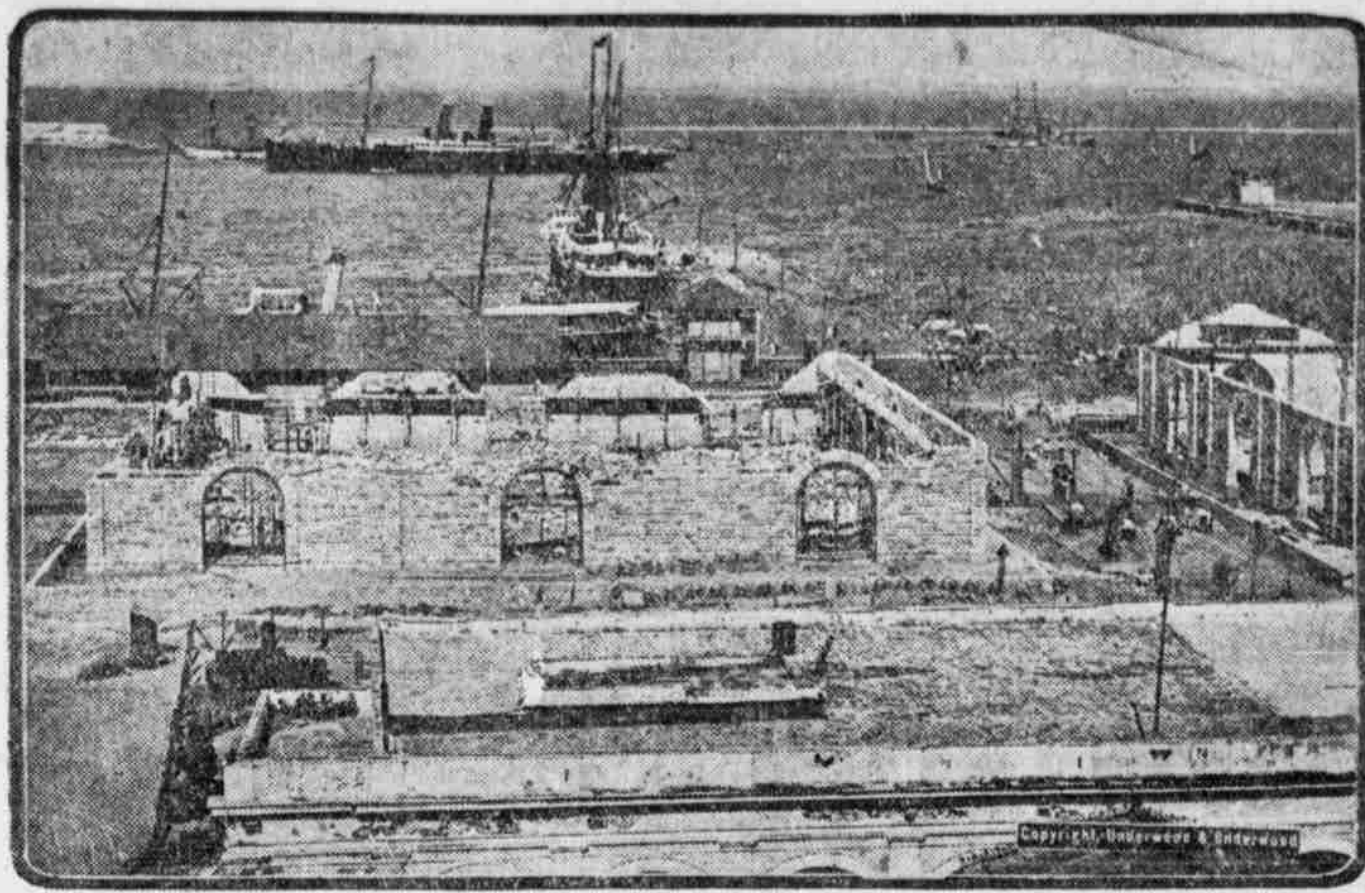


**VIEW OF THE HARBOR OF VERA CRUZ**



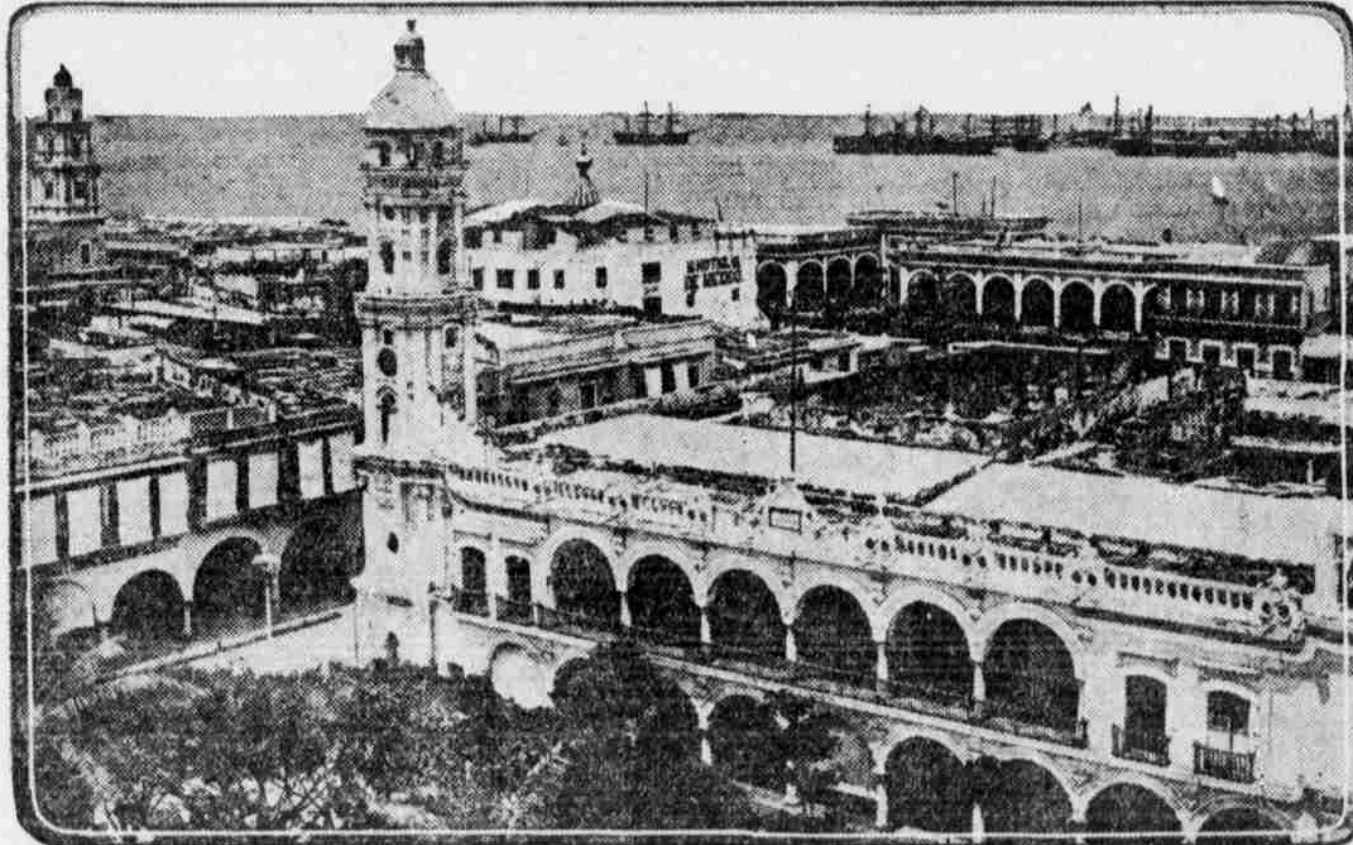
Vera Cruz is the chief port of Mexico and the duties collected there have been relied upon by Huerta to pay much of his expenses of war and government. American and other foreign warships have been stationed there for many months.

**STREET SCENE IN TAMPICO, MEXICO.**



This is one of the principal streets in Tampico, and a crowd of the inhabitants is gathered discussing the perils of bombardment threatening the city.

**PALACE AND HARBOR, VERA CRUZ**



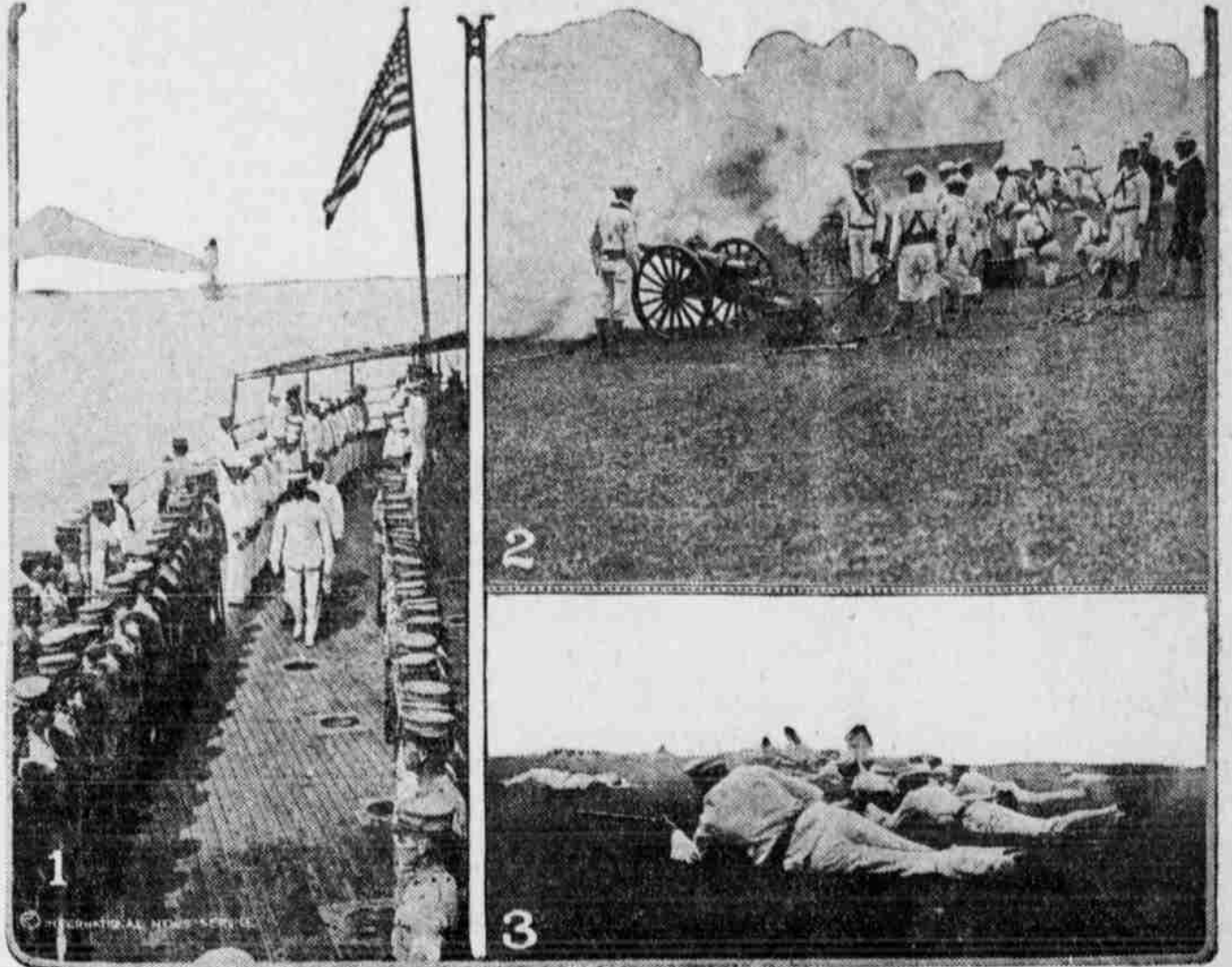
This photograph gives an excellent idea of the part of the city of Vera Cruz close to the harbor, and shows the old palace, in the center.

**UNCLE SAM'S SOLDIERS PATROLLING THE BORDER**



American troops patrolling the American-Mexican border in the neighborhood of Juarez. The soldiers are scattered thinly along a very long line, from the Gulf to the western edge of New Mexico.

**MEN WHO MAY BE LANDED IN MEXICO**



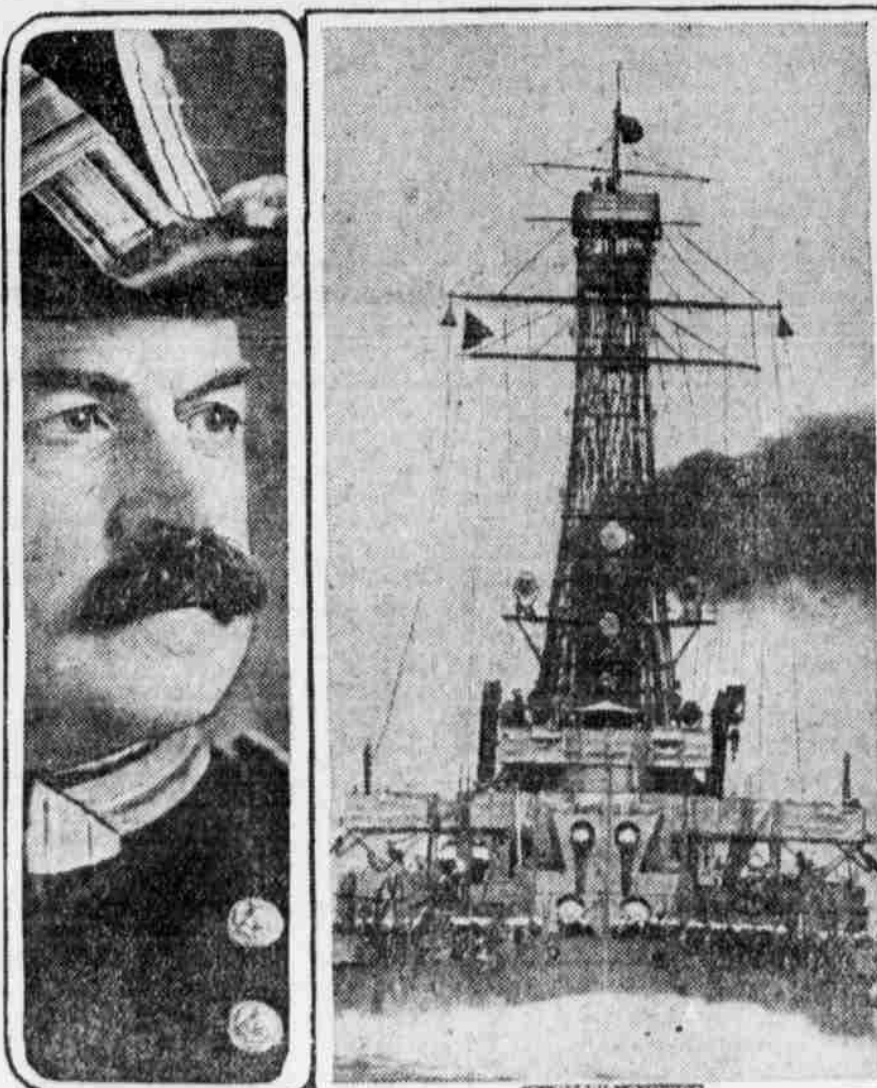
In case of the seizure of Mexican ports it will be the marines who will be sent ashore first. Some of the men of this most efficient arm are here shown, being inspected on shipboard, fighting with landing guns and acting as infantry.

**MAIN PLAZA OF TAMPICO, MEXICO**



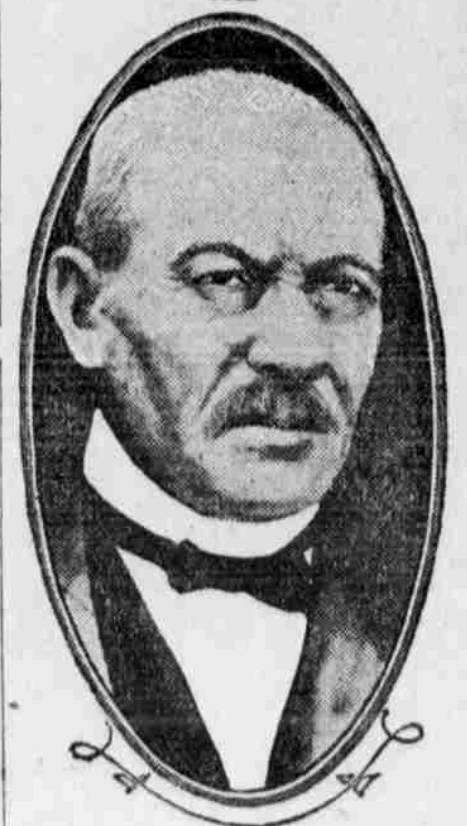
This is the chief plaza of the city of Tampico, the gathering place of the people, and it may be subjected to bombardment by the American warships.

**ADMIRAL FLETCHER AND HIS FLAGSHIP**



Rear Admiral Frank F. Fletcher, commanding the first division of the Atlantic fleet, has been stationed at Vera Cruz. The battleship Florida is his flagship.

**GENERAL HUERTA**



General Huerta has refused to order the American flag saluted at Tampico and faces an invasion of the country which has been trying to govern.

**Nonsensical Question.**

Jakey, the lazy and overgrown son of a resident of the Bronx, was recently haled before the magistrate in the Morrisania police court by his father, who charged him with being incorrigible, a deadly enemy of work in all its branches, staying out late at nights, smoking cigarettes and a few other habits unbecoming a boy on the threshold of manhood. The parent was mad clear through, and told the court in no soft language just what he thought his boy was coming to. "Does he strike you?" asked the judge of the young man's father when the latter had cooled off somewhat. "Strike?" came back the father. "Why, Mr. Judge, your honor, how can 'dot boy strike ven he doesn't even work?"—New York Tribune.

**Some Ages of Trees.**  
Observations and records as to the general age of trees have shown that the pine tree attains 700 years as a maximum length of life; 425 years is regarded as the allotted span of the silver fir; the larch lives, as a rule, about 275 years; the red beech, 245; the aspen, 210; the birch, 200; the ash, 170; the elder, 145; the elm,

130. The heart of the oak begins to rot at about the age of 300 years. Of the holly it is said that there is a specimen 410 years old near Aschaffenburg, Germany. A count of the annular rings in a gigantic California redwood tree showed that it began to grow in A. D. 550. It was 350 feet high, with a base circumference of 90 feet.