

El Paso's Rapid Growth
Official United States Census.
Population 1910.....39,279
Population 1900.....15,906
Population 1890.....10,338

EL PASO LIBERAL

El Paso, Texas,
Monday Evening
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RAILROAD COMMANDERS TRAINS OF NORTH WESTERN RAILROAD AND INSURRECTOS CUT THE TRACK—TRAINS ARE MAROONED—AMERICANS VOLUNTEER TO HELP HAUL TRAINS—DIAZ DETERMINED TO CRUSH REVOLT BY SHEER WEIGHT OF NUMBERS.

Chihuahua, Mex., Dec. 19.—The passenger train, which was due here Thursday night, is still at La Junta. A message was received here Sunday from conductor Weber, sent by the way of Madera and Juarez, stating that he was stopped at Pedernales and ordered back to La Junta. At the latter place there is a Chinese restaurant from which American passengers secured food, as have others. The passenger train which left here Thursday for the west also has been stopped, presumably at La Junta also, but there is no report from the conductor.

MANY REBELS IN FIGHT—NAVARRO Rebels Outnumbered, Says Eye Witness to Battle. Fight Thursday.

The Chihuahua Enterprise, reporting the battle of Cerro Prieto, which occurred a week ago Sunday, says: Gen. Navarro states that when the rebels opened fire on the federalists firing line showed at least 400 men, and that within 20 minutes of fighting they had discharged 10,000 cartridges. He says that at their rear guard and right wing were covered by hills these forces could not be estimated. Government adherents still maintain that over 100 rebels were slain.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN VICINITY OF PEDERNALES CONTINUES, BUT THERE IS NO MEANS OF CONFIRMATION.

The last authentic news came in over the railroad line from San Antonio. The operator said he could hear the booming of cannon, but could not see fighting, owing to the lay of the land. The firing was distant. The passenger train which was due here Thursday night and which was detained near Pedernales, has not yet arrived. The telegraph wire over the Mexico North Western railroad is still down-west of San Antonio, for which reason it is impossible to ascertain the true condition of affairs. An official report stated that fighting at San Andres last Thursday was of minor importance, being merely a skirmish.

RAILROAD IS COMMANDERED. Gen. Hernandez, commander of this military zone, took virtual control of the North Western railroad Saturday, when for the first time in a month soldiers were put aboard a train bound for the front.

The greatest difficulty was experienced in securing a crew. Americans who ordinarily run the train are declining to do so, despite the offer of bonuses running as high as \$1000 each. Mexicans who declined the work are reported to have been placed in jail, which measure resulted in obtaining a strike crew. Four hundred soldiers were loaded into seven passenger coaches. There was also a carload of women and several stock cars loaded with horses and mules. The soldiers it was stated will be used to guard the road in case other troops may be moved swiftly into the disturbed district.

DIAZ IN EARNEST. The government realizes the seriousness of the situation and this move is the beginning of the campaign by which president Diaz intends to crush the revolution by sheer weight of numbers.

The train traveled in two sections leaving here, preceded by a handcar to test the track, as the insurgents have declared they will wreck the road if it attempts to handle government troops. Great anxiety is felt for the safety of the train. The brush at San Andres is said to have been between the bandit Pacho Villa, with 28 followers, and a detachment of Navarro's troops numbering 100. The bandits fled, leaving two dead. It is reported, a few rifles and saddles were captured by the federalists, also a camera belonging to F. A. Sommerfeld. Sommerfeld accompanied the Associated Press correspondent to the front a week ago and remained behind to cover the situation when the correspondent returned to Chihuahua to file dispatches. His camera and a pair of field glasses were stolen by Villa's men, and he was marooned when trains were stopped.

INSURRECTOS LOYAL. The reported defection of Castula Herrera of the revolutionary leaders, appears to have been a misconception of his acts. He appeared near Terrazas, about 20 miles north of here, Friday, where he changed some large bills to secure pesos with which he proceeded to pay his men. He paid cash for coffee, flour and sugar, which he took from the mining company's store at that place. When he heard of fighting at San Andres he exchanged his jaded nag for fresh horses and started west again. He said he was on recruiting duty. He started, he said, with 40 men. At Terrazas he had over 100, all mounted and most of them armed.

WOUNDED MAN MAY DIE. Tom Fulton, the young man who was shot by a negro near Yelita, is in a critical condition at the county hospital and is not expected to live.

Peritonitis has developed. The young man whose name is in Dripping Springs, Texas, was shot by a negro with whom he was tramping when he refused to give the negro money.

AMBASSADOR DE LA BARRA SAYS REBELS TRY TO GET AID BY DECLARING WOUNDED ARE BAYONETED.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—Reports from Chihuahua, Mexico, that Navarro, the commander of the government forces, had given orders that no prisoners were to be taken, has aroused the indignation of Senor de la Barra, Mexican ambassador in this city. "I cannot too emphatically deny the accusations or these statements," he said. "The sources from which they could come should very properly cast suspicion on them. It is quite plain that they are put out by the rebels in a last desperate effort to excite sympathy on the part of the American people."

BRUTALITY STORY DENIED BY MEXICAN OFFICIAL. Amabassador de la Barra Says Rebels Try to Get Aid by Declaring Wounded Are Bayoneted.

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SOLDIERS OF FORT BLISS IN EL PASO

Many Only Await the Turn of Affairs in Mexico to Join the Insurrectos.

AGENTS OF BOTH SIDES BUSY HERE

El Paso has been the scene of much revolutionary activity, although the work has been done quietly by agents of both sides of the conflict in Mexico. While government agents have been keeping a close eye on the border city, spies of the insurrecto commands have also been very active. The Mexican government has employed many Americans and paid them well for line riding and various works, only failing to secure men in the recent instance when some of the engineers were needed at the city of Chihuahua.

MANY SOLDIERS OF FORT BLISS. In El Paso are many American, English and Irish soldiers of fortune, more commonly called "filibusters."

It appears that these men are waiting for developments, desiring to enter the fight until sure that the insurrectos will receive recognition on a belligerent status with nations. If this occurs, there is little doubt that a band of adventurers of Celtic or Anglo-Saxon blood will fight with the "under dog," under conditions which existed in Cuba before the intervention of the United States, or in South Africa, where "give-a-slang" Blake's Irish brigade played such havoc against the English soldiery.

INSURRECTOS ACTIVE. It is known that agents of the revolutionary movement have been soliciting El Paso for a machine gun operator, and that large sums of money have been offered. It is not known, however, whether the insurrecto possess a Maxim or Colt machine, or whether they place assurance of capturing one and having ready a man who knows how to operate the crank or trigger, and instruct assistants in filling the magazine and carrying water to cool the steel.

FIGHTING NEAR TOWN OF MADERA. Mormon Colonies Hear Report of Trouble Between Fighters.

Colonia Dublan, Mex., Dec. 19.—(Delayed.)—There was fighting between the rebels and federalists yesterday and last evening near Madera, but the fight was not finished and it is expected that they are still continuing the fight today.

MANY SOLDIERS CLOSE TO PARRAL. Many Believe the Insurrectos There Will Soon Be Crushed.

Parral, Mexico, Dec. 19.—There are now over 500 soldiers in the mountains within 40 miles of Parral, and it is said that a good sized army of insurrectos is within 20 miles of the Mexican troops. People here say that there is no chance for the insurrectos to escape, that the soldiers are surrounding them from all sides. The insurrectos, who are in the mountains here are said to be the same who were in the Parral battle.

PORTUGAL WILL BUY WARSHIPS. Will Ask Bids From Americans for Boats for the New Republic.

Lisbon, Portugal, Dec. 19.—It is expected that the constituent assembly will be convened in April. The present call is for the creation of a single chamber of the legislative body of 200 members, which will elect a president of the republic for a five years' term. American constructors are to be invited to bid on ships for the new Portuguese navy, which will include three 19,000 ton battleships, three cruisers, 12 destroyers and six submarines.

JUDGE FORCED TO PAY RANSOM TO INSURRECTOS. Ransom City, Mex., Dec. 19.—A story repeated here from Havana says a daily of San Luis Potosi, which appeared in its edition of December 15, declared that the photographing of the Chihuahua district, of Judge Ernesto Garcia Leal, of Cusihuicuri, and of his subsequent release on the payment of \$1000 ransom. The money was conveyed by Luis Zoula, a priest, to a point near San Andres.

NEGRO'S VICTIM MAY RECOVER. Marshall, Texas, Dec. 19.—Joel S. Barnes, cashier of the Waterman Lumber company, who was shot by the negro, Edn Wilson, at the mill, 12 miles south of here, Saturday, is reported improved today and may recover. Sheriff Sanders hurried Wilson to Rusk shortly before a crowd of men from the Waterman mill arrived and probably avoided a lynch.

NEGRO KILLS MEXICAN. Lufkin, Texas, Dec. 19.—San Antonio Rodriguez, a Mexican, was shot and killed yesterday at Vahr, near here, by an unknown negro, who afterwards escaped. They had an altercation. Officers are hunting for the negro.

INSURRECTOS CUT THE TRACKS

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DANGER OF EL PASO LOSING FT. BLISS

Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—If El Paso does not get busy there is a chance that El Paso will not only get a regimental post at Fort Bliss, but that Fort Bliss may be abandoned. This is talked of seriously in the war department. If the city gets busy, there is just as much chance of El Paso securing a brigade post.

ARIZONA WORKING FOR SAME THING. Douglas and Bisbee, Ariz., are pulling together for a post on the border near there, and Tucson is also pulling for one at that place.

There is no disposition to further enlarge Fort Bliss until this whole matter is settled. The war department officials do not feel like spending more money on Fort Bliss with the prospects of the big post being located in Arizona, for in the event of such action, Fort Bliss would undoubtedly be abandoned, or at most, would not be enlarged. Fort Bliss once selected as the logical post for the southwest, it would eventually not only become a regimental post, but a brigade post, for it is the policy of the department to create brigade posts, where the troops may have the advantage of brigade and regimental maneuvers, and abandon all the small posts.

SOMEbody MADE A BIG BLUNDER. Who Was It Who Caused the War Scare?—All Say "It Wasn't I."

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 19.—A special from Washington to the Tribune says: "Somebody's blunder was the cause of the 'war scare' which has set official circles topsy turvy for the last few days. The report was entirely ignorant of the contents of the report sent to congress by secretary of war Dickinson and afterward suppressed. "Secretary Dickinson understood that the president had seen and approved the report. The report was prepared by major general Leonard Wood during the absence of the secretary on his trip around the world. General Wood directed that the document be submitted to the president and supposed this had been done, but the report never reached the president's desk. "Secretary Dickinson returned, read the report, and gave it his sanction in the belief that its contents were known to the president."

LORIMER REPORT IS NOT UNANIMOUS. Senator Frazier Says He Dissented and Believes There Was Corruption.

Chatanooga, Tenn., Dec. 19.—United States senator Frazier, of Tennessee, stated today that the Washington dispatches that the senate sub-committee report was unanimous in the Lorimer bribery investigation were incorrect. Senator Frazier says he filed with the full committee a statement disagreeing with the other members of the sub-committee who found the bribery charges not proved. Senator Frazier stated in his report that in his judgment the evidence established the fact that four members of the Illinois legislature who voted for Lorimer were bribed to do so and that they were bribed by three other members of the legislature, who had voted for Lorimer and that his conclusion was that seven of the votes cast for Lorimer were corrupted.

KIDNAPED MERCHANT PAYS \$5000 RANSOM. New Orleans, La., Dec. 19.—Advises received here today from Havana say that A. Dalberto Hems, of Ciego de Avila, the rich merchant who was kidnaped by insurrectos, a notorious bandit, who had kidnaped five prominent Cubans in the last few months, has been released by the bandit. Solis demanded \$5000 for Hems. The money was paid.

EL PASO MEN PULL TRAINS FOR MEXICAN TROOPS. Seeing in Saturday's Herald that Mexican railway men had "cold feet" when it came to moving a troop train, eight El Paso engineers stormed the post office station in Ciudad Juarez, and asked to be "led to it." Of the eight—all but one of whom heard of the demand through The Herald—two were sent down on Saturday night's National Railway train, and from Associated Press dispatches, took out the train of soldiers into the country in arms. They were Adon Smith, Jr., and Voy Petty, both former employees of El Paso roads. It is said that the two men are to receive \$1000 each for the trip.

WILL SUBMIT TWO BALLINGER REPORTS. Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—Majority and minority reports to the special Ballinger-Finchon investigating committee will be reported out of the house committee on agriculture to which it was referred without comment. This will put the matter before the house in the shape the minority members wish and the motion to adopt the majority report will be followed by a motion to substitute the minority report. Considerable speech making is probable before the controversy is out of the way.

POPULATION OF MARSHALL. Washington, D. C., Dec. 19.—The population of Marshall, Texas, is 11,452, compared with 7855 in 1900 and 7207 in 1890.

HAVE INSURRECTOS BOUGHT GUN BOAT?

New Orleans, La., Dec. 19.—Much excitement was created in local American circles this morning when it became known that the former United States gunboat Hornet, purchased several months ago from the government by a local firm, had been coiled, provisioned and a crew signed and that it will make an effort to leave today for the south.

ONE RUMOR IS THAT THE HORNET WILL BE TURNED OVER TO THE MEXICAN INSURRECTOS.

The Hornet was the private yacht of Henry M. Flagler, prior to the Spanish-American war. Some statements of local papers connect the Hornet with the revolutionary movement in Honduras, but former president Bonilla, of that republic, denies any connection with the Hornet. The Hornet cleared this afternoon for Cape Gracias. Included among the crew were several men said to have been connected with previous filibustering expeditions against Central American republics.