

# Editorial Page of "The Capital Journal"

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## THE MEXICAN SITUATION

History is making rapidly down about the Rio Grande and the Muse in charge of the making of it is running on high, with the brakes swinging loose. The situation has gone from bad to worse, until the worst is at hand. Just what it will be will be known probably within forty-eight hours, possibly much less than that.

The latest dispatches last night showed the border ablaze with excitement, and the wires between Washington and General Funston's headquarters working overtime. Up to that time the only reports concerning the battle, if it can be called that, between the American detachment and the Carranza forces in which there were a number of deaths on each side, were from Mexican sources, and therefore utterly unreliable, though one of them was to the effect that the attack was made on the Americans because they had not obeyed orders not to travel in any direction except toward home, and that it was made by order of General Obregon, the Mexican secretary of war. The other reports deny this and lay the blame for the trouble on the Americans.

Of course no one believes this latter story, for it does not square with the Mexican's statement that the troopers were lured into an ambush where machine guns were concealed, and where the fight took place. It is not reasonable to suppose the troopers would get into such a place for the purpose of making an attack.

At Washington, word from General Pershing, or some other reliable American source is awaited, for on this depends what action will be taken. If, as seems probable, the Mexicans deliberately attacked the American troops but one result can follow, and that is war. Indeed, the dispatches yesterday indicated that the officials at Washington had little hope of any other termination of the incident.

The preparations going on are further proof that this is expected. The militia is being rushed to the border as rapidly as possible and thousands of horses and mules are being purchased for use by the army. The militia is to be used ostensibly along the border to prevent further raiding, but it will be "handy" in case of need.

From the orders given yesterday to move the national guard of Missouri, Kansas and California, it may be expected that the Oregon contingent, being ready, will be among the next to follow to the front. While we are preparing the Mexicans are equally busy. Yesterday's reports were to the effect that 25,000 had enlisted in one state alone, and that at all points in the country recruiting was being carried on.

Of course, there can be but one ending to the war, and that is the speedy defeat of the Mexicans. The first real battle will change the Mexican opinion that the gringos will not fight. There should be but one or two real battles, and the rest will be a guerilla war, a chasing of small bands through the mountains and a starving of these into submission. This will take time, but if we start in the job will be done thoroughly, so that it will leave a lasting impression and will not have to be done over again.

Carranza has been trying to enlist the South American republics on his side, but it seems they understand him better than this country did, for they objected to his being recognized in the first place, and have but little sympathy for him now. At the same time it is liable to cause a cooling of the friendship being formed with our southern neighbors, but the settlement of the affair and the handing back of the country, cleaned and repaired, to a substantial government, will perhaps remove in great part this feeling. Whether it will or not, it is too late now to take into consideration any extraneous matters, for the first job is to clean out and then clean up Mexico.

## WHEAT CROP ESTIMATES

The government crop sharps estimate the wheat crop in the United States this year will be 296,500,000 bushels lighter than the crop of 1915. This shows pretty close figuring, or they would have lumped the decrease at a

round 300,000,000 bushels. At the same time estimates of the world's crop show a falling off from 1915 of 20 per cent. This would place the total yield for the world for the year at 3,374,000,000. At the same time the United States and Canada are credited with a surplus of 400,000,000 bushels, even with this decrease. Argentine, India and Australia increase this to 700,000,000; and besides there is still a big surplus remaining from last year. On top of this still, is the unknown quantity in Russia where there is undoubtedly a large surplus from last year owing to her inability to reach the markets. With the ending of the war or the beating of the Turks, this surplus whatever it may be, would be thrown on the world's market and would have a material effect in regulating prices. From the present outlook, with a 20 per cent falling off in production it looks as though prices would not be as high as at present.

Mrs. John Jacob Astor was married yesterday to Karl Dick, a multi-millionaire. Her first husband John Jacob Astor IV, who went down with the Titanic, had settled \$8,000,000 on her before marriage, and in his will left her the income from \$5,000,000 so long as she remained his widow. Evidently she did not consider the honor worth the cost, and so she forfeited an income of about \$1,000 a day. The new couple, however, can manage to scrimp along. It was of such marriages that John G. Saxe in describing marriages generally, wrote:

"I waive the case, the barren case of those  
Who have no hearts to barter, or to lose.  
Whose wedded state is but a bargain made  
In due accordance with the laws of trade,  
When the prim parson joins their willing hands  
To marry city lots to western lands,  
Or in connubial ecstasy to mix  
Cash and collateral ten per cents, with six;  
Or in the holy bonds of Hymen, locks  
Impassioned dollars with enamored stocks---  
Hearts such as these can play the queerest pranks  
But never break---except with breaking banks."

The Oregonian discussing the interest other nations might have in an American-Mexican war suggests that the Central allies might be benefited some by the fact that we would use a part of the munitions now going to the allies and thus deprive them of a portion of the supplies of this kind they have been receiving from this country. That sounds plausible at first glance, but with the situation analyzed there is nothing to it. The amount of munitions used in the whole war with Mexico, if the accounts from Europe are anywhere near correct, will not equal one day's supply at Verdun. It would be a negligible quantity. With our trouble with Mexico, if it comes to an open break, there will be but little artillery fighting. Most of it will be infantry and cavalry, and the munitions used will be rifle size.

Mexican Ambassador Arredondo called upon Secretary Lansing yesterday, to inform him that Carranza had no intention of going to war with the United States on account of either the American note or the Carrizal fight. Now if he could persuade Uncle Sam to feel the same way about it, his side whiskers might feel much easier in his mind over the outlook. He is in much the same position as the man who owned a dog that without provocation sent his teeth into a man's leg and received a mighty kick therefor. "What did you kick my dog for? he isn't mad!" said the owner. "Of course he isn't mad," was the answer; "He had nothing to get mad about, but I'm mad."

Four companies of Idaho troops passing through Pendleton on the way to the concentration camp at Boise, secured twenty recruits in less than an hour, in the buckaroo city. Before they were sworn in Herbert McGinn, an Oregon National Guard officer, told them he was organizing a troop of cavalry, and the twenty jumped the Idaho company in a minute to join it. Anything that has a horse connected with it, is guaranteed to catch the Pendleton Round-up fans. No dough boys for them when the hurricane deck of an Oregon cayuse is a possibility.

That was a kind and thoughtful act the taking of a hundred pairs of blankets to the boys of Company M at Clackamas Wednesday night and one the boys will not forget when they are down on the border and recalling the pleasant things in far off webfoot, where the milk is produced from a cow instead of a can and the water is not so hard that it has to be "broken" before it can be used. The first night out will be one long to be remembered, and the memory of it will be the more pleasant as those much needed blankets are recalled.

One difference between the fighting probable in Mexico, and that going on in Europe is that across the pond the contesting armies dig in, while it is pretty certain that the Mexicans at least after the first fight or two, will "dig out."

## STATE NEWS

Bids for the construction of a portion of The Dalles-California highway out of Bend south toward La Pine, were opened at Bend Saturday afternoon under the supervision of Deputy State Engineer (Antine) of Salem. No awards were made, but the recommendations have been submitted to State Engineer John H. Lewis for his consideration and awards will be made by the state commission. The specifications call for clearing, grading and construction of culverts on the 12-mile stretch south from Bend, which, when completed, will cost approximately \$29,000.

Only three more days and the little town of Philomath, 17 miles west of Albany, will be the busiest place in western Oregon. It is very busy in spots at present getting ready for the big round-up and will next show which opens in that city Thursday. Cowboys and cowgirls have already begun to arrive, the Arnold Carnival company is there busy setting up its shows, merry-go-rounds, ferris wheels, balloon stand and other attractions.

Shelax Pilot: All that remains of the steamer Fifield is a rot hutch of splintered wood lying on the beach where she went ashore. It is hard to imagine the power of the waves which have splintered the boat into fine kindling wood, which is scattered from the jetty down to New Lake, 18 miles down the coast. All the small boats lying on the beach are being picked up by people for souvenirs, as are also the bolts and screws from the wreck. The machinery has all been removed. Soon there will be nothing left to remind one of the foundered ship.

Portland's Live Stock Show held each year in November, ranking next in consequence to the International Live Stock Show in Chicago, but which has struggled for several years for existence is now on its feet financially as the bankers of the state of Oregon have shown that they are concerned in keeping it in existence by contributing \$10,000 to make it a success this year.

Bend Bulletin: Complete satisfaction with the Deschutes country as a sportsman's paradise is felt by E. W. Harsh, of Chipewick Falls, Wisconsin, who has been visiting his brother-in-law, J. H. Stanley, for the past few weeks. In three days last week Mr. Harsh caught all the fish he wanted, of which the smallest weighed six pounds and Sunday morning he wound up by killing a big brown bear.

Does your table board cost you more than \$2.00 a week? If it does, you are living too high. The Commons Co-operative club of Willamette university has shown by a three month's trial that \$2.00 is enough for anyone to pay for three square meals every day in the week. In fact, the club now has plans under way by which it will be able to reduce this cost to 92 a week.

Port Umpqua Courier: It is the consensus of opinion which we gather from longshore men in Douglas county outside of Roseburg that when the time comes for the building of a canal from the interior of Douglas county, it will be built on a water grade down the Umpqua river to this harbor and open up and improve Douglas county, besides being the most practical route.

## HOW TO REDUCE YOUR WEIGHT

A SIMPLE SAFE RELIABLE WAY

People who are overburdened with superfluous fat, know only too well the discomfort and risk that over-stout people have to bear. If you are carrying round five or ten pounds of unsightly fat you are unnecessarily weakening your vital organs and are carrying a burden which destroys the beauty of your figure. There is no need of anyone suffering from superfluous fat. If you want to reduce your weight in a simple, safe and reliable way, without starvation diet or fireproof exercise, here is a best worth trying. Spend as much time as you can in the open air, breathe deeply and get from any good draught a box of oil of kerosene capsules; take one after each meal and one before retiring at night.

Weight yourself once a week so as to know just how fast you are losing weight and don't leave off the treatment or even skip a single dose until you are down to normal. Oil of kerosene is absolutely harmless, is pleasant to take, and helps digestion. Even a few days treatment has been reported to show a noticeable reduction in weight. Footsteps become lighter, your work seems easier and a lighter and more buoyant feeling takes possession of your whole being. Every person who suffers from superfluous fat should give this treatment a trial.

## OPEN FORUM

WHY NOT ORGANIZE A SALEM CITIZEN COMPANY FOR PREPAREDNESS?

To the Editor:—Now that our soldier boys have left us, Salem is without military protection, and in case the militia is called for duty in the field more men will be needed. A citizen company could be organized and drilled, and then if needed could join a volunteer regiment and save much time lost in getting recruits and teaching them. There are several men in Salem who could captain and drill such a company. Men who have seen actual service and

## AN INSURANCE AGAINST SUDDEN DEATH

For Sufferers from Backache, Rheumatism and Kidney Trouble

Before an insurance company will and is endowed with other properties, take a risk on your life the examining physician will test the urine and report whether you are a good risk. When your kidneys get sluggish and clog, you suffer from backache, sick headache, dizziness, and the twinges and pains of lumbago, rheumatism and gout. The urine is often cloudy, full of sediment; channels often get sore and sleep is disturbed two or three times a night. This is the time you should consult some physician of wide experience—such as Dr. Pierce of the Inevitable Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y. Send 10c for large trial package of "Anurie." Write your symptoms and send a sample of urine for test. Experience has taught Dr. Pierce that "Anurie" is a most powerful agent in dissolving uric acid, would not doubt respond to such a call at any time.

There are quite a number of others who have had military training, and would with a little reviewing be able to help in teaching army tactics. A company could be recruited in a few days, for there are dozens of men who believe in preparedness, and are willing to join such an organization. A Believer in Preparedness. Phone 81 for lack of service.

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## Rippling Rhymes

Walt Mason

PREPAREDNESS

"Some night," I said, "I'll bet a leg, a yeggman will come here to yegg. The papers daily spring a tale of burglars who have swiped men's kale. I don't propose to be despoiled of coin for which I've slaved and toiled, and I shall buy myself a gun, and ammunition by the ton." I bought the weapon, and each night, while I was sleeping, snug and tight, it lay beneath my pillow slip, in easy reach for instant grip. One night I heard a cautious tread somewhere adjacent to my bed. "At last," I thought, "a burglar's come, and he will find his luck is bum." Then dimly I beheld a shape. "My friend," I mused, "there's no escape." That shape I drew a bead upon, and fired, and then my Uncle John sent up a yell that shook the shack, for I had plugged him in the back. Around his bed the nurses sit, and say he's better now, a bit; the doctor's exercised his skill—and I will have to foot the bill. Now I appeal to everyone, "Say don't you want a first rate gun?"

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**War Order Buyer**  
Shot In Chicago

Chicago, June 23.—Discover that William Rebbe, a New York broker, who was found shot early today in Lake Shore Drive, was a war order buyer for the French government added a war plot angle to the mystery surrounding the case. Rebbe was found with a bullet wound over his heart, lying on the pavement on the drive. In his pocket was a rambling letter, addressed to Rev. John Timothy Stone, pastor of a fashionable Chicago church. This letter asked Stone why he had not protected this man, whom we have rebuffed of \$100,000. Rebbe recovered consciousness for a few moments early today and said he was shot by two men whom he did not know. Police were at first inclined to believe he had shot himself, but discovery in his pockets of duplicate contracts for horses for the French government, prompted the war plot theory. Rebbe said he lived in New York.

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Column put your dollars on the right track.