

FEDERAL SOLDIERS DEFEAT REBELS IN THIRTY HOUR FIGHT

Troops Were Fighting for Control of Villa Hermosa, the Capital of the State of Tabasco.

200 INSURGENTS DIED IN BATTLE

Federal Forces Lost 30 in Fighting.—Deny Report That Washington Would Recognize the Rebels.

Mexico City, Dec. 19 (By The Associated Press).—Rebels attacking Villa Hermosa, capital of the State of Tabasco, have been defeated after a thirty-hour battle with a loss of 200 killed and more than that number wounded, according to a bulletin issued by the War Department. The Federals suffered 30 casualties.

The rebels fled leaving the dead and wounded, and large quantities of war materials. Gen. Eugenio Martinez, commanding a military column marching upon Vera Cruz reports no further developments during the day, according to a war department statement.

Military operations against Guadalupe are developing formally, concludes the war department statement.

Denies One Rebel Report. Vera Cruz, Dec. 20.—Newspaper correspondents telegraphed from the front last night that the Obregon troops had not abandoned the Mexican railroad line and had not withdrawn to Minoz station as was stated by revolutionary headquarters here. The correspondents also reported the situation as unchanged from Tuesday when the rebel columns remained stationary after fighting at San Marcos. Insurgent headquarters, the newspaper men continue, are still at Esperanza and Oriental, and are keeping in contact with superior federal forces.

The advance on Puebla by the Obregon forces, the correspondents believe, has as its purpose the expulsion of the rebels from that city, a step which would remove the menace of a flank attack on Tampico.

However, the press observers also believe that rebel headquarters at Vera Cruz is preparing a plan for luring on the Obregon forces and then cutting their front in half.

Denies Rumor. Mexico City, Dec. 20 (By The Associated Press).—Enrique Colunga, secretary of the interior, denying reports that Washington had offered to mediate with those rebelling against the Obregon government said, "Mexico has not officially received the proposition which would have been rejected, as it would imply recognition of the rebels' belligerence."

Federal Troops in Tabasco. Mexico City, Dec. 20 (By The Associated Press).—News dispatches from Apizaco, eighty-six miles from here, state that fighting has been resumed on the outskirts of Puebla as Esperanza, while Tabasco has been evacuated by the forces under General Maycotte, and occupied by a Federal column.

WILL ARLAIGN MR. AND MRS. TUCKER NEXT MONTH Couple Not Expected Home Until Saturdays.—To Be Arraigned After the Holidays.

(By The Associated Press.) Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 20.—Mr. and Mrs. Burton S. Tucker, indicted by the Hudson County grand jury for perjury in connection with their marriage here on October 2, are expected back Saturday night, Assistant Prosecutor McMahon announced today. He added that his latest information was that they were still in Southern Pines, N. C. They will not be arraigned until after the Christmas holidays.

Gov. H. Grebe, registrar of vital statistics at Union Hill, and John Muller, former justice of the peace, also indicted, today were released on bonds of \$7,500 each. John L. McInnis, of Gloucester, Mass., the fifth defendant, has not yet been found.

Charter of Oriental University Revoked. (By The Associated Press.) Richmond, Va., Dec. 20.—The charter of the Oriental University, of Cherrystone, Va., was revoked here this afternoon by Judge A. Carter Scott, sitting in the City Circuit Court. The action came after the presentation of charges by the state of Virginia which acted in the matter jointly with the United States government. The University was not represented at the hearing.

Manville-Jencks Co. to Enlarge Plant. (By The Associated Press.) Gastonia, Dec. 20.—The Manville-Jencks Spinning Co. today announced that an addition to house 200 looms will be added to the present plant at once. The plant now operates 135,000 spindles and a number of looms.

Infant of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. McCurdy Dead. The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Boone McCurdy, of Albemarle, died Tuesday at the Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte. It was buried yesterday at Howell's Church.

On the coast of Normandy, among the sea villas, oxen, asses and sheep form part of the congregation attending the quaint little churches at Yuletide. These are given the preference among animals as being so intimately connected with the birth of the Saviour.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS IN RALEIGH OFFICIALDOM

How the Various Departments Will Observe the Season.

(By The Associated Press.) Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 20.—Official Raleigh was preparing tonight for the coming week-end when the Christmas holidays will commence, continuing in some instances through the first of January, 1924. Each department head of the state offices, having the right to regulate the holiday season within his own department, had about decided as to what days will be allowed to employees.

For the most part, the holiday will begin Saturday at one o'clock and the department workers will return on Wednesday, the day following Christmas. However, different regulations will obtain for special cases.

In the Governor's office, the holiday will be from Saturday through Tuesday, with New Year's Day thrown in for good measure. Governor Morrison, unless his plans are changed, will spend Christmas in Raleigh, though he stated he may go over to Charlotte for a day or two during the week.

Secretary of State W. N. Everett expects to leave Raleigh Sunday afternoon for Rockingham where he and his family will spend Christmas. The official will return during the middle of the week, after the Christmas season is partly over. Members of the State Department office force will be on hand to keep office running but those employees residing out of town will be allowed time to go to their homes for Christmas. Some will be on hand during the week to look after business affairs but the regular office routine probably will not be underway again until after New Year's Day.

In the Agricultural Building, where the varied agricultural industries of the State and agencies dealing with them are located and also where Governor Rufus Doughton presides over the destinies of the Department of Revenue, the same will obtain. Practically all of those employees desiring to return home for the holidays will be granted this privilege while some of those located in Raleigh will look after such office affairs as must be handled prior to the first of the year. Governor Doughton expects to spend the holidays at his home near Sparta.

The State Department of Printing and Labor will also follow out the action of the other departments, as will the Corporation Commission. Commissioner Shipman will remain in Raleigh but his office is expected to run at half speed. The three commissioners of the Corporation Department and Clarence Latham, state bank examiner will remain in the capital for the holidays season.

Over in the auto license section of the Department of State a general exodus will take place on Saturday and the busiest office of the State will be closed for four days. The State Highway Commission will run under half speed for the holidays with Chairman Page at his home near Aberdeen.

The Welfare Department, Education department and the various other offices of the State will be closed from Saturday through Tuesday. Commissioner Wade of the Insurance Department expects to be on hand except for a day but his office force will be very much depleted for the ten day period beginning Sunday. Taking all the Departments as a whole it is probable that fifty percent of the employees will be away for the holidays and that about twenty-five percent will not return before the second of January.

Adverse Report on Farley. (By The Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 20.—The nomination of Edward P. Farley as chairman of the shipping board will be reported adversely to the Senate, under a decision today by the commerce committee.

The committee's action was based entirely, members said, upon provisions of the law which allow only one member of the board to state touching on the Great Lakes. Mr. Farley is from Chicago and the Lakes section is already represented by Commissioner T. V. O'Connor, of Buffalo.

Warns Against Punch Boards. Raleigh News and Observer. J. M. Sharp, State Councillor of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics in North Carolina, has issued a statement to the newspapers of the State warning the Juniors of the State and others against a punch board scheme that is now in operation in the State under the alleged endorsement of the order.

Investigating Conditions in Philippines. Washington, Dec. 20.—Thorough investigation by the House rules committee of conditions in the Philippines and of Governor-General Wood's administration, is proposed in a resolution drafted by Representative Gear, republican, of Wisconsin, for introduction today.

Further Arrests Expected. (By The Associated Press.) Mobile, Ala., Dec. 20.—Further arrests were expected today in the Federal government crusade against alleged whiskey traffic. Capasses resulting from grand jury indictment were served on 20 individuals including public office holders yesterday.

WHAT SAT'S BEAR SAYS. Unsettled tonight and Friday, probably occasional rains; mild temperature.

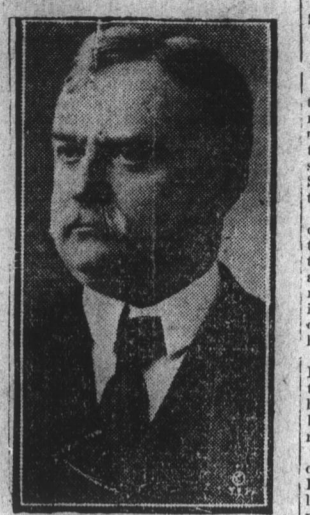
FIGURES IN CHURCH WAR



BISHOP WM. T. MANNING



BISHOP LAWRENCE



DR. LEIGHTON PARKS

Dr. Leighton Parks of New York City started his Bartholomew Episcopal Church congregation by fanning the story of the virgin birth of Christ, saying he in the "liberal" forces of the Episcopal Church, while Bishop Manning stands at the head of the conservatives.

Opened at a Decline of 3 Points on October, but Generally Higher. (By The Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 20.—The census report showing 9,594,805 bales of cotton ginned to December 13th was slightly in excess of expectations, but it was not considered much of a factor in the early market which opened at a decline of 3 points on October, but generally 10 to 20 points higher in response to relatively steady cables, and rather more favorable reports from Manchester.

There was some Wall Street and scattered commission house buying and some covering by December shorts on the opening advance, but there was considerable realizing and prices eased off several points from the best during the early trading. December was relatively flat after a full cent over January, 35.32. May advanced to 35.15 and then sold off to 34.80.

Cotton futures opened firm. Dec. 35.50; Jan. 34.50; March 34.05; May 35.10; July 34.35.

COTTON GINNINGS. Prior to December 13th This Year 9,548,805 Bales Had Been Ginned. (By The Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 20.—Cotton ginned prior to December 13th totalled 9,548,805 bales, including 232,536 round bales, 17,645 bales of American-Egyptian, and 753 bales of Sea Island; compared with 9,488,802 bales, including 161,781 round bales, 24,613 bales of American-Egyptian, and 5,039 bales of Sea Island, the Census Bureau announced today. North Carolina ginnings were 987,407 bales. The revised total of cotton ginned prior to December 1 was announced as 9,251,264 bales. There were 15,121 ginneries operated prior to Dec. 1.

Fire Loss at Norwood Runs Into Thousands of Dollars. Norwood, Dec. 19.—The fire which swept Norwood yesterday morning did a property damage of thousands of dollars. The furniture store of G. W. Stinson was a total loss. Mr. and Mrs. Stinson owned the two stores in which the furniture house was located. Estimated loss on the furniture and stores is \$15,000 with \$1500 insurance.

Besides the furniture store, other losses and damages consisted of the building in which Crump Duke did a small grocery business, which was totally destroyed, no insurance. The Campbell building which is located on the same street and right by the Stinson buildings was badly damaged and for awhile it was feared that it could not be saved. The Albarbarie fire department came down and made quick work, thereby helping to save the Campbell building and the Norwood Feed and Sales stables, which building is owned by D. N. Bennett. The frame was so violent at one time that many thought with the lack of water and a fire department the whole lower Main street would be burned. The Royal cafe, Guion's pharmacy and the Norwood postoffice had the job of moving all goods, supplies and fixtures and then carrying them back.

The Campbell building is badly smoked and beaming and the lower wall may be damaged on account of excessive heat. But the drug store and cafe do not feel that their loss is great, except for the jolt given when moving and replacing things.

Cleaning Policeman's Bulls-eyes. London, Dec. 20.—One of the quaintest of old-time jobs which still survive in London is that of cleaning the oil lamps used by members of the Metropolitan Police. Those have not yet been entirely discarded in favor of electric lamps.

The police are not responsible for the cleaning and filling of their own lamps. This has been done under contract for many years by a firm which employs a staff of twenty-nine men especially for the work. The men are known as "trimmers," and for thirty-five years it has been their job to trim the wicks, fill the lamps with oil, and make them quite fit for service by the policeman of 200 stations in and around London.

Seaboard Wants to Sell Bonds. (By The Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 20.—The Seaboard Air Line today sought the Interstate Commerce Commission's approval for an issue of \$1,620,000 in equipment trust certificates, to assist in reconstructing the rolling stock.

PUNCH BOARDS UNLAWFUL Junior Order Declines Responsibility in Salisbury Case. Salisbury, Dec. 19.—Local members of the Junior Order, United American Mechanics, are very much interested in a case that went up from Magistrate W. L. Ray's court to Superior Court today. The case involves the so-called Junior orphange punch boards, and the defendants whose case went up are G. A. Sowers and Billy Walsler, of Yadin, a mill town near Spencer. Nominal bonds were required, the magistrate not having final jurisdiction in such cases.

Last week at a district meeting of Juniors from Rowan and Davidson counties it was stated that the state officials of the Junior order had endorsed the use of the punch boards. Notwithstanding this reported endorsement by the state officials, the district Juniors passed strong resolutions condemning the boards. Now it appears that the state officials had given no such endorsement to the boards, the operation of which is against a state law.

As local Juniors understand the scheme, the men who put the board out get nineteen dollars and a half from each board for merchandise that goes with the board and the local man selling the chances on the face of the board gets three dollars and a half which he is supposed to donate to the Junior orphange.

The boards bear inscriptions that make a direct appeal to members of the Junior order, and are said to have been scattered through the sections where there are many members of the order. A large number of individual members of the order were reported as having taken boards in order to help the orphange of the order.

The case heard here today is, so far as local Juniors know, the first to be tried in the State since the special orphange boards were put out. Officials of the order are anxious that warnings be broadcasted against the use of the boards, the use of which is not only a violation of the state law, but they have not the endorsement of the order for which they are supposed to be operated.

Fraudulent Punch Board Branded by Junior Order. Asheville, Dec. 19.—A punch board device which is said to be in the process of installation throughout the State, representing that it is endorsed by the Junior Order of the United American Mechanics as a benefit for the Junior Order orphange, is condemned and branded as fraudulent in a letter received here today from J. M. Sharp, of Reidsville, state councillor of the order.

Mr. Sharp says that literature of the concern purports to carry his signature as state councillor. He declares the signature is fraudulent, and that the Junior Order not only does not endorse the punch board project, but condemns it as violation of the laws of North Carolina.

Planting Trees by Machinery. Washington, Dec. 20.—Machines have been devised to do many things, but one of the most remarkable is used by the United States Forest Service, which sets out seedling trees ten times as fast as the old hand planting method. Its capacity is from twelve to fifteen thousand trees a day. It is an adaptation of a machine made to set out tomato and cabbage plants, and it takes three men and two horses to operate it at capacity.

In appearance the tree planter is something like a mowing machine. It has a plowshare arrangement in front, and at the back of the feeder are two metal wheels, which push earth around the tree seedlings and pack it down. Two men seated beside the driver are kept busy placing the seedlings in the planting hopper.

Extra features of the tree planter include a marker that indicates where the next row is to go, and two hoppers containing water and fertilizer that drop the nutriment for the young trees around their roots just before the metal wheels fill in the furrow.

Several Persons Hurt in Wreck. (By The Associated Press.) Bethesda, Ohio, Dec. 20.—Eight or ten persons were reported injured, two of them seriously, when a Baltimore & Ohio passenger train bound from Wheeling to Chicago, split a switch in front of the station here, turning over one day coach and damaging the front end of the station.

A leaf from Christmas decorations is preserved in parts of rural England as a preventative of toothache.

ALLEGED SOVIE THREATS QUESTIONED BY SENATORS

Senators Who Want Russian Soviets Recognized Question Authority of Evidence.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—Secretary Hughes' disclosure of a soviet movement to overthrow the American government was the subject of a Senate debate today in which the authenticity of the secretary's evidence was questioned by Senators who have urged recognition of the Russian soviet government.

Senator Borah, republican, of Idaho, declared it was his opinion after mature investigation that during the past three years the soviet had not connived at any effort to overthrow the government at Washington. He added that if the Department of Justice, or any one else would furnish him any evidence, he would conduct public investigation.

The evidence made public by Mr. Hughes and certified as authentic by the Justice Department, was declared by Senator Norris, republican, of Nebraska, to be "merely conclusions," rather than facts.

Announcing that he intended to discuss the subject later at length, Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, the republican leader, told the Senate he thought he would be able to produce evidence which would command the attention of the senators.

TWO CARDINALS ARE CREATED BY POPE PIUS They Are Papal Auditor and Director General of Vatican Museum. Rome, Dec. 20 (By The Associated Press).—Pope Pius XI at a secret consistory today created two Italian cardinals. They are Evarista Lucidi, who is papal auditor, and Monsignor Aurelio Galli, director general of the Vatican Museum.

In his allocution delivered at the consistory the Pope pointed out that peace conditions in Europe had not changed for better since his last consistory. He recalled the letter he had addressed to Cardinal Gasparri, papay secretary of state, relative to relieving calamities of Central Europe by bringing happy results, but he said, much remains to be done because of the bitterness and antagonism; needs of all kinds were increasing, especially with the approach of winter.

Albemarle Girl Burned to Death Saturday. Stanly News-Herald. A most dreadful tragedy was that which happened last Saturday when Miss Abegale Melton, the 14-year-old adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Melton, of this place, burned so seriously that death resulted Sunday morning. No one was in the house with her when her clothing caught on fire, and the girl hardly knew herself how it all happened. She stated that she was sitting with her back to the fire reading, when all at once she found her clothing a mass of flames. She ran out of the house and her screams soon brought nearby persons to her rescue, but too late to save her. She was so badly burned that from the first little hope for her was entertained. Her suffering was awful, and thought everything possible agony was only relieved by death Sunday morning.

The body was carried to Mt. Zion Church in Union county, where the funeral will be held this afternoon. The horrible tragedy is deplored by the entire city over which its happening cast a gloom.

Hotel Cape Fear Selected for Name Salisbury, Dec. 20.—The name of Wilmington's three-quarter million dollar tourist inn has been changed from Cape Fear hotel to "Hotel Cape Fear," it was officially announced last night by Roger Moore, president of the hotel corporation.

American Woman Killed by Bandits. Baker, Ore., Dec. 20.—Mrs. Emily Christeneday Earhart, formerly of this city, has been killed at Tula, Mexico, by bandits, according to word received here today from the woman's husband at Tampico. Earhart said that he and his two small children were safe.

Train Passengers Robbed. Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 20.—A daring bandit held up the Pioneer Limited, the crack train of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, as it was nearing Milwaukee last night, and robbed four passengers of \$570.

Want Venizelos to Return. Athens, Dec. 20 (By The Associated Press).—A group representing 4,000 officers of the Greek army and navy sent a telegram today to former Premier Venizelos in Paris, urging him to come to Athens immediately.

CONGRESS RECESSES

WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING HAVING BEEN DONE

Members Today Began Two Weeks Recess Without Doing Anything During Time of Meeting. SENATE IS STILL IN A DEADLOCK

House Decides to Make Inquiry About Philippines, Following Criticism Made by Natives of Gen. Wood.

(By The Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 20.—Congress began a two-weeks holiday recess today with the Senate organization still incomplete, and a practically blank record of legislative accomplishments since it assembled on December 3rd.

With some of its committees functioning during the holidays the House will be able to get down to serious business of the session after it assembles on January 6. The Senate, however, will come back to renew the efforts to break the deadlock over the chairmanship of the Interstate Commerce Committee unless it should prove possible for the leaders to effect some sort of compromise in the meantime.

With the Senate having agreed yesterday to defer further balloting until after the recess, only business of a purely routine character faced the two houses today. Many Senators and Representatives already have departed for their homes.

Will Put Bonus on the Shelf. Washington, Dec. 20.—Committed to a program which calls for temporary abeyance of the soldiers' bonus, the House ways and means committee forged ahead today with its consideration of the administrative provisions of the Treasury's tax bill. Under an agreement reached yesterday, the committee, once it has passed on the administration features, will postpone action on tax rates until a decision is reached as to whether a bonus bill is to be reported in the House. The present plans call for committee sessions until the end of this week, then an adjournment until after the Christmas holidays.

MR. FORD'S DECLARATIONS STIRS POLITICAL CAMPS All Avowed Presidential Candidates Without Comment.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Political camps here were visibly stirred today by the declaration of Henry Ford in support of President Coolidge for 1924.

It brought unconcealed elation to administration leaders interested in Mr. Coolidge's cause, and democratic leaders said there was satisfaction at least in the fact that Mr. Ford was out in the open and apparently self-eliminated as a Presidential possibility next year.

President Coolidge plans to express his personal appreciation of Mr. Ford's action by sending the Detroit manufacturer a telegram, which will not be made public here.

Comment on Mr. Ford's statement, however, is withheld by all avowed Presidential candidates here. Senator Hiram Johnson, of California, opponent of President Coolidge for the republican nomination, and Senator Underwood, of Alabama, a democratic candidate, would not talk about development although they manifestly view it as of major political importance.

Representative Coriell Hull, of Tennessee, chairman of the democratic national committee, also declined to make a formal statement, but in reply to a question said that Mr. Ford "is a free American citizen, and is entitled to his personal preference the same as any one else."

"Ford Can't Change Coolidge." "Nothing that he can say in behalf of President Coolidge, however," added Mr. Hull, "will make Mr. Coolidge less reactionary nor change him in any respect. The record of the ruling faction of the republican party as the political instrument of the special privilege class."

Of prime importance, in the view of political leaders, generally, will be the passing of the Ford-for-President movement which has been fostered in recent conferences of Ford workers in Michigan and other states. Mr. Ford's action is looked upon by all the leaders as removing the possibility of a new party movement with him at the helm, a possibility that for months has made him one of the great engines of national politics.

That there would be some political advantages to Senator LaFollette, in case he should become a Presidential candidate, was the belief expressed by followers of the Wisconsin senator. In the effect upon the action of the farm-labor party, particularly in the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, Mr. Ford's retirement as a potential candidate, it was thought, might operate to the benefit of the LaFollette forces. He has been sharing with Mr. Ford in several regions the apparent favor of farm-labor leaders in consideration of their presidential endorsement for 1924.

In all discussions of the subject the Ford offer for Muscle Shoals had prominent mention. Recently Mr. Ford had the matter under discussion with President Coolidge during a visit here, and Chairman Madden, of the House appropriations committee, and other republican leaders in Congress are behind a bill to have the government accept the Ford offer after modifications. During the last session of Congress, consideration of the offer was blocked, although championed vigorously by democrats as well as some republicans.

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