of those who had returned or were on the way was forty-two.

The total number of men in the two troops was learned to-day to have been eighty-four. Gen. Pershing, offering a summary of his information and explaining that his conclusions were based on such information as he had obtained from the stragglers and from the press reports, called attention to the indications that there were fifty-seven missing, and that press reports indicated fourteen of these were dead and forty-three were prisoners.

The General does not account in his report for the number of wounded, but appeared to assume that all these wounded had been captured.

All those brought in by Lieut. Meyer were horse holders and like those who came in camp yesterday were not actually in the fight. They told their stories before they had reentered the camp and had an opportunity to talk with the stragglers who had preceded them.

They said they saw Gen. Felix Gomez and his aid riding forward, to parley with Capt. Boyd and later saw him move toward the flank of the Mexican troops that had begun closing in on the American force. According to their story, the first intimation any one had that hostilities were determined upon was the outburst of machine gun fire.

The men corroborated the accounts that said it was not until then that Capt. Boyd gave the command for his men to dismount and return the fire. The Mexicans, during the parley, had crowded forward and had assumed such positions that when they attacked they were in position to sweep with a killing fire the American line standing exposed in the open.

Officers at Gen. Funston's headquarters seemed convinced, after studying Pershing's latest report, that all of the troops that would be found now would be wounded, and that, therefore, the battered remnant could not have moved far from the scene of the fight.

Admission of these facts increased their apprehension as to the fate of the troopers. The greatest hope of officers here to-day was that nothing worse had befallen them and that they would be there when the relief force from the Eleventh finally got to them.

Although no news has been received to-day that indicated the Mexicans had followed up their work of Wednesday, some of the officers professed keen anxiety to learn whether they had attacked again the little broken and wounded band that manifestly was incapable of escaping or effectively retreating. It was recognized as indisputable that had the Mexicans cared to follow up their advantage, the few remaining troopers would have been easy prey.

MEXICANS MASSING.

Thousands of Carranzistas Reported Back of American Supply Line.

COLUMBUS, N. M., June 24.—Seven thousand Carranzista troops were to-night reported massing back of Carretas Pass, commanding the American communication lines north of Dublan, Mexico.

At the same time a most important redisposition of the punitive expedition's forces was begun. The censorship —— allow publication of the details. (Deletion by censor.)

Refugees brought word of the concentration of the de facto Government troops behind the mountains on the Sonora line and less than sixty miles west of the American supply routes. The garrison of Marelas, Pronteras and Moctezuma and troops withdrawn from border towns are believed to be included in the mobilization. About one half are cavalry. The Carranzistas also have a number of artillery pieces.

A squad of twelve machine guns mounted on motorcycles was tested here to-day. But the aeroplane situation grows worse. The aviation squad planned to send up one machine to-day. Propeller trouble again prevented. Urgent requests for aeroplanes for scouting purposes came from Gen. Pershing. A twin engine aeroplane on the field here belonging to the New Mexico militia was not permitted to be used. The War Department will have the machine inspected and if up to specifications it may be purchased.

Secret service men brought about the discharge of several Mexicans employed in the quartermaster's department here. The spy scare continues and the usual precautions are taken to prevent a surprise night attack. The special cavalry patrol to-night surrounded the camp at some distance beyond the regular outposts.

UNIONS WORKING FOR PEACE.

American and Mexican Labor Leaders to Confer.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor has invited representatives of organized labor in Mexico to confer with the executive council of the federation in Washington on Monday to consider means of averting hostilities between Mexico and the United States.

There is little doubt that his invitation will be accepted. Mr. Gompers received telegrams to-day from Mexican leaders whom he had previously asked to attend the conference, notifying him they had arrived at the border and asking that he set a date for a meeting. These telegrams were sent from Eagle Pass, Tex.

In addition to the Mexican leaders who telegraphed from the border to-day the following Mexican labor men are in Washington, ready to enter the conference, the object of which is to agree on a proposition that can be submitted to the Government of each country to the end that war may be avoided: Carlos Lovetra, Chief of the Department of Labor of Yucatan; Baltazar Pages, editor in chief of the leading newspaper of Merida, capital city of Yucatan, and Col. Martinez of Vera Cruz. Col Martinez arrived in Washington to-day bearing a gold medal from the labor movement of Mexico to Mr. Gompers, in token of the understanding existing between the workers of the two countries.

A letter was received to-day from Gov. George W. P. Hunt of Arizona, indorsing the conference.

MEDICAL PROBLEMS OF WAR.

Camp Sanitation and Prevention of Diseases Discussed.

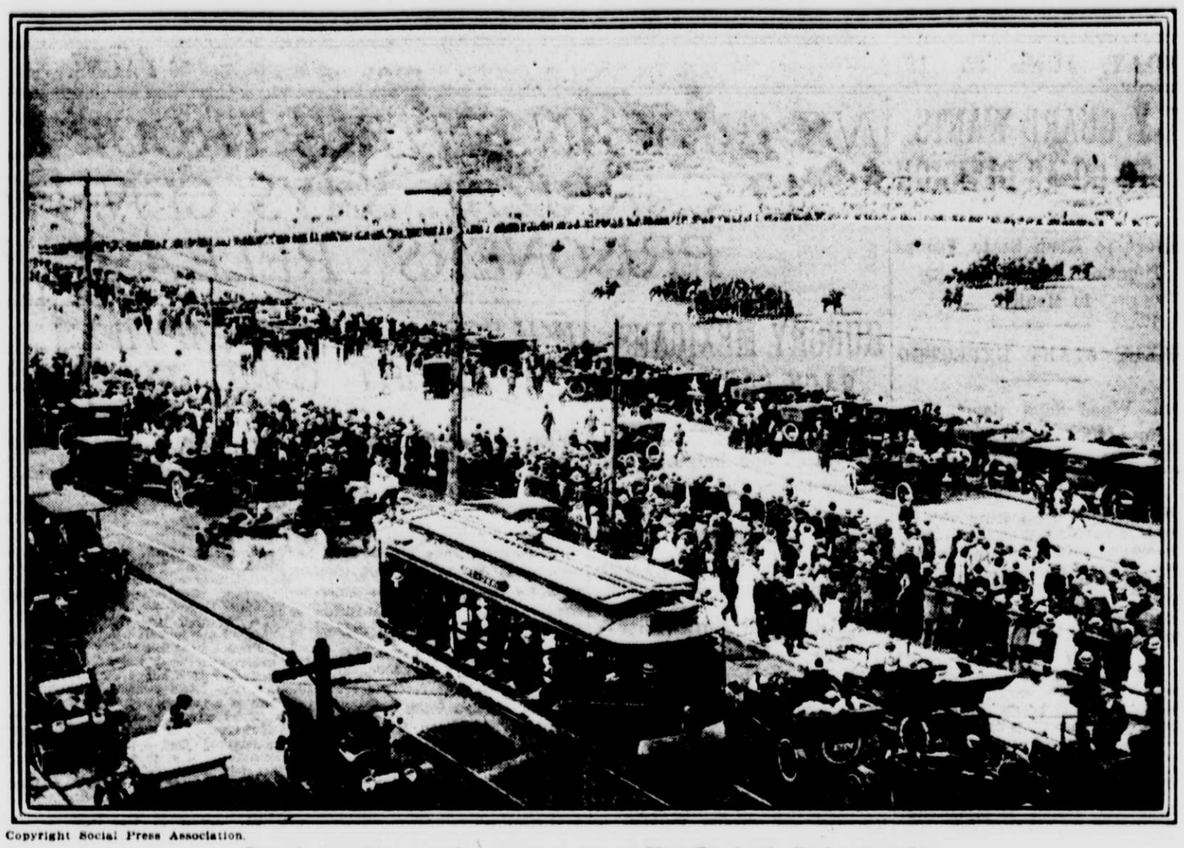
There are many medical problems to be considered if the militia goes to the border and the regular army intervenes in Mexico, according to the *Journal* of the American Medical Association.

"Typhoid and smallpox vaccination has practically removed the menace to life from these diseases under military conditions," the *Journal* says. "The militia, however, has not been inoculated against typhoid even approximately to the extent that the regular army has been vaccinated. The danger from dysentery, which is still a menace to men in army camps, has been materially lessened through improvements in the preservation and protection of foodstuffs and through increased facilities for the transportation of supplies. Malaria and yellow fever, conquered through eradication of the mosquito and prevention of mosquito bites, are no longer to be feared.

"The sanitation of camps has developed into a science. In the development of this science American investigators—many of them officers of the medical corps of the United States army and of the Public Health Service—have led the way, and they may be depended on to carry out these measures to the fullest extent. Typhus fever is particularly a Mexican problem. It has been a factor in the present European war and the measures instituted abroad show how completely this disease may be controlled.

"Much of the warfare of Europe has been trench warfare and diseases peculiar to this method of warfare have frequently been discussed. The problem in Mexico would appear to be a different one. In any event, it hardly seems likely that the old saying that disease kills more men than bullets would hold true."

GOV. WHITMAN SEES CAMP IN VAN CORTLANDT PARK; GUARDS MASTER 100 STAMPEDED CAVALRY HORSES



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Crowds watching cavalry manœuvring at Van Cortlandt Park yesterday.

Gov. Whitman inspected the camps at Van Cortlandt Park yesterday afternoon and was delighted with the progress of the mobilization. Col. George A. Wingate of the Second Artillery has his regiment recruited up to within fifty men of full war strength.

Troops A, C, E, K and L of the First Cavalry of Brooklyn and Troop F from Staten Island are in camp. They received 100 horses during the day. While the horses were being unloaded from a ferry boat at the foot of 131st street one of them bolted and ran into a telegraph post, injuring itself so badly that it was shot. This accident stampeded the others and another horse broke its leg and was shot.

A third horse entangled itself in a rope and choked to death before it could be rescued. Some of the men were kicked and suffered slight bruises from falls, but no one was seriously hurt. The sick list has been unusually small.

Saturday's half holiday brought out the largest number of visitors that has yet appeared. They crowded around the tents and some of the more curious had to be pushed back by the guards.

Among the campers none is more popular than Villa, mascot of the Second Artillery. He is a furry little black water spaniel and his years number one month. When interviewed yesterday Villa indicated he is strong for preparedness. He was busy at the time digging a trench.

There were ten minutes of excitement on Friday night when Trooper L. R. Hills of 910 Flatbush avenue, Brooklyn, had the nightmare and began fighting with his tent mate, Edward Morse. Hills said he was dreaming that some one was trying to kill him. The corporal's guard was called before the disturbance was quieted.

Gov. Whitman spent about an hour in camp and inspected everything with great interest. With him were his military aid, Capt. Lorillard Spencer, Major Harry Wilson, Major Aisel Ames, Major Paul Loeser and Capt. Acker.

Col. Charles I. de Bevoise of the First Cavalry was busy all day running back and forth from the armory in Brooklyn to the camp. He had no orders for moving his command to Beekman, but the opinion in the regiment was that the marching orders would be received to-day.

Gov. Whitman was asked when he thought the mobilization would be completed. He said that on account of the necessity of laying water mains at the mobilization camp, and recruiting the several organizations up to war strength he wasn't able to fix any date.

Robert Maxwell, a trooper with Squadron A, was breaking in a green horse on the polo field yesterday afternoon and lost control of the animal, which dashed into a crowd of spectators on Broadway. Mrs. Lucille Wagstaff of 114 West Forty-seventh street was knocked down and slightly hurt, and Enof Knopp of Yonkers had his right leg bruised. John L. Travers, a motorcycle police sergeant, was knocked down and bruised in recovering the horse.

RECRUITING IS KEPT UP AT A BRISK RATE

12th Infantry Has 1,220 Now —175 Join the 22d Engineers.

Recruiting continued brisk at armories throughout the city yesterday. Major John F. Fairchild of the Twenty-second Engineers will send a company of forty rookies to Camp Whitman to-day. They have been drilling since Monday. Major Fairchild said he has recruited 175 men so far and the regiment is now only 400 under war strength. He is planning to form six companies of sixty-five men each to police armories, reservoirs, &c., while the regular guard is away.

Battery F, Second Field Artillery, whose armory is at 186th street and Franklin avenue, The Bronx, has been recruited from less than 135, peace strength, to 171, or war strength. Capt. William O. Richardson of Battery F says he believes unmarried men should replace married men with families absolutely dependent upon them.

A great many men who have served in the regular army are applying for enlistment in the State militia. A number, it is said, have been rejected because they failed to pass the eye test, which is rigid.

Out of eighty men examined in the armory of the Fourteenth Infantry in Brooklyn yesterday thirty were passed, which Col. Garcia said was a high percentage in consideration of the medical examination being especially strict.

The Twelfth Infantry reported last night that there are now 1,220 men in the regiment. This is an increase of 402 since Tuesday. This morning at 8 o'clock the regiment will march to the Paulist Fathers church at Fifty-ninth street and Columbus avenue and hear mass. The command will be reviewed by officers of the regular army at 10 A. M., and have the rest of the day free. At 8 P. M. the regiment will be reviewed and blessed by Bishop Hays.

The stream of recruits was so large and continuous that the officers of the Seventy-first last night expected to have the needed quota filled up speedily. By 9 o'clock they had brought the regiment's strength to 1,767 men and were well on the way to the required 1,836. The same overflow of enlistments was in progress at the Sixty-ninth Regiment, where the officers expected to go away with a surplus number of privates.

ARGENTINA AGAINST MEDIATION

South America Adopts "Hands Off" Policy, It Is Believed.

BUENOS AYRES, June 24.—The plan to have all Latin American republics join in a concerted move to prevent war between the United States and Mexico has apparently fallen flat.

Despatches from Mexico city received here to-night said that Ecuador and Salvador alone have tendered their good offices to Carranza. Argentina officials interpreted this to mean that other South American republics, following the lead of Argentina, have decided on a "hands off" policy.

It is understood that a communication from the Argentine Foreign Office explaining Argentina's position in the present international crisis was completed to-day and will soon be on its way to the Government of Chile. In rejecting the Chilean suggestion that Argentina join other South American republics in a peace move it is reported that Argentina expresses hopes for a peaceful settlement, but takes the position that the dispute between the United States and Mexico is of such a character that mediation would probably not be acceptable to either Power.

Carolyn Wyndham Alden Dead.

Carolyn Wyndham Alden of Metuchen, N. J., descendant of John and Priscilla Alden and youngest daughter of Henry Mills Alden, the veteran editor of *Harper's Magazine*, died yesterday.

TREVINO HAS NO IDEA OF RETURNING HIS PRISONERS

Carranza General Denies Carrizal Troops Pursued Defeated Americans or That the U. S. Cavalry Force Was Annihilated in the Battle.

EL PASO, June 24.—Gen. Trevino said to-day at his headquarters at Chihuahua that he did not believe the Boyd column had been annihilated. He denied that his men followed the Americans on their retreat and slaughtered them, but asserted that the Carranzistas only gave battle at Carrizal in defence of their own rights and that when the defeated Americans retreated the Carranza forces made no effort to follow them.

Lem Spillsbury, the Mormon scout, and the seventeen negro troopers made prisoners by the Mexicans during the fighting have been locked in the penitentiary at Chihuahua. Gen. Trevino telegraphed their names to Gen. Pershing to-day in reply to a message from Gen. Pershing, transmitted through the intermediary of the Mexican Consul at El Paso.

No plans are under way, Gen. Trevino said, to return the American prisoners to their commands. The native populace at Chihuahua city is greatly excited over the presence of the prisoners and it was learned to-day that an effort was made to take them from the military guards and lynch them when they reached Chihuahua. The military gave ample protection, however, even to the extent of bayoneting some of the more radical of the Mexican mob.

Gen. Trevino has ordered his troops to attack two American columns advancing into Carranzista territory unless they immediately begin a retreat.

They are widely separated and moving in different directions. One is approaching Ojo Caliente, which is forty miles southwest of Villa Ahumada. Villa Ahumada is near Carrizal, where Capt. Charles T. Boyd's column met disaster, and the mission of an American detachment beyond Carrizal cannot be explained by the Mexican authorities here.

The other column is less of a puzzle. It is riding toward San Antonio, fifty miles southeast of Namiquipa, and doubtless is on a bandit hunt. Gen. Trevino has warned both detachments to expect the same treatment as Capt. Boyd's men unless they halt at once. The commander added that the prisoners now in his hands will not be hanged, "as that is not the custom of a civilized country." Five more American prisoners were brought here to-day.

Another statement, supposed to be from the scout Spillsbury, was given out to-day by Gen. Trevino, who, however, refused to permit Americans to talk to the American.

The alleged statement asserts that the Mexicans did not fire until after Capt. Boyd had given the order to his men to advance and that Boyd's own troop, C, led the advance on the Mexicans.

Mexicans belonging to the crew of the train that carried the seventeen American prisoners from Carrizal station to Chihuahua city arrived in Juarez to-day and stated that after their capture the prisoners were stripped of their uniforms, so that they had to travel in their underclothes.

One of the trainmen said that he was approached in Chihuahua by two American negroes, who showed him passports and asked to be taken as passengers, but when the pair learned that the train was bound for Juarez they declined to go, saying that they were bound for Tampico.

It is believed here that these negroes are the two deserters from the Pershing expedition who were reported in Chihuahua last week. At that time Chihuahua telegrams stated that they were detained by Gen. Trevino pending instructions from the American army authorities as to their disposal.

The Mexican military authorities have received no reports to indicate that the entire band of Americans fighting at Carrizal had been wiped out. Consul Garcia of El Paso, speaking on the telephone from the Juarez headquarters, said to-night he believed the report to be untrue.

"It may be that the men were scattered and got lost," said Mr. Garcia, "but I believe they will report soon to their base camp. Our version of the fight took it for granted that the Americans were able to retire."

Tension along the border continues severe, here and elsewhere. The American sentries were fired on twice last night at the international bridges by Mexicans, but did not return the fire because they could not locate the source of the shots.

Advices to Gen. Bell this afternoon relative to the assignment of Major L. F. Wildman of the Signal Corps and Major Max C. Tyler of the Engineers to duty with his brigade was taken by army officers to mean that a punitive expedition is to cross into Mexico from here, since there is little, if any, necessity of officers from the Engineering and Signal Corps except in expeditionary work.

Further significance was attached to the receipt of orders here to-day by customs officials and military men to stop all shipments to Mexico. This includes food and supplies of every character.

A suggestion has been sent to the War Department from a Government official in El Paso that 100,000 negro troops be recruited in the Southern States for use in the event that the United States invades Mexico.

The suggestion was telegraphed to-day and is based on the theory that the negro troops will be better able to cope with conditions in the desert country of Mexico than will the white troops. The splendid service rendered by the negro troops now serving with Gen. Pershing's command is cited as an example of what the negro troops could do in the event of war with Mexico.

After a conference to-day with military and civil officials Gov. Hunt of Arizona has decided to proclaim a modified form of martial law to apply throughout the State, by which a strict supervision over the sale and carrying of arms and ammunition may be maintained.

It was decided that strict martial law would be too onerous on the public in general and Col. W. H. Sage, the American troop commander at Nogales, stated that there were not sufficient regular troops in the State to permit any of them to be detached from border duty to check ammunition sales or seize arms.

A committee of citizens was appointed to work out a plan with Gov. Hunt and Col. Sage by which the issuance of permits to carry arms and the seizure of arms would be left to county sheriffs and town marshals with the backing of the military authorities.

Fear among Americans in the valley north of El Paso was increased to-day by a report that Pancho Villa was at Carrizito, Tex., on Thursday. According to railroad men the supposed Villa and two companions passed the train in an automobile at Anthony. They thought it possible Villa was on his way to the colony of the former military Governor of Chihuahua, Gen. Fidel Avila, in the upper valley.

Avila is still missing and is believed to be in Mexico now. Gen. Marcelo Caraveo, a former Huerta General, is known to have crossed from El Paso to Juarez early this week and is said now to be in command of the Carranza troops south of Juarez.

Passengers arriving in Juare from Chihuahua city this morning reported that two trainloads of former Villa troops had arrived in the State capital from the Laguna district and were being quartered in the Chihuahua garrisons. The troops were received with cheers and patriotic demonstrations by the people of Chihuahua.

More of Villa's troops are coming north from Torreon and are joining the Carranza troops, according to the American passengers. It was reported in Chihuahua at the time the passengers left for Juarez that the Villa troops were to be sent north to occupy Juare and the other garrisons along the Mexican Central, relieving the Carranza troops in order that they might take the field.

The passengers also reported that Gen. Trevino was concentrating all of the troops he could get from the Parral, Santa Rosalia, Jimines and Chihuahua districts in western Chihuahua, near Gen. Pershing's outposts, and that there were active preparations being made to resist any movement of Pershing's forces east or south of their present positions.

An American employee of the Cananea Cattle Company, who reached the Arizona border to-day, stated that Mexicans were streaming into Cananea when he left, to join the Mexican army.

A band of seventy Villistas looted an American mine near Cienegas, Coahuila, sacked the company's store and stole the company's horses and wagons to carry off the loot, according to a telegram received out of Mexico to-day by the manager of the company, now in El Paso.

STATEN ISLAND WOMEN TO GO.

Twenty-eight Volunteer to Serve as Red Cross Nurses.

Twenty-eight prominent women of Staten Island have volunteered their services to go to the front as Red Cross nurses if war is declared between this country and Mexico. These women went through a technical examination yesterday afternoon at the S. R. Smith Infirmary at New Brighton, and are holding themselves in readiness for the call.

Three classes in first aid to the injured were organized several weeks ago under the direction of Mrs. William L. DeBost, and Dr. William Kingsley and a Red Cross nurse instructed the classes.

Those who took the examination yesterday were Miss Anita Allen, Miss Alice Alexander, Mrs. Sydney Bancroft, Mrs. J. B. Isley, Mrs. Theodore Wells, Mrs. H. B. Brownell, Miss Abby Boody, Miss Louisa Gould, Mrs. David J. Gould, Miss Diana Richards, Miss Gwynn Kavanagh, Miss Mary Sullivan, Miss C. H. Meade, Miss Belle O'Bryan, Miss Laura Williams, Miss Lily Pearson, Miss Ruth Townsend, Mrs. J. Watson Hughes, Mrs. Edwin L. O'Ryan, Miss Edith Chambers, Mrs. William G. Wilcox, Miss Gladys King, Miss Alice Garrett, Mrs. William L. DeBost, Mrs. Charles E. Simonson, Mrs. William Bryan, Mrs. Dane E. Richards and Mrs. Meade Stone.

$1,500 DOG JUST ONE BITE.

Mrs. Peter Ceder's Imported Griffon Killed at Westchester Show.

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., June 24.—Three pounds of dog flesh, which, alive and together, were rated at $500 a pound, furnished just one mouthful this afternoon to a harlequin Great Dane weighing more than 100 pounds.

The two dogs met at the fourth annual show of the Westchester Kennel Club. The small dog was a Brussels griffon named Cedar Bambino. Mrs. Peter Ceder of Sunnymede recently imported Cedar Bambino, which was regarded as the most typical of his breed ever brought to this country. Before the dog came here he had won many prizes in Belgium and Mrs. Ceder had repeatedly refused to take $1,000, holding out for $1,500.

The judging at the show this afternoon had almost been completed when the tiny bit of dog aristocracy wandered near the Great Dane. There was a snap of the immense jaws of the big dog, and where there had been two dogs was only one and a corpse.

Crocker

Announces a Special Sale

20% Reduction

Unusual stock of Hats, Waists, Gowns, Veils and Neckwear, in black, white, and black and white only.

We make special mention of the following:—

Black Hats and White Hats Suitable for All Seasons.

Silk Jersey Jackets in black and black and white.

375 Fifth Av., at 35th St. East.

ARMY IN MEXICO SWATTING THE FLY

Extraordinary Precautions Taken to Prevent Spread of Disease by Pest.

A SUPERSTITIOUS PEOPLE

By GEORGE H. CLEMENTS,

Special Correspondence to THE SUN.

TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS U. S. ARMY, NEAR COLONIA DUBLAN, Mexico, June 16 (by motor truck to Columbus, N. M., June 20).—"Swat the fly" is an order which is being obeyed with alacrity along the entire line of communications from Columbus to San Antonio, Mexico, ever since the setting in of warm weather.

Up to this time no flies of the common or garden variety have appeared at Namiquipa or at other camps located on the high plateaus to the southward, but at this camp and at the camps between here and the border the house fly would be an insufferable pest were he permitted to breed and flourish without protest.

From the first it has been an invariable rule that at every camp, no matter how temporary its nature, all refuse which might furnish a resting or breeding ground for flies must be burned before camp is abandoned. As the season advanced the rules became more rigid until now all latrines are covered and provided with fly traps of the most approved pattern to catch the vagrant flies which come in from outside the camp. Even the ground on which the horses stand is chemically treated as a precaution against the propagation of the fly.

Few Flies in Camp.

As a result of all this there are few flies to be found in any army camp, large or small, in all that portion of Mexico occupied by American troops. In addition to taking precautions against the spreading of disease through the carrying of germs on the feet of flies the Sanitary department of the expedition is taking no chances on pollution of water supply and is enforcing rigid rules calculated to prevent any outbreak of dysentery or other intestinal trouble.

All water for culinary or drinking purposes must be procured from wells or pumps which have been provided or from carefully guarded flowing springs, the origin of which has been carefully inspected. All water from shallow wells or pumps must be chemically treated or boiled. The men have been so schooled in the matter of health conservation that they make no protest against the extra work involved in the pumping of water as against dipping it from a nearby stream or in chemically treating or boiling it.

The result of this care regarding flies and water may be found in the comparatively empty hospital tents and in the few calls made upon members of the medical corps for treatment for even the most minor forms of sickness. It is true that a number of sick men have been sent to the base hospital at El Paso, but it is equally true that the vast majority of such cases have been of a chronic nature made acute for the time being by camp life in contradistinction to life in barracks.

Sick Soldier in the Way.

A sick soldier is of no value to the army in time of war and a detriment in time of peace. For that reason every effort is made to keep him healthy at all times, but particularly when his services may be needed on the firing line at a moment's notice. The lessons learned during the Cuban campaign and the later campaign in the Philippines have not been lost.

In the matter of curing bodily ills there may not have been much progress since the inauguration of the campaigns alluded to, but it has been brought home to the medical fraternity that it is better to prevent disease than to wait for its development and then try to cure it.

Every energy is nowadays bent in the direction of preventing the diseases incident to life under hard conditions, therefore the attempts to prevent the propagation of flies, mosquitoes and other disease carrying insects—the burning, burying or chemical treatment of all forms of filth and the pouring of oil on the stagnant pools in which mosquitoes might breed in such numbers as to be not only an annoyance but a positive menace to health.

The Mexicans are nothing if not a superstitious people, at least so far as the uneducated among them are concerned, and they have a stock of folklore stories in which they place most implicit confidence. The consternation caused by the discovery of the face of the late Francisco I. Madero on the western slope of the Santa Clara Mountains opposite Namiquipa a few days ago may be cited as a sample of the childlike faith of the average native in "signs."

Old Woman's Prediction.

Out of the talk among them which followed the discovery of the face in the mountain has come a story new to most if not all Americans connected with this expedition, to the effect that many years ago an old woman made a prediction that Mexico would at some future time pass through a period of great national stress, during which time there would be three Presidents bearing the name Francisco and a fourth who should be remarkable for the great beard which he would insist upon wearing.

The story went on to say that the three "Panchos" would occupy the Presidential chair for but brief periods each, and that the bearded one would suffer death in a frightful war with a foreign Power, after which a lasting though dearly bought peace would come to the country.

The story has been revived through the talk which followed the discovery of the face of one of the Franciscos on the slopes of the Santa Clara Mountains. It is pointed out that since the coming into power of Francisco I. Madero in 1911 Mexico has had two other Presidents bearing the name Francisco, Francisco de la Barra and Francisco Carbajal. To carry out the prediction of the "old woman" still further, it is pointed out by the superstitious ones who believe in "signs," that the country now has a ruler, though not called President, who insists in wearing a great beard.

Inasmuch as those who place reliance upon "signs" and the words of "old women" are for the most part fatalists there has been a growing disposition on the part of those who have heard the prediction of the Mexican "Mother Shipton" to believe that her prophecy is about to be fulfilled and that there is little use in trying to forestall a war with a foreign nation which has been destined and want it to begin as soon as possible in order that the promised lasting peace may be ushered in.

White Rock

Unsurpassed Mineral Water

CONNECTICUT GUARDS READY.

All But One Company Under Canvas at Camp Holcomb.

CAMP HOLCOMB, NIANTIC, Conn., June 24.—From 9:30 this morning until long after sunset to-night battalions and detached companies of khaki clad guardsmen swept through the camp gates and pitched their tents. At 9 to-night the nocturnal quiet was broken by the continual whang, whang as tent stakes were being driven. Every company of both the First and Second Infantry regiments is under canvas to-night with the exception of Company M of Winsted, which will encamp in Litchfield county until the measles scare is over. Former Governor Morgan C. Bulkley, who purchased fifty mounts for Troop B, was among the numerous distinguished visitors this afternoon and to-night.

The Rev. Oliver T. MacNeil of Wethersfield arrived to celebrate mass on Sunday morning to an open air congregation gathered before an altar erected in the hospital tent. There are about 3,400 in the camp to-night.

The guardsmen were excited by the rumor that the brigade was to leave for the border on Tuesday, but the rumor was baseless. It started when a Colonel instructed the men not to install the mess stoves permanently. All the companies reported enthusiastic and patriotic farewells in their home towns.

TAFT PREDICTS LONG WAR.

Says It Will Take Two or Three Years to Conquer Mexico.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., June 24.—The duty of the United States in Mexico is clear, said former President William Howard Taft in an address to a Chautauqua audience here to-night on "Our World Relationships." This duty is to go on. While deploring the possibility of war, which he declared would probably last two or three years and be attended with great loss of life, Mr. Taft said, "We must maintain the honor of our country, we must protect our border."

"I do not want war with Mexico because I know what it will mean," said the ex-President. "It will mean that an army of 250,000 men will be necessary. They will be forced to seize every port and every city in the entire country, and hold them while other troops hunt down bandits who seek refuge in the mountains. I saw the same thing in the Philippines, and these tropical countries are alike. It will mean an endless drag on our manhood."

Mr. Taft said that somehow or other he could not get very enthusiastic over the issues involved in the prospects of a war with Mexico. Although he did not seek to minimize the patriotism of militiamen who had responded to President Wilson's call for troops or the heroism of those who would later be called as volunteers, he believed that the situation had resulted from a series of mistakes, the greatest of which is unpreparedness. "We must do our duty," he said. "But that duty requires also that hereafter we shall not be caught where we haven't enough men to protect our border."

After a reference to the delicate situation existing because of controversies with England and Germany, and also as a result of the discrimination against "Brown and Yellow" immigrants, he urged a standing army of 250,000, with a reserve force of the same number, and a navy equal to that of Germany as the only guarantee of peace. The controversies with England, he said, would be arbitrated, but the killing of 150 American citizens on the high seas by Germany was an issue that necessarily had gunpowder in it.

ON WAY TO BORDER TO WORK FOR PEACE

Four of Six Commissioners of Anti-Militarism Union Now en Route.

BRYAN EXPECTED TO GO

Four of the six commissioners, three Americans and three Mexicans, chosen by the American Union Against Militarism to confer on the Mexican situation with a view toward preventing war between the United States and Mexico are on their way to El Paso, Tex. They are David Starr Jordan, chancellor of Leland Stanford University, one of the three American conferees; Dr. A[illegible] editor of *Acción Mondial* of Mexico City; Luis Manuel Rojas, director of the Biblioteca Nacional of Mexico city, and Modesto C. Rolland, a Mexican mining engineer, formerly a Carranza consul in New York.

The American Union Against Militarism announced last night that Frank P. Walsh had sent word that he would leave Kansas City for El Paso this morning. The organization had also then heard directly from William Jennings Bryan, the third American commissioner, but Mr. Walsh was to meet him in Kansas City last night, and it was expected that Mr. Bryan would be sent to go. Mr. Walsh and Mr. Bryan were in telephonic communication with each other yesterday afternoon.

Senor Rolland left New York yesterday afternoon about the same time that David Starr Jordan was leaving Oklahoma City. Chancellor Jordan wired Amos Pinchot for the American Union Against Militarism yesterday as follows: "Leaving for El Paso, Hotel McCoy, [illegible] o'clock, arriving Monday morning." Senor Rolland is due to reach El Paso Tuesday afternoon and Mr. Walsh on Monday afternoon. Dr. Alt left Kansas Pass for El Paso yesterday, and the pacifist organization here received word that Senor Rojas left Mexico city for the border city yesterday.

The conferees will form an unofficial commission to work for a more complete understanding between the two countries and a possible solution of the Mexican difficulty. The results of the conferences will be wired to each Government every day. The object of the meeting is to get at the facts in the present crisis, so Mr. Pinchot said, and present them with fairness to both sides to give the "people of both countries a chance to avoid a wicked, senseless war."

A gathering of distinguished people bade farewell to Senor Rolland at Grand Central. Amos Pinchot, vice chairman of the Union, Mrs. Henry Villard, honorary chairman of the Women's Peace Party, and Senor Luis G. Riserer, a prominent Mexican, made speeches of adieu and Mrs. Villard presented a bouquet of roses to Senor Rolland. Among others at the station were Miss Alice Lewisohn, representing Mrs. Lillian Wald; Max Eastman, Mrs. Crystal Eastman and Darwin J. Meserole.

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America yesterday asked President Wilson an offer of the council's commission on peace and arbitration, to help bring about arbitration between this country and Mexico or any a South American country or countries.

The national executive committee of the Socialist party also sent to the President a protest against what it regards as an invasion of Mexico. The communication charges that the Mexican raids on American territory have been inspired and paid for by American interests. The party believes, the protest says, that the border should be protected, but by troops stationed on the American side. The party demands the "capture of the Americans who inspired Mexican raids across the border."

ADVICE TO MILITIA GROWLERS

Regular Army Officer Tells What a Soldier's Duty Is.

WASHINGTON, June 24.—The complaint of certain National Guard regiments against the order calling regiments from camps instead of allowing all State troops to go to the front. Very little consideration is given by the War Department. One striking officer [illegible] "Tell these officers who are growling that their first duty is to obey orders and keep their mouths shut. The order is for some to go and be ready and the Department will follow that rule and call regiments to the front as rapidly as possible. It is a thing which makes the National Guard think [illegible] They should stop growling and be soldiers."

BRITAIN READY TO AID

Willing to Look After American Interests in Case of War.

LONDON, June 24.—[illegible] more than willing to look after American interests in Mexico [illegible] between Mexico and this country in view of the fact that Mexico has [illegible] and consular agents [illegible] of British affairs.

This statement was made at the Foreign Office today [illegible] that the United States has formally asked England to look after American interests in case of war.

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