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Editorial Correspondence

Vera Cruz, Mexico, April 13.—Mexicans pay little attention to files, but files pay considerable attention to Mexicans. This being the tropics the files are thicker down here than in Mexico City.

Like everything else in Mexico, Vera Cruz has grown amazingly in the 16 years since our last visit.—new buildings are springing up all over the place, especially in the suburbs and along the beach, toward Mocambo.

And as in Mexico City so here,—this is all private enterprise. Individuals and groups of individuals are building these new hotels and apartment houses for only one reason,—because they believe they can make a profit.

In Palm Springs gardenias were \$2 apiece and orchids \$5—and both were—at least at Easter time—hard to get. Coming down here on the scenic and leisurely Mexican railroad, a 20-minute stop was made at Fortin (pronounced Fourteen) now sporting one of the most attractive tourist hotels in the republic.

It only shows what a difference a few thousand miles can make,—also the potency of the old law of supply and demand. In the jungle near Fortin, orchids grow wild and gardenias are almost as much a pest as dandelions on the Rogue Valley golf course!

Well there is just such a scramble at most of the stops on the train to Vera Cruz. But not for the tourist trade entirely. The day coach trade really adds up to more in volume and dollars and cents. For while the one Pullman is always full (it is called a Pullman but it is only a day coach with reclining seats and tray service) the day-coaches, like those coming down from Juarez are OVERFLOWING, no passengers on top but plenty on the platforms and steps and in every window faces.

And they depend upon these station stops for their food and drink. Well that ought to give one an idea of the scene.

At one of the stops at least they had everything to sell, from pulque cocktails, through tortillas and boiled chicken, to fresh strawberries, pineapples and fresh black coffee and cigars,—the latter also "fresh from the ranch."

There is still plenty of mal-nutrition in Mexico,—humans and animals are living evidence of it,—but Mexicans who have money to travel also have money to eat (and to drink)—and don't think they stint themselves. When a group of these seniors and seniors, with their offspring get together to satisfy the inner man—and woman!—believe you me Pedro they DO it!

So perhaps it is no wonder Mexican trains are always from one to 24 hours late. The train crews have appetites also and large generous hearts.

This Vera Cruz trip is one every visitor to Mexico should take for it gives such a wonderful, compressed cross-section of this interesting country, from the Arctic zone and the snow-capped tops of "Popo", through the dust bowl and the ancient pyramids, on via the temperate to the tropical zone and Mexico's beautiful eastern sea coast. "Multum in parvo" is the term, and while the train trip is slow and tedious,—it is (at least to your correspondent) worth it.

Moreover the train winds up and down the mountains, not via tunnels but on the OUTSIDE, so one has all the advantages an air-trip is supposed to provide but seldom does. (There is plane service between Vera Cruz and Mexico City but it is confined almost entirely now to military and navy personnel.)

Oh yes and bananas,—we almost forgot the bananas,—banana plantations, miles and miles of them, and the industry growing like Mexico by leaps and bounds we were informed. Freight cars loaded with them in green compact bunches were being hauled to Mexico City as we came down. Apparently the harvest had been pretty thorough, for while we passed through thousands of banana groves, only a few bunches could be seen, and the bananas were small, in many cases looking more like dill pickles than the luscious golden fruit, so prized now in the states.

By the way did you know some babies are born with a certain nutritive disease which proves fatal in a short time if bananas can't be provided,—for only bananas can give the necessary nutrient to sustain life. We met the mother of such a baby on the train,—a former Seattle girl who married the assistant manager of a large sugar refinery near Cordova. The baby is now four years old, and in another year will be out of danger, but it has been touch and go all that time, the little girl has sometimes eaten over a dozen bananas a day!

We spent the night at Mocambo, four or five miles south of Vera Cruz, the chief reason being the heat in Vera Cruz, and the cooler air promised at Mocambo with the hotel only a stones-throw from the roaring surf of the Atlantic ocean,—the Gulf of Mexico to be exact.

It proved a wise selection for while we were unable to consult a thermometer, the general atmosphere on our arrival (nearly two hours late) approached if it did not quite equal, the general climate of the G.O.P. convention at Chicago, last June. Wowee but it was sticky and hot and suffocating in that station, until we got out!

Near the close of the season at Mocambo which made it even pleasanter, for not many people about. Every one takes a swim, some two or three times in the day; the beach is wide, clean, and the water until one gets far out, almost warm.

Early in the morning, we saw a large fishing boat take off down the beach, the long oar blades flashing in the early morning sun, and a dark figure in the stern letting out huge folds of net. Later walking up the beach we saw the same fishermen—a dozen husky Indians in white cotton pants,—pulling in their nets, a long hard process for the nets are tremendous, and reach far out into the sea.

The catch after all that work must have been very disappointing for we should say not more than a dozen mackerel of a commercial size were taken in,—the rest of the aquatic fauna and flora being thrown back.

Later on a lone Indian fisherman had better luck. He took off

Ship Saves Pilots
Washington, April 16.—(U.P.)—Two injured army pilots whose plane crashed into the Pacific were rescued recently by the crew of the Liberty Ship John Howard Payne, the war shipping administration announced today.

List Author's Wealth
San Diego, April 16.—(U.P.)—The inventory and statement of assets of the estate of Harold Bell Wright, novelist, who died here May 24, 1944, was found to contain cash, securities and war bonds totaling about \$20,000, the county clerk's office reported today.

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his overalls revealing a pair of white shorts, and a beautiful pair of dark calves and torso, then with a very finely woven net, held in his teeth and one hand, walking into the water like a cat stalking a bird,—such cunning stealth and so alert!—when suddenly out when the net, like a perfect cast, a moment while it settled and then the Indian started to haul in HIS catch. Almost at once fish started to jump apparently trying to escape the net, but there were 27 fine fat fish the Indian slowly extricated and put in his basket. And practically all of identical size,—looking very much like a fine mess of cut-throat trout.

The Indian imperturbably put on his overalls, shouldered his net and basket and walked down the beach toward a straw thatched hut where some brightly-hued garments drying on a cactus bush indicated he was to have some feminine help in preparing the fish for market.—R.W.R.

Letter From Washington

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress From Oregon

LAST week I made a very hurried visit to the west coast and was in my district about thirty-six hours.

When congress recessed for Easter, I was offered an opportunity to ride out to the coast in an army plane which was making the trip and had several spare seats in it. So, I became an aerial hitch-hiker, and in the course of nine days elapsed time I averaged about 1,000 miles a day.

TRAVELLING in army airplanes was an interesting and enlightening experience. The army, of course, does not send airplanes to the beck and call of the members of congress, but members, being officials of the government, generally are welcome to ride in service planes if there is room. I had the good fortune to line up a ride with a colonel who took a half a dozen members of his staff out to San Francisco and Los Angeles and back on a technical mission.

The plane was a large two-motor ship, but it was not the last word in comfort. In its actual service days, it was a paratrooper ship, and probably was in use on the African desert, since it was painted brown with desert camouflage. The seats were benches along the sides, and they were not upholstered. After having spent more than thirty hours in this plane, I realize that the job of a paratrooper is a hard one in more ways than one.

There is nothing haphazard about cross-country flights of service airplanes. The air highways are as carefully designated as motor highways. All flights are scheduled in advance, cleared by the weather section, and are made according to plan.

Nor are army pilots reckless dare-devils who zoom around in big airplanes with abandon. On the contrary, these pilots and crews are serious, careful and highly-trained young men. With-

concerned over day-to-day fluctuations. Avoid jumping from one stock to another in the hope of picking a few points profit here and there. Do not follow the crowd. Always bear in mind that in finance the herd instinct is fatal.

SELECTING YOUR COMPANY

Before buying any stock you should decide what you expect of it. In the case of the man who has sold his business, the chances are that he will want to own stocks that will appreciate in value. Therefore, he would do well to buy into a young industry — possibly television, plastics or electronics. To the elderly couple who want income, I suggest "Series G" Government Bonds and the securities of well-established companies with a good dividend record and a promising future.

The investor should carefully study the trend of the market and the outlook for the industry into which he plans to buy. This shows when to buy. He should next analyze the various companies in that industry. He will then select that company which is making the most progress. This company need not necessarily be the largest in its field nor, perhaps, the oldest, but it must be well managed and active. Pay particular attention to the personnel. Remember that the future of every company will depend upon the character of the individuals who control and manage it.

"TIPS" YOU MAY ACCEPT

Approach the stock market in an intelligent manner. Follow the lead of successful institutions and buy the securities they buy. You can determine this by studying reports of insurance companies. Learn to swim before venturing into deep water and above all be wary of tips from well-meaning friends. Even in the rare instances where such a tip makes good temporarily, it usually leads to loss in the end because it is based on ephemeral rather than fundamental factors. The successful investor must know what to buy or sell, as well as when to buy or sell.

Little Future and Miserable Pay for Hirohito's Boys

(From Camp White Grenade) Along with the more obvious disadvantages of being a Jap soldier is the fact that there isn't any financial future in it, either. The Nip non-com would have a hard time scraping together enough cash for one \$7.50 war bond, even if he could sign up for it.

While suicide is generally considered to be a matter of honor with the Jap military, some of Hirohito's boys may be spurred on to the deed by a look inside that little old hon. pay envelope. The land of the Rising Sun provides the following descending pay scale—per month: General, \$126.50; colonel, \$71.30 to \$85.10; major, \$39.10 to \$50.60; captain, \$27.60 to \$33.65; first lieutenant, \$19.55 to \$21.66; sergeant, \$5.29 to \$6.90; pfc. (still "per month"), \$3.07. That's all, brother. So sorry!

Plan FR's Birthday National Holiday

Washington, April 16.—(U.P.)—A movement was started today to make Franklin D. Roosevelt's birthday, Jan. 30, a national holiday each year and his "Little White House" at Warm Springs, Ga., a national shrine. Rep. William J. Gallagher, D., Minn., said he would introduce a bill to that end on Monday, a bill to that end today.

Fundamentals of Successful Investing

Babson Advises the Would-Be Investor

By Roger W. Babson
Babson Park, Mass., April 13 — (Special Correspondence) — "Mr. Babson, I have sold my business, where can I invest the proceeds?" "My wife and I are getting along in years, in what can we invest our money so that we will be assured of a moderate income for the rest of our lives?" "I have just inherited \$5,000, how can I double this money quickly?" These questions are typical of the many asked me from week-to-week. Behind each lies the instinctive desire of all human beings for self-protection.

KNOW YOURSELF
Before entering upon an important venture — and certainly before buying any stock — it is imperative that you know yourself. Self-control, patience and courage are essential to success. Have you the self-control to follow a strict investment policy? Do rumors and minor fluctuations fail to sway you? Have you

the patience to hold your funds liquid until a real bargain comes your way? Do you resist jumping into a bull market in the hope of scalping a few points profit on the advances? Have you the courage to buy when the news is pessimistic and everyone about you is selling? Will you sell when stocks are on the upgrade and everybody is talking about the new highs to be reached?

If you can answer "Yes" to each of these questions and if you have some extra money to invest, you have the attributes for becoming successful. Then you can determine your own particular needs and select a diversified group of securities which will meet these requirements. After you have purchased your securities, do not be

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R-33, British dirigible, torn loose from moorings during storm, is swept to sea.
City to vote on new high school site May 5.
Medford high typists to compete in state meet.
George Dunn of Ashland is elected grand warden of the Knight Templars of Oregon.
Chautauqua to be held here from June 6 to 10.

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DN-III can be used as separate spray without spreaders, stickers or wetting agents, or it may be used in combination with lead arsenate by the addition of Colloidal Z1 Spreader. Its use will not interfere with or complicate any codling moth spray program if properly timed nor complicate the subsequent removal of spray residue from the fruit.
DN-III applied as directed by your County Horticulturist or local Dow dealer will give excellent results in the control of Rust Mites and Spider Mites.

