

## MEXICANS ATTACK AMERICAN OUTPOSTS

ENDS WITH EXCHANGE OF HALF  
DOZEN SHOTS.

### VILLA WILL PUSH CAMPAIGN

Steps Being Taken to Assault Saltillo  
—Envoys Ask For Conference—  
Rebel Forces Are  
Massing.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Vera Cruz.—A considerable force of Mexicans attacked the American outpost at the water plant nine miles out at 11 o'clock Saturday morning, according to a wireless message received here which asked for aid.

Supporting troops were at once ordered forward by train from Vera Cruz to El Tejar, where the waterworks are situated.

No intimation was given in the wireless message as to size and identity of the attacking force.

What had promised to be the first fight between the United States army and the Mexican troops ended in the exchange of not more than half a dozen shots. The Mexicans threatened to "attack immediately" unless the Americans surrendered their position at the waterworks at El Tejar, within ten minutes, but failed to fulfill their threat.

#### No Orders to Advance.

The Mexicans are still holding a position beyond the waterworks station and the American troops have received no orders to advance. A Mexican force estimated at from 300 to 800 men appeared a mile beyond the waterworks station. As Major Russell, of the marines, had received orders not to assume the offensive, he and his men watched the Mexicans with much interest.

Suddenly a Mexican lieutenant and a non-commissioned officer bearing a white flag advanced and presented a demand for the Americans to surrender within ten minutes.

Major Russell's reply was: "Hurry right back, and do not waste any of the time your commanding officer has stipulated."

Major Russell then made preparations to resist any attack, at the time sending a message to headquarters in Vera Cruz that his outpost was threatened.

#### Envoys Ask For Conference.

Washington.—The three South American envoys who have undertaken the task of pacifying Mexico by diplomacy have made another decisive move in their plan by requesting the United States government. General Huerta and General Carranza to appoint representatives to confer with them in Washington.

Ambassador de Gama of Brazil and Ministers Neun and Suarez of Argentina and Chile, respectively, called on Secretary Bryan asking him to designate the United States representative to attend conferences of the mediators. At the same time they telegraphed the head of the government in Mexico City, as well as the constitutional chief, to the same effect.

#### Brief Statement Issued.

No announcement of the subjects to be considered by the representatives of the three parties to the mediation, or of the powers or functions of the new envoys, was made, except for the following brief statement, which was issued through the state department on the authority of the three diplomats: "The mediators have delivered to this government and are sending out to General Huerta and General Carranza requests that representatives be appointed to confer with the mediators."

The proposal to bring together specially designated representatives who would be conversant with the viewpoint of all factions in Mexico and the position of the United States government was the result of an all-day session of the South American envoys. The suggestion had been made to them from various quarters, that much time would be saved and the problem of exchanging views simplified by such a process.

#### Orders to Suspend Mobilization.

Mexico City.—War Minister Blanquet has issued orders to General Maas, commanding the Mexican federalists near Vera Cruz immediately to cease all military operations looking toward the recovery of the seaport now occupied by General Funston's fighting Fifth brigade of regulars and marines. The same order contained instructions to all commanding officers in Huerta's army throughout the republic to suspend further mobilization of forces. Minister Blanquet explained that the order was a result of the agreement to an armistice.

#### Carranza Has Declined Armistice.

El Paso, Tex.—General Carranza has formally declined the suggestion of the mediators that he cease hostilities against Huerta pending the outcome of the plan of mediation. His note, sent to Washington, was made public here Sunday.

No importance is attached here to the report that the rebels and federalists at Tampico are arranging a truce. It is assumed that, if there is any cessation of hostilities, it is for the purpose of burying the dead or removing the wounded.

### VILLA PUSHES CAMPAIGN.

Takes Immediate Steps to Attack Saltillo.

Chihuahua.—General Villa has taken immediate steps to mobilize his entire fighting force, estimated at 15,000 men, around Saltillo.

Many of the troops counted on to take part in the movement against Saltillo already are in the field. General Fernandez already has 4,000 men operating south of Saltillo. It is expected that Villa, in expectation of making a demonstration before Saltillo, will leave but a handful of troops to guard Chihuahua, Torreon and Monterey.

Villa expects to put fifteen brigades into the field. This distribution of his command does not follow the usual United States or foreign qualifications.

The investment of Saltillo will mark the attack by the constitutionalists on the "second line of defense" of the federalists. Torreon, San Pedro and Monterey already have fallen into their hands.

The federal garrison at Saltillo originally consisted of 2,200 men, but the fugitives from the remnants of Velasco's army have fallen into their hands.

### ROBERTO V. PESQUIERA



Roberto V. Pesquiera, confidential agent in Washington of the Mexican constitutionalists.

co's Torreon army and the fleeing garrison of Monterey have increased that force to 10,000. The present federal line of defense runs through Zacatecas, Saltillo and Tampico.

#### Look For Huerta to Resign.

Mexico City.—The situation in Mexico City has every appearance of becoming serious for the administration, and in well informed circles it is expected that Provisional President Huerta may resign at any moment.

El Paso, Tex.—Constitutional leaders here are convinced that Victoriano Huerta is ready to step down and out under pressure from his scientific supporters, who, with an accuracy of knowledge denied the masses in Mexico, are said here to regard complete rebel success as inevitable. For this reason the constitutionalist leaders will make no concessions before the Argentine, Brazilian and Chile mediators.

The mediation of South America is believed by constitutionalists to have been accepted by Huerta as a means of "saving his face." Out of the negotiations the supporters, according to the rebels, hope to save for themselves what they can of their vast properties in Mexico and possibly some of their privileges.

#### Stole \$150,000 from Railway Offices.

New York.—Mexican federal soldiers helped themselves to \$150,000 they found in the offices of the Tehuantepec National railway after the fall of Vera Cruz, according to William B. Ryan, vice president of the road, who with thirty-three other refugees arrived here on the liner Oregonia. The men of the party were in working clothes and the four women and eight children wore the clothes they were in when they started their flight.

#### Dr. Ryan Has Been Released.

Vera Cruz.—Authoritative information was received here from Minister of Foreign Affairs Portillo y Rojas, in Mexico City, that Dr. Edward Ryan, an American Red Cross official, has been released at Zacatecas and is now on his way to Mexico City. President Huerta says he will insure the safe passage of Dr. Ryan to Vera Cruz.

#### Oil Wells Will Be Protected.

Washington.—Assurances have come from both the Huerta government and General Carranza that the oil wells at Tampico will be protected during the fighting there. While there has been no formal agreement to neutralize the wells, the character of the assurances from both factions has removed fears that the wells would be destroyed. Secretary Bryan communicated to the British embassy advices that the constitutionalists and Huerta government would endeavor to protect the wells.

### Are Skeptical of Rebel Success.

Vera Cruz.—The situation at Tampico and the effect of the Mexican governor of the state to cut off the food supply of Vera Cruz is dividing attention. The reported massing of the rebel forces against Tampico is regarded as important because it is felt to be certain that the fall of the city will have some bearing on the immediate policy of the United States. Many persons who are well informed of the federal preparedness in Tampico are skeptical of the predictions of an early rebel success. They point out that three federal gunboats have thus far easily repelled the attacks.

The situation of the town is such that a force cannot approach without exposing itself to the fire of four-inch quick-firing guns—except from one direction. That point is defended by a triple line of trenches and many machine guns and field artillery. Gunboats and soldiers are plentifully supplied with ammunition.

#### Rebels Without Artillery.

The rebels heretofore have been without artillery. Unless guns have reached them from the northern rebels it is believed impossible for them to drive out the federalists.

The fall of Tampico into rebel hands might help solve the food situation in Vera Cruz. In that event it is presumed that trade between Vera Cruz and Tampico would be resumed and that the territory about Tampico would supply the market here to some extent.

#### Optimistic at Washington.

Washington.—While the attention of the American government for the most part was concentrated on restoring order at Vera Cruz and expediting the departure of Americans from all parts of Mexico, a watchful eye was trained on the transcontinental boundary between Mexico and the United States for signs of hostility from constitutionalists. President Wilson and his cabinet had a long meeting, after which optimism was conspicuously apparent in both their demeanor and informal discussion of the situation. There was no particular development to which the feeling of hopefulness that real war would be averted could be traced, but General Villa's friendly pronouncement, it was admitted, had impressed many officials here with the possibility that the constitutionalists would remain neutral while the American government sought reparation from Huerta.

Washington.—Restrained, but none the less steady, preparation for any military eventualities and the quiet progress of the mediation program now being worked out behind closed doors are now the two outstanding features of the Mexican situation. The three mediation envoys of Argentina, Brazil and Chile continued their private sittings. Their first move for an armistice was succeeded by the practical suspension of hostilities or by a truce between the forces of the United States and the Huerta regime, although there still was ominous sounds of conflict between the Huerta and Carranza forces.

Secretary Bryan formally notified the three South American envoys that the American government took it for granted that there would be no hostilities during the mediation proceedings and had intended no further acts of aggression while the conferences were being held.

While the envoys are not yet ready to make any announcement, several interesting phases of what has come up during the discussion were learned from authoritative sources. It appears that while the attitude of General Huerta was definite in accepting intermediation as between the United States and the Huerta government, it has not been made clear that his acceptance will apply also to intermediation which includes Carranza. It is expected this question will be cleared up by inquiries now under way, so that it may be definitely established that Huerta not only accepts intermediation with the United States, but also with Carranza.

#### Constant Danger Menaces.

Washington.—Whether General Huerta countenanced the near fight at the Vera Cruz water station is troubling officialdom. The president and his advisers are inclined to believe that he had not. But the fact that another fight was only averted by the American show of force, has served to indicate the constant danger confronted while waiting for the South American mediators to solve the Mexican problem.

#### Severe in their Criticism.

San Diego, Calif.—Amazed because the people of the United States are displaying so little excitement over the Mexican situation and severe in their criticism of the government for its failure to rush troops into Mexico, the 259 American refugees who arrived here from Guadalajara were either seeking employment in San Diego, or leaving for cities where they have relatives or friends.

Washington.—The scope of mediation plans for the settlement of the Mexican crisis has suddenly broadened so as to include the entire range of Mexican affairs, not alone the critical issue between the United States and the Huerta regime, but also the conflict between the elements of northern and southern Mexico which have rent the republic. This signal enlargement of the mediation program followed the receipt of a formal acceptance by General Carranza, chief of the constitutionalist forces, of the principle of mediation as proposed.

## TURNING OVER ARMS

SURRENDER GUNS TO FEDERAL  
TROOPS IN COLORADO.

### BLAME FOR THE LUDLOW FIRE

Jury Finds Militia or Mine Guards  
Responsible for Burning of Tents

—Governor Issues Mothers'  
Day Proclamation.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.  
Trinidad, Colo.—Forty-two guns, the first to be given up by either party to the Colorado labor strike, are in the headquarters of Captain C. C. Smith in Walsenburg. They were turned over to the regulars by the guards at the Colorado Fuel & Iron company's Walsen mine. The surrender of the guns was the result of an agreement between Captain Smith and B. J. Matteson, as the general manager of the company. Mr. Matteson agreed that the guards should give up their guns if the federal troops would take charge of the mines and assure the property's protection.

In accordance with this understanding Lieutenant Crowley, with ten men, went to Walsen, while Lieutenant Cunningham, with twenty men, went to the big coal camp at Rouse. Lieutenant Crowley upon his arrival found the forty-two guns in the mine office, where they had been collected by the officers of the company. A few guards then on duty did not turn in their guns, but these arms were to be collected later.

#### Mothers' Day Proclamation.

Lincoln, Neb.—Governor Morehead has issued the following proclamation regarding the observance of Mothers' day next Sunday:

"We have no more commendable custom than that which sets aside one day each year as Mother's Day.

"It is well to be called back in memory to the happy days of childhood when we played around mother's knees, and it is fitting that we make acknowledgement of the debt we owe to her who sacrificed so much for us.

"That we may, for a time, turn our hearts and minds to her, who has blessed, loved and sacrificed for us; that we may pay tribute to her memory, if she be gone, and that we may manifest our love and devotion to her, if she be living, I proclaim Sunday, May 10, 1914, Mother's Day, and recommend a suitable observance of the day throughout the state.

"Given under my hand and the great seal of the state, this 2nd day of May, 1914.

"JOHN H. MOREHEAD,  
Governor."

### BLAME FOR THE LUDLOW FIRE

Militia or Mine Guards Held Responsible by Jury.

Trinidad, Colo.—The fire which destroyed the Ludlow tent colony on the night of April 20, causing the deaths of thirteen women and children, was started by militiamen or mine guards, or both, according to the verdict rendered by the coroner's jury here. No responsibility for the killing of Louis Tikas was fixed by the jury, which contented itself by finding that he, with seven other men, were shot in battle. It had been charged by strikers that Tikas received a blow on the head which fractured his skull.

The verdict of the deaths of women and children decided that: "Cecilia Costa, Petra Valdez, Rograta Pedregon, Clovin Pedregon, Lussy Costa, Ofranilo Costa, Elvira Valdez, Mary Valdez, Eulalia Valdez, Rodolfo Valdez, Frank Petrucci, Lucy Petrucci and Joe Petrucci came to their death of asphyxiation or fire, or both, caused by the burning of the tents of the Ludlow tent colony, and that fire on the tents was started by militiamen under Major Hamrock and Lieutenant Lindbergh, or mine guards, or both, on the twentieth day of April, 1914."

#### Kansas Defeats Nebraska.

Leavenworth, Kan.—Athletes of the University of Kansas, running true to form, handed a 67 to 42 defeat to the men from the University of Nebraska in the annual track and field meet of the two schools here Friday afternoon. The local athletes outclassed the men from Lincoln and took a safe lead early in the meet.

#### State Prisoners Will Play Ball.

Lincoln, Neb.—The third baseball team has been organized at the state prison, and the new nine has been outfitted from head to foot by the Lincoln baseball club, to whom the team made an appeal. The three teams of the prison play on a field near the institution, outside the walls. The superintendent of the night school is planning on scheduling games with the Y. M. C. A. and other town teams to be played after the day's work is over at the prison.

#### Nebraska Executive in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia.—Governor John H. Morehead of Nebraska, accompanied by his wife, are in Des Moines to assist in the celebration of the eighty-fifth birthday anniversary of his mother, Mrs. Frances Morehead, at the home of his sister, Mrs. Mary Duckworth. Four generations were represented. Besides the governor, Charles Morehead, Columbia, Ia.; L. H. Falls City, Neb.; William, Mrs. Duckworth and Mrs. Yavina Smith, Garden Grove, Ia.; all the children were present.

### BRIEF NEWS OF NEBRASKA

A farmers' society of equity has been organized at Hebron.

Christopher Courtwright of Millford fought in the Mexican war of 1846.

Assessors at Hastings are expected to finish their work in a few days. More than one hundred attended the second monthly luncheon of the Neligh Commercial club.

Arthur, county seat of the new county of that name, is enjoying a substantial building boom.

Thomas Hamer died in a Kearney hospital of blood poisoning, the result of bruises sustained in a fall.

The applicants for marriage licenses in Johnson county show a falling off for last year over former years.

Six head of cattle owned by Samuel Small, a farmer living southwest of Tecumseh, were killed by lightning.

A bond election will be held at Cedar Bluffs to secure \$17,000 for the erection of a new high school building.

Mayor Ingraham drove a mule team to one of the city wagons taking part in the "clean-up" campaign in Hastings.

Porfirio del Gado, a Mexican laborer, was severely wounded in the leg when he struck a track torpedo while at work in the Rock Island yards at Lincoln.

Twenty-four saloonkeepers of Lincoln were granted new licenses May 1 by the excise board, only one license being held up.

A. W. Reimenschneider, a lineman, was instantly killed at Alliance when he grasped a wire carrying 2,300 volts of electricity.

Many women at Grand Island are behind the movement for the establishment of an association opposed to equal suffrage.

Hounds belonging to H. Scott of Shubert killed a grown wolf and found twelve young ones. The bounty amounted to \$39.

The Lincoln county fair will be held on September 1, 2 and 3. The county agricultural society is preparing for exhibits at the state fair.

The Gage county board of supervisors has confirmed the appointment of Miss Josephine McQuinn as deputy clerk of the district court.

I. O. F., lodges of Lincoln, University Place and Havelock united in the celebration of the ninety-fifth anniversary of the founding of the order.

Superior celebrated the closing of its saloons with a band concert on Main street, the first time the town has been dry in over twenty-five years.

With but few exceptions reports from over Johnson county indicate that all kinds of fruit promises fine crops, and that no damage by frost is evident.

Alvin Willis, 18 years old, died at a hospital Saturday night from injuries received when he fell down a freight elevator shaft in the Herpolsheimer store at Lincoln.

Farmers near Nichols are sowing alfalfa with wheat, barley and oats. They believe that the alfalfa growing in the same field with the small grain will keep out weeds.

Fire which started from a defective fuse in the drug store owned by G. M. Lyrick destroyed four buildings in the business section of Clatonia and caused a loss of about \$22,000.

A picked team of Omaha soccer players administered a defeat to the Lincoln aggregation Friday by a score of 4 to 2 in what was probably the first real soccer game ever played in Lincoln.

Howard Meeker, the missing Lewellen young man, for whom a search has been unsuccessfully conducted for several months following his strange disappearance in Chicago, is said to have been located in Seattle.

County Superintendent John Matzen has started a fly swatting campaign among the rural schools of Dodge county. Literature dealing with the deadly proclivities of the house fly is being sent to teachers and patrons urging their co-operation.

Governor Morehead has asked the War department to transfer ex-Governor Shallenberger's son to the Nebraska National guard.

A nugget of virgin gold as large as a filbert was found in the craw of a rooster being prepared for the Sunday dinner for the family of Thomas O'Neal at Lincoln.

The two-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Copping, living near Nebraska City, was seriously injured when she fell into a pail of boiling water. Her face and the upper portion of her body were badly scalded and her condition is critical.

Louis Becker, who shot Harry Klinga at Fremont, has been bound over to the district court on a charge of shooting with intent to wound. He waived preliminary hearing.

William Wicke of Aurora has given a farm of eighty acres in Hamilton county, worth \$12,000, to York college. The donor of the farm is 70 years of age.

A meeting of the executive officers of the state suffragist association has been called to meet in Lincoln on May 13 to decide on the form to be used in the pamphlet which the state allows petitioners to send out.

Petitions are being circulated at Beatrice for the issuance of bonds for four miles of paving.

Mrs. Daniel George, aged 74, a pioneer resident of York, dropped dead of heart disease, while eating breakfast. She had been living in York county for nearly fifty years.

After suffering terribly for weeks as the result of a dog bite, Henrietta Price, six years old, is dead at Plattsmouth. Desperate efforts were made to save the child's life, but the ravages of the rabies could not be checked and after weeks of agony she died in convulsions.

## AIM IS TOWARD SIMPLICITY

MUCH MONEY DUE STATE FROM  
BACK TAXES.

### GOSSIP FROM STATE CAPITAL

Items of Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources and Presented in Condensed Form to Our Readers.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

State officials are deeply puzzled over the manner in which the university location proposition should be submitted to voters this fall. The form meeting with the greatest approval thus far, but which is not altogether satisfactory, puts it up in this form:

"(A). For removal of the university to the state farm campus." At the end of this line will be a square over which are printed the words, "For removal to the state farm."

"(B). For extension of the university on the present campus." At the end of this line will be a square over which are printed the words, "Against removal to the state farm."

The aim is toward simplicity. The officials want to avoid the least confusion in the matter. The question has been raised with regard to the above form, that if the largest vote is cast "against removal to the state farm," that the proposition B, providing "for extension of the present campus," might not be held to have carried.

On the other hand, if the squares for the crosses of the voters are labeled "for removal" and "for extension," respectively, the officials believe the proposition will not be as simply stated as it should.

#### Back Taxes Due the State.

If every cent of taxes owing the state from 1859 to 1913, inclusive, were paid into the treasury the amount would more than foot the bills occasioned by the removal of the university to the farm campus. This startling statement was made by Clerk Wheeler of the auditing department after he had completed a table of the outstanding obligations. The total is close to \$3,666,000 and amounts due vary as between the ninety-two counties of the state. Every cent of the debt represents back taxes not remitted to the state by the counties. In practically all of the instances the taxes were not collected, hence the counties were losers, too, in the affair, as well as all of the subdivisions for whose aid the taxes were levied.

#### Dedication Set for May 12.

The date for the dedication of the monument to mark the Oregon trail on the Kansas-Nebraska state line has been definitely set for May 12, and both governors have been secured to speak. Secretary Paine of the state historical society has received word from August Jaedicke of Hanover, Kan., chairman of the erection committee, that about five hundred automobile loads of Kansas people will attend the unveiling ceremonies. A large delegation of Nebraska people will also attend, many of them from Lincoln. Arrangements have been made whereby those going by train will be met at Wymore by automobiles and taken on the sixteen mile ride to the monument site, which is two miles west of Lanham, at the point where the line between Gage and Jefferson counties intersects the state line.

#### Convict Teachers Are Successful.

The convict teachers at the state penitentiary night school have been successful in instructing their less fortunate fellow prisoners, according to Warden Fenton. Though they hold no state certificates and possibly could not pass examinations in the psychology of teaching, they have the gift of stimulating interest in their classroom work and the very fact that both teacher and pupil are convicts makes their attitude mutually helpful. The percentage of illiterates in the prison population is being steadily decreased and prison authorities believe that in time illiteracy will be entirely eliminated. Men who have never attended school and who have been neglected in their homes are learning to read and write.

#### Improvements in Penitentiary Lighting.

The state prison has for a long period furnished the light for the state house, grounds, orthopedic hospital and the governor's mansion, and has itself been enshrouded in darkness. Conditions have been changed. Twelve cement T posts, with two lights each, are lined up in front of the building. Seven arches with incandescent lights are scattered along the driveway. An arch of electricity is over the doorway. The work of manufacturing the cement posts and the metal arches was done by the inmates. The material was on the ground. Old gas pipes were welded into arches and painted white. The lighting effect has completely changed the exterior of the prison.

Reports from poultry experts received by the Nebraska state board of agriculture, indicate that a prosperous year is expected in this industry. Fowls came through the winter in good condition and there are signs of increased interest in this important industry.