

# HELP OF CONGRESS ASKED BY WILSON

## Sanction of Proposed Course, Not "Needed," Is Wanted by President.

### INCIDENT NOT "TRIVIAL"

#### Chief Executive of Nation in Address Cites Series of Affronts by Huerta and Says War Is Not Intent of Plan Afoot.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—President Wilson laid the Mexican situation before Congress in these words:

"It is my duty to call your attention to a situation which has arisen in our dealings with General Victoriano Huerta at Mexico City, which calls for action, and to ask your advice and cooperation in acting on it. On the 4th of April a paymaster of the U. S. S. Dolphin landed at Iurubide bridge landing at Tampico with a wholeboat and crew to take off certain supplies needed by his ship, and while engaged in loading the boat was arrested by an officer and squad of men of the army of General Huerta. Neither the paymaster nor any one of the boat's crew was armed. Two of the men were in the boat when the arrest took place, and were taken into custody, notwithstanding the fact that the boat carried both at her bow and at her stern the flag of the United States. The officer who made the arrest was proceeding up one of the streets of the town with his prisoners, when met by an officer of higher authority, who ordered him to return to the landing and await orders, and within an hour and a half from the time of the arrest orders were received from the commanding officer of the Huertista forces at Tampico for the release of the paymaster and his men.

**Americans Not Advised.**  
"The release was followed by apologies from the commander and later by an expression of regret by General Huerta himself. General Huerta urged that martial law be obtained at the time at Tampico, that orders had been issued that no one should be allowed to land at the Iurubide bridge and that our sailors had no right to land there. Our Naval commanders at the port had not been notified of any such prohibition, and, even if they had been, the only justifiable course open to the authorities would have been to request the paymaster and his crew to withdraw and to lodge a protest with the commanding officer of the fleet.

**KITS ARE LOOKED OVER**  
"Admiral Mayo regarded the arrest as so serious an affront that he was not satisfied with the apologies offered, but demanded that the flag of the United States be saluted with special ceremony by the military commander of the port.

**Other Events Affronts, Also.**  
"A series of incidents has recently occurred which cannot be created the impression that the representatives of General Huerta were willing to go out of their way to show disregard for the dignity and rights of this Government and felt perfectly safe in doing so when they pleased, making it seem to show in many ways their irritation and contempt. A few days after the incident at Tampico an order was issued that the States steamship Minnesota was arrested at Vera Cruz, while ashore in uniform to obtain the ship's mail and was for a time thrown into jail. An official dispatch from this Government to its Embassy at Mexico City was withheld by the authorities of the telegraph service until peremptorily demanded by our Charge d'Affaires in person. So far as I can learn, such wrongs and annoyances have been suffered only to occur against representatives of the United States. I have heard of no complaints from other governments or treatment. Subsequent explanations and formal apologies did not and could not alter the popular impression, which it is possible it has been the object of the Huertista authorities to create, that the Government of the United States was being singled out and might be singled out by impunity for insults and affronts in retaliation for its refusal to recognize the pretenses of General Huerta as legitimate, and the constitutional provisional President of Mexico.

"The manifest danger of such a situation was obvious, and it is to be feared that had it not been for the further growth from bad to worse until something happened of so gross and intolerable a sort as to lead directly and inevitably to armed conflict, it was necessary that the apologies of General Huerta and his representatives should go much further, that they should be such as to attract the attention of the whole population to their significance and such as to impress on General Huerta himself the necessity of seeing to it that further occasion for explanations and professed regrets should arise. I, therefore, felt it my duty to sustain Admiral Mayo in his attitude of demand and to insist that the flag of the United States should be saluted in such a way as to indicate a new spirit and attitude on the part of the Huertistas.

"Such a salute General Huerta has refused, and I have come to ask your approval and support in the course I now propose to pursue.

**To Avert War Is Hope.**  
"This Government can, I earnestly hope, in no circumstances, be forced into war with the people of Mexico. Mexico is torn by civil strife. If we are to accept the tests of its own constitution, it has no Government. General Huerta has set his power up in the City of Mexico, and he has set it out right and by methods for which there can be no justification. Only part of the country is under his control. If armed conflict should unhappily come as a result of his attitude of personal resentment towards this Government, we should be fighting only General Huerta and those who adhere to him and give him their support, and our object would be only to restore to the people of the distracted republic the opportunity to set up again their own laws and their own government.

"But I earnestly hope that war is not now in prospect. I believe that I speak for the American people when I say that we do not desire to control in any degree the affairs of our sister republic. Our feeling for the people of Mexico is one of deep and genuine friendship, and everything that we have so far done is refrained from has proceeded from a desire to help them, not to hinder or embarrass them. We would not wish even to exercise the good offices of friendship without their welcome and consent. The people of Mexico are entitled to settle

their own domestic affairs in their own way and we sincerely desire to respect their right.

"No doubt I could do what is necessary in the circumstances to enforce respect for our Government without recourse to the Congress, and yet not exceed my constitutional powers as President; but I do not wish to act in a matter possibly of so grave consequence except in close conference and co-operation with both the Senate and House. I, therefore, come to ask your approval that I should use the armed forces of the United States in such ways and to such an extent as may be necessary to obtain from General Huerta and his adherents the fullest recognition of the rights and dignity of the United States, even amidst the distressing conditions now unhappily obtaining in Mexico.

"There can, in what we do, be no tinge of aggression or of selfish aggrandizement. We seek to maintain the dignity and authority of the United States only because we wish always to keep our great influence unimpaired and to preserve to the people of the United States and wherever it may be employed for the benefit of mankind."

### WAR NOT NEAR-WILSON

#### PRESIDENT TELLS REPORTERS THAT IS NOT INTENT.

#### Demand for Justice and Dignity Not Eventuate Into Conflict Is Executive's Word to Papers.

WASHINGTON, April 20.—President Wilson today told the newspaper correspondents that there would be no war with Mexico.

The President said: "I want to say to you gentlemen, do not get the impression that there is about to be war between the United States and Mexico. That is not the outlook at present, at all. In the first place, in no conceivable circumstances will we fight the people of Mexico. We are their friends and we want to help in every way that we can to recover their rights and their government and their laws, and for the present I am going to Congress to present a special situation and seek their approval to meet that special situation.

"It is an issue between this Government and a person calling himself the Provisional President of Mexico, whose right to call himself such we have never recognized in any way. So that I had a feeling of uneasiness as I read the papers this morning, as if the country were getting on fire with war enthusiasm. I have an enthusiasm for justice and for the dignity of the United States, but not for war. If we handle it with firmness and promptness."

The President emphasized that he had not lost his patience with Mexico, for to lose patience seemed to him an act of weakness on the part of a person strong enough to be as he ought; but that he felt such incidents as recent ones might go from bad to worse and eventually bring about a state of conflict.

### GARRISON AT PORT STEVENS CAN LEAVE ON HOUR'S NOTICE.

#### Seers of Telegrams Received From Discharged Soldiers Asking to Be Restored to Commissions.

PORT STEVENS, Or., April 20.—(Special.)—Since 11 o'clock this morning Port Stevens has been the scene of active preparations for a possible order to leave at once for the Mexican front. The inspection of the troops of the 10th Cavalry, which includes the helicopter and wireless apparatus, and the regular drills are, including field exercises, trenching and instructions in first aid to the wounded.

Over 2,000,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, a score of field pieces and about 10 machine guns will be part of the war material available for instant use.

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# MILITIA OFFICERS CONTINUE ROUTINE

## War Excitement Is All on Outside and Recruiting Shows Increasing Activity.

### GUARD READY, SAYS MAJOR

#### Atmosphere in Adjutant-General Finzer's Office One of "Watchful Waiting" and General Goes to Seek Encampment Site.

The war dogs in the office of Adjutant-General Finzer, commander of the Oregon National Guard, did not strain at their leashes in the least yesterday. Routine buzzed serenely about the rooms as though there were nothing to the hundreds of screaming new-boys that were momentarily invading Mexico and beginning the bombardment of Tampico in the street below.

The atmosphere of the place was decidedly one of watchful waiting.

"The busiest thing about this office is the telephone," remarked Major K. K. K. "If people would quit calling us every minute to ask when the Oregon National Guard is to march on Mexico, we could get a whole lot more work done."

"There is not an order from Washington. The principal news of the war that we are getting is from the newspapers, and there is no need for the Oregon National Guard to resort to any feverish activity right now."

**Whole Guard Ready.**  
"We are ready for anything that may come up. The whole guard is ready and has been ready for months. So in this office we have simply nothing to do but go along with our routine work and when any order comes from Washington, we will simply carry it out."

In the meantime, Adjutant-General Finzer was so little worried by the situation that he was not in the office. He had gone away early in the morning to Gearhart, to select a site for the July encampment. With him went Adjutant-General Patch, of the Idaho National Guard, who contemplates joining the Oregon Guard in the Summer camp; Colonel Martin, Major Clayton, from the Vancouver Barracks, and Captain McLaughlin, of the United States Army, instructor of the Oregon Guard.

Confident that the guard can be mobilized within a few hours and in readiness for anything that may come up, the officers are expressing no excitement.

**Recruiting Is Active.**  
The excitement is mostly on the outside, and it appears that there is likely to be a rush from the outside to get inside and be ready for the war if it comes. Chief Surgeon L. J. Wolf, of the Oregon Naval Militia, received nearly a score of applications from men who wish to enlist in the naval reserve for service in the United States goes to war with Mexico.

Recruiting in the National Guard shows increasing activity as well. The recruiting office in the Army was open from 8:30 to 10:30 o'clock last night and all officers of the medical corps were on duty to examine the applicants.

Company F, United States Engineer Corps, consisting of 108 men, passed through Portland en route from Vancouver for Gilroy, Cal. Captain R. C. Moore was in command. Orders to go to Gilroy were received, according to Captain Moore, two weeks ago, and the troops happened to start today. The company belongs to a battalion that is scattered along the border between the United States and Mexico and which is being mobilized.

### OREGON ORDER IS EXPECTED

#### Coast Artillery Corps Instructor Thinks Troops Will Be Called.

EUGENE, Or., April 20.—(Special.)—Captain E. W. Collins, United States Army officer detailed to instruct the Oregon Coast Artillery Corps, declares that if the American fleet attempts to seize Tampico or Vera Cruz, the eight companies of Coast Artillery in Oregon undoubtedly will be sent to Mexico. He expects a call at any moment and says that his companies can be mobilized in Clackamas in 40 hours.

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**25% Reduction**  
on all  
**Picture Framing**

**Sipman Wolfe & Co.**  
"Merchandise of Merit Only"

**An Exceptional Trimmed Hat Sale \$2.95**  
100 Flower, Wing and Ribbon Trimmed Models  
Regular \$5.00 to \$7.50

—Of course we have seen costlier hats, but at this particular price the collection is so exceptional that we take pleasure in presenting them to our patrons.  
—There are just 100 hats, **NOT ONE OF THEM SHOWN BEFORE THIS SEASON**, spick, span, new; in widely varied styles in most becoming shapes.  
—Flat hats with ribbons and posies nestling under the brim.  
—New sailors trimmed with jaunty wings and with wreaths, and with ribbon.  
—Hats for very youthful faces in many distinctive models.  
—Hats for matrons and older women.  
—In black and in colors.  
—The Watteau and the Bandeau shapes, trimmed in styles that reflect the latest millinery modes.

Second Floor

**The New Balmaccan Coats Are Here**  
That So Many of Our Patrons Are Awaiting  
**A Regular \$22.50 Model, Special \$16.50**

—This purchase of fine overcoats comes just at the right time for Spring and Summer wear.  
—They are made of English tweeds in the loose swinging English Balmaccan style. Can be had in gray or brown mixtures.  
—They are smartly cut, with raglan sleeves, 48 inches long and deep side pockets.  
—These are the coats that will be worn so extensively this season for general use, for the mountains, steamer wear and for automobiling.

—Many of our patrons have been requesting a coat of this style at a popular price, and we were fortunate in securing this special assortment to retail at \$16.50, and if bought and sold in the regular way would cost \$22.50.

Third Floor

## ECONOMY BASEMENT STORE

Selling Merchandise Only When Sold for LESS Than Staple Prices  
It Carries No Regular Stocks

The Only Essentials—Dependability in Quality and Special in Price

**Imported Swiss Collars OF LACE AND BATISTE**  
Selling Regularly from 65c, 75c to \$1  
Economy Price 39c

—These collars are most remarkable for the price; they are fashioned for coats, dresses and waists. In new and becoming shapes of fine French batiste and St. Gaul Venise lace, in various designs.

**Dainty Millinery Wreaths**  
Selling Regularly to \$1.25  
Economy Price 69c

—Millinery wreaths are now in greatest demand for trimming early Summer hats. In this assortment you will find the most desirable blossoms and buds in a great variety of colorings. These are shown for the first time Tuesday in our economy basement store.

**Princess Slips, Combinations, Skirts, Chemise and Corset Covers**  
Selling Regularly to \$1.50  
Economy Price 69c

—Extra fine quality stamped underwear, ready for working, in an assortment of designs. These garments are very attractively trimmed with Valenciennes lace, and are an exceptional bargain at this price. All sizes.

**25c and 35c Women's Hosiery 18c**

—Of fine cotton in medium weight—soft, fine and durable, with garter top; fast black, white or tan.

**25c Children's Stockings 18c**

—Silk plated stockings, fine ribbed, in pure white, pink, sky, cardinal or pretty tan. Sizes 4 to 6.

**18c Women's Vests**  
Special 12 1-2c

—Vests of white cotton, swiss ribbed, low neck, short or no sleeves, full and long, nicely trimmed and finished.

**\$1.00 Novelty Vanity Cases OF GERMAN SILVER**  
Economy Price 48c

—These vanity cases are made of German silver in stripe, silver and Tula or Spanish finish. They are fitted with mirror, two coin holders and a receptacle for powder puff, carried by link chain to match.

**5c Revol Snap Fasteners 7c**  
Made by the Koh-I-Noor Co.  
Economy Price 1c Doz.

—5000 gross are placed on sale again for our economy store patrons. These fasteners come in white and black in all sizes.

**The New Corsets For Spring Modes**

—All the most popular makes, together with such corsets as are exclusive with us, showing all the variations in fabric and figure. Hip confiners and bonless, low-bust models, in suede, tricot, fancy broche, batiste, coutil, rubber and combination materials.

—**Madart front lace corsets, \$2.50 to \$25.00.**  
—**La Vida corsets, \$3.50 to \$20.**  
—**Smart Set corsets, \$4 to \$12.50.**  
—**Bien Jolie tricot corsets, \$3.50 to \$15.00.**  
—**C. B. corsets, \$1.00 to \$5.50.**  
—**W. B. Nuform, \$1.00 to \$5.00.**  
—**Nadia Corsets, 95c to \$3.50.**  
—**Nemo corsets, \$2.00 to \$10.00.**  
—**Etoile de France corsets, \$5.00 to \$15.00.**

—This store is the only store in Portland employing five expert corset fitters. And this splendid service is free to you.

Fourth Floor

**25c Silk Plated Colored Socks**  
In the Latest Summer Shades  
Economy Price 17c

—Men's Summer hose, made from fine quality silk plated thread. Reinforced in heels and toes and made with double soles. —This hose is equal to the best 35c and 25c grades and has the finish of the still higher grades. In navy blue, tan, grays, heliotrope, purple, cadet, green and wine. In sizes from 9 1/2 to 11 1/2.

**85c Housedress Apron**  
Economy Price 59c

—An entirely new style housedress apron of best-quality percale—looks just exactly like a housedress, with side-button front, round neck, kimono sleeves, belted in the back and pockets. Fancy figured patterns, dots and stripes in light and dark colors.

**12c Dutch Dust Caps 7c**

—An assortment of these caps to match the above housedress aprons.

**35c Fitted Work Aprons**  
GINGHAM, PERCALE, CHAMBRAY  
Economy Price 15c

—We direct attention that these fitted work aprons are full size, well made, full length, of good quality gingham, chambray and percale in plain colors, as well as light and dark patterns in checks, polka dots and nurse's stripes. —Trimmed with bias bandings, fitted bib fastening in the back, all with pockets.

**50c Boudoir Caps 38c**

—An assortment of dainty caps made of plain and fancy secco silk—plain China silk, combined with insertions of net and lace, plaited net frill around the face and finished with dainty rosettes.

**40c Silk Dress Shields 15c**

—Fine white silk dress shields in regular and crescent cut styles, sizes 2, 3 and 4, fully guaranteed.

**35c Dress Shields 10c**

—These shields come in sizes 3 and 4, and are regular cut shields, and every shield is perfect and guaranteed.

**50c Garment Shields 25c**

—A perfect fitting garment shield, detachable style for dress or corset. Sizes 3, 4 and 5.

**500 Dozen Lunch Napkins**  
Regular 50c  
Economy Price 29c Doz.

—These napkins come in several designs and are guaranteed to wash and wear well. They are hemmed ready for use and are offered less than wholesale cost. Size 13 by 13 inches.

### STRENGTH OF FORCES ORDERED TO MEXICO

The following shows the total strength of the United States vessels now ordered against Mexico, including yesterday's additions:

| AT VERA CRUZ.   |  |
|---|--|
| Two battleships, 1820 men, 120 marines.   | Prairie, 260 men, 500 marines.   |
| AT TAMPICO.   |  |
| Two battleships, 1820 men, 120 marines.   | Des Moines, 240 men; Chester, 360 men, 200 marines; Dolphin, 1810 men; San Francisco, 400 men; Solace, hospital ship; Hancock, transport, 260 marines. |
| Total at Tampico and Vera Cruz, 6020 men, 1890 marines.   |  |
| WITH REAR-ADMIRAL BADGER, EN ROUTE TO TAMPICO.  |  |
| Eight battleships, 7280 men, 590 marines.   | Tacoma, 240 men; Nashville, 180 men. Total with Rear-Admiral Badger, 7700 men, 590 marines.  |
| EN ROUTE FROM PENSACOLA TO TAMPICO.   |  |
| Birmingham, 300 men; Dixie, repair ship; fourteen destroyers, 1150 men.   |  |
| The summary of the total forces in the Gulf of Mexico follows: Sailors, 14,170; marines, 2900; officers, 700; total, 17,860.  |  |
| PACIFIC COAST FORCES, MEXICAN COAST.  |  |
| Raleigh, 350 men; New Orleans, 350 men; Annapolis, 150 men; Yorktown, 180 men; Glacier, supply ship; California, 900 men and 60 marines. Total, 1930.   |  |
| EN ROUTE TO MEXICAN COAST.  |  |
| South Dakota and Jupiter, 850 marines; Cleveland, 550 men; Chattanooga, 350 men; Maryland, 900 men and 40 marines. Total, 1500 men and 80 marines. Total on West Coast and en route, 3520 men.  |  |
| Torpedo flotilla at San Diego, Cal.: Five destroyers, 250 men, 15 officers.   |  |
| Grand total, 17,850 sailors, 3970 marines and 855 officers.   |  |
| HUERTA FORCES ESTIMATED AT 40,000.  |  |
| WASHINGTON, April 20.—Estimates at the War Department today put the armed forces of the Huerta government in Mexico at about 40,000, well scattered throughout the country.   |  |
| According to the Department's figures, there are 6000 troops in Mexico City; about 6000 around Saltillo, South of Torreon; 2500 in the State of Sonora; 2000 in Sinaloa; 800 in Tepic; 6000 in Jalisco; 1100 in Colima; 4500 in Zacatecas; 1250 in Guerrero and scattering bands in the other southern provinces. |  |
| On the East Coast there are said to be about 1500 in Nuevo Laredo, about 2500 in San Luis Potosi, 4100 in Vera Cruz, about 1000 in Puebla and 800 in Morelos.   |  |