

Battleships Sail For Tampico—Will Protect U. S. Flag

Must Fire Salute For Insult Or Uncle Sam Will Open Fight

Largest Vessels Of Navy Depart

Ultimatum Delivered To Huerta Who Must Yield Or Destroy Self

Washington, April 15.—The Mexican federal troops at Tampico must fire a salute to the American flag or the United States will use its battleships to force atonement for the recent insult to the national colors.

By way of enforcing this demand, the strongest fleet of American fighting vessels mobilized for business purposes since the Spanish war days has started for Tampico; the war department has made itself ready for action at a moments notice, and everything has been done to open the way for putting the military arm of the government on a war basis.

Within seven days a fleet under Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger, consisting of eleven of Uncle Sam's most modern battleships, reinforced by several cruisers and gunboats, and carrying all told about fifteen thousand men, will be at anchor off Tampico. President Huerta, of Mexico, knows now by the time this formidable array of fighting vessels arrive off his coast he must have decided whether or not he will resist his present determination and yield to the demand of the United States for adequate reparation for the insult growing out of the arrest of American marines in Tampico last Thursday.

Ultimatum Issued.

There has been no doubt that an ultimatum has been delivered to Huerta, although it does not attempt to fix a limit to the time in which he may decide to meet the demands of the United States.

This sudden move on the part of the Wilson administration has not been explained by any official statement, but only one interpretation is possible. It means that the United States has ceased temporizing with Huerta, and turned its back on the policy of watchful waiting is now prepared to even to the extent of war in order to satisfaction for what it regards as an insult to the American flag.

The fear prevails that Huerta may be playing a desperate game and may seize for this demand of the United States for a salute to the American flag as a patriotic rallying cry for all Mexicans to bury their differences and enlist under the standard against the common foe. The prediction has long been made that the first move by the United States to invade Mexico would result in the elimination of all differences between the constitutionalists and Huerta, and bring about a solid opposition to foreign intervention. This is the possibility which makes the new move by this government fraught with the most dangerous possibilities.

Consult At Hampton.

What plan of action the United States government has in mind in the event of continued stubbornness by Huerta has not been officially disclosed here. It is known, however, that officers of the navy department left hurriedly for Hampton Roads to consult with the commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet in regard to the topography and condition of the country about Tampico.

Of one thing, however, there is no doubt, the administration has made up its mind that a salute must be fired by the Mexican troops, and that steps will be taken to obtain satisfaction if this is not done.

Sailed at Daybreak.

Hampton Roads, Va., April 15.—The Norfolk navy yard took on a war-like appearance when orders were received to prepare the battleships Arkansas, Vermont, New Hampshire, and New Jersey and the dispatch boat Yankton, for immediate departure for Tampico.

The New Hampshire is at the yard

WELL KNOWN CRAVEN COUNTY CITIZEN DEAD

NORMON LANCASTER SUCCUMBS TO ATTACK OF HEART DISEASE AT VANCEBORO

A telegram received in this city yesterday afternoon told of the sudden death at Vanceboro shortly before 4 o'clock of Norman Lancaster, one of Craven county's best known citizens. Mr. Lancaster, who was about sixty years of age, was seemingly in the best of health yesterday morning. Shortly after noon he complained of feeling a little unwell and a short time before 4 o'clock he expired, heart disease being the cause of his demise.

The deceased was the father of County Commissioner N. M. Lancaster of Vanceboro, L. E. Lancaster of this city, William Lancaster of Vanceboro and one daughter. He is also survived by his wife.

undergoing repairs. Most of the crew were ashore when the orders were received, but they were rounded up by squads of marines and brought back to their ships. The New Hampshire sailed at daybreak this morning.

The other ships were on the southern drill grounds when they received orders to sail. They came into Hampton Roads for supplies and ammunition. The torpedo boats Benham, Cummings, and Parker, are also at anchor in Hampton Roads.

At New Orleans.

New Orleans, La., April 15.—The United States transport Hancock, the only vessel in the local harbor connected with the United States navy, left this morning for Tampico.

The Hancock will carry 900 marines constituting the first advance base regiment. Colonel John A. Lejeu will be in command. The men have been here for some weeks, and the organization is in condition. When the sailing orders came they found the Hancock already coaled and provisioned and little of preparation was needed to complete her readiness for sea.

Louisiana Sails.

New York, April 15.—The battleship Louisiana, flagship of Rear Admiral Clifford J. Boush, commander of the Second division of the Atlantic fleet, probably left her anchorage in the North River before noon. Captain J. H. Gibbons, commanding the ship, received a message from Admiral Badger directing him to recall all officers on shore leave, and prepare for sailing orders as soon as possible.

The commander immediately sent out telegrams to the officers on leave asking them to report for duty at once. He sent word to police headquarters requesting an order be issued, directing all patrolmen to notify sailors from the Louisiana to return to their ship at once. About three hundred jackies had shore leave.

Captain Gibbons had all the men back, excepting probably 150 men, by 9 o'clock. The ship has a complement of 950 men.

Norfolk, Va., April 15.

Early today five battleships of the Atlantic fleet sailed from Hampton Roads for Tampico, Mexico. They are the battleships Arkansas, temporary flagship, of the Atlantic fleet; the New Jersey, New Hampshire and Vermont and the dispatch boat Dolphin. The torpedo boats Parker, Cummings and Benham may also go, but they have not received final orders.

The New Hampshire left at daybreak. The Arkansas, New Jersey and Vermont were on the Southern drill grounds when they received orders to prepare to sail for Mexico.

A portion of the crew of the New Hampshire were ashore when orders dispatching the ship to Mexico were received. Several squads of men went ashore to round them up, and most of them had returned to their ship at 10 o'clock.

Enlisted men from the training station took the places of all those who failed to report in time for the departure of the ship.

General Villa and His Gasoline Charger



General Villa, commander of the constitutionalist army in northern Mexico, has abandoned the horse for the motorcycle. He is here seen mounting his rather unromantic charger, which he rode during the operations against Torreon.

PREPARING FOR THE COMING CELEBRATION

Plans For Home Coming Week Are Going Rapidly Ahead—Hundreds Of Visitors Will Be Here—Date To Be Known Soon

It cannot be more than six weeks before New Bern's great Home Coming Celebration, Spring Racing and Aviation Meet will begin and there is little wonder that the forces of clerics and stenographers in the office of J. Leon Williams are "making things fly."

A large number of attractions have been secured for the week and these have been "lined up" and are now awaiting the setting of the exact date. Just as soon as Secretary Bryan notifies the local committee on just what date he will arrive in New Bern, telegrams will be sent to the managers of each of those attractions and they will then get in readiness to come to this city.

Barnum and Bailey's press agent would probably say that this approaching celebration would be "the most gorgeous galaxy of music mirth and fun intermingled with sidelights on topics of magnificent preponderousness ever gathered on the face of old Mother Earth."

This would be a fitting way to describe the event but it is sufficient to say that never before in the history

of the Old North State, has an event of equal importance been held. Every railroad in Eastern North Carolina is to offer reduced rates over its lines from all points in the State and it will cost but a small amount to reach New Bern.

There will be ample hotel facilities for all. Manager Cherry of the Gaston, Max Jacobs, the genial host of the James and Mrs. Moore who conducts the Gem, are making unusual preparations for furnishing all who come with room and board and in addition to these, many boarding houses will throw open their doors to the visitors. For those who cannot spend the night, remaining only one day, they will find that the cafes have also entered into the spirit of the occasion and the menus to be found there will be well worth sampling.

Little more can be said until the date of Secretary Bryan's visit has been announced, but in the meantime the public is asked to keep the matter alive, let their friends know that the event is approaching and get ready for one big week of enjoyment.

GEORGIA PASTOR WILL ARRIVE HERE TODAY

HAS BEEN CALLED TO PULPIT OF TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. R. W. Thist, of Augusta, Ga., who has been called to the Pastorate of the Tabernacle Baptist church will arrive in the city today.

His visit here is for the purpose of looking the field over and to have a personal conference with the membership. A special service has been arranged at the Tabernacle tonight for that purpose. The membership is urged to be present in order that the church may be well represented.

Rev. Mr. Thist will return to Augusta, on Friday. It is probable however, that he will make known his decision relative to the call, while in conference with the church.

BARTENDER, OUT OF JOB, KILLS HIMSELF.

Macon, April 15.—J. F. Davis, a former bartender, despondent over lack of work and ill health, shot himself through the brain today, dying soon afterwards. His grown son was sleeping in bed with him when he awoke and secured a pistol that had not been fired in 30 years.

The young man was at first suspected, but he established his innocence.

THAW GRANTED HABEAS CORPUS WRIT BY COURT

Jerome Expected To Oppose The Decision

HARRY EXPECTS BAIL

So Far Mattewan's Famous Prisoner Has Won A Complete Victory

Littleton, N. H., April 15. Harry K. Thaw has won his fight for a writ of habeas corpus. Federal Judge Edgar A. Aldrich, of the United States District Court of New Hampshire, handed down the decision today on the petition of Thaw asking that he be discharged from the extradition proceedings under which the State of New York has been trying to force Thaw's return to Mattewan.

The decision was in Thaw's favor. The court grants the writ, but the formal order will not be entered until the State of New York can appeal the case to the United States Supreme Court, which will determine whether Thaw shall be admitted to bail.

Thaw's attorney is confident that he will be freed on a small cash bond.

Game As A Surprise.

The announcement of Judge Aldrich's decision here came as a surprise. It was expected that the decision would be filed in Concord, where Thaw is, but Judge Aldrich saw fit to do otherwise.

He has been preparing the decision for two weeks in Boston.

William Travers Jerome is expected to come at once from New York to see to the appeal. Judge Aldrich, in his decision, a thirty-page printed document, directs that Thaw be held in New York State ample time to take any steps desired.

It means that he has won his whole fight so far as victory is possible without a decision by the Supreme Court. Thaw's fight in this State began last September when he was arrested at Colebrook, N. H., after being deported from Canada.

On September 17th he was taken to Concord and there kept under surveillance in the Eagle Hotel, while his lawyers opened a hard fight against his removal to Mattewan.

Past Procedure.

The attorneys were successful in securing a writ of habeas corpus and when Governor Felkner honored the requisition papers issued in New York State the case was automatically transferred to the Federal Courts.

Judge Aldrich appointed a commission to inquire into Thaw's sanity. This commission decided that if Thaw were insane that he was not violent enough to be a menace to the public. Thaw's lawyers then fought to have their client admitted to bail, but this was just as vigorously opposed by William Travers Jerome, special deputy for New York State, who was appointed to combat Thaw's efforts to escape an involuntary return to Mattewan.

Today's decision by Judge Aldrich upholds the habeas corpus writ.

Text of Main Conclusion.

In his main conclusion on the point of Thaw's right to remain in New Hampshire, the court says: "My conclusion is that the constitutional right of extradition for crime in itself to such a situation as this, where the right of control by the demanding State resides in a degree of custody based upon insanity, and where its papers upon their face negative the idea of personal criminal responsibility.

"It results that an order will be made sustaining the writ and that the petitioner be discharged from the extradition process under which he was held at the time his petition for habeas corpus was brought upon constitutional grounds. It had been understood that from the beginning that whichever way this case might be decided by me it would be taken to the Supreme Court."

The court holds Thaw sane on the report of an unbiased commission.

"Any danger to the community from permitting him at large," says the judge, "is remote that the court would not be justified in depriving him of liberty under bail until the question is finally settled." But on this point the judge says: "I have no doubt for the right of the court to grant bail under the circumstances of this case; but as the question is an interlocutory one,

of which the petitioner has the right to avail himself at any time and at any stage of the proceedings and as the case is about to go out of the control of this court and into the Supreme Court, and as the Supreme Court Rule 34 has an important and perhaps a controlling bearing upon the question, I am disposed to leave the motion for bail undetermined without prejudice."

THE REBELS GAIN ANOTHER VICTORY OVER FEDERALS

Desperate Battle Fought 40 Miles From Torreon.

IT LASTED FOR NINE DAYS

Battle Said To Have Been More Desperate Than At Torreon. 3000 Killed and Wounded.

Juarez, Mexico, April 15.—A night's battle, possibly more desperate than that at Gomez Palacio and Torreon, has resulted in a victory in the rebels under Gen. Francisco Villa, according to an official report made public here late today.

The combined rebel force came upon the routed Federalists, said in the last days of the battle to have numbered 15,000 at San Pedro de las Colonias, State of Coahuila, 40 miles east of Torreon.

Killed and wounded on both sides it is said, will number in the neighborhood of 3,000.

The rebels claimed to have taken 700 prisoners. The Federal Army said to have included the Torreon garrison, led out of that city in retreat by General Velasco, those of General Maas, General Hidalgo, General Moure and two others.

Maas, Hidalgo and De Moure were on their way to Torreon with reinforcements, but Velasco retired before their arrival. Since then, until the Federal concentration at San Pedro and environs, the Federalists have been maneuvering in an endeavor to mobilize the force, while rebel detachments have scattered farther and farther between Victoria, Parras and San Pedro to prevent their concentration.

When the general engagement was brought on, it is reported that the battle line measured 20 miles in semi-circle about the city.

A telegram from General Villa asked for two million cartridges. There were no other details.

While the battle of Torreon was in progress there were persistent reports that Federal reinforcements were drawing near. General Velasco feared they would be cut to pieces and withdrew excellent orders from the city, although his loss in killed and wounded was considerably less than that of the rebels. He headed east and south for a time and the rebel pursuers over whom he had a start of 10 or 12 hours, were unable to locate him. He was first definitely observed at Viesca, a station on the southernmost end of the three railway lines running between Torreon and Saltillo, and its southern environs.

Meanwhile a rebel column had occupied San Pedro, near lake, on the northernmost of the railway lines, about 60 miles north of the southern line. The first detachment sent against the city by General Villa was repulsed after four days of desultory fighting, but when reinforcements arrived the Federalists fled eastward a short distance.

Villa left a garrison in the town, but it was unable to withstand the onslaught of a new column of Federal volunteers. While these fights were taking place Velasco moved up to Parras and it is now assumed, cut across from that point to San Pedro, where a general engagement is reported to have been fought last night.

SCHOOL HEAD OUSTED BY BOARD AT DURHAM

Durham, N. C., April 5.—A sensation was created here today, when it was announced that City High School Superintendent E. J. Green had been dismissed and Professor E. D. Pusey, of Goldsboro elected to fill the vacancy. The Board of Education held a private conference when this action was taken. Just what fault was found with Professor Green was not made known.

Friends of the dismissed superintendent are indignant and will attempt to have the board recalled.

of which the petitioner has the right to avail himself at any time and at any stage of the proceedings and as the case is about to go out of the control of this court and into the Supreme Court, and as the Supreme Court Rule 34 has an important and perhaps a controlling bearing upon the question, I am disposed to leave the motion for bail undetermined without prejudice."