

# VERA CRUZ PLACED UNDER MARTIAL LAW

## Rear Admiral Fletcher Makes Formal Occupation an Accomplished Fact and Restores Order

# EFFORT BEING MADE AT MEDIATION

## Argentina, Brazil and Chile Have Offered Services Toward Peaceful Settlement. Accepted by Wilson. Huerta May Agree.

Vera Cruz, Mexico.—Vera Cruz is under martial law. Rear Admiral Frank F. Fletcher, commanding the American naval forces on shore, issued a proclamation to this effect and the last opportunity Mexicans had for handling their own laws disappeared. Admiral Fletcher determined there should be no more quibbling with the Mexican officials regarding the forms of government. Until further notice the residents of this port will be judged by military law. This proclamation makes Rear Admiral Fletcher absolute ruler ashore.

It is expected that the martial law proclamation will have another effect—that of opening the way for more city and federal employees to return to their ports and co-operate in restoring the local government functions. Mexicans point out that these men will now be in a position to explain to their friends of the existing government at the capital that under martial law they felt obliged to return to work.

**No Sniping Reported.**  
An order that all arms be turned in by the residents brought to the headquarters of the provost marshal bundles of small arms and stacks of rifles. The city was quiet, and if there was even a single sniper in action, the fact was not reported to division headquarters. A large number of local Mexican officials have reported their willingness to resume their duties of office under the supervision of the Americans. The American officials, named to assist in the supervision of the municipal government, are: Commander H. O. Stickney of the Prairie, captain of the port; Fleet Surgeon L. W. Sprattling, sanitary inspector; Commander D. F. Sellers of the Arkansas, provost marshal; Commander John M. Luby of the South Carolina, director of the postoffice.

**Mexicans Try to Break into Cartridge Stoves.**  
Prescott, Ariz.—The guard around the armory of the machine gun platoon stationed here has been doubled as a result of an attempt by Mexicans to break into the building where 3,200 cartridges are stored.

**Offer of Mediation From Three South American Republics.**

Washington, D. C.—The United States government accepted from Argentina, Brazil and Chile a formal offer to act as intermediaries in the present situation, but reservedly pointed out that an act of aggression by the military forces or hostile demonstrations toward Americans might upset hopes of immediate peace. Coincidentally with the acceptance of the offer of mediation, administration officials announced there would be no cessation of preparations by the army and navy for future emergencies, and no orders would be issued to the naval forces now at Vera Cruz or the ships at sea changing original plans. No further steps, however, to secure reparation for the indignities which gave rise to the present situation will be attempted while the effort is being made to bring about a settlement through diplomacy.

Spanish Ambassador Riano announced that he had received private advices from Mexico City stating that General Huerta had accepted the offer of Argentina and Brazil and Chile to use their good offices to bring about an amicable settlement of the difficulty between the United States and Mexico.

This information, though unofficial, was accepted as authentic by the ambassador, who expects to be prepared to place General Huerta's formal acceptance before the representatives of the three South American countries.

The text of the offer of mediation made by the three South American countries is:

Mr. Secretary of State: With the purpose of subserving the interest of peace and civilization in our continent and with the earnest desire to prevent any further bloodshed to the prejudice of the cordiality and union which have always surrounded the relations of the governments and the people of America, we, the plenipotentiaries of Brazil, Argentina and Chile, duly authorized hereto, have the honor to tender to your excellency's government our good offices for the peaceful and friendly settlement of the conflict between the United States and Mexico.

This offer puts in due form the suggestions which we have had occasion to offer heretofore on this subject to the secretary to whom we renew the assurances of our highest and most distinguished consideration.

D. DA GAMA,  
R. S. NAON,  
EDUARDO SUAREZ MUJICA.

**Reply From President Wilson.**  
The reply of the president made through the secretary of state to the

# MAP OF MEXICO SHOWING PORTS BLOCKADED BY U. S. NAVY



diplomatic representatives, was as follows:

"The government of the United States is deeply sensible of the friendliness, the good feeling and the generous concern for the peace and welfare of America manifested in the joint note just received from your excellency tendering the good offices of your government to effect, if possible, a settlement of the present difficulty between the government of the United States and those who now claim to represent our sister republic of Mexico. Conscious of the purpose which the proffer is made this government does not feel at liberty to decline it. Its own chief interest is in the peace of America, the cordial intercourse of her republic and her people and the happiness and prosperity which can spring only out of frank, mutual understandings and the friendship which is created by common purpose. The generous offer of your governments is therefore accepted.

This government hopes most earnestly that you may find those who speak for the several elements of the Mexican people willing and ready to discuss terms of satisfactory, and

can warships at Tampico had left their positions near shore and steamed some miles out to sea. After dark bands of Mexicans began to parade the streets, shouting insults at Americans, who had withdrawn to the shelter of the principal hotels in Tampico.

**Reports of Bandits' Activity.**  
About midnight a mob estimated at 600 began throwing stones at the Southern hotel, where there were twenty or thirty American women and 300 American men. William Hanson, a former United States mar-

therefore, permanent settlement. If you find them willing this government will be glad to take up with you for discussion in the frankest and most conciliatory spirit any proposals that may be authoritatively formulated and will hope that they may prove feasible and prophetic of a new day of mutual co-operation and confidence in America.

"This government feels bound in honor to say that its diplomatic relations with Mexico, being for the present severed, it is not possible for it to make sure an uninterrupted opportunity to carry out the plan of intermediation which you propose. It is, of course, possible that some act of aggression on the part of those who control the military forces of Mexico might oblige the United States to act to the upsetting of all the hopes of immediate peace," but this does not justify us in hesitating to accept your generous suggestions. We shall hope for the best results within a brief time, enough to relieve our anxiety lest most ill-considered hostile demonstrations should interrupt negotiations and disappoint our hopes of peace."

**Holds U. S. Treacherous.**  
Vera Cruz.—The following is a verbatim translation of the Huerta note to Charge O'Shaughnessy by the Mexican minister of foreign relations on April 22:

"Mr. Charge D'Affaires: Assuredly your honor knows that the marines of the American ships of war anchored off the port of Vera Cruz, availing themselves of the circumstances that the Mexican authorities had given them access to the harbor of the town because they considered their presence was of a friendly character, disembarked with their arms and uniforms and possessed themselves by surprise of the principal buildings without giving time for the women and children in the streets, the sick and other noncombatants to place themselves in safety.

"This act was contrary to international usages. If these usages do not demand, as held by many states, a previous declaration of war, they impose at least the duty of not violating human consideration or good faith by the people whom the country which they are in had received as

that end I enclose your passport at the same time informing you that, as is the diplomatic custom on such occasions a special train, will be at your disposal with a guard sufficient to protect your honor, your family and your staff, although the Mexican people are sufficiently civilized to respect even without this protection your honor and those accompanying you.

"I take this opportunity to reiterate to your honor the assurances of my highest consideration. (Signed.) JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO Y ROJAS."

**Nebraska Troops to War.**  
Washington.—President Wilson probably will send federal troops into Colorado to aid in composing the serious situation in the coal fields. Colorado representatives in congress after a conference in the White House said they expected the troops to be ordered out.

Troops F and G, Twelfth cavalry, with a machine gun platoon, from Fort Robinson, Neb., probably will be the first federal soldiers sent to the scene.

**Mine Guards Killed.**  
Canon City, Colo.—The force of mine guards at the Chandler mine near here, after the death of at least four of their number, fled before an attacking mob of strikers, who were continuing their assault upon the mine property. The mine camp was then occupied by the strikers, and the tipple dynamited and buildings fired. Four mine guards, William King, Robert Perry, Charles Pinch and John Thomas are known to be dead and at least twelve other guards are said to be missing. Union officials claim they have captured twenty mine guards and one machine gun, but officials of the mine declare there were no more than twenty-five or thirty guards about the property.

**Military to Ludlow.**  
Trinidad, Colo.—Adjutant General John Chase, with 200 men of the Second Infantry, Colorado National Guards, and a platoon of cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Will Chase, have left military headquarters at Ludlow for the scene of the disturbance in Fremont county. The infantry division consists of Company A, C, I, E, and L.

# STATE TO FIGHT HOG CHOLERA

## FINDS BURLINGTON WATER SUPPLY IN GOOD CONDITION.

# GOSSIP FROM STATE CAPITAL

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

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

The live stock sanitary board met with about thirty members of the live stock breeders' association and agricultural editors from over the state. J. A. Ollis of Ord introduced a resolution asking the board to appoint one or more men, experienced veterinarians, to give advice and supervise the work of extinguishing hog cholera in Nebraska. The governor said that the board has always been willing to appoint one man for this work but that the understanding had been that five men were wanted for this purpose and that he believed five men too many. He will recommend that one man be appointed with the approval of the board and on recommendation of State Veterinarian Kigin and J. H. Gain, head of the veterinary department at the university farm.

# Only Two Polluted Sources of Supply.

The examination of water used on Burlington trains in Nebraska, so far as analysis has been made by Dr. Wild, director of the bacteriological laboratory of the state board of health shows only two polluted sources of supply. One is from a pond at Anselmo which has become contaminated or polluted and which will soon be replaced by bored wells, and the other is water from the Missouri river at Nebraska City which is not properly filtered. Wells will be completed at Anselmo within one month. Better filters or some other remedy will be found at Nebraska City. Samples from the following sources of supply on the Burlington road have been found pure: Alliance, Hastings, Holdrege, McCook, Omaha, O'Neill, Orleans, Red Cloud, Alma, Aurora, Broken Bow, Fairfield, Fairmont and the Burlington water works system at Lincoln. The railroad company also uses some water from the water system of the city of Lincoln. This has not yet been examined by Dr. Wild.

# To Organize Additional N. G.

Organization of another regiment of National guardsmen to fill in a Nebraska brigade and thus assure state troops, in the event of war, of being sent out solidly in some division, was the subject of a lengthy conference between the military board members and Governor Morehead. As a result, preparations went on in the matter and plans were perfected for applying to the war department for permission to make this move. It is planned to secure enough provisional companies within the next few days to give impetus to the undertaking. Companies are in process of formation at Ord, Verdigre, Ashland, Friend and O'Neill and bunches of young men in other towns are said to have made application for permission to organize.

The ballot title prepared by Attorney General Martin for the submission of the employers' liability and workmen's compensation law, an act of the legislature which is to be submitted under the referendum to a vote of the electors of the state for their approval or rejection, is as follows:

"The purpose of this act is to prescribe the liability of employers, to establish an elective schedule of compensation for injuries received by employees in the course of their employment, to modify common law and statutory defenses and remedies in such cases, to regulate the procedure for determining such liability and to provide the methods for paying compensation thereunder. When employer and employee elect to embrace its provision this act applies to every employer employing five or more persons, including the state and its governmental agencies, except employers of household servants, farm laborers and railroad companies, subject to congressional regulation."

A number of students at the state university have organized a commercial club, which will play the same part to the university students as the city commercial club plays to the city, according to plans. It will boost all movements which will advertise the university and squelch those which are injurious. Prominent visitors will be entertained by the club, and prominent business men will also be secured to give addresses on current problems for the club members. The club is open to all "patriotic" university men.

# Game Warden Plants Fish.

State Game Warden Rutenbeck has returned from a trip with the state fish car. From Fremont to Valentine bass, croppies, bull heads and a few catfish were distributed. At Valentine young trout were taken from the substitute hatchery and were placed in suitable waters as far west as Harrison, Sioux county. The car will make another trip soon to North Platte and its vicinity. Bass, croppies and bull heads and catfish will be distributed.

# BRIEF NEWS OF NEBRASKA

A boy scout club has been organized at Johnson.  
Five hundred acres of land around Shubert are being set out with apple trees.  
York has been chosen as the fall meeting place of the Nebraska City presbytery.  
John F. Griffith, for three terms postmaster at Pawnee City, has tendered his resignation.  
J. R. Mendenhall has tendered his resignation as a member of the Fairbury city council.  
A car load of hogs were cremated when a stock car caught fire from the engine near Greeley Center.  
Fred Bereman of Auburn sustained a broken leg in a runaway. His team was frightened by an automobile.  
The registration of automobiles in Nebraska in the secretary of state's office now exceeds 50,000 in number.  
The schools of Elk Creek have been closed for two weeks because of the prevalence of smallpox in the village.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Palmer, pioneers of Adams county, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary last week.  
The four-year-old son of L. D. Carter of Seneca was burned to death from a bonfire that he and a playmate had started in a barn.  
Dr. F. B. Righter, for many years a practicing physician and prominent citizen of Lincoln, died at his home in that place Saturday.  
The city council of Fremont is considering a plan for conducting a heating plant in connection with the city water and lighting plant.  
John Halverson of Culbertson was asphyxiated by gas in a rooming house at Omaha. The burner was turned on, it is thought, by accident.  
A prairie fire near Johnston damaged a considerable area and for a time threatened the town.  
The Missouri synod of the Lutheran church has purchased lots in West Beatrice where it will erect a church.  
A. Y. Caddell and C. L. Amick are planning to establish an extensive cement manufacturing plant at Weeping Water.  
Dean E. L. Rouse of Peru will deliver the commencement address to the graduating class of the Shubert high school.  
The mothers' club of Wymore has condemned the dog races there as brutal and have asked the mayor to prohibit them.  
Frank Pollard, the 6-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Pollard of Nehawka, fell from a tree and broke both bones in his left forearm.  
Five-year-old Alice Gruntorad was fatally burned when her clothing caught fire as she was playing around a bonfire at South Omaha.  
Ernest Lutz, aged 28, is believed to have sustained fatal injuries in a fall from a windmill near Trumbull. Lutz's skull was badly fractured.  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Jiskra were seriously injured in a runaway accident near Swanton. Mrs. Jiskra remaining unconscious for several hours.  
Forest Boyer of North Bend was killed when he fell beneath the discs of a pulverizer which he was operating on his farm near that place.  
Physical Director Prindle of the Y. M. C. A. at Beatrice is making plans for a one hundred mile hike for the boys of the association and the Beatrice high school. The boys will start on the trip at the close of school.  
The explosion of a gasoline can that was being dragged across a cement floor burned Z. E. Hurbit seriously about the face and hands and started a fire that completely destroyed his livery barn and garage at Greenwood.  
Rev. J. Pieper, formerly of Snyder, has been appointed pastor of the new Catholic church at Beemer.  
The finding of a lot of burnt matches, cigarette butts, disarranged and displaced furniture, and a number of empty pocketbooks in the Congregational church at Grand Island has aroused a suspicion that members of a gang who have been working in that vicinity had made the building a place of rendezvous.  
Members of the Beatrice ball club who have reported are now practicing at the chautauqua park, which will be used until the new athletic park is ready.  
The decapitated body of a man, later identified as Joe F. Maca, of Crete, was found on the tracks in the Burlington yards at Lincoln, Sunday night.  
Women of Beatrice are enthusiastic over the plan proposed that various women's organizations of the state raise the money for furnishing the Nebraska building at the Panama exposition at San Francisco.  
Nute Giffen was killed by the accidental discharge of a shotgun at his home near Superior.  
Charles D. St. John had the two middle fingers of his right hand so badly lacerated while working with a portable saw at Nehawka that they will probably have to be amputated.  
On petition of the village board of Cortland, Judge Pemberton of Beatrice has issued a restraining order against the Farmers Elevator & Coal company, the effect of which will be to stop the building of coal sheds on what the village officers claim is a part of Third street.  
One hundred and fifty relatives and friends helped Mr. and Mrs. John Hutchins of Weeping Water celebrate their golden wedding anniversary last week.  
The Columbus branch of the mail carriers' association has elected L. A. Roney delegate and W. M. Thomas alternate to attend the meeting of the state association at Lincoln.  
Mayor Fred H. Davis of Madison has handed in his resignation in order that he might assume the duties as postmaster unhampered. Mr. Davis has served as mayor for three years and as councilman six years.