

ROOT PLEDGES HIS SUPPORT TO WILSON

New York Solon Tells Society of International Law President Can Be Trusted.

In a speech expressing confidence in the Administration's Mexican policy, Senator Elihu Root, at the annual banquet of the American Society of International Law, at the Willard last night, pledged his support to the President in any step which the latter might take with respect to the Southern Republic.

Every one of the delegates was visibly affected by the address of the New York statesman. Senator Root displayed signs of emotion throughout his speech, his voice trembling at times and tears welling to his eyes.

Another dramatic incident occurred when Secretary of State Bryan announced the proposed mediation by Argentina, Chile, and Brazil, of the Mexican difficulty.

Says He Is Unhappy. "I have been feeling very unhappy during the last few days," said the Senator, "over our affairs in Mexico. It is not within the possibility of human nature to avoid differences of opinion as to policy, and every one who has a duty to perform must act according to the dictates of his own conscience and judgment in the performance of his own duty. I wish the war might pass from us, but the President has acted on his own responsibility and conscience."

He is the head of this great nation. It is for the nation that he acts. No matter how long we may have listened in our own country to the opinions of others, we must all, every one of us, stand loyally by him. There must be no backward look, but forward to the success and honor of our beloved country, which we best serve in loyal support of the Chief Magistrate upon whom rests the responsibility of leadership.

"Thank heaven, we have a President (there his voice trembled with emotion) in whose lofty character, sincerity of purpose, and genuine desire to do what is right, wise, patriotic, and best for the country and for humanity we can trust absolutely. I trust it. I have differed from him on questions of policy, and doubtless shall again, but I have confidence in the character and purpose of the President of the United States. He is my President and I will stand behind him in his leadership. And so, gentlemen, I ask you to rise for the first regular toast of the evening, the health of the President."

Senator Root declared the American people in this must have had too much regard to their foreign affairs as something vague, academic, and indirect.

Held Highest Duty. "For the peace of the world and for the prosperity of our own country," said the Senator, "there can be no higher duty resting upon the citizen than that of offering all over our country a leadership of instructed public opinion as to what is right and just and honorable for the American people in their foreign affairs."

Other speakers were Congressman Stevens of Minnesota and Prof. Coolidge, Harvard University, who has recently been lecturing in the Sorbonne, in Paris, under the exchange system.

Secretary Also Likens President to McKinley for His Patience in Trying Times.

Declaring that the patience and forbearance exhibited by President Wilson in dealing with the Mexican situation is worthy of the highest commendation, the Senator and McKinley, Secretary of the Navy, Daniel, at the annual banquet of the American Society of Naval Engineers last night, defended the Administration's policy and paid tribute to the patriotism of the men of the navy who have been called into service during the embargo.

Just as Lincoln and McKinley are now loved because of their patience during dark and troublous times," said Mr. Daniel, "so will President Wilson be honored for showing the same moral courage and strength of character."

Following Secretary Daniels, Minority Leader Mann and Congressman Fitzgerald, who were not on the program for speeches, were called to the platform.

Mr. Mann spoke humorously of the trouble in Mexico, declaring he had sent an armada to Mexican waters with two million dollars worth of munitions sufficient to awe Huerta.

Congressman Fitzgerald rapped the navy's policy and said that in the old-time way of entertaining it is prohibited, he cannot see the sense in financing the present expensive and costly policy for the entertainment of the naval officers of foreign countries who have been so strenuously criticized in the Panama Canal. The situation, he said, reminded him of the other "I'm all dressed up, but I don't know where to go."

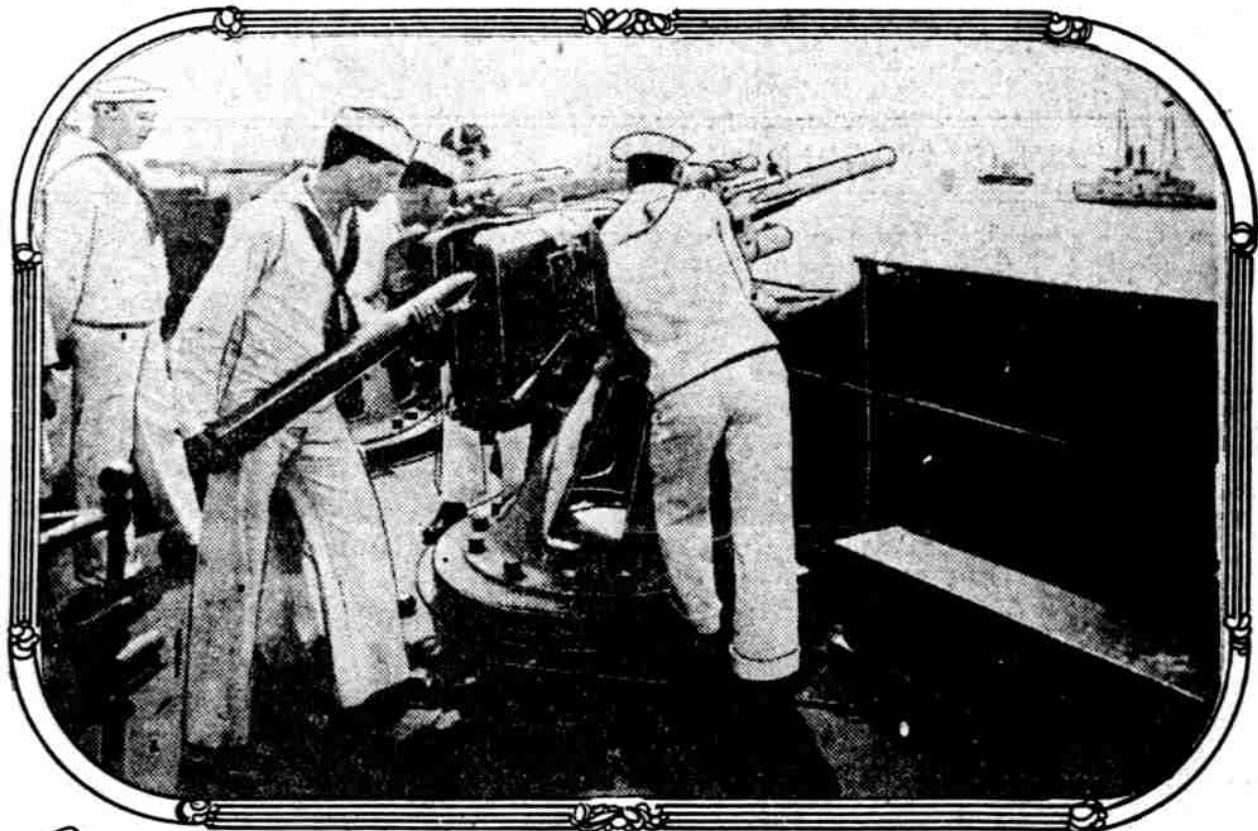
References to the troubles in Mexico were brought into the remarks of each speaker, and invariably were greeted with outbursts of applause.

Barrett Sees Mediation As Sign of New Spirit

That the present proposal of mediation for settlement of the Mexican difficulty was a sign of a new spirit is the opinion of John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American Union.

Mr. Barrett, with his wide knowledge of Latin America, expresses the opinion that the present mediation, brought by three of the leading South American republics, will serve, if successful, to knit more closely the bonds of friendship that now exist between the United States and her sister republics of the Western Hemisphere.

MEN WHO FIRE THE GUNS AT VERA CRUZ



BLUEJACKETS OF BATTLESHIP MICHIGAN OPERATING 5-INCH RIFLE TRAINED ON MEXICAN SEAPORT.

Aeroplanes Cause Panic in Vera Cruz

Navy Flyers Take First Opportunity to Experiment During Actual War Conditions, and the Natives Fear Bombs Are to Be Dropped in Their Midst—City Quiet and Peaceful.

By Lieut. CHARLES M. MAIGNE, U. S. A., Retired. (Staff Correspondent of The Washington Times.)

VERA CRUZ, Mexico, April 26.—The comparative calm which has prevailed in the captured city of Vera Cruz for the last several hours is shaken, due to the fact that the navy aviation squad has grasped the opportunity to experiment with aeroplanes under actual war conditions, and the frightened peons and natives watching the flights are fearful of the outcome.

It is their first view of an aeronautical flight. They have been told by the troublemakers among their number that the invading Americans are planning to drop destructive bombs into their midst, this because a few snipers still within the city limits persist in firing irregularly on our men.

The military authorities now directing the affairs of Vera Cruz today have been warning the panicky natives that such is not the intention; that structurally Vera Cruz is not to be molested. But they have been warned in so many words that every sniper and armed native arrested is to be stood up against a wall in front of a battalion of marines and bluejackets and executed.

QUIET IN VERA CRUZ TODAY.

It remains quiet in Vera Cruz today. Whatever may be transpiring in the rest of turbulent Mexico, this city, with American marines patrolling its streets and outskirts, and American battleships anchored in the harbor, with guns trained landward, is serene. But for the appearance of a uniformed sailor or marine now and then, with here and there a machine gun, there is nothing about the town to indicate that it is in possession of an invading force.

First Quiet Night. Not a shot was fired in Vera Cruz last night. Sentinels patrolled their beats with the same regularity and with as little excitement as if they had been back at their posts in the States.

Ten automatic guns, war equipment which will spit bullets faster than the mind can count, have been placed about the custom house, which is being used today as a headquarters toward the sandhills surrounding the city, where outposts of General Mass' scattered army are said to be hiding. Seven rations have been given the marines who this morning were sent on the scouting expedition.

Field Artillery Is Off for Vera Cruz

Twelve Guns and 340 Men Sail From Galveston, Tex. Three Regiments From the Presidio Will Increase Guard Along Border Today.

The Fourth Field Artillery, with twelve heavy field guns and 340 men, left this afternoon from Galveston on the transport San Marcos for Vera Cruz. The War Department was advised today that three hundred mules for the artillery will follow Tuesday from Galveston on the San Marcos. The San Marcos is due to arrive at Vera Cruz on Wednesday. The border guard will be increased today. Three regiments, the Sixth, Twelfth, and Sixteenth Infantry, comprising nearly 5,000 men, they will be scattered along the border at El Paso, Nogales, Laredo, and other points as re-enforcements. Their arrival is expected to allay the alarm of Americans all along the border, who fear attacks by the Mexicans.

FEAR REFUGEES MAY BRING YELLOW FEVER

South in Danger, Blue Sends Men to Examine All Coming From Mexico.

By Lieut. CHARLES M. MAIGNE, U. S. A., Retired. (Staff Correspondent of The Washington Times.)

A yellow fever epidemic throughout the South stares the citizens of this country in the face of the pouring into this country of refugees from Mexico. This was announced by Surgeon General Blue, of the Public Health Service.

He announced that he is taking every possible precaution to protect the people of the South from this infection, and that no refugee should be permitted to enter the country without a thorough examination by officers of the service, if it is physically possible.

"Detention camps at Vera Cruz and along the border, in which refugees who have symptoms of the disease will be held until it is assured that they will not be a menace to the citizens of this country, are already planned," said General Blue.

"Already I have dispatched Surgeon C. M. Gutierrez and R. H. Von Zedoff to Vera Cruz, where they will take up the work. Other men will be assigned along the border, and the ordinary quarantine work, and amply qualified to handle any case of yellow fever that may be brought to our attention."

"We have had nearly enough men, and as a result we are holding examinations Monday in six of the larger cities, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago, and have enough men to supplement the force. I may say in this connection that we have more yellow fever immunus in our corps than in any other in the Government service."

The danger to the South is more acute because this is the yellow fever season. At this time, should the mosquitoes and house flies become infected, an epidemic would break out which could not be put under until the summer months had passed, and an epidemic would be that there are not now the large number of immunus which would be the case in a former year. There has been no yellow fever in any quantity for years, and, consequently, there is no immunity among men immune as a result of having had the disease."

Favor Prompt Action. Americans in Vera Cruz express grave doubts over the advisability of delaying military action against Huerta pending the proposed mediation. It is believed by the American colony here that Huerta will make use of the time in gathering re-enforcements, and in supplying his army with fighting equipment.

There is no indication of yellow fever in this section. A few cases of smallpox have been discovered, but the Public Health Service has them under control, and the disease cannot spread. Food prices continue to soar, and it will be but a few days when the American authorities will be forced to feed the entire city.

Ordered Away to War From Baby He Never Saw

MONTCLAIR, N. J., April 26.—The Mexican trouble has prevented Lieut. Walter Boardman Docket, of this city, from seeing his first-born, a daughter, expected to see his daughter upon his return, out his ship was ordered to Mexican waters.

VILLA PROMISES TO PUNISH GEN. HUERTA

Rebel Leader Will Demand That Carranza Take a Neutral Stand in Crisis.

JUAREZ, April 26.—A crisis is expected in constitutional affairs before tonight, unless Carranza backs down and expresses his intention of remaining neutral in the situation which has developed from the Tampico incident.

Villa is in Juarez because he does not wish to argue the matter of international policy with Carranza and his associates. Knowing that a break between Carranza and the nominal first chief of the revolution, and himself at this time would be fatal to the cause he has been leading, Villa hurried to Juarez, angry and smarting because Carranza and his non-fighting diplomatists neglected to confer or counsel with him or Gen. Felipe Angeles, the military brains of the revolution, regarding the reply forwarded to Washington in answer to the polite request for a statement of their position in the present situation.

Villa has admitted that had he remained in Chihuahua, the break would not have occurred, which has been pending between the nominal and the real chiefs of the revolution. To assure his friends on the American side and throughout the United States, Villa hastened to Juarez and issued a statement that Carranza's position was not the position of a traitor, and that he would be held by it. He admitted that the Carranza note was a grievous mistake and the outcome of bad advice from political friends.

Villa went further last night when he sent representatives of the United States to understand that, in Carranza's receded from his position in regard to the United States, he would take charge of affairs and either force Carranza to retreat or resign. But Carranza and his close friends do not consider such a drastic movement necessary in order to restore the situation, Carranza depends upon his advisers for whatever element of political strength he has.

Villa will have none of this borrowed strength, and intends to return and put the issue up to Carranza. As Villa has a controlled situation in Juarez, which have arisen, there is little doubt here that he will dominate the situation, and that Carranza will be forced to neutral policy with the United States, even if Mexico City is invaded. This Villa and the Washington representative here have agreed to.

"Carranza's message was a great mistake," said Villa. "It is not best for me to give my views yet, but we are not going to turn our backs on our personal wishes are that the United States continue the blockade of the Huerta ports. If it will do us any good, I will personally make Huerta's apology to the United States, my friend and the friend of the people of Mexico, for all the insults he has offered your flag."

Sixteen Signal Experts Ordered to Flagship

NEWPORT, R. I., April 26.—Sixteen young men trained in school for signaling under the personal supervision of Secretary Daniels last summer, were today hurriedly ordered to the super-dreadnought New York, flagship of the special squadron, commanded by Rear Admiral Winslow.

The lads are expert both with wigwag system and with the wireless. Their ages range from nineteen to twenty-one and most of them come from New York and New England.

Two officers of the Naval War College also received assignments. Capt. Volney O. Chase, of the college staff, will go with Rear Admiral Winslow as chief of staff. Lieut. Halley Powell, who was taking the long course at the college, was assigned to the command of the destroyer Reid, now in Southern waters.

Repairs on Condensers Prevent Salem Sailing

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., April 26.—Trouble with the condensers, which are used for obtaining water for consumption on shipboard, was given as the reason today at the Philadelphia navy yard for the failure of the scout cruiser Salem to leave the yard to join Admiral Halsey's fleet in Mexican waters.

The fast-going craft was to slip away from her moorings at 8 o'clock last night, but her departure was delayed in the afternoon, and postponed her leave-taking until some time tomorrow.

Paraguayans Menace American Legation in Riot

MONTVIDEO, Paraguay, April 26.—A demonstration occurred here last night in protest against American intervention in Mexico. The police prevented the demonstrators from approaching the American legation and finally dispersed them.

In the course of a scuffle between the police and a group of rioters several persons were injured.

O'SHAUGHNESSY TRUNKS LOGGED

VERA CRUZ, Mexico, April 26.—It was reported on best authority here today that the ten trunks in which Charge Nelson O'Shaughnessy brought his belongings with him from Mexico City were looted by Mexican federals. The loss reported was \$2,000.

When O'Shaughnessy and his party were escorted to the end of the road, where they met Captain Huse and representatives of Admiral Fletcher, the charge decided to leave the trunks over night within the Mexican lines, under the promise that the Mexicans would guard them until they were sent for.

When O'Shaughnessy got them today, it was said, he discovered his loss.

MEXICAN SOLDIERS ON ROOF OF HOUSE



RIFLEMEN "SNIPING" FROM ROOFTOPS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY LOSSES AMONG THE AMERICANS WHO TOOK VERA CRUZ

CARNEGIE IS JOYOUS OVER PEACE EFFORT

Says That Chorus Ladies Look Like Angels of Peace to Him Now.

NEW YORK, April 26.—The Mexican mediation plan has made this Andrew Carnegie's "happiest day." The noted peace advocate and philanthropist was attending a concert in Carnegie Hall when a telegram from President Wilson reached him, telling of the acceptance of the mediation offer of Argentina, Brazil and Chile. Carnegie rushed from his box to the stage.

"Behold, I bring you good tidings," he exclaimed excitedly. Then he announced the receipt of the telegram.

Turning to the chorus, he said: "This news about the Mexican situation has put me in such fine spirits that each of you ladies of the chorus looks like an angel of peace to me."

Carnegie said our hosts' attitude toward Mexico has been wrong from the first. The fairness or unfairness of the Mexican elections was no affair of ours, he declared.

District May Lose Four Engineer Corps Officers

Intervention in Mexico may result in the discharge of the services of the officers of the engineer corps of the United States army now stationed at the District building.

It was learned at the War Department that Col. Chester Harding, Engineer Commissioner, and Capt. Mark Brooke, Capt. Julian Schaler, and Capt. Powell, all of the engineer corps, have offered their services to Gen. Daniel C. Kingman, Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, for Field duty. In the case of Captain Brooke, Captain Schley and Captain Powell, it is understood that the offer of service is believed, however, to be no immediate probability of the transfer of Colonel Harding.

Colonel Harding served a little more than a year as Engineer Commissioner his detail having begun February 28, 1912. He came to Washington from the Panama Canal Zone, where he was assistant to Colonel Goethals. Captain Brooke has been detailed to Washington since May 5, 1910. Captain Schley has been in Cuba and the Philippines. Captain Brooke was also in Cuba as a dier was sent to Panama.

Rebels Profess Peace, But Plant Their Guns

EL PASO, Tex., April 26.—Behind cover of expressions of friendliness and peaceful intentions by both rebels and American commanders, both sides today rushed preparations for the defense of El Paso and Juarez. The rebels have thrown up entrenchments along the river front and have brought quantities of cotton bales from the interior to be used in breastworks.

On the American side the guns of the Sixth Field Artillery are in position on a hill overlooking Juarez and the river front.

Roberto Pesquera, Carranza's diplomatic adviser, has been ordered to proceed at once to Washington to negotiate with the State Department. Villa's position regarding his chief's statement on the Vera Cruz occupation lends strength to the belief that the rebel agent will tone down the Carranza statement and will carry instructions approving the mediation plan, providing the elimination of Huerta is insisted upon.

Villa today declined to make a formal statement regarding the mediation plan. He received Spanish translations of the statement of President Wilson in reply to the offer of Brazil, Argentina, and Chile, and will take these southward with him for consideration in his conference with Carranza.

HUERTA SEIZED AMERICAN'S CARS

VERA CRUZ, April 26.—Refugees from Mexico City arriving here today added to the tales of indignities heaped upon American residents there, by the enraged Huerta. Besides searching the homes of all foreigners and seizing arms and ammunition, fifty or more automobiles were dragged from the garages of their American owners and held by the Huerta soldiers. They were taken to prevent any possibility of the flight of the owners.

HUERTA NEWSPAPER SILENCED BY COURT

Suspended After Attack on Government When Citizens Threaten to Close It.

LAREDO, Tex., April 26.—El Guardia del Bravo, a Mexican paper published here in the interests of the Huerta government, has been suspended by order of District Judge Mullaly and Mayor McComb.

For months, Prisciliano Aldama, the publisher has been printing veiled attacks on the American Government which have been disregarded, but today he published a bitter attack on the American Government as responsible for Mexico's troubles.

A committee informed the authorities that if the latter did not put a stop to the continuing attacks, the citizens of Laredo would.

None of the Mexicans who dynamited and burned Nuevo Laredo returned that day. A few adventurous young men crossed the international bridge, but there was nothing to see but the ruins of the buildings.

During the night no attempt was made to fire or blow up either of the bridges across the Rio Grande. The railroad bridge was brilliantly illuminated by headlights from two locomotives, while the international bridges, piers, and approaches on the Mexican side, were lighted from a searchlight made from a moving picture projector.

READY TO MOBILIZE

NEW YORK MILITIA

Staten Island Is O'Ryan's Selection as Place for Gathering of Troops.

NEW YORK, April 25.—Maj. Gen. John F. O'Ryan, commanding the New York State troops, spent the day here completing his plans for the possible mobilization of the New York State troops.

CHARLESTOWN YARD RUSHES NAVY WORK

Three Shifts Are Employed on Sunday for First Time Since the Spanish War.

BOSTON, April 25.—For the first time since the Spanish war, work in every mechanical department of the Charlestown navy yard is in progress on Sunday. The three shifts that have been working there day and night since the hostilities at Vera Cruz began were ordered to continue today. The news from Washington of acceptance of the efforts at mediation by the South American republics of the differences between the United States and Mexico was not followed by orders from the Navy Department to let up on the work of preparing the ships at the yard for service with all speed possible.

Repair work will continue to be rushed on the gunboat Castine and the battleship Rhode Island until completed. The gunboat probably will be ready to sail for Mexico next Friday. She is wanted for service in shallow rivers. There is so much to be done on the Rhode Island that she cannot be made ready for sea for a month.

With her hold loaded with ammunition, the collier Leonidas sailed from the yard this morning for Panama. For the last few days she has been loading with ammunition sent on board from Hingham.

The navy yard has been practically stripped of marines by the departure of 100 men to Mexico. This morning the naval prison was temporarily placed out of commission.

At dawn today the 120 prisoners were put aboard the training ship Chicago and taken to the Portsmouth navy yard, where they will be confined in the naval prison at that port until peace conditions return to the Charlestown yard.

Some of the prisoners, serving time for slight misdemeanors under the terms of whose service is almost expired, have begged the prison officers to be released to the Portsmouth Department, that they be paroled and permitted to return to active duty. Officers have forwardly to Washington the names of the most deserving men, and favorable action is expected.

S. P. V. Auxiliaries Have Depot for War Supplies

Mrs. Ida M. Galloway, national chief of staff, Auxiliary United States Sea and Air Force, and other officers of the organization, have established a depot for donations of clothing and bed linen to be sent to the front, should the fighting there become active. An appeal for cash and donations of sewing material will be sent out immediately should the situation warrant such action.

Congressional Club Lets Contract for New Home

The Congressional Club has contracted with W. P. Lipscomb, builder, for the erection of a new clubhouse at New Hampshire avenue and U. Street. Excavations will be started soon. The plans for the new clubhouse were prepared by George Oakly Totten, jr.

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