

REBELS EXPECT NEGOTIATIONS

Specify Conditions on which they will Lay Down Arms and Enter into Arrangements with Government

PRESIDENT DIAZ MUST LEAVE OFFICE

Minister Limantour Denies that He is Bearer of Peace Proposals from Insurrection Leaders

EL PASO, Texas, March 20.—An armed truce will be entered into in northern Mexico as soon as developments in Mexico City warrant, and Francisco Madero, the revolutionary president, will establish himself at a point in the field to be considered neutral ground, there to receive any peace proposals which may come as a result of the return to the Mexican republic of Senor Limantour, who recently in New York had conferences with the insurrection leaders. This was established today in messages brought by courier from Madero, who is within 150 miles south of here in company with 1,000 of his insurgents. It is the first word coming direct from Madero since the peace negotiations. The contents of Madero's message to the revolutionary junta here were not made public, but the term "peace proposals" was explained as meaning that Madero first would insist upon important stipulations before peace arrangements would be entered into, as follows:

President Diaz must step aside and must relinquish all the political power which might result in his return to office. A new election for president must be called at once, with a free ballot for every male citizen of age. The promise for reform in the land laws and in the administration of justice by popular vote instead of by federal control must be under such conditions that they cannot be ignored after peace has been declared. The insurgents will lay down their arms, but will maintain an armed truce until the reforms are so far advanced that they cannot be revoked. Whether Senor Limantour would be acceptable to Madero as a negotiator, pending negotiations is not known, for couriers bearing the suggestion from New York that Limantour might become the temporary head of the government have not reached him. Ever since the proposed peace proposals were under way messengers have been sent with full details to Madero, but owing to the fact that couriers have to travel by horseback over rough country and in circuitous routes to avoid the Mexican soldiers, communication is delayed for four or five days. However, Senor Goyzales Garcia, the insurrection secretary of state, who carries on communication with Washington, said today: "Limantour would not be entirely acceptable to us. We look upon him as the chief of the Diaz regime. We would not under any circumstances take his word and lay down our arms. As provisional president he would simply take the instructions of Diaz."

Report of Peace Overtures. A telegram from Gustavo Madero, the insurrection financial agent in New York, was received, stating: "I had several conferences with Limantour. He has proposed a full change of politics in Mexico." The belief that Limantour was authorized by Diaz to open up a way for peace has caused much joy among the insurrectionists. It is looked upon by them as a virtual recognition by the government that their demands have some foundation. "Whatever overtures for peace have been made here come from Diaz," said Senor Garcia. "It is the first time that Diaz has ever admitted that the insurgents had any rights in their claims. Madero's messages to us have not taken Limantour into consideration, because we never thought of Limantour as a possible president. Whatever is done, Madero must first pass judgment before peace is declared."

"Would the insurgents be satisfied if Diaz granted all the political demands and gave Madero a high place in the government, Diaz himself remaining in power?" he was asked. "Madero and Diaz are as opposite as day and night. The only place Diaz would give Madero would be on a scaffold. I am afraid there would be no chance for peace as long as Diaz remains president. With an armed truce, Diaz removed and a neutral ground selected for the carrying on of negotiations, we might believe that peace is near."

Mexican Consul Lomeli today protested to the United States officials against the presence of American guards upon the Mexican boundary, where Blatt and Converse were arrested by Mexican officials. The state department took the ground that the place was United States territory. The protest of the Mexican government is regarded as indicating that the Mexican government is going to contest the protest of the govern-

ment against the arrest of the two Americans. Limantour Denies. MEXICO CITY, March 20.—With a warning to all Mexicans that with every day the rebellion continues, the danger of international complications increases, a plea to them to rally to the support of General Diaz, and a declaration that the government never can enter into peace negotiations with individuals in arms, Finance Minister Limantour today entered upon the task of pacification which, the world, at least has set for him, and in the outcome of which the world is interested. The special car in which he traveled from New York reached here at 10 o'clock. Hundreds, among whom were many officials and a sprinkling of women, were on hand to greet the traveler, and with the salutations of many personal friends, the reading of addresses of welcome by representatives of various bodies, and the shouting of "vivas" by the crowd, the reception was a high tribute to the minister's popularity.

Senor Limantour called on the president at the national palace this afternoon. The meeting was cordial in the extreme, the old-time friends shaking hands and embracing repeatedly. Then followed a conference lasting more than an hour, at which no other persons were present. At its conclusion, Senor Limantour said only generalities were discussed. The ovation over, Senor Limantour and the members of his family went by automobile to the Limantour home in Mexico City, where later the minister received the representatives of the press.

Senor Limantour said the statements that he was the bearer of conditions for the establishment of peace, placed in his hands by the Maderos in New York, was an absurdity. "With bad grace could I be the bearer of such a paper, when publicly I have declared that the government could never enter into negotiations with individuals in arms. A government should do that which a reasonable public opinion demands, but it should not, and cannot, under pain of extinguishing itself, accede to the armed pressure of misguided sons of the country. They must lay down their arms if they wish to bring about the reforms that may be necessary."

Of the insurrection itself, Senor Limantour had nothing to add, he said, to what he has previously asserted, that it constitutes treason. "It is the crime of fighting patriots, that those Mexicans who are fighting in the ranks of the insurrection are committing, because every day the danger of international complications increases. I hope earnestly that those misguided citizens who have taken part in this movement will soon open their eyes to the light of reason, and not remain longer deaf to the persuasive voice of patriotism."

Confidence in Diaz. In reply to a suggestion that great results were expected to follow his return to Mexico, he said: "It is a heavy burden that public opinion would place upon my shoulders, and no one man can carry it without the co-operation of all good Mexicans. I furthermore cannot understand why such an effort is demanded of me, when the direction of the policy of our government is in the hands of no less a man than the illustrious statesman who has formed the country, who has developed it, and has given it a high place among the nations."

"We must then place our confidence in the expert helmman who in the past has met the greatest dangers and lend him all the aid of which we are capable, each in his respective sphere of action doing all possible to the end that harmony may reign again among all Mexicans for the removal of a greater distance of danger from without, as well as for the searching close at hand for a method of implanting the reforms, more or less urgent, required by the present political situation."

"There was suggested, a despatch from New York, in which Gustavo Madero said you have returned to Mexico to take charge temporarily of the presidency of the republic." "An absurdity," said Senor Limantour. "Already, in times past, when some of my friends have been sought me to become a candidate for the vice-presidency, I have declared my firm resolution not to accept any position in the militant politics of my country, being disposed to lend my services to the administrative branch so long as they might be considered useful by the majority of my fellow countrymen. Since then the times have only served to confirm and strengthen my determination."

"Not having been willing then to occupy a militant political post when it had been easy for me to acquire it, and when I could count upon the elements which offered it, much less would I think of such a thing at present, when it is the duty of all good Mexicans to rally about General Diaz to avert the dangers that menace our common country."

"I do not aspire to a post in high militant politics, but even if I should aspire, I have always believed that the salvation of Mexico depends first upon the union of all Mexicans, and, second, that every one should have, as the rule of his conduct, the subordination of everything to the highest interests of the nation."

Guarding Hermosillo. NOGALES, Mexico, March 20.—Hermosillo, capital of the state of Sonora, is believed to be in danger of an attack by the rebel forces. On orders of the Mexican government federal troops are being rushed from various points along the northern border into Nogales and thence south over the Sonora railroad to Hermosillo. A special train bringing troops from Cananea was brought into Nogales on rush orders and despatched southward to augment the federal forces at the state capital. Another body of men came in from Naco by train, having marched overland to that point from Agua Prieta.

These went southward by train. Troops from other points are being gathered and sent to Hermosillo. The Mexican officials undoubtedly believe that the state capital is in imminent danger of being besieged by the insurrection. It is believed here that one of the revolutionary leaders, possibly Capitan, has moved southward with a large force of men with the purpose of menacing and capturing the Sonora capital. This band, it is believed, came from the Sierra de Ajos mountains. Another band, which has been operating in the vicinity of Sahuaripa, is also said to be approaching the capital.

It is easy for the rebel leaders to recruit among the native Mexicans in Sonora, nearly all of whom are in sympathy with the revolution. The insurrection could easily raise an army of 2,000 in Sonora, it is believed, but their difficulty would be in procuring arms. The government is impressing in Nogales, Hermosillo, Magdalena, Sonora and many other points, and many young men are fleeing to the mountains rather than be forced into a state of nervous apprehension over the expected attacks.

Rebels Fear Attack. MEXICALI, Mexico, March 20.—The guard left here by the president to hold the town are in constant expectation of an attack from either the Mexican or the American side, or both. The assurances of Captain Babcock, of the United States troops, that he would permit no assault from the American side has not quieted the fears of the rebels nor lessened their precautions. Squads of armed insurrectos patrolled the international line all night and today searching for sympathizers of President Diaz who are supposed to be quietly slipping into Mexicali with the purpose of making an assault by a preconcerted signal. Rebels also searched all the stores and dwellings in Mexicali, hunting foes. They found three Mexicans on whom the finger of suspicion fell. These were unceremoniously thrown into the cuartel (jail) and it is expected they will be shot before daylight tomorrow. The insurgents are suspicious of the American across the line. Late this afternoon, McDonald, an American member of the rebel provost guard in Mexico, declared it his belief that Americans across the line in Calexico were planning to send an attack on the insurrection, and he issued a notice warning Alfred Cuttrill, the deputy consul at Calexico, that if he set foot on the Mexican side he would be shot.

Tecate, Mexico, March 20.—At four o'clock this afternoon Lieutenant Justin Mendite, in command of 105 federal troops, were entrenched behind rock breastworks about three-quarters of a mile north of Tecate and within 100 feet of the American boundary line. The insurrectos, said to number 150 men, were entrenched among the rocks across a narrow valley. The range between the contending forces being about 300 yards in places along their lines. The rebels planted a huge red flag on the corner of their breastworks. A desultory fire has been in progress all day, but so far as can be learned, there have been no casualties except three horses in the federal camp.

The present position of Mendite's force will compel him to retreat into American territory if the enemy takes the offensive and he is unable to withstand their advance. The rebels take the offensive; they must charge the centre of the rebel line, as there is practically no space left for a flank movement south of the boundary line. It appears, however, that both forces are awaiting reinforcements, and neither will attempt an attack tonight.

Conflict at Ojinaga. FRESIDIO, Tex., March 20.—Via Mexico, Texas.—A short moonlight battle last night on the banks of the Rio Grande enlivened the siege of Ojinaga. The federals, who planned to rush the insurrectos' lines, quickly fell back to their original position under a lively fire. Anticipating an attack from the rear of the city, the besieged troops, for an hour, kept up a steady fire into the bushes. The insurrectos at the time were beyond rifle range. In the night the rebel lines were advanced a short distance, but otherwise the situation unchanged. For two days the federals have been unable to get supplies from the American side. United States customs officials refusing to permit exporting arms at the river ford, and that it is under the eyes of the revolutionists. Crowds of sightseers come to Presidio every day to witness the daily battle. Automobiles are numerous along the river bank, and an enterprising Mexican has arranged a bush-gran stand.

Pancho Alvarado, a noted outlaw, was killed in Saturday's fighting at the guardhouse before Ojinaga. Alvarado, who is credited with several murders, including the killing of Mounted Inspector Chapman, of the United States customs service, was arrested several weeks ago by a detachment of infantry for looting a farmhouse near San Carlos. He was given a trial and sentenced to death. While an attack on the customs guard house, still in possession of the federals, was in progress, Alvarado pleaded to be permitted to die fighting. He was given a gun and took his place in the rifle pits. Within a half hour, one of the insurrectos fell wounded, and Alvarado in an endeavor to drag the man within the rebel lines was shot through the brain.

Will Not Disarm. NEW YORK, March 20.—The first news conveyed to Gustavo Madero, the insurrectos' fiscal agent, was contained in newspaper despatches from El Paso and Mexico City tonight. A despatch from El Paso telling of a possible truce was eagerly read. Senor Madero said he soon expected to hear of further developments looking to peace, and without further comment turned to the despatch from Mexico City telling of the reception given Senor Limantour.

"It is impossible for the insurrection to lay down their arms," he said after reading Senor Limantour's statement that there could be no negotiations with an armed force. "We could not agree to that demand, and as long as the government insists upon it we will never come to terms. Diaz has never fulfilled his promises to the people of Mexico; they have been deceived not only once, but a thousand times in the last thirty years."

Victim of Pneumonia. ATLANTA, Ga., March 20.—News was received here by relatives today of the death of Senor Limantour, who had been in the Sonora (Methodist) university of Son, Chow, China, on March 15, of pneumonia.

U. S. AND MEXICO. President Taft Gives Ambassador De La Barra Assurance Regarding Troops. WASHINGTON, March 20.—Whatever delicacy may have existed in the relations of the United States and Mexico concerning the mobilization of 20,000 American troops near the Mexican frontier were swept away, it is believed, by the heart-to-heart talk between President Taft and the Mexican Ambassador, Senor De La Barra, at the White House today. The president confirmed assurances which he had given the Ambassador before departing for Augusta, Ga., that Mexico need feel no alarm.

Ambassador De La Barra went away satisfied with the conference, and sent a long telegram to Minister Creal, minister of foreign relations at Mexico city, explaining the frank expressions of the American government as made to him by President Taft. The Ambassador was among the first to ask for a conference with the president on his return to the White House, and he was cordially received. The Ambassador, who from the outset has been anxious to convey to President Taft the sentiment and gratitude of the people of Mexico, explained, it is said, to the president, the comment with which the mobilization of troops had been received in Mexico.

The president told the ambassador that the latter could ally any misconception of the troops with the assurance that soldiers were sent to Texas for maneuvers and for the enforcement of the neutrality laws.

COAL LAND CASES. Prosecution of Olinaga Likely to Result in Cancellation of Most of Alaska Claims. SEATTLE, March 20.—That the successful prosecution of the men under indictment, charged with conspiring to defraud the government of Alaska coal lands, means the ultimate cancellation of 65 per cent of the Alaska coal claims, was the statement made today by Special Agent A. Christensen, of the department of the interior, who has just returned from Eastern Alaska. Of 1,000 locations filed, 640 claims are embraced in the twenty-eight indictments returned by federal grand juries in Tacoma, Spokane, Chicago and Detroit.

The Monday and Friday cases, which will be tried here next week, will be the first indictments returned to the commission for trial, and the outcome will be watched with a great deal of interest. The department is naturally anxious to get these cases settled, so that the claimants may be advised and the lands opened up, either for patent or for lease as soon as possible.

Theft Aboard Cruiser. Seattle, March 20.—The disappearance of \$25,000 from the postoffice of the armored cruiser "Colorado" now at the Puget Sound navy yard, was reported today. A thorough search of the ship was made, but no trace of the missing money was found. Captain A. W. Gill has appointed a board to investigate the loss.

No Decision in Trust Cases. WASHINGTON, March 20.—Disappointment was manifested today when the supreme court adjourned for two weeks without announcing a decision in either the Olinaga case or the tobacco corporation case. Attorneys from New York and elsewhere in the east, joined the members of the bar in Washington in crowding into the little court room, only to hear other cases disposed of.

Immigration Will Be Heavy. CALGARY, March 20.—I. G. Ruttie, just returned from the United States, says that there is going to be the biggest immigration to this part from North Dakota ever. They are coming in thousands. General Passenger Agent Foster, of the C. P. R., says that during March and April immigrants from Europe will number six hundred to one thousand daily. Most are for the prairie provinces, though a good many will go to British Columbia.

NEW YORK, March 20.—That the district attorney ought to take charge of the situation precipitated by the strike of the drivers employed by the Western Express Company, in the opinion of Mayor Gaynor, expressed in a letter this afternoon to General Manager William H. Ashton. The letter commended Ashton's opposition to a general strike. Reports of the express company said the backbone of the strike had been broken. The Adams Company claimed to have re-instated more than 200 drivers who applied for their jobs.

M. STOLYPIN RESIGNS OFFICE

Russian Prime Minister Disgusted with Action of Council of Empire in Rejecting Zemstro Bill

CZAR ACCEPTS HIS RESIGNATION

His Successor is M. Kokovoff, who Now Holds Post of Minister of Finance—Ministers Undecided

ST. PETERSBURG, March 20.—P. Stolypin, premier and minister of the interior, resigned today and the resignation was promptly accepted by Czar Nicholas. V. N. Kokovoff, minister of finance in the Stolypin cabinet, will be the new prime minister, and unless unexpected circumstances intervene, his appointment will be gazetted tomorrow.

The council of ministers is in session tonight, and it is believed the members will tender their resignations as an indication of solidarity and adherence to the former premier. M. Makarov, assistant to the minister of the interior, it is said, will receive the post of minister of the interior, while M. Kokovoff desires to remain as far as possible his present colleague. It is possible two or three of the ministers will resign.

Premier Stolypin presented his resignation personally to the Emperor. His action was due to the rejection by the council of the Empire of the Zemstvo bill for self-government in the nine western provinces. The premier decided to make the crisis a personal issue, and the boldness of the Emperor's answer was accepted in certain quarters as substantiating the report that the Emperor had abandoned the Premier to his fate by telling the Council of Empire of the council of the Empire through M. Trepolet to vote "according to their consciences." But it was learned later that the selection of M. Kokovoff was made by the Emperor on M. Stolypin's recommendation after His Majesty had exhausted all means to persuade the latter to retain his post. The reactionary groups which plotted Stolypin's fall thus got small satisfaction.

The resignation of the Premier came as a surprise to the Emperor, who was greatly disturbed for a time. He did not wish to hear it, but M. Stolypin explained his motives and indicated his firm intention to withdraw from public life. In inquiring the Emperor instituted an inquiry into Trepolet's account of his conversation with His Majesty and this inquiry disclosed that His Majesty was actually reported as saying: "Vote according to your consciences, but according to the ministers."

Kokovoff's reputation as a careful statesman is so well known that the bourgeoisie reacted favorably on rumors of his appointment. The Duma's attitude has not yet been defined, but M. Kokovoff has undoubtedly done much in the last years to regain the confidence impaired by his "exclamation in the Duma in May, 1909: "Thank God there is no parliament in Russia."

On the Finnish, Jewish and Christian question Kokovoff has maintained an enlightened stand. He has opposed the issues of nationalism and co-operation with the Duma in effecting extensive reforms in the finances of the country. He shut off many pre-existing claims on the treasury, based in many cases on falsified imperial grants, and millions thereby were saved yearly. There was a rumor today that M. Kozostovtzev, the minister to China, had been assassinated at Peking, but up to a late hour tonight the foreign office had no advice concerning this report.

BRITAIN'S FINANCES

Collection of Taxes in Arrar Small Figures of Income Side-Substantial Surplus. LONDON, March 18.—As the financial year draws to its close the tangled condition of the national accounts is gradually straightening out, and it becomes possible to obtain at least some indication of the probable extent of the realized surplus for 1910-11, or to be more precise, for the two years ending on the 31st of this month. The return of public income and expenditure, made up to February 25, shows that the total amount of revenue received for the current financial year is about £285,000,000, as compared with £285,000,000 for the corresponding period of the previous year. At first sight it might be supposed that this huge increase of about £280,000,000 that some extraordinary year of prosperity had passed over the country, and that Mr. Lloyd George was about to handle a colossal surplus. As a matter of fact, however, the position is entirely due to the refusal of the government a year ago to authorize the ingathering of the income tax and some other forms of revenue until after the turn of the financial year, with the result that huge arrears have come into the figures for the current twelvemonth. It is estimated that the total revenue for the year will amount to £1,013,400,000. This total, if realized, would compare with the original estimate of £988,950,000 and would produce a realized surplus for the year of about £24,450,000 as compared with the estimated surplus of £4,205,000.

Concerning the prospects for the new financial year it is impossible to form a fair judgment until the official estimates of expenditure for the various departments have been presented. Port Mann Townsite. OLYMPIA, Wn., March 20.—Gov. Marion E. Hay signed today the bill repealing the anti-cigarette law. In addition to legalizing the sale of cigarettes to adults in this state, the new law makes it a misdemeanor for minors to smoke tobacco in any form.

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The townsite has now been cleared, and lively interest is reported in the property. Stories that Port Mann would be sold to an English syndicate are given authoritative denial. It will be handled by the townsite department of the railway. "Nails" Again Available. OLYMPIA, Wn., March 20.—Gov. Marion E. Hay signed today the bill repealing the anti-cigarette law. In addition to legalizing the sale of cigarettes to adults in this state, the new law makes it a misdemeanor for minors to smoke tobacco in any form.