

VERA CRUZ CAPTURED

Four Americans Killed, 21 Wounded, During Fighting in Streets.

MEXICANS MAKE STUBBORN FIGHT

Enemy's Loss Believed Fully 200—Main Force Retreats Westward—Three-Inch Guns Bring Down Sharpshooters' Stronghold—Fighting Continues.

Vera Cruz, Mex., April 21.—Vera Cruz tonight is in the hands of forces from the United States warships, but the occupation of the port was not accomplished without the loss of American lives.

Four Americans, bluejackets and marines, were killed by the fire of the Mexican soldiers and 20 fell wounded. The Mexican loss is not known, but it is believed to have been close to 200 dead and many wounded. The waterfront, the custom house and all important piers, including those under the terminal works from which extend the railroads to the capital, have been occupied. All the territory around the American consulate is strongly patrolled and detachments hold other sections of the city.

The Mexican commander, General Gustavo Maas, offered a stubborn resistance and for many hours there was fighting in the streets. Toward nightfall it was reported that the main body of the federal garrison was in retreat westward.

Rear Admiral Fletcher, in command of the United States warships, pre-empted his occupation of the port by a demand through the American consul, W. W. Canada, for its surrender. General Maas promptly declined to accede to this demand, and shortly afterward ten whaleboats were sent off from the side of the transport *Prairie* loaded with marines. These boats effected a landing in the neighborhood of the custom house before noon, and a few minutes later Captain William R. Rush, of the battleship *Florida*, who was in command of the operations ashore, brought his flag in.

Captain Ruhl's men had already taken up their positions. They numbered 150 bluejackets from the *Florida*, 90 marines from the *Prairie* and 65 marines from the *Florida*. Later these were augmented by a detachment from the *Utah*.

The coming of the American forces was not heralded by any great excitement, but small crowds gathered to watch the landing. Soon the bluejackets and marines marched through the streets leading from the waterfront and along the railroad yards. Others proceeded to the American consulate, while still others were deployed along the approaches to Central Plaza, in which General Maas had concentrated his men.

These maneuvers were effected without opposition, but suddenly General Maas challenged the advance with the first shots—a volley fired from a point three blocks from the marines and two blocks south of the main plaza. The marines replied immediately, but the action ceased in a moment. There was a lull for 10 minutes and then another brief exchange from the west end of Montesinos street, where a federal outpost was stationed.

At 12:30 the firing became general, and at 1 o'clock the guns of the transport *Prairie* went into action. Prior to this a detachment of bluejackets from the *Utah*, holding the ground between the consulate and the waterfront, opened fire with two of their three-inch guns. The first shots from these pieces were directed against an ancient tower which once served as a light house. This was occupied by Mexican sharpshooters.

Lieutenant Commander Buchanan, of the *Florida*, ordered that it be destroyed. Five shots brought the old Benito Juarez tower down.

The women of the American colony in Vera Cruz had already been placed aboard the chartered steamers *Esperanza* and *Mexico*, but the foreign colony, especially the American section, was greatly augmented this morning when three trainloads arrived from the capital. Some of these remained ashore, but many were taken aboard the steamers. So far as can be learned none of the refugees was injured.

Rebels Not To Join Huerta.

Agua Prieta — "No matter what comes of the Tampico incidents, the constitutionalists cannot afford to join Huerta," declared Francisco Elias, president of the Sonora and land tax committee and spokesman for constitutionalists along the border in this vicinity. "In my opinion Huerta is taking this stand he has announced in the belief that the people will flock to his standard when he proclaims himself a patriotic martyr standing alone against the allied United States and constitutionalist forces," he said.

Washington, April 21.—Rear Admiral Fletcher reported to the Navy department from Vera Cruz under date of 10 p. m. that firing still was in progress. There was no mention of further casualties.

GERMAN LINER MAKES NO ATTEMPT TO LAND ARMS

Vera Cruz, April 21.—The Hamburg-American steamer *Ypiranga* arrived in port today and signalled the flagship, voluntarily placing herself under Rear Admiral Fletcher's orders. The *Ypiranga* will stand by and the captain has given his word that he will not go out beyond hailing distance tomorrow.

"Not Looking for Trouble, But Ready," Says Chief

Portland, Or., April 19.—"We're not looking for trouble, but we're ready for anything," said Franklin D. Roosevelt, assistant secretary of the navy, chatting democratically on Mexican war conditions, naval preparedness and numerous other things at the Union Depot.

The secretary, on his way from San Francisco to Seattle and the Bremerton navy yard, obligingly hopped off the *Shasta* Limited when a newspaper camera man asked him to pose for a picture. He strolled bareheaded up and down the station platform during the *Shasta's* half-hour wait here.

"The navy is prepared," said Mr. Roosevelt, who has been detailed by his superior, Secretary Daniels, to take personal charge of the naval situation on the Pacific Coast. "In 15 to 20 days all the vessels of the reserve fleet now at Bremerton, including the armored cruisers *South Dakota* and *West Virginia*, could be made ready for sea service, if need be, to supplement the vessels already in commission.

"These two vessels carry 800 men each. About the only difficulty in the way of putting them into commission at once is lack of men. Because they are on reserve, they are manned only by skeleton crews of about 200 men each."

Cadets Ready for War.

University of Washington, Seattle, April 22.—The University of Washington could, in event of war, furnish 600 cable-bodied men at once from the cadet corps to serve as volunteers. By the time they could be fully equipped, either by the state or the United States, as volunteers, the number would be increased by students not now enlisted in the university military department. The National Guard of Washington maintains one company of university men on the campus, and these are now ready to take up arms.

Idaho Militia Ready.

Lewiston, Idaho, April 22.—Captain Jones, of Company F, of the Idaho State Militia, when informed that Governor Haines had telegraphed President Wilson that Idaho desired to be the first state to offer the services of her National Guard, said: "Company F is in first-class condition and is ready to go to the front on 24 hours' notice. We are recruited to maximum strength and our waiting list is growing rapidly."

Idaho Militia Offered.

Boise, Idaho, April 19.—When dispatches were shown him today which indicated that war with Mexico was imminent, Governor Haines telegraphed President Wilson that Idaho desired to be the first state to offer the services of her National Guard.

173 Given Up As Lost.

St. Johns, N. F.—After two weeks' search for the missing sealer *Southern Cross*, the steamer *Kyle* has returned to port. The *Southern Cross*, with her crew of 173 men has been finally given up as lost.

Two Airships Hurried.

Washington, D. C., April 19.—Orders were sent late tonight by Secretary Daniels for the sending of two hydroplanes with the torpedo-boat flotilla from Pensacola, Fla.

Fruit Outlook Bright In Hood River District

Hood River—With the lower valley apple district bursting into bloom two weeks ahead of last year, experts are busy forming estimates of the crop of this fall. While the estimates are indefinite, all agree that the tonnage will be far in excess of the approximate 800,000 boxes of the past year. The crop of the year will be between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000 boxes.

"All indications are good," says H. F. Davidson, president of the North Pacific Fruit Distributors, who has left for Spokane with Wilmer Sieg, distributor sales manager, to lay plans for the marketing of fruit crops of the year. "From the orchards that I have

seen we are going to have a reverse of conditions of last year, when the Newtown and Pippins were light bearers. The Newtowns will be heavy this year, while the Spitznagels will produce less heavily. The heavy rains of recent date will cut down the pears and cherries."

The rains have been succeeded by brilliant sunshine with a light breeze, which is excellent weather for pollination.

The strawberry crop will move early this year. Mr. Davidson says that the distributors expect to ship Kennebec strawberries by May 1, while local fruit will be moving by the middle of the month.

Railroad Work Rushed On New Coos Bay Line

Marshfield — Work on the Coos Bay end of the Willamette-Pacific is progressing rapidly. There are six camps between Sand Point, the approach to the bridge to be built across the bay, and Black Creek, the southern portal of the 4300-foot tunnel through Wind Creek mountain.

Hauser & Hauser, contractors, who sublet the 17 miles between the points named, have 600 men employed on the job.

The sand fill and grade are completed for a distance of 3 1/2 miles from Coos Bay. This fill borders the sand hill country and is a water level grade all the distance, and will continue so for several miles northward.

The activity has caused a big increase in traffic between the bay and the inlet to the Ten-Mile section.

Pacific Highway Camp On Summit of Siskiyou

Ashland—A main camp at Steinman, with branches at Siskiyou and Coles, is headquarters for work on the Pacific Highway in this vicinity. The summit at Siskiyou will be the highest elevation on the line. More than 100 men are now on the job and this number is being daily increased.

J. W. Sweeney, the Portland contractor, is present in person superintending operations. He also is reported as a bidder on the first unit of the highway traversing California territory, that section extending from the Oregon border to Hornbrook. The station at Steinman being virtually on the line of the highway makes it very convenient for persons visiting the scene of operations as well as handy for the shipping of supplies and machinery.

States Cannot Regulate Correspondence Schools

Salem—Attorney General Crawford, in an opinion held that the state law providing that correspondence schools must maintain resident schools, was unconstitutional. Mr. Crawford said that the United States Supreme court and several state supreme courts had held that, inasmuch as correspondence schools were engaged in interstate business, they came within the purview of the interstate commerce laws.

While he thought the state law a good one, in that it was intended to protect the residents of the state from dishonest correspondence schools, he said it was plain that the state could not pass laws regulating them.

Old Pioneer Sandstone Quarries to Be Reopened

Newport—After a lapse of 16 years, the sandstone quarries of Pioneer, Lincoln county, which furnished stone for the call building and postoffice at San Francisco, besides numerous other buildings, will resume operations.

The McCann Cut Stone company, of Portland, has bought 20 acres near Pioneer from James Bell, of that place, and will begin operations at once. Lincoln county has given the Portland firm a place to erect buildings and to load its product on trains on condition that the firm expend \$5000 within 18 months. F. J. McCann said that \$25,000 would be invested.

War On Fly Declared.

Monmouth — As the result of the work of the Women's Civic Improvement club, in conjunction with the city council, the appearance of Monmouth has been notably improved. "Clean-up Day" was observed recently, when streets, yards, alleys and vacant lots were gone over and thoroughly cleaned.

The civic club also has taken an active part in the war on the housefly, and is one of the six cities of the valley joining in the movement. A study of the city charter now takes up the meetings each Friday afternoon.

Land Decision Awaited.

Foster — The 70 homesteaders in township 12 south, range 4 east, 25 miles above here, are awaiting the action of the General Land commission at Washington regarding their right to file on their homesteads. On December 22 last the "12-4" settlers made "application for filings" on their claims, and on January 9 they were notified by the Portland land office that their efforts to file had been rejected by those officers. The entrymen were then allowed 30 days in which to appeal to the General Land commission.

Cannery Work to Begin.

Cottage Grove—With all but \$100 of the necessary stock subscribed, the promoters of the proposed cannery, at meeting, voted to commence work at once and have the institution ready to handle this year's crop.

New Lead Pipe Industry Established in Portland

Portland—Another new industry for the Pacific Northwest formally opened its doors to the public Friday afternoon when representatives of the commercial and business organizations witnessed what is said to be the first pouring of lead pipe in this city. Heretofore lead pipes have been shipped here from San Francisco, Denver and the East.

The Northwestern Lead & Machinery Company located at 311-13 Front street, acted as hosts. Employees have been at work for several weeks installing the heavy presses required in the making of lead pipes.

John T. Lund, secretary-treasurer of the new company, was located for 15 years in Denver, where he manufactured lead pipes. A few months ago he visited the Coast, looking for a location, and after an investigation of the various cities he decided to build the plant in Portland.

285 BOYS ENROLLED IN PIG-RAISING CONTESTS

In a letter to O. M. Plummer, secretary-treasurer of the Portland Union Stockyards company and member of the Portland school board, State Superintendent of Schools Churchill says: "Up to the present time 285 boys of Oregon schools have enrolled for the pig-feeding contest, and this means they have already begun to feed the pigs."

Similar work is being carried on in Washington, Idaho and Montana as a practical means of promoting the agricultural and industrial education among school children.

Finds New Gold Mine in Josephine County Hills

Portland—County Treasurer Lewis has received news from his son, Wade V. Lewis, that he, with his partner, V. C. McKinney, have found gold in paying quantities on their quartz claim, a mile and a half from Holland, Josephine county. Treasurer Lewis said that his son, after prospecting through the hills of the Southern Oregon county, had located on a claim only a short distance from where he had prospected more than 25 years ago.

The prospectors have just recently completed tunnel work on the Lone Laurel claim. After running 66 feet one of the ledges was struck at a 40-foot depth, the vein proving to be wider and the ore better than that on the surface. Mining men who have been in to see the property declare the prospects to be favorable for a successful quartz mine.

There are five different quartz veins on the ground, varying in width from 18 inches to two feet, the ore averaging about \$20 a ton in free gold.

Students Visit Mills.

Oregon City—A number of the upper classmen of the school of commerce of the Oregon Agricultural college, with John A. Bexell, dean of the school, and several members of the faculty were in Oregon City recently and were taken through the paper and woolen mills. The trip is an annual affair for the students. Last year they made a trip to Portland, and this year to Salem and Oregon City. The trip was made as guests of the Oregon City Commercial club, O. E. Freytag, of the publicity department, escorting.

New Plant to Employ 200.

Portland—The Western Cooperaige company is contemplating the construction of a new plant just south of the public drydock at St. Johns, but no definite plans as yet have been outlined for the work. The company has applied to the Port of Portland commission for the use of a dredge to make a fill of from 200,000 to 260,000 yards on its property. Nearly 200 men will be employed at the ultimate plan.

Union Plans Three Days' Fair.

La Grande — At a meeting of the Union County Fair board it was decided to hold a three-day fair this year, the date set for September 22 to 24, inclusive. J. A. Russell was re-elected president; Albert Hunter, of Island City, temporary secretary. Those, with N. K. West, J. A. Woodell, W. R. Ledbetter, Claude Mackey and J. W. Bush, were elected directors.

Crops Look Good.

Lebanon—The farmers are working overtime on account of favorable weather and all sown grain is looking fine, and the fruit crop promises to be the best in many years. Peaches are a full month in advance, and prunes are past the period when frost can damage them.

President Asks Approval of "Measures Short of War"

Washington, D. C., April 20.—The Mexican crisis today awaited President Wilson's presentation of the situation to congress.

House and senate leaders were early at the White House to learn the details of the President's plans so they might prepare the necessary resolutions putting congress squarely behind the President and giving him full authority to act. While the President's plans were not officially disclosed, it was conceded in official circles that he would ask congress to authorize what are known in international law as "measures short of war," which, while not being a declaration of war on the part of the United States, might be so construed by Huerta.

According to best-informed officials these would consist of the following:

- 1—Seizure of the ports of Tampico and Vera Cruz.
- 2—Seizure of the Mexican gunboats in those waters.
- 3—Seizure of the railroad from Vera Cruz to the Mexican capital to a point including a trestle 20 miles west of Vera Cruz, to prevent the route to the Mexican capital being blocked.
- 4—Probably a request for a special appropriation to carry out these measures. The latter point, however, was not definite.

Rear Admiral Badger's ships will be at Tampico, early Wednesday, according to latest calculations.

Secretary Bryan left his early conference with the President, saying the situation was unchanged, that no new dispatches had been received and that nothing but a complete breakdown by Huerta could stop the Washington government's plan of action.

The attitude of Carranza and Villa, the secretary said, he considered very favorable, and did not expect any complicating developments from that phase of the situation.

The general comment among congressmen was in hearty support of the President and the possibilities of action. Some, however, dissented from the President's plan. Republican Leader Mann, of the house, has issued a statement saying he is not in sympathy with the movement, and Senator Brister commented adversely on the administration's attitude.

According to official advices, Americans in Mexico are already beginning to leave. Officials understood that hundreds of Americans left Mexico City yesterday for Vera Cruz.

The State Department, through O'Shaughnessy and by direct messages from Bryan to American consuls throughout Mexico, has warned all Americans to leave.

Such protection as the United States has undertaken to extend to foreigners will not be afforded.

APRIL IS WAR MONTH IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

April has been a war month through the history of the United States. Four of this nation's great wars, and four smaller ones, have begun in April.

The revolt of the colonies began on April 19, 1775. The war with Mexico started on April 24, 1845. Hostilities in the Civil war broke out on April 12, 1861, with the firing on Fort Sumpter. The Spanish-American war began on April 21, 1898.

Of the lesser wars, the Black Hawk Indian war, the Apache, Navajo and Utah war, and the Seminole Indian war all started in April. The Philippine insurrection came to a head in April, 1899.

Germans Are Ready to Uphold Wilson's Stand

New York, April 20.—The Mexican situation was referred to at the dinner last night of the Associated German Military societies, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the battle of Dueppel, securing Schleswig-Holstein to Germany.

"The measures so far taken by the President," said Adolph G. Koellbe, president of the societies, "are most certainly approved by the German societies, and should war come, I am sure that we shall prove ourselves worthy as those who, this day 50 years ago, fought and fell for the honor of the Fatherland."

Aeroplanes Collide, Two Die.

Ruc, France—Aviator Francois De Roy and Marcel Dablin, who was making a flight with him, were burned to death as a result of a collision in the air. Thousands of spectators witnessed the accident. DeRoy's machine and another piloted by Aviator Bedault, with a passenger, M. Palladeau, collided in mid-air. Evidently the gasoline tanks exploded, for both machines burst into flames and plunged to the earth. De Roy and Dablin were pinned down and the intense heat prevented rescuers from approaching.

Rebels Plan to Take Tampico.

Juarez, April 20.—Orders for an immediate renewal of the rebel attack on Tampico with the purpose of capturing the town at the earliest possible moment were issued last night. The desirability of speed said to have been emphasized in the order has given rise to rumors that when the American warships start to enforce President Wilson's orders at Tampico they will find not federalists but friendly rebels in possession.

Torpedo Boat Destroyers Sail.

Pensacola, Fla., April 20.—Orders were received early today directing the flotilla of 20 torpedo boat destroyers here to put to sea immediately, meeting Rear Admiral Badger's fleet in the Gulf and accompanying it to Tampico.

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

Huerta says he will show the world that his rule is "moral and civilized."

Wall Street is not alarmed at the Mexican war scare, but stocks took a decided slump.

Mare Island navy yard tests out shells for field guns and assembles 200 tons of provisions.

Germany is hopeful that no serious trouble will occur between the United States and Mexico.

Troops at the Presidio in San Francisco notify the War department they are ready to take the field in five minutes.

The London Standard believes much good to foreign commercial interests will result from the present crisis in Mexico.

Firms building aeroplanes and hydroplanes for the United States government have been ordered to rush work with all possible haste.

Mildly Anti-American circulars appeared on the streets of Mexico City, but the people seem to have no animosity towards the United States.

The Portland recruiting office is open both day and evening, and thirty men were accepted in two hours Monday evening, while only five were rejected.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers has offered their services to Wilson to man all troop and supply trains necessary in case of invasion of Mexico.

Governor Colquitt, of Texas, wired the War department that four cities on the Mexican border will be in urgent need of protection in case of hostilities with Mexico.

The full text of President Wilson's message to congress on the Mexican question was transmitted to General Carranza, commander-in-chief of the rebel forces.

The board of supervisors of Imperial Valley, Cal., have asked the military authorities for soldiers to protect forty miles of irrigating canals from possible damage by Mexicans.

Secretary Daniels lauds Admiral Badger for his action in the Tampico episode.

Vincent Astor, who has been seriously ill with pneumonia, is reported improving.

Ex-President Taft and Joseph M. Choate are reported to be opposed to tolls exemption.

South Americans arranged with guides of the Roosevelt expedition to have them "discover" an unknown river in the Brazilian forests, which is to be named the "Teodora."

It is reported that Charles S. Melien, ex-president of the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad, may be chosen leader of a railway employees' union numbering 2,000,900 men.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 92c per bushel; bluestem, 98c; fortyfold, 92 1/2c; red Russian, 90 1/2c; valley, 92c.

Barley—Feed, \$21.50@22 per ton; brewing, \$23; rolled, \$24.50@25.50.

Oats—No 1 white, milling, \$23 per ton.

Hay—No 1 Eastern Oregon timothy, \$16@17.50 per ton; mixed timothy, \$14@15; valley grain hay, \$12.50@14; alfalfa, \$12@13.

Corn—Whole, \$34 per ton; cracked, \$35.

Milled—Bran, \$23.50 per ton; shorts, \$26; middings, \$31.

Vegetables—Cauliflower, 75c@1.25 per dozen; cucumbers, \$1.75@2; eggplant, 25c per pound; peppers, 35c; radishes, 17 1/2c per dozen; head lettuce, \$2 per crate; garlic, 12 1/2c per pound; sprouts, 10@11c; artichokes, 55@65c per dozen; celery, \$3.75@4.50 per crate; tomatoes, \$4@4.50; hot-house lettuce, 75c@81 per box; spinach, 5c per pound; horseradish, 8@10c; rhubarb, 2@2 1/2c; cabbage, 2c; asparagus, \$1@1.25 per dozen; peas, 6 1/2@7c per pound.

Onions—Oregon, per sack, \$4.50.

Potatoes—Oregon, 65@75c per cwt; buying prices, 40@55c at shipping points.

Eggs—Fresh Oregon ranch, 19@19 1/2c per dozen.

Poultry—Hens, 19c per pound; broilers, 30@32c; turkeys, live, 18@20c; dressed, choice, 25@26c; ducks, 17@18c; geese, 10@12c.

Butter—Creamery prints, extra, 25c per pound; cubes, 22c.

Pork—Fancy, 10 1/2@11c per pound.

Veal—Fancy, 13@13 1/2c per pound.

Hops—1912 crop, prime and choice, 15@17c; 1914 contracts, nominal.

Wool—Valley, 17@18c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 12@13c; mohair, 1914 clip, 27c.

Casaca bark—Old and new, 5c per pound.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.50@8.25; choice, \$7.30@7.50; medium, \$7@7.25; choice cows, \$6.25@7; medium, \$6@6.25; heifers, \$6@7.25; light calves, \$8@9; heavy, \$6@7.50; bulls, \$6@6.25; stags, \$6@7.50.

Hogs—Light, \$8@8.70; heavy, \$7@7.70.

Sheep—Lambs, wool, \$6.75@7.10; sheared, \$6@6.25; wethers, wool, \$5.75@6; sheared, \$5.35@5.65; ewes, wool, \$4.75@5; sheared, \$4.25@4.50.