

U. S. TROOPS TO STAY IN MEXICO

Carranza Must Show Ability to Restore and Keep Order.

ENTIRE BANDIT AREA WILL BE POLICED

Plan of Re-Disposing Rescue Forces Approved—Funston Will Have Free Hand in Campaign,

Washington, D. C.—Behind the formal announcement Sunday that President Wilson had approved a plan or re-disposition of the American troops in Mexico, there was a plain intimation that the Washington government had determined to maintain a military status quo beyond the border until the Mexican de facto government had demonstrated its ability to capture or crush Villa and his adherents and prevent repetitions of the Columbus raid.

In the interim it is understood the American troops will be so placed as to safeguard the border towns by virtually policing the area south of the line where General Carranza has been unable to check bandit operations.

Secretary Barker announced the approval of the re-disposition plan after consulting with the President over a joint report submitted by Major General Funston and Major General Scott, chief of staff, in conference on the border. The plan was proposed by General Funston and concurred in by General Scott.

The secretary announced the administration's decision as follows:

"General Funston has recommended a re-disposition of the forces in Mexico for the purpose of recuperation and pending opportunities for further cooperation with the forces of the de facto government in Mexico. The recommendation has been approved and its execution left to his discretion."

Later the secretary dictated the following:

"The statement I have made indicates nothing whatever on the subject of when the American troops will be withdrawn from Mexico. The whole subject of withdrawal of the forces is under arrangement and negotiations by the State department."

He said positively that no regiments had been ordered to the border and that no such order was in contemplation.

The new military plan leaves the pursuit of Villa at a standstill, but frees General Funston's hands to make the position of the forces in Mexico secure by grouping them in posts of such strength as to protect them from attack. It will also serve as a plain warning to General Carranza that he must bend every effort toward securing complete control of the territory south of the most advanced American post if he hopes to have the troops recalled.

Czar Narrowly Missed by Austrian Airman's Bomb

Berlin—A narrow escape for Emperor Nicholas of Russia from death or serious injury by bombs dropped by an Austrian airman during a visit of the emperor to a southern sector of the Russian line, is reported in Stockholm advices.

"The emperor was reviewing the troops in company with General Brusiloff, commander of the Russian forces on the Southwestern front, when an Austro-Hungarian flier appeared and dropped numerous bombs, which landed among the troops, who fled in wild disorder," according to the news agency statement.

"The emperor," according to the report, "was hurt and had a narrow escape, the incident causing him to lose his self-possession entirely. In consequence, General Brusiloff was bitterly reproached and General Ivanoff was recalled to the Southwestern front headquarters."

Thousand Lost in Disaster.

Shanghai—More than 1000 soldiers and men of the crew of the steamer Hsin Yu were lost when the steamer sank after a collision with the cruiser Hai-Yung Saturday night south of the Chusan islands. The steamer, acting as a transport, was taking troops to Foo Chow. The collision occurred in a thick fog and only one foreign engineer, 20 soldiers and nine sailors out of six foreigners and more than 1000 soldiers and members of the crew were saved.

ONE CENT DUTY ON SUGAR MAY CONTINUE INDEFINITELY

Washington, D. C.—Late Saturday the senate approved the house bill repealing the free sugar section of the tariff law, under which sugar would have gone on the free list May 1.

By a vote of 59 to 10 the senate receded from an amendment which it had passed extending duty of 1 cent a pound for four years, and which the house refused to agree to in conference.

Democratic senators cast all of the 10 votes against supporting the house measure, which provides for a flat appeal, thus extending the present duty indefinitely.

The repeal sought by the administration to keep up revenues now needs only the President's signature to become effective. The 1-cent duty yields about \$50,000,000 annually. Senate Democrats, finding the house unyielding in its stand for a flat repeal, de-

"Peck's Bad Boy" Dead



George W. Peck, former governor of Wisconsin, but who was known to fame as author of "Peck's Bad Boy" long before he became a governor, has just died. Most of the successful men of today had to hide in the barn to read "Peck's Bad Boy."

decided at a caucus to yield and avert any possibility of sugar's going on the free list even for a limited period.

German Embassy Anxious for Return of Seized Documents

Washington, D. C.—Papers seized in New York by the department of Justice from Wolfe von Igel, former secretary to Captain Franz von Papen, recalled German military attaché, will not be restored to the German embassy until Count von Bernstorff distinguishes between the official and personal matter in the documents.

It was not believed that the German embassy would agree to this procedure, contending there is no authority for the removal of papers of any kind from the person or possession of a diplomatic agent. Embassy officials are disturbed at the idea that the department of Justice intends to keep photographic copies of the papers, and it was said that Count von Bernstorff would demand not only the originals, plates and catalogue of the documents which is understood to have been made by the department of Justice. Ambassador von Bernstorff is understood to be awaiting instructions from Berlin.

Von Igel's immunity from prosecution as an employe of the German embassy was not accepted by diplomatic officials. Immunity, it was said, was interpreted as extending only to the ambassador and his household.

President Yuan of China Will Permit Cabinet to Govern

Washington, D. C.—The Chinese legation announces receipt of the following dispatch from Peking:

"The military governor of Kiangsu, General Feng Kuo Chang, commander of the best organized troops and one of the most influential leaders in China, aided by the civil and military governors of the 17 provinces, has come forward to arrange on behalf of the central government with the leaders of the five other provinces which have either declared independence or remained neutral in regard to the plans of reorganization to be carried out.

"Nanking is the headquarters of General Feng Kuo Chang, and the report that this city has declared its neutrality is a pure rumor.

"President Yuan Shi Kai issued a mandate authorizing the secretary of State, Hsu Shi Kang, to organize a cabinet government in place of the present presidential system. Under the new system of government the heads of the various ministries will assume joint responsibility for the conduct of national affairs."

NEWS ITEMS Of General Interest About Oregon

Irrigation Project Revived and Prosperity Returns to Irrigon

Irrigon—Not since the collapse of the Irrigon irrigation project in 1907 have the people of this little town been able to look into the future with the certainty of a final prosperous outcome as today. When the government took the project over a few years ago and began the great cement-lined ditch there was a feeling of jubilation; when the ditch was finished there was rejoicing. But until the present time there has usually been a prospect of procrastination and delay, which prospects proved realities. Hence the little town practically stood still.

Now, however, all is changed. The government is about to take charge of the project and handle the water distribution, there is much more water than will be used for years to come, landowners are jubilant and are going ahead planting and seeding as never before. Buyers have just closed the largest purchase ever made here, 240 acres of raw land a few miles west of Irrigon. The price paid was well over \$10,000. The new owners are now busily at work with a large force seeding the tract to alfalfa. Past seedings of the kind here have returned two crops the first year, showing that there is no quicker alfalfa land in the country than at this beautiful spot on the banks of the majestic Columbia. Another sale was made whereby Ote Henkle, now of Crook county, sold 80 acres of his homestead south of town. Improvements are going forward on this tract also.

Coos Bay Road Allowed.

Washington, D. C.—Authority has been granted by the superintendent of the Coast Guard Service for the construction of a road from the Coos Bay station, along the edge of the bluff for a distance of three miles overlooking the south entrance to Coos Bay. The construction of this road was urged by the North Bend chamber of commerce, it being their contention that the road is necessary for the transportation of lifesaving apparatus in case of a wreck in the vicinity.

It is pointed out that had there been such a road when the Santa Clara was wrecked recently, the Coast Guard might have saved the lives of those who perished because of the inability to reach the wreck promptly.

Cherries Thrive In Hood.

Hood River—Prospects are bright in Hood River for a bumper cherry crop this year. Orchardists in all districts report that their trees are loaded with buds. Cherry trees are in full bloom along the lowlands of the Columbia and in the city. J. R. Nunamaker, who owns the largest cherry orchard in the valley, estimates his crop at 50 tons.

Strawberries are beginning to bloom in protected parts of the Lower valley. The apple trees of the district probably will be in full bloom during the first week in May.

Merrill to Vote June 13.

Merrill—If the council can have its way, this place will have a water system in the near future, if only for fire protection. A special meeting of the city council was held recently, when ordinances were adopted for a special election of the legal voters for June 13, at which time they will be asked to vote for the amending of the charter so as to permit bonds being issued to the amount of \$6000 to install fire-fighting apparatus. The action of the city council is a result of a recent fire in which a general store was destroyed.

Ditch Cost Is Protested.

Salem—Orchardists of Sutherlin, have filed complaint with the State Public Service commission against the J. F. Luse company, alleging that the company's charge of \$3.50 an acre for maintaining an irrigation ditch is excessive. A hearing will be held by the commission. The complainants point out that the cost of ditch maintenance in the arid districts of Eastern Oregon as shown by the 1915 report of the desert and board is but \$1 an acre.

Bridge Plans Finished.

Salem—Plans and specifications for a reinforced concrete bridge across Ochoco creek, near Prineville, were completed by the State Highway department and forwarded to the Crook county court. The estimated cost of the structure is \$3900. The Highway department has received a request to prepare plans and specifications for a 180-foot wood span which is to be constructed near Myrtle Point, Coos county.

CONGRESS VOTES REGULAR ARMY OF 250,000; ALSO RESERVES

Washington, D. C.—An Army reorganization bill that would produce regular army and reserve military forces in the United States aggregating 1,000,000 men was passed by the senate Wednesday night without a record vote. It is a substitute for the Hay bill, passed by the house and the differences will be worked out in conference.

On the eve of a joint session of the houses of congress to hear a message from the President on grave international issues, the senate hastened completion of the bill amid scenes of excitement, repeatedly rejecting all amendments pending to reduce the proposed strengthening of the army.

The agreement to vote Wednesday was reached two weeks ago, and Vice President Marshall, enforcing the determination of the administration leaders, ruled that a vote was required by midnight.

The amendment making the army's peace strength 250,000 instead of 180,000, as provided in the bill as framed by the military committee, was adopted, 43 to 37, 21 Republicans and 22 Democrats voting for it. A proposal to make the figure 150,000 previously had been rejected, 66 to 13. A peace strength of only 140,000 is provided for the army bill passed by the house, and a sharp contest over that feature is looked for in conference.

Another amendment adopted would create a reserve regular army force in time of war, to be composed of school and college youths, and to provide a means of recruiting the proposed volunteer army force. This is expected to provide a trained reserve of from 200,000 to 400,000 young men. The proposal submitted by Senator Hardwick was agreed to 56 to 24, the result coming as a surprise to senators on both sides of the chamber, since predictions openly had been made that the volunteer army feature, already included in the bill, would be rejected in conference.

Senator Hardwick's amendment provides for military instruction by commissioned army officers under direction of the secretary of war in every school and college in the United States having 100 or more male students over 15 years old, when authorities of such school apply for such instruction and the requisite number of students agree to accept the training and become a part of the reserve force of the army of the nation. Application for the training would be purely voluntary, but all students over 18 years old receiving training would be subject to a call to the colors by the President in time of war, actual or threatened, during their training term.

Ten-Hour Law Argued.

Washington, D. C.—The Supreme court Wednesday took under advisement at the conclusion of oral arguments the constitutionality of the Oregon ten-hour workday law for men in mills and manufacturing establishments. The statute, the first of the kind ever brought before the court, is being tested in the case of Frank Bunting, a mill employe convicted of violating it. His counsel, W. Lair Thompson, attacked the law chiefly on the ground that it was an increased wage rather than a health measure.

Author Leaves \$250,000.

White Plains, N. Y.—The will was filed here Wednesday of the late Richard Harding Davis, novelist, and war correspondent, who died in his country home at Mount Kisco on April 11 last. The main portion of his estate, estimated to be worth about \$250,000, is placed in the hands of a trustee for the benefit of his widow, Elizabeth Genevieve McEvoy Davis, and his daughter, Hope. The will directs that testator's body be cremated and orders that his personal property be divided among designated relatives.

Hatters to Ask Pay Rise.

Danbury, Conn.—Demands for a wage increase approximating 10 per cent are to be made by union hatters throughout the country on May 1, or as soon after that date as present wage agreements expire, it was learned here Wednesday. This action, it was said, was authorized by the National board of directors of the United Hatters of North America, at a meeting held last week in New York.

New York May Aid Widows.

New York—A municipal movement to provide pensions for widowed mothers with children was begun Wednesday with the adoption by the board of aldermen of a resolution under which would be appropriated \$300,000 to be placed at the disposal of the Child Welfare board.

If the resolution is acted on favorably next week by the board of estimate, the proposed allowances will be granted.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORTS; GENERAL CROP CONDITIONS

Portland—Wheat—Bluestem, \$1.03 per bushel; fortyfold, 92c; club, 91c; red Fife, 91c; red Russian, 91c.

Hay—Eastern Oregon timothy, \$23.50 per ton; alfalfa, old crop, \$19.50@21.

Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$23 per ton; shorts, \$26; rolled barley, \$31.50@32.50.

Corn—Whole, \$36 per ton; cracked, \$37.

Vegetables—Artichokes, 75c per dozen; tomatoes, \$3.50@4 per crate; cabbage, \$2.25@3 per hundred; garlic, 10c per pound; peppers, 17¢@20¢; eggplant, 20¢; horseradish, 8¢; cauliflower, 75¢@1.25; lettuce, \$2@2.25 per crate; cucumbers, \$1.25 @ 1.50; spinach, 4¢@5¢ pound; asparagus, local, \$1.50 dozen; California, \$2.25@2.75 per box; rhubarb, 2¢@3¢ per pound; peas, 7¢.

Potatoes—Jobbing prices: Oregon, \$1.50@1.60 per sack; Yakimas, \$1.60 @ 1.75; new California, 6¢@7¢; per pound. Buying price: Oregon, \$1@ 1.20.

Onions—Oregon, \$1.35 @ 1.75 per sack; Texas Bermudas, yellow, \$2 per crate; white, \$2.10.

Green Fruit—Strawberries, \$1.25@ 1.35 per crate; apples, \$1@1.60 per box; cranberries, \$11 per barrel.

Eggs—Jobbing prices: Oregon ranch, candled, 22¢@22¢ per dozen; uncandled, 21¢@22¢.

Poultry—Hens, 17¢@17¢ per pound; stags, 13¢; broilers, 25¢@30¢; turkeys, live, 20¢@21¢; turkeys, dressed, choice, 25¢@26¢; ducks, 14 @ 15¢; geese, 10 @ 11¢.

Butter—City creamery, prints, extras, 30 @ 34¢ per pound; country creamery, prints, 29 @ 33¢; cubes, extras, 27¢@29¢; butterfat, No. 1, 33¢; No. 2, 30¢.

Veal—Fancy, 11¢@12¢ per pound.

Pork—Fancy, 11¢@12¢ per pound.

Hops—1915 crop, 10¢@12¢ per pound; 1916 contracts, 10¢@11¢.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 21¢@27¢ per pound; valley, 30¢; mohair, new clip, 40¢@45¢.

Cascara Bark—Old and new, 4¢ per pound.

Cattle—Steers, choice grain and pulp, \$8.75@9; choice hay, \$8.50@ 8.75; good, \$8.15@8.50; meidum, \$7.75@8.15; cows, choice, \$7.50@ 7.80; good, \$6.75@7.25; medium, \$6.25@7.25; heifers, \$5@7.15; bulls, \$2.75@6; stags, \$3@5.25.

Hog—Prime light, \$8.90@9.05; good to prime, \$8.50@8.75; rough heavy, \$7.90@8; pigs and skips, \$7.90@8.

Sheep—Yearlings, \$8.25@10; wethers, \$8@9; ewes, \$7@8.25; lambs, \$9.50@11.

U. S. Consul Says Orient Calls for Northwest Products

Consul General John P. Bray, of Singapore, Straits Settlements, who is on leave of absence from his post, arrived on the Pacific Coast last week and has spent a couple of days in Seattle in conference with business men and others interested in trade in the Northwest. The consul general has been in the service of the State department for about 20 years and for a number of years was stationed at Sydney, Australia, but recently was transferred to Singapore, where he not only looks after the affairs of the department of state, but also has charge of the affairs of other countries now at war.

The consul general spent considerable time in the Seattle office of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce and has given to the commercial agent the following statement as to conditions in the Straits Settlements as they probably affect the business of the Pacific Northwest.

"As to the manufacturing interests of the Pacific Northwest, I would say that there is a large opening in the Oriental countries for products of this region. Especially is this true in regard to pine lumber, flour, fruits, canned fish (particularly salmon).

"The development of the Straits Settlements and the Federated Malay States provides a great field for the manufactured steel products of the Pacific Northwest, and especially would I call the attention of manufacturers of this section to the lack of tonnage for the manufactured products to be sent forward."

Wheat Bids Are Advanced.

Portland—Eastern bids for wheat were lacking Thursday, but there was some demand on the local market, and offers at the Exchange were advanced ¼ to 2 cents for spot and May delivery. Bradstreets estimates the visible wheat decrease at 1,037,000 bushels, the corn decrease at 1,227,000 bushels, and the oats decrease at 1,976,000 bushels.

Timothy hay is scarce in the local market, and will continue so during the remainder of the season. The price is on a firm basis. Receipts of California grain hay are looked for. Alfalfa is also firm. The outlook is for a record crop of alfalfa in the Northwest this year.