

WILL SEIZE THE PORTS

CRISIS REACHED IN MEXICAN TROUBLE

Uncle Sam Will Take Possession of Customs Houses in Tampico and Vera Cruz Probably To-Day — Congress Gives President Power to Use Navy and Army to Secure Proper Recognition of Flag.

An Associated Press dispatch from Washington this morning's papers says in part:

In 48 hours, possibly less, the United States Government will have taken possession of the Mexican custom houses at Tampico and Vera Cruz.

Detailed plans for landing of marines at these two important coast towns were completed at a conference at the White House between President Wilson, Secretaries Bryan, Garrison and Daniels, Major General Wood, and Rear Admiral Pike and Blue, and John Lind.

"No orders to the Army and Navy will be issued tonight," was the announcement made after the conference, action temporarily being deferred until Congress acts on the joint resolution approving the President's purpose of using the armed forces of the United States to enforce its demands against General Huerta, growing out of the arrest at Tampico of American bluejackets. The resolution passed the House tonight by a vote of 337 to 37, after a spirited debate. For several hours it was considered by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with prospects of an all night session of the Senate, or a recess until early tomorrow.

The House adjourned until 10 o'clock tomorrow and President Wilson, worn out, retired after hearing that the House had adopted the resolution.

Persons who were in touch with the President said the steps which would be taken by the United States "short of war" were of a nature which would not require formal notification to the powers in the same sense as a declaration of blockade or other preliminaries to war. Foreign Governments will be kept informed of developments, however.

The debate in the House brought out the fact that, while the American Navy probably would block Mexico off from commerce with the United States, it would not interfere with the passage to and from of foreign vessels, though cargoes discharged on the shore might be held at the custom house.

In an atmosphere of suppressed excitement reflecting grave tension and patriotic fervor, the President of the United States asked Congress in person today for approval of his purpose to use the Army and Navy to force General Huerta to apologize for indignities offered to the American Government. It was the first time since the war with Spain that the President had placed so grave an international crisis before the National Legislature. Mr. Wilson spoke in solemn tones. When he entered the House chamber the cheers and applause that greeted him were wildly enthusiastic—an outburst of the tension that has prevailed in the National Capital for the last 24 hours. As he read his message the applause came largely from the Democratic side, many Republicans remaining conspicuously silent. It pressed an opposition to the President's request which was not long in making its appearance.

Speeches in the House and opposition in the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations showed that the prospect of passing immediately the joint resolution approving the President's course was by no means as bright as it had seemed, and debate was expected to run far into the night and possibly continue tomorrow.

President Wilson had pointed out that under precedents he did not need the authority of Congress to act; but merely sought their counsel and approval "in a matter possibly of so grave consequence."

While Congress deliberated and Majority Leader Underwood urged prompt action so that if American forces were fired on they would be free to act, the executive branch of the Government issued orders to the Army and Navy with systematic regularity. The Army was cautioned to be on the alert, and active preparations to use the militia as volunteer forces in case of further emergency were begun.

The warships of the Navy were ordered to concentrate on Tampico and Vera Cruz as their first objective. Plans were made to seize these ports. American merchant vessels were ordered out of Mexican harbors and there was a long session of the joint board of the Army and Navy, participated in by Admiral Dewey, Major General Wood and Major General Waterspoon, after which it was announced that the Army and Navy were prepared for instant action.

Samuel R. Crockett, a well known novelist, died in London yesterday, aged 74.

As the climax of a revival meeting in the Baptist church at Newlon, conducted by Evangelist J. W. Ham, of Atlanta, a bonfire was made in the court house square Sunday night of Pastor Russell's books. It is stated that a large number were burned.

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

THE MOVEMENTS OF GASTON PEOPLE

—Mr. Sloan Springs, of Lowell, route two, was in the city on business yesterday.

—Dr. J. M. Caldwell, of Blacksburg, S. C., was a Gastonia visitor yesterday.

—Messrs. J. K. Dixon and J. O. White left on No. 38 last night for Philadelphia on a business trip.

—Mr. J. M. Craig is enlarging and improving his residence on East Third avenue.

—Mr. Frank L. Carpenter, of Stanley, was a business visitor in the city yesterday.

—Col. and Mrs. C. B. Armstrong will leave this evening for a trip North.

—Col. and Mrs. T. L. Craig left yesterday afternoon for Richmond, Va., where they will spend several days.

—Mr. M. L. Mauney was able to be at his work again Saturday after an illness of some time with the mumps.

—Dr. J. M. Sloan left Saturday for Rochester, Minn., where he will spend ten days or two weeks in special study and observation of surgical work.

—Mr. G. W. Davis, who has been living at the Lory Mill for the past six or seven years, left yesterday for Roanoke Rapids, where he will take a position in the Patterson Mills.

—Mr. Robert S. McLean returned to Raleigh yesterday afternoon to resume his studies at the A. and M. College after spending several days with homefolks.

—Mr. W. W. Pharr, of the firm of Pharr Bros. & Jennings, cotton brokers, of Greenwood, Miss., is spending the week in the city as the guest of Mr. C. C. Armstrong.

—Mr. S. S. Morris, who has been for some time with Fayssoux's market, has bought the meat market at the Lory formerly conducted by Messrs. Boyd & Allen. It will be known as the Morris Market.

—Mr. W. E. Jenkins has bought from Mr. J. White Ware the four-room cottage on South street adjoining the property of Mr. C. L. Grigg. The lot is 60 by 190 feet. Mr. Jenkins will enlarge and improve the house.

An account of a baseball game played at Belmont Saturday was received by us through the mail, but as it had no signature and we did not know the sender, it can not be published. Correspondents should remember to sign all communications.

—Rev. W. E. Abernethy, pastor of Central Methodist church, Shelby, will preach at Main Street Methodist church next Sunday morning and night for the pastor, Rev. J. E. Abernethy, who will be at Greensboro conducting a series of special services at Centenary Methodist church, of which Rev. R. D. Sherrill is pastor.

—After spending the winter at Charleston, Orangeburg and Sumter, S. C., Miss Julia La Par has returned to the city and is preparing to reorganize her kindergarten and primary classes. Her class rooms will be at 209 South Oakwood street and classes will begin work Thursday, April 23rd.

—Rumor has it that the progressive little town of Belmont is to have another cotton mill in the near future. The promoters of this new mill, which will be the fourth for Belmont, have already purchased a tract of 80-odd acres of land lying between the Majestic Mill and the Sloan's Ferry bridge. It is probable that something definite with reference to this new project will be made public within a few days.

—Rev. Dr. J. C. Galloway, pastor of the First A. R. P. church, preached at Main Street Methodist church Sunday night. Dr. Galloway took for his theme "The Tragedy of the Closed Door," and speaking especially to the young people present, delivered an unusually helpful and inspiring message. Dr. Galloway's pulpit was occupied at the same hour by Rev. John W. Moore, pastor of the First Methodist church of Salisbury.

—Rev. John W. Moore, pastor of the First Methodist church of Salisbury, preached an excellent discourse Sunday morning to the congregation of Main Street Methodist church. Mr. Moore preached on Missions, and delivered a most logical and convincing discourse on the subject. Rev. J. E. Abernethy, the pastor, went to Salisbury to fill Rev. Mr. Moore's appointment there. Mr. Moore having been called here Saturday on account of the critical illness of his brother-in-law, Mr. W. G. Torrence, an account of whose death appears in this issue.

Read The Want Ads On Page 5



To Preach on Fraternalism.

On next Sunday afternoon, April 26th, at 2 o'clock, Rev. H. W. Braswell, pastor of the Gastonia Methodist Protestant church, will preach a special sermon at the Bessemer City Methodist Protestant church on "Fraternalism." Members of the local chapter of the Junior Order and other fraternal organizations will probably attend this service in a body, and all others are cordially invited to attend.

Attending Supreme Court.

Attorneys A. C. Jones, O. F. Mason, A. L. Bulwinkle, A. G. Mangum and G. W. Wilson, of the local bar, are at Raleigh this week arguing cases before the Supreme Court, which is considering appeals from the fourteenth judicial district this week. Messrs. Mangum and Bulwinkle are representing the city and the Citizens National Bank respectively in a test case involving the recent issue of city bonds purchased by the bank.

Services at A. R. P. Church.

Rev. S. B. Stephens, pastor of the Gastonia Methodist Episcopal church will conduct the service at the Associate Reformed Presbyterian church this evening at 8 o'clock. Rev. James P. Pressley, pastor of the church at Due West, S. C., will arrive tomorrow and will conduct the remaining services of the series, preaching tomorrow night and Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 4 and 8 p. m. and at the morning and evening hours on Sabbath. The regular spring communion service will be conducted at the morning hour on Sabbath day.

NOTES WERE BURNED.

First Baptist Church Held Special Services Sunday at Which Notes For \$7,000 on Church Property Were Burned—Address by Rev. C. H. Durham, A Former Pastor.

At the First Baptist Church Sunday morning at eleven o'clock a special service was held in celebration of the final liquidation of a debt of \$7,000 which had been incurred by the congregation in the purchase of property on Franklin avenue for the J. D. Moore Memorial parsonage and for a site for a new church building which they plan to erect in the future.

The program, which had been especially prepared for the occasion, included several special musical selections by the choir. Rev. C. H. Durham, of Lumberton, a former pastor of the First church, delivered a short address on "The Necessity of Efficiency in Christian Work." Following this the J. D. Moore Memorial parsonage, erected in 1907 and 1908 by Mrs. Martha J. Moore as a memorial to her late husband, Mr. James D. Moore, was formally presented to the congregation by the pastor, Rev. W. C. Barrett, who in making the presentation spoke briefly of the life and character of Mr. Moore and his great love and activity for the church. The speech of acceptance was made for the congregation by Prof. Joe S. Wray.

In March, 1907, Mrs. Moore announced her purpose to erect a memorial parsonage, if the congregation would provide a suitable lot, and the property at the corner of Franklin Avenue and South street was purchased in two parts for the purpose, but providing a location for a new church. The cost of the two lots was \$7,000. It is interesting to note that the larger of these lots, for which \$5,000 was paid, was sold by Mr. O. W. Davis on March 8, 1879, to Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Hanna for the sum of \$25.

The pastor next gave a brief statement of the history of the local church, which was organized on Sept. 27, 1885. The total amount collected on the fund since the property was purchased was \$10,579.86. Of this amount more than \$7,058.51 has been collected during the past two years, during the pastorate of Rev. W. C. Barrett.

Following the pastor's address came the actual ceremony of the burning of the notes, which marked in a formal and ceremonial way the completion of a work upon which the congregation has been steadily and earnestly engaged now for several years. Being free from this debt, the congregation will take up other work and carry it forward with the same determination and success, doubtless, which has characterized the campaign just concluded.

At the night service Sunday night Rev. C. H. Durham preached an excellent discourse on "The Sufficient Christ."

According to estimates made yesterday by the War Department the Huerta government in Mexico has an armed force of 40,000.

—Mr. J. H. Coffey, who has been confined to his home on West Atrine avenue since Sunday night by illness, is reported today as being much better.

IN SOCIAL CIRCLES

LATEST EVENTS IN WOMAN'S WORLD

MUSIC CLUB WITH MISS ATKINS.

The Music Club will meet tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock with Miss Lillian Atkins at 323 East Franklin avenue. Three Italian operas will be studied.

MEETING POSTPONED.

The regular meeting of the Original Thirteen Club, which was to have been held this afternoon with Miss Johnnie Adams, has been postponed until the latter part of the week.

TO GIVE MEASURING PARTY TO-NIGHT.

The Philathea class of the First Baptist church will entertain at the church tonight, beginning at eight o'clock, with a measuring party. Each guest will be measured and will be asked to contribute five cents for each foot of his or her height, plus a penny for each inch over. There will be a program of music, contests, etc., by members of the class. The officers of the class are Miss Besse Beam, president, and Miss Ruth Mason, secretary. The public is cordially invited to attend.

PHILATHEAS TO GIVE "TRIP AROUND THE WORLD."

Beginning at 8 o'clock on Thursday night of this week the members of the Philathea Class of Main Street Methodist church will give a unique entertainment in the form of a "Trip Around the World." The start will be made from the P. & N. terminal station on West Main avenue, the first automobile leaving at 8 o'clock sharp. The first country to be visited will be Indian Territory at the residence of Miss Wilma Long. From here the travelers will go to Japan, at Mrs. E. O. Jennings, thence to Turkey, at Miss Myrtle Gray, to Ireland at Miss Nell McAllister, and will return to America at Mrs. Nell Davis. Round trip tickets for this trip are on sale at the P. & N. station, adults 50 cents, children 25 cents. The affair promises to be a most enjoyable one to all who attend.

U. D. C. TO MEET FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

The regular meeting of Gastonia Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy will be held in the chapter room Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. Several matters of special importance demand the presence of all members who can possibly attend. Shiloh Day will be appropriately celebrated. Reports will be heard from the delegates who are to attend the district meeting at Shelby Thursday. These are Mrs. A. A. McLean, Mrs. S. A. Kindley, Mrs. J. E. Thomson, Mrs. L. F. Wetzel, Mrs. H. M. Eddleman, Miss Lowry Shuford, Mrs. W. T. Rankin, Mrs. W. J. Clifford and Mrs. S. A. Robinson. They are planning to make the trip in automobiles. Another matter of special importance is the gift to the chapter by Mr. J. White Ware and his associates of a choice lot in Oakwood park, which is to be sold at auction Saturday afternoon of this week. It is hoped that a large number of the members will be present to formulate plans for working up a good crowd and making sure that the lot shall bring a good price.

FORMER GASTONIA LADY TO WED.

From The Raleigh Times of the 15th is taken the following account of the announcement of the wedding of Miss Lucie Marshall and Mr. Will Wyatt, of Raleigh, the ceremony to take place in June. Miss Marshall is well known in Gastonia where she lived for a number of years. She is a daughter of Mr. W. F. Marshall, formerly editor of The Gazette. The Times says:

Cupid continues to play havoc with the hearts of the young men and girls of the city. There is no doubt that the little god has been having the time of his life this spring and the latest result of his work was announced at a beautiful six-course luncheon today, when Misses Annie and Sallie Jones entertained a dozen special friends in honor of Miss Lucie Marshall, announcing her engagement to Mr. Will Wyatt, of this city.

The prominence of the young couple in the life of the city lends special interest to the announcement. Mr. Wyatt, who is of the firm of Job P. Wyatt Sons, is not only a promising young business man, but he is well and popular known in the social life of Raleigh and is a very fine young man. Miss Marshall is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Marshall of Cameron Park. She is a graduate of Meredith College and is an accomplished and charming girl. The luncheon table was a mass of apple blossoms, the centerpiece being a great basket of wild crab apple that overflowed the basket. Mingled with the pink and white blossoms were bows of pink tulle, while the table was lighted by pink candles. At each place were beautiful little baskets, also filled with the crab apple blossoms, attached to the handles being the tiny envelopes with the interesting announcement which was reserved for the close of the luncheon.

BIG SHOW ON THE 20TH

CITY TO HELP CHARLOTTE CELEBRATE

Committee from Chamber of Commerce Working on Spectacular Feature for Big Twentieth of May Parade in Charlotte But Keep Their Plans Secret—Speculation Rife as to What Manner of "Stunt" Gastonians Will Pull Off.

That Gastonia will participate in the big parade at Charlotte on the occasion of the 139th anniversary of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence to be held in the Queen City May 20th, has been known for some time; that the town would make a creditable showing was taken for granted, but as to what the nature of Gastonia's participation in that event would be has not been made known and so far all efforts of the newspaper man to ascertain that information have been unavailing. Public interest in this approaching event has been more than usually keen and now, that it is apparently impossible to find out what the committee is planning to do on that occasion, interest has become doubly keen and the members of the committee are being besieged with interrogations.

Through Secretary J. Leake Caraway, of the Greater Charlotte Club, an invitation was recently extended to Gastonia, through Secretary Lloyd of the Chamber of Commerce, to participate in the Twentieth of May Celebration and a conspicuous place in the big parade was assigned to "the busy town." A committee composed of Prof. J. S. Wray, Chairman, Capt. A. L. Bulwinkle, Messrs. J. L. Beal, G. H. Marvin, E. D. Barkley and R. B. Babington, was appointed to take charge of the matter and make all necessary arrangements for this event. It is known beyond a doubt that this committee has had several meetings and that the several members have been discovered making mysterious moves about the city but so far the curious have been at an entire loss as to what is being planned.

When approached on the subject by the newspaper man Secretary Lloyd was as well as each member of the committee was as dumb as the proverbial oyster. All that could be gotten from any of the committee was the statement that "Gastonia will be so conspicuous in the parade and the celebration that not even Charlotte itself can fail to sit up and take notice."

Much Talk of Unemployed But Laborers Can't Be Had.

Washington Dispatch to Charlotte Observer.

Gen. J. S. Coxey, the famous Coxey's Army leader—is coming to the capitol with another horde of the "unemployed." He says that 5,000,000 persons are out of work in this country and he is going to exhibit 10 per cent. of them at Washington so that Congressmen and administration people generally can see for themselves that he is not faking about the unemployed. He is here to make arrangements for the second coming of his mighty hosts.

For two weeks the correspondent of the Observer has tried to get somebody—just any old body—to dig up or plow up the little garden space back of his home. He has offered \$2 a day for a man. His neighbors are hunting laborers.

From every farming section of the South comes the complaint that farm labor is scarce and in some communities not to be had at all. Yet, thousands of malcontents are marching about the streets of the great cities demanding work and if not work, money. The Industrial Workers of the World, who have been giving so much trouble in New York, Chicago, Boston and other populous centers, are demanding shorter hours and less pay.

Clara Defeats Gray.

In a slow and uninteresting game of ball the Clara Mill team last Saturday defeated the Gray Mill boys by a score of 17 to 1. The features of the game were the hard hitting by the Clara and the home runs by Simmons and the Gray and Williams of the Clara teams. Simmons, first up in the game, pounded the first ball thrown in for a homer. Batteries: Gray—Simmons, Caldwell, Turner, Caldwell and Burton; Clara—Parker and Williams.

Residents on rural routes should use return envelopes. Get them for any route in the county at 50 cents per 100 at The Gazette office.

reserved for the close of the luncheon.

The secret could not be entirely kept, however, as the basket of lilies of the valley before the guest of honor suggested what was coming. Miss Marshall wore a gown of wisteria silk, her bouquet being of lilies of the valley and orchids.

The guests were: Miss Marshall, Mrs. R. W. Page, of Lumberton, Mrs. Robert Wyatt, Miss Olive King, Miss Jennie Proctor, Mrs. B. L. Crocker, Miss Vivian Betts, Mrs. J. Wilbur Bunn, Mrs. Marion Wyatt, Miss Ethel Buffalo, Miss Lucie Anderson and Miss Elizabeth Briggs.

NEWS OF THE COUNTY

LATEST FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS

Newsy Letters from Gazette Correspondents Here and There Ove Good Old Gaston—What Our Neighbors Are Doing in the Various Sections of the County—Personal Mention of People You Know and Some You Don't Know Belmont Items.

Belmont Items.

Correspondence of The Gazette.
BELMONT, April 21.—On Friday night of this week there will be given in the school auditorium the operetta "Cinderella" by the pupils of the fourth and fifth grades. The entertainment is being prepared by Misses Crawford and Gullick, teachers of these grades, assisted by Mrs. F. P. Hall. The proceeds will go to a fund to be used in paying for a piano for the school. The children are well trained and the operetta will doubtless be a success.

Rev. J. H. Henderlite, of Gastonia, will deliver the address before the graduating class of the high school on Friday night, May 8th. Other features of commencement include a play "Esmeralda" by local talent for Tuesday night and recitation and declamation contests for Thursday night. Handsome invitations are being mailed out this week. The graduating class is as follows: Lillian Lewis, Jessie McKee, Ned Leeper and Ray Armstrong.

The girls' basket ball team of the Belmont High School will play the Charlotte High School team here Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

AT HICKORY.

Congressional Convention for Ninth District to Meet There Day Before State Convention.

The following from yesterday's Charlotte Chronicle is of interest to Gazette readers:

The meeting of the democratic executive committee of the ninth congressional district held in Lincolnton Saturday afternoon selected Hickory as the place for the congressional convention and the day before the democratic state convention as the time. E. S. Williams, who has served as chairman of the committee for some time, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, and Edgar Love of Lincolnton was elected to succeed him. Mr. Williams resigned because he holds a federal office. Mr. Love has been long identified with the party and is chairman of the executive committee of Lincoln county. He has served on the congressional committee for some time, and his selection as chairman was a deserved honor.

The committee also adopted the direct primary plan for selecting the congressional candidate, each candidate for the nomination to receive his pro rata county vote in the convention. This method gives each man the entire strength he polls in the primaries of the several counties.

Supt. Wray Re-Elected.

At a meeting of the city school board held last night, Prof. Joe S. Wray was re-elected superintendent of the city schools for another year. Prof. Wray has held this position for the past twelve years, during which time the city schools have grown to large proportions, having now an enrollment of more than 1,500 pupils. During the current year the growth has been such that it was found necessary to add several to the faculty. His re-election, which was expected, is a source of gratification to a large circle of friends who have watched with pride the steady growth of the Gastonia city schools which are regarded as among the very best in the entire State.

PERSONAL.

—Messrs. W. L. Fields and A. A. James, of Laurinburg, are spending a few days with friends in this city.

—Messrs. T. L. Clinton and T. M. Campbell, of Clover, are in the city on business today.

—All members of the First Baptist church are urgently requested to be present at the mid-week prayer service Wednesday night, when a matter of special importance is to be brought before the congregation.

—We are requested by Dr. A. Stovall, city health officer, to state that in the construction of the sanitary surface closets required by the new sanitary ordinances, two cans with one lid are required. It is also announced that the new ordinances are now being strictly enforced so far as they are in effect at present.

—Mr. J. H. Kennedy is having his residence on South York street remodelled and enlarged according to plans made by Messrs. Hook & Rogers, of Charlotte. Mr. J. D. Ross, of Charlotte, the house-mover, is completing the task today of moving the house back from the street about 15 feet, putting it in line with the other residences in that block. It is also being moved northward a few feet. Mr. C. W. Spencer has the contract to remodel the house. A second story will be added, a slate roof put on and the interior worked over and made practically new.