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BY THE
BROWNSVILLE HERALD PUB. CO.
Founded July 4, 1893.
Oldest daily paper on the Lower Gulf Coast.
Carries largest telegraph service of any paper
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Evening Daily and Saturday Weekly.
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Daily, one month \$ 50
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Weekly, one year \$1.50
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Entered as second-class matter in the post
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FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1916

CARRANZA IS BADLY ADVISED.

Under ordinary circumstances, none
could blame the Mexican de facto govern-
ment for requesting the withdrawal of the
American troops from Mexican soil. Bel-
gium sacrificed almost the last vestige of
national existence, ran the risk of com-
plete annihilation, and has paid almost the
last drop of her people's blood for her re-
fusal to permit Germany's troops even to
march through her territory to attack, not
Belgium, but France. But in the case of
Mexico, the circumstances are so differ-
ent, that it would seem as if reason and
justice would convince the heads of the
de facto government that the United States
has done it no wrong, has, in fact, done
the only thing possible to do under the
circumstances, in sending an army to pur-
sue and punish the bandit organization of
Francisco Villa after the attack upon Col-
umbus and massacre of its people by that
same Villa.

And, if the Columbus raid gave justifi-
cation for the Pershing punitive expedi-
tion, the Boquillas outrage, by another
Villa, gave similar grounds for the Sibbey-
Langhorne chase after the Boquillas band-
its.

General Carranza should realize that, by
virtue of its recognition of him and his or-
ganization, as the visible authority and
government of Mexico, the United States
proved itself his friend. He should recog-
nize further that the infliction of the bandit
outrages at Columbus and Boquillas was
in reality a result of that very act on our
part—that they were committed in re-
tribution by the discredited Villa, for the
very purpose of making it apparent that
Carranza could not control the bandits or
maintain peace and order within the re-
gion still held by them, could not insure
the safety of those unprotected and iso-
lated towns on the American border.

General Carranza should realize further
that, in assuming a threatening attitude
towards the United States, he is turning
against his best friend. He should re-
member that, while this country placed
an embargo upon all arms and ammunition
being shipped to Villa, it at the same time
gave him free access to the markets of
this country to supply his own army with
the means of fighting Villa. He should
realize also that this further act on our
part was only that much more aggrava-
tion of the Villa enemy toward us, and
made probable such evidences of his
hatred as the border outrages have given.

It was wiser on the part of Don Ven-
ustiano to listen to the counsel of his minis-
ter of war, General Obregon, who, if report
be true, has been convinced of the purely
friendly intentions of the United States in
sending the punitive expedition after Villa.
While in conference with General Scott at
El Paso, General Obregon seemed to be
fully impressed with the fact that our in-
tentions were nothing but friendly, also
that we had just cause for pursuing the
Villa band which has invaded this country
and committed murder and arson, and fur-
ther that it was in reality the duty of Mex-
ico to co-operate with us in the pursuit
and punishment of Villa as a common
enemy of ours and of the de facto govern-
ment. Had General Carranza been able
to view the matter from this standpoint,
there would be no room for disagreement
between old friends, and the incident might
be ended even now without any untoward
consequences.

"Now is the winter of our discontent
made glorious summer" by these generous
Magie Valley watermelon patches. Let the
Mexican middle continue to muddle along
as it will, let Europe continue to fight out
its big fight, let the battle of Verdun con-
tinue to swing pendulum-like from day to
day, let the sub continue to sub, let earth,
water and air go on in their own sweet
way—all, all is naught to us, for it is June,
and there are those tempting parcels of
juicy sweetmeats, the Lower Rio Grande
Valley watermelons, "a smilin' on the
vine."

Score another victory for President Wil-
son, in the confirmation of the appoint-
ment of Louis J. Brandeis as supreme
court justice.

Looks as if former President Taft had
made a slight mistake in his opposition to
Brandeis, since so many republicans in the
senate voted with the democrats to con-
firm the nomination.

With Other Editors

Greatest Battle in History.

The battle for Verdun goes on. It may
be, as observers have stated, that Verdun
has been exaggerated out of all propor-
tion to its importance from a military
point of view, but so long as the gigantic
struggle continues the world will not have
it so. In the popular imagination ver-
dun symbolizes, dramatizes, the whole
war. It presents something tangible that
is being fought for. It is known that the
Germans and the French are making su-
preme efforts there, and not a few per-
sons believe that the battle for Verdun,
which has long since become the greatest
in history will prove the decisive battle of
the war.

That is why for thousands of people
the news from Verdun is the most impor-
tant feature of the daily war reports. For
two months the successful defense of the
French has been interpreted as a victory,
the greatest Allied victory since the Marne.
The French have been victorious, but so
great has been the German effort that the
situation has called for a new victory
every day.—Brooklyn Eagle.

A Promising Candidate.

Colquitt is now promising to do all man-
ner of things for Texas if elected to the
United States senate. Campaign prom-
ises are easy to make, and apparently
easier to break. When Colquitt made his
first campaign for governor of Texas we
heard him make one speech. If the prom-
ises made by him at that speech were
kept the record was lost.—Seignin Enter-
prise.

Teddy's Chances.

Those who do not want Theodore Roose-
velt nominated for the republican candi-
dacy at Chicago are going to have the
hardest time of their lives. The ex-presi-
dent is resourceful, he is vital, and he has
a host of loyal followers.—Columbus En-
terprise.

The Despoilers of Mexico.

Oil operators in the Tampico district of
Mexico wired President Wilson that their
rights were violated by the Carranza
government. Some oil operators in Mex-
ico scrupulously regard the rights of
others. They obtained their concessions
from Mexico; they have made their wealth
in Mexico; for a time they controlled the
Mexican government, and at no time did
they lose sleep over the despoilation of the
natives of that unhappy land. There are
two sides to this Mexican controversy and
the original instigators of the trouble were
Europeans and Americans. They thought
they owned Mexico; when they awakened
they didn't own it.—Fort Worth Record.

Same Old Story—Whose Ox?

When the Wilson note went to Germany,
England and France said the president was
a great statesman and friend of humanity;
now that they have received a note, they
think the president is playing politics. A
president can please some of the nations
all of the time, and he can please all of
the nations a part of the time, but he can-
not tickle all of the nations all the time.—
Houston Post.

Texas Items Being Looked After.

Texas items in the rivers and harbors
bill are receiving considerate treatment at
the hands of congress. Why not? Texas
has the coast line, the harbors, and semi-
navigable rivers. Shipping is paramount
today and the American flag will be seen
on the seven seas. Activity in shipping
demands facilities.—Fort Worth Star-tele-
gram.

How Our Products Go to Waste.

The berries are already on hand, the
fruits and vegetables will soon be here. As
usual great quantities of each will be wasted,
be permitted to go to waste because the
people who produce them are not prepared
with home canning outfits to can all that
cannot be sold in their ripe state. Several
millions of dollars worth of all kinds of
orchard products are lost each year, which
should be made assets for the farm, gar-
den and orchard owners. There is no ser-
ious obstacle to using these products ex-
cept lack of interest in canning them. Hunt
county has thousands of dollars worth of
all kinds of products go to waste annually.
The money which could be gotten out of
comparing these things is needed right here in
Hunt county and had this waste been turned
into useful channels the people of the
county would be by far wealthier than they
are and wealthier than they are going to
be if they continue this wasteful practice.
—Greenville Baiter.

A Good Character After All.

Some one has advanced the opinion that
the letter "e" is the most unfortunate char-
acter in the English alphabet, because it is
always out of cash, forever in debt,
never out of danger and in hell all the time.
For some reason, he overlooked the fortu-
nates of the letter, so we call his attention
to the fact that "e" is never in war and
always in peace. It is the beginning of ex-
istence, the commencement of ease and the
end of trouble. Without it there would be
no meat, no life and no heaven. It is the
center of honesty, makes love perfect and
without it there could be no editors, devils
or news.—Fourth Estate.

RAMSHACKLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

BY RICHARD S. CHILDS

(The following is the third install-
ment of the subjoined story the first of
which appeared in Wednesday's edition
The final installment will appear in The
Herald tomorrow.)

Patchwork Legislation.

So the state legislature steps in and
every time one county official is improp-
er to some other county official somebody
takes the train to the capital and a new
law is passed to rectify the difficulty.
In effect these interminable minute
memoranda, called laws, lay down the
office rules of county government and
attempt to decree fraternal love among
county officers. Witness the plea, made
on behalf of the sheriff of Rensselaer
County, exhibited in the title of the fol-
lowing bill, which passed the New York
legislature of 1915:

An act providing for the appoint-
ment by the sheriff of Rensselaer
county, of an under sheriff, jailers,
watchman, matron, cooks, janitors,
process servers, firemen and court
officers and for their compensation
and duties.

Perhaps the supervisors had been
stingy, perhaps the sheriff's ideas were
extravagant, but the point is that when
under the present system two branches
of the county government disagree, this
ridiculous spectacle of the state legisla-
ture solemnly enacting a law settling
the salary of the cook of a certain coun-
ty jail exhibits the typical method of
relief. This endless legislative tinkering,
even if it were always sincerely
mainly unrepented and forgotten on the
done, serves its temporary purpose, re-
statute books and becomes a permanent
nuisance. The usual remedy, if a county
officer fails to come up to these written
requirements is some kind of a manda-
mus proceedings or action by the dis-
trict attorney against the county officer
or his bondsman.

A county official is lucky if he has a
really clear idea of what his own duties
are. The much patched and often con-
tradictory statutes which are supposed to
govern his administrative procedure
in detail are scattered through from
three to twenty different general laws.
As a rule he is no lawyer and if he un-
derstands the research his term might end
before he was ready for business. Ac-
cordingly tradition becomes the guiding
star of every county officer, for no mat-
ter how slight and innocent a variation he
may make from precedent in the in-
terests of efficiency, he is liable to find
that he is violating some unheard-of
statute. Many of the laws are out of
date, anyway, and county officials, re-
volting at the senseless red tape, often
disregard them for the sake of the tax-
payers. That is why every student of

county government soon finds that the
laws in the library give him an incor-
rect idea of what county officials are
doing.

To turn back to Westchester County
again, which is quoted so often here be-
cause it is the most thoroughly explored
county government in the United States
the officials of the County Research Bu-
reau, after working for six years in in-
timate touch with county problems, de-
clare that their county could be run
better for less than half the present cost
and with half the number of men. But
they freely concede that they would not
care to undertake it without radical re-
vision of the laws and governmental or-
ganization.

Obscurity and the Long Ballot.

No one can peer into the cobwebs of
county government without developing
the deepest sympathy for the many con-
scientious and unappreciated public ser-
vants who are trying to operate the pre-
sent antiquated mechanism. The same
obscurity which protects the crook also
prevents good work from being reward-
ed. Theoretically the public official
who does his duty will be promptly sup-
ported by public opinion, but the fact is
that the people of the county know
very little about his official conduct and
if he comes in conflict with some other
officer, the people, who constitute his en-
emy court of appeal, are in no position to
determine the merits of the controversy.
There are so many office holders to watch
that public opinion is baffled and ends
by keeping track of almost none of them.
The voter has four national officers to
select a dozen state and judicial officers
and a string of township and village or
city officials, anywhere from thirty to a
hundred altogether, to be selected in the
course of four year cycle. What a chance
has this or that county officer to get into
the spotlight where his good deeds may
be appreciated? He is only one of from
two hundred to fourteen hundred office
holders who are elective in the county.
He is lost in the shuffle. The people of
the county may happen to be familiar
with his personality—in rural counties
they often are—but there still remains
the impossible task for them to keep
track of his official activities and ap-
praise his work, which, of course, is
largely technical. The county clerk in
New York, for example, is elected. It
is therefore presumably the duty of the
people, and of no one else, to see that he
performs his duty under the penal law,
banking law, executive law, tax law, do-
mestic relations law, partnership law,
public officers' law, general business
law, real property law, legislative law,
town law, decedent estate law and coun-
ty law!

BIRTHDAYS TODAY TODAY IN HISTORY

Col. Ruffin Golsen Pleasant, the new
Governor of Louisiana, and a member of
the new school of political leaders in the
South, is 45 years old today. Along the
Gulf, everybody knows Col. Pleasant. He
was finishing his law studies in northern
colleges when the Spanish War broke out.
Hastening home, he organized a volunteer
regiment, the First Louisiana Infantry, and
equipped the organization in record time.
After disbandment of his regiment, Col.
Pleasant began law practice at Shreveport.
Within a few years he was city attorney. In
1911 he was made assistant attorney of
the state, and in the following year was
elected Attorney General. Col. Pleasant
was born at Shiloh, La., June 2, 1871. He
attended various colleges in Louisiana, in-
cluding the State University, and studied
law at Harvard and Yale. While he was
city attorney at Shreveport he married one
of the belles of that city, Miss Anne Ector,
daughter of a general in the Confederate
army. The executive mansion at Baton
Rouge is the scene of pleasant entertain-
ment and social center of Louisiana. Col.
Pleasant is extremely popular not only in
his own state but throughout the entire
South. He is of the new school of polit-
ical leaders that are eliminating the issues
of the past and focussing attention on the
problems of the present day.

Richard H. Ashton, the new president of
the Chicago & Northwestern R. R., 56 years
old today.
Dr. A. Mitchell Carroll, archaeologist and
educator, 46 years old today.
Dr. Thomas G. Gerdine, geographer of
the U. S. Geological Survey, 44 years old
today.
Lulu Glaser, popular musical comedy
star, 42 years old today.
Felix Weingartner, noted musical con-
ductor and composer, 53 years old today.
Thomas Hardy, popular English novel-
list, 76 years old today.

The Yellow Peril Fading.

The figures of coming and going Japa-
nese between Yokohama and the United
States should lessen the alarm of the most
alarmed Californians. According to an
investigation of the Kanagawa prefectural
authorities the total number of Japanese
who arrived at Yokohama from America,
Hawaii and Canada during February of
this year was 500; of these, 364, came
from America, 169 from Hawaii and 27
from Canada. The total number who left
Yokohama for these countries the same
month was 462, of whom 262 went to
America, 146 to Hawaii and 54 to Canada.

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO TODAY

1915—THE WAR
Austro-German forces recaptured Prezem-
ysl from the Russians.
Italian war vessels raid Trieste harbor.
British forces advance in Mesopotamia
thirty miles north of Kurna.
British capture German trenches at Giv-
enchy.

Somebody.

Somebody did a golden deed;
Somebody proved a friend in need;
Somebody sang a beautiful song;
Somebody smiled the whole day long;
Somebody thought: "Tis sweet to live;"
Somebody said: "I'm glad to give;"
Somebody fought a valiant fight;
Somebody lived to shield the right;
Was that "somebody" you?

Liquor Vendors Restricted in Bay State.

BOSTON, June 2.—Under a new law,
in effect today, the transportation of li-
quor by licensed dealers from a license
community into a no-license city or town
is prohibited. The temperance forces have
fought for years to secure this legislation.

BROWNSVILLE BANK & TRUST CO.

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The First National Bank

Of Brownsville, Texas

United States Depository
CAPITAL (Paid In) \$100,000
SURPLUS AND
UNDIVIDED PROFITS \$200,000

Merchants National Bank

Brownsville, Texas

CAPITAL STOCK Paid 100,000.00 \$200,000.00
From Earnings \$100,000.00
SURPLUS FUND (Earned) \$122,500.00

Four Per Cent Interest Paid On Time And Savings Deposits

A. ASHDEEM, President and Cashier O. C. SAUDER, Vice President

State Bank & Trust Co.

A Guaranty Fund Bank
Brownsville, Texas

The Price of Liberty.

We have enjoyed liberty and order so
long that we have forgotten how they
came. Our people assume that they came
as the air comes. They have assumed
that they will of their nature and by their
own force continue forever without ef-
fort. Ah, no! Liberty has always been
born of struggle. It has not come save
through sacrifice and the blood of mar-
tyrs and the devotion of mankind. And
it is not to be preserved except by jeal-
ous watchfulness and stern determination
always to be free. That eternal vigilance
is the price of liberty is so much a truism
that it has lost its meaning, but it is an
eternal truth.—Elihu Root in Leslie's.

Southern Mayor Meet for Defense.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., June 2.—One
of the most important meetings in the in-
terests of greater national defense is the
conference of Mayor of American cities,
which opens here today. Mayor Jesse L.
Littleton of Chattanooga called the con-
ference, at the suggestion of mayors who
attended the recent conference in St.
Louis. Many cities in the south are re-
presented, and some prominent northern

GREAT OLD REMEDY FOR SKIN DISEASES

S. S. S. Drives Poison From the System.

Get it fixed in your mind that skin
eruptions, Scrofula, Eczema, burning
itching skin, and all skin diseases are
due entirely to impure blood. If the
trouble was on the outside of the skin,
by simply washing and keeping it clean
you could obtain relief—not even out-
ments and salves would be neces-
sary. Agree with us in this be-
lief, and you can be restored to
health. S. S. S. is a purely vegetable
treatment that you can secure from
your own druggist—it is a blood tonic
that will purify your blood and cause
a decided abatement of your trouble,
and finally make you well. Fifty years
ago S. S. S. was discovered and given
to suffering mankind. During this
period it has proven its remarkable
curative properties as a blood purifier
and tonic. Has relieved thousands of
cases of disease caused by impure blood,
and chronic or inherited blood diseases.
You can be relieved, but you must take
S. S. S. Therefore be sure. Don't take
chances, don't use lotions. Get S. S. S.
from your druggist. If you are a spe-
cial case, write for expert medical ad-
vice to Swift Specific Co., Atlanta, Ga.

mayors are also here. It is expected that
the conference will give expression to the
real feeling of the South and Southwest.

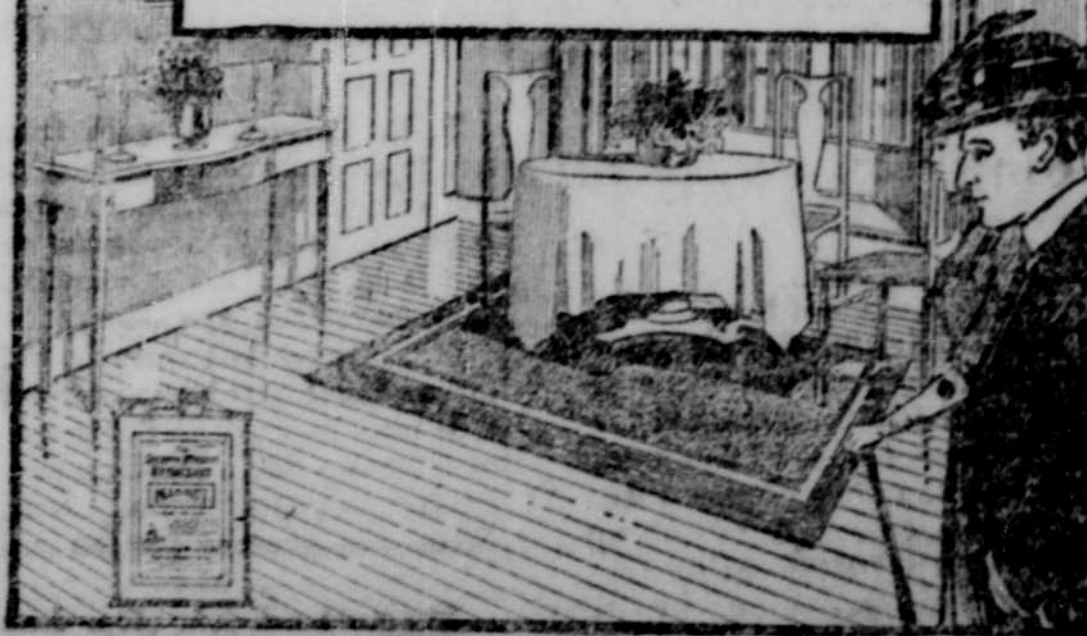
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REGISTERED
A WATERPROOF FLOOR VARNISH

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well and lasts for the longest possible
time in spite of the wear and constant
washing a floor must get.

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