

Rebels Now Rule Half of Mexico

Official Information Shows Carranza Barely Clings to Control Over Rest.

HAS ONLY 60,000 TROOPS

President Is Too Weak to Keep Order as Bandits Harass Whole Country—Industry Snuffed Out and Morale at Low Ebb.

New York.—The Mexican problem was never more troublesome. Conditions in that revolution-racked land were never more chaotic than they are today. Carranza now controls little more than one-half of Mexican territory and his hold on that is not at all secure. Opposed to him are six organized rebel organizations, not including the Sonora Yaquis, while everywhere his authority is hampered and his troops harassed by organized banditry.

Bearing upon actual conditions in Mexico, the New York Times has come into possession of certain information, now in the official possession of the United States government. Verification of these statements which follow is to be found in the archives of the government in Washington.

Carranza has officially claimed that he is supported by a regular army of 120,000 well-disciplined and well-equipped troops. This statement is not borne out by the facts in the case, and the truth of the matter is that his armed forces number not more than 60,000 officers and enlisted men, who are poorly equipped, whose morale is at low ebb, yet upon whose loyalty depends Carranza's sway over a people who number more than 115,000,000.

Today the Coahuila "chieftain" is exercising authority in those parts of Mexico not under rebel or bandit domination as a dictator and through the promulgation of executive decrees. Of the great American border-line Carranza is in control of not much more than one-third, while the whole of southern Mexico is severed from "federal control" by a stretch of rebel-controlled territory that on the Atlantic extends from the rich oil lands of Tampico almost to the City of Vera Cruz, and on the Pacific by the entire coast line of the great state of Oaxaca. Lower California has become to all intents and purposes independent of the government that sits in Mexico City.

Three General Divisions.

The contending forces in Mexico may be referred to under three general heads. They are:

First—The federal or Carranzista forces.

Second—The rebel forces led by Felipe Angeles, Francisco Villa, Guillermo Meixuerio, a full-blooded Zapotec Indian, and by many well-informed observers considered the ablest and most trustworthy leader in Mexico; Felix Diaz, Manuel Pelaez, who dominates the Tampico and adjacent oil fields; the Zapatistas, still, despite Carranza's affirmation, a power in that part of Mexico of which the state of Morelos is the center; General Cantu, governor of the state of Lower California, and the organized Yaqui Indian forces of the western part of the border state of Sonora.

Third—The bandits who, in small groups, are operating everywhere in Mexico.

As to the first or federal forces supporting Carranza, it is, as already pointed out, the official claim of the present Mexican, or Carranza, government, that this force numbers 120,000 men. It is a conscript army to a great extent and it is small and inefficient for two reasons, the first being Carranza's inability to enforce conscription, and the second the fact that he is unable properly to equip, train, or maintain necessary discipline.

Owing to these two conditions, over which Carranza appears to have no control, the federal army of Mexico is

today at its maximum strength. It is an army poorly organized and poorly equipped. Of this army a large proportion is held in or near Mexico City, leaving the remainder, numbering less than a full division, according to the American organization, to guard and maintain supremacy in the states of Nuevo Leon, eastern Coahuila, southern Durango, Hidalgo, San Luis Potosi, Guanajuato, Queretaro, Michoacan, Jalisco, Tepic, Zacatecas, Guerrero, Colima, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, Tabasco, Quintana Roo, and the eastern or Atlantic edge of the state of Vera Cruz, which territory on paper remains under federal control.

The big transcontinental stretch of rebel-controlled territory, which averages more than 100 miles in width, and which forms an unbroken barrier from ocean to ocean, completely separates the federal-controlled states of the south—Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan, Tabasco, part of Vera Cruz and Quintana Roo—from the states or parts of states over which Carranza still holds sway in the north.

Villa Forces Strongest.

Of the organized opposition groups which are seeking to overthrow Carranza, the most powerful is that which is operating in Chihuahua and neighboring states under Angeles and Villa. The Villistas, as this force is popularly known, is not the unorganized, poorly equipped, and undisciplined force that a great many people in this country think it is. It is, on the other hand, probably the best organized and equipped military organization in Mexico. It numbers 10,000 men commanded by Angeles, the French trained rebel leader, with Villa second in command. It is well equipped with rifles and is said to have a fairly well organized artillery arm, and the Villistas fire the best ammunition, which, as a rule, is American made and is smuggled across the Rio Grande by "gun runners."

The Angeles-Villa forces are today practically in control of the entire state of Chihuahua, a large part of Durango, the eastern part of Sonora, and the western part of Carranza's own state of Coahuila.

The one part of Chihuahua that Angeles and Villa do not control is the border city of Juarez, opposite El Paso, and they would today be in possession of that much-needed border port but for the fact that they brought about American intervention in their plans by firing over the border into the Texas city. The Americans did not go to Juarez to help Carranza, as some people think, but solely for the purpose of safeguarding the lives of Americans on the Texas side of the Rio Grande.

The next more important rebel force in Mexico is that under command of Manuel Pelaez, who dominates the oil-producing regions of the Tampico country. Pelaez has under his command 3,000 well organized and fairly well equipped men. The value of the foreign oil interests in the territory in which Pelaez is operating is estimated at more than \$300,000,000. Pelaez is said to be pro-ally in sentiment, and to this is due in large part the failure of the Germans and their Carranzista sympathizers to gain control of the oil fields while the European war was actively under way.

Allies Like Meixuerio.

Under Guillermo Meixuerio, in the state of Oaxaca, is another rebel force of several thousand well organized men. Carranza has made desperate but ineffectual efforts to dislodge Meixuerio, who is easily one of his most feared opponents, and whose record is such as to win the sympathetic approval of the allies. Meixuerio is a full-blooded Zapotec, a lawyer, and a man of fine education.

Next in importance among the rebel groups is that commanded by Felix Diaz. Under Diaz, according to official information, there are approximately 5,000 men. The Diaz forces, however, unlike those under Pelaez, Angeles and Meixuerio, are loosely organized and are said to be in great

Bat on Shoulder Called Good Luck in Poker Game.

Canton, O.—Mystery surrounding the purchase of live bats at \$10 by Cantonians was solved when one of the purchasers explained that bats bring good luck.

During the last several weeks a number of bats have been sold in Canton. Advertisements have been run in the newspapers and many persons are anxious to obtain them.

"If you keep a bat in your pocket or let it perch on your shoulder when you sit in a game of cards, you are sure to have good luck," remarked one bat owner. He added he knew a man in Chicago who owned a bat and he always had good luck.

need of ammunition and other war materials. Despite this handicap, however, the Felicistas, as the Diaz rebels are known, continue to be a force, and all the efforts of Carranza to break up the organization have failed. The Felicistas are operating in the state of Tamaulipas in the north and in part of Hidalgo, Puebla, and Vera Cruz in the south. The southern Felicista area forms the center link in the rebel ocean barrier.

The state of Morelos and small parts of the states of Mexico and Guerrero form the area in which the famous Zapatistas are and have been operating for the last seven years. As for Cantu, in Lower California, the situation there can be dismissed with a word. Cantu is in absolute control of that part of Mexico, and Carranza is making no effort to interfere with the independent state that Cantu has set up.

Smuggle Arms In.

The seventh of Carranza's troubles are the Yaquis of western Sonora. They are operating in bandit groups and number probably several thousand. Like the Villistas, they are armed and equipped by smuggling from the United States. The Yaquis are among the hardest and best fighters in Mexico, and little if any effort is being made by the federal government to restore order in that part of Sonora under their domination.

Lastly, the bandits. Official reports prove that everywhere in Mexico the outlaw bands are to be found. Their number is unknown, but they are powerful enough to hold the attention of a considerable part of Carranza's hard-pressed little regular army of 60,000 men.

Briefly, what precedes gives the lineup of the factions that are fighting for control of Mexico.

Here are some of the facts, officially established, that have resulted from the country-wide internecine strife in Mexico.

Economically Mexico is in the midst of a crisis which is characterized by the intense poverty and the actual want of the great mass of the people. The morale of the population everywhere was never lower than at the present time. The general health of the people is everywhere bad. Cattle raising, the principal industry of the nation, is today only about ten per cent of what it was in 1914. Of all Mexican industries, the growing of henequen alone shows progress. All textile factories and sugar mills, with a few exceptions, are out of business, and those that are operating are run down and in need of repair. Practically all of the country's 16,000 miles of railroads are demoralized or destroyed as a result of rebel and bandit activity. Not a cent of interest has been paid on the national foreign debt in more than five years.

More than 75 per cent of the population is now absolutely illiterate. The national credit is gone, and the foreign oil interests are, despite the apparent friendly attitude of Pelaez, menaced. As an indication of the health of the people, latest reports estimate the yearly death rate in Mexico City is 21,000, while the reported birth rate is only 7,500. It is believed, however, that a correct census would show a larger birth rate, although the 7,500 estimate is official.

At the present time all reliable reports coming out of Mexico indicate the precarious condition of the Carranza government. Carranza has been during the past three years probably the most pro-German head of a state in the western hemisphere.

Openly Pro-German.

Until recently his attitude has been unfriendly to the United States, and when he thought Germany was winning he made no efforts to conceal his sympathy for the Teutons. Legislation that was passed during the war and which was directed against the allied oil holdings in the Tampico country is generally believed, in private as well as official circles, to have been inspired by German interests and representatives in Mexico. Protests against this legislation have been filed by the American, British and French governments.

Since he developed his anti-American attitude Carranza has fanned his supporters with the slogan of "Latin-American Solidarity" against the great northern republic, and today the most generally developed trait in the majority of Mexicans in federal controlled territory is that of anti-Americanism.

Popcorn Debauch.

San Francisco.—Frank Fischer sued Mary Reilly, nineteen, for \$50. He lost. Mary told the judge he gave her the money to buy popcorn and peanuts and she spent it in one evening.

ORCHARD GLEANINGS

WATCH FOR IMPORTED PESTS

Little Excuse for Passing Stock Infested With Egg Masses of Gipsy or Brown-Tail Moth.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The main arguments of objectors to plant quarantine No. 37, which will greatly restrict the entry of nursery stock and other plants and seeds, beginning June 1, 1919, are that either no pests are brought in on such imported stock or that thorough inspection abroad would eliminate any undesirable insects. There is no question but that the chief exporting foreign governments have given to their nursery stock the best inspection which human skill and science can afford. Failures are due to the human equation and to conditions not subject to change, which make inspection and certification insufficient safeguards.

The inadequacy of such inspection since 1918, when it became operative, is shown by the findings resulting from reinspection of imported material at destination in this country. Data gathered by the United States department of agriculture show that there have been received from Holland 1,051 infested shipments, involving 148 kinds of insect pests; from Belgium 1,306 infested shipments, involving 64 kinds of insects; from France 247 infested shipments, involving 89 kinds of insects; from England 154 infested shipments, involving 62 kinds of insects; from Japan 291 infested shipments, involving 108 kinds of insects; from Germany 12 infested shipments, involving 15 kinds of insect pests. Many of these intercepted insects are not known to be established anywhere in this country, and numbers of them, if established, would undoubtedly become important pests.

Typical of the insects thus imported, some of which have come in on more than 1,000 shipments, are the records in relation to gipsy and brown-tail moths.

Under the system of inspection which has been established in the principal exporting countries there is little excuse for the passing and certification of stock infested with the egg masses of the gipsy moth or with the large and rather conspicuous leafy winter nests of the larvae of the brown-tail moth. In point of fact, however, during the period in which the highest possible grade of inspection has been enforced no less than 52 different shipments of plants from foreign countries have been found to be infested with egg masses of the gipsy moth or larval nests of the brown-tail moth. Three of these were from Japan and the others were from France, Holland or Belgium.

Unfortunately these records do not necessarily comprise the total entry of these two pests. They represent merely the instances of infestation discovered by reinspection on this side. Under the law the inspection of imported nursery stock in this



Imported Stock Ready for Planting.

country is left to the inspectors of the states, and the finding of infestation is there entirely dependent on the efficiency of state inspection. In many states this inspection is of a high order, and probably most if not all instances of infestation are found. In other states the inspection service is inadequately provided for and insufficient, and in a few states the service has little support and little if any efficiency. There is therefore the possibility that one or both of these pests have already gained foothold at one point or another in the United States and have not yet been discovered and reported. In this connection it should be remembered that the gipsy moth was 20 years in Massachusetts before it was known.

The establishment of these two insects in different parts of the United States would soon lead to their general spread throughout the country. What this would mean in cost and damage and also in human suffering can hardly be estimated. Only a portion of the New England states is now invaded by these insects, and yet the expenditure in clean-up and control work alone amounts to more than a million dollars a year by the states concerned, in addition to an aiding federal appropriation of upwards of \$300,000 annually.

MODE OF TRIMMING

Demand for Decorations Is Gratified With Novelties.

Difficult to Turn Frivolous and Many Still Dress on a War-Reduced Income.

It is the way of fashion to be forever elusive, as it is the way of women to be forever in search of something new. If she does not find charm of new interest in the silhouette, then she looks for novelty in material or in the manner of trimming. This season finds the slender silhouette still holding first place in the fashion world. It remains slim, perhaps slimmer, but the whims of woman must be gratified by the vast variety and novelty of trimmings, materials and accessories for this season.

Fashion has grown very serious during the last four years, and it is difficult to turn frivolous "over night." For the woman who is still dressing on a war-reduced income, it is wise to choose fashions that are established, gowns and suits fashioned after those most favored by the conservative woman, says Vogue.

The top coat or motor coat is perhaps the most important piece in her wardrobe. To a woman who travels, this coat is invaluable, and its uses are many.

When dull copper tricolette is made up into a two-piece dress of simple becoming lines, it immediately becomes a garment of service, and is quite as appropriate for town as for country, as appears in a gown of this material which was seen recently. The top part of the dress is made like an over-blower. The straight lines and unbroken simplicity made it a model suited to either matron or debutante. Four straight panels of the blouse fall over the straight skirt.

Oyster white pussy-willow taffeta makes another country suit. The original idea of quilting and embroidering it in navy blue silk comes from Lanvin. The straight box coat is embroidered all over and has a deep rolling collar ending where two large navy blue buttons fasten the coat. The crocheted girdle is finished with weight-like tassels of blue silk. The deep hem of the skirt is marked with the quilting and outlined with embroidery, an effect which is very new. The coat is very smart worn as a separate sports coat, and may be used with a sports skirt of white silk or navy blue pussy-willow taffeta.

EMBROIDERY ADDS TO BEAUTY



Lavish embroidery on the side of this attractive coat makes it a creation of exquisite beauty. The coat is of navy blue satin. The embroidery is of blue chenille. The same motif at the side of the dress is carried out on the sleeves and the collar. The blue and maroon silk belt and straps on the coat are all in one piece.

TIMELY FASHION TOPICS

The tendency is decidedly toward full flaring overskirts with right underskirts.

Charming face veils with chenille dotted motifs matching the hat trimming in color were recently noted at a smart hotel at the tea hour.

Lingerie blouses of net and of net and lace are a feature of midsummer fashions. Both white and ecru net are seen and valenciennes and filet lace are employed.

The tailored sports blouse or rather sports shirt is developed in wash silk, pique, linen and flannel and in many instances is decidedly gay in colors; that is, the stripe or figure of the fabric is of gay coloring.

The DAIRY



MILK STRAINING IMPORTANT

Utensils and Strainer Cloths Should Be Thoroughly Washed and Then Sterilized.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Strainer cloths containing 35,000,000 bacteria per square inch have been found in use on dairy farms.

The average strainer cloth, of which about 36 square inches is in contact with the milk, is likely to contain fully a billion bacteria if it is not washed and sterilized after each milking.

If the cloth is folded, the number of bacteria is likely to be still greater. Milk produced under conditions where utensils were not sterile was found to contain more than 666,000 bacteria per cubic centimeter.

When all utensils were sterilized, the average bacterial count was only about 31,000 per cubic centimeter or less than one-twentieth as many.

Bacteria in milk are not necessarily injurious to health, but they reduce its keeping quality. Certain kinds of bacteria, if too numerous, also affect its palatability. For the production of clean milk the department of agriculture urges strict sanitation in every dairy operation.

Utensils and strainer cloths should be thoroughly washed with warm water and washing powder, then rinsed in clean water and sterilized by boiling or steaming for five minutes. After sterilization, the utensils, including pails, cans, strainers, and strainer cloths, should be



Cleanliness Is Essential to the Production of Milk of Low Bacterial Count.

hung in a clean place where they will be protected from flies and dust. Milk as it leaves the udder of healthy cows is clean and pure and may be kept so by following the methods outlined.

CANS BETTER THAN BUCKETS

Much More Convenient for Handling Milk and Cream in Transferring to the House.

Milk and cream from even a few cows can be much more conveniently handled in regular milk cans than in the shallow pans and wide-mouthed buckets commonly used.

Cans are convenient for collecting the milk at the barn and transferring it to the house.

These cans may be bought in various sizes. For handling cream and skim milk where separators are used, or even where cream is set to sour for butter making, the "shotgun can," is very convenient. It can be easily covered and set in water and is convenient to handle.

SYSTEM OF CROP ROTATION

Successful Dairymen Will Have One Market or Cash Crop Besides Profit From Dairy.

The most successful dairymen have a system of crop rotation that enables them to have one market or cash crop, besides the profit of the dairy. The increased fertility that is brought on to the farm from the use of concentrated feed stuffs more than offsets the amount of fertility removed by the sale of the dairy products. Another factor is that the same help required to properly conduct a dairy can find time outside of the routine dairy work to care for a profitable market or cash crop.

Tank for Dairy Herd.

When figuring on a tank for the dairy herd, allow for about 160 pounds, or 20 gallons, for each cow daily.

Making a Kicking Cow.

Most times it is the calf that is handled roughly that makes the kicking cow.

COMFORT FOR OUR MERCHANT SAILORS



The mattress and pillows used in the berths of the sailors and firemen aboard government-operated merchant vessels not only are comfortable, but make fine life preservers. Their filling is a soft, resilient tropical fiber known as kapoc, which will sustain 25 times its own weight in salt water for 48 hours.