

SEVEN AMERICANS HELD AS PRISONERS

Englishman Is Also in Hands of Federals.

FOUR ARE TAKEN FROM TRAIN

Intent to Execute Four of Captives Is Reported.

MEN TAKEN TO CORDOBA

Mexico City Mob Reported Balked by Huerta's Troops in Effort to Burn Railroad Shops—Rolling Stock Confiscated.

VERA CRUZ, April 24.—Seven Americans, prisoners of Mexican soldiers, are being held at Cordoba or Orizaba, on the line of the Mexican Railway between here and the capital, four of whom at least are threatened with execution, according to authentic information received tonight.

Four of the Americans were taken from a train on the Vera Cruz-Isthmus line at Motzalonga station three other Americans and an Englishman were seized. Those captured at Tierra Blanca are W. A. Manzana, superintendent of the railroad; Engineer Elliott and Conductors Riley and Hart.

Soldiers Predict Executions.

At Motzalonga, Edward Weunch, his son, Sidney; A. M. Thomas and Mr. Boyd, an Englishman, were arrested by federals.

The belief that the federals intended to execute at least four of the prisoners was gained from the conversation of the soldiers who captured them, which was overheard by passengers on the train. The prisoners were taken to Cordoba and it is believed later were transferred to Orizaba, a point nearer the capital.

Eighteen Americans are still in Tierra Blanca, among them J. O. Cook, chief engineer of the Isthmus Railway; J. O. Schneider, J. D. Longston, C. D. Harrison and his wife and children and Mr. and Mrs. George McComber.

Huerta's Troops Restrain Mob.

An indirect report received here today from Mexico City said a mob attempted to burn the terminal of the Mexican Railway, but was prevented by President Huerta's troops.

The Mexicans are confiscating all the locomotives and rolling stock of the Mexican Railway and concentrating them at Apizaco, an hour's run south of the capital. All the engineers of that line have been held and sent to Orizaba. The train dispatcher at Orizaba was arrested, but released later and told to leave.

Five divisions of the civil administration were organized today—police, sanitary, harbor, finance and customs. An effort was made to place Mexicans as the heads of all the departments. This was found to be impossible at least in two departments and American officers were assigned. They are Lieutenant-Commander McNelly, of the battleship Louisiana, who was appointed Chief of Police, and the fleet paymaster, who was made collector of customs.

Americans to Be Made Inspectors.

An American was made inspector over each department headed by a Mexican.

The police provisions call for a continuance of the patrol of Americans, although the Mexicans have been invited to co-operate in the organization of a native force. The customs receipts, it is said, may be placed to the credit of the United States.

Close scrutiny will be maintained over all newspapers and other publications and no editorial comment concerning the American occupation or news regarding the movement of troops will be permitted.

The commandant of the San Juan de Uloa fortress in the inner harbor, dressed in full uniform, called on Rear-Admiral Fletcher today and obtained permission to take supplies to the women and children refugees in the fortress.

The battleship Louisiana sailed today for Galveston to convey the Army transports to Vera Cruz.

Navy Lieutenant Holds Court.

Police Court affairs in Vera Cruz were administered today by a Naval Lieutenant, who was kept busy hearing the cases of Mexicans who had been picked up by the patrols or arrested during the recent fighting. He proved to be a lenient magistrate, much to the surprise of the Mexicans, many of whom believed the "gringos" would order their execution.

Thomas B. Hohler, the British charge d'affaires, who had charge of the train which brought the refugees from the capital here last night, intended to return to the capital tonight.

The British cruiser Hermione, which, although a neutral vessel, has been engaged in the removal of Americans from Tampico, reports that only a few are now there.

Daniels Congratulates Fletcher.

Rear-Admiral Fletcher today received the congratulations of Secretary Daniels. The admiral conveyed to the officers and men his own appreciation of their "splendid conduct, which gained for them the high approbation of the Secretary of the Navy."

Much of the work of reorganizing affairs in the city has been forced on

PATRIOTIC 'PREXY' ADVISES STUDENTS

DON'T GO TO WAR FOR FUN AND RUIN CAREERS IS WORD.

When Country Calls I'll Lead Whole College and Expect Every Man to Go, Says Dr. Bovard.

LOS ANGELES, April 24.—(Special.)—To resounding cheers from the college students, Dr. George F. Bovard, president of the University of Southern California, today promised that if the occasion arises he would head a volunteer corps of university students and lead them to war.

The promise was made in chapel, following a caution delivered to the students by Dr. Bovard in these words: "There isn't a man of us here who would not go to war and fight for our country if duty called. I want every man of you to stand ready for duty at any moment.

"But in the meantime I don't want you to give way to excitement and run away to war for the fun of it and ruin your careers.

"War isn't fun and at present there is no need for young men just starting out to jeopardize their entire futures in professional and business careers.

"If the time comes we will all go. I will go myself and lead the whole college."

NURSES WOULD VOLUNTEER

Graduating Class of Sellwood Hospital Ready for War.

By unanimous resolution, adopted at a meeting last night, the five members of the graduating class in trained nursing of the Sellwood General Hospital, decided to volunteer in a body for service in Mexico.

"We don't know whether we'll get to go or not," said one of the young women, "but, like Admiral Badger, we are ready."

The members of the class are: Miss Ann Smith, Miss Rose Smith, Miss Myra Mayo, Miss Clara Stong and Miss Lulu Elmer.

Alumnae nurses of the Sellwood General Hospital who wish to join in the offer of service, which will be made to the War Department tonight, are the members of the class to communicate with Miss Rose Smith at the hospital.

WAR INQUIRY IS ASKED

Boston Men Telegraph Lodge Suggesting Probe Commission.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—A commission of inquiry to inquire into the Mexican situation for the information of Congress and the people before steps of war are taken was urged in a telegram Senator Lodge caused to be read to the Senate today. The telegram was signed by John D. Long, ex-secretary of the Navy; Albert E. Pillsbury, Samuel A. Elliot, Charles F. Dolé, William Deas and Edwin D. Mead and John Graham Brooks, all of Boston.

They also urged an immediate declaration by Congress that the United States would in no event take any territory from Mexico by conquest.

TORN TRACK HALTS CHARGE

O'Shaughnessy Within Five Miles. Huerta Acts on Rumor.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Rear-Admiral Fletcher reported to the Navy Department late tonight that a special train from Mexico City bearing Charge O'Shaughnessy and other Americans had arrived at a point five miles out from Vera Cruz where the track was torn up. A train from Vera Cruz to meet the charge had reached the break in the tracks.

The admiral also reported that a rumor had reached Mexico City that Mexicans were being detained at Vera Cruz and that as a result General Huerta had ordered that no more Americans be permitted to leave the Mexican capital.

JOBS SAFE DURING WAR

City Employes Who Go If Call Comes to Get Places on Return.

Firemen, policemen and other city employes who go to the front in case of a call for the Oregon National Guard or for volunteers will find their positions waiting for them when they get back. This was the announcement yesterday by Mayor Albee, who said he would do his part in seeing that no employe who goes loses his position.

Before making the announcement, Mr. Albee conferred with members of the Municipal Civil Service Board and they agreed to do everything they can to assist in the plan. It is believed a way can be found to get around all possible civil service complications.

CIRCULATION LAW UPHELD

Newspaper Publishers Indorse Enforcement of Requirement.

NEW YORK, April 24.—The American Newspaper Publishers' Association in the last day of its convention today, adopted a resolution pledging loyalty to President Wilson in the Mexican situation. The resolution was sent to the White House by telegraph.

A resolution was also passed upholding the enforcement of the new publicity law, which provides for a full statement as to ownership and circulation.

Linn County to Observe May 22.

ALBANY, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—Linn County Court has selected Friday, May 22, as "Good Roads" day, believing next Saturday was too early in the season to accomplish the best results in roadbuilding in this section of the state. Extensive plans will be made for a general observance of the day on that date.

FEDERALS SET FIRE TO TOWN ON BORDER

Two Killed by United States Patrol.

NUEVO LAREDO IS IN RUINS

Destroyers Driven Off by Guns on American Side.

CONSULATE IS CONSUMED

Guards at International Bridges Shoot Down Men Who Attempt to Dynamite Them—Machine Guns Take Additional Toll.

LAREDO, Tex., April 24.—Nuevo Laredo, the thriving Mexican border town, opposite here, is in ruins tonight, devastated by dynamite and fire by Mexican federal soldiers, who late today began an orgy of destruction which did not end until they were forced to flee before the guns of the American border patrol.

Two Mexicans are known to have been killed by United States troops and several were seen to fall when a machine gun platoon at Fort McIntosh got into action. Several brisk skirmishes between the Americans and Mexicans were fought, as the Mexicans, their troop trains ready to pull out of the burning city, began an indiscriminate fire across the international boundary. There was no evidence tonight that their shooting had been effective.

Valuable Property Destroyed.

Property damage in Nuevo Laredo will reach \$500,000. Among the buildings destroyed were the United States Consulate, municipal building, postoffice, theater, the flour mill, one of the largest in this section of the Southwest; railroad shops of the National Railway and other smaller structures.

The fire still was burning tonight, with no chance that it would be controlled until everything inflammable had been consumed. Kerosene and other combustibles, liberally used, added to the wreckage, which otherwise would not have been great, owing to the adobe construction largely used.

There was no property loss in Laredo. Both international bridges are safe, although efforts to dynamite them resulted in the death of two men engaged in the undertaking. One Mexican was shot by a sharpshooter from the top of the water tower. The Mexican was trying to reach the end of the international foot and wagon bridge. Another was killed when he tried to blow up the American railroad bridge.

When the Mexican soldiers finally left order was quickly restored in

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 61.5 degrees; minimum, 42.1 degrees.

TODAY'S—Fair and warmer; westerly winds.

Mexico.

President Wilson believes war may yet be averted. Page 1.

Nuevo Laredo burned; two Mexicans killed in skirmish across border. Page 1.

Argentina press voices disapproval of United States move in Mexico. Page 2.

President of University of Southern California warns students against war for fun. Page 2.

Brigade of infantry sails for Vera Cruz. Page 2.

Army troops at San Francisco marked as 3500 troops go to the front. Page 3.

Villa says Carranza is as friendly to United States as he. Page 2.

Several Americans held prisoner by Mexicans. Page 2.

Panama Canal is put on war footing. Page 1.

National.

Senator Poindeexter's bill draws hot reply from Senator Root. Page 5.

Sports.

Coast League results—Portland 9, Venice 12; San Francisco 2, Oakland 9; Sacramento 2, Los Angeles 2. Page 6.

Northwestern League results—Spokane 4, Portland 2; Vancouver 9, Seattle 2; Victoria 3, Tacoma 3. Page 6.

Western Tri-State results—Pendleton 9, Walla Walla 7, North Yakima 11, Baker 8. Page 6.

Pacific Northwest.

750 Hood River good-road builders improve Columbia Highway. Page 10.

Port Stevens Hospital Corps rushed to the border. Page 5.

Big crop is prospect in Indian Empire. Page 12.

Head of Deschutes land company blames Governor. Page 12.

Commercial and Marine.

Hop dealers again interested in new-crop contracts. Page 13.

Wheat prices turn downward at Chicago on account of general rains. Page 17.

European selling responsible for decline in stock prices. Page 17.

General trade not disturbed by Mexican trouble. Page 17.

Qualities of boats suitable for Army transport discussed. Page 12.

Mexican situation causes American-Hawaiian line to reduce cargo for East Coast. Page 12.

Portland and Vicinity.

Increase in ice prices in Nation-wide. Page 7.

Two little boys lose lives on East Side. Page 7.

Whole state will observe "Good Roads day" today. Page 16.

Two carriers in the employ of The Oregonian to get trip to Glacier Park. Page 16.

Mazamas to climb Mount Rainier. Page 11.

Weather report, data and forecast. Page 17.

George M. Haind submits written tender to build Derby-street approach. Page 7.

Latest political news. Page 7.

Boys prove to be best bakers in Lent's contest. Page 9.

FIREMEN WOULD ENLIST

15 Members of Local Department Want Service Period Reduced.

Should special enlistments be permitted so that men may serve only so long as the trouble in Mexico shall last, 15 members of the Portland Fire Department, who have served previously in the Navy, will re-enlist, according to assurances given to Lieutenant R. R. Smith, U. S. N., in charge of the Navy recruiting station here. Four men were enlisted yesterday who expect to see service in southern waters.

At the recruiting station of the Marine Corps, Lieutenant Udell enlisted six men and, like the new sailors, they were sent to San Francisco for training.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry C. Haines, adjutant-inspector of the Marine Corps, who accompanied Assistant Secretary of the Navy Roosevelt from California to the Bremerton Navy-yard, returned via Portland yesterday and inspected the station here.

FEDERAL TROOPS DENIED TRINIDAD

President Wilson Refuses Ammons.

SOLDIERS CAN'T BE SPARED

Precedent of Industrial Warfare Not to Be Fixed.

FACTIONS DECLARE TRUCE

Colorado Governor Declares He Will Issue Call at Once for Special Session of Legislature—State Troops Will Advance.

DENVER, April 24.—Governor E. M. Ammons, en route to Denver, late today called upon the Federal Government for troops to aid in composing the strike situation in Colorado, and received tonight an answer that the War Department could spare no soldiers for this purpose.

This answer was conveyed in a telegram signed by Congressman Edward Taylor.

Wilson Attitude Reported.

According to Governor Ammons, who arrived in Denver tonight, Congressman Taylor's message stated that at the Cabinet meeting today President Wilson took the attitude that the Government could not send troops into Colorado; that there had been no provocation for the National Government to interfere in the Colorado situation, and that he could not establish the precedent of sending Government troops into a state to quell disturbances caused by industrial warfare.

Governor Ammons said tonight that he would issue immediately the proclamation for a special session of the Legislature, previously pledged by Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald. He approved of the informal truce arranged late today between the warring factions.

If it becomes necessary, Governor Ammons said he would see that the entire quota of enlistment went to the front.

Truce Is Declared.

A truce between the warring factions in the southern coal fields was arranged here today. It was said after a conference between Rody Kenehan, State Auditor; Horace N. Hawkins, attorney for the United Mineworkers of America, and Justice Musser, of the Supreme Court.

John McLennan, district president of the United Mineworkers of America, held by the state militia under Major F. J. Hamrah, near Ludlow, was ordered released today by Lieutenant-Governor Fitzgarrald.

PANAMA CANAL IS ON WAR FOOTING

GOETHALS SENDS INFANTRY TO PATROL VARIOUS LOCKS.

Operating Machinery Goes Under Lock and Key—Fortifications at Each End to Be Manned.

PANAMA, April 24.—Colonel George W. Goethals, Governor of the Panama Canal zone, issued orders today placing the canal zone on a strict war footing.

Goethals instructed Major Gerhardt, commanding the Tenth Infantry, to send two companies of infantry to patrol the Gatun locks and one each for duty at the Miraflores and Pedro Miguel locks. The soldiers were given 100 rounds of ammunition each and will camp near the locks.

The operating machinery of all the locks will be locked and the keys placed in the possession of Colonel Goethals.

It is understood that coast artillery companies will be distributed among the fortifications on Flamenco and Culebra Islands at the Pacific end of the canal and also at Toro Point and other forts at the Atlantic end.

The action of Colonel Goethals is believed to have been the result of anti-American sentiment expressed in fly sheets which were making their appearance in the streets of Panama and also shown editorially in El Diario which is strongly pro-Mexican.

There are 250 Mexican employes on the canal, and their presence probably adds something to do with the action of Colonel Goethals.

Garca Rodriguez, a Mexican resident of this city, was arrested today, charged with making inflammatory anti-American speeches. He probably will be deported.

WILSON FEELS WAR WILL BE AVERTED

Optimistic Note Struck in Washington.

ADVISERS TAKE NEW HOPE

Army, However, Continues to Move With Precision.

EUROPE BECOMES UNEASY

Inquiries by Foreign Diplomats as to Status of Commerce Feature of Day—German Steamship Lands Part of Cargo.

PASSPORTS GIVEN THRICE

Veteran Who Served Algara Also Gave Papers to 2 Envoys Before.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—When Eddie Savoy, the veteran colored messenger at the State Department, delivered Mexican Charge Algara his passports, he performed that mission for the third time since he came to the department in Hamilton Fish's day, 44 years ago. Mr. Algara departed for Toronto, Canada, last night.

Savoy first delivered passports to Sir Lionel Sackville-West, the British Ambassador, who displeased President Cleveland by interference in American politics.

His second mission was performed 16 years ago, when he carried to the Spanish legation here the passports that gave the Minister, Don X. Bernabe, a safe exit from the United States, on the declaration of war with Spain.

FLEET CHIEFS IN ACCORD

American and British Admirals at Vera Cruz Co-operating.

VERA CRUZ, April 24.—The most cordial relations exist between Rear Admiral Badger and Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Cradock, commander of the British cruiser squadron here. They have agreed to divide the time for the use of the wireless as follows: Six hours for the American fleet, six for the British and the remainder for other nations.

The Nashville departed today for Puerto Mexico, to take refugees on board. American and Hawaiian steamers have been permitted by Mexican officials to resume the loading of sugar there. All messages from that place, however, are censored.

CLACKAMAS "DRYS" PLAN

Prohibition Party to Have No Hand in Fight in County.

OREGON CITY, Or., April 24.—(Special.)—The Prohibition party will hold a county convention here Tuesday, April 28, when the anti-saloon forces will meet and map out the preliminary local campaign for the "Oregon Dry" movement.

The Clackamas County fight will not be managed by the Prohibition party, but by a committee composed of representatives of all the anti-saloon forces.

"The Oregon Dry movement is too big for any one party or group of persons," said Dr. T. B. Ford, chairman of the county central committee. "We can obtain the best results through the united efforts of all who are back of the plan."

MEAT ANIMAL LOSS HIGH

Disease Held to Figure Largely in Scarcity of Food Product.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The enormous sum of \$150,000,000 was the aggregate loss sustained by the United States in meat animals as the result of disease and exposure in 1913, according to estimates announced by the Department of Agriculture today.

The figures indicate a total loss of 7,095,990 hogs valued at \$73,000,000. This represents more than 1,000,000,000 pounds of meat destroyed mostly by cholera.

"If there had been no such loss," it is said, "probably increasing scarcity of meat would have been largely prevented."

The hog cholera epidemic of 1913 caused an estimated loss of about \$65,000,000.

NEGRO IS CHOSEN JUDGE

Senate Confirms Nomination for Municipal Bench at Capital.

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The nomination of Robert H. Terrell, a negro, as Municipal Judge for the District of Columbia was confirmed tonight in the Senate. The nomination has been held for two months, being vigorously opposed by Senators Vardaman, Smith, of South Carolina, and other Southerners.

Senators urging confirmation tonight declined to pass Terrell's name on the list of nominations and a vote was forced.

