

TWO ARMY AIRPLANE STORM FORCEFULLY ESCAPE DEATH IN A SNOW STORM

Forced to Land in Chocolate Pass to Avoid a Collision With Rocky Cliff; Machine so Laden With Sleet and Snow, Impossible to Rise; Mexicans Friendly and Want Villa Caught; Getting Good Lessons.

BY GEORGE H. CLEMENTS.

FIELD HEADQUARTERS, Punitive Expedition U. S. Army, near Nueva Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, April 22 (By truck trail to Columbus, N. M., April 22).—Two of the airplane operating flying machines in connection with this expedition between these headquarters and the advanced base at Namiquipa had an experience, thrilling in the extreme and one which they will remember long after the object of the expedition has been achieved.

Blinded by Snow. The pilot and an officer as observer were making their way back from Namiquipa to their headquarters yesterday through a most violent storm of wind, rain, snow and sleet and had reached a point about half way through Chocolate Pass when a sudden rift showed the machine speeding head on into the face of an almost perpendicular cliff not more than a quarter of a mile ahead.

Saved in Bare Time. Both men saw their danger at the same moment and shouted to each other. The pilot, who was at the wheel, with great presence of mind, with less than a half minute to spare, turned abruptly to the right, and dipping at the same time, dropped below the storm cloud and found a safe landing place within a mile or two of a small collection of huts occupied by Mexican farmers.

Starbuck, Ice Encumbered, Falls. The machine was so filled with snow and sleet that it could not be made to rise again and the flyers were compelled to seek shelter with the Mexicans till the storm blew itself out and the machine could be dried out. They were treated with marked consideration by the farmers, who gave them food and insisted upon their occupying the best beds in the houses. This morning the farmers sent messengers to headquarters with notes from the aviators asking that help be sent them.

Near Being Dashed to Death. "It was an experience I do not care to repeat," said the captain, as he recounted the details of the trip after reaching camp tonight. "We were near death and the flyers were in need for comfort; another half minute and we would have been dashed against the face of an almost perpendicular cliff, which would have meant the destruction of the machine and the falling of ourselves a distance of from 1000 to 1500 feet."

Worst Storm He Ever Saw. "The storm was the worst I have ever experienced since I have been in the aviation service. The snow and sleet was so thick that we seemed to be traveling in the blackest kind of night and we were almost frozen in spite of our heavy clothing. Our escape was a miracle, and I can be ascribed only to the pilot's quick wit and his cool nerve."

Lessons For Flyers. Speaking of the lesson to be learned from traversing the air in this campaign, Capt. (deleted) said: "We are learning many things about air navigation which we never knew before or only knew in theory and we are

making many notes of our experience, which we hope will be looked upon with favor by those in command of the airplane section of the service as the basis of improvements in the service in future.

Conditions Differ From Sea Level. "Airplane to be used at this altitude and in this semi-arid country should be equipped much more thoroughly than are the machines used at sea level or in sections of the country more densely populated.

"In this country, where the days are hot and the nights cold, we are in need of a greater variety of clothing for one thing. We find, too, that the great heat which is generated during the day causes currents of air which we do not find while flying at sea level.

Winds Are Violent. "The warm air rising through some of the deep canyons caused violent winds to blow at heights when there is perfect calm on the surface. We occasionally drop into pockets which almost take our breath away before we can regain control of the machine, a thing which only very rarely occurs when flying at lower levels. This campaign is teaching us many things which will be of great value to the aviation corps of the army, if they are taken to heart by those in authority."

Natives Very Friendly. The captain gave it as his opinion that the natives in the rural districts were becoming very friendly toward the Americans and welcomed them if they came simply to restore peace to the land and not for the purpose of conquest.

"Those people with whom we stopped last night were at first rather inclined to look upon us with suspicion," said he. "However, when we paid them or offered to pay them for the food, they began to warm up and to ask us questions regarding the intentions of the Americans in this particular expedition."

Want Villa Captured. "When we told them that we were intent only upon punishing Villa for his wanton attack upon Columbus, they declared themselves tired of war and said they hoped we would catch Villa and any others who were keeping the country in turmoil. Wherever I have had opportunity to meet the common people, I find that the same sentiment prevails. I am inclined to believe the masses of that portion of Mexico where we have been seen and where our motives are understood are not inimical to us."

Six Airplanes Operating. Of the slight airplane brought into the country when this expedition crossed the international line, six are still in commission and rendering great service in the matter of securing information regarding the whereabouts of the enemy and in carrying messages from the extreme front to headquarters and to the border. One of the machines covered the great distance between Columbus and headquarters, this morning in one hour and ten minutes, clipping ten minutes from the best record for the distance. A letter made since the campaign opened.

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ACTUALLY "The Popular's" Apparel Section has larger stocks than ever before in this store's history. Right now you can come here and find complete stocks in every section—and in all lines.

The showing is remarkable in many ways. First, a great diversity of styles—all the late models and novelty effects are here. No other store can show smarter fashions. Second, all those wanted materials so much in demand in the East are depicted in the garments that we are showing now and many of the materials in "Popular" garments are exclusive with this store. Third, the wide range of shades affords almost unbounded choice. So, altogether there is not a feminine Suit or Dress wish that this great Apparel Section cannot gratify.

And in the matter of price-economies, "The Popular" stands without a peer. With the greatest distributing power in El Paso it is but natural that it should underbuy. Our buying power enables us to share in such low prices as only enormous quantities make possible and that is why, too, you can buy a new Spring Suit or Dress here for less than at any other place, (quality considered), for as surely as we underbuy, we undersell!

Suits for Women \$25 Are Always a and for Misses \$25 Feature Here

YOU are sure to be greatly surprised at the excellent manner in which the new Spring styles have been portrayed at this price. How well they are tailored and how perfectly they fit.

Here are suits that were made to sell for more than \$25.00, but it has long been a conceded fact that "The Popular" led in style and value at \$25.00, and this year is to be no exception. We are offering most extraordinary values at this price. The suits are made of Poplin, Gabardine, French Serge and Silks as well as Novelty Checks and suits in combinations of Silk and Wool. They are in flaring box-coat effects, in Norfolk models, plain tailored suits—in fact in all the new styles of importance, in black and all colors.

Suits in New \$34.50 Depicting New Models at \$34.50 Style Thoughts

MORE than twenty-five ultra-fashionable models are shown here at this popular price—every one delineating perfect suit-tailoring. Much could be said about these suits, but you would prefer to see them—compare them, judge them for yourself.

The materials employed are Silk Poplin, combinations of Taffeta and Serge, Gabardine, French Serge, Novelty Checks and all Taffeta in fawn, sea green, Copenhagen, gray, rookie, twilight blue, navy and black; also in checks of black and white, blue and white or green and white. Belted effects, semi-novel sport suits, skirts that flare, suits with belts and with hip yokes. All sizes for matron or miss will be found in the collection.

AMERICAN CAVALRYMEN DRIVE VILLA BAND FROM SLEEP, WITH BULLETS

(Continued from page 1.)

win's worst squad had reached the streets in which the vanguards were fighting and the battle became general.

The main body of bandits fled while the rear guard attempted to check the Americans. When the bandits finally demoralized at the losses inflicted in the fight at the corral and in the streets, took to their heels, Col. Erwin, after having made sure no armed men were secreted in the houses and jennals of the village, took the trail of the flying bandits, he followed them for five hours, or till they had disintegrated into parties of two and three and had practically disappeared from the face of the earth.

A Splendid Charge. The battle is described as one of the most dashing charges in which the American cavalry has engaged since the civil war. Tired as the men were as a result of a long day and night ride, they were so keen for action that when they heard the first shots fired at the vanguard as it rode into the straggling streets of San Gerónimo, the main body of cavalry was restrained, though they took all the necessary precautions against being caught in a trap, as they rushed into the village streets to rescue their fellows of the vanguard.

So sudden was the appearance of Erwin's gallant boys and the speed with which they advanced that the "Las gringos" with which the outposts were held, the sleeping bandits, could still be heard as they prepared hats of the troops showed through the dawn which was just beginning to streak the eastern sky.

Dust of Mauer and Springfield. There was no time for challenge or any disposition on the part of the assailant or assailed to make any inquiries as to the cause of the shouting or the meaning of the American troopers on their big, thoroughly tired horses.

Shot answered shot as Mauer and Springfield entered into controversy for the first time on Chihuahua soil. The Villistas at first showed a disposition to make a stand as they gathered, mounted, after the first shock of the attack.

Erwin's men advanced from all sides and their advance was not to be withheld.

Erwin was so inconsiderate as to give the bandits no time in which to gather up their bedding, much less to load their packs with ammunition, food and other supplies and all this fell into the hands of the Americans, including a lot of sorebacked pack animals.

While the whole army rejoices over the brilliant achievements of the Seventh cavalry officers and men, the organization is particularly enthusiastic as the San Gerónimo exploit will go far to atone for the disaster which overtook the regiment at Little Big Horn under Custer.

Villa Seriously Wounded. From prisoners taken, it was learned that Villa's wounds were serious and that the disabled leader was taken to the home of friends in the mountains and kept there till he could recover sufficiently to again take the field. If this hiding place has been disclosed to the American commanders the fact is not made public by the military authorities. A review of the field re-

ported bodies of 60 dead Villistas. The number of wounded is not reported.

There are six American columns now operating in the southern portion of the state of Chihuahua presenting a front of probably 75 miles wide. The distance between the columns is so disposed that they are taking this entire width as might be done with a fine tooth comb.

Combing the Mountains. To Col. Dodd has been assigned the task of searching the difficult passes of the Sierra Madre from Nueva Casas Grandes to Madera and farther south through and on each side of the valley of the Rio Santo Tomas, if any necessary to do so to prosecute the search for Villa further.

Under Col. Dodd's command are two squadrons of the Tenth cavalry under Col. Brown and Major Evans, respectively, and a squadron of the Seventh cavalry, the squadron which made the fight at San Gerónimo.

In addition, there are operating as independent organizations two troops of the Thirtieth and Tenth under Maj. Tompkins and a squadron of the Thirtieth under Maj. Lindsey, and a provisional squadron made up of picked men of the Eleventh cavalry, under Maj. Howze.

Operating Far Eastward. Tompkins, Lindsey and Howze are operating on the eastern slope of the Sierra Madre as far east as the western edge of the valley through which the Mexican Central runs.

It is not believed that Villa can escape. His followers are becoming demoralized because of the constant loss of some of their pursuers. Their every move seems to become known to the Americans through the activity of scouts, airplanes and cavalrymen and this carelessness is getting on the nerves of the bandits. It is something they are not used to.

Evidence is being given every day that the natives have lost their first fear of the Americans and are coming to regard them as friends and acting accordingly.

This circumstance is having a demoralizing effect upon those who sympathize with Villa and is causing him many prospective recruits.

AMERICAN TROOPS ARE BUILDING STOCKADE FOR VILLA PRISONERS

Two stockades have been begun in what is termed the "suburbs" of the "suburbs of Columbus." That the wire and timber has all been hauled out into the "suburbs" is corroborated from a number of sources.

Nobody seems to know where the stockades will rear their posts and barbed wire above the yellowed sand. Incidents on the border are limited at noon Monday said positively that the stockades are to be used for the captured Villa soldiers.

Will a particularly sunny spot in a particularly small space be reserved for Pancho? Will he be given separate quarters? How soon in fact will the Villa soldiers captured in the Querzaro fight be brought to Columbus? It's the all absorbing subject of conversation in Columbus; no one can talk about anything else.

"If the stockade is for Villa," say the school children of Columbus, "we can go and look at him and poke him with cactus thorns every day."

El Paso Seed Co., open Evenings.—212 San Antonio, Opp. Court House.—Ad.

Mexican collections, see Lee Newman. Ad.

Mme. Lyra Corsets

FASHION favors the woman who is pleasingly plump this Spring, for fashion says that curves are again in style, but the curves must appear at just the right places and they must not be too prominent, a little roundness at the hips, a slightly emphasized bust, but an absolutely flat front. Your figure will be harmoniously proportioned if you put yourself in the hands of our trained corsetiers. They will give the absolutely straight front and straight back, but a charmingly beautiful curve under the arm, at the waistline and at the side back. If you are short waisted they will give you length of lines. You are again to have a graceful, rounded figure with delicate incurve to the waist. You are again to regain your trimness of figure. To do this is largely a question of corsets. Mme. Lyra corsets are ideal for this because they DO FIT THE WAIST and come in enough styles to fit all types of figures. They have more boning than last year, higher in the bust, smaller in the waist. Prices \$3.50 to \$15



Splendid Models in New Spring Suits and Dresses

THE suits at this price are especially desirable for street, travel and sport wear—Norfolk Coats, Ripple Coats, semi-belted and strictly tailored, new drop-yoke effects and bell-shaped sleeves.

--at-- \$15

They are made of Wool Poplin, Gabardine, Serge, Shepherd Checks, and Fancy Checks. The color range includes rose, silver gray, Benjas blue, bisque, brown, rookie, navy blue, reseda, Russian green, Galt green, cornflower and of course, black. In fact, every new style-thought, every new shade and all the desirable materials for Spring wear will be found in these suits. But to appreciate these suits, it will be necessary for you to see them—how perfectly tailored, how well they fit. All sizes.

Dresses for All Occasions \$25 New Styles and Every Shade

AND the dresses at \$25.00 are equally as important from a value-giving standpoint, possessing many of the season's newest style-features that you would only expect in dresses selling for considerably more. They are neatly made along conservative lines, insuring you quality as well as style. You will agree they are the best you have ever seen at \$25.00.

These dresses are made of Silk Taffeta, of Gros de Londres and of Georgette. Among the new shades are twilight blue, sea green, spark blue, eggplant, Silico tan, gray, navy and rose. And this big collection includes styles for matron and dresses for the miss—an unusual variety and exceptional values at \$25.00 each.

Dresses for \$34.50 Shown in Broad Women, Girls \$34.50 Style & Variety

CHARMING new Spring frocks, expressing the season's most fascinating style-features; reflections of every accepted model. Styles suitable for any occasion, in a broad range of the season's colors and combinations. You will find it greatly to your advantage to view this excellent collection at \$34.50.

There are afternoon and semi-evening dresses of Pussy Willow Taffeta, Crepe Meteor, plain Taffeta, Crepe de Chine, Georgette Crepe and Gros de Londres in all the approved shades—pearl gray, pansy, Joffre blue, fawn, spark blue, Silico tan, maize, navy and, of course, black. The many style features include full skirts and tunics, with prominence given to back and side draping.

A Comprehensive Stock of Stylish Spring Suits For Stout Women, Is Now Here

MATERIALS, colors and styles all were chosen with a view to their suiting women of ample proportions and giving them slender lines. There are semi-dressy effects and novelty styles, the coats cut so that there is stylish and comfortable fullness over the bust with a longer waistline and narrow back suggested. All made with a view to having them adapted to your particular needs. Sizes 44 to 52. —Priced at \$29.50, \$35, \$39.50 and \$45.

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THE attendance and the amount of purchases already made lead us to say this. Surely the choosing of sewing needs of every description has never been made so easy for you! Make up many of the garments you want in your Spring wardrobe and you'll be surprised at the amount you will save!

Purchasing Sewing Needs Here Is Made Most Profitable By Special Prices On Many Items---Buy Now and Economize.

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