

PEACE CONFERENCE OPENS ON MAY 20

(Continued from First Page.)

that he would not leave Washington for Niagara Falls to-day as he had planned. The Ambassador delayed his departure pending the development of plans following the postponement. Minister Suarez, the Chilean envoy, also altered his program, which originally contemplated his departure from Washington to-morrow.

Zapata Attacks Federals at Topilejo, 18 Miles South of Mexico City

By Associated Press

Vera Cruz, May 15.—Credible private advices from Mexico City report that the Federals at Topilejo, eighteen miles south of the capital, were attacked yesterday by the Zapatistas. No details of the fighting were received but the incident is regarded as an important development by the authorities here.

Topilejo has been the scenes of numerous clashes during the last few months and the engagements are usually indecisive since the Federals never attempted to follow up their victory. It is now considered that the new activity there indicates any intention of a Zapata attack on the capital as the reported agreement between Zapata and Villa in connection with the Mexico City is credited here.

The attack will serve, however, to compel Provisional President Huerta to strengthen his southern line at the expense of the outposts toward Vera Cruz. The reported departure of the Federal gunboats from their anchorage with the American ships of Tampico is believed to be the result of a desire on the part of the commanders to communicate with Mexico City from Puerto Mexico by the only telegraph wire open to them. They are probably seeking instructions as to what disposition to make of the ammunition-less gunboats, which are virtually useless since the fall of Tampico.

It is understood that the two American destroyers are conveying the gunboats to see that the coastwise lights and other aids to navigation are not molested. Wherever the gunboats are finally sent they will be kept under surveillance by American ships until some settlement in the disturbed country is reached.

Warren has reached here foreshadowing the approach of a critical moment in the interior. It is stated, however, that British subjects from the concentration districts in the foreign consular quarters of Mexico City, where it was determined long ago they would protect themselves against whatever arose. More British nationals are reported arriving by every train, while others are hastening toward the coast.

The Britishers are amply supplied with arms and ammunition despite earlier rumors that weapons had been taken from the legation and from residents by order of General Huerta.

The German and Austrian defense organization is also ready to stand a siege and those national quarters of report, are being gathered.

Apparently the feeling is general among all foreigners that the next few days will see a tumult of revolt in the capital since a movement into the districts was planned to occur only when the situation became critical and the adoption of a method of self-protection was an absolute necessity.

No official notice has been received here of the movement into the concentration districts, but the report to that effect is general among the foreigners and the recent determination of Great Britain again to cede upon her nationals to get out of the danger zones supports the rumor.

Place For Velasco
General Velasco, who was defeated at Torreon with heavy loss and was himself wounded, has been ordered out of the capital to assume the military governorship of San Luis Potosi.

Many here regard the appointment as significant. Velasco has been current that General Velasco is deeply involved in a military plot against General Huerta. Velasco has not yet recovered from his wounds and his

friends say he is in no condition to assume command in the field. After his return to the capital Velasco is reported to have reproached Huerta for his failure to reinforce him at Torreon. This criticism of his chief was regarded by his friends as foolhardy and surprise was manifested that Velasco was not immediately imprisoned. No evidence of his participation in a plot has been produced, but General Huerta's order sending him north again appears to have eliminated General Velasco from any coup d'etat that might have been contemplated.

Writers Held as Traitors
Mexican newspapermen here have been listed at the capital as traitors. In a semi-official document sent from Mexico City all those who remained after the occupation are accused of "selling their pens to Fletcher, the invader," and intimation is made that the Federal government will deal drastically with them when it regains control of Vera Cruz.

The reply of the newspapermen was the issue last night of a newspaper named The Voice of the People, which devoted its entire first issue to the advocacy of the Constitutionalist movement and the denunciation of General

Army of 35,000 Held
Ready For Advance

Washington, D. C., May 15.—"All's quiet no orders have been issued for the movement of troops."

This was the answer given at the War and Navy Department yesterday regarding reports that Mexico City was in disorder and that troops were about to be rushed to the capital to protect the foreign colony. General Garrison has stated repeatedly during the last few days that the War Department is not expecting a movement of troops, at least within the next few days. He has also given much publicity to the statement that the department is merely preparing to meet any situation that may arise.

While he does not specify the situations to which he refers, it is generally understood that the only preparation being made for troops movements at this time are based upon the fear that when Mexico City falls chaos may result.

The general staff has decided that 35,000 Americans can handle any situation that may arise in Mexico City and plans have been completed to put that number of men in the capital.

When the administration feels that the fall of Mexico City is near the Fourth and Sixth Brigades of the Second Army Division will be sent from Galveston to Vera Cruz aboard transports for the trip.

Major-General Leonard Wood will command this division, which will lead the movement toward the City of Mexico. From 10,000 to 15,000 marines and sailors from the fleet will follow them, making a force of approximately 27,000 men. In addition to this force seven regiments of coast artillerymen will go to Vera Cruz and follow the Second Division.

If the crisis develops before the Fourth and Sixth Brigades arrive at Vera Cruz, the Second Brigade, under General Funston, with every available man in the fleet, will push forward.

Rebels Making Plans
For Their Attack on
Two Mexican Cities

Washington, D. C., May 15.—While the South American envoys were preparing to go to Niagara Falls, where they will complete arrangements for peace negotiations and the American mission preparing to leave here to-morrow, immediate interest in the Mexican situation centered in the Constitutionalist administration of their new prize—the port of Tampico—and plans for their campaign against Saltillo and San Luis Potosi.

Reports to the Navy Department early today from Rear Admiral Mayo stated that General Gonzales, the Carranza commander at Tampico, has assured United States Consul Miller that complete protection would be given to American and other foreign property about the seaport, including the immense oil interests there.

First intimations of the score of their authority were revealed in a statement by Senor Rodriguez, spokesman for the party, who declared:

"We have full power to act; we carry no formula, and we shall decide according to our consciences, always bearing in mind the national honor."

That applied, however, to issues be-

ASTRICH'S SUIT SALE

100 Handsome Suits \$15

at - - -
Were \$27.50, \$30, \$32.50, \$37.50
Wool Crepe Gabardine
Fancy Worsteds Waffle Cloth
Shepherd Checks Serge

200 Women's and Misses' Suits at \$7.98, \$10, \$12.50

Former Prices
\$15.00 \$17.75 \$22.50
\$16.50 \$19.75 \$25.00

Linen Suits

Beautifully made of pure linen in all the desirable shades—exact copies of imported models—with long tunic skirt effect.

\$8.98 and \$9.98

Wash Skirts of Summer Materials

Many have the latest long Russian tunic—a complete assortment in white and colors.

98c, \$1.25, \$1.49, \$1.98, \$2.98 to \$5.98

Women's & Misses Summer Dresses

Adaptations and copies of imported styles in a large assortment of Linens, Cotton Crepes, Cotton Bedfords, Voiles, Tissues and fancy weaves

\$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.98, \$4.98, \$5.98, \$6.98 to \$15

New Linen Coat Dress

A very desirable and serviceable Coat Dress. Suitable for traveling, mountains, sea shores, sailing, automobiling, golf and outing wear.

The Most Practical Dress Ever Introduced—FIVE MODELS.

\$5.98, \$6.98, \$7.98

Special Coat Sale

A clean-up of odds and broken lots that were formerly priced \$10.98, \$12.50 and \$15.00.

Your Choice - \$8.98

An Exceptional Lot of House Dresses

Regular \$1.98 values.
Made of fine quality percale, gingham and linene, in women's, misses' and extra sizes to 50 bust \$1.25

ASTRICH'S EXTRAORDINARY SALE OF SPRING HATS

Trimmed and Untrimmed and Millinery Trimmings TO MAKE ROOM FOR

New Trimmed Hats

Beginning to-morrow we will put on sale the whole remaining stock of all untrimmed hats at prices which are so low that neither cost nor value are taken into consideration.

Our only aim is to sell quick and clear our tables for new goods, which are expected within a short time. We know that to sell quick we must sell cheap. We have put up all hats into separate price lots to be sold as follows:

Three Large Tables of Finest Quality Colored Hemp Hats, Worth From \$1.98 to \$3.98. Must Be Sold Quick. 49c

CHOICE FOR

All good colors—good styles—nice quality hemp—including all shapes, small, medium and large hats for women; hats for misses, hats for school girls, and nice nobby new sailors.

We Have About 25 Dozen of Fine Black Hemp and Tagal Hemp Hats, Worth \$1.98, \$2.49 and \$2.98, which we offer 98c

during this sale at

The best assortment of black hemp hats ever put on sale at so low a price, because they include the most desirable shapes and would bring the full price were it not for the fact that we need the room.

Another Lot of Black Hemp Hats, Worth \$1.98 \$2.98 to \$4.98. Your Choice For \$1.98

Of a much better grade of hemp, including better and newer styles. In this lot you will find the very newest and latest models which you cannot duplicate in any other store for less than \$2.98 and \$3.98.

New White Hemp Hats, Beautiful Quality and 98c

Good Shapes. Choice For

Including nice under brim sailors for girls—small and medium sailor shapes and many others; all values from \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Newest Burnt Hemp Hats, 98c

Values up to \$2.98. Choice For

Including many nice little shapes for middle aged women—nice hats for school girls, mushroom shapes and others.

All Colored Milan Hemp Hats, \$2.98

Choice For

Highest grade hemp Milan, finest close sewed goods, hand blocked, in the most exclusive shapes and colors; hats which sold at \$5.98 to \$7.98.

All Our Finest Black Milan Hemp Hats, Values Which Were \$5.98, \$6.98 and \$7.98. \$3.98

CHOICE FOR

All the latest blocks—highest grade Milan hemp—all the exclusive shapes.

We Trim Hats Free of Charge

And with the unusual low prices at which we sell all our Millinery Trimming, especially Flowers and Ribbons. You should be able to get a new hat for very little money. The fact is that at this sale you can afford to have two hats by paying for one—And that's no fairy tale.

Three Hundred Trimmed Hats Go in This Sale

They are not old hats, are not shop worn. There is positively nothing wrong with them—but we need the room—and we have made up our mind to sell three hundred out of our stock of eight hundred regardless of former price, cost or value.

Fifty Trimmed Hats Have Been Selected to Be Sold Out at 98c

Misses and Ladies hats of all descriptions, including black hand-made braid turbans trimmed.

Fifty Trimmed Hats Will Be Sold, Worth \$1.98

From \$3.00 to \$4.00, at

Including Misses' trimmed hemp hats, girls' Java hats, girls' Milan and hemp hats; small black and colored for middle aged women, etc.

Our Great Special, One Hundred \$2.98

Trimmed Hats, at

Including hats worth \$5.00 and \$6.00. All kinds and all colors—plenty of black, burnt, navy, white—to suit all classes and ages. This is the greatest Trimmed Hat Bargain ever offered.

Fifty High Class Trimmed Hats, \$3.98

Worth \$6.00 to \$7.00

Mostly black, burnt and white, including hand-made braid hats. Fine Hemp hats with shirred facing. Large new Misses' Sailors, Black Shoe Polish Hats and hand draped. Silk Braid Turbans and Bonnets. The poorest hat in this lot is worth \$6.00.

Fifty Very Fine Trimmed Hats, \$4.98

Worth \$7.00 to \$9.00

Including many model hats taken from our French room to make room for lace and Panama hats. It is hard to describe how beautiful these hats are for this low price.

In addition to the above mentioned prices we offer an entire new stock of white and black Lace Hats, trimmed and untrimmed Panama hats. Newest sailor and Watteau effects and many of the newest advance Summer styles in our French room at very moderate prices.



Blame No One But Yourself If You Miss These Saturday Specials

Others have learned the many advantages in price and quality that are to be enjoyed by buying at this store. You have an excellent opportunity to acquaint yourself with our merchandising liberalities by taking advantage of the special bargains listed here for tomorrow's selling. You will need most of them for they are all reasonable articles. You are alone responsible if you fail to benefit by this sale.

- Boys' Indian Red Men suits, with head band, worth \$1 complete. Saturday . . . 39c
- 25c kimono dressing sacks, Saturday only, morning sales . . . 9c
- Women's full 5c value, white hemstitched handkerchiefs. Saturday . . . 2 1/2c
- Large 12 1/2c huck towels, colored border. Saturday . . . 6 1/2c
- Unmatchable, each
- Extra special Saturday bargains, 50 hair nets. Saturday . . . 10c
- Extra special morning sales up to 1 p. m., stocking . . . 2 1/2c
- Extra special underwear, morning sales, 1 p. m., women's \$1.00 all wool long serge . . . \$2.69
- Spring coats
- Unmatchable, ladies' new Balmainian coats. Extra special, each . . . \$1.98
- Extra special, girls' hat shapes, worth 25c, each 5c
- Women's brassieres, worth up to 35c; morning sales, Saturday, 1 p. m., each . . . 11 1/2c
- Girls' newest fancy trimmed hats, worth \$2 and \$2.50 . . . 98c
- Boys' worsted sweaters, worth up to 50c. Small sizes. Saturday 15c
- Underprices. Boys' 25c straw hats. Saturday special morning sales up to 1 p. m. 5c
- \$3.00 silk waists, with embroidered ruffle front and embroidered silk cuffs. \$1.79
- Boys' stripe and plain percale and blue chambray shirts, all sizes. 25c
- Women's handsome all wool dress skirts, formerly up to \$4.00. Saturday . . . \$1.98
- Saturday only, women's \$1.00 new houses, each 49c
- Women's 16-button long black silk gloves. 25c
- Boys' \$3.00 Norfolk suits. Saturday only. \$1.79
- Women's white China silk and \$2.50 mesaline silk blouse waists. Saturday \$1.25
- Saturday only, women's newest Spring suits, formerly \$22.50. Saturday . . . \$9.75
- Girls' 50c percale and gingham dresses. Saturday 25c
- Boys' 25c and 79c blous. Saturday 12 1/2c
- Men's black and tan hose. Saturday only morning sales pair 2 1/2c
- Women's \$3 newest fancy ruffled Jap silk waist. Tango style, all sizes, white and colored. Three day sale price. \$1.79

Activity Begins in Government Arsenals

Washington, May 15.—Activity, which began yesterday in government arsenals and at coast artillery posts, follows the precautionary arrangements of the War Department in the Mexican situation, Secretary of War Garrison said to-day. The Secretary declared that no new orders had been issued to any branch of the service. "The coast artillery has been under orders to be in readiness for some time," said the Secretary. "It was part of our original plan to create provisional infantry regiments from the coast artillery."

The Secretary said that the work being done in government arsenals was under orders from the officers directly in charge of such work and that he had no knowledge of it.

The fate of the Federals who fled from Tampico was in doubt to-day. In some quarters belief was expressed that they would be cut to pieces by the Federal troops before they could reach their own lines south of San Luis Potosi. Fears that they might attempt reprisals by setting fire to the Federal stocks of oil inland from the port were not realized. Evidently they were moving hurriedly in the hope of reaching a haven from pursuit.

Order rapidly is being restored in Tampico, reports to-day indicate, and Rear Admiral Mayo, with the Des Moines and Dolphin, has resumed a position in the river in front of the town. It was known that practically all foreigners had left Tampico before its evacuation by the Federals, and no reports of damage to foreign property in the final fighting had been received.

With practically all northern Mexico in control of the Constitutionalist, plans for their next movement excites much interest. Villa was preparing to lead the assault against Saltillo. His army had been provisioned for a thirty days campaign and it was said that apparently there were plenty of arms and ammunition for the siege. Constitutionalist strategists were believed to have figured that if they took Saltillo, the Federal garrison there would concentrate at San Luis Potosi, leaving that city as one of the points where Huerta would make a final stand against the Constitutionalist campaign aimed at Mexico City.

Reports Excite People
Reports that a Constitutionalist official had stated foreign owned mines in the Parral district must be under operation in fifteen days or they would be seized and worked "for the benefit of the Mexican people," caused some apprehension in El Paso. Foreign capital in the Parral district is estimated at from \$30,000,000 to \$50,000,000 and the mine owners who were unwilling to return under present conditions, were preparing to protest to the State Department if reports of he order were verified.

STORK BRINGS FIVE AT ONCE
Palermo, May 15.—A woman named Rosa Salemi, aged 40, gave birth to-day to two boys and three girls. The mother and five children are all well.

NORDICA'S ESTATE \$1,000,000
New York, May 15.—According to a report received by relatives and friends of Mme. Nordica, who died recently at Batavia, Java, her estate, amounting to about \$1,000,000, will go to her husband, George W. Young, and her sisters.



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Our latest invention makes them appear straight and trim. Not felt by the wearer, not observed by others; weight 5 ounces. Enthusiastically endorsed by men of position everywhere. Sent on approval. Write for information, mailed sealed.

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