

# THE CRISIS OF WAR IS FINALLY REACHED

## First Gun Is Fired In Trouble With Mexico

### Old Glory Flies Over Vera Cruz.

### FEAT COST FOUR LIVES

Twenty More Americans Fall Wounded In the Enterprise.

### TWO HUNDRED MEXICANS DEAD

Rear Admiral Fletcher Reports the Seizure of Mexico's Principal Port, After a Sharp Exchange With Mexican Garrison—Firing Still In Progress According to Latest Reports. Admiral Badger Arrives at Scene of Hostilities and Is Ordered to Divide Fleet.

Washington, April 22.—American marines and bluejackets are now in possession of Vera Cruz, the principal port of Mexico.

The seizure of the city cost the Americans four lives and 20 wounded, while the Mexican losses have been estimated unofficially as between 100 and 200 men.

The first shedding of blood came when the Mexicans under General Maas opened fire on the American landing force from Admiral Fletcher's fleet. With the firing of these shots, the last hope of avoiding an open declaration of war disappeared. The United States will now be forced to move against Mexico with all the force of its tremendous military and naval power. No attempt was made here to conceal the tremendous consequences that are likely to follow the developments. It means the expenditure of millions of dollars and the risking of thousands of lives.

While no formal action was taken, it is believed by officials that Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy will be immediately recalled from Mexico City and the Mexican charge at Washington, Senor Akana, will be given his passports without delay.

The first news of the fighting at Vera Cruz and the seizure of the city came in this report from Admiral Fletcher, received at the navy department:

"Tuesday, in face of approaching northern, landed marines and sailors from Utah, Florida and Prairie and seized custom house. Mexican forces did not oppose landing but opened fire with rifles and artillery after our seizure of custom house. Prairie shelling Mexicans out of their positions. Desultory firing from house-tops and streets. Hold custom house and section of city in vicinity of wharves and consulates. Casualties, four dead and 20 wounded."

This bulletin was followed in about an hour by another dispatch from Admiral Fletcher, which read: "Holding the vicinity of the railroad station and the yards and desultory firing continues; also holding the vicinity of custom house and cable office."

This dispatch was filed at Vera Cruz at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At 6:59 o'clock, Vera Cruz time, Admiral Fletcher sent this dispatch: "Our men are firing only when fired at. We prepared a flag of truce with message to General Maas to cease firing or our big guns would be used. Now about 1,000 marines and sailors ashore. All business here suspended."

Soon after this the state department received the following dispatch from United States Consul Canada at Vera Cruz:

"Marines and bluejackets landed. Immediately taking possession of cable office, postoffice, telegraph office and customs. Have also railroad terminal and yards, with rolling stock. Notwithstanding the firing from house-tops, we're masters of the situation so far, without the use of heavy guns. Firing all around the consulate, several shots having struck building. Our men simply defending themselves. Some resistance from naval forces soon silenced by guns of the Prairie. At this time reported four men killed, 20 wounded. Several Americans, including some women, who refused to go aboard refuge ship, now marooned in hotels within firing line. Trains from Mexico City did not arrive."

### CAPTURE OF VERA CRUZ

Mexican Guns Silenced by Volleys From American Warships.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, April 22.—The first gun was fired in the war with Mexico at 1:05 Tuesday afternoon. Marines and bluejackets from the Utah, Florida and Prairie seized the custom house of Vera Cruz without opposition. Leaving a guard at the entrances to the custom house, the American forces took up positions commanding the streets leading toward the central square of the town, the Plaza de la Constitution. Machine guns and field guns were placed in position to cover all the streets converging on the square.

Admiral Fletcher's orders were that the landing forces should occupy these positions and make no attack on the Mexican troops unless they were attacked themselves.

Scarcely had the troops placed the guns in position when Mexican soldiers appeared on the housetops overlooking the square. Two shots rang out. Within a few minutes three volleys came from a Mexican force several hundred yards from the positions occupied by the Americans. These volleys were replied to immediately by the bluejackets and the firing became general.

When Rear Admiral Fletcher was informed of the attack on his men by the Mexicans he ordered the guns of the fleet to open fire on the positions occupied by the Mexicans.

Captain William M. Rush of the Florida located a large force of Mexicans firing on the United States troops from the towers of the Benito Juarez lighthouse and ordered his men to open fire on this point. Several three-inch guns were trained on the lighthouse and the tower was struck three times, silencing the enemy's fire.

Captain Bush signalled to the transport Prairie, on board of which was Admiral Fletcher, as follows: "Am being attacked from the right and rear north of the round; shell that district."

At the same time it was noticed that sharpshooters lined the roof of the Mexican Naval academy and were sniping the bluejackets. A three-inch gun of the Prairie was trained on the academy and the soldiers were forced to abandon their position.

The shooting by this time had become general all over the city. At 3 o'clock the United States consulate had been struck by several bullets.

Two American bluejackets and two marines were killed and nearly a score wounded. The dead are: Schumaker, coxswain of the Florida; Polsette, seaman of the Florida; Haggerty, private of the marines; another private, name not given.

The name of the wounded so far as is known are: C. J. Leahy, N. Schwartz, G. Cameron and J. P. Pleasue, of the Florida; Gisburne, electrician of the Florida; Davidson, Drains and McMillan, privates of the Second regiment of marines from the Prairie.

Under the heavy firing warships the Mexicans were driven from the center of the city to the eastward, where they attempted to make a stand. The Prairie turned her guns to the point where the Mexicans were gathering and forced them to take refuge in the narrow streets thereabout.

American Exodus On.

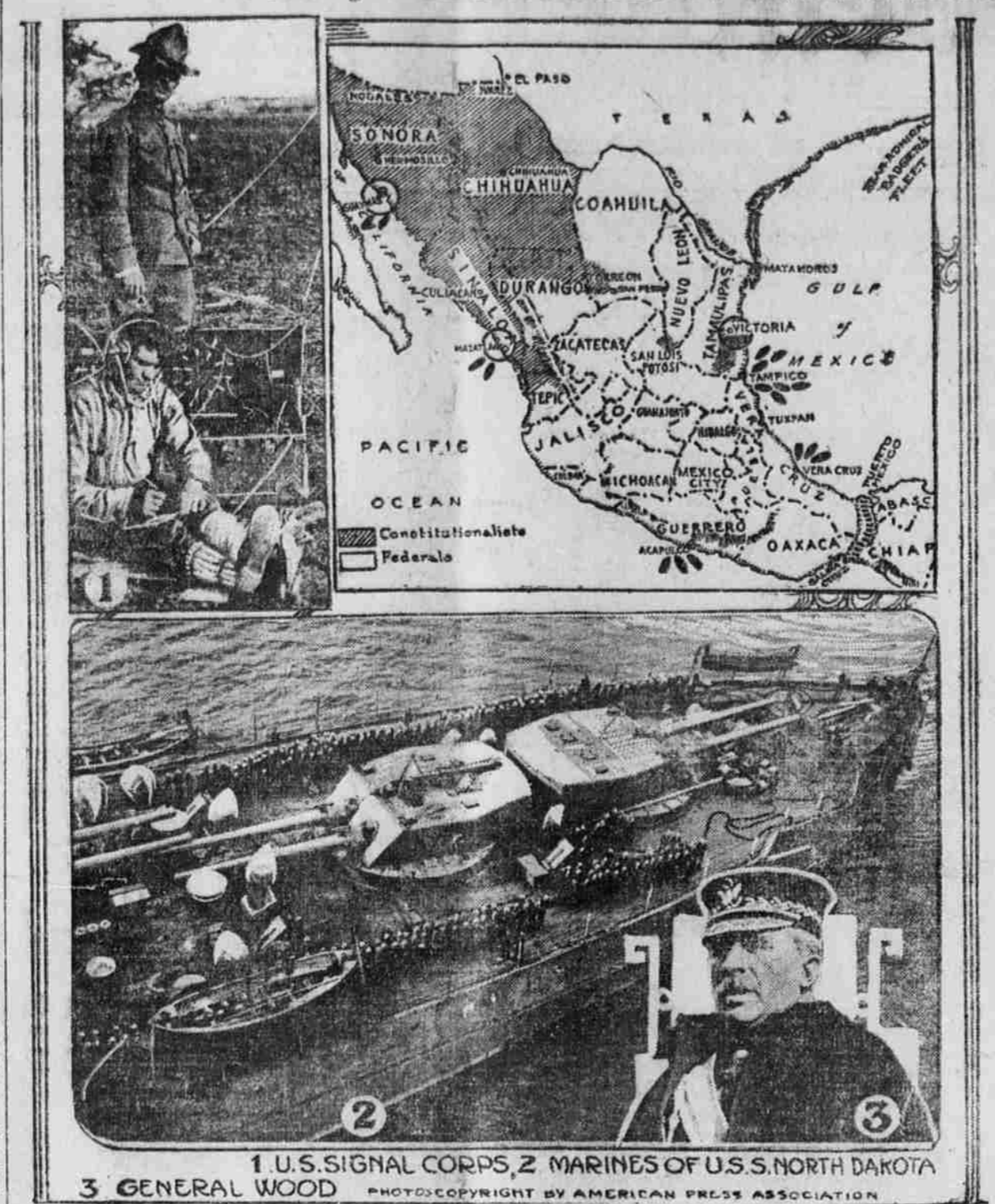
Washington, April 22.—Secretary of State Bryan admitted that a general American exodus from Mexico is on. He said that he had received a wireless from Rear Admiral Fletcher at Vera Cruz reporting that the Americans are coming from the capital on special trains as fast as they can be arranged for. Fletcher has been ordered to care for all Americans.

Men had not a hammer to begin, not a syllabled articulation. They had it all to make—and they made it—Carli's.

### Strengthens Weak and Tired Men

"I was under a great strain nursing a relative through three months' sickness," writes Mrs. J. C. Van De Sande, of Kirkland, Ill., and "Electric Bitters kept me from breaking down. I will never be without it." Do you feel tired and worn out? No appetite and food won't digest? It isn't the spring weather. You need Electric Bitters. Start a month's treatment today; nothing better for stomach, liver and kidneys. The great spring tonic. Relief or money back. 50c and \$1.00 at your druggist.

## MAP OF NAVAL WAR ZONE SHOWING MEXICAN PORTS TO BE BLOCKADED BY UNITED STATES



### WILSON AND HUERTA

Former to Compel Latter to Honor American Flag.



Photos by American Press Association.

### PLOT TO KILL HUERTA

Alleged to Have Been Revealed by Rebel Consul at Los Angeles. Los Angeles, Cal., April 22.—That a plot is under way in Mexico City to assassinate General Huerta, dictator of Mexico, was revealed here by Felipe Armenta, Constitutionalist representative, and Adolfo Carrillo, consul in Los Angeles, for the Constitutionalist. Armenta displayed a telegram from Mexico City stating that Huerta was going to be killed within a few days and by the hands of his own federals.

"It means," said Armenta, "that the federals are becoming tired of Huerta's dictatorship. He is becoming dangerous to them. They will put him out of the way. It will not be long. Developments are going to appear very rapidly, but now is no time to make them public."

Both Armenta and Carrillo say they do not believe Huerta's life will be spared another week.

### Ordered to Mexican Waters.

Washington, April 22.—The navy department ordered the fuel ship Nerues to proceed as soon as possible from Hampton Roads to Mexican waters.

### JOHN LIND'S FIRST PUBLIC UTTERANCE.

Washington, April 22.—"I can not understand the action of the congressmen who in the house voted against sustaining the president and in favor of Huerta," said John Lind, until recently personal representative of President Wilson in Mexico. "Do they not know that Huerta has assassinated more Mexican congressmen than those who voted nay and has imprisoned a still larger number?" This comment by Mr. Lind is his first public statement on the Mexican crisis since his return to this country.

### FEAR MURDER AND RAPINE

American Dwellers in Places Along the Mexican Border Alarmed.

Washington, April 22.—Fear for American lives in the border towns has increased. Secretary of War Garrison admitted the receipt of two telegrams from places along the border expressing citizens' fears that murder and rapine from inflamed Mexicans in cities will overtake them. These messages were immediately dispatched to General Bliss with orders to investigate and report. The secretary of war said he had received several such messages, although frequently investigation had developed the fact that citizens' fears had little ground. In actual cases of danger, however, he has ordered quick action to prevent any Mexican onslaught.

### BRITISH ATTITUDE

No Action of Any Kind Contemplated in Mexico.

London, April 22.—The foreign office steadily adheres to its attitude in regard to Mexico which was adopted at the very outset of the trouble between that country and the United States. Additional proof that no change in this attitude is contemplated is furnished by the fact that Sir William George Tyrell, private secretary to Sir Edward Grey, the foreign secretary, accompanied King George and Queen Mary and the foreign minister to Paris. Sir William would not have left London if any action was contemplated by Great Britain. The foreign office does not expect that there will be an anti-foreign outbreak in Mexico.

### Rebels Seize United States Cavalry?

Tombstone, Ariz., April 22.—Fifteen members of Troop B, Tenth cavalry, are being held by Constitutionalist troops at a point just below the border between Naco and Hereford, Ariz. The troops, who were on border patrol, wandered across the line without being aware of the fact. It is reported they were surrounded and taken prisoners by a large rebel detachment. Troop A, Tenth, left Fort Huachuca to investigate.

### BADGER AND FLETCHER

American Admirals First to Act in the Mexican Crisis.



Photos by American Press Association.

### Clears Complexion—Removes Skin Blemishes

Why go through life embarrassed and disfigured with pimples, eruptions, blackheads, red rough skin, or suffering the tortures of Eczema, tetter, salt rheum. Just ask your druggist for Dr. Hobson's Eczema Ointment. Follow the simple suggestion and your skin worries are over. Mild soothing, effective. Excellent for babies and delicate, tender skin. Stops chapping. Always helps. Relief or money back. 50c at your druggist.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**EAGLE GROVE**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Our farmers are all busy planning for their spring crops.

Delbert Cutnaw who was called here by the death of his father, returned to his home in Dixon, North Dakota, Sunday.

J. D. McArdle and wife of Fredericktown were calling on old friends in this vicinity Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Montgomery and twin boys, and W. B. Shipley and family were entertained at G. W. Shipley's Sunday in honor of Mr. Shipley's 76th birthday.

Willis Parsons and family spent Sunday with his mother of Amity.

Mrs. Lloyd Shira visited from Friday until Monday with her brother, Alfred Stofer, and family of Mansfield.

Virgil Montgomery, Grace Myers, Dwight and Ruth Gilmore were in Mt. Vernon attending the Boxwell Saturday.

Check Your April Cough

Thawing frost and April rains chill you to the very marrow, you catch cold—head and lungs stuffed—you are feverish—cough continually and feel miserable—you need Dr. King's New Discovery. It soothes inflamed and irritated throat and lungs, stops cough, your head clears up, fever leaves, and you feel fine. Mr. J. T. Davis, of Sitkney Corner, Me., "Was cured of a dreadful cough after doctor's treatment and all other remedies failed." Relief or money back. Pleasant—Children like it. Get a bottle today. 50c and \$1.00, at your druggist.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve for all sores.

**MILLER BROS.**  
 Funeral Directors and Embalmers

Ambulance service day or night

Prompt attention given to all calls.

SUCCESSORS TO H. J. CHAPELAIN

Citizens' phone 371B; Bell 243

4 N. Main St. Mt. Vernon, O.

## Carpets, Rugs Mattings

Ingrain Carpets, 25 cents a yard, to all wool, highest grade 65c a yard.

Stair Carpets, Grass Matting Carpets, 3/4 to 2 yards wide, 37 1/2c to \$1.00 running yard.

Straw Mattings, Jap. and China Mattings.

Wilton, Axminster, Velvets and Brussels Rugs, Oriental and Floral Patterns, all sizes, large and small at lowest prices.

Ingrain Art Squares, all sizes from \$2.75 to \$12.00.

Linoleums, all widths, 1 to 4 yards wide, best grades, lowest prices.

**THE ARNOLD STORE**

Get one, too. Three hundred forty-five thousand and more Ford owners are getting maximum service—at minimum cost. No matter for what purpose you want a car, you won't go wrong if you buy a Ford. Get one, too.

Five hundred dollars is the new price of the Ford runabout; the touring car is five fifty—all f. o. b. Detroit, complete with equipment. Get catalog and particular from

**AUTO INN**  
 F. J. Harris, Prop.

**Studebaker Six**  
**\$1,575**

Electric lights and starter.  
 Seven passenger  
 At a price lower than the price of any other six in the world.

**STUDEBAKER FOUR \$1,050**

**AUTO INN**  
 F. J. HARRIS, Prop.