

WILSON MAY ASK ARMY OF 250,000

Mexican Situation Has Many Possibilities.

DELAYS ADD TO DANGERS

Villa Has Had Time to Reach Stronghold in Mountains.

FORCE NOW INADEQUATE

Developments on Southern Border Have Effect of Assuring and Expediting Plans for General Preparedness.

BY JOHN CALLAN O'LAUGHLIN.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—(Special.)—President Wilson is considering the advisability of asking Congress to authorize the creation of an Army of 250,000 men both for the purpose of meeting possible developments in connection with the Mexican situation and in order to provide the United States with defense at home.

The President may address Congress in person on this subject next week, or he may have the War Department communicate his views to the chairman of the Senate and House military committees.

Whole Military Question Up.

It is understood that the entire question of the military forces of the country is being considered by the President during his week-end trip on the Presidential yacht, the Mayflower. In anticipation of meeting the emergency, which has arisen the War Department has prepared, but has not yet issued, orders calling all the mounted men of the National Guard into the Federal service. There are 5300 of these men, one regiment of whom can be supplied by the state of Illinois. Colonel Milton J. Foreman, of the First Illinois Cavalry, already has offered the services of his command. If called to the colors the guardsmen will be ordered to the border to patrol and prevent Mexican incursions, relieving regular troops who will be ordered into Mexico.

Serious Possibilities Seen.

The situation is filled with dynamite so far as the United States is concerned. General Carranza has not consented to American pursuit of Villa, though in a note to this Government he evidently is preparing the way for acquiescence. He asked that the United States permit his forces to enter American territory in pursuit of their enemies. The reply which will be made will be extremely diplomatic and will say that when the occasion arises for such action a definite answer will be given.

The failure of Carranza to comply with the request of the Administration is having a great deal to do with the delay in the pursuit of Villa. General Funston has been organizing the brigades of cavalry and could start promptly, but it is said tonight that no American forces have crossed the border since the return of the troops which pursued Villa immediately after attack on Columbus.

Delay Adds to Difficulties.

It is now evident that with the long start Villa has made he has likely reached his stronghold in the Sierra Madre mountains, and it is quite possible that he has disintegrated his forces. There will be thus tremendous difficulty in finding him. Every day's delay makes the task of the Army the greater.

Moreover, it will increase the chances of complications for the United States. (Continued on Page 6, Column 1.)

DOUBLE WEDDING FIRST OF SEVERAL

FORESTRY EMPLOYEES MARRIED AT PORTLAND HOTEL.

Misses Lena and Matilda Ash became brides of John C. Sharp and R. E. Kan Smith.

The first of a series of marriages of employes of the Government forestry office in Portland was a double wedding that occurred in the blue room of the Portland Hotel yesterday noon, when Miss Matilda L. Ash and Miss Lena Ash became the brides respectively of R. E. Kan Smith and John C. Sharp. Rev. Luther Dyott officiated at the marriage ceremony.

About 30 friends of the young people were present. A wedding breakfast followed the ceremony. Yellow jonquils formed the decorations.

R. E. Kan Smith is forest examiner and Miss Lena Ash was in the land exchange department. J. C. Sharp is chief of the municipal bureau of sewers and Miss Matilda Ash was employed as a stenographer by the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company. The Misses Ash and their parents moved to the city several months ago from Rochester, N. Y.

As announced in the Oregonian of March 2, several others in the forestry office are to be married later in the Spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith are to make their home at the Glenn Apartments and Mr. and Mrs. Sharp are to live at 745 1/2 East Main street.

"TEXAS MAVERICKS" OFFER

Regiment of Rough Riders Wants to Be Sent After Villa.

DALLAS, Tex., March 11.—A regiment of rough riders had been organized long in advance of the present Mexican crisis and now awaits acceptance by the Government, according to E. W. Edwards, the organizer, a Dallas business man and veteran of the Spanish-American War. He telegraphed his offer today to the Government through Hatton W. Sumner, Texas Representative in Congress.

The regiment is called the "Texas Mavericks" and is composed of 800 men.

NUMEROUS DEER TEMPTING

Animals Stray Within Gunshot of John Day Ranchers.

PENDLETON, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—Deer are very plentiful now in the John Day country. Fred Groom, of Dale ranch station, estimates that on the John Day and Desolation creeks, within a distance of 12 miles from the camp, there are fully 1000 of the animals.

The deer have been driven down early by the snows, and are a great temptation for the ranchers, who can have fresh meat by stepping to the door with a rifle.

WAR IN ALBANIA RENEWED

Austrians Report Italian Force Is Driven Back on Base.

BERLIN, March 11, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—Fighting between Italian and Austrian troops in Albania has been renewed.

Austrian forces advancing along the coast between Durazzo encountered Italian soldiers who, after a few skirmishes, fell back in the direction of Avlona, their principal position in Albania, according to an official Austrian statement received here today from Vienna.

EXPLOSIVE EXPORT HALTED

United States Revokes Permits for Shipments Across Border.

EL PASO, Tex., March 11.—It is learned here that the United States Government revoked all permits held along the border to export explosives into Mexico.

CARRANZA'S ASSENT REPORTED REFUSED

New Mexico Senator Telegraphs Family.

TROOPS MOVING NORTHWARD

Trenches Being Dug in Foot-hills Near Juarez.

SIGNAL ROCKETS ARE SEEN

Mexicans Arrested in El Paso on Charges of Smuggling Ammunition Across Border for Villa.

COLUMBUS, N. M., March 11.—The bandit Villa, according to an official telegram received at the headquarters of the Thirteenth Cavalry tonight, was in the neighborhood of Coyulillas, Chihuahua, today, with a band of 900 men.

Troopers of the Thirteenth Cavalry which beat off Villa's raid on Columbus Thursday were fully prepared today to move into Mexico at a moment's notice, and men and officers chafed at the delay in orders to begin a chase of the Mexican insurgent chief.

EL PASO, Tex., March 11.—(Special.)

A private message was received here tonight from United States Senator Fall to his family in El Paso, saying that Carranza had refused permission for United States troops to enter Mexico in pursuit of Villa and his band. The message from Senator Fall says that if the movement is made it will mean intervention, and that the entire Carranza army will act against the American forces.

Gutierrez Marching North.

This report was supported tonight when it was reported that General Luis Gutierrez, a former Villista commander, who joined Carranza with his entire command, was marching north from Chihuahua to Juarez and should reach there some time Sunday. Additional Carranza troops are also moving up from the interior of Mexico, and it is expected that there will be 5000 troops on the border by Monday.

At dark tonight trenches were being dug in the foothills outside of Juarez. A searchlight played on the town last night and signal rockets were sent up from Juarez during the night to keep the Carranza troops informed as to operations and outpost work to prevent a conflict among troops.

Juarez Races Called Off.

The races will be closed tomorrow in Juarez if the military activities develop, and it is probable that they will be cancelled for the remainder of the season, as they were scheduled to close within two weeks.

Troops are now on the way from Fort Sam Houston and are expected to reach Fort Bliss Sunday. As fast as these troops are detained others will be sent to the border from Fort Bliss. Army engineering corps are also expected from Fort Sam Houston to accompany the expeditionary forces into Mexico. The Signal Corps material is now packed and on a flat car ready to go across the bridge. The stock and freight cars were ordered commandeered tonight by the military for the use of the horses and supplies.

Troops All Under Arms.

Automobile trucks have been ordered to be at Fort Bliss at 9 o'clock tomorrow for review and the owners will be informed when to report at the post and Quartermaster depot. The troops are all under arms tonight and regular weather report, data and forecast. (Continued on Page 6, Column 2.)

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 64 degrees; minimum, 46 degrees. TODAY'S—Showers, southerly winds. Mexico. Wilson may ask for army of 250,000. Troops moving secretly on border. Carranza asks permission for his troops to cross boundary in pursuit of bandits. Senator Fall telegraphs family that Carranza has refused permission for pursuit into Mexico. Mexican editors fear outcome of Villa chase. More regiments ordered to border. Norwegian Premier says situation for neutrals is growing darker. Thirteen American vessels on British blockade. Lord Northcliffe says German losses at Verdun have been enormous. Beavers off for south today. Germans make gains near Rheims. Selection of Senators this year more than usually important. Administration contemplates purchase of Alaska. Norwegian bark with seven American sailors sunk. Republican breach headed in Nebraska. Republicans certain to carry New Hampshire next Fall. Harvest signs beaver contract. Wildfowl appear far from in condition. Intercity League clubs to begin practice today. All-star school quintet is chosen. Coach Bredlek gloomy over baseball outlook. Mike Butler does wonders in correcting "Chinese" boxing faults. Mahan signs no contract, but will be assistant coach at California. Willard refuses to box Al Reich as advertised. Washington State College wins conference basketball championship. Lane political race begins. Pass over Washington initiative measure goes on. Walls, Wallis Republican eye Henry McEldre for Governor. Chinese agricultural student to make tour of United States. Idaho Democrats at loggerheads. Hoopston reorganizing feature at meeting of Hood River fruitmen. Jury finds Mrs. Anna Booth guilty. Willamette Valley counties complete organization of development company. Primary candidates number 135 with 30 days left for filing. Federal market experts will meet Oregon apple growers. Wheat weakened at Chicago by bearish Chamber statistics. Stocks rally on denial of rumor of new surge European loan. Torpedoes chartered by local firm. Shipping articles must be shown to get 500 shipping firms praise Port Commission. Homes rise fast in Rose City Park. Great activity really transfers marks. New buildings mean big outlay. Automobiles and Roads. Auto dignitaries make Portland almost like auto capital of America. Eastern agent is pleased with Columbia Highway. Daughters of American Revolution re-elect officials. Retailers to limit returns of merchandise. Chamber of Commerce averts faux pas in luncheon speeches. Civic League outlines rural credits plan. Academy's closing will bring regret in hundreds of graduates. Audubon Bird Club announces March calendar. All Oregon will help choose Rose Festival Queen. Bad sewer work blame is tossed to and fro. Double wedding first of several in forestry office. War threatens paper industry. Rainbow Grill to reopen as restaurant-confectionery store. Big Spring style exhibit opens March 25. Oregon's third increases as dry regime grows older. Mrs. Margaret Fenton, early-day settler. Weather report, data and forecast.

TROOPS SECRETLY MOVING ON BORDER

Quick, Certain Drive Is Contemplated.

WILSON KEEPING IN TOUCH

Carranza's Request for Reciprocity Well Received.

OBJECTION NOT PROBABLE

American Troops Expected to Be Well on Way into Mexico by the Time Washington Has Sent Reply to First Chief.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—General Funston, under orders from President Wilson to hunt down Villa's bandit army in Northern Mexico, was moving his troops at the border tonight behind a veil of rigid secrecy.

War Department officials, who had given the border commander a free hand in working out details of the expedition, made it clear that they regarded it as imperative to success that all information which might aid Villa in eluding the American forces must be guarded scrupulously.

It was apparent only that the military plans contemplated a drive into Mexico that should be both quick and certain. The War Department is willing to take no chances by weakening the border patrol, and General Funston's orders were not to move until he was fully prepared.

Wilson Receives Dispatches.

Secretary Baker and his chief subordinates remained at the War Department until late tonight receiving dispatches from General Funston and doing everything in their power to back up his plans. Many of the dispatches were forwarded by wireless to President Wilson, down the Potomac on the Mayflower. But whether troops had crossed the border or not when they might move across the border the officials would not say.

General Funston Himself Has Urged

that all secrecy surround the movement of troops, so he may have an opportunity to surprise the bandit chieftain.

Carranza's Note Goes to President.

While extensive troop movements were in progress along the border during the day, the State Department received from General Carranza, head of the de facto government of Mexico, a request for permission to send his troops, should occasion arise, across the border into the United States in pursuit of the bandits. The note immediately was forwarded to President Wilson on the Mayflower, and tonight he sent word he would consider it until his return to the capital Monday morning and when would confer with Secretary Lansing before making any decision.

There was every indication that officials viewed General Carranza's request in a favorable light. It was suggested, however, that such a reciprocal arrangement probably would not result in a single Carranza soldier's entering the United States, for officials feel that with the tightening of the border patrol the possibility that any fugitive bandits will cross is remote. At the same time it is felt that acquiescence by the United States in the proposal of the de facto government would go far toward gaining the sympathy of public opinion in those parts of Mexico which are under the control of the recognized government.

Apprehension Is Relieved.

General Carranza's note relieved the apprehension of some Administration officials who had considered that there was a possibility he might object to

CORDON TIGHTENS AROUND NEUTRALS

NORWEGIAN PREMIER SAYS SITUATION GROWS DARKER.

British Blockade "More and More Cramping" and Destined to Be Even Stronger With Time.

BY HOLGER R. ANGELO.

(Correspondent of the Chicago Daily News, by Special Cable.)

COPENHAGEN, via London, March 11.—(Special.)—In an interview today at the Amalberg Palace by the Norwegian Prime Minister, Gunnar Knudsen, who is attending the conference of Scandinavian ministers, he said:

"In my opinion the situation for the neutral states is getting darker. All hope that the war will keep away from us, but we cannot overlook the fact that the British blockade is becoming more and more cramping; also that English public opinion is in favor of even stronger measures. In the course of time it will be difficult for the British government not to pay attention to this demand."

"What the neutral states can do in the first place is to be careful to carry themselves proportionately neutral. It is politic, therefore, not to cause suspicion. In commercial life the widest honesty is necessary. It is not enough to impose big fines. Personal punishment also is required."

"Scandinavia is maintaining a high moral standard, even in these times. We, in Norway, know the danger that is going on around the golden calf, but in proportion to the enormous trade, the illegitimate business is limited."

ALBANY MAN HOLDS RECORD

W. M. Warner Serves as Bailiff for Almost Quarter of Century.

ALBANY, Or., March 11.—(Special.)—For almost a quarter of a century W. H. Warner, of this city, has served as bailiff of the State Circuit Court for Linn County, and during all of that time he has never missed a single day of court in the department in which he has served.

A few weeks ago Mr. Warner suffered from a fall which has necessitated the use of two canes, and feared for a time he might be incapacitated for this work. But when the March term of Circuit Court began he was ready for work as usual. His record of service as bailiff is probably not equaled in the state.

EUROPEAN STATESMEN SOUNDED.

Colonel House, who recently returned from a trip abroad as the special representative of President Wilson, did not discuss peace proposals alone, it is declared here, despite denials. On the contrary, he is confidently believed to have made inquiry of leading statesmen of Great Britain, France, Germany Spain and other nations as to what their attitude would be in case the United States made such an offer to Mexico.

Further, it is confidently believed that the European powers agreed that such a move would not only be agreeable to them, but even pleasing, for it would insure their being reimbursed for losses sustained in the Mexican turmoil of recent years, which they could not expect to collect otherwise without conflicting with the Monroe Doctrine.

Chinese Aids Negotiations.

Dr. Wellington Koo, the Chinese Minister, is credited with having taken a leading part in some of the negotiations.

While leading men here say it will be extremely difficult to approximate a price equitable to such an enormous purchase, the tentative figure mentioned for the basic offer will be about \$200,000,000.

The two principal objects that interest all statesmen in the plan is that the move would prevent any "stretching" of the Monroe Doctrine and at the same time make this nation secure in that all chance for a foreign power establishing a naval base on the Pacific Coast would be a future impossibility.

Wilson's Views Reversed.

Assertions that Colonel House visited Europe on such a mission have occasioned some surprise in view of the fact that President Wilson is on record as opposed to the acquisition of additional territory.

However, it is pointed out that there has been evidence of late that the Chief Executive is acquiring the habit of a change of opinion and viewpoint and that the latest plan is the only peaceful one he can see for eliminating the Mexican problem.

Carranza will not object, it is learned here tonight in quarters that can hardly be questioned.

NORTHERN MEXICO MAY BE PURCHASED

Price Basis of \$300,000,000 Mentioned.

EUROPE'S ASSENT REPORTED

Colonel House Said to Have Broached Topic on Trip.

TAMPICO TO BE INCLUDED

Rumors Current in Financial, Political and Diplomatic Circles Regarded as Having Substantial Foundation.

WASHINGTON, March 11.—(Special.)—Reports that have been current on Wall street, leading financial circles in several cities and in political and diplomatic groups, to the effect that the Administration contemplates acquisition by purchase of the northern section of Mexico and that Colonel E. M. House really went to Europe to "sound" certain governments on this policy, are now declared on authority that cannot be ignored to be substantial and of extreme potentiality.

The plan, it is asserted, is to buy all of Mexico that is north of a direct line drawn west from the southerly outskirts of the city of Tampico, including the entire Lower California Peninsula.

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IN THE PAST WEEK'S NEWS THESE EVENTS LOOMED LARGE ON THE VISION OF CARTOONIST REYNOLDS.

