

The Reidsville Review

VOL. XXVI, NO 42. \$1. PER YEAR.

REIDSVILLE, N. C., AUGUST 8, 1913.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

MEXICAN INVASION NOT EASY, IS THE OPINION OF ARMY EXPERTS

THERE was a time when the general staff of the United States army did think an invasion of Mexico an easy matter. It was thought then that a certain phenomenal military success, which landed the American troops in Mexico City before the world had thought it possible, could be repeated at pleasure. Today a different view prevails in the war department. To it is due the fine control of the governmental temper.

Three years ago everybody would have laughed at the statement that it would take 250,000 men to invade Mexico effectively, writes George Albert Schreiner in the New York Evening Post. It was the habit then to assume that a company of Texas rangers could cross the Rio Grande and subdue the entire republic just as fast as their mounts could cover it. The Mexican army was then known as a most unsoldierly aggregate of hombres who had discarded the rags of the penitentiary for the cheap cotton trousers, gaudy tunics and headpieces of the army. In a way this impression is yet held, though the continuous insurrections and revolutions of the last two years have modified it in at least one important respect.

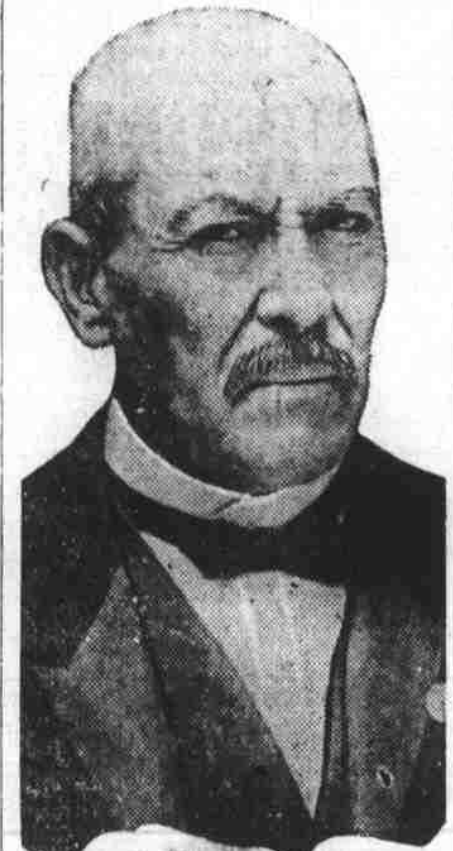
Mexican Can Fight.

It is admitted today that the Mexican can fight when he has a mind to do this. But something is likely to be overlooked here. The incessant turmoil has made soldiers out of Mexicans

fantry into mounted infantry, the consideration being greater mobility, but the change involved was a slow and trying one and led to the great protraction of the campaign. The United States would have to meet the same problem before it could hope for success, but the British infantryman at least knew how to handle his rifle. The American militiaman and volunteer would have to be taught even that.

Initial Success Important.

In modern warfare, though this has been badly overrated, the initial success is everything. With this naturally goes a great degree of mobility. It is as necessary to penetrate well into the country invaded as to win big engagements. With this in view, the



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GENERAL VICTORIANO HUERTA.

general staff of the United States army has recently revised its plan of attack. As late as the mobilization of the "maneuver division" in 1911, in some quarters the opinion was held that an invasion from the north was indispensable, though secondary to the main movement from Vera Cruz and an advance from Tampico. It is still somewhat fashionable to seize capitals, though in the light of recent experiences it does not always serve any particular purpose. The present plan of the war department provides for a concentration upon Vera Cruz and the capital.

Vera Cruz offers the best opportunity as a base for the main attack upon Mexico City. The distance to be traversed is not very great—204 miles by the best route. There would be no difficulty landing at that point a force sufficiently large to penetrate to the capital in time. But there are considerations of terrain that make operations from this point difficult. At Jalapa, but only two miles from the coast, the country has already risen to an altitude of 4,610 feet, or nearly fifty-seven feet to the mile. Beyond Jalapa and until Puebla is reached the country is every bit as difficult.

125,000 Men Needed.

It is doubtful whether Mexico City could be taken via Vera Cruz with less than 125,000 men. The only hope of the officer in charge of these operations would be in the superiority of numbers—the possibility that an extended front, or line of attack, would develop weak spots in the defensive tactics of the Mexicans. Individual courage is a sadly futile thing in a terrain such as this, and the fortune of war generally is with the man behind the boulder up on the hill. It is almost unnecessary to have seen panting infantrymen scale heights to understand this.

Mexico City might be taken via Vera Cruz in six weeks if no severe reverses had been suffered. Seven miles per day with the country to be carried is no mean performance.

Needless to say, the railroad to the capital could not be used by the invading forces, and such is the territory which the line traverses that in many places it could be put out of commission for months. The line between Mexico City and Vera Cruz is as difficult a piece of railroad engineering as can be found. The same is true of most of the other railroads operating east and southeast of the capital. Estimating the cost of military operations at \$2 per diem for each man employed, we find that the taking of the Mexican capital, outside of the mobilization expenditure and cost of equipment, would amount to \$12,000,000.

Reverses Possible.

It must be borne in mind, however, that the case as here presented does not discount even a single serious reverse. With the Mexicans hard to dislodge, the invading army might find itself checkmated to such an extent that weeks would be consumed in the carrying of points of strategic importance. It must be remembered here

that the American army would fight uphill from the moment it set foot on Mexican soil and that every military crest would be a point of vantage for the Mexicans. Most of the fighting would occur in the defiles between the escarpment walls. With fanatical Mexican soldiery holding the heights, this would become bloody work indeed.

The diversion movement upon Tampico would have little value, except it sustained an invasion across the lower courses of the Rio Grande. Strategically Tampico is hardly on the map, and the American military sphere to be established there would extend to the north rather than to the west and south. The country's topography determines that.

But with Mexico City taken and with the territory toward the coast cleared the pacification of Mexico would not yet have commenced. To all intents and purposes that part of the republic is as tranquil today as it ever has been or probably ever will be.

Capture of Capital.

To what extent would the taking of the capital influence the Mexicans is now the question to be considered. To be sure, when the Germans had taken Paris in 1871 the backbone of all resistance had been broken. There are many instances of this sort of history, but in this respect the City of Mexico means so little to the Mexicans that such a result could not be hoped for. The pacification of Mexico—for that could be the only reasonable objective of intervention—would have to be carried into the most remote parts of the republic. In that would lie the difficulty.

There is the hope, of course, that the saner element of Mexico would by that time realize that law and order were all the American army demanded. But this is merely a hope, not well supported by the country's antecedents. One has to know the intimate history of political Mexico, from Hidalgo and Juarez down, to understand how little justification there is for such a conclusion. The Mexican is not above de-



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TYPICAL MEXICAN SOLDIERS.

manding that before he would treat with the invader for his own good there would have to be a complete evacuation. Naturally to this the United States government could not consent. Intermittent guerrilla warfare would be the consequence.

An Unpleasant Picture.

With bases established at Vera Cruz, the City of Mexico and Tampico, military operations in the republic would be less difficult. But before the country could be swept clean of roving guerrillas and order established the American army would have to be greatly augmented. Nothing short of 250,000 men would be needed for this work, entailing an expenditure of at least \$500,000 per day, or \$182,500,000 in a year.

The claim made now and then that it would take from ten to fifteen years to subdue Mexico is very extravagant, of course. Yet the task might stretch over three to four years easily enough. This is hardly a bright picture, but it is the best that can be given of the subject. Probably the cost of pacification would be not a cent less than \$500,000,000, and casualties could not be expected to number less than 50,000 men killed and maimed.

Those who may have been unable to understand the inaction of the government can rest assured that the magnitude of the pacification of Mexico is fully appreciated by the war department. Intervention in Mexico might become a retreat or a job badly done.

The Best Pain Killer.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve when applied to a cut, bruise, sprain, burn or scald, or other injury to the skin will immediately remove all pain. E. E. Chamberlain of Clinton, Me., says: "It robs cuts and other injuries of their terrors. As a healing remedy its equal don't exist." Will do you good. Only 25c. at all druggists.

THE FIGHT FOR LIFE OF WALTER SHELTON IS ON AT COUNTY SEAT

The trial of Walter Shelton, charged with the murder of his wife, was begun at the county seat yesterday afternoon, and is now under way. Immediately when the case was called the attorneys in the case assumed their positions and the selection of a jury was undertaken. At the time The Review went to press the selection of the jury had not been completed but it is highly probable that the evidence will be started early this morning.

The case will probably consume the rest of the week, there being five lawyers in the case and they will all make speeches. Argument may be reached by Friday afternoon, but the impression seem to be prevail that it will take until Saturday to get in all the evidence, there being many witnesses to be examined.

Shelton, it will be remembered, went to the home of a relative of his wife, where Mrs. Shelton was visiting, and had a revolver concealed in a paper



THE WIFE SHELTON SLEW.

practicable to get a jury from that county, and so Judge Lane decided to have the men come from Forsyth county, in which the Reidsville newspaper was not supposed to have so much circulation and ordered that a venire of thirty men be subpoenaed.

Accordingly, Deputy Sheriff Gibson left the county seat Tuesday afternoon and went to Winston from which place he subpoenaed the venire and yesterday morning the gentlemen were in Reidsville enroute to the county seat. The trip from Reidsville was by automobile.

The selection of a jury was immediately taken up after the preliminaries were indulged in. Messrs. Hugh R. Scott and P. W. Glidwell appear for the State and are assisting the Solicitor, Hon. Porter Graves.

SLAYER OF DEPUTY SHERIFF BAIN IS NOW IN GUILFORD JAIL

He fired upon her and killed her almost instantly. He was captured a few minutes later by Elmo Moricle, foreman of Webster's Weekly, and others who came to Mr. Moricle's aid in taking the man.

The venire from which the jury will be chosen is composed of the following business men and farmers of Forsyth county who are in Wentworth after being subpoenaed.

T. H. Watlington, Chas. F. Robinson, Louis Kimel, Arthur Willard, Charles Crouch, Bedford Brown, J. Mat Ham, Charles Robbins, J. Fred Brower, R. W. Nading, Robert Critz, Aldine S. Doub, R. K. Mendenhall, W. T. Sprinkle, John B. Whislow, Fred W. Sells, William H. Blank, B. R. Reich, John M. Taylor, John L. Murphy, J. C. Parker, Walter R. Reynolds, Dan Barton, Jones B. Merritt, A. J. Robeson, H. L. Newsom, H. O. Poindexter, J. Frank Doub, D. A. Shore and Ed. P. Miller.

When Shelton was arraigned in court Tuesday his attorneys, Messrs. McMichael and Stiers, filed affidavits setting forth the fact that the evidence in the case adduced at a preliminary hearing had been printed almost verbatim in the Reidsville Review, and that on account of the wide circulation of this paper all over Rockingham it would be impossible to get a jury which had not read the evidence and formed some opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the defendant. The circulation which the paper enjoys throughout Caswell county, it was shown, made it im-

possible to get a jury from that county, and so Judge Lane decided to have the men come from Forsyth county, in which the Reidsville newspaper was not supposed to have so much circulation and ordered that a venire of thirty men be subpoenaed.

After a four days' vigil and untiring search, Sheriff Stafford found and arrested Jim McLeod, the negro who shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Bain at Pomona Saturday evening. He was placed in jail to await the hearing that will be held in a few days. He admits being the man wanted and has made statements that implicate others in being accessories after the fact. Strong talk of lynching the negro was heard about Pomona Saturday evening, but it is not likely now that any effort in this direction will be made.

McLeod did not in the least resist arrest. He recognized the sheriff even before the officers knew that he was the man they were looking for, and when the sheriff told him to consider himself under arrest, McLeod obeyed gracefully. He was unarmed at the time, and told the officers he had carried no arms since the shooting. The arrest was made in Forsyth county, which may cause some to question the action of Guilford's sheriff, but this is not likely, for a private citizen may arrest for a felony. The officers will get \$200 reward.

Minister Praises This Laxative.

Rev. H. Stubbenvoll, of Allison, Ia., in praising Dr. King's New Life Pills for constipation, writes: "Dr. King's New Life Pills are such perfect pills no home should be without them." No better regulator for the liver and bowels. Every pill guaranteed. Try them. Price 25c. at all drug stores.

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SINCE LAST ISSUE OF THE REVIEW

Wilmington and Raleigh have been designated as North Carolina cities in which Secretary McAdoo will place a part of the money for the moving of farm crops.

President Wilson has sent to the Senate the nomination of Josiah W. Bailey, of North Carolina, to be collector of internal revenue for the fourth district of North Carolina.

Governor Craig declined to grant pardons to the three University hazers, convicted in the Orange Superior court of involuntary manslaughter, and thus the last chapter of the unfortunate affair is written.

Reductions in express rates which will cost the companies fully \$26,000,000 a year—approximately 16 per cent of their gross revenue—were ordered by the Interstate Commerce Commission to become effective on or before October 15, 1913. Notable reforms in practices also were ordered.

No announcement of policy or further steps will be taken by President Wilson in the Mexican situation until former Gov. John Lind, of Minnesota, personal representative of President Wilson, reaches Mexico City and familiarizes himself with conditions there. Gov. Lind carries instructions to talk with prominent Mexicans.

Secretary of the Navy Daniels has returned from a three weeks' tour of the Pacific coast navy yards. "I have visited every navy yard, station and training school in continental United States," said Mr. Daniels. "I shall now set about preparing my recommendations to Congress based upon my observations on both Atlantic and Pacific coasts."

The Congressional investigation of Martin A. Mulhall's story of his alleged lobbying activities for the National Association of Manufacturers took on a dual aspect when the special House Committee began grinding a thousand letters already introduced before the Senate committee and prepared to cross-examine Mulhall on his claims of influence with various representatives.

The administration currency bill, still further amended in important particulars, emerged from the Democratic conference of the house banking and currency committee over the protests of Representative Neeley, of Kansas; Eagle, of Texas, and Ragsdale, of South Carolina. At the end of a lively session, in which the Democratic objectors promised to carry their fight to the floor of the caucus next Monday, the Glass bill was approved by a vote of 11 to 8.

North Carolina's crop report, as issued by the Department of Agriculture, as of July 25 last, holds up remarkably well as compared with other Southern and Western states, although not quite coming up to July 25 of 1911 and 1912. On July 25, last, the average condition was 77 per cent, an increase of one per cent over June 25, a month before. On July 25, however, the average was 80, and on the same date 1911, 87. The average for the last ten years for North Carolina, as of July 25, each year, was 80. North Carolina this year, therefore, is but little behind the ten year average.

Sentences were imposed upon five members of the West Virginia Legislature by Judge O'Brien in the Superior Court. They were convicted of bribery in connection with the election of a United States Senator early in the year. The sentences follow:—Delegates S. U. G. Rhodes, Rath Duff and H. F. Asbury, six years each in the penitentiary; State Senator B. A. Smith, five years and six months and Delegate Davie Hill, five years. In addition the five are disqualified for life from holding any public office or office of trust. The sentencing of the men came shortly after Delegate Davie Hill, the fifth to stand trial on bribery charges, was convicted of the offense. After the sentences were imposed an arrest of judgment and stay of execution for 90 days was allowed by the court, to permit attorneys for the defendants to make applications for appeal to the State Supreme Court. More than two months have been consumed in the trials of these charges, the first of their kind in West Virginia.

If Reidsville people would back up Reidsville people when they invest their money in Reidsville enterprises the town of Reidsville will prosper more rapidly and Reidsville people would be encouraged to invest still more money in Reidsville, thus furnishing more employment for Reidsville people. Every little bit helps, and the Reidsville Ice and Coal Co., Inc., wants your business.

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Advice to Money Savers

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