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AWFUL STORY OF BLOODSHED.

Conditions in Mexico as Depicted By An American Missionary.

Rev. J. G. Dale, Missionary of the Associate Reformed Church in Mexico, in Associate Reformed Presbyterian.

The Atala of Mexico, Zapata, has headed a revolution in the southwest of the republic for three years. From his secret mountain fastnesses his hordes have swooped down on the rich farms and defenceless ranches, looting and robbing and killing and burning. The times are almost past counting when he has burned bridges on the railroad or opened the track, wrecking trains, robbing passengers and butchering the soldiers who were going as military escort. Towns by the hundreds have gone up in smoke. It has been an almost incredible story of wholesale bloodshed. Almost daily its recitals of horrors have filled columns of the press.

The government has paid them back in their own coin. Months ago an order went from Mexico City directing the inhabitants of the State of Morelos, the hot bed of "Zapatismo," who did not sympathize with the bloody bandit to gather in certain cities indicated. Then the Federal soldiers went through the State killing all men, women and children outside of the cities named and burning the homes. All such persons were thus understood to be followers of Zapata and this was the dreadful punishment meted out to them. The press, strictly censured all these months, had nothing to say of the horrors of this measure of blood. Only that it was executed. The imagination paints scenes that keep one awake at night. Zapata, however, still lives and with machete (dink), rifle and torch continues his deadly work. A thousand Indians of the Huasteca Potosina rose in arms against the Huerta government burning San Miguel, Tantizaniche and Tampanolon, leaving, according to report, only the Catholic church standing in the last named town. The Federal soldiers invaded the district from which the wildmen came and left mountain ranches blazing for miles and any one coming from that general section of country without a document is shot without any further investigation.

A Federal garrison killed several rebels in a fight in Guerrero, S. L. P. The victims were dragged through the streets of the town as an image lesson for all those who should, like these, no submit to governmental authority. And the rebels lost no opportunity to "get even." Ten days ago a rebel band attacked Alaquines, of our field. Twice they were repulsed. At last they found on the outskirts of the town a lot of Indian rum, under the inspiration of which they rushed pell mell into the town whooping vengeance. The Federal force gave way, but there was no escape. Their powder was all gone and they were at the mercy of their relentless foes. Mounted on their ponies they rode through the streets at breakneck speed and throwing their fususes over the heads of the Federal infantry, dragged them over the rough cobble stones, turning suddenly around telegraph poles to further mangle the lifeless bodies. Other methods of torture equally infernal were put into operation. A friend who saw it all testified that the scene haunted him like a very nightmare for nights and nights.

When the rebel leader, Francisco, Villa, took the city of Torreon a month ago, he had cut off the head of General Alvarez, the defending general, and hung it on the public square, precisely as they did with Hidalgo more than a hundred years ago. Up and down the railroad lines may be seen the bodies of captured rebels hanging to telegraph poles, where they remain indefinitely. Along the railway routes anyone traveling on foot and not able to give a satisfactory account of himself, is summarily shot then and there.

Every few days military trains are blown up. And there are

many more, nobody doubts, of which the press has nothing to say. It would grow common were it not so appalling. Sometimes a "crazy engine" (as they call them) is turned loose, throttle wide open, to go down the track to derail or smash to pieces another train known to be just ahead. The more usual way, however, is with dynamite. The latest example will suffice. A military escort of 125 soldiers were aboard a train just ahead of a passenger train. The trap was set. Dynamite was laid and the rebels hid in the bushes near by. The train whirled along at the rate of 40 miles an hour. When it struck the dynamite, according to reports, the engine, coaches and soldiers were thrown high into the air to come down, the engine and coaches torn into thousands of pieces and men piled up on the wreck, dead or wounded or dying. The concealed rebels at once poured into this mass of dead and dying men a rain of shot which soon finished their demoralized work and the lifeless garrison of soldiers were left there on the mass of debris.

Verily, the ways of our revolution are those of fire and blood. The heart giest sick at times and will cry out, "Oh, Lord, how long!"

Richest Mexican Flees to El Paso.

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 15.—After a horseback journey across the Mexican desert of two weeks' duration, lacking a day, Don Luis Terrazas, richest man in all Mexico, is quartered in the most sumptuous suite of rooms in the best hotel in El Paso.

Though more than eighty years old, the grey-bearded, white-haired old man, who was old enough to be a general and fight against Maximilian in the 60's, today dismissed queries regarding his trip across the Mexican Jorando del Muerto—the journey of death—with a shrug of the shoulders and a wave of the hand, as if the mere riding of thirteen days on mule back over desert and mountain were nothing.

General Terrazas declined to discuss the imprisonment of his son, Luis Terrazas, Jr., by General Villa, at Chihuahua, and refused absolutely to discuss Mexican affairs under the circumstances. However, it is known that members of his party are conferring here with representatives of Villa, who is demanding \$250,000 for the release of young Terrazas.

The general was said not to be so much disturbed over paying the ransom as over the problem of getting the women members of his family to the border. They were left behind in charge of young Terrazas when the general departed for the border with the Federal soldiers. The conference between members of his party and representatives of Villa, it is understood, is to ascertain what sum Villa is willing to accept for the release of his son and the women.

The revolution already has cost General Terrazas \$10,000,000, yet he is considered the richest man in Mexico.

Killed by Trap Set for Thief.

Big Laurel, Va., Dec. 3.—The nine-year-old son of Nathan Dell, a farmer, of near Phillips, Wise county, was instantly killed yesterday afternoon by a trap set by his father intended for a thief who had been robbing his corn crib.

Early in the morning Mr. Dell set the trap in his corn house, using a shot gun, the trigger being connected with the door. The son not aware of the trap being set, late in the afternoon was sent by his father to the crib to get corn for the hogs. The lad willingly went on the errand, not realizing that he was rushing to his death. A minute or so after the boy departed, Mr. Dell realized that he had not told the child of the trap. He started for the barn, calling to his son not to touch the door. He was too late, however, and when the father reached the lad he found him dead, his head being almost completely blown away from his body. Mr. Dell is grief stricken.

Effort to Create a Panic Will Fail.

Washington, Dec. 11.—"The efforts of a little coterie of moneyed men who control big finances in this country to bring about panicky conditions in the railroad manufacturing and commercial world because of the passage of the new tariff law, the proposed currency and trust legislation is going to prove a failure," said Senator F. M. Simmons, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee today. "The reports for the first month after the new tariff went into effect justifies the claims of the President and the Democratic leaders in the Congress during the consideration of the tariff bill. There has not been any great flood of foreign made goods to the United States, but in the course of time we will get enough of foreign goods to keep the domestic manufacturer from raising the prices on us."

"I have realized that certain men who control millions of dollars were trying to bring about conditions that would brighten the President and Congress but they will fail. The Democratic platform pledges as to the tariff have been carried out, and those on currency and monopolies will be carried out. You cannot put your hand on the men who are calling in their money, dropping off their laborers, but you can see signs of their efforts. The 'nigger' is showing in the wood pile."

"A big concern like the Morgans of New York dominate would not mind losing \$40,000,000 or \$50,000,000 in a financial crash if it could block certain legislation."

The truth is these great rich men of affairs have had control so long that they cannot now realize that they must call at the White House and at the Capitol as other people do. They still believe that they will dominate."

Senator Simmons made the foregoing comment upon receiving Secretary Redfield's report showing that America's foreign trade is still growing.

The Redfield report shows "a falling off of imports in the first four months—July, August, September and October—of this fiscal year of nearly \$46,000,000 as compared with the same period of 1912."

"The flooding of our markets, therefore," says Mr. Redfield, "with the alleged cheap wares of Europe has not happened."

Investigators Put Blame on the Hen.

Washington, Dec. 11.—After several weeks of investigation over the entire United States, officials of the Department of Justice have concluded that there is little ground for belief that a Nationwide cold storage trust exists. Every United States attorney in the country was pressed into service for a quick survey of the cold storage field and their reports to Washington indicate that while combines have been formed in a few large cities, there is no conclusive evidence of a cold storage trust controlling the price of eggs and other products in all parts of the country.

Sufficient evidence has been forthcoming, however, to show that in some of the cities such combinations do exist, and the department already has turned its attention to a more careful scrutiny of the operations of cold storage men there. Its next step will be to trace the lines of interstate combination between the dealers in these large cities, for without connection between them across State lines the Sherman act would not be applicable.

The Nationwide inquiry has tended to put the Department of Justice on the side of the Department of Agriculture, placing much of the blame for high egg and poultry prices, not on cold storage men but on the hen. According to reports now at hand, cold storage men have suffered from a marked lack of eggs and other products. United States attorneys have reported in many instances that cold storage dealers have stocks on hand far under stocks in previous years and that they see little prospect of relief unless the hens get busy at once.

CORN CLUB WINNER TO WASHINGTON.

Raised One Hundred and Ninety Bushels—Marion Brown and E. C. Morgan Won District Prizes.

Three sturdy young North Carolina farmers are today on their way to Washington, D. C., to spend a week visiting the many places of interest in the National Capital as guests of the State Department of Agriculture and Congressman Small and Godwin as a result of winning prizes in the State Boys' Corn Club contest this year. J. Ray Cameron, age 17, of Kinston, Route 1, got first prize for the biggest yield per acre offered by the Department of Agriculture. Marvin Brown, age 14, of Washington, Route 1, won the district prize offered by Congressman J. H. Small; and E. C. Morgan, age 16, of Marietta, Roberson county, got the district prize offered by Congressman H. L. Godwin.

Young Mr. Cameron, who won the first prize in the State this year, raised 190 2-5 bushels of corn on his acre at a cost of 32 cents per bushel. He also won \$50 offered by the Hastings Seed Company, of Atlanta, Ga. Marvin Brown, the youngest and smallest of the champion corn growers, goes to Washington by the aid of Congressman Small's offer. His raise was 101 bushels to the acre at a cost of 25½ cts. and was the best record in his district. E. M. Morgan raised his crop at a cost of only 13½ cents per bushel, very much lower than any of the other two. His yield was 126 bushels.

The prize-winners will stay in Washington seven days and will visit President Wilson, Secretary Houston, of the Department of Agriculture; Secretary Josephus Daniels, of North Carolina Senators and Congressmen, and also visit the places of interest there. All their expenses will be paid while in the National Capital.

Messrs. Cameron and Brown left Raleigh last night for Washington and were accompanied by Mr. A. K. Robertson, assistant in Boys' Corn Club work of the State Department of Agriculture. Mr. Morgan took the trip from Wilson and will join the party upon arrival today in Washington.

The Government's Forest Reserve in Our Mountains.

Salisbury Dispatch to Charlotte Observer.

Burning cordwood bearing the "U. S." government brand is an unusual experience with many in North Carolina. The wood comes from the United States reservations in McDowell and other counties in the mountains of western North Carolina, where 32,000 acres are under government control.

This is the first season that wood has been sold by the government and more than 4,000 cords have been disposed of at 25 cts. a cord. Three government representatives, known as rangers, under the leadership of Jim Young, stationed at Old Fort, care for the reservation and see that Uncle Sam's rights are respected. The citizens of the section are allowed to hunt and fish on the lands, but must not cut timber, except under the direction of the rangers. Only such trees are allowed to be used for wood as are undesirable and are known as "culls." This wood is sold at 25 cents a cord on the stump. The trees are selected by the rangers and are clearly branded with a big "U. S." driven deep into the wood.

After the wood is corded the rangers must also brand every stick and a removal of the wood without this brand subjects the dealer to prosecution in the Federal courts. It is regarded as nothing less than "blockading" to sell or remove wood without the proper brand.

Farmers of the section are allowed grazing privileges at 75 cents a head for the season. They may also cultivate the land by paying \$1 a year the acre to Uncle Sam.

State Hospital's Record for the Year.

Statesville, Dec. 11.—R. R. Clark of Statesville, who is a member of the Board of Directors of the State Hospital at Morganton and secretary to the board, attended the meeting of the Executive Committee at the hospital Tuesday and the regular meeting of the board there Wednesday. With two exceptions there was a full attendance of the directors. A. E. Tate of High Point was present at the meeting of the Executive Committee, but had to leave for Washington before the regular board meeting. Dr. L. N. Glenn of Gastonia, recently appointed as a member of the board to succeed Mr. J. W. Noell of Roxboro, was the only absentee.

Charles P. Matheson of Taylorsville, recently appointed to succeed J. G. Hall of Lenoir, deceased, took the oath of office.

The feature of the meeting was the report of Supt. John McCampbell for the year ending November 30. The report shows that the number of patients in the hospital at the beginning of the year was 1,330, of which 763 were women and 567 men. During the year there have been admitted to the institution 91 men and 97 women, a total of 188; total under treatment, 1,518; discharged as recovered, 27 men and 25 women; discharged as improved, 17 men and 16 women; one man was discharged not improved and two men were discharged as not insane, while another was transferred to Raleigh. During the year 64 patients died—31 men and 33 women—making a total removal of 153, 79 men and 74 women. Remaining November 30, 1913, 579 men and 786 women, a total of 1,365.

The death rate for the year was very small compared with similar institutions and the recovery rate, which is 27.6 per cent, based on the number of admissions, is a very favorable showing. The general health of the patients is good and no serious accident has occurred during the year.

The great demand for admission of patients to the hospital is unabated, it having been necessary to deny the admission of 162 applicants during the year on account of a lack of room. The Legislature appropriated \$50,000 last Winter for an additional building and ground has been broken for the receiving building for women but there is delay in the work because the money appropriated is not available. The building will hardly be ready for occupancy before next Summer.

The vacancies in the hospital caused by death or discharge do not begin to keep pace with the applications for admission and the management of the hospital and the directors must constantly hear distressing appeals which they are powerless to heed because of the lack of room.

15 Maine Hunters Dead; 10,000 Deer, 200 Moose.

Bangor, Maine, Dec. 15.—To date 15 persons have lost their lives in the Maine hunting season closed December 15—five by the accidental discharge of their own weapons, four through being mistaken for deer, three by dragging guns muzzle first, two by accidental shooting by others and one by drowning.

Three of the hunters who killed men in mistake for deer are under bonds for appearance at court. The maximum penalty in case the victim dies is 10 years' imprisonment, the minimum \$1000 fine. The law is seldom enforced, however, and the extreme penalty has never been imposed.

Receipts of game at Bangor for the season, are about 2400 deer, 50 moose and 16 bears. On this basis it is estimated that there have been killed in the entire State about 10,000 deer and 200 moose. No accurate record is kept of bears. October, the first month of the season, was rainy and little hunting was done. There has been very little snow in Maine thus far, and the tracking of game has been difficult. The moose killed were mostly young bulls, and good heads have been few. The buck deer have been larger and fatter than usual.

LOPEZ NOT FOUND.

Slayer of Six Men, and Maybe More Still in the Tunnel or Elsewhere at Large.

Bingham, Utah, Dec. 13.—The search for Ralph Lopez, slayer of six men, was resumed by sheriffs tonight in the workings of the Utah-Apex mine. The officers had suspended operations all day today on objection of the mine owners that the process of searching a section and then bulkheading it is beginning to halt mining operations. After a conference, however, the company withdrew its objections.

Sam Rogers told early today of having talked with Lopez twice in one of the tunnels of the mine during the last two days, and of the desperado remarking they would meet again today.

"I know they have me cornered in this mine," Lopez is quoted by Rogers as telling him Thursday. "This is my grave. I am not going to commit suicide. I am going to wait here for the end and I shall fight whenever I have to. I could have killed more men than I have. Time and again I have followed posers in here and heard their plans for killing me. Nobody would know I was in here if it had not been for Julio Corrello and Mike Slefano, who I thought were my friends. If I could kill them both I would die happy."

The Crime of Arson.

Arson is a crime, and the person who commits it should be punished just the same as the horse thief and the murderer. The man who fires a building, either his own or his neighbor's does so without any guarantee that he will not cause loss of life either in connection with the fire in the building he aims to burn, or in an adjoining building. The crime of arson is a difficult one to fasten on a person, no matter how guilty he may be, for the evidence must be largely circumstantial, because no one in his right mind sets fire to property in the presence of witnesses. This fact proves a stumbling block in the way of bringing incendiaries to justice. There is a strong sentiment against the murderer, the horse thief and the violator of the prohibitory law, but the "fire-bug" is looked upon as a myth in many quarters and is regarded too often as a subterfuge manufactured by the insurance company to keep from having to pay the insurance policy. And the incendiary, instead of getting his just dues, gets sympathy in his battle with the company or with the State authority who investigates the fire.

The person who commits arson has many advantages. He usually operates in his own home or place of business and can choose his own time and place for setting the fire. He can also prepare an alibi in advance and can prove that he was nowhere near when the fire was discovered. If the fire is successful, from the point of view of the property owner, the evidence burns up and there is nothing left but suspicious circumstances.

Greatly Reduced Fares for the Xmas and New Year Holidays.

For the Christmas and New Year Holidays the Southern Railway will sell round trip tickets at greatly reduced fares. Dates of sale December 17th to 25th, December 31st, 1913 and January 1st, 1914, with final return limit January 6th, 1914.

For further and detailed information apply to any Southern Railway Ticket Agent, or,

R. H. DeButts, D. P. A., Charlotte, N. C.

Bed Bugs and Disease.

Scientists are beginning to give the bedbug the attention which his bad character has long merited. They find him as disreputable, and, perhaps, more dangerous than the fly, mosquito, flea or louse. At least five infectious diseases, including typhoid, are already known to be transmitted by the bed bug, and as the investigation of his habits continues the number will doubtless grow.