The Bisbee Daily Review

Published Every Day Except Monday by the
State Consolidated Publishing Company

Business Office—Phone No. 39.
.. Branch Connecting All Departments. ..

Advertising Rates on Application.
Entered as Second Class Mail Matter at Bisbee, Arizona
Under Act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Rates:

SINGLE COPIES, Daily	$ .0
PER MONTH	.7
THREE MONTHS	2.2
SIX MONTHS	4.0
TWELVE MONTHS	7.5
SUNDAY (Our Weekly) per year	2.5
SUNDAY (Our Weekly) per quarter	.7

No Subscription Taken For Less Than 75 Cents

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Review subscribers not receiving a copy of The Bisbee Daily Review before 8 a. m. will get one promptly by special Western Union Messenger by telephoning the Circulation Department, No. 39. The Review will consider it a favor if any irregularity of delivery is reported to the Circulation Department. The Messenger service applies to Bisbee only.

Thursday Morning, June 22, 1916.

CALLING CARRANZA'S BLUFF

Carranza's bark is worse than his bite. He has always bluffed, and just now it's safe to assume that he's bluffing more than usual. His threats are meant largely for home consumption, and inspired with the forlorn hope that we may take them as seriously as the credulous and ignorant Mexican populace does.

Carranza may prate of war with the United States but he doesn't want war any more than we do. He knows that a flat declaration of war would be the end of his public career. The Mexicans might rally around him for a little while, but the precarious power he wields wouldn't last long in a welter of defeat, bankruptcy and disloyalty of his subordinates.

There is nothing for the United States to be much afraid of in the present situation. It's annoying, but not perilous. The Carranza forces, with all the ragtag-and bobtail that would adhere to them, would be no match for our own little army to begin with. And with an embargo on the shipment of arms to Mexico, and with the additional forces that we should gradually bring into the field, the eventual mastery of Mexico would be inevitable. It would be enormously troublesome and costly for us, but there would be no question of our success.

Carranza, who is not altogether a fool, knows that. And our government may safely call his bluff whenever it becomes necessary. We don't have to kow-tow any more to the arrogant figurehead of an imitation government. Our course is plain. We can't take any step backward. Any yielding henceforth must be on Carranza's part.

MEN'S JOBS GOOD FOR WOMEN

A German manufacturing plant recently published a careful, critical report of the conditions in its factory where, since the war, women have been doing men's jobs. Most of the women employed there were wage earners for the first time in their lives.

In many ways the work of these women was most satisfactory. In a number of cases, they equalled men in their output, even at the heaviest sorts of labor. They were quick to acquire skill and to increase a low output to normal. At the very beginning, of course, some false pride and embarrassment were shown by women who had never known what it meant to work for one's bread. This did not last long, however. Pay days, the feeling of actual accomplishment, similarly of circumstances and unity of purpose all proved great levellers. The women were soon awake to the joy of self-support and to the satisfaction of working with other people, the sense of collective unity.

There was one severe criticism against these women workers. They seemed unable to grasp the relationship of the part to the whole of their work, and rarely showed a tendency to do their own thinking. Whether these would prove to be characteristic feminine faults or whether they were due to the comfortable circumstances from which most of these women come, can not be determined in so short a time.

On the whole, the report shows surprising adaptation to entirely new conditions. The women tackled men's jobs with no training or preparation and performed them creditably. Whether or not they keep on working at men's jobs after the war, they have at least found for themselves and other women new ideals, new courage and new purpose.

Ability to co-operate and self-confidence must have come to them to stay. And a lot of false pride and petty prejudices have vanished forever.

USING UP THE AUSTRIANS

The Russians can't go on indefinitely bagging 10,000 to 15,000 Austrian prisoners a day, as they have done in the first two weeks of their great drive. There are not enough Austrians.

The number of Teuton troops already put out of business in that smashing Slav offensive must be nearly half a million. Certainly the dead and wounded cannot be less than equal to the number of prisoners. Ordinarily they would be reckoned at two to one, or three to one. Even at the lowest estimate, the Russians disposed of at least 300,000 enemies in the first twelve days. A month of such successes might be expected to leave Austria's eastern frontier virtually denuded of defenders, and to result in the utter demoralization of the Austro-Hungarian armies.

Austrian troops have never been able to stand up against the Russians, when the latter had anywhere near an equality of munitions. The triumphant campaign in which the Teutons drove the Russians back from the Carpathians, out of Galicia and into their own territory was planned by German genius, led by German generals, and stiffened by German troops.

The question now is whether Germany has enough strength left to come once more to the help of her weak ally. If not, Austria-Hungary is doomed. And her doom would mean the hastening of Germany's doom.

A BREACH OF "ETHICS"

Isn't the American Medical Association getting to be just a little "unethical?"

It closed its annual convention in Detroit by a public-health parade through the city streets. And the doctors didn't content themselves with merely marching in dignified and decorous procession. They made a real parade of it, with floats showing modern scientific methods of combating disease. And then they wound up at a big mass meeting, with popular addresses on disease-prevention.

It's contrary to precedent—the doctors can't deny it. But they won't be criticized much for that breach of professional morals and etiquette which have so long masqueraded under the name of "medical ethics." The public frankly rejoices in the new tendency of this profession to come out of its shell, taking the public into its confidence and stripping medical knowledge and practice of their traditional mystery.

The healing art is coming to be a frank, friendly, popular thing instead of an esoteric cult. And the doctors are finding that they lose nothing either in professional efficiency or in popular esteem by open, voluntary co-operation with the public. They are learning that after all, publicity—properly guided and safeguarded, of course—is the best "ethics."

PROFIT IN WEEDS

The war has upset all values. Old rags have become precious, waste paper is worth money, and now we are told that there are fortunes in weeds.

There is a drug famine, due to the enormous consumption in military hospitals, the diversion of certain chemicals to the manufacture of ammunition, and the loss of the usual drug supply from Germany. Many of the drugs needed are of vegetable origin. In most such cases this country could provide its own supply. Little effort, however, has yet been made to increase the production.

Now the Pennsylvania Pharmaceutical Association and the Western Pennsylvania Retail Druggists' Association have called public attention to an unusual opportunity. Many of these drugs are obtained from common weeds, which are ordinarily ignored or extirpated relentlessly from fields and gardens. There are fortunes in these pariah plants, the druggists say. The dendelion, the burdock, the jimson weed and many another lowly herb may be made to yield rich returns by intelligent pulling and curing.

It would be unfortunate if this hint were to result in a general tolerance of weeds. If these insidious enemies were once welcomed as friends it would be a troublesome chore to get rid of them later. It would be unfortunate, too, if weed-culture were allowed to displace food crops to any considerable degree. Still, we must have these medicines, and there's rich profit for the herbist who will take advantage of the situation.

HEALTH AND DOLLARS

"All that is necessary for the public health of a community now is for that community to demand of the government that all of the discoveries of medical science be put to work on its behalf."

So Spoke Dr. Charles Mayo, the famous Minnesota surgeon, in an address to the American Medical Association at Detroit.

"Business interests," he added, "get four times as much from the government for the care and protection of hogs and cattle as the public health service gets for the care of human health. We should have skilled men at work everywhere, and each worker should receive a salary equal to the economic value of just one human life. That is only $5,000."

He is everlastingly right, of course. "Health is purchaseable." And it is absurd that while we devote so much public attention and money to the health of livestock, we devote so little to the health of our men, women and children. We have been unintentionally putting property above life, and treating the well-being of animals as of no more importance than that of human beings. But even if we estimate human life on the mere basis of economic value, the argument for devoting public funds to the betterment of the community health is unanswerable. For what breed of horses, cattle, sheep or hogs is worth $5,000 apiece?

The four railroad brotherhoods who are now taking a referendum on the question of calling a national strike say they "have nothing to arbitrate." That's the way capital used to talk. But capital is learning by hard experience to be more considerate of public sentiment.

There is poetic justice in Belgium's latest exploit. Belgium troops from the Congo are reported to have wrested from the Germans the rich colony of Ruanda, situated on a plateau in German East Africa, one of the most healthful and fertile regions of all Central Africa, with limitless agricultural possibilities. Aside from its sentimental value, there will be good trading possibilities in that colony when peace terms are discussed.

EVACUATION OF JUAREZ FOLLOWS FIGHT

(By Review Leased Wire.)

EL PASO, June 21.—Late tonight preparations apparently were under way for the peaceful evacuation of Juarez. Several troop trains were pulled into the railroad yards ready for immediate use.

Andres Garcia, Mexican consul in El Paso, crossed the Rio Grande following the first reports of the engagement and remained with General Gonzales through the night. He kept in touch with General Bell on the American side by telephone, however. Neither the consul nor the Mexican military authorities would discuss reports of the proposed evacuation.

A large number of citizens of the town were busy loading their household goods on vans and other vehicles ostensibly to transport them to the south.

Numbers of persons gathered about the plaza immediately news of the battle became public but there were no demonstrations, the Mexicans apparently confining themselves to speculation as to the consequences. Heavy patrols were thrown into the streets with instructions to put down any disorders.

At General Gomez' headquarters, a victory for Mexico was being claimed. The scene in the front room of the comandancia, where the younger officers were gathered, was holiday-like Several of them, speaking of the battle, said, "we won."

Juarez first learned of the fight, in a vague form, in the early afternoon. The civilian population then began to pack their household goods. Many had already left for interior points by a morning train in anticipation of trouble. Others crossed to El Paso later in the day.

A curious scene of the later day was a procession of civilians carrying arms. In age they ranged from small boys, not as tall as their guns, up to bent old men. Most of them were in the ragged dress of the peon, but some belonged to the better class and wore good clothes.

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