

POOR WILLING FIGHT TO GAIN WAGE BOUENGE

Most Oppressed Class in Mexico Counted On to Resist American Invasion.

WORKERS' LOT DESCRIBED

Native Who Has Had Sad Experience Tells How Ranch Owners Treat Their Hands, Who Still Keep Love of Country.

BY JOSEPH MEDILL PATTERSON, BY Arrangement with the Chicago Tribune.

VERA CRUZ, May 6.—This is the story of Pedro Varga, whose father was a Mexican and whose mother was a Cuban.

Pedro is 23 years old. He has a high olive skin, intelligent face with delicate features, and an abundance of curling black hair. He is night watchman at the Aleman Hotel.

"If the American soldier go through there will be no fight in big numbers. There will be what you call guerilla."

"You mean," I said, "rich in Yucatan?"

"No, I mean in here in state of Vera Cruz. I tell you something. Man with ranch, hacendado, he come to Vera Cruz. He say to jefe politico I want 1000 men work my plantation. Jefe politico he say all right, \$2000. Then he arrest the drunken peoples and say I fine you \$50."

"The poor man say I have not so much. The jefe politico say all right you work it out on ranch 50 cents a day."

"Farm Worker's Experience Described." "But, Pedro," said I, "surely they don't work all the ranches by convict labor."

"Oh, no," he said. "Moa' often not—like me. I came Vera Cruz last year. I have \$40. I bimby that go. I get no job. A man he meet me on a street. He say 'You wish to work for farmer?' I say, 'No, I have heard of farm worker.'"

"The way," he said, "is to work for an intelligent man, educated man. You will be butler, houseman. I say 'No, I want work Vera Cruz, not country.'"

"Simey, very many in here say away, and my shoes is broke, and I am afraid I be barfoot. And I cannot wash. I do not look good. Meet this man in plaza. He say, 'You wish to work?' I say, 'No, I want work Vera Cruz. One week later I meet this man again in plaza. He say, 'You wish to work?' I say, 'Yes, for butler. I am educated, intelligent man. I can read.' He say, 'All right, certain for butler.'"

"So I sign paper which say I work 181 days for 50 cents a day as house man, but this man takes the paper. When he gives me \$15, I say, 'I buy me shoes of I be barfoot. He say, 'Come with me, and put me in house in Vera Cruz. There are 20 other men in house and he lock door.'"

"Then he say, 'Send you \$15 for blanket and pair of pants, you no need shoes.'"

"Men Robbed and Treated Cruelly." "He keep all means in house and not let me out. They must buy by eye. I buy by mesenajire all of food we must pay for. We pay two prices. Twice as much we pay in this house for blankets, cigarettes and our food we must pay for twice so much as cost in streets outside."

"After one week say put us on a train at 4 in the evening and 4 next morning we reach Cosamaloapan in this state of Vera Cruz. We got to ranch of Luis Borgardo. He is Mexican. When we go there, he says to each man, 'You owe me \$1 for my expense for train and board in Vera Cruz.'"

"One man say, 'I have pay my own board in Vera Cruz two times when I am locked in that house. Besides you say you pay \$1c a day and board.'"

"So a captain what you say overseer, standing by the hacendado, he hit this man in mouth with butt of Winchester gun and broke teeth loose. So the other men is frightened and say nothing. So I am frightened and say nothing."

"They tell us march to place of palm trees split in half with roof of palm leaves. All one big gallery. So I say, 'I am houseman, not laborer,' and captain hit me with fist of machedo on head, and so I go along. We sleep on palm leaves."

"Guard Kept Constantly." "There is wires around this palm stockade and outside and inside a day and two captians walk between stockade and wires always at night with Winchester."

"At 4 the captain say 'get up,' and all get up and eat beans, and roast corn. We eat sitting on our beds and we have hot water, and work to six and a half a gallon. Zen we go in fields half past 4 to 12."

LATE PHOTOS OF MEXICAN REBELS ON MARCH TOWARD CAPITAL



TOP—VILLA'S COLUMN ON WAY. MIDDLE—MARCH THROUGH TORREON AFTER LATE BATTLE. BELOW—SKIRMISHERS IN AMBUSH.

take horses and catch him. Then they take him back to stockade and wait until other men come in and then they beat this man with guns until they break his arm. Then he must work with one arm. We other men sit there like dead men. We are afraid. We do not help him."

"There are thirty-six men start their 181 days on the ranch, but only 11 finish. The others run away, leave everything. Some leave self hats. They have no pay. If they escape or are caught and shot, I know not."

"How much money did you receive for your six months' work, Pedro?" I asked.

"Twelve dollars and seventy-five cents at the end," he said. "That is \$4.25 in gold. The captain say I am faithful—oh, I hate him—and so he give me so most. Zat is ze highest of the whole thirty-six men I get."

"Was your hacendado Luis Borgardo rich?"

"No, he was not rich. Some rich peoples have 5000 working people. There was also four womens on our ranch. They cook for us and besides they are for ze captians."

"Revolution Does Not Mean Change." "Does your hacendado live on his ranch?"

"Not so much. He is in Mexico City much."

"If Villa and the revolutionists get in power will all that change?"

"No it will change no more. Zat is Mexico."

"But the Americans will not permit that kind of slavery—if they occupy the country. You know that, don't you?"

"Yes, I know—the Americans are more liberty—but," he shrugged his shoulders.

"You think these poor Indians would fight a guerilla warfare to continue in this bondage?"

"Yes, they will fight very long. The Indian love his country."

FARMERS' BILL DELAYED

CONTINUED OBJECTIONS TO ITEMS PREVENT VOTE.

Senator Gore Says Colleagues Quibble Over Helping Agriculture, but Vote Millions for Killing.

GURT DEMAND MADE

Huerta Told to Give Information as to Private Parks.

VICE-CONSUL HEARD FROM

Silliman Reported on Way by Rail to Mexico City—Rebels Will Not Be Prevented From Importing Arms at Tampico.

REBELS RECRUIT IN SAN DIEGO

Mexicans Preparing for Dash to Lower California Is Belief.

HORSE FAMINE APPROACHES

Chihuahua, Famed for Equines, Now Stripped, Is Report.

GUNBOATS ARE KEPT IN SIGHT

Scout Cruiser Still Hangs on Heels of Mexican Warships.

POSILAM SOAP

SOOTHES THE TENDER SKIN PREVENTS ROUGHNESS

WILSON TO SIGN EMBASSY BILL

WASHINGTON, May 15.—President Wilson will sign tomorrow the bills passed by Congress raising the American legations in Argentina and Chile to embassies.

REBELS CAN GET MUNITIONS

Unless the President issues a new proclamation, or the Navy Department takes similar action to that of the War

Department, the constitutionalists can get all the munitions of war they wish from the United States through Tampico.

Earlier in the day Secretary Daniels had expressed the belief that the American Government would not interfere with the shipment of arms into any Mexican port from countries other than the United States.

When Carranza's note, following the seizure of Vera Cruz, arrived here and was interpreted as threatening the War Department was permitted at that time to prevent shipments from going across the international line, but no further step was taken.

Lower California Is Belief. SAN DIEGO, Cal., May 15.—There is a well-defined report, partly substantiated by members of the junta here, that rebel agents are recruiting soldiers at San Diego preparatory to making a dash for Lower California.

Chihuahua, Famed for Equines, Now Stripped, Is Report. CHIHUAHUA, Mex., May 15.—Chihuahua, the state of big ranches, where the horse was supreme and where no one walked a distance of more than a few hundred yards, virtually has been stripped of its equine inhabitants.

GUNBOATS ARE KEPT IN SIGHT. Scout Cruiser Still Hangs on Heels of Mexican Warships. VERA CRUZ, May 15.—The gunboats Zaragoza and Bravo, which were ordered to abandon their station at Tampico when the federalists evacuated that city, passed Vera Cruz late today.

POSILAM SOAP SOOTHES THE TENDER SKIN PREVENTS ROUGHNESS. Use Posilam Soap if your skin is tender and other soaps irritate. Posilam Soap is gentle on your skin and more beneficial to your skin than you ever thought a soap could be. Medicated with Posilam, the great healing remedy, makes it so.

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HOUSE DEMOCRATS MUST FACE MUSIC

Effort to Let Prohibition Issue Die on Calendar Circumvented in Time.

VOTES WILL BE RECORDED

States' Rights Question Raised for Benefit of Timid Members—Senate Unlikely to Reach Vote at Present Session.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, May 15.—It was purely for political reasons that the leaders of the House of Representatives determined to bring in a special rule providing for the consideration of the Hobson prohibition resolution, they having concluded after a series of conferences that the subject was one the Democratic majority dare not struggle by legislative trickery.

Originally, when the committee on judiciary reported the Hobson resolution without recommendation, solely to clear itself of responsibility for inaction, the leaders thought they could handle the situation by permitting the resolution to take its place on the House calendar and then so to maneuver as to prevent that particular sort of legislation from being reached this session.

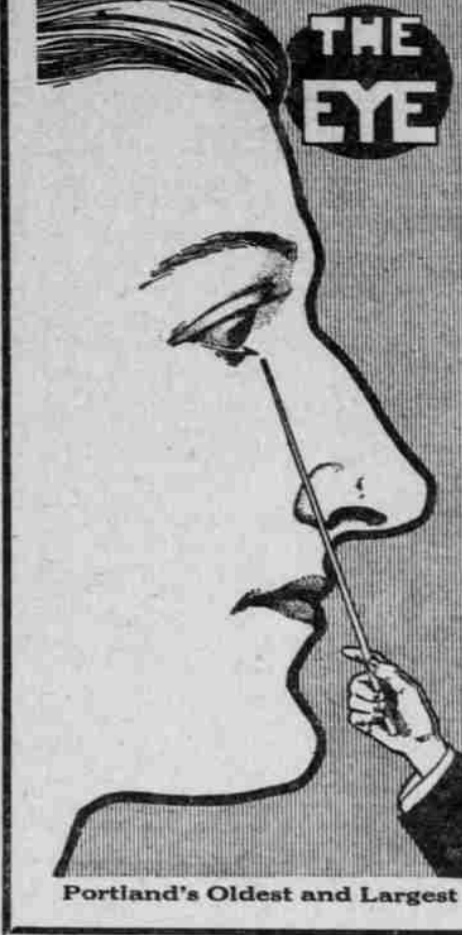
Advocates Offset Strategy. Considerable publicity was given to this bit of strategy and the advocates of prohibition gave indication of a purpose to fight the House leaders and to hold them individually responsible if the resolution were not brought to a vote.

Rather than invite the opposition of the prohibitionists the leaders, after many conferences, concluded that the wise thing to do would be to bring in a special rule providing for the consideration of the resolution and then to let every House member shoulder his own responsibility. It is true that there is hope, in the hearts of some leaders, that the Hobson resolution will be defeated, for it must receive a two-thirds vote to pass the House, but the prospects are not bright.

States' Rights Issue Raised. Some of the Southern members of the House are busy working up sentiment in support of a movement to oppose the Hobson resolution—not on its merits, but on the ground that prohibition is an issue that should be dealt with by the states and not by the Federal Government.

Thomas E. Watson Indicted. AUGUSTA, Ga., May 15.—Thomas E. Watson, Georgia editor, historian and politician, was indicted today by the

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Federal grand jury here on a charge of sending obscene matter through the mails.

CALHOUN PROPERTY SOLD

Traction Magnate Sees Lots Go at Auction on \$1,642,000 Claim.

CLEVELAND, May 15.—Sheriff Smith sold today \$70,000 worth more of land on Euclid Heights belonging to Patrick Calhoun, traction magnate of New York and San Francisco, to satisfy a mortgage of \$1,642,000 held against Calhoun by the Maryland Casualty Company.

worth of real estate was sold yesterday. All told, 178 parcels of land, appraised at \$1,818,000, will be disposed of. Calhoun was present again today and saw his property go under the hammer without comment.

St. Helens to Celebrate Fourth. ST. HELENS, Or., May 15.—(Special.)—St. Helens will celebrate on the Fourth of July this year. The plans are in the hands of the fire company. Extensive exercises have been arranged, including a street parade, musical chorus of 100 voices for the programme, a ball game and fireworks in the evening.

Low Rate Excursion and Circuit Tours East

Table listing excursion rates to various cities: Chicago \$72.50, St. Louis 70.00, Kansas City 60.00, Omaha 60.00, St. Joseph 60.00, Sioux City 60.00, Denver 55.00, Colo. Springs 55.00, Indianapolis 79.90, Detroit 73.50, Buffalo 92.00, Pittsburgh \$91.50, Memphis 79.90, Albany 104.10, Baltimore 107.50, Montreal 105.00, Portland, Me. 110.00, New York 108.50, Washington 107.50, Philadelphia 108.50, Boston 110.00.

May 16, 18, 19, 20 to Chicago, and Daily June 1st to Sept. 30th Liberal Stopovers Return Until Oct. 31st

These fares may be utilized to many other destinations and for Circuit Tours through the West that will include Denver, Omaha, Kansas City, Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Louis, Chicago.

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