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MEXICO ADDS TO HER TROUBLES

The killing of seventeen Americans by order of a Mexican bandit, said to be an officer of Villa's staff, is added proof of the chaotic conditions that have prevailed in Mexico for the past four years.

Mexico needs a strong man at the head of its government, and until another of the commanding ability of Porfirio Diaz shall appear, a state of chaos and anarchy is likely to continue.

Mexico is not yet completely civilized, as a matter of fact, if there be any such thing as complete civilization. If she were, a stable government could be organized and maintained without a continuous spilling of the blood of her own people and that of other nations in her country.

BERING RIVER COAL FIELD DEVELOPMENT

A Seattle dispatch published in The Empire of yesterday, carried the news that a Seattle corporation proposes to develop a 1150-acre coal claim in the Bering River coal field, patent to which was granted recently.

Alaska needs smelters for the treatment of its copper and other smelting ores, and these will be provided, without doubt, whenever a sufficient supply of coal and coke can be had.

AUSTRIA'S TECHNICALITIES

The matters dealt with in the Austrian note are purely technical. Who would imagine from a superficial reading that American citizens had been murdered on the high seas?

The present demand for intervention in Mexico is more justifiable than any previous pressure for action.

But is it really imperative? Secretary Lansing has made the issue clear according to telegraphic dispatches received by The Empire. The Secretary of State says his department took every possible precaution to prevent Americans from exposing their lives in regions where Mexican guerilla warfare was in progress.

An Eastern manufacturing concern sent a message of cheer to the thrifty of Seattle on January 1, through a paid advertisement telegraphed to a Seattle newspaper, which assured them that McDash's Bitters were immune from the operation of the State's prohibitory law.

To a man who has no axe to grind, it would appear that the sooner Juneau owns its own water system, the better will it be for the people.

The Alaska-Juneau Mining Company's big new mill, work on which will be actively commenced in the spring, will be another monument to Juneau's marvelous mining resources.

"FORWARD—MARCH!"

Under the above caption the Chicago Herald publishes an interesting editorial, the advice of which other cities, individuals and nations might well heed.

The Empire has similar sentiments and for that reason the editorial is republished herewith: Yesterday the order was "Rest!" Today it is "Forward—March!" The day of retrospection ends.

To individual, nation, state and city alike comes this imperious call of duty and the highest form of self-interest. March forward with high hopes—for they are justified; with brave hearts—for they are needed; with good courage—for it will surely win.

"Forward—march!" citizens of this great republic. Close up the ranks! Let discord, bickering and division have an end! Let there be full and final agreement on the great essentials of national life and loyalty!

"Forward—march!" members of our great industrial organization, to richer returns and to comforts more widely diffused than the world has ever known before!

"Forward—march!" citizens of Chicago—citizens "of no mean city" indeed! A great campaign awaits you! Of your concerted effort better shall be born to bless all unobscured spots and them that know no beauty!

Never doubted clouds would break; Held we fall to rise, are baffled to fight better, Sleep to wake!

The Ketchikan Progressive Miner, in its zeal to serve the people of Alaska and serve them right, declares that all whose ambition it is to become a delegate to Congress from Alaska should come forward and give the people a chance to study their qualifications and standing.

The Canadian Premier announces Canada will authorize an army of 500,000 men. Canada is showing what can be done by a free country—if it fortunately happens to have the time to do it.—(Chicago Herald.)

Mme. Schwimmer's method of enforcing peace resembles Mr. Roosevelt's scheme for preparation for war. As a true militant, the lady belongs in Oyster Bay, rather than in Stockholm.—(New York World.)

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The Joe Miller Contest.
Julius Efron, of Dover, Ky., sends this in as the latest joke:
A farmer was digging potatoes in a field when a smart salesman came along.
"Have you lived here all your life," asked the salesman. "Not yet," replied the farmer.
Well! Well!
From Washington comes the startling news that Corporal Adam N. Eves has deserted from the United States Marine Corps. Adam N. Eves is requested to report at the Names Is Names Club as he is one of the candidates for President of the club.
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