

President Warns in Mexican Situation

An Associated Press dispatch, dated Washington, March 25, says: President Wilson tonight issued warnings that "sinister and unscrupulous influences" are spreading alarming reports about the Mexican situation with the object of forcing intervention by the United States "in the interest of certain American owners of Mexican properties." In a formal statement the President told the people of the United States to be on their guard and not to credit such stories. He urged those who disseminate news to test the source and authority of every report from the border, and called attention again to the government's announcement that the sole object of the punitive expedition now in Mexico was to punish Villa and his followers.

News services supplying newspapers had been asked, the President said, to assist in keeping this view constantly before the Mexican and American people, to the end that the expedition should not be given the color of war.

ALARM STORIES SENT OUT

The warning was issued after careful consideration by the President and his advisers of many official reports from throughout the United States and Mexico, including consular dispatches, saying that the alarmist stories of the intentions of the Washington government were having an undesirable effect upon the Mexican people and American residents in the southern republic. The possibility that General Carranza's hand might be weakened to a perilous extent should the Mexican public misunderstand the American expedition has been a prevailing factor in the entire operations against Villa. The question of alarmist reports was considered by the cabinet yesterday and the President conferred at length with Secretary Lansing before he issued his warning tonight.

Drastic steps may be taken if the warning is not heeded. Various suggestions have been advanced for legal procedure to remedy the situation, one measure suggested being invocation of the law against circulating of reports calculated to incite arson and riot.

The purpose of the American commanders was described as embracing co-operation "in every possible way" with the forces of General Carranza and withdrawal from Mexican territory as soon as the object of the expedition is accomplished. The President solemnly warned the people "that there are persons all along the border who are actively engaged in originating and giving as wide currency as they can to rumors of the most sensational and disturbing sort which are wholly unjustified by the facts."

THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The statement of President Wilson follows:

"As has already been announced, the expedition into Mexico was ordered under an agreement with the de facto government of Mexico for the single purpose of taking the bandit Villa, whose forces actually invaded the territory of the United States, and in no sense intended as an invasion of that republic or as an infringement of its sovereignty.

"I have therefore asked the several news services to be good enough to assist the administration in keeping this view of the expedition constantly before both the people of this country and the distressed and sensitive people of Mexico, who are very susceptible indeed to impressions received from the American press not only, but also very ready to believe that those impressions proceed from the views and objects of our government itself.

"Such conclusions, it must be said, are not unnatural, because the main, if not the only, source of information for the people on both sides of the border is the public press of the United States. In order to avoid the creation of erroneous and dangerous impressions in this way, I have called upon the several news agencies to use the utmost care not to give news stories regarding this expedition the color of war, to withhold stories of troop movements and military preparations which might be given that interpretation and to refrain from publishing unverified rumors of unrest in Mexico.

"I feel that it is most desirable to impress upon both our own people and the people of Mexico the fact that the expedition is simply a necessary punitive measure, aimed solely at the elimination of the marauders who raided Columbus and also infest an unprotected district near the border which they use as a base in making

attacks upon the lives and property of our citizens within our own territory.

"It is the purpose of our commanders to cooperate in every possible way with the forces of General Carranza in removing this cause of irritation to both governments and to retire from Mexican territory so soon as that object is accomplished.

"It is my duty to warn the people of the United States that there are persons all along the border who are actively engaged in originating and giving as wide currency as they can to rumors of the most sensational and disturbing sort which are wholly unjustified by the facts.

"The object of this traffic in falsehood is obvious. It is to create intolerable friction between the government of the United States and the de facto government of Mexico, for the purpose of bringing about intervention in the interest of certain American owners of Mexican properties.

"This object can not be attained so long as sane and honorable men are in control of this government, but very serious conditions may be created, unnecessary bloodshed may result and the relations between the two republics may be very much embarrassed.

"The people of the United States should know the sinister and unscrupulous influences that are afoot and should be on their guard against crediting any story coming from the border; and those who disseminate the news should make it a matter of patriotism and of conscience to test the source and authenticity of every report they receive from that quarter.

"WOODROW WILSON."

PRESIDENT WILSON ACCEPTS PROPOSAL

"Following is an Associated Press dispatch: Washington, March 13.—The United States government entered into a formal agreement with the de facto government of Mexico today under which American troops will cross the border to hunt down Villa and his bandits with the expectation of hearty co-operation from the Carranza forces.

Secretary Lansing made public the text of a note accepting General Carranza's proposal for a reciprocal arrangement between the two governments and that the United States held this arrangement to be now in force and binding upon both parties. General Funston will carry out his task under this agreement.

Official announcement was awaited tonight that the American force had crossed the border. Plans for the troop movements have gone ahead without regard to the diplomatic exchanges.

INTERVENTION NOT INTENDED

Mr. Lansing also made public a statement issued in the name of President Wilson reiterating that every step being taken by the administration was based on the deliberate intention to preclude the possibility of armed intervention in Mexico.

The statement follows:

"In order to remove any misapprehension that may exist either in the United States or in Mexico, the President has authorized me to give in his name the public assurance that the military operations now in contemplation by this government will be scrupulously confined to the object already announced and that in no circumstances will they be suffered to infringe in any degree upon the sovereignty of Mexico or develop into intervention of any kind in the internal affairs of our sister republic. On the contrary, what is now being done is deliberately intended to preclude the possibility of intervention."

PRESIDENT'S NOTE EXPLICIT

The note to Carranza defines the terms of the agreement beyond the possibility of misconception. In brief, it provides that where conditions arise on the American side of the border similar to those at Columbus, which led to the orders to General Funston to enter Mexico, the same privilege will be accorded to the Mexican de facto government without the necessity of a further exchange of views.

It is clearly stated, however, that the bandits to be pursued on American soil by Mexican troops must have come from the American side, committed depredations on the Mexican side, and fled back again to United States territory.

There is no instance on record in recent years of such an occurrence.

The note follows:

TEXT OF REPLY

This is the text of the reply to General Carranza's proposal, sent to American Consul Silliman:

"The government of the United States has received the courteous note of Senor Acuna and has read with satisfaction his suggestion for reciprocal privileges to the American and Mexican authorities in the pursuit and apprehension of outlaws who infest their respective territories lying along the international boundary and who are a constant menace to the lives and property of residents of that region.

"The government of the United States in view of the unusual state of affairs which has existed for some time along the international boundary and earnestly desiring to co-operate with the de facto government of Mexico to suppress this state of lawlessness, of which the recent attack on Columbus, N. M., is a deplorable example, and to insure peace and order in the region contiguous to the boundary between the two republics, readily grants permission for military forces of the de facto government of Mexico to cross the international boundary in pursuit of lawless bands of armed men which have entered Mexico from the United States, committed outrages on Mexican soil and fled into the United States, on the understanding that the de facto government of Mexico grants the reciprocal privilege that the military forces of the United States may pursue across the international boundary into Mexican territory lawless bands of armed men who have entered the United States from Mexico, committed outrages on American soil and fled into Mexico.

IS NOW COMPLETE

"The government of the United States understands that in view of its agreement to this reciprocal arrangement, proposed by the de facto government, the arrangement is now complete and in force and the reciprocal privileges thereunder may accordingly be exercised by either government without further interchange of views.

"It is a matter of sincere gratification to the government of the United States that the de facto government of Mexico has evinced so cordial and friendly a spirit of co-operation in the efforts of the authorities of the United States to apprehend and punish the bands of outlaws who seek refuge beyond the international boundary in the erroneous belief that the constituted authorities will resent any pursuit across the boundary by the forces of the government whose citizens have suffered by the crimes of the fugitives.

"With the same spirit of cordial friendship the government of the United States will exercise the privilege granted by the de facto government in Mexico in the hope and confident expectation that by their mutual efforts lawlessness will be eradicated and peace and order maintained in the territories of the United States and Mexico contiguous to the international boundary."

BACK TO THE CONSTITUTION

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man, rugged and earnest, and like most strong men he annexed all the jurisdiction he could lay his hands upon. While his course upon the bench was in many respects of inestimable good, in such decisions as *Marbury v. Madison*, the *Dartmouth College* case, and others, he went beyond the necessities of the occasion and certainly beyond, far beyond, the authority conferred on the courts by the constitution. Smaller men have extended his doctrines to their logical conclusion in more recent cases which have alarmed the public conscience, and a restoration of the jurisdiction of the court to its true limits is a necessity. As that jurisdiction has been defined in more recent cases, all legislation now depends for its validity, not upon the will of the people as expressed through congress and state legislatures, but upon the economic views of five lawyers, to whom "due process of law" and "equal protection of the laws" means simply what they believe is for the real good of the people. In their hands the power of the court's over legislation is neither more nor less than an irrevocable veto upon any expression of the public will that does not meet their approval.

Let us go "back to the constitution" as it is written. Let congress and the legislatures legislate, subject to the only restriction con-