

ARMIES WAIT; PEACE IS TALKED

CONVERSE, BLATT AND BROWN OUT

American Boys Are Released From Mexican Prison; In El Paso Now.

DIAZ GIVES THEM THEIR LIBERTY

Edwin Blatt, Lawrence Converse and Richard Brown were released from the jail in Juarez at 12 o'clock Saturday and came to El Paso an hour later. The release came as a complete surprise to them, for, although they knew that steps were being taken to secure their freedom, they were unaware of the order issued yesterday by president Diaz to that effect.

This morning Mrs. Converse and postmaster J. A. Smith went to judge Miranda of the federal court in Juarez to seek immediate release of young Converse and Blatt. The judge having received no official order to that effect yet, could not comply with the request. They then went to Gen. Navarro to see what might be done. The general had not received any order of release, but he had been notified from Mexico City of the letter given to Converse's father and he saw no reason why the boys should be kept longer in jail, and he decided to issue an order for the release. Mr. Smith and Mrs. Converse then returned to the federal court and the boys were sent for by Judge Miranda, young Brown being included in the order.

On arriving in the courtroom Mrs. Converse tenderly kissed her son, but there was no emotion shown. The three boys signed the release and then went to the jail to get their belongings, young Converse and his mother walking arm in arm down the street.

Richard Brown, who was arrested four days later than the other two boys, was formerly engaged in hospital work on the insurrecto side. When captured he had a red cross badge in his pocket instead of on his arm. This morning he was delighted with his release, along with the other two. He expressed himself as feeling that he was very lucky to get off at this time, as he was not aware who had been working for him.

JUAREZ JAILER IS AMONG THE MISSING

Navarette Disappears Following the Escape of Valencia.

J. Navarette, superintendent of the Juarez jail, who has held that position for many years disappeared Friday night and no trace of him can be found. It is stated that money deposited by prisoners disappeared at the same time. It is believed in Juarez that the disappearance of Navarette may have been caused by the escape of Lieut. Valencia of Giuseppe Garibaldi forces of the insurrectos. Valencia was arrested in Juarez Saturday night, while he was walking about the streets in civilian clothes, talking to Mexican federal officers. Sunday morning he escaped over a roof wall of the jail and succeeded in getting away. It is thought that Navarette, fearing this escape might merit him a severe reprimand and possibly a jail sentence, left town.

RACING BILL LACKS ONE VOTE OF PASSING IN DENVER. Denver, Colo., April 22.—The senate today failed to pass over the governor's veto the Cornforth bill legalizing horse racing and pari-mutual betting. It lacked only one vote.

STATEHOOD SCHEDULED FOR CONSIDERATION

Washington, D. C., April 22.—The territories committee continued its session today. A. R. Fall and George Curry speaking for present consideration. An adjournment was taken until Tuesday morning. Statehood, it may be authoritatively stated, is part of the Democratic program, coming after the free list bill and the reappropriation bill have been disposed of, which will probably occur next week. Speeches for or against either constitution may affect the resolution. The house will report as to the provisions of either constitution, but it will not delay the statehood program, at least as far as the house or territories committee on territories is concerned.

DIAZ MAY RETIRE ON MAY 5

New York, N. Y., April 22.—That Porfirio Diaz is preparing to retire from the presidency of Mexico is the story printed here and given credence.

Stephen Bonsal wiring the New York Times, reports on what he calls good authority that vice president Ramon Corral is to cable his resignation and that president Diaz will go to Puebla on May 1 and on May 5, the anniversary of his defeat of the French at that place, will retire formally with something like Washington's farewell address.

The battle of Puebla was one of the most important in the history of Mexico and every year the "Cinco de Mayo" celebrations of the Mexican people almost equal those of Mexican independence on September 16. Gen. Diaz was the hero of the battle and has always been the hero of the day in all celebrations; the people have always wired their congratulations and have acclaimed him their great leader and saviour.

PEACE ARMISTICE PLEASERS TAFT AND HIS OFFICIALS

Madero, After Seeing Father, Agrees Not to Attack Juarez—Meets With Volunteer Peace Commissioners in Little Hut Near His Camp—Wife Visits Him Again Today—Armies Are Resting on Their Arms.

Washington, D. C., April 22.—President Taft received the news of the arrangement for an armistice with undigested satisfaction. He was quick to inform members of his cabinet and he summoned secretary of war James M. Dickinson especially for a short conference. The secretary was notably pleased when he left the white house. The president's first information came from the Associated Press dispatches. It is believed that the armistice will relieve both the Mexican and United States governments of an embarrassing tangle over the Douglas, Ariz., incident.

The president, though somewhat disturbed by the occurrences in Mexico, has never abandoned the hope that the warring factions would be pacified. He has been confident that de La Barra would be instrumental in restoring Mexico to tranquillity and the fact that the former ambassador has participated in the negotiations for bringing about an armistice pleased the president very much.

Asked what was comprehended by "the zone between Juarez and the city of Chihuahua" in which the armistice is to be effected, Gomez declared he is not yet certain but expected a more definite statement soon. In his original proposition he indicated to the insurgent leaders the necessity of an armistice in the state of Chihuahua and the northern part of Sonora, which includes those parts of Mexico contiguous to the United States, where the disturbances have been most frequent.

He intimated that if the zone did not include most of the American border he would make such a suggestion, as he was desirous of forestalling any further complications on the boundary line.

NEGOTIATIONS IN MEXICO.

It is believed here that while the armistice is to include only a small part of Mexico, it will have the actual effect of producing at least temporary inactivity on the part of the insurgents in other parts of the republic. Gomez is said to be strongly of the belief that peace negotiations should be conducted on Mexican territory and at some city where neither the federal nor insurgent forces are in evidence. He believes that the presence of arms too near the scene of negotiations would have a disquieting effect on the proceeding.

MADERO'S CHANGED POSITION.

The sudden change in the attitude of Francisco I. Madero—his agreement to an armistice—although until late last night he was reported as obdurate against both armistice and peace proposals, is explained here by the fact that Dr. Vasquez Gomez in numerous messages within the last 24 hours pointed out the complications that had arisen between the United States and Mexico over the incidents on the border.

Although he had no access to government officials, Gomez has been cognizant of the impression which recent Mexican developments have made upon the administration. He plainly showed his disappointment at the turn of events in Washington following the receipt of the Mexican note.

Gomez believed that American intervention was not an impossibility and hastened to renege on the promise he had made to the American border of such incidents as occurred at Douglas. He had received assurances from the Mexican government that it was disposed to consider any proposals the insurgents would formally submit. These, it was indicated, would be laid immediately before the Mexican cabinet and every effort would be made to adjust the various differences out of which the rebel lion arose.

FIGHTING REPORTED CLOSE TO DOUGLAS

Francisco Madero, Insurrecto Leader

Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico, April 22.—A detachment of 300 Mexican federal troops marched eastward to Cienegas Spring, 12 miles distant, late last night and an American army in Douglas today reported that there had been fighting last night in the vicinity of Nigger-head mountain. Many Americans have joined the rebels at Cienegas Springs in the last two days.

Col. Chas. O'Connor has arrived with four troops of the Sixth U. S. cavalry to guard the border.

The fighting at Cienegas springs this morning consisted of an exchange of shots between an advance guard of federals and rebel scouts, supposed to be the advance guard of a small body from Chihuahua. The rebel courier reported at the headquarters of Madame Talamantes at noon that the federals had entered the mountain pass of Centzas with a machine gun and rebel scouts fired on them from behind the rocks, killing a number.

Three hundred federals and 140 rebels are reported engaged. There was no heavy firing and other couriers from the scene declare that no machine guns were used.

A telephone message from San Bernardino ranch, the nearest point to the fighting, says that there was only desultory firing all morning.

That incident out at Douglas Mexico Explains Some More and Col. Sibley Makes a Report.

Washington, D. C., April 22.—A further explanation of Mexico's reply regarding the Douglas incident reached President Taft today from ambassador Wilson in Mexico City. Wilson explained that De La Barra took the position that both nations had a right to offer their views as to the question in dispute. The note meant nothing more, the ambassador said. The idea that Diaz replied in a spirit of unfriendliness was declared to be absurd.

Official reports received by the war department today from Col. Sibley, commanding the department of Colorado confirmed the Associated Press dispatches from Douglas, Arizona, as to the recent incidents there.

Sibley declares that the Mexican consular probably made reference to his government too soon and certainly at a time when public opinion was still running strong. It is known that the Mexican government based its representations regarding the Douglas incident on reports of its consular and the fact that conflicting news reached Washington and Mexico City regarding the disturbances has been inferred by the state department as the reason for the misunderstanding.

Sibley says that no shots were fired from the American side of the border. Capt. Ganlot in company with Charles McKean, crossed the line to request the surrender of the Mexican federals at the behest of Capt. Eugene Varona, of the Mexican federal army, who had come into the United States.

RECIPROCITY BILL PASSES THE HOUSE

Washington, D. C., April 22.—President Taft's Canadian reciprocity agreement, supported by all but a handful of Democrats and opposed by a majority of the Republicans, has passed the house by a vote of 255 to 55.

With nearly 300 Democrats in control and their action endorsed by many Republicans, the bill was adopted with no amendments, and in practically identical form in which it passed the house last session.

The bill seeks to put into effect the formal agreement reached between president Taft and members of the Canadian cabinet for a reduction of tariff rates on many articles and free trade in many others, across the Canadian border. Added to it by the Democratic leaders, is a section which authorizes and requests president Taft to make further efforts to secure still freer trade relations with Canada in the form of additional reciprocal relations.

The passage of the bill marked the close for a fight that had raged in the house for six days. In that time the safety of the measure was at no time threatened; but the Democratic and Republican leaders, working for its passage, conceded all the opportunity desired by its opponents for debate and protest.

Plan Independence Monument. A resolution appropriating \$10,000 for plans for a monument in Washington to the signers of the declaration of independence has been introduced in the senate by senator Gallinger.

A bill reappropriating the membership of the house of representatives and almost identical with the Crumpacker bill which passed the house last session but died in the senate, has been reported by the committee on census. It provides for a membership of 43. No state loses any members in the house by the reappropriation.

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FIVE BIG LEAGUE GAMES POSTPONED

Rain Interferes With Games Scheduled For This Afternoon.

Rain this afternoon caused five big league games to be postponed. They are:

- National League. At Pittsburgh—Cincinnati-Pittsburg. At Philadelphia—New York-Philadelphia. At Brooklyn—Boston-Brooklyn. American League. At Cleveland—Cleveland-St. Louis. At New York—Washington-New York.

TWENTY KILLED IN AN AFRICAN WRECK

Railroad Bridge Collapses and Train Falls Three Hundred Feet.

Capetown, South Africa, April 22.—Twenty persons were killed, when a passenger train on the KwaZulu railway plunged into a rocky gorge 250 feet deep, owing to the collapse of the Blaauwkrantz bridge, 12 miles from Grahamstown, today.

Twenty passengers were carried down with the coaches and killed. The bodies were torn to pieces in the midst of the debris of the cars.

FOUR DAYS' ARMISTICE TO DISCUSS PEACE PLAN

Sudden Change of Madero in Views Due to Danger of a Rupture With United States if Fighting Continues Near Border—Mexican Government Is Willing to Treat With the Insurrectos.

The Mexican federal and rebel armies still face each other, waiting on their arms. Francisco I. Madero, leader of the insurrectos, has consented to an armistice of four days for the purpose of discussing peace. For several hours this morning the rebel leader discussed the matter with his father and others in a small adobe house near the El Paso smelter. This afternoon, while admitting that peace negotiations are under way, he says he is unable to give any details and is awaiting a statement from Washington, where Dr. Vasquez Gomez is carrying on the negotiations with Mexico City.

CONFERENCE ENDS. The conference with Gen. Madero adjourned at 1:55 o'clock and the members returned at once to El Paso. Madero and his staff returning to the camp.

Just before the conference adjourned Poncho Villa, the bandit leader, went to the adobe house and Gen. Madero came out to see him and took him into the house and introduced him to the peace envoys.

HEARS OF AMERICANS RELEASE. After the conference Madero was told that Converse, Blatt and Brown had been released, and he said: "I am very, very glad."

Mrs. Madero was an interested spectator during the peace conference. When it had ended and she came from the house, she remarked: "If they want peace, why do they not quit persecuting people? I refer to the arrest of my brother-in-law." He was arrested recently in Mexico.

Saturday morning Madero had a meeting with his father, who spent Friday night in El Paso, but as neither had received anything from Washington, the meeting was merely a friendly one. The provisional president had a short time previously declared that he had granted the armistice and was awaiting news from Washington.

A PEACE CONFERENCE. Later others joined father and sons for a meeting in a little adobe house, near the El Paso brick yards, on the west side of the Rio Grande, close to the New Mexico line.

Attending this conference were Francisco Madero, sr., father of Gen. Madero, Ernesto Madero, an uncle of the insurrecto leader, and Messrs. Esquivel Obregon, Silvestro Terrazas and Oscar Braniff, who held peace conferences yesterday; Rafael Hernandez and Federico Moya, the former representing the government, and the latter a merchant of Chihuahua.

The house in which the conference was held was surrounded by Madero's bodyguards and no one was permitted near who did not belong to the peace commission.

MADERO'S INTERVIEW. Pascual Orozco and Raoul Madero were with Francisco, when he came from his camp to the mesa; Mrs. Sara Perez de Madero was also near. She is a relative of the rebel leader.

"What are the terms of the armistice?" Madero was asked by a Herald reporter. "I am willing to wait four days for negotiations with Mexico City."

"The zone of peace shall extend from Chihuahua to Juarez and all reinforcements for Juarez must stop where they are; also the fortification of Juarez."

"What are the conditions of the armistice?" "Oh, you know all the trouble that has come to Mexico and the loss of life and bloodshed. Naturally if it is possible to avoid this, I am willing. I have given no ultimatum."

"I do not know what terms to expect. The proposal for armistice merits my attention, and, of course, my consideration."

"If Enrique comes into Juarez with federal reinforcements, will that change the situation?" he was asked. "Huhago must stop and Gen. Navarro must stop fortifying Juarez."

"I have stated the conditions on which I will treat, but I have made no ultimatum. I have no idea what will be done yet. I prefer to wait."

THE FATHER COMES. The armistice comes partially as a result of the visit of Madero's father in the interest of peace. The father and his party, including both adults and Ernesto Madero, the former chief of the insurrecto chief, the latter an uncle, arrived Friday night in the camp, and the insurrectos at once declared a 24 hour armistice to enable the leader to discuss matters with his father. Later during the night the rebel leader agreed to an armistice of four days and wired the information through the El Paso Junta to Washington.

The trip of Gen. Madero was over 1000 miles, and resulted in bringing him back to El Paso, from where he started two weeks ago today. He went to San Antonio, then Eagle Pass, then Chihuahua, Madera, Casas Grandes and back into Juarez. There was an overland ride from Madero to the southern terminus of the Mexico North Western line near Prescos, and then across from Bauche, below Juarez, to the rebel camp. The party arrived at the rebel camp Friday night about 9 o'clock. Before midnight, after a visit with his son, the senior Madero and those accompanying him came to El Paso and took quarters at the Sheldon, where the night was spent.

Madero instructed me to notify Dr. Gomez that he would accept an armistice at a meeting I had with him late last evening," said Gonzalez Garza, secretary of the El Paso junta, Saturday morning.

"The conditions of the armistice cannot be given out at present. Dr. Gomez and I have been in constant communication this morning, but all was strictly confidential."

FEELING BITTER AGAINST AMERICANS

Federals in Chihuahua Resist Their Participation in Revolution.

Chihuahua, Mexico, April 22.—The feeling engendered among Mexican federal forces by the participation of Americans in the insurrection is intense. Federals regard American fighting against them as greater foes than natives, and those in authority have sent out notices warning Americans to keep out of the strife and remain on their own side of the border.

The more Americans who join the insurrectos the greater is the danger of international complications," said an official. "Filibusters also imperil the interests of American business people in Mexico, and citizens of the United States should be told they are not wanted south of the Rio Grande."

MAPIMI SURROUNDED BY THE INSURRECTOS

Torreon, Mexico, April 22.—A telephone message just received here states that Mapimi is surrounded by rebels who have demanded the surrender of the town and camp. The Peoples Mining company operating there is a German concern, one of the richest in Mexico.

ACAPULCO IS BESIEGED

Washington, D. C., April 22.—All Americans in Acapulco including David E. Thompson, former ambassador to Mexico, have presented a petition to the United States consul requesting the aid of the United States government saying an attack on that city is imminent.

The consul says 800 rebels have taken Omitepeque and are holding it. They also appeared at San Marcos. The civil authorities in Acapulco, the consul adds, are transferring the records of the court to the fort, which is expected to be the place of refuge.