

33rd Year

HERRERA IS ROYAL, SAYS U. S. CONSUL

Official on the Scene Denies Report of His Defection to Villa.

REVOLT AS CLAIMED

Report From Consul Letcher Reveals a Menacing Feature of Mexican Situation.

Washington, March 24.—American Consul Letcher at Chihuahua today reported there was no truth in the reported revolt of General Herrera and the Carranza garrison at Chihuahua.

Altho General Funston and General Bell on the border received reports confirming the story of the revolt, which they believed to be true, the dispatch from Consul Letcher, who is on the ground, is taken by officials here as confirming the statements of Carranza officials that no such revolt has occurred.

Consul Letcher's dispatch reported that General Herrera was under the command of the de facto troops here and was "loyal to General Carranza."

His report is regarded as removing one of the most menacing features of the Mexican situation.

CONFLICTING REPORTS

Washington, March 24.—Conflicting reports on the border continued to flow here today.

American consuls in northern Mexico under orders of the State Department to investigate the troop movement, reported that they found no movement of troops in the northern section.

Senator Ashurst, of Arizona, however, received today from R. A. Richardson, of Douglas, a telegram saying Mexican general with three thousand cavalry and 40 pieces of artillery had moved at a point near to the border not more than ten blocks from the center of the city and that 7,000 additional cavalry were six miles south of the border.

Richardson stated that the American troops stationed two miles from Douglas were inadequate to meet the situation and that there were fears of attack.

Reports Denied. Douglas, Arizona, March 24.—The Carranza military governor of Sonora today denied reports that a large number of Mexican troops have reached Agua Prieta, opposite here, from the south. Investigation did not reveal an increased number of troops in Agua Prieta.

Carranza Troops Closing In. Douglas, Arizona, March 24.—The military governor of Sonora received a telegram today from the military governor of Chihuahua stating that the columns of Carranza troops were closing in on Villa and his bandits near Namiquipa, and that, with the aid of the Americans, it was believed that Villa could not escape.

BRIDGE IS COMPLETED; BETHANIA ROAD OPEN

The work on the Peter's Creek bridge, which has necessitated closing the Bethania road at that point for several days, was completed Thursday afternoon and the road was opened for traffic.

The highway commission announced that the road leading to the new steel bridge connecting Forsyth and Yadkin counties will be completed the last of next week, and it is expected that the road will be opened for traffic within the next few days.

The improved road from the bridge to Yadkinville has been completed and it is said to be a splendid highway by those who have passed over it. When the approach on the Forsyth side of the river is completed the direct route from this city to Yadkinville will be established.

The new auto mail route from this city to Yadkinville will pass over this highway. The contract for this service was recently awarded by the government to Mr. J. N. Davis, of this city.

DAVID W. FLICKWR IS PLACED ON N. & W. BOARD

New York, March 24.—The directors of the Norfolk & Western Railway, at their regular meeting here, elected David W. Flickwr, of Roanoke, a director to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Col. Walter H. Taylor, of Norfolk. The regular dividend on the preferred stock was authorized.

Attention on the common dividend will be taken at the April meeting.

It was said after the meeting that there was nothing to substantiate the reports of a loose alliance between the Norfolk & Western and the Pennsylvania Railroad system. This subject had not been discussed at the meeting.

McAdoo Party Going On Battleship To South America



William G. McAdoo (with cane), Samuel Untermyer (at his right).

This is the International Commission, headed by Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo, which is on its way south on the warship Tennessee to visit South American nations in the effort to bring about closer trade relations.

CLOSING SESSION OF THE W.M. UNION

Beautiful Memorial Service—Mrs. Jones, of Raleigh, President—Other Officers.

The annual meeting of the Women's Missionary Union of the State Baptist convention of North Carolina closed after four days' session in city this morning, with a beautiful memorial service in honor of the late lamented president, Miss Fannie Heck, and Mrs. D. Rich, one of the leaders in the State work for years.

The time and place of holding the next meeting of the union was unanimously left with the executive committee, upon the recommendation of the committee in this matter. Officers were elected as follows:

President, Mrs. Walter N. Jones, of Raleigh. First Vice President, Mrs. H. C. Moore, of Raleigh.

Other Vice Presidents, Mrs. John Freeman, of Ahsokie; Mrs. J. T. Pope, of Lumberton; Mrs. W. H. Reddish, of Wadesboro; Mrs. W. H. Woodall, of Asheboro.

Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Bertha Carroll, of Winterville. Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. S. Farmer, of Raleigh.

Y. W. A. Secretary, Mrs. C. E. Mason, Charlotte. Junior Superintendent, Miss Elizabeth Briggs, Raleigh.

The new officers are the president and first vice president. The others have served in official capacity in past years.

Miss Burrus, the retiring secretary, will enter a medical school this fall to prepare herself for work in the mission field. In the adoption of the report of the nominating committee the assembly paid a splendid compliment to her for her devotion to duty and to her efficiency.

The business session which lasted until a few minutes after twelve o'clock was a busy one and many details of business, including the adoption of a plan of operation for the coming year, were disposed of. Then followed the memorial to Miss Heck and Mrs. Rich. Every phase of the work was represented in the beautiful tributes paid her personality and her life.

Mrs. McClure, representing the training school at Louisville, declared "Personality and a great cause are inseparable. So Miss Heck is inseparable from the thought of the Women's Missionary Union. When God wished to express the highest ideal for the union he gave to us Miss Heck. To her he revealed the plans for our work, and the recognition of His voice through her caused us willingly to press toward her ideals for the W. M. U. training school." To her effort and influence and counsel was accredited the success of that work.

Miss Mallory, of Baltimore, referred to the launching of the plans (Continued on page nine.)



MRS. W. N. JONES, President W. M. U., Raleigh, N. C.

ARTILLERY IS STILL ACTIVE

French Guns Cannonading German Positions Northwest of Verdun—Russians Claim Gains On Eastern Front

The lull in the infantry fighting in the Verdun region of France continues. The artillery, however, keeps up its active work.

The French guns have been energetically cannonading the German positions northwest of Verdun. The intention apparently is to break up an anticipated attempt of the Germans to advance from this cover and make further efforts to move southward.

East of the Meuse, the German bombardment appears to have diminished in intensity, only intermittent firing being reported in the vicinity of Douaumont, Damouloup and in the Woeyre region.

Scarcely less interest is being aroused by the determined attack of the Russians on the German northern front in the east. Berlin admits no permanent successes to the Russian troops, but Petrograd statements continue to claim gains at various points, both northwest of Dvinsk and to the south.

Berlin dispatches declare the German losses have been surprisingly small under the terrific bombardment by the Russians, while the attacking forces have been mowed down in masses. Confidence is expressed in Berlin on the outcome of the fighting. The sinking of two additional neutral vessels by submarines is being reported, the lost craft being a Norwegian steamer and a Danish bark.

JUNIORS TO PRESENT A FLAG AND BIBLE

Juniors in this section will be very much in evidence tomorrow. Jefferson Council, at Pfafftown, will present a flag and Bible to two schools in that section of the county, and Centerville Council will make a similar presentation to the Broadway public school.

At the Old Richmond school, under the auspices of the Jefferson council, the presentation speech will be made by Rev. J. S. Hatt, pastor of Grace M. E. church, this city. The exercises will begin at 11 o'clock in the morning. And at Pleasant Ridge school, under the same auspices, the address will be delivered by Mayor O. B. Eaton at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The flags and the Bible will be received for the schools by Mr. E. T. Kapp, member of the county board of education.

Attorney J. H. Whicker will deliver the address at the Broadway school tomorrow afternoon. This exercise will be held in connection with the exhibition marking the close of the term. The pupils have prepared an interesting program for the day, and a cordial invitation is extended to all who desire to attend.

BRITISH AND DANISH STEAMERS ARE SUNK

London, March 24.—Another Danish steamship has been sunk—the Christiansund. Her entire crew of twenty-two, were saved.

The British steamship Fulmar also has been sunk. Eighteen of her crew were rescued.

WOULD MAKE THEM GUILTY OF "DEEDS OF TREASON"

Washington, March 24.—A resolution branding Americans who furnish funds and supplies to General Villa's forces in Mexico as doing "deeds of actual treason" was introduced today by Senator Lewis.

REPORT OF FIGHT NOT CONFIRMED

Has Been Accepted As Probably True, However, by General Funston.

San Antonio, March 24.—Reports from Mexican sources that Villa had been defeated by American and Mexican troops at Eliso, near Namiquipa, were accepted by General Funston today as probably true, altho no confirmation by General Pershing had been received.

Improvement in the working of the wireless made it appear likely that General Pershing would break his fifth day of silence regarding operations south of Casas Grandes by rendering an account of the engagement at Eliso.

Y. M. C. A. MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN NEXT WEEK

The membership campaign of the Young Men's Christian Association, which opens next week, gives promise of being the largest and most enthusiastic one ever inaugurated.

The idea of designating the names of the teams by the names of various automobiles is proving to be a most popular one and the race next week will be strongly contested from beginning to end. The automobile owners are responding in large numbers to the request that they participate in the big parade next Monday afternoon, and the indications are that the line of automobiles at the Y. M. C. A. next Monday afternoon will be the largest ever seen in Winston-Salem. All owners of cars are invited to be on hand at the above hour Monday afternoon and join in the parade.

Winston-Salem will be in competition with some of the strongest associations in the Carolinas, but with the strong teams at work that are now being lined up, the local association will make its standing count in the approaching campaign.

CHAIRMAN TRAVIS ON RATE REDUCTION

Raleigh, March 24.—Just back from a conference with the Interstate Commerce Commission and representatives of the railroads Chairman Travis, of the Corporation Commission, is confident North Carolina points will benefit by the reduction of ten and probably as much as 20 cents a ton on coal brought from the Pocahontas and Virginia mines in revised southeastern territory freight rates being formulated to file April 1 with the interstate commission in compliance with its order.

AUGUSTA IS TO REBUILD VERY SOON

Plans for Replacing of Burned District Are Now Being Considered.

OPTIMISM IS PREVAILING

Plans to Care for Immediate Needs of the Destitute Perfected.

Augusta, March 24.—Having perfected plans for the immediate needs of the several hundred destitute persons Augusta today began to discuss plans for rebuilding the burned district. An optimistic spirit prevails among the business men and work will go forward as soon as insurance has been adjusted. There was much speculation today as to the amount carried on the various buildings.

The two newspapers, the Herald and the Chronicle, are making arrangements to rebuild as soon as possible. Orders for new equipment will be placed immediately by the two papers.

Members of the special relief committee of fifteen continued to receive contributions today, and every effort will be made to raise \$50,000 as a fund to care for the needy.

The Southern Adjustment Bureau of Atlanta will open an office in Augusta Monday for the adjustment of insurance claims. A policy of \$300,000 was carried on the seven-story partially completed Empire Life Insurance building. The Chronicle building was insured for \$130,000.

THREE CAPIASES FOR McCRAW, SAYS SHERIFF

Roanoke, Va., March 24.—Will McCraw, locked up in the cell formerly occupied by Floyd and Claude Allen, brother and nephew of the man he killed, is most reticent and still refuses to discuss the crime. McCraw spends a good deal of time in reading. The cuts on his head are healing rapidly.

According to advices received here, McCraw is well known to authorities of Surry county, N. C., as a blockader. Sheriff Davis, of Surry, states that he has three capiases for McCraw and that in January Sheriff Haynes and Deputy U. G. Belton seized twenty-five gallons of liquor from McCraw. The man later got away and moved over the State line. He has been operating a still ever since, it is alleged. The capiases in the hands of the sheriff are for blockading and retailing blockade liquor.

WILL NOT CALL OUT GUARD NOW

Is Discussed by Cabinet But No Action to Be Taken at This Time.

Washington, March 24.—The question of calling out the National Guard for border service to release the regulars for duty in Mexico was discussed at today's cabinet meeting, but it was decided there was no prospect of such action at this time.

The cabinet was told that there was sentiment in congress to protect the constantly lengthening line of communication of the American punitive expedition by sending more regulars into Mexico and placing guardsmen along the border.

Major General Funston, however, has not asked for additional troops, it was said today, and the war department officials did not believe that mobilization of State was now necessary.

After the cabinet meeting officials showed they feared a mobilization of the guardsmen would have a disquieting effect in Mexico. They expressed confidence that American troops in Mexico were in no danger.

NATIONAL FLOWER SHOW TO OPEN IN PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia, March 24.—The greatest flower show ever held in America will open here tomorrow, under the auspices of the Society of American Florists and Ornamental Horticulturists.

Florists from all the big centers of the East have sent their choicest blooms, including ten thousand rare plants. This is the fourth annual show the preceding ones having been staged at Boston, Chicago and New York.

How science has come to the aid of nature and produced marvels in new and rare flowers will be demonstrated. Flowers costing a hundred dollars for the seeds alone and many more hundreds in their perfection, will be shown.

The show will continue until April 2, and in the interim, many societies of florists will hold their conventions here. The Garden Clubs of America and the American Rose Society have already made their plans to meet here. More than \$25,000 in prizes will be distributed to the exhibitors.

Leading Hunt For Villa



Colonel George A. Dodd has led the hunt for Pancho Villa since he left Hacheta with troops from two regiments of cavalry. He had made marches thru the desert country of Mexico such as have not been made during the war in Europe. It is believed if Villa is caught it will be by Colonel Dodd's troops.

A GREAT DEMAND FOR FIGHT SEATS

A Tremendous Crowd Will Doubtless Witness the Big Willard-Moran Bout.

New York, March 24.—The advance ticket sale and the arrangements made by the authorities to handle the crowds indicate the greatest gathering of boxing fans that ever witnessed a bout in this State at Madison Square Garden tomorrow night for the Willard-Moran meet in ten rounds. The several thousand \$2 and \$5 seats placed upon sale early yesterday went so quickly that several hundred prospective purchasers did not reach the box office window in time to secure coupons.

While the police and fire department authorities are planning for an immense crowd, they predict they will be able to handle the thousands without confusion. More than two hundred policemen in uniforms will be on duty in the streets nearby and leading to the Garden. Inside the Amphitheatre will be located fifty detectives in citizens' dress, in addition to twenty firemen who will watch closely for the "No Smoking" rule and for the danger of congestion at any point.

If the State boxing commission adheres to its announced plans of requiring the promoters to put on at least a 4-round bout and a 6-round bout contest before the big event, the management has stated that they will stage the opening contest at 6:30 p. m.

New York, March 24.—Unless some unforeseen hitch occurs today, over the financial end of the big championship battle, nothing can prevent the staging tomorrow night of the ten-round bout between Jess Willard and Frank Moran. Both men are extra careful in their training, and there is little likelihood of an accident that would interfere with the contest.

The big battle is to be staged under the wing of the State Boxing Commission, which is meeting its first big test as to the defense of the public against fake fights. Everything must be on the level or there will be no fight. The big pile of money that has been collected thru sale of tickets at fancy prices is held intact, and it will go right back to the ticket holders if anything breaks.

Both the boxers are reported to be in the pink of condition. Some of the experts do not agree on this point. There are rumors that Moran is over-trained, and persistent stories that Willard has loafed on the training job. But the bout is for only ten rounds, and it is generally conceded that both men are sufficiently trained to go that distance without distress unless they are interrupted, one or the other, by a haymaker.

Moran has completed his heavy work, and is taking it easy, and Willard is taking only light exercise.

LONNIE FOLGER'S CONDITION CONTINUES QUITE SERIOUS

Mt. Airy, March 24.—Reports from the bedside of Mr. Lonnie Folger, the young man who was seriously injured Sunday evening in an automobile accident on the new highway between here and Dobson, are somewhat encouraging, altho his condition is very precarious, but with the care of two trained nurses and the best medical attention it is hoped he will recover. Mrs. Folger, of Dobson, his mother, is here.

SAYS THAT BATTLE IS IMMINENT

Villa Surrounded by U. S. and Carranza Troops, Says Bertrani Dispatch.

SKEPTICISM AS TO THIS

U. S. Army Officers Not Disposed to Consider the Report Accurate.

El Paso, March 24.—No word had come to military headquarters here early today to confirm the report that American troops and the Carranza army had surrounded Villa and his men and that a battle was imminent.

El Paso, March 24.—Early today the Carranza consul here displayed telegrams which he said he had received from General Bertrani at Casas Grandes, announcing that Villa was surrounded at a ranch five miles south of Namiquipa by the joint American and Carranza troops, and that a decisive battle was imminent.

General Bell, commanding the United States troops here, received this report in silence. His only comment was that he would wait until he heard directly from General Pershing who is leading the punitive expedition, and General Funston before making any statement on the situation. There was frank skepticism among other United States army officers, altho it was admitted that advance detachments of the American troops might easily have reached Namiquipa by this time if they had maintained anything like the speed with which they had made the first hundred miles of their march.

The American crew of a train which arrived at Juarez early today from Casas Grandes reported that all was quiet at the latter town when they left there. They said that there were many American soldiers in town from a camp nearby and that the natives seemed pleased at their presence as they spent more real silver money than had been seen in Casas Grandes for many months. The trainmen could throw no light upon the cutting of the wires at the Mexican Northwestern railroad.

They said the trip was uneventful and that they saw no signs of Villa's followers or any other bandits. Nothing was known at Casas Grandes when they left there yesterday as to any fighting at Namiquipa or elsewhere.

Two Mormon colonists, who arrived on the train, confirmed the statements of the crew. They said the Casas Grandes natives were very respectful to the American white soldiers, but were most impressed by a negro regiment which left for the south yesterday. The Mormons said that many natives at Casas Grandes were convinced that Villa could not escape the negro troopers.

That the State authorities of Arizona, which borders on Sonora, are alarmed over the situation across their frontier, is indicated by their action in preparing the State National Guard for any eventualities. The recruiting of the companies to full strength has been authorized and arrangements have been made to organize civilians in case of trouble. The crisis is expected to be reached when General Calles publishes the decree which he has announced he is preparing, cancelling all concessions granted by Huerta and Villa and ordering all members of the clerical party from the city.

COL. JACOB KEMPLE AT THE NORTH SCHOOL

Col. Jacob Kemple delighted the entire student body of the North Winston school this morning with his talk on the history of the American navy. He was given an ovation and urged to return and speak at a later date. Monday morning at 9 o'clock, Colonel Kemple will address the students of the Cherry street high school.

Until he visited this State, Colonel Kemple never delivered his talk on the history of the American navy before graded school students for fear that they would not comprehend and appreciate it. He used it exclusively when speaking before colleges and high schools but before graded schools he usually speaks on "The American of Tomorrow." Superintendent Latham suggested that he tell his other talk before the North school this morning. Both Mr. Latham and Colonel Kemple were agreeably surprised when the little ten and twelve-year-old pupils on front caught the meaning at once and soon had the building ringing with cheers.

SHACKLETON IS BACK FROM ANTARCTIC TRIP

Sydney, N. S. W., March 24.—Lieutenant Sir Ernest T. Shackleton has returned from his Antarctic expedition. News of the achievements of the expedition is withheld from the present.