

**CONSUL'S RELEASE DEMANDED**

**FEDERAL COMMANDER AT SALTILLO SAID TO HAVE ROBBERED AMERICAN CONSUL.**

Rear Admiral Mayo Says Lobos Lighthouse Was Not Seized, But That United States Is Operating Light in Interest of Navigation—Consular Clerk Marchani Says Federals Held Him up at Point of Pistol and Robbed Safe.

Washington, May 11.—While peace negotiations marked time pending formal sittings of the South American mediators to begin Monday on Canadian soil, the mediators and officials of the State department here today were occupied with several serious phases of the Mexican situation demanding immediate attention.

Secretary Bryan called at the Argentine legation late in the day and spent two hours in conference with the South American envoys.

Mr. Bryan insisted that the release of Silliman must be brought about at once. When asked about the matter later, he would not say what would happen if the vice consul were kept in prison, but he was grave and emphatic in announcing the government's determination to have him freed.

First official news of the landing of American sailors on Lobos Island reached the Navy Department late tonight in a cablegram from Rear Admiral Mayo, stating that the Mexican keepers deserted the great lighthouse on the island and that the destroyer tender Dixie was "maintaining it for the benefit of navigation."

Admiral Mayo's report responded to a request of the Navy Department for immediate information concerning the incident complained of by the Huerta government to the mediators. It said:

"Lobos Island has not been occupied. The Dixie and some destroyers anchored there and other vessels have coaled from a collier. The keepers of Lobos Island lighthouse deserted it and the Dixie is maintaining it for the benefit of navigation. I understand that the destroyers have had occasional landing parties ashore."

The report was sent at once to Secretary Bryan.

It was said that foreigners on board warships off Tampico wanted refuge and not removal.

While the official representatives of Gen. Huerta were taking leave of their revolution-torn country at Vera Cruz and an American general with armed forces of the United States waited at one of the gateways to Mexico City, the United States government officially announced its representatives in mediation negotiations before the South American triumvirate at Niagara Falls, Ont., next Monday.

Justice Joseph Rucker Lamar, of the United States Supreme Court, and Frederick W. Lehman, former solicitor general, were chosen by President Wilson as the American representatives. From Huerta are hastening forward Augustine Rodriguez, Emilio Rabasa and Luis Elguero.

Ambassador Da Gama, of Brazil; Minister Noan, of Argentina, and Minister Suarez, of Chile, the mediators, tonight expressed satisfaction in the selection of the advisers for both governments, and little further is expected in the preliminary peace negotiations until all have met in Canada.

Gen. Carranza and the Mexican rebels who seek Huerta's overthrow will not be represented in the conference, according to later advices. They will continue to make war on Huerta while the truce in the international dispute proceeds.

Disturbing elements continued to arouse interest throughout the day. Gen. Funston, at Vera Cruz, was appealed to by the Brazilian minister at Mexico City to release some South Americans, including three Brazilians, who had been arrested and are awaiting trial for "sniping" American soldiers from the refuge of a tramp steamer in Vera Cruz harbor. An appeal was made to Secretary Bryan by the mediating envoys on behalf of Gen. Huerta, because of reports that American forces had seized a Mexican lighthouse on Lobos Island, off Tampico, an act which Huerta's agents maintained was aggressive and in violation of the army laws.

Late in the day Secretary Bryan hastened to the Argentine legation, where he consulted for half an hour with the mediators. None would discuss the conference, but it was learned that during reports from Mexico City, together with disputed points that had arisen over the armistice, had been discussed.

State department officials were indignant when it became known that Vice Consul Silliman and his clerk, Joseph A. Marchani, as well as several other Americans, had been prisoners of the federal commander at Saltillo and that the consul still is held despite urgent representations for his release made by the Brazilian minister in Mexico City. Like dis-

**PREPARING FOR WAR.**

**MEXICANS MAKING ENTRENCHMENTS AT VERA CRUZ.**

Gen. Navarrete, the Foremost Soldier of Mexico in Command at Vera Cruz—He is Making Aggressive Plans to Block Advance of Americans to Mexico City.

Vera Cruz, May 12.—Gen. Navarrete, the foremost military man of Mexico now commands the federal forces around Vera Cruz and is making aggressive plans to block the forward movement of the American army toward Mexico City. Gen. Navarrete has planted artillery behind chaparral screens and dug secret trenches along ridges of the sandhills, but all this has been offset by extensive preparations by American engineers. All the country west of Vera Cruz has been mapped and much of it cleared of scrub. The aerial corps is making daily scouts and keeps Gen. Funston posted as to the movements of Gen. Navarrete.

Spies coming into the city are given much misinformation to take to the Mexican commanders.

Heavy firing at Tampico ceased last night. Later the federal wireless suddenly stopped and it is believed to have been smashed by the constitutionalists.

**BEEF CATTLE IN THE SOUTH.**

**Results of Marketing at Experiment Station Announced by President of Southern.**

Washington, May 11.—Referring to the advantages of the South for the live stock industry, President Harrison of the Southern Railway Company today called attention to a communication which he has just received from Mr. R. S. Curtis, animal husbandman in charge of beef cattle and sheep investigations at the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, giving the results of marketing nine hundred and twenty head of cattle shipped from Western North Carolina to points in the eastern part of the State for feeding.

The feeding of these cattle, which was largely in the nature of an experiment, was done with the co-operation of the Agricultural Experiment Station and the live stock agents of the Southern Railway have been in close touch with it.

The results are such as clearly to establish that, when they are properly handled, cattle can be fed in North Carolina and marketed at a substantial profit.

The report made by Mr. Curtis shows that the average margin of profit on all of these nine hundred and twenty cattle was \$1.32 per cwt. which compares very favorably with an average market of \$1.00 per cwt. received by cattle feeders in the so-called "Corn Belt" States.

**SILLIMAN TO BE RELEASED.**

**Brazilian Ambassador Makes Strong Representations to Huerta.**

Washington, May 12.—A dispatch from the Brazilian ambassador at Mexico City today stated that he had received assurances that Consul Silliman would be delivered to him. This promise was made only after strong representations that he made to Gen. Huerta.

Patches were accepted as indicating that the Mexican war minister's assurances to the French charge last week that neither Consul Silliman nor member of the embassy staff and no Americans in Saltillo "had been in danger," was intended only to deceive State department officials, as to the real state of affairs at Saltillo.

Late in the day Consul Canada reported the arrival of Consul and Clerk Marchani in Vera Cruz. The clerk informed Mr. Canada that before he was released from custody of the Mexicans, he was marched under guard from the jail to the consulate and compelled at the point of a revolver to open the safe and surrender to the federal commander all the consular records and all valuables, including money and a quantity of jewelry left there for safe keeping. It is not known here how many Americans were imprisoned, but word was received that all had been released except Consul Silliman.

Despite such disquieting elements always attendant upon revolution and threatened international conflict, the Latin-American mediators proceeded energetically with their plans for the conference at Niagara Falls.

Justice Lamar and Mr. Lehman, the American representatives, did not confer, awaiting further instructions from State department and President Wilson, who will return tomorrow from the memorial in New York to the Vera Cruz dead. The American advisers do not know when they will leave for Canada. Thus far no steps have been taken to organize their mission. Details and the selection of their assistants will be taken up with the President and Secretary Bryan tomorrow.

**FORM NEW CONFERENCE.**

**TWO ADDED BY SOUTHERN METHODIST CHURCH.**

Delegates Talk of Decision That Minority Reports Must Be Submitted to Entire Committees.

Oklahoma City, May 11.—Two annual conferences, to be known as the Mexican border conference and the Central Mexican conference, were created; a proposal to establish an Indian conference to have jurisdiction over the extreme Western States was rejected, resolutions were received and delegates engaged in a ten minutes' preliminary debate on rules at today's session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, meeting here in quadrennial session.

A resolution adopted urges the necessity of additional chaplains in the United States army and navy.

A ruling of Bishop E. E. Hoss, who presided today, that minority committee reports must be submitted to the whole committee before presentation to the conference, brought about the discussion on rules. An appeal from the rule of the chair was not sustained by a vote. Considerable of the day's session was taken up in debate and disposal of several matters planned for today was deferred until tomorrow.

**ASSAIL TRUST MEASURES.**

**Railroad Representatives Protest Provisions Aimed at Interlocking Directorates and Common Stock Ownership in Administration Bills.**

Washington, May 11.—Administration trust bills framed by committees of both houses in congress were sharply criticized today before the senate interstate commerce committee by representatives of some of the leading railroads of the country. There were few features of the bills which were objected to, but the railroad men protested most vigorously against the provisions aimed at interlocking directorates and stock ownership by one common carrier of another and against the proposed delegation of supervisory power to the interstate commerce commission of future issues of securities.

The witnesses told the committee they represented about 150,000 miles of railroad. Robert Scott Lovett, chairman of the Union Pacific board; Samuel Rea, president of the Pennsylvania; Frank Trumbull, chairman of the board of the Chesapeake & Ohio and Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroads, and A. P. Thom, general counsel in Washington of the Southern, also were present. The arguments differed in detail but generally were much alike.

Some of the witnesses thought the regulatory powers of securities issues should be left to a national commission or State bodies.

**OLD DOMINION LINER ACCIDENT.**

**Boiler Explodes on Jefferson, Killing Seven.**

Norfolk, May 12.—Seven were killed and several injured by a boiler explosion on the Old Dominion liner Jefferson off Cape Henry last night. The liner reached Norfolk today with the victims.

The explosion was due to the bursting of the tubes of the main boiler. The Jefferson was en route from Norfolk to New York. Four firemen, two coal passers, and one oiler were killed. One fireman is missing and he is believed to have been drowned. The injured who were badly scalded were taken to the hospital here. Chief Engineer Portlock, First Assistant Smith and Water tender Oils all fatally injured. The Jefferson returned here, left the dead and injured and sailed again for New York. Some of the dead were literally boiled alive.

**SHRINERS PARADE IN ATLANTA.**

**Line of March Over Five Miles Long—Street Traffic Stopped.**

Atlanta, May 12.—Two hundred and fifty thousand fun-mad spectators witnessed the Shriners' parade this morning, which formally opened the annual conclave. Street cars and other traffic were stopped for three hours over the line of march which the day cavalcade, over five miles long, marched. Officers will be elected and the city for the next meeting will be selected tomorrow. There will be another parade tonight which is expected to eclipse anything of the kind ever seen in the South.

**PERCIVAL DODGE APPOINTED.**

**Former Minister to Panama Will Act as Secretary to American Mediators.**  
Washington, May 13.—Secretary Bryan today announced the appointment of Percival Dodge, former minister to Panama, to serve as secretary to the representatives of the United States at the mediation conference which opens at Niagara Falls next Monday.

**A WIDE TERRITORY.**

**SUMTER FACTORY MAKES SHIPMENT TO TASMANIA.**

This Far Away Shipment and the Comparatively Low Freight Rate Suggests Certain Reflections on the Panama Canal Tolls Issue.

Witherspoon Bros & Co., have just made a shipment of twelve hundred and ninety-one pounds (about seventy cubic feet) of knock-down coffins to Hobart, Tasmania, traveling by ship from New York city, either west by Cape Horn or east by Cape Town, thirteen thousand miles either way.

This is very interesting to the company for the reason that it demonstrates the fact that its territory is only limited by the whole surface of the earth, where the point is reached by railroads or steamship lines, the company in the past having shipped no goods further than San Francisco, where the freight was even higher.

It will be of interest to Sumter people, through this transaction, to know the value of the Panama canal. Ships charge about three and one-half cents a cubic foot for carrying a shipment one thousand miles, judging by the rate on this shipment. The canal would save about four thousand miles, or fourteen cents on a cubic foot, whereas the passage of a cubic foot through the canal would be only three cents.

In carrying a shipment from the east coast of America to the west coast of America there would be a saving of eight thousand miles, or twenty-eight cents per cubic foot, whereas the passage through the canal would be only three cents.

On a basis of the price the company paid for this shipment to Tasmania, the same goods could be carried from New York by passing around Cape Horn to the western part of the United States for a little over one-half what the railroads charge to carry the same shipment by Lynchburg, Va., across the United States to Vancouver, B. C., which shows that the railroads now get the business wholly for the reason of much quicker transportation.

What connection has this with the bill now before congress, exempting coastwise vessels from tolls through the Panama Canal? If the saving in time by making the distance eight thousand miles shorter will get the business, they can pay the tolls a great many times, and then be under the charges of the railroads. It is the writer's opinion that the transcontinental railroads will be greatly benefited by the canal, in the fact that it will give them lots more hauling to do from the west to the central part of the United States and from the east to the central part of the United States though they might lose some business that is now hauled from the east to the west, and vice versa.

From the foregoing, is it not evident that congress is making a mountain out of a mole hill in its legislation upon this issue? Not much smaller item could come before both houses of congress, though in it there is a principle, and President Wilson is right.

In it there is the principle of protection, and is a subsidy, pure and simple.

Bringing the matter down to a proposition that any one can understand, the toll of a pair of shoes through the canal would be one-half cent, whereas the railroads would charge over thirteen cents for the same pair of shoes by the way of Lynchburg, Va., across the continent to Vancouver, B. C.

**FAST WORK ON NAVAL BILL.**

**Tillman and Assistants Received Bill Last Thursday, Measure Has Been Completed by Committee.**

Washington, May 11.—Record breaking time was made by the senate committee on naval affairs in preparing this year's bill. Senator Tillman is chairman of this committee.

J. B. Knight of South Carolina, clerk of the committee, received the bill from the house last Thursday and today at noon it was complete and ready for submission to the senate.

An item of \$150,000 is appropriated for the development of marine barracks at Port Royal and Puget Sound and there is also an item of \$4,937 to pay for a refrigerating plant at Port Royal.

With a division of the \$150,000 for enlargement of barracks it is assumed that considerable good work may be done at Port Royal with the money to be expended there.

**FALL OF TAMPICO IMMINENT.**

**Rebels Notify Admiral Mayo That They Will Take City This Afternoon.**

Washington, May 13.—The capitulation of Tampico seems imminent today, reports Admiral Mayo. The constitutionalists have advised Admiral Mayo that they expect to capture the city this afternoon.

**PLAN TO PUT HUERTA OUT.**

**MEDIATORS DECIDE ON PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WITH COMMISSION IN CHARGE.**

Would Bring Peace to Mexico in This Manner—Huerta and Carranza Representatives and Non-Partisan to be on Commission—Hope that Rebels and Federals Will Accept Scheme.

Washington, May 12.—Elimination of Gen. Huerta and the establishment of a provisional government in Mexico in which both the Huerta and the constitutionalists factions will be represented, is contemplated in a plan which the three South American mediators now are working out to be proposed for the solution of the entire Mexican problem.

This, the first intimation as to the details of the mediation plans, became known tonight, though neither the mediators nor state department officials would make any statement as to how nearly complete is the plan to be submitted to the American and the Mexican delegates when they meet the South American envoys at Niagara Falls, next Monday.

It was learned that the proposal might be that the setting up of a temporary government be undertaken by a commission of five persons, two of them to be named by Huerta, two by the constitutionalists and the fifth by the mediators.

While the mediators have withdrawn their invitation to the constitutionalists to send delegates to their conference, it generally is believed that information is being sought as to whether the constitutionalists would consent, in case of the elimination of Huerta, to some form of temporary government in which he will be represented. Those close to the mediators say, it is believed, that some such arrangement as this is the only possible one under which peace may be restored in Mexico under conditions satisfactory to all Mexican factions and to the United States.

Expressions of confidence that the mediators would avert war between the United States and Mexico came from several members of the cabinet today, after President Wilson had discussed the whole situation with his official family.

The president is decidedly hopeful. He is anxious that no untoward incidents or indiscreet acts on the part of any of the forces of Mexico should develop to cloud the situation.

Secretary Bryan in a conference late in the day explained at length to the three South American mediators that the light house on Lobos Island had not been seized in any military sense; that the keepers were free to come and go, but that the American navy had undertaken to keep the lights burning as a protection to the world's navigation. Mr. Bryan told the mediators also that the navy and war departments were seeking to investigate the arrest of five South Americans accused of sniping by Americans during the landing at Vera Cruz, and that a report would be made probably tomorrow.

The last dispatches from the French charge in Mexico said that all was quiet in Mexico City.

From a military point of view the outstanding feature of the day was a report from Gen. Funston of the situation at Vera Cruz. No trouble was apprehended, the general said, the federal forces having given no sign of intention to attack the outlying position at the waterworks.

Movements of troops in this direction have not been noticed and even in case of attack the American position could not be taken by force.

Gen. Funston has rearranged his lines and posted sentries along the aqueduct to prevent raiders from cutting it.

Tampico was under bombardment by the constitutionalists the entire day. Admiral Mayo, commanding the American ships lying off that port, reported that artillery fire had been in progress since 9 o'clock this morning. Whether the federals or constitutionalists were gaining was not stated. The British consul, whose nationals are heavily interested at Tampico, during the day ordered another warship to reinforce the British squadron in Mexican waters, the cruiser Bristol receiving sailing orders for Tampico. The ship carries a crew of nearly 400 men and her light draft would permit her to run up the Panuco river to Tampico and if necessary land men to protect British oil wells.

**STORMS IN MIDDLE WEST.**

**Great Damage Done in Northern Ohio and Western Pennsylvania.**

Cleveland, May 12.—Two persons were killed and much property damage done by severe storms in northern Ohio last night and today.

**Pittsburgh Feels Storm.**

Pittsburgh, May 12.—A severe storm in western Pennsylvania inflicted severe damage today. Two negroes were killed in a tenement that was blown down.

**THE BEN GREET PLAYERS.**

**LARGE AUDIENCE SEES PRODUCTION OF SHAKESPEARE'S TWELFTH NIGHT.**

Welch-Christensen-Baker Company Render Delightful Selection—Morning Lecture is Strong Sermon.

From The Daily Item, May 13.

The attendance at the Chatauqua tent last night, when the Ben Greet Players offered Shakespeare's well known comedy "Twelfth Night" was a record breaking one. The audience was well pleased and hearty applause was given the actors all along throughout the performance. The Welch-Christensen-Baker Company was also good and seemed to please the audience.

The Chatauqua seems to be increasing in interest daily, if the the attendance is any indication of this fact and it should be the chief indication of it. Last night the seating capacity of the tent was taxed and there was a larger audience at the Wednesday morning session than any time formerly in the morning. Today with the beginning of the two day music festival the interest and attendance should increase still more. The local committee still has a few more tickets to sell and they should be secured at once, if they are wanted.

On Tuesday afternoon the program was opened by a concert by the Welch-Christensen-Baker Company. There were quite a number of high class musical selections and some popular songs sung by this company at the afternoon and night sessions, all of which added greatly to the pleasure of the audience. The singers were encored several times both afternoon and evening.

Dr. William A. Colledge delivered his lecture in the afternoon "The Heart of Tropical Africa." He told in an interesting way of the mode of life and travel in tropical Africa, of the habits of the natives, of the animals and other incidents connected with a stay of seven years in this country.

The Ben Greet Players was the first of those classed as the big attraction of the Chatauqua. This attraction drew the crowd and everyone who attended seems to have been delighted with the performance. There was not a weak actor in the cast of characters, which was extremely well chosen and was in every respect up to the high standard it had been advertised as being and that to which the Ben Greet Players have always been regarded as belonging. The cast was a harmonious whole whose interpretation of Shakespeare's comedy was in every respect efficient and did much to add to the pronounced success of the Chatauqua. The absence of scenery and the vast difference between this play of the sixteenth century and those of modern times afforded a contrast that in no way detracted from the excellence of the acting.

On Wednesday morning Mr. Kleine again delivered one of his forceful lecture-sermons. His subject "Literature, as a Constructive Force in Religion." He illustrated his talk with selections from Winston Churchill's novel, "The Inside of the Cup." Mr. Kleine's talk was in a personal way that was strongly impressed upon the minds of every one of his hearers. He emphasized the fact that the church of today was one of his hearers. He emphasized the fact that the church of today and the professed Christians of today are not carrying on the religion given to it by Christ, and as Christ practised his teachings. He thought that the authors should take more care in producing novels, man of which did not depict true life. The novel should be a correct interpretation of life, he intimated.

This afternoon the concert by Mr. Marcus A. Kellerman begins the great two day music festival. Mr. Kellerman is one of the three great baritone in America and his concert will be a strong and high class one.

**STORM HITS CHICAGO.**

**Tidal Wave Sweeps Over Breakwater Carrying Ruin.**

Chicago, May 12.—With a property loss of many thousands, and thrilling rescues along the lake front, while a wall of water five feet high dashed over the breakwater, wrecking valuable pleasure craft, the result of a storm, or "tidalwave," which struck Chicago late yesterday, continued unabated this morning. No fatalities are reported.

**ANOTHER SUFFRAGE OUTRAGE.**

**Mad Militant Destroys Famous Painting.**

London, May 12.—The famous portrait of the Duke of Wellington in the Royal Academy was slashed by suffragette with a hatchet today. Angry spectators seized and badly beat the woman. The woman shrieking wildly was taken to jail.