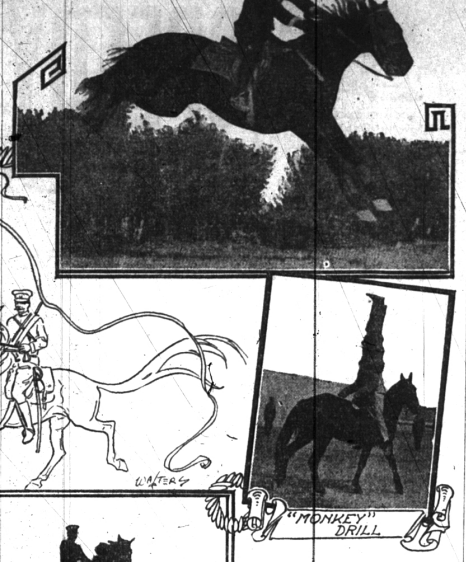
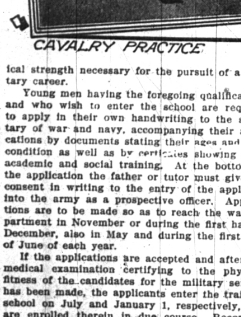
MEXICO'S MILITARY TRAINING SCHOOL

by JOSE ROMERO



BECAUSE of numerous vacancies in the ranks of subordinate officers of battalions and regiments and the small number of officials graduated from the Military college, in addition to other reasons, the war department of the Mexican government, which at that time was under the direction of General Mena, submitted a bill, approved by congress on December 7, 1904, in the form of a decree, by virtue of which the "Escuela Militar de Aspirantes" (Military Training school) was established. The school has for its object the training of subordinate officers for the infantry, cavalry and artillery service. The institution was opened on January 29, 1905, in the remodeled building of the old factory of Santa Fe, in Tlalpam, which had been acquired by the department for that purpose. The rules and regulations now in force in the school were issued at that time, according to which it was specified that young men desiring to enter the school must be Mexicans between 18 and 21 years of age. In the case of minors it was necessary to obtain the consent of the father or guardian. Further requirements provide that the candidate shall have finished a course of primary instruction, shall be of good character, vaccinated and possessed of the health and physical strength necessary for the pursuit of a military career.

EXERCISES IN EQUITATION



CAVALRY PRACTICE

Young men having the foregoing qualifications and who wish to enter the school are required to apply in their own handwriting to the secretary of war and navy, accompanying their applications by documents stating their ages and civil condition as well as by certificates showing their academic and social training. At the bottom of the application the father or tutor must give his consent in writing to the entry of the applicant into the army as a prospective officer. Applications are to be made so as to reach the war department in November or during the first half of December, also in May and during the first half of June of each year.

If the applications are accepted and after the medical examination certifying to the physical fitness of the candidates for the military service has been made, the applicants enter the training school on July and January 1, respectively, and are enrolled therein in due course. Record is made of the class of officers the applicants desire to become and of their agreement to serve as such during the time they attend the military training school and in the army for a period of five years thereafter, the latter time to be reckoned from the date they leave the institution.

Young men admitted as candidates must apply for entry into the school on the dates already mentioned and pursue therein three theoretical-practical courses of six months each, and after separately completing said courses enter such battalion or regiment as may be indicated by those in charge of the school for a course of practical instruction. After a year's service as sub-lieutenants in the reserve army, if they have shown evidence of ability and of a military spirit they will be transferred into the regular army.

Cadets are allowed 73 cents Mexican money per day for board and other minor expenses; are given 50 cents a day as a loan, and are allowed an additional amount of 60 cents a day for the purpose of forming a fund to be applied in the purchase of equipment and uniform to be used in the school, which becomes their property on leaving the institution and comprises their first equipment as officers.

Cadets are subject to military law for crimes and misdemeanors committed by them during the time they are in the service. The cadets live in the school, take their meals there and only go out on Sundays and national holidays, or by permission and according to the judgment of the commandant.

The studies of the half-yearly theoretical-practical courses are, for the first six months, rules and regulations; auditing and military accounting; geography in general; elements of history, arithmetic and algebra; elements of Spanish grammar and panoramic drawing. For the second six months the studies embrace tactics with the weapon used in the department to which the cadet is assigned; campaign fortifications; practical knowledge of explosives and elements of physics and chemistry; military jurisprudence and law; geometry and trigonometry; topographic drawing. For the third six months the studies comprise general tactics or the use of the three weapons, including the application of themes relating to maps for charts of the country; theory and practice with small firearms (or artillery); communication and work in the field; military topography; military hygiene and military horsemanship for mounted officers.

In addition to the foregoing during the three six-months' terms which make up the course the cadets are instructed by a special professor for each subject in physical culture, swimming, fencing and marksmanship with the revolver. Infantry cadets have a special six-months' course in horsemanship and mounted cadets are instructed in this branch during the entire period of the three six-months' terms. The cadets also receive military instruction in the interior service and management of the institution, as well as in maneuvering in solid phalanxes and instruction in campaign operations during the entire period of their training, daily practice being given them under the orders of the captains in command and in conformity with the programs approved by the commander.

During the first years of the school theoretical-practical courses of instruction were limited to two terms and one term of practise in the service of the ranks. Experience, however, induced the commandant of the school to broaden the course to the extent of the studies which now obtain.

All the professors of the school must be military men of acknowledged ability and practise in the subjects they teach. The school naturally seeks to impart instruction to the cadets along all lines of useful knowledge, with particular reference to a military career. The staff of teachers consists of 22 professors.

Examinations are held during the first two weeks of June and December of each year, no grades being accepted that fall below the approved standard known as the "three B's."

It is reported that the able director of the school, Lieut. Col. Miguel Ruelas, has submitted new rules and regulations in detail that are most appropriate for the needs and growth of the institution and considering his natural ability and the desire he has to correct such defects as his experience of nearly five years has shown him exist, these regulations will undoubtedly be approved by the war department. Under the new regulations the artillery battery will again be established and the course of instruction extended to four terms of six months each.

The present budget provides $174,551.35 Mexican money for the use of the institution, not including items of forage for 98 horses and six mules now in use at the school, and the keep of which is charged to the general expense account of the department of war.

A CHOICE.

"Well," said the head of the family, "it's come to a choice between two things."

"And what is that?" asked his wife.

"Whether we'll continue to eat meat or continue to maintain an automobile."

FOUND THE LOST MINE

For years and years the prospectors in Sonora, Mexico, have been searching for the second of what has been recorded in history as the "rich lost mines." In certain old records of the early missions mention is made of two certain lost mines. The names under which they are recorded, like the names of most of the missions established under the Spanish crown, do not correspond with any known landmarks today and hence only relative location can be used as a basis for exploration.

When the San Pedro mine, located south of Nacozari, was discovered some years ago, with its old underground workings, it is firmly believed that one of the two lost mines had been discovered. Now it seems probable that the second also has been located and in the belt indicated in the ancient documents. Even if the second of the famous lost mines has not been discovered an antigua mine of great age has been found, with proofs enough to indicate that it has not been worked for many years.

The discovery was made by John Guilfoyle, a well-known pioneer mining prospector of Nacozari. When out west of Nacozari about ten miles he came across a piece of detached ore, which he picked up and examined. He spent many days looking over the neighboring ledges in the hope of coming across the mother lode. But his search was in vain. Meantime he brought in the specimen of ore and was surprised to find that it ran 1,370 ounces of silver to the ton, with good values in gold. This assay ran so high that he returned to the district and continued his search. While using a steel in a creek bottom he found rock almost at the surface, but continuing his soundings he suddenly struck a spot where the steel sank several feet.

Guilfoyle knew that the rock formation could not have ended so abruptly and he began to excavate. He uncovered a long cut in the solid rock of the creek bed which held down stream and which could not have been cut there when the water was flowing in the present creek bed. As he progressed he found old stone implements, including stone hammers, hatchets, and finally he came across a great ancient metate or stone bowl in which the ancient workers pulverized the native ores before smelting in their crude dobe furnaces. Later he uncovered metates, all made of a hard flint rock, which must have been brought into the district from a considerable distance, as there is no flint of this hardness near the mine. After pursuing his work for several days, the drift in the rock led into the ore ledge, but the old workings were found to be closed up solid with silt.

Guilfoyle pursued his investigation and found under the soil on the creek upland the remains of an old slag dump. As is customary with the prospectors in Sonora, Guilfoyle at once had this slag assayed. On account of the primitive methods of smelting employed by the ancient workmen the slag found on these old dumps is usually rich enough to be worked over again in the modern smelters, which leave nothing of value in the slag, but, strange to note, in this case the slag was found to be absolutely worthless, indicating that at this mine the pulverizing of the ore had assisted in the extraction of the metal values. The antique smelters also knew a lot about the use of certain chemicals in the extraction of metal from the ore and at this mine probably one of those processes was used in connection with the furnace, only fragments of the foundation of which were found by excavation.

The finding of the stone tools has caused considerable interest among those of an archaeological turn of mind. The Spaniards were experts in the manufacture of steel, so that the tools were not used by them. The supposition is that an Indian tribe worked this mine and that this tribe probably operated following the invasion and occupation of the Spanish adventurers. It is well known that there is a long gap between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries where the history of Old Mexico and that district now including Arizona and New Mexico is missing, probably because the missionaries, finding that the crown of Spain robbed every mine reported, ceased to make report of them. In 1720 the Indians killed all the mine workers in Sonora and Arizona and many mines abandoned at that time have been lost to the world. Sonora has many mines which, on opening, are found to be antiguas and many of them are very rich.

Real Estate Exchange

OF WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL

Exchange Bank Birmingham Michigan

The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

5
Elegant house, and lot 66 feet front by 20 rods deep (3 acres) on East Maple Avenue. Fine front yard, and every modern convenience—furnace, bath, closet, gas. Can be bought for what the buildings cost. Will exchange for improved city property for portion of the purchase price.

77
One lot on Woodward Avenue, just south of land owned by John German, 50 feet frontage. Any one wishing to purchase will find this a bargain. For particulars inquire of Mollie G. Shepard at Exchange Bank.

147
Nice little home for some one of small means: 1½ acres in s w ¼ of s ½ of sec 21, Township of Troy; 7-room house; barn in good shape; well at both barn and house, never dry; 14 miles east of Rochester electric; fare to Detroit 15c; R. F. D. All cash and no grumbling will buy it at $750. Hurry up!

167
Wants to trade for 50 or 60 acres on or near electric. Ninety-four acres on s ½ of s w ¼ of sec 11, Troy township; 3 buildings valued at $2,000 insured for $1,700; flowing well piped to barn; farm well adapted for stock or dairy; 1½ miles from electric at Troy Corners, where there are good schools and churches. Fare 17c to Detroit; 450 per acre.

180
Farm in Avon township 75 acres of good clay loam, all cleared; small orchard, good buildings; small amount down. For sale, or exchange for small farm.

193
Thirty-five-acre fruit farm, 1¼ miles north of Birmingham, on the town line; 6 buildings, insured for $1,500. All kinds of soil—clay, gravel, sand and dark loam. Last year this farm produced 125 bushels raspberries, 30 bushels blackberries, 11 bushels strawberries, 10 tons hay, etc. A gravel ridge 60 rods in length, with an almost inexhaustable supply of gravel, is worth almost the price of the farm alone. No waste land, and under a high state of cultivation. Worth looking at anyhow. Price $5,000; terms easy.

194
Fifty acres in Township of Troy, adjoining the Joy Stock Farm; 5 buildings, good house, basement barn, plenty of small fruit, orchard of excellent fruit; 2½ miles from Flint Division D. U. R.; 2 wells and fine spring. Price $4,000.

195
Fifteen acres in Township of Royal Oak; no buildings; small grove of maples is a pretty feature; new land, well drained, clay bottom, black top soil; corner of the 9½-mile and Campbell roads, ¼ mile east of electric road; adjoins J. L. Judson and Duffield tracts, which sow held at $500.00 per acre; 1¼ miles north of State Fair grounds. Price $300 an acre; will exchange for Detroit property.

198
Ten acres 1 mile east of Royal Oak village; excellent land; 40 fine apple trees, no buildings. Price $1,200. The place is well fenced, and the price will enable you to build the kind of house you may require.

201
Fine 2-story residence on Maple Avenue, corner of High Street; 50 feet front, 125 feet deep; hot-water heater, hot and cold bath, toilet, city gas, city water—every convenience found in the best class of city residences. Cement walk (cost $250) and best neighborhood in town. House would cost at least $3,000 to build today; ask any one to build it for less and see what they say. You can buy this beautiful home for $2,850, and have your own way about payments. Ask the man at the bank.

222
Two-story tenement or terrace, on the east side of Woodward Avenue. Two distinct 2-story houses of 8 rooms each. Furnace, water-closet, bath, hot and cold water, city water and gas; each independent of other apartment. Rent for $15 per month each, $40 per year will pay all taxes and insurance. Good barn on the premises, and the lot is 70 feet front on the best frontage on Woodward, and 185 feet deep; room for a nice garden; can live in one apartment and have a steady income from the other. This is something for a lifetime. Come and let us help you ponder. Always at your service. If you can't call, write.

229
A pleasant and sightly farm of 71 acres in West Bloomfield, ½ mile from the Northwestern electric; 12 acres orchard, 3 acres good timber; 8 buildings worth $3,200, and the price is only $5,000—and it is well worth it. Soil, sandy loam and clay loam, under high state of cultivation. Better investigate.

241
Fine new house with all modern conveniences, within 200 feet of the east side of Woodward Avenue; 8 rooms, hard-wood finish; lot 56x150; plenty of fruit. This you could not build the house for $2,800, and that's all we ask for the premises. Worth looking at.

244
If you could buy an acre and a quarter of land with a brick house equipped with hot and cold water, bath, water-closet, furnace, and every possible convenience, and barn, chicken house, plenty of fruit and cement walks—and the house alone cost $6,000—for $2,000 on easy terms, you'd call it snap, wouldn't you? Well, we can do it. Come on and we'll show you.

246
One hundred and twenty-seven acres in the Township of Avon. Six buildings worth $6,000. 7 acres of timber; 3 acres of orchard; well watered (Clinton river runs through the farm); the whole land is 120 feet above the river; fine cedars; 4 miles from Rochester, 2 barns in good shape, well fenced; only 1 mile from the thriving Village of Rochester. Will trade for a smaller farm, or will consider an offer of $8,000, with one-third cash. Take you to see it any old time at all.

247
House, barn and about an acre of good garden land on north side of Hamilton Street. Good, old-fashioned house, and a cosy home at a low price. Party has decided to go West and wants to sell badly enough to make a decided sacrifice. Ask the man at the bank about it.

249
Nice, warm, old-fashioned house on the south side of Maple Avenue, among the best class of residences in the village. Plenty of room for a good garden, and it can be bought for $1,800. No? Why not? Well, you just come and talk it over with us, and after you look the premises over you will make us an offer anyhow.

250
Now; here is a "Beaner!" House, barn and chicken house, with two acres of land on western side of Woodward, opposite Electric Park, known as "Elmwood." 10 rooms, bath, toilet, 2 cellars, furnace, room, good hot-air furnace, 2 grates and mantels, one of the best-equipped lots of buildings in the village—city water, drains, fine shade trees, beautiful lawn; buildings insured for $4,000; cost $6,000. Will buy it, and the balance of the chase price can be had on long time and low rate of interest. Without question, this is the finest location and the best lot of buildings on our list and the price is right.

269
Lots 33 and 34, Buell's Addition, Birmingham. Price $400 for both lots. Terms, $50 cash; balance on contract.

270
House and lot, west side of Ann Street; 5-story frame, plastered; large lot; barn; well; cistern and cellar; one block from Woodward Avenue $1,800; terms easy.

273
New cement house, one block from Woodward Avenue, 4 bedrooms, bath and closet on second floor; 4 rooms downstairs; large basement; furnace, hot and cold water, hardwood floors, good barn large enough for horse and carriage; 2 wells, cistern, etc. Worth looking at; also worth more money than we ask for it, but we'll sell it for $2,850 on easy terms.

Requirements for Ideal Nation.

In our legislation we want wisdom as well as enthusiasm for ideals. What is wanted in a nation is that every individual should be fit in body and alert in mind.

Keeping Clear of Danger.

"If you want to keep yob conscience puffickly easy," said Uncle Eben, "it's a good idea never to trade horses nor borrey an' umbrella."

Cultivate Laughter.

Laughter is the salt of life; and facetiousness and humor, if materialized and retailed, would be worth many dollars a box.

280
Farm of 225 acres in Troy; 15 acres oak and pine timber; 5 acres orchard; 4 acres good meadow; fine pasture; $4,000, insured for $2,500. Water good, fed from springs; 2 wells; large oak barn; house; buildings fair; one mile from electric road; electric fare 15c to Detroit; 4 miles from bottom collar; 250 rods of deer fence; price $50 per acre; $2,000 down; R. and the balance easy at low rate of interest.

281
Two very desirable lots in the Buell Addition can be bought for $300 each; one block from electric road. Should go to each as same class of lots in the neighborhood are selling for twice the money.

282
Lot 4 in Block 1, Chapman's Subdivision; good house insured for $800; fine location; price $1,000. Also one fifth lots for same one with enough cash to make a small first payment.

283
Lots 33 and 34, Buell's Addition; use of the back fence; 2 blocks from the white city; cash only for both and you can get them by paying only $10, and the balance on land contract with easy payments.

294
ACREAGE—22 acres, high and dry, in the village of Birmingham. Just the thing for planting. Street on two sides and through the middle. Only block from Woodward Avenue. Price low; terms easy. $2,000 will handle it. R. H. Day's Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Michigan.

296
Nice 8-room house, built last year in Village of Royal Oak, one block from both electric railways—cellar, cistern, lot 50 feet front and 120 feet deep. Cost owner $2,600, but will sell for $2,150.

297
Without exception, the finest farm for stock raising or high-class farming in the county. On the line of the Rochester electric, 16 miles from Detroit; 8 forces and 2 horses can do all the work; 2 wells, 2 barns, 2 silos, 2 chicken houses, 2 sheds, 2 cellars, 2 cisterns, 2 hog houses, 2 orchards, 2 fences, 2 roads, 2 lots, 2 fine houses, 2 hot-air furnaces, 2 hot-water heaters, 2 baths, 2 toilets, 2 gas, 2 city water, 2 electric lights, 2 telephones, 2 rivers, 2 miles to school, 2 miles to church, 2 miles to town, 2 miles to depot, 2 miles to factory, 2 miles to creamery, 2 miles to cheese factory, 2 miles to village, 2 miles to city, 2 miles to Detroit, 2 miles to Rochester, 2 miles to Utica, 2 miles to Ray, 2 miles to Romeo, 2 miles to Leonard, 2 miles to Oakland, 2 miles to Macomb, 2 miles to Mt. Clemens, 2 miles to Lake St. Clair, 2 miles to Lake Huron, 2 miles to Lake Michigan, 2 miles to Lake Superior, 2 miles to Lake Erie, 2 miles to Lake Ontario