

WITH 25,000,000 MEN AND UNLIMITED NATIONAL WEALTH, WE ARE STALLED

(BY H. D. S.)

IT WOULD seem as if the proofs now daily brought forth, of the inadequacy of the size of the army to meet even ordinary requirements, would have some effect on congress; but that is evidently too much to hope for.

When Gen. Funston, responding to a question whether he would send more troops into the Big Bend country of Texas in addition to the 200 men already ordered there, said, "I haven't any more to send," he made an admission that ought to be humiliating to congress, if congress retains a feeling of national responsibility.

With the departure of the last regiments ordered to the border, there will be left, of the mobile army, only five troops of cavalry, 300 men, between the Atlantic seaboard and the Pacific coast. In all the extent of the United States, nearly 3000 miles across, there will not be enough regular troops left to guard public property, or to meet the least emergency requirement of a serious strike, riot, or conflagration.

There will be no troops left in the interior, and except for a few hundred cavalry and infantry in coast garrisons or in New England, there will be no troops anywhere except coast artillery, in numbers hardly sufficient to protect and man the fortifications for temporary defense against sea attack.

If the government desires to augment, for any reason, the body of regular troops now engaged in Mexican border operations, it will be necessary to use

the coast artillery as infantry, or to call out enough of the national guard to relieve for field service all regular troops not actually engaged in the expeditionary operations.

The national guard of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona has already been called out, for border guard purposes, and this will temporarily relieve a like number of regulars for emergency duties—possibly 4000 men will be available through this means.

It ought not to be necessary to pursue this sorrowful analysis of a humiliating situation. But the average citizen does not appear to have the slightest conception of the degree to which the military preparedness of the nation has been neglected. If the United States army were equivalent in numbers, proportionate to population, to the police force of New York or Philadelphia, it would have 250,000 men. But the house of representatives insists that 140,000 will be sufficient, and all demands for the slight increase necessary to give the army even passable standing as a national protective force are met with the detestable smirking about "militarism."

The total force of the regular army in continental United States that can be classed as "mobile" or detachable for field service anywhere, was only 25,000 or 30,000 men before the Mexican border troubles began, and with more than half of these on Mexican soil and practically the entire remainder on border patrol duty, it is easy to see what the condition is now over a national territory of 3,000,000 square miles. To all intents and purposes, our available regular army in the United States now amounts to the "menace" of 1 soldier to 350,000 of the population.

If operations in Mexico, on the border, or anywhere else should soon require the calling out of the whole national guard, that would add hardly more than 100,000 to the available forces, and the country would be squarely up against the problem of immediately organizing a new volunteer army, of untrained men having no such military preparation as would make

them useful within four to six months of their enlistment. A little revolt in the Philippines, or a bit of trouble in Cuba, the Canal strip, or anywhere else where our interests extend, would seriously embarrass us at this juncture.

With 25,000,000 men in the United States of military age and theoretically available for military duty; with practically unlimited wealth in money and resources; with manufacturing industries of unparalleled extent and diversity; we witness this "greatest nation in the world" dependent on such expedients as "adding 50 men to the Texas ranger force" to protect its most vital interests. The only comparison that comes to mind is to imagine New York city depending for its fire fighting upon an old fashioned Spodunk volunteer fire company of the year 1816 with a hand pump and six little red fire buckets.

If the United States had been using a military system something like the Swiss system, which is the most democratic system in the world, there would be 5,000,000 or 10,000,000 men in the United States today, all suitably trained in elementary military knowledge and marksmanship, all in good physical condition, all carefully classified and listed, all perfectly familiar with the details of quick mobilization at any point for any purpose, all organized suitably in the military units from a corporal's squad to an army corps, and available at any moment, on call of the president and the war department, to furnish 100 men or 1,000,000 men in uniformed ranks, with arms in their hands, and with that alertness and fitness that come only with training, practice, and proper teaching.

The El Paso Herald believes that the whole volunteer system is unqualifiedly wrong in principle and in practice. The Herald believes that the most democratic, patriotic, and practical system is that of universal military training in time of peace, and universal response to the call of public service in time of war. It should rest with the national authorities, not with the individual citizen, to determine in an emergency

whether a man can best serve his country in the ranks at the fighting front, or in the industries and miscellaneous occupations behind the lines.

The Herald is opposed to any and every plan that involves leaving it to individual judgment and decision whether a man shall serve his country or not, in a supreme emergency. It should be left to the national authorities to "call to the colors" as might be necessary, such "classes" of trained reservists as might be needed to meet a regular army of at least 200,000 should be maintained at all times, since this would mean only 100,000 available as a "mobile army" in continental United States, and that is equivalent to only 40 percent or two-fifths the strength of the New York city, Philadelphia, Chicago, or St. Louis police force in proportion to population.

And in comparing with city police forces, no account is taken of the fact that, in any big emergency, a city can call upon a strongly manned fire department, and upon county and state peace officers, and finally upon militia, in numbers very greatly exceeding the city police, so that efficient reserve forces are always available in city police work that are not available to the nation as a whole.

It does not seem like a fit time for the congress of the United States to be haggling over the increase of the mobile army from 30,000 men to 100,000. The house of representatives plan would leave a mobile army of only 40,000 to 50,000 men, after all deductions have been made for overseas garrisons, coast defense, caretakers of public property, and noncombatant branches of the service. The senate figure of 250,000 for the whole strength of the regular army is not too large, but 200,000 ought to be set as an absolute minimum.

Boiling them in oil or melted lead might cure some folks of whispering at the movies or telling the story of the play at the theater.

Short Snatches From Everywhere

CARRANZA seems to be much stronger for the recall than the initiative.—Columbia State.

It is now reported that Gen. Carranza has invented a peso worth ten cents.—Dallas News.

Any connection between leap year and the British seizure of mail?—Wall Street Journal.

One trouble with the pacifists is they do not realize that it takes two to keep the peace.—New York Herald.

Henry Ford now says he believes in reasonable preparedness. Who is corrupting this man?—New York Tribune.

Justice Hughes's silence is getting so intense that it can be distinctly heard all over the country.—Chicago Herald.

Villa may derive some consolation from the thought that the whipping he's getting hurts us more than it does him.—Washington Post.

The Italian campaign has at least shown that the Italians are among the greatest mountain-climbers the world has ever known.—Chicago Herald.

It is an unfortunate and perhaps peculiar coincidence that our Italian crisis with Germany and Mexico have twice come at about the same time.—Chicago Herald.

Peace with Germany and Mexico, but the war clouds which envelop secretary Daniels and rear admiral Fiske are too dense to be dispelled.—Los Angeles Tribune.

We recur to the old-fashioned man for the reason that we wish to ask what became of the one who used to refer to the Japs as "a wonderful little people."—Topeka Capital.

A Texas man has discovered a way to inoculate the peanut and increase the yield from 300 to 500 percent. Now if he would only inoculate the peanut politicians with the virus of silence he would be hailed far and wide as a public benefactor.—New Orleans States.

Marc Antony Busy Falling In And Out Of Love No Record Of His Amorous Affairs Ever Kept

by HOWARD L. RANN.

MARC ANTONY was a distinguished Roman citizen whose principal business seems to have been to fall in and out of love. No record of the number of times Antony fell in love has ever been kept, as there were no multiple adding machines in those days, but from what we know of him he made Nat Goodwin look like a 20 to 1 shot.

Antony was one of the handsomest men that ever wore the Roman toga draped gracefully about his fetlocks. Wherever he went he was recognized at once by his nose, which protruded from the rest of his face like some beetling cliff. Whenever Antony became engaged his nose would beetle in a very threatening manner, and cause timid people to regret having brought up the subject. He was a brave man, and was not afraid to die, and when he was not falling in love with somebody he could be found at the head of the Roman hollow square, charging into the very midst of the enemy with his aquiline nose at "present arms."



Antony spent the winter telling Cleopatra that she was the only pebble on the beach.

a low, vibrating gurgle. The Roman senate did not like Cleopatra or the way she wore her hair, and decided to expunge Antony from the minutes of the preceding meeting. This was done in 31 B. C. in a brilliant naval battle, during which Antony's fleet was sunk with considerable ardor off the coast of Greece. Antony escaped by plugging up his legs and swimming an incredible distance on foot, and spent the following winter telling Cleopatra that she was the only pebble on the beach. The pictures of Cleopatra which show her leaning against a nine-foot diamond, wearing an incredulous look and not much of anything else, were taken at this time.

Antony's finish came the following spring, when his army deserted, thus leaving his flank exposed. When this occurred, Antony was seated on Cleopatra's divan, teaching her how to play "The Rosary" on the lute, and when he looked around and saw the condition of his flank he was overcome with remorse. Uttering a graceful apology, he retired and soon afterward was found to have committed suicide with both hands.

The lesson taught by the life, services and career of Marc Antony is that love which fits from flower to flower is bound to get stung.

Before a fourth court is demanded? And yet the financial affairs of the county are in such shape that jurors serving last December have not yet been paid, and the script, to the discredit of the county, is being hawked on the streets.

TWO MILITARY FUNERALS WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY

Joint military funeral services for Corp. Thomas Strong of company A, Seventh Infantry, who was found in his tent with a bullet in his body Sunday afternoon, and Pvt. Thomas Stevenson, also of company A, will be held Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock at the Peak Undertaking parlors, 593 Texas street.

Pvt. Stevenson died Sunday night at Ft. Bliss, after a brief illness. The bodies will be escorted to the union station, where the remains of Corp. Strong will be shipped to Alto, N. M., and the body of Pvt. Stevenson, to his former home in Dyersburg, Tennessee.

SILVER CITY VISITORS POSTPONE EL PASO TRIP

As most of the men of Silver City belong to the national guard and have, therefore, been ordered to duty, the proposed visit of the delegation of Silver City men to El Paso for Wednesday has been indefinitely called off.

ABE MARTIN



Of all th' concealed weapons th' onion breath is th' worst. Even th' weather reports are denied th' next day.

BODY OF NEGRO BOY FOUND IN CANAL; WAS DROWNED

The body of Henry Freeman, the negro boy who was drowned in the Franklin canal at Eighth street Sunday evening, was found eight miles below the city in the canal Monday night by a searching party which had been patrolling the canal in search of the boy's body.

The body had lodged against a support of a small bridge over the canal and it was found there and brought back to the city.

RODEO MAN DIES HERE

Asa Owen Garland died Monday night in a local hospital after an illness of some time. He came to El Paso about two weeks ago from Rodeo, N. M., and entered a hospital for treatment. Burial will be made Thursday.

JULIAN REULAS STRUCK BY LAUNDRY TRUCK; LEG HURT

Julian Reulas, a five-year-old boy, was injured on the legs Monday afternoon about six o'clock when he was struck by an automobile truck owned by the El Paso Laundry company.

LETTERS TO THE HERALD

(All communications must bear the signature of the writer, but the same will be withheld if requested)

"FOREIGN" DAMAGE SUITS.

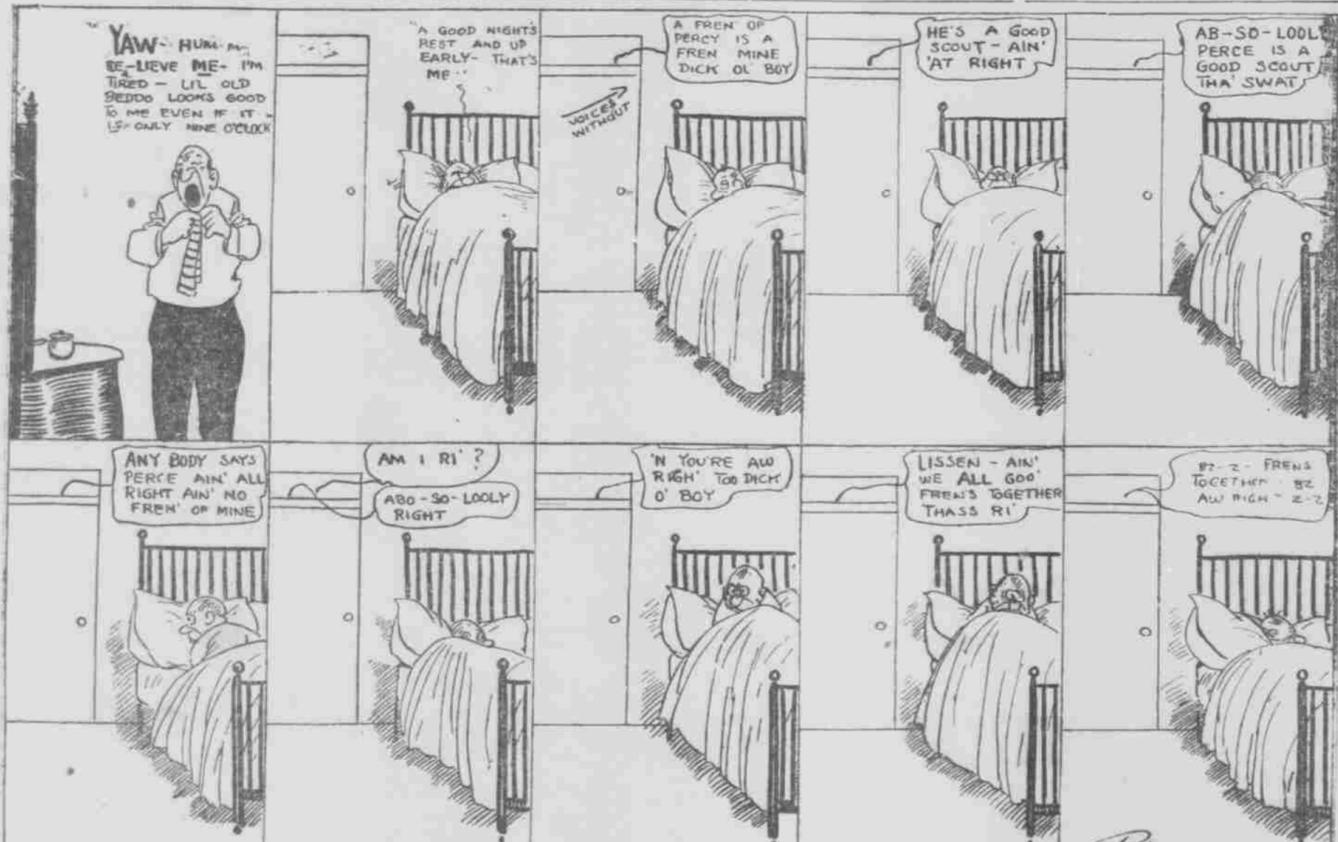
Editor El Paso Herald: In a recent issue of the Herald, P. E. Gardner had an interview claiming to be an answer to a local item in The Herald calling attention to how El Paso is being made the "goat" in the way of paying out by the people living in California, Arizona, and New Mexico, who think or have been persuaded they have grievances against railroads. Most of the interview is an arraignment of the judiciary and the railroad ownership of a state; a style of argument long since everywhere repudiated by the facts. In passing, it may be noted that this arraignment is wisely and safely published in Texas and not in California, where contempt of court proceedings would be apt to ensue.

"Free and Independent El Paso," he writes a touching tale of an "eminent doctor," of course with capitalistic connections, being throttled and terrorized into silence. But strangely enough there are two most important omissions from the story. The first of the public would like to know the doctor's name, Mr. Gardner. Also who "examined" him from testifying? Was it the courts, or did you merely and sympathetically help him keep his job with the mysterious corporation?

The most glaring inconsistency in the interview is where it is stated jurors get the same pay while idle as when serving in the jury box. Everyone knows this is not so. On the contrary, they know if out courts were not crowded with 70 or more railroad damage suits, dragged in here from distant states (and the flood is still continuing) that the county would be saved many thousand dollars of jury fees, not to mention other court costs, mounting into thousands of dollars. Our district courts have been increased from two to three, and the time of one of these courts for a whole year will be consumed in the trial of railroad damage suits alone. How long

Movie of a Man Trying to Sleep In a Hotel Room

By Briggs



ADOLESCENTS TO HAVE ANNUAL ELECTION WEDNESDAY NOON

The Adelsch will elect officers Wednesday at the luncheon to be held in the Sheldon grill. In addition to the annual election of officers, there will be a program at the luncheon.

SCHOOL ALUMNI MEETING

The high school alumni association will meet tonight in the high school at 7:30 o'clock. A busy evening will be held and will precede the business meeting and program. Miss Betty Mary Smith will give a reading. Mrs. Walter H. How will sing. Edgar W. Kayser will give reminiscences on the student life of the school. Miss Claudia Graham and Miss Paul Harper will talk on the "New Voters. Miss Erin Middleton will play a violin solo and there will be an athletic dance given by a group of the high school girls from the physical training classes.

SMALL BLAZE TUESDAY

An alarm of fire turned in Tuesday afternoon from 1615 East Rio Grande street called the department to the home of R. W. McClintock. The fire originated in a trash pile and did no damage.

CHARGED WITH DISTURBING PEACE

Ernest Mack was arrested Monday night in the rear of the Lyric theater on a charge of disturbing the peace. He was alleged to have threatened Frank Williams, the proprietor of the theater.

Tin Cans

IN OLDEN days, the which I praise, as warmly as I'm able, we raised our beans and other greens out back behind the stable. A garden plot behind his cot each man inaugurated, and there he'd raise the peas and maize, and vines with pumpkins weighted. There dad would toil, and slug the soil, his busy boys around him, and he'd have beets and kindred eats when wintery tempests found him. This good old plan by modern man, no more, alas, is followed; but at the stars he blows his ore for everything that's swallowed. He used to pluck the garden truck, and eat it fresh and juicy, and there was lots for it, for tots, for Jake and Bill and Lucy. His grocer's bill then didn't kill it, it was no grief to meet it; his bill of fare was rich and rare, and no hotel could beat it. In those old days the poorest jays set up the best of tables; but now man eats his greens and beets from cans with gaudy labels.

(Protected by the Adams Newspaper service.) WALT MASON.

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 15 years; J. C. Wilsmuth is Manager and G. A. Martin is News Editor.

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