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AMERICANS ARE HELD AS HOSTAGES

IN EVERY INTERIOR CITY OF MEXICO.

Only Arrival of American Troops Will Save Lives of Those Imprisoned Americans.—Besieged at Every Railroad Station.—Mexican Escort Flatly Refused.—In Many Instances Hostages Were Taken Off Trains Bound for Vera Cruz.—Houses of All Americans Are Being Searched Under Orders from Huerta.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—Every city in the interior of Mexico is holding Americans as hostages. The members of the American embassy which fled Mexico City last night express the opinion that only the early arrival of American troops will save these imprisoned Americans. At every railroad station Americans are besieged. Mr. O'Shaughnessy's train is pleading for permission to accompany the fleeing party. A Mexican escort was flatly refused. In many instances hostages were taken off the trains bound for Vera Cruz, to be held in event the American troops attack the towns.

When Mr. O'Shaughnessy left Mexico City Huerta had ordered the homes of all Americans searched for arms, leaving them no means of defense in case of an uprising.

Central Class Meetings.

China Grove, April 23.—The Central Carolina Classis of the Reformed Church met in second annual session at Mount Zion Church Thursday morning at 11 o'clock. President P. M. Trexler in the chair. Owing to a complaint made to the General Synod, which meets in Lancaster, Pa., in May, no business except the election of officers was transacted. The election was as follows: President, Dr. P. M. Trexler, Mount Pleasant; vice president, Rev. B. L. Stanley; stated clerk, Dr. W. B. Duttons, Salisbury; treasurer, Rev. J. H. Keller. An adjourned meeting was called for July 30 at Mount Zion Church at 10 a. m.

Rebels Attacking Tampico.

Washington, April 25.—The Rebels are attacking Tampico. The Administration hopes this is an indication that Villa will not unite with Huerta.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NORMAL.

Will Be Held at Mount Pleasant July 6-10.—Prominent Speakers to Be on Programme.

The seventh annual joint Sunday school normal of the Lutheraans of North Carolina will be held this year at Mt. Amoen Seminary, Mt. Pleasant. Some will recall that the first of these normals was held in St. James Church in 1908. The second normal went to Lenoir College, Hickory, N. C. In 1910 this school of Sunday school method was held at Misenheimer Springs. Since that time the sessions have been held at Lenoir College, where those in attendance have had the use of the dormitories, dining hall, and class rooms and thus permitted the carrying out of the school idea.

With the completion of the beautiful new building of Mount Amoen Seminary, the opportunity to hold the normal on the territory of the Synod of North Carolina is offered. The joint committee held a meeting recently at Salisbury and completed the arrangements for the gathering, the date being July 6th to 10th inclusive. Among those who will take part in the programme are Dr. J. A. Moorehead, president, of Roanoke College, Salem, Va.; Dr. R. L. Patterson, of Charlotte; Dr. W. A. Denton, of Hickory; Rev. A. C. Schonek, of Philadelphia; Dr. R. L. Fritz, president of Lenoir College, and others.

League Meeting.

The Civic Improvement League has not been idle. Two committees have met this week—the sanitation committee at the home of the chairman, Mrs. Earl Brown, and the Junior at the home of the chairman, Mrs. Joe Hill. Plans were formed and work outlined, and work is pressing for spring with its call for cleanliness, purity, sweetness and beauty is rapidly putting us to shame. "Let us all be up and doing."

Death of Mrs. Kate Barnhardt.

Mrs. Kate Barnhardt died this morning at her home near Phoenix Mine. Mrs. Barnhardt was 79 years of age and had been in feeble health for some time. She made her home with her daughter at the time of her death. The funeral will be held tomorrow at Cold Springs Methodist Church and will be conducted by Rev. F. P. Sherrill.

Four Americans Reported Killed in Mexico City.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—Four Americans were killed today in Mexico City, according to reports from the Capital and published in local papers.

GRAND JURY REPORT.

A Number of Investigations and Recommendations Made by the Jurors. The following report was made by the grand jury at the present term of court:

TO HIS HONOR, W. F. Harding.
We, the grand jurors for the April term of court, 1914, beg to submit the following report:

We have acted on all bills of indictment sent us by the Solicitor, and made presentments of all violations of the law that have been brought to our notice.

We, the jurors appointed to visit and inspect the Stonewall Jackson Manual Training School, do report that we visited said school and beg to make the following report of same: We visited the school in a body We find eight head of horses, seven milk cows, thirteen hogs, three two-horse wagons, one on-horse wagon, plenty of farming tools all in good condition. We find they have sixty-three boys, half of which attend school at a time, four hours each day. We find that the buildings are well kept and the grounds are being greatly improved and everything in fine condition. We find they have just completed a new well with plenty of good water. The boys are in good health and well satisfied and being well cared for.

County Home.

We, the jurors appointed to visit the county home, and do make the following report of same: We find 31 inmates in all, 22 white and nine colored. No one sick, sanitary conditions good. We find three head of mules, five milk cows, sixteen head of hogs and shoats, 50 or 60 bushels of corn, one two-horse wagon, one one-horse wagon, one hay rake, one mowing machine, two corn planters, one wheat reaper, two calves, 125 chickens, 102 acres of land, about 60 acres in cultivation, 30 acres in oats, 25 in wheat, about seven cords of wood, about twenty tons of coal. We find one insane inmate a colored woman confined.

We recommend that the county build a separate dining room for the white and colored inmates. We also recommend that the county build a new grainery, as it will be greatly needed to store the new crop of wheat and oats. We were also informed by the nurse and one of the inmates that there was some indecent conduct going on at the home.

Chain Gang.

We, the jurors that visited the chain gang beg to make report of same. We find thirteen head of mules in good condition, eight wagons, one road packer, one traction engine, one rock crusher, one big scraper, five wheel scrapers, four big plows, two wheel barrows four iron and two wood, six tubs, two wash pots, one water wagon, one set shop tools, kitchen commissary, stocade, barn. Several tool boxes, 175 bushels of corn, small amount of hay, twenty gallons of machine oil. We find 27 convicts, ten white and seventeen colored. We find that they are being treated all right except being chained at night. We also found one white man sick locked in cell with chains on. We found every thing in sanitary condition.

Jail.

We visited the jail in a body and report we found eleven prisoners four white men, six colored men and one colored woman. We find that the jail is being kept as clean and sanitary as can be kept, owing to the condition of the building. We found some window panes broken out on east side and recommend that some be put in. The prisoners state that they are well cared for.

Court House.

We inspected the court house and records and find that they are being kept in good condition as far as we know. Having completed our duties we respectfully ask that we be dismissed.

J. P. BIGGERS,
Foreman Grand Jury.

Fourteenth International Convention, June 23-30.

The Fourteenth International Sunday School Convention will meet in Chicago on June 23 and close June 30. Chicago is expecting twenty thousand people to visit the city on account of this convention although only five thousand can be seated in the Medinah temple where the sessions are to be held.

North Carolina is entitled to 60 delegates only. A number have already enrolled in the state office for credentials although up to this time no publicity has been given to the Convention in the North Carolina papers. Parties who are thinking of attending should write to the North Carolina Sunday School Association, Greensboro, 403 Banner Building, for reservations. A special car to carry delegates from North Carolina is being considered.

Among the civil cases continued at the federal court at Statesville was that of Evelyn Wall vs. Davenport College and J. B. Craven, president of the college, which is out of the ordinary. Miss Wall was a music teacher at Davenport and was discharged from the position. She has brought suit against the college and the president for \$10,000 for being discharged. The case was transferred to Salisbury, N. C. today.

NINETEEN AMERICANS MAY BE EXECUTED

FOLLOWING THE CAPTURE BY HUERTA'S MEN.

Men Were at Work on Plantation of Motzorong Company of Chicago.—Secretary Bryan Wires News to Home Office of Company.—All Were Taken to Cordoba or Orizaba.

Chicago, April 25.—Nineteen Americans and one Briton are believed to have been executed following the capture by Huerta's men, near the plantation of Motzorong Company, of Chicago, in Mexico.

Secretary Bryan wires Dr. Herbert A. Parkyn, of Chicago, president of the company, telling him of the seizure and probable execution of the party. Consul Canada, at Vera Cruz, wired Secretary Bryan the information. "All were taken to Cordoba or Orizaba. It is reliably stated that these prisoners may be executed," the message said.

THREAT TO EXECUTE AMERICAN PRISONERS.

Seven Are Held by the Mexican Soldiers Between Vera Cruz and the Capital.

Vera Cruz, April 24.—Seven Americans, prisoners of Mexican soldiers, are being held at Cordoba or Orizaba, on the line of the Mexican railway between here and the capital, four of whom at least are threatened with execution, according to authentic information received today.

Four of the Americans were taken from a train on the Vera Cruz-Isla Motzorong line at Tierrablanca and at Motzorong station three other Americans and an Englishman were seized. Those captured at Tierrablanca are W. A. Mangum, superintendent of the railroad; Engineer Elliott and Conductors Riley and Hart.

At Motzorong Edward Weuneh, his son, Sydney; A. M. Thomas and Mr. Boyd, an Englishman were arrested by the federals.

The belief that the federals intended to execute at least four of the prisoners was gained from the conversation of soldiers who captured them, overheard by passengers on the train. The prisoners were taken to Cordoba, and it is believed later were transferred to Orizaba. Eighteen Americans are still in Tierrablanca.

Poleic court affairs in Vera Cruz were administered by a naval lieutenant, who heard the cases of Mexicans picked up by the patrols or arrested during the recent fighting. He proved to be a lenient magistrate, much to the surprise of the Mexicans, many of whom believed the gringos would order their execution.

The British cruiser Hermione, which has been removing Americans from Tampico, reports that only a few are now there.

GREAT INDIGNATION OVER HEARST NEWSPAPER STORY

Such Reports Make Situation Difficult for President, Says Bryan.

Washington, April 25.—Secretary Bryan expressed indignation for the Hearst newspaper story that another ultimatum had been sent Huerta. He angrily said that such unfounded reports only serve to increase President Wilson's difficulties in handling the serious situation. The White House also denied the reports.

CONSCRIPTION BY THE HUERTA GOVERNMENT

Has Been Heavy For Three Days.—Two Thousand Men Have Been Forcibly Drafted.

Washington, April 25.—Conscription by the Huerta government is reported heavy for three days, ending the 22nd. Sunday and Monday approximately two thousand men were forcibly drafted. Later, however, men began to volunteer.

Mrs. Lafferty Entertains.

Mrs. P. M. Lafferty delightfully entertained a number of guests yesterday afternoon on North Union street in honor of Mrs. J. Lindsay Ross, of Shelby. "Rum" was played and there were six tables. Following the game the prizes, pretty bouquets of tulips, were presented, the guests of honor prize to Mrs. Ross and the prize for the highest score to Mrs. J. F. Cannon. A salad course was served and a number of friends dropped in for refreshments after the game.

Platte A. Bowen, of Greensboro, is the first North Carolinian to be wounded in the war with Mexico, according to reports to the Navy Department. He is the son of Julius Bowen, of Greensboro. He was born in Randleman, November 2, 1892. He was wounded, the dispatches do not say how badly, in the fighting at Vera Cruz last Wednesday. He is an ordinary seaman attached to the Vermont, and enlisted in Richmond, March 5, of last year.

NEWS FORECAST FOR THE COMING WEEK

Washington, D. C., April 25.—Final arguments on the application of the Eastern railroads for a 5 per cent. freight increase will begin Monday before the Inter-State Commerce Commission. A decision in the case is expected at an early date. If the commission holds that the added income is not needed the case will terminate automatically. On the other hand, if the commission decides the roads have established the necessity for additional income, the commission will proceed immediately to determine how the additional income should be raised.

Thursday, which will be the 125th anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington as first President of the United States, has been selected as the day for the formal dedication of the memorial blocks sent by the States of Colorado, Idaho and Washington to be placed in the Washington monument in this city. On the same day an interesting ceremony will take place in Statuary Hall of the Capitol—the unveiling of a statue of Dr. John Gorrie presented to the nation by the State of Florida. Dr. Gorrie earned fame by inventing the first ice-making machine in the world.

The governors of all the states bordering on the Mississippi River are to meet in St. Louis Tuesday, in response to an invitation issued by Governor Eberhart of Minnesota, to decide upon a co-operative plan of campaign to promote river navigation, drainage and a conservation of water power.

The annual meeting of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association will meet in New York City Monday for a session of two days. At the adjournment of the session the members will proceed to Boston, where the annual meeting of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers will be in session.

The executive council of the American Bankers' Association will meet Thursday in Hot Springs, Va., to make up the programme for the association's annual gathering of the week will be held in Richmond next fall. Another important gathering of the week will be the annual convention of the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association, which will begin its sessions in Chicago Thursday.

Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador in Washington, accompanied by Lady Spring-Rice, will leave Washington for Ottawa on Monday to be the guests of the Duke of Connaught who will celebrate his 64th birthday.

In response to a call issued by the National Women's Suffrage Association the advocates of woman suffrage in cities and towns throughout the United States are expected to engage in parades and outdoor demonstrations on Saturday. These demonstrations are intended as a prelude to the national demonstration which is to be held in Washington one week later.

ALL ATTENTION TURNED TOWARD MEXICO.

Situation Parrelling that at Peking During Boxer Uprising.—Secretary Bryan Believes Huerta Will Protect Americans Still in Mexico City.

Washington, April 25.—The entire attention of the officialdom of the United States is fixed on Mexico City. A situation, parrelling that at Peking during the Boxer uprising, exists. Vague rumors of outrages against the foreigners and of Americans falling victims to the blood lust of the Mexican peon, inflamed by drink, are reaching here. None of the rumors can be confirmed so long as Huerta holds the other end of the wires, leading to the Mexican capital. Officialdom discredits these reports. Secretary Bryan insisted that he believed Huerta would try to protect Americans who are still in the capital.

"Kathryn, the Irish Rose," is the attraction at The Theatrum today.

FOR SALE

We will have for sale Monday a car load of extra nice horses and mares, including single harness horses and matched teams.

Carl & Wadsworth Co.

CIVIL DOCKET STARTED.

Criminal Docket Completed Yesterday Afternoon.—Case of Flowe vs. Hardwick Being Tried.

The criminal docket was completed at the afternoon session of court yesterday and the civil docket was taken up this morning. The case of Flowe vs. Hardwick was the first case called. The case involves the title to a farm in No. 10 township. The case will likely be concluded this afternoon. Messrs. H. S. Williams, L. T. Hartsell and Maness & Carver represent Mr. Hardwick and Messrs. W. G. Means, W. A. Self, of Hickory, and Tillett & Guthrie, of Charlotte, Mrs. Flowe.

This will probably be the only case tried on the civil docket. On account of the Supreme Court hearing cases from this district next week the local bar did not place many cases on the docket, it being necessary for counsel to be at Raleigh next week.

WANT WHITE HOUSE TO ANNOUNCE POLICY

The Leaders Are Vainly Importuning President for Something Definite.

Washington, April 25.—Congressional leaders are vainly importuning the White House to announce a definite policy. The Administration may have decided on a plan, but has withheld it from the public. Criticisms of Secretary Bryan and President may break out at any moment in Congress. It is suspected that the Administration is negotiating with Carranza. The leaders are ready to pass fifty million dollars emergency appropriation. They will not levy stamp tax yet.

Meeting of North Carolina Synod.

The Evangelical Lutheran Synod and Ministerium of North Carolina will meet in its 111th annual convention, May 6 to 10, 1914, with Macedonia congregation, Burlington, N. C. Rev. T. S. Brown, pastor, at 11 a. m., with the synodical sermon by the president, followed by the holy communion.

Speakers and Subjects.—Wednesday, 8 p. m., educational evening: "Beneficiary Education: Its Use and Abuse," Rev. V. Y. Boozer.

Thursday, 8 p. m., Missionary evening: "Our Japan Mission: Its History, Present Condition and Future Needs," Rev. R. A. Goodman; "Synodical Home Missions—Past, Present," Rev. J. L. Morgan; fifteen minute reports by representatives of the boards of Home and Foreign Missions.

Friday, 8 p. m., Laymen's evening: 1. The Call of the Church to Her Men, Prof. G. F. McAllister; 2. The Laymen's Place and Opportunity in the Church Today, Mr. Claude E. Reitzel; 3. Our Men and the Sunday School, Prof. W. L. Cooper; 4. Our Men and the Use of Their Money in the Church, Mr. H. E. Bonitz; 5. The Lutheran brotherhood: Its History and Purpose, Mr. A. H. Suider.

Sunday, 11 a. m., ordination service; sermon by Rev. B. S. Brown.

VILLA BREAKS WITH GENERAL CARRANZA

AND JOINS FORCES OF UNITED STATES.

To Secure the Destruction of Huerta.—Gen. Villa is Opposed to Any Scheme Looking Toward Combination With Huerta.—This was Declared by the Constitutionalist's Closest Friends, and Made Plain by Villa.

Juarez, Mexico, April 25.—Gen. Villa will openly break with Carranza and join forces with the United States to secure the destruction of Huerta before he will permit his men to join Carranza in any scheme looking toward a combination with Huerta. This was declared by the constitutionalists' closest friends and was made plain by Gen. Villa.

MILITARY ACTIVITY ALONG THE BORDER

Preparations Being Made by Governors of Arizona and Texas.

Washington, April 25.—Preparations for military activity along the border is indicated by the exchange of messages from Governors Hunt, of Arizona, and Colquitt, of Texas, with Secretary of War Garrison. Secretary Garrison authorized merely the announcement that Governor Hunt was inquiring about State militia and Governor Colquitt wanted to know if the national government would pay expenses of the State militia already ordered out, but the Secretary replied that no payment would be made until such a time as the militia is ordered out by the National Government.

MAIN WORK NOW IS ADMINISTRATIVE.

Live Interest in Arrival of Troops Under Command of Gen. Funston.—Price of Food Stuff is Soaring.

Vera Cruz, April 25.—The main work now before the American forces here is administrative, purification being complete. Wild rumors of impending attacks by federals alarm the natives, but the Americans ignore them. Arrival of troops under General Funston is expected Monday. The price of food stuffs is increasing tremendously, and the municipal authorities refuse to co-operate.

Special Marine Recruiting Office Opened.

Washington, April 25.—Orders have been issued by Secretary Daniels for special marine recruiting offices at St. Louis, Boston, St. Paul, and Portland.

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