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Desperate Situation in Mexico's Capital

Archbishop Mora Tells of Looting, Rapine and Murder in Capital City—People Face Starvation—Massacre Might Follow Intervention

"One hundred and eighty priests are still in jail in Mexico City," the Archbishop went on. "hundreds of others are scattered through the Republic just as badly off as if they were in jail, because they cannot escape from the towns in which they have been marooned by the bandit bands. Worst in Mexico City."

"The entire nation is suffering from hunger, but the worst situation is in Mexico City, where the 650,000 inhabitants, even though they have money, are unable to get food. The Madero revolution imposed Madero money on the people; the Villa regime forced them to take paper bearing the signature of Villa, and now the Carranzistas, under Alvaro Obregón, have declared both the Madero and Villa money illegal and imposed their own money on the people."

"Most of the inhabitants of Mexico City had Madero and Villa money; now it is worthless and they cannot even pay their debts with it, let alone buy food. On the other hand, all the people fear that the Carranza money will be worthless soon, so they refuse to accept it in payment for work or in business deals. If they accept the Carranza paper the merchants refuse to take it in return for goods. Thus the famine is caused not so much by lack of food, which is bad enough, but by the worthlessness of the money in circulation there."

When Obregón ordered the levy of 500,000 pesos on the clergy of Mexico City, the priests replied that they did not have the money, but as Obregón announced the funds were to be used to alleviate the condition of the poor, the clergy offered to sell anything and everything belonging to the churches and turn over the resulting moneys to a committee which would distribute them among the poor.

Obregón accepted this offer, provided the money be given to him, but would not allow the committee to act. This was such complete proof that the Carranza leaders wanted the money for themselves and not for the poor that the priesthood refused to accede

to the demand. For this they were thrown in jail and 180 of them still are there.

Charges Crime in Liberty's Name.

"No pen can portray the looting, the rapine, the murder, the anarchy which has taken possession of Mexico all because these few bandits have been allowed to attempt to establish what they and some people in the United States call 'liberty.'"

"In Durango, alone 140 haciendas were looted by bands of men composed of all sides. First they stripped all the people of their arms, and then they began their campaign of loot. From the hacienda of Julio Bracho, as an example, 110,000 pesos and 20,000 sacks of wheat were taken. From the others similar amounts were looted. All who protested—men, women and children—were shot, while some of the young women met worse fates."

"Automobiles, paintings, statuary, furniture, anything of value which the Carranzistas can get across the line are being sold in the United States, and the resulting moneys pocketed by the Carranza leaders or their agents here. No railroads are open, or at least none are operating regularly and statements issued that food is being shipped through the Republic for the aid of the poor are entirely false."

Had Faith in Funston.

"In the face of all this, there seems to be no hope that any Mexican ever will be able to restore peace in the Republic. Some external force must be used, and that speedily, else we shall say 'this was Mexico,' for the Republic will be wiped from the face of the earth if left to the control of the bandits which now overrun her."

"General Funston and his army could have restored peace in Mexico if he had been allowed to take the aggressive. America or any other power, even if the revolutionists combined, would not have to face over 160,000 armed men. The Mexicans will never govern themselves until the bandits are whipped and the peace-loving leader put in control. America or some other power will have to do this."

An Emden Exploit

A Story of How the German Commander Induced British Subjects to put the Ship in Condition for Sea

To the long list of authentic narratives, legends and traditions which the Emden and her Bayard-like Captain left behind in the Indian Ocean is now added one brought to The Evening News of Sydney, Australia, by Capt. G. Beckett of the British steamer Clan Graham, which reached Australia on Jan. 20, direct from Mauritius, where the Captain heard the story.

The episode happened at the outlying little island of Diego Garcia some weeks before Nov. 9, when the Emden destroyed the armored cruiser Sydney at Cocos Islands. In certain respects it is similar to the story of how a United States cruiser captured the island of Guam in the Spanish-American war; but Capt. von Muller sailed away without deceiving his hosts. The story as told in The Evening News runs as follows:

The Emden visited the Island of Diego Garcia which is a dependency of Mauritius. It is not very big, and has no wireless or other telegraphic communication with the outside world and there is only a casual steamer service. As a result of this, war was declared without the knowledge of the inhabitants, and months passed by without the news being heard at Diego Garcia. Capt. von Muller of the Emden, seems to have reckoned "on this, and to have turned his knowledge to account."

One morning the Garcians, who, though British subjects, are of French descent, awoke to find a warship in their bay. At once a great commotion commenced on shore, as the visit of a vessel of any description was always a red-letter day. The German flag was flying at the vessel's mast-head, and presently the name Emden could be distinguished. Soon a boat put out from the cruiser, and Capt. von Muller himself went ashore to pay his respects. Then there commenced a series of entertainments and junketings and the officers and men of the Emden were royally feted.

There was a solitary motorboat belonging to the Garcians, but it had long been out of order. Capt. von Muller heard of this, and at once sent his engineers ashore to see what was the matter. In the end a boat-load of German sailors towed the

Fuel Value of Different Woods

The fuel value of two pounds of wood is roughly equivalent to that of one pound of coal. This is given as the result of certain calculations now being made in the forest service laboratory, which show also about how many cords of certain kinds of wood are required to obtain an amount of heat equal to that in a ton of coal.

Certain kinds of wood, such as hickory, oak, beech, birch, hard maple, ash, elm, locust, longleaf pine, and cherry, have fairly high heat values, and only one cord of seasoned wood of these species is required to equal one ton of good coal.

It takes a cord and a half of shortleaf pine, hemlock, red gum, Douglas fir, sycamore, and soft maple to equal a ton of coal, and two cords of cedar, redwood, poplar, catalpa, Norway pine, spruce, basswood, spruce and white pine.

Equal weights of dry, non-resinous woods, however, are said to have practically the same heat value regardless of species, and as a consequence it can be stated as a general proposition that the heavier the wood the more heat to the cord. Weight for weight, however, there is very little difference between various species; the average heat for all that have been calculated is 4,600 calories, or heat units, per kilogram. A kilogram of resin will develop 9,400 heat units, or about twice the average for wood. As a consequence in resinous woods the increased value varies, of course, with the resin content.

The available heat value of a cord of wood depends on many different factors. It has a relation not only to the amount of resin it contains, but to the amount of moisture present. Furthermore, cords vary as to the amount of solid wood they contain. A cord of solid wood weighs 2,400 pounds and occupies 128 cubic feet of space. A certain proportion of this space is made up of air spaces between the sticks, and this air space may be considered in a cord made of twisted, crooked and knotty sticks. But of the 128 cubic feet a fair average of solid wood is about 80 cubic feet.

It is pointed out, however, that heat value is not the only test of usefulness in fuel wood, and since 95 per cent of all wood used for fuel is consumed for domestic purposes, largely in farm houses, such factors as rapidity of burning and ease of lighting are important. Each section of the country has its favored woods, and these are said to be, in general, the right ones to use. Hickory, of the non-resinous woods, has the highest fuel value per unit volume of wood, and has other advantages. It burns evenly, and its housewives say, holds heat. The oaks come next, followed by beech, birch, and maple. Pine has a relatively low heat value per unit volume, but has other advantages. It ignites readily and gives out a quick hot flame, but one that soon dies down. This makes it a favorite with rural housekeepers as a summer wood, because it is particularly adapted for hot days in the kitchen.

The fuel qualities of chestnut adapt it particularly to work in brass foundries, where it gives just the required amount of heat and it is therefore in favor. Coastwise vessels in Florida pay twice as much for Florida bottomwood as for any other, because it burns with an even heat, and with a minimum amount of smoke and ash.

The principal disadvantage of the resinous pines is their oily black smoke.

Guelph Herald—Floating mines appear to be as dangerous to navigation on the high seas as floating nines have been to many Canadians who were enamored of mine stocks.

motorboat out alongside the Emden, and the engineers fixed her up. The people were delighted, but the good works of the German skipper had not yet come to an end. He announced that he would carry a mail, and all the people of the island were consequently soon busy writing letters. At the end of a week, when the cruiser sailed, several bulky mail bags were put aboard, and these were faithfully delivered by the Captain. It is probable that they were handed over to one of the intercepted steamers, but at any rate the writers have no cause to complain that their dispatches went astray in the post. The captain was not taking any risks, however, and he refused to enter official communications.

The departure of the Emden was a glorious day, flags were flying every where, and as the echoes of the cannon's farewell guns died away there arose cheer after cheer from the unsuspecting people gathered on the shore. Finally the plume-covered sails were dropped, the blank cart-rails in the guns were replaced with shells, and the Emden sailed away to deliver her mail.

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