.

San Antonio, April 13.—Funston will never consider the punitive expedition a success until Villa is killed or captured, he made it plain today when told of Carranza's demand for the army's withdrawal.

Army's Task a Great One.

El Paso, April 13.—Army officials in Texas believe the Villa punitive expedition is approaching the critical stage. The danger lies on the communication line, over 400 miles long, with inadequate transport service. The troops are known to have gone hungry for days and suffered for lack of clothing in high altitudes, with the rainy season due in about a month, when the trails will be impassable, army officers today stated.

The expedition must have free use of the railways or withdraw. The only alternative, they said, is to continue provisioning in the present haphazard, costly manner. Recent commercial use of railroads, they declared, has afforded inconsequential relief. It is learned here that Dodd's men and animals lived a week without salt. When a new supply arrived the men ate it like children do candy. Another detachment was without coffee or sugar for ten days.

Arrivals from the front say the Carranza soldiery is acting well, but the lower classes are ugly toward the Americans. Sniping has been resumed along the communication lines.

Troops Fired Upon.

San Antonio, April 13.—Mexicans at Parral have fired shots at American troopers, according to official advices. Carranza troops followed suit. There were no casualties.

JONES MEN PROTEST ROUTE OF HIGHWAY VIA FORT BARNWELL

But Get No Satisfaction; Had Neglected to Build Good Link

EXPERT INSPECTORS HERE

Federal and State Men Are Touring Great State Road—Distance From New Bern to Kinston Officially 41.1 Miles, Found Today

Inspecting the Central highway as it now exists for the State Highway Commission, the following party were here today: Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt, State Geologist; U. S. Road Maintenance Expert James; U. S. Road Construction Supervisor Winslow, and State Highway Engineer Fallis. They left Morehead City Wednesday morning for a tour of inspection of the great road for its entire distance of 485 miles. They spent Wednesday night in New Bern. They arrived here today a short time after the scheduled time, 9:30. The road is being scientifically logged now for the first time. The distance from New Bern to Kinston was found to be 41.1 miles.

The road from Kinston to New Bern was found to be in "fair" shape, according to Mr. Winslow. He referred to three and a fraction miles unimproved as yet, but was acquainted with the commissioners' intention to improve the stretch.

A meeting was held in the grand jury room at the Courthouse at which Chairman Churchill of the County Commissioners, three commissioners, a delegation of Jones county men and a number of local citizens were present. The Jones men claimed that the highway had originally been routed by way of Trenton instead of by Ft. Barnwell from New Bern to Kinston. They were given no satisfaction, although it is understood that the present route is but a tentative one, and that there is a possibility of alterations before the highway is formally turned over. Jones county had neglected to improve its road for the proposed route, through a misunderstanding, persons from that county who addressed the meeting said.

A proposal was made the commissioners to participate in a plan for Federal supervision and maintenance of the highway for a year. Chairman Churchill promised to consider it at a full meeting of his board, at an early date. The government proposes to keep the road up for twelve months at actual expense, the counties through which it passes sharing the cost. The Federal roads office's force is limited, it seems, and the necessary experts could not be spared for a longer time.

The inspectors left this afternoon for Goldsboro. Their work will not be concluded until week after next.

BRIEFS IN THE NEWS OF NEIGHBORING TOWNS

Louis Henry, colored, at New Bern, bathed his feet in gasoline as a cure for rheumatism. Henry's feet caught fire. He forgot his rheumatism! He is in a hospital.

The Craven county school commencement will be held in New Bern tomorrow.

The funeral of George A. Gilkins, 83, was held at Morehead City today.

WON'T WITHDRAW THE NOMINATION BRANDEIS

Washington, April 12.—President Wilson, it was learned today, is determined to stand behind the nomination of Louis D. Brandeis as associate justice of the Supreme Court in spite of reports of determined opposition among members of the Senate. Officials said today the President would not consider withdrawing the nomination.

IS TIME FOR LAST SAY IN THE DEPOT MATTER, STATED

(By W. J. MARTIN)
Raleigh, April 14.—The Corporation Commission is today writing the Chamber of Commerce of Kinston to know if the Chamber has further changes for union station plans before submitting preliminary plans, drawn by the railroads to the Kinston authorities. It is presumed that this is simply a precautionary measure to ascertain, if there has been any change of sentiment on the part of the people of Kinston.

HONOR PUPILS CITY SCHOOLS FOR MONTH ENDING MARCH 31ST

Those Who Made Perfect Attendance Records During Seventh Month of the Term as They Are Graduated, and Teachers, Etc.

Supt. Barron Caldwell of the City Schools today made public the honor roll by grades for the month ending March 31, the seventh month of the scholastic year. The list follows:

Grade I-A—Miss Belle Walters, teacher—Sidney Campen, Charlie Conway, Reginald Conway, Allen Curtis, Oscar Ellis, Frank Heath, Linwood Hill, Jasper Horton, Cecil Porter, Jake Rhodes, Clayton Smith, Clifton Smith, Clifton Trippe, Thelma McDuffie, Essie Waller.

Grade I-B—Miss Roberta Coble, teacher—Claude Ballard, Sam Dunn, Raymond Gardner, Wilbur Homby, Ulys Oliver, John Larmour Parrott, William Pearce, George Slaughter, Haywood Weeks, Ellis Wetherington, Kirby Miller, Mary Bell Beeton, Catharine Cook, Minnie Dunn, Virginia Hill, Lucile Kilpatrick, May Bell Lee, Vida Lee, Lola Bell Smith, Doris Tull.

Grade I-C—Miss Coble, teacher—Lula Long Mewborn, Isabel Stricklin, Tosea Smith, Gladys Stroud, Lucile Stroud, Isabelle Dunn, Elizabeth Jones, Lucile Belle, Ola May Davis, Esther May Tighman, Marion Cowper, Thomas Brown, William Rayner, Reggie Fort, Keith Dixon, Trumbo Harper, James Hayes, Isaac Stroud, Dwight McDaniels, Gordon Harrison.

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BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

PRESIDENT STAYS IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, April 13.—In the light of the critical Mexican and German-American situations, the President will probably cancel his trip to speak before the Young Men's Democratic Club in New York Saturday.

DUTCH INVESTIGATION.

Amsterdam, April 13.—Dutch naval officers today assert with positiveness that the Tubantia and Palembang, Dutch ships, were torpedoed. The official investigation is stated to have disclosed as much.

'PROSPECT' DIES AS HE ARRIVED ON SCENE

Harry Murray of this city Wednesday drove up to the home of an elderly man named Hodges, said to have been an octogenarian, at Warsaw, N. C., intending to try to sell Hodges an automobile. The old man was sitting in a rocker on the front porch. Mr. Murray, as he approached, saw

GERMANS ATTACKING KEYSTONE POSITION NEAR VERDUN TODAY

First Assault Directed at Hill Northwest of the Stronghold

TEUTONS REINFORCING

Sending More Men for Offensive in West—No Decisive Battle Reported From the Near Eastern Theater; Heavy Combat.

(By the United Press)
Paris, Apr. 13.—The Germans launched the first direct attack upon hill 304, one of the keystone defenses northwest of Verdun, late yesterday. The War Office announced that they were checked with a curtain of fire. German reinforcements.

Paris, April 13.—The Germans are reported to be reinforcing in the Verdun sector.

Fighting in Near East.
Athens, April 13.—Allied and German troops are engaged in quite heavy fighting on the Greek frontier today, reports from the North say. Nothing in the way of a decisive action has been started, it is thought.

KANSAS BORROWS GOOD IDEA FROM THIS STATE

Adopts Community Service Week Idea—Fidelity of Tentative Program of Western State to That Carried Out in North Carolina Winter Before Last Is Gratifying

(By W. T. Bost)

Raleigh, April 13.—North Carolina's "Community Service Week" idea has been appropriated by the State of Kansas to be celebrated in April or May of next year.

This compliment to North Carolina is conveyed in letters to Prof. W. C. Crosby, one of the "big four" in working out the program which North Carolina so splendidly executed in December of 1914. William H. Kerr, librarian chairman of the Committee on Progress Week, writes from Emporia, Kansas, the home of the Kansas State Normal School, for all the data, with which Kansas hopes to impress the people of that State as lastingly as North Carolina was benefited by the three days of December, 1914.

For that week Governor Craig issued a proclamation calling upon the Farmers' Union, the chambers of commerce, the women's clubs, the teachers and the ministers, the newspapers, lawyers, physicians, farmers, business men, industrial forces and all others to co-operate in working out the plans for such community service. Every community put aside its private concerns, made social and economic surveys, informed itself of immediate needs and went singing to its work.

Kansas sends a tentative program to be worked out. Its fidelity to the North Carolina idea is very delightful to those who took the lead here.

GROUP COMMENCEMENT MOSS HILL ON FRIDAY

The last of the group commencements in the county will be held at Moss Hill Friday. Mr. E. C. Brooks, professor of education at Trinity College, Durham, will be the speaker. He will be introduced by Mr. H. G. Braxton. The following schools will participate: Sandy Bottom, Piney Grove, Bland Smith's, Moss Hill and Oaky Bottom. The exercises will begin at 10 o'clock. The public is invited.

that the man was gasping. "Something's wrong with him," he said to a companion in the car. They called people living in the house. Hodges died almost as soon as they reached him. Heart failure was the cause of death, physicians said.

'THIS GOVERNMENT WILL ACT IN TROUBLE WITH GERMANY IN MANNER SATISFACTORY TO PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY NOW,' SAID

Imperial Government Disclaims Probability of Responsibility for Sussex Disaster But Admits Attacks Upon Four Other Vessels, and Declares They Were Justified. Washington Awaiting Official Text, Which May Arrive Any Hour, Before Acting—Issue to a Head Now—American Officials Cannot See Justice in German Position and Break May Be Decided Upon By President Shortly

(By the United Press)

Washington, April 13.—The tables are now cleared for a showdown between Germany and the United States. Disclaiming probability of responsibility for the Sussex disaster, Germany admits submarine attacks on four other ships which carried Americans. In each case she says those attacks were legal, conforming to international law and with assurances heretofore given.

American officials, however, take the opposite viewpoint. It is believed the issue will soon clear out.

In the words of one close to the President, "this government will act now in a manner entirely satisfactory to the people of this country." First, of course, will be the awaiting of the arrival of the official text of the German note, expected tomorrow at the latest.

France Claims to Have Conclusive Evidence.

Paris, April 13.—The French government today officially announced that it not only has thirteen fragments of the torpedo which struck the Sussex, but also the names of the captain and crew of the attacking submarine. The information was obtained from the crew of a submarine captured on April 5.

BIG EXTRA VOTES BACKED BY THE HONOR ROLL

Enthusia Auto Contestants—40,000 Extra Votes On Each Set

HONOR ROLL

Highest Daily Cash Report on Subscriptions

Two-Pound Box of Lowney's Chocolates, fresh from Skinner's, at 127 N. Queen Street, will be given to each Honor Roll candidate.

Mr. H. L. Pate, La Grange, R. 3, Monday.
Miss Lucille Brown, Ayden.
Miss Dora Diamond, Kinston

The city of Kinston came into her own yesterday and produced an Honor Roll candidate. Miss Dora Diamond turned in the largest cash report for Friday and placed her name on the roll of distinction. Miss Diamond is meeting with wonderful success during her spare time. With the help of her friends she is making very substantial gains as the days go by. There are only three more days of the Honor Roll; it will not be extended next week, and they promise to be hard fought. Their importance is beyond question and every candidate is trying her best to place her name first.

Holding Back Subscriptions.

Subscriptions must not be held back longer than forty-eight hours after securing them. There is a penalty of one thousand votes for each twelve hours over this limit. This must be enforced in order to have the names of the new subscribers on the list. Up to date no one has been penalized for breaking this rule, but there may be several who will be thus penalized if they insist upon breaking this rule.

Extra Votes.

All of the candidates in the contest are appreciating the extra vote offer which was announced a few days ago to be in force this week, and next. By the rule of this mammoth vote offer, 40,000 extra votes are to be given for each set of NEW five six-months subscriptions to the Daily Free Press and for each set of five NEW yearly subscriptions to the Semi-Weekly Free Press. For each set of similar old sets an extra vote.

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MAY NOT TRY WILL BLACK AT SPECIAL TERM COURT, THO'T

Greene County People See No Need for It, and May Request Governor to Recall Order—No Spirit for Lynching There Now

It is believed in Snow Hill, according to J. A. Albritton of that town, that the trial of Will Black, alleged assailant of six-year-old Mattie Tyson, will not be held on May 15. Governor Craig last week ordered a special term to be convened on that date.

Mr. Albritton intimates that the Governor will be asked to call off the term. The case would then come up in June.

"Our people realize that the greatest punishment is bound to be meted out to the man," Mr. Albritton says; and he says they think there is no necessity for hastening the fatal judgment. It would cost the county of Greene not less than \$300 to hold the term; no good would be done the county by the impression gotten by outsiders that the people could not wait for justice in its regular turn; and Will Black will be as safe in Snow Hill in June, or would be now for that matter, as in the State prison where he is. The people are not in the least to take summary vengeance upon him, realizing that there is hardly a chance in the world for him to draw anything but a death sentence.

DOINGS OF THE DAY IN SUPERIOR COURT

The case of Hunter vs. West was non-suited in Superior Court this afternoon. The plaintiff was suing for the opening of an alleyway. Judge Bond decided that too long a time had expired without a request for the alley to be opened.

Court took up the case of Parrott vs. Benson. Both parties in this cause claim land involved. The case of Petteway vs. Grainger was settled today by consent judgment, for the defendant. The price of land was the cause of the litigation.

COUNTRY IN BETTER FINANCIAL CONDITION THAN EVER BEFORE

Washington, April 12.—Financial prosperity and strength is greater in the United States today than ever before, and is rising rapidly to new levels, according to the interpretation placed by Comptroller of the Currency Williams, on figures made public today showing conditions March 7 in the country's national banks. The returns show:
Total resources of national banks, \$13,780,000,000, an increase of \$2,710,000,000.
Total deposits, \$10,790,000,000, an increase of \$2,198,000,000; an increase of \$411,000,000 since December 31 last.
An increase of \$990,000,000 in loans and discounts within a year.
Surplus and undivided profits of \$1,081,278,000, an increase of \$18,800,000.

REPORT OF THE COTTON MARKET

Thirteen bales of cotton were sold here today by 2 o'clock, the best price being 11.30. New York futures quotations were:

	Open	Close
May ..	11.82	11.79
July ..	11.96	11.93
October ..	12.12	12.07
December ..	12.26	12.25
January ..	12.31	12.31

STRAWBERRIES TO BE MOVING WITHIN WEEK

Wilmington, April 12.—Shipments of strawberries are expected to begin from this section Thursday of next week. Present indications are that between 900 and 1,000 cars will be shipped under refrigeration. The Chadbourn district, it is believed, will produce two-thirds of this amount.