

# THE BATTILING YAQUIS

By SAMUEL H. PIERCE



YAQUI WOMEN

**W**HAT little the dollar loving American has done in prying and peeping into the great natural treasure houses of Sonora convinced him years ago that that western Mexican province was a country well worth exploiting. If more than half of the silver of the world has come out of Mexico, as is probably the fact, then, from all reports, when the argentiferous deposits of Sonora are properly opened up three-fourths of the

world's silver will come from the land of Diaz. Sonora has been exporting \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 of silver a year and could have exported five times that amount and an incalculable quantity of gold but for one reason—the country has not been safe for white people, except in the larger towns, because of the warlike Yaquis, who have been battling for generations against the Mexicans.

But now the good news has been flashed over the wires that the long drawn Yaqui war is at an end and that a treaty favorable to the Indians has been negotiated, so that soon there will be such an influx of greedy gringos, as the Mexicans call us, into Sonora as has never been seen before. For there will be no more night attacks upon ore wagon and supply trains, no more terrorizing of the miners in their prospect holes and no more rushes to the gun rack in the lonely cabin on the mesa.

It is characteristic of our commercial age that the chief interest of the white people in the Yaqui uprisings has not been a humane but a financial one. Although Americans have obtained concessions from the Mexican government of mining, cattle and farming lands, they have never been able to hold undisputed sway over them. Now the hardy gringo will descend upon Sonora, bent upon a conquest far more thorough than that of Gen. Scott in 1848. He lusts for the silver and gold hidden under the Sonora mountains, for great bands of cattle and for the fruits of the fertile valleys, and he will have them.

Not that the Americans have been essentially hostile to the Yaquis, for many guns and much ammunition have been taken over the border to aid them in their desperate fight, but that when Diaz has seen fit to parcel off a comfortable section of Yaqui land here and there to an enterprising Yankee for a consideration it has been only natural that Yaqui and Yank should have become embroiled at times.

"The Yaqui Indians are the most stubborn fighters on earth," said President Diaz of Mexico eight years ago, "and if ever we are to put them down we must strike at the root of their race—we must exile their women and children."

So, month by month, since then thousands of the little brown women of the Yaqui nation in Sonora have been torn from their homes on reservations and elsewhere, rounded up at Guaymas, on the west coast of Mexico, and, with their children, deported to San Blas and thence across country to the far fever lands of Yucatan, where many of them have died. None have ever returned to Sonora.

This means of subduing a race that has been in almost constant warfare against the Mexican government for more than 30 years has at last been effective, although it has been necessary at the same time to keep from 2,000 to 5,000 troops in readiness or in the field to fight the diminishing band of Yaquis, who have proved themselves as valiant and as unyielding as the Boers.

The last two stands of the Yaquis have recently been reported in the dispatches. One of these was in a mountain canyon just north of Altar, where the Mexicans end Papagos lured the Yaquis into ambush and killed a large number of them. The other and concluding engagement followed a skirmish that was made by the Mexicans southeast of Hermosillo, the capital of Sonora, in which it was reported that Buie, the chief of the Yaquis, was killed and 100 of his men were slain. After this bloody battle the remnant of the Yaqui forces engaged in that fight marched into Hermosillo and surrendered.

So many other events have been taking place on this populous planet, and the affairs of Sonora enter so little into the consideration of the people on this rim of the continent, with the exception of those American capitalists who have longed to unearth the mining treasures of that rich gold and silver country, that we have been more interested in college football contests than in this terrible warfare that has been going on within five days' railway journey of New York for the last three decades and even longer. For, as a matter of fact, the Yaquis have never been at peace with their hereditary foe since the conquest

of Mexico by the Spanish in 1519, and from an estimated population in 1629 of 200,000 the race has steadily declined, chiefly because of its almost incessant warfare, to about 40,000 at the present day.

Having regarded the Yaqui at close range and having studied him and marked what manner of man he is any one may be excused for an admiration of him that surpasses any appreciation of any other of the native races of North America. Assuredly these people are the most industrious and most civilized of all Indian tribes, being for the most part farmers, miners and craftsmen, and far superior to the average Sonoran of the haciendas and villages, who will not work while he has a peso in his pocket and while mesquite be had at the



YAQUI HAVIATIONS



YAQUIS IN PRISON YARD



YAQUI BATTLEGROUND

canina, and who, when he enters the army, is generally sent there from jail.

As for the Yaqui as a fighter, he has proved himself a better man even than the Apache, while resorting to few, if any, of the Apache's bloodthirsty tricks of warfare. The Yaqui army has been regularly organized up to the last year, has been well drilled in the use of the rifle, has had its generals and colonels and captains, and has given such a good account of itself that it has kept 3,000 Mexican troops under Gen. Torres busy all the

while in a warfare that has not been that of savages—has, in fact, been fully as humane as that of its foe.

It is not necessary to go back any further than 1878 to get a good idea of what the Yaquis have been doing in trying to hold their own against the people of Spanish descent in Mexico. In that year, because of trespass upon their lands and because the Mexicans had taken large numbers of them to work upon their ranches in practical slavery, these tremulously tenacious fighters resumed hostilities after a short period of peace. Gen. Cajemi, their governor, took command and for seven years held the passes and strongholds against 5,000 troops under Gen. Pesquiera.

Although the Yaquis gave a good account of themselves, they lost many men and Gen. Cajemi was captured and shot. Still the defensive war was continued, and when at last the Mexicans drove them out of their strongholds and captured their mines there came a period during which only desultory raids upon the haciendas were made. During that period the Yaqui women and boys and some of the non-combatant men of the tribe went out to earn money in the mines, ranches and fisheries to buy arms and ammunition to carry on the fight.

A number of American miners who had been unable peacefully to work their mines brought about the peace of Ortiz in May, 1897. The government then began to take Yaqui boys from the reservations and send them to Vera Cruz, on the other side of the continent, to make soldiers of them. These boys were as good if not better sharpshooters than the Boer youth, and the Yaquis saw that in thus depriving them of what would be a great source of reliance in future battle they would eventually have to give up all hope of ever holding their own. So that the peace of Ortiz only lasted a few months before there was another uprising and more fighting, chiefly of a guerilla nature, which continued for several years.

Meantime every cent that the non-combatants of the tribe could earn and save was handed over to the chiefs, who bought with this money enough Mauser rifles and mountain howitzers to equip very decently an army of 5,000 men, under Gen. Tetaviate, who, in April, 1899, took the field after having made this statement: "We Yaquis are a peaceful and industrious people. When the Mexicans want workers for their mines or factories they come to us. We do not want war. We have never wanted it, but we want our rights. We made a treaty of peace with the Mexican government, our hereditary foe, in May, 1897, after a long series of wars, the last of which was more than ten years in duration. We intended to keep faith with the government of Mexico, but it has pursued a course of cruel encroachment and menace. We are now ready to fight it again, and all the battles of the past will be as nothing compared with the bloodshed that will follow our entry into the field."

Gen. Tetaviate began operations in the lower valley of the Rio Yaqui, where his men drove out the white settlers upon Yaqui lands. They cut the telegraph wires and destroyed other means of communication, and it was

some time before the hastily summoned Fifth cavalry and Eleventh and Twelfth infantry companies could be marched against them. Then followed a series of battles which generally concluded unsatisfactorily for the Mexicans, though there was an occasional rounding up of the rebels in which large numbers of them were slaughtered. On the approach of the troops the Indians usually took up strong positions in the mountain fastnesses. One large band fortified itself in the Bacatete range, between the Yaqui and Matopo rivers, and another in the Sahuaripa mountains. Efforts were made to keep these two bands apart, but the working Yaquis all over Sonora and in California and Arizona were constantly coming in and joining with their brethren and the depredations upon the ranches and villages were widespread.

Meantime the Mexicans gathered in the women and children of their foe for deportation to Yucatan, following the demand of Diaz to "exterminate the Yaquis." Maddened by this and by the reports that the women and children were taken out into the Gulf of California and thrown overboard from the troop ships, the desperate Indians attacked the haciendas and also threatened the larger towns. Terror mad, the citizens of Nogales fled from their homes, and for a time martial law was proclaimed over the fear-stricken city of Hermosillo, the capital of Sonora. During the height of the excitement, troops were coming in bringing women and children for deportation, and also an occasional band of Yaqui soldiers, who were generally thrust into prison over night and in the morning taken out lined up and shot.

One of the most terrible slaughters during the last war upon the Yaquis occurred in June, 1902. One evening 300 armed Yaquis descended upon four haciendas near Hermosillo and took away 600 of their tribe, including women and children, who were there employed. The band marched toward Ures, reached Mazatlan mountain, and while waiting for the Mexican soldiers made bows, arrows and spears for those who were unarmed.

On June 15 900 Mexican soldiers came around the mountains, surprised the Yaquis, chased the armed warriors down the mountain, killing many of them and taking all the hacienda folk prisoners. Soon after the skirmish Ales Hrdlicka, representing the American museum, found in a little ravine on the mountain side the bodies of 64 of the Indians, including a number of women, a little girl and a baby. The skulls of nearly all the victims were shattered by Mauser bullets as to be of no use for the museum for which Hrdlicka was collecting.

In the hospital at Hermosillo in 1902 there were as many as 12 wounded women and a girl of seven with three bullet wounds in her body.

As another example of brave Mexican warfare 300 women and children who were captured near the Rancho Viejo were kept in a corral under guard for two days, during which time they were given nothing to eat but twc and one-half bushels of raw corn, on which they subsisted until night, when they were marched to Hermosillo, 38 miles away.

In July, 1902, an attempt was made by the Mexicans to surround 200 Yaquis in the San Mateo foothills, but the Indians learned of what was afoot, slipped into a side valley before the advance of the troops, and in the night strangled the sentries and, proceeding over to the sleeping soldiers, slew the whole column in the darkness and bound the officers to the trees, where they were found when relief came.

One reason why the last ten years' war has been more bloody than any that preceded it was that the Mexican government decreed that every Yaqui living on the pueblos or working on ranches or anywhere else was to be treated as a prisoner of war.

### Qualities in Men.

A sad nature sheds forth twilight. A merry and mirthful nature brings daylight. A suspicious nature insensibly imparts its chill to every generous soul within its reach. A bold and frank nature overcomes meanness in men. Firmness makes them firm. Firmness makes them fine. Taste directs, stimulates and develops taste. —Henry Ward Beecher.

### FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS.

Workingmen Are Organizing Against a Dangerous Foe.

No movement is at the present time more deeply stirring the ranks of organized labor throughout the United States than the campaign against tuberculosis. Politics, strikes, boycotts, and all other issues are being side-tracked to make way for the fight which is to save the lives of thousands of laboring men. Meetings are being held and movements started in hundreds of cities for the purpose of stimulating the labor forces to activity in anti-tuberculosis work.

### History of Movement.

This uprising against the worst foe of the workingmen is of such recent growth that in spite of its present magnitude and daily development, few people are aware of its significance and importance. Several years ago some of the larger national and international labor unions, notably the printers and cigar makers, began an anti-tuberculosis movement among their members, which resulted in the establishment by the printers of a sanatorium in Colorado Springs. Two years ago Mr. Paul Kennaday, of New York, spoke before the American Federation of Labor, and stirred many of the other unions to definite action against tuberculosis. This movement ripened about a year ago, when in Albany, N. Y., the laboring men got together and built a pavilion chiefly for the benefit of their afflicted members. The members of the Central Federated Union of that city, numbering about 6,000, each pay five cents a month for the maintenance of this pavilion. But more than the pavilion was the interest they aroused in the ranks of labor throughout New York state and the country in general.

### Some Results.

The results of the movement have been the establishment of a labor department by the State, Charities Aid association and a special lecturer to the unions, and an effort to enlist the aid of laboring men throughout the state in the campaign against tuberculosis. The American Federation of Labor, at its recent Denver convention, adopted resolutions of approval of the general course followed at Albany, and called upon its affiliated unions throughout the country to follow this example. Several of the State Federations of labor have also urged action against tuberculosis. The International Tuberculosis exhibit, held in New York City recently, stirred the workingmen of that city and Brooklyn to a realization of danger and responsibility, and they too recently took definite action in the warfare against this disease. From here the movement has spread all over the United States, until almost every labor union of any importance in almost every trade is beginning to discuss tuberculosis at its meetings. Hartford, Conn.; Galveston, Tex.; Newark, N. J.; St. Louis, Mo.; San Francisco, Cal.; Trenton, N. J.; Reading, Pa.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Boston, Mass., and Philadelphia, Pa. are a few of the cities that are leading in this effort.

In Connecticut, largely through the efforts of John F. Gunshannon, a movement has been organized in Hartford, Bridgeport, New Haven and several other cities, through which the various employers and employees of the factories are paying for the treatment of their fellow consumptives. Mr. Gunshannon's plan is to interest each factory in an effort to care for its own consumptives. Subscriptions are taken among the workmen, and in almost every case the employer contributes a sum equal to the total contributed by his men. These various factory units are so organized into a central body that the stronger ones are able to help the weaker. The money raised goes for the support of needy consumptive workmen in tuberculosis sanatoria.

In this way hundreds of factories in almost all of the large cities of Connecticut have been organized, and a large number of sick workmen and their families are being cared for.

### Consumption Fatal to Laborer.

That tuberculosis is particularly fatal to the workmen may be clearly seen from the fact that at least one-third of the deaths during the chief working period of life are caused by pulmonary tuberculosis. Every other workman who becomes incapacitated, must ascribe his condition to consumption. Dr. Lawrence F. Flick says: "Tuberculosis is peculiarly a disease of the wage-workers, and this is so for the very good reason that one of the causes of the disease is overwork." In some trades, such as that of the metal polishers, brass workers, and stone workers, from 35 to 50 per cent of all deaths are caused by tuberculosis. Dusty trades are particularly dangerous. Nebraska Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, 408 City Hall, Omaha.

### The "Adam God" Trial.

Kansas City, Mo.—The criminal court set March 30, as the date for the trial of James Sharp, known as "Adam God," and Melissa Sharp, his wife, religious fanatics charged with the murder of Policeman Michael P. Mullane.

### Leupp Will Remain.

Washington—Commissioner Leupp, at the earnest solicitation of President Taft, has withdrawn his resignation and will remain at the head of the Indian bureau for some months at least. Mr. Leupp was reluctant to do this, but he has inaugurated some reforms in administration of Indian affairs which meet with the entire approval of President Taft and he has requested that Mr. Leupp continue in office a sufficient time to work out his recommendations in the Indian service.

### Land Selections in Wyoming.

Washington.—The secretary of the interior has approved indemnity selection No. 10, for 4,883 acres of land located in the Douglas land district in Wyoming; also selection No. 117 of the same state under its grant of 3,000 acres, and 200 acres in the same land district as a site for a deaf, dumb and blind asylum to be erected. The secretary of the treasury sent a check for \$10,000 to the United States district attorney for the payment of the site for the public building at Ames, Ia.

### FAMED PORTERHOUSE STEAK

Varying Versions as to How the Dish Received Its Name.

"They had ordered a porterhouse steak and the manager of the restaurant, who knew them well, strolled up to pass the time of day. "Say," inquired Blickeys, "where did the name 'porterhouse' come from, anyhow?" "That is a subject that has been a

good deal in dispute," said the manager. "I've heard it said that it was so named after a certain hotel called the Porter House, which made a specialty of large, fine steaks. "But a well educated English head-waiter I used to know once told me that the name porterhouse is of English origin. He said that the cafes on the other side, or 'pubs,' as they called them, used to be divided into two

classes, the ale houses and the porterhouse steaks, the latter meaning a dish prepared for high-class patronage. I don't know whether this way of accounting for the name is correct or not, but it sounds reasonable, anyhow."

A Daughter in the Home. "Gunpowder stays where you put it, but gasoline floats away. Though a woman wouldn't dream of using gunpowder in her toilet, she uses gasoline regularly, which is a hundred times

more dangerous. Here is another terror born of the automobile." The speaker was a chauffeur. He resumed: "The automobile has familiarized us with gasoline and we have forgotten its perils. We wash gloves in it, we take out grease spots with it, we even use it in shampoos.

"Gunpowder stays where you put it, but gasoline uses its wings. There is a recorded case where the vapor, traveling 30 feet, took fire at a gas jet and burned a young girl to death. So

the next time your wife asks you to order her some gasoline tell her you'd rather she'd try gunpowder."

Man Is Not Made for Himself Only. No man is made only for himself and his own private affairs, but to serve, profit and benefit others.—Benjamin Colman.

### Pavemental.

Few of us are interested in those famous pavements made of good intentions, as we don't expect to go there, anyhow.—Chicago News.