

Walls should take place. Gen. Huerta, to whom similar representations were made, has not yet been heard from.

Secretary Bryan is not entirely displeased with Carranza's attitude in reference to the oil field. He intimated to the British ambassador and others that to neutralize Tampico and thus protect the oil fields and the shipping plying with that port might operate to deprive the Constitutionalists of the revenue they would obtain should they succeed in capturing the port.

**Huerta Forces Demoralized.**  
Reports received here are to the effect that the Federal forces are demoralized as a result of the American occupation of Vera Cruz and the presence of American warships.

This demoralization, it is believed, will aid Gen. Villa in the capture of Saltillo, which is held by 8,000 or 10,000 Federals. Reinforcements, with heavy guns, have been sent to Tampico, and the fall of that point within a few days is expected.

Constitutionalist victories at this time will destroy the prestige of Huerta, according to the administration view. Once this takes place his elimination is certain.

**Devise Means to Aid Huerta.**  
Impressed with these considerations, which Secretary Bryan is said to have conveyed to them, the mediators are endeavoring to devise some means whereby Huerta can save his face.

There are, however, flaws in this administration forecast. It was believed that when Torreon was captured by Villa Huerta would be overthrown in Mexico City. Huerta is still in office.

Granting the elimination of Huerta by the Constitutionalists, the administration will have Carranza and Villa in power. These men will be urged to hold a fair and free election. That they will call an election is to be expected. That they will control the result is more certain.

So that, according to some diplomatic observers, the United States will have to deal with a situation similar in every respect to that which now exists, the only difference being that instead of Huerta it will be Carranza who will be in command at Mexico City.

**Dictator Will Remain Stubborn.**  
That Huerta will consent to eliminate himself, especially with Carranza occupying an attitude of independence, is not believed even by the mediators.

The administration had hoped that Carranza could be induced to abandon his pretensions for the presidency, which would make it less difficult for Huerta to retire.

But Carranza's attitude was disclosed by the significant omission from his reply of any reference to the proposal of the mediators to deal with the pacification of the country. Huerta has everything to gain and nothing to lose by pursuing a course which will alienate the United States and the Constitutionalists.

He has contended from the beginning that without assistance from the American government the revolution would not have made the headway that it has made. He has protested time and time again without result. The invariable answer has been that he must get out.

**Pitfalls for President.**  
Some officials of the administration are apprehensive that through the diplomatic moves now being made President Wilson will be enticed into a position of open hostility to the Constitutionalists. The advantage of such a situation to Huerta is obvious.

It is altogether probable that in every dispatch he sends to the mediators the dictator has this purpose in view.

The president and his entire cabinet are aware of the pitfalls being spread for their diplomacy.

They discussed every possible aspect of the situation today. The decision reached was to acquiesce regretfully in the declaration of Carranza to suspend hostilities; to look with favor on his efforts to defeat the Federals wherever he attacked them; to continue to give the Constitutionalists tacit support, and to bring every force possible to bear in order to drive Huerta from power.

Then the Constitutionalists will be dealt with.

**Wilson Firm in Stand.**  
It is declared by those in the president's confidence that the solution he will insist upon must go to the fundamentals of the situation. In other words, he has not receded and will not recede an inch from the demands originally put forward by John Lind, special commissioner to Mexico, as follows:  
An early and free election, in which all factions will agree to take part.  
Gen. Huerta to bind himself not to be a

candidate for election as president of the republic.

Agreement of all factions to abide by the results of the election and to cooperate in organizing and supporting the new administration.

**May Adopt Irish Land Laws.**

At the same time the new administration will be bound to adopt an agrarian policy, which is the basis of the unrest in the republic. The Irish land laws have been considered with a view to adapting them to Mexico. Consideration also is being given to a proposal that Huerta's successor shall name a commission to study the question and recommend a method of dividing up the lands among the peasants.

The mediators held a short meeting this morning. While they were in session the Spanish ambassador arrived with a cablegram from Gen. Huerta. Its contents are kept secret.

There is reason to believe, however, that Gen. Huerta, regarding himself as the president of the Mexican republic, is willing to continue the mediation, in spite of the non-participation therein of Gen. Carranza.

**Envoys in Night Conference.**  
Ambassador Da Gama of Brazil and Señor Neón, the Argentine minister, were in conference at the Argentine legation tonight. What had occurred to cause this conference neither was disposed to reveal.

They told colleagues, however, that they were not entirely dissatisfied with the situation. At least, they are in a position to exchange the views of the United States and Gen. Huerta and have not been foreclosed from approaching Gen. Carranza.

The last named did not refuse to discuss the question of the pacification of Mexico, he merely declined to recognize it as a subject of consideration. Under such circumstances the mediators do not regard the door as having been shut against any future proposals which may be for the benefit of all Mexico.

**Must Overcome Huerta Objections.**  
The difficulty the mediators face, of course, is in inducing Huerta to agree not to be a candidate for election to the office he holds. It is to this feature that they particularly are addressing themselves, and it has been a subject viewed from every angle at the various conferences that have been held.

It is understood that various plans have been telegraphed to Mexico City for the purpose of ascertaining how they are regarded by the dictator.

**NAVY WIRES VERA CRUZ WILL SOON NEED STAPLES.**

Message from Admiral Fletcher Tells Market Conditions in Battle Shaken Port.

Foodstuffs, comprising whole corn, beans, rice, and sugar, will soon find a market in Vera Cruz, according to information received from Washington yesterday by H. A. Garver, commercial agent of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, in the Federal building. The information was received in a letter from the department of commerce.

A telegram from Admiral Fletcher giving a general review of business conditions in the Mexican sea port following its investment by the American naval and military forces was included in the letter.

"Activities of business in the city are practically normal," Admiral Fletcher's telegram read. "There appears to be no immediate need of provisions for the inhabitants of Vera Cruz. The amount of provisions in sight available for purchase is variously estimated at from one to two weeks' supply, exclusive of considerable quantities of supplies in the railroad terminal yard not yet unloaded."

"The local supply of fresh garden produce is still limited, but will doubtless improve as the back country is opened up. Fish is cheaper and more plentiful, because none can be shipped to the interior. Milk is scarce. Beef cattle in considerable numbers are reported to be fairly near Vera Cruz, but the owners fear to drive them in without armed guards to protect them."

"There is no ice, the ice plant having been damaged by gun fire, and the reserve supply is entirely consumed. Our force will repair the ice plant. There is no apparent market for dry goods and notions."

**Has Anybody Seen This Youth?**

A tall slim youth astride a small black polo pony is believed to be traversing some country road near Chicago. The police want him. He stole the horse, it is said, from the W. C. Du Brock Riding academy at 1128 Foster avenue.

## MORE REFUGEES REACH VERA CRUZ

Hancock Brings 432 Americans from Puerto Mexico; They Start for U. S.

## SAILORS' "CLEANUP" DAY.

Iron Out Wrinkles of Nine Days Ashore and Plan Ball Games with Army.

**BY DUDLEY HARMON.**  
[BY CABLE TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.]  
VERA CRUZ, May 1.—(Special.)—The transport Hancock arrived this morning from Puerto Mexico with 432 American refugees. All were well and happy at being under the United States flag again. They were transferred at once to the Ward liner Monterey, which later in the afternoon sailed for New Orleans.

The refugees arrived at Puerto Mexico, the Atlantic terminal of the Tehuantepec railway, on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning from Mexico City. In all about 150 persons arrived, but the balance preferred to remain for the present at Puerto Mexico, hoping to be able to return to their homes at the capital or in the interior quickly if peace becomes permanent.

**All Quiet at Puerto Mexico.**  
Conditions are so favorable at Puerto Mexico that the officers of the Hancock did not advise against it. The city is in the control of 1,500 Federal soldiers. All demonstrations have ceased in the town and there are plenty of steamers available in case it becomes necessary for them to get out.

All report the journey from Mexico City uncomfortable but uneventful. They had a British train crew and the British flag was prominently displayed. They passed through many towns and cities, but except for curious crowds which rushed up every time there was a stop, there were no demonstrations.

So far as they could learn the country through which they traveled was quieter than it had been in a year. It was Zapata's own territory part of the way, but that bandit leader was not to be heard of since his new made peace with the administration at Mexico City.

**Three Warships Join Fleet.**  
The battleships Virginia, Nebraska, and Georgia arrived today and that gives the United States the most powerful, as well as the largest, fleet of war vessels it has ever had in a foreign port at one time.

The question uppermost in the minds of naval men is what Washington is going to do with it? If Admiral Badger and his staff know they have not revealed it to the others.

There are fourteen big battleships, the armored cruiser Montana, the gunboats Nashville and Yankton and the scout cruiser Chester, the ammunition ship Lehman, the hospital ship Solace, the supply ship Celtic, the transports Prairie and Hancock, four colliers, and four armored tugs. There were four army transports also, but they sailed today for Galveston.

Reports from Tampico persist, but without official confirmation, and every once in a while rumors spread through the fleet and on shore that a squadron of battleships is about to go to that port to protect American property.

**"Clean-Up" Day with Sailors.**  
The sailors who had their first "all night" sleep in nine days after they returned to the fleet yesterday have made today "clean up" day for themselves. The young tars were just as busy trying to get the color back into mudstained uniforms as they were in cleaning up the city a week ago. The ships' barbers all worked overtime.

The men who returned will slip back into the routine of the ship by tomorrow. Even now they are wondering whether it will be possible to organize a series of baseball games with the army. The navy thinks it can win all the soldiers' pay at the national game, even if the infantrymen have had eighteen months solid practice at Texas City.

## PLAN TO PROTECT OIL WELLS

Tampico Rebels Will Use Every Effort, Carranza Says.

## GUARD FOR ALL FOREIGNERS

Big Force Being Mobilized for Final Attack on Federals.

Chihuahua, May 1.—Gen. Carranza will use every effort to protect the immense oil properties owned by foreigners, principally British, at Tampico. He telegraphed the British ambassador at Washington to that effect today.

An overwhelming force is now being organized to capture Tampico and the danger to the oil wells and to the great tanks was called to Gen. Carranza's attention by Sir Cecil Spring-Rice through H. C. Myles, British consul at El Paso.

**Employees Forced to Leave.**  
The ambassador's note recited that British interests had suffered in the recent unsuccessful rebel attacks on the city and added that foreign employees had been forced to leave their posts.

Gen. Carranza in his reply stated that foreigners who left Tampico did so of their own accord and were welcome to return under every assurance of protection lying within his power. He added that immediate attention would be given to driving out roving bands of marauders. To this end orders were telegraphed today to Gen. Cabeller, governor of the state of Tamaulipas.

**Will Guard Foreigners.**  
Gen. Carranza also telegraphed George C. Carothers, confidential agent of the United States at El Paso, declaring that in the forthcoming attack he would do all in his power to safeguard the lives and property of foreigners.

The Federals at Tampico control the river along which the oil tanks are built, but the rebels occupy a large oil field lying in the outskirts of the city.

Gen. Carranza stated that no question of permits for foreigners who have fled the country to return has ever been raised by his administration, and that all wishing to return to work are free to do so.

**FEDERALS QUIT SALTILLO.**  
El Paso, Tex., May 1.—Saltillo, principal city of the state of Coahuila, where the remnants of various Federal forces rallied after their defeats at Torreon, Monterrey, and other lesser strongholds, was reported today to have been evacuated April 27, the troops retreating to San Luis Potosi, 300 miles south.

The information was received here in a letter signed by Miguel Avila, who is a trustworthy source of information. The letter was followed by a telegram stating that Carranza confirmed the evacuation. Carranza is 100 miles west of Saltillo and is occupied by rebels. The local rebel junta may move to San Antonio. The change of base along the border is thought to be convenient for the reason that the Tampico and San Luis Potosi campaigns will be directed by Gen. Carranza from Monterrey.

Whether Saltillo has really been evacuated or remains to be taken by storm will not affect these plans, as Monterrey is also the natural base for a campaign against San Luis Potosi.

It developed today that Gen. Carranza is not likely to receive a direct request from the

South American mediators that he agree to an armistice with Huerta. He was merely sounded on the point and the result was a positive negative, as reflected in the statement of Mr. Esquerita last night.

While the supreme chief of the revolution is said to be most anxious to afford foreigners and foreign property at Tampico all constant protection, he is said to be unable to promise that he will establish neutral zones wherever foreign property is in danger.

## POPE FAVORS WILSON COURSE ADOPTED IN MEXICAN MIDDLE.

Hears Report of Mgr. Kennedy, Who Has Been in America, and Is Said to Approve Policy.

[BY CABLE TO THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE.]  
ROME, May 1.—Pope Pius X., who is greatly interested in the Mexican situation, granted an audience this morning to Mgr. Thomas F. Kennedy, superior of the American college in Rome, who has just returned from the United States.

Mgr. Kennedy has made special inquiries concerning the situation, the result of which he reported.

The vatican approves, it is said, of the course taken by President Wilson and Secretary Bryan, being convinced of the sincerity of the efforts of the administration at Washington to reestablish peace.

## MILITIA NOT TO BE MOBILIZED.

Gov. Dunne Says Illinois Guard Will Not Be Assembled at Present Because of Expense.

Springfield, Ill., May 1.—In a statement issued today Gov. Dunne said there would be no mobilization of the Illinois national guard at this time. He said mobilization would cost the state \$25,000 a day, and that it would be unjustifiable and impractical to issue such orders before a call for troops was made by the president. Such orders also might have the appearance of forcing the hand of the president and "playing into the hands of those who are clamoring for war," according to the governor.

## MONTANA BRINGS HERO'S BODY.

Admiral Badger Wires That Battleship Will Bear Samuel Marten's Remains North.

Abraham M. Liebling, publisher of the Jewish Daily Press, received the following telegram yesterday from Senator L. Y. Sherman:

"Admiral Badger wired navy department this afternoon that the battleship Montana will leave Vera Cruz within two or three days for New York unless conditions change. Vessel will carry remains of Samuel Marten and other sailors and marines killed in battle."

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