

"When in need of the best coal in town or oak and pine wood, phone Southern Lumber & Ice Co., Cumberland 248, Home 180. Full weight and prompt delivery.

HATTIESBURG

Business College

Special Summer Rates for 60 Days Stenography, Bookkeeping and all collateral branches taught. Our system and methods have been tried by thousands and have proven to be satisfactory. Endorsed by professional and business men everywhere. No charges for securing position. Students may enter any time. Address

J. J. FERGUSON, Principal Hattiesburg, Mississippi



Something Wrong Here

You have glasses, yet you cannot see as you should. They are not properly fitted. Better come to us. We're experts in that branch of optical science. We'll examine your eyes and test your sight and fit you with glasses or spectacles that will give the very best results attainable, at small cost. The most valuable Christmas gift you could give a friend or relative is a pair of properly fitted glasses. The eye is the window of the SOUL, no one can enjoy the beauties and pleasures of life without perfect vision.

F. W. Queen, Oph. D. Optical Specialist Polk Bldg. 110 E. Pine St.

Having Fun in Gutemala.

A Story of Central American Hatred Against the Americans.

Most of the stories of Guatemala that have got into print of late have been tales of bloodshed, of torture and horrible cruelties within prison walls, or of the poisoning, hanging and shooting of political prisoners.

These tales are generally told by political exiles, the so-called emigrados of Guatemala who, fleeing from the wrath of President Estrada Cabrera, have forfeited all their property and rights of citizenship. Having lost their all, they have nothing more to lose by telling the truth about their country.

But not all the truth is told in these tales. Guatemala has its moments of gaiety, and these moments are so far prolonged sometimes, that much of the public debt of the republic must be credited to the score of holiday fiestas.

At a time when the public exchequer is too poor to pay the interest on the national debt, too poor to pay the salaries of the public school teachers and other governmental officials, too poor to mend the dilapidated highways or broken-down bridges, there is always money to be found for public fiestas and entertainments.

Take last year's record alone. There was the opening of the Guatemala Railroad in January, establishing rail connections between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. For this purpose special delegations were invited from the United States and from other countries, all of course, at the expense of Guatemala. After their arrival fiestas followed fiesta, banquets, military reviews, balls, fireworks, picnics and excursions, at all of which champagne flowed like water. Finally, after two weeks of such fiestas, the foreign guests left the country so laden with expensive gifts that some of the party had to provide themselves with extra boxes and trunks to carry their presents.

After that came the prolonged fiesta of the Central American Medical Congress. Nothing whatever was accomplished for medicine or science, not a single original contribution was received, but no end of money was spent again for banquets, picnics, excursions, military reviews, balls, concerts and gala performances, with the usual torrents of champagne. To enliven the

sessions of the medicos an Italian opera company was persuaded to come to Guatemala to give a series of performances for which the government paid a subsidy of \$40,000 in gold.

The medical visitors had scarcely left the country when the time arrived for the regular mid-summer fiesta of one week, with a public fair, horse races each day and an elaborate flower festival and banquet at the end of each week.

One month after this, in the middle of September, came the four fiestas days in celebration of Guatemala's Declaration of Independence, when the whole country is given up to public concerts, banquets, torchlight processions, fireworks and general drunkenness.

It is during this fiesta, at night time, that the fireworks of the public squares are enlivened by the co-called toros or bulls, i. e. men bearing rude frame-works resembling bulls with horns which sputter firecrackers and rockets into the dense crowd of on-lookers.

One month after these celebrations, which always cost the government hundreds of thousands of dollars, come the "Minervales." They are Estrada Cabrera's pet fiesta in honor of Minerva, the Goddess of Wisdom. Then thousands of children of the school age are brought to the capital at the public expense and there are made to march in parades and appear in flower drills while the proud fathers get drunk, and the government officials at public banquets pledge President Cabrera as the benefactor of the country in brimming cups of champagne.

Then about Christmas time come the bull fights when audiences of eight and ten thousand attend, and so it goes on, year in and year out in Guatemala, until the expense for fiestas alone runs into many millions. Hence the government, to meet its running expenses, is driven to hypothecate Guatemala's customs receipts, and to pay 1 per cent advance interest as well as 5 per cent commission, order to obtain a loan of 80 per cent, the bulk of which is furnished in the deteriorated paper currency of Guatemala. According to this one Guatemalan dollar is worth not quite six cents in our money.

So much for the public aspect of these fiestas, which under the dictatorship of Estrada Cabrera are made to serve the same purpose as did the Roman gladiator shows under Tiberius and Caligula.

Now let us see what are some private notions of having a good time in Guatemala as it is today.

It has already been mentioned that the anniversary of Guatemala's Declaration of Independence is celebrated with universal drunkenness throughout the land. So is the day following it, which happens to be the Independence day of Mexico. So is the day after that, because it is the Independence day of Chile, and so on throughout the week.

The writer of this testifies to the feature of drunkenness, since on September 15 of this year it was his misfortune to find himself in the open country of Guatemala riding horseback midway between Zacapa and the capital. During that long day's ride every man he met, whether white, Indian or negro, whether commandante of common bare-footed soldier, was reeling drunk.

Now this is the authentic story of how the commandante of Zacapa, one General Enrique Aris, managed to have a good time in his town of the Independence Day of Mexico.

All that day, September 15, General Aris, having duly celebrated his own national fiesta the day before, spent at the house of one Senor Spinola, a Mexican, employed as the station agent of the American railroad running through Zacapa. The day was celebrated with a champagne "breakfast," which lasted until 10 o'clock at night. Then the whole party left the house, mounted their horses and escorted the general to his commandante.

As they rode over a dark road between the railroad station and the town they passed a small American hotel, the bar-room of which still stood open. Some of the party reined up their horses and proposed to have another drink. "No," said the commandante, "there is plenty of drink at my house, but just the same let us dismount and have some fun with this Yankee pig."

What followed is best told in the language of those who were on the spot, whose reports formed the subject of much diplomatic correspondence, all of which is to be found among the Guatemalan records of our state department in Washington.

"Heretofore the governor has confined his cruelty to his own unfor-

testified afterward, " had been spending the evening at my house together with some of his officers and friends. It was the national holiday of my country—Mexico. At 10 in the evening we all left my house to ride to the commandancia. As we were passing by Mr. Shine's hotel, the commandante stopped and said, 'let us have some fun with this American swine.' The commandante dismounted and went into the bar. Mr. Shine was there with a friend and a Chinese servant of his. General Aris asked how his place came to be open so late. Mr. Shine said he had a night license and turned to take it from the wall where it hung in plain view. Thereupon General Aris struck him in the face. The commandante's nephew followed this up with a blow in Shine's face from the butt of his pistol. Then all the officers set upon Shine and the other Americans about the place and dragged them to jail. During the melee one of the commandante's men stole the American hotel keeper's gold watch from his pocket."

Here is the testimony of another eye witness of this affair. He was George Milliken, an American, employed at the railway hospital in Zacapa:

"I was standing opposite Shine's hotel, together with Monroe Williams, about 10:30 o'clock on the night of September 16, when a party of officers rode up, pretty drunk. Williams said: 'It's the commandante. We had better get out of this and with that he moved off. The commandante went into Shine's place and the next minute there was an awful noise and I could hear the sound of blows and Shine crying 'Si Senor, Si Senor.' A Chinaman came flying out through the door with blood running down his face. I started to run but a soldier ran up and struck me in the small of my back with his rifle. I fell flat on my face. As I lay there the other Guatemalan officers and soldiers set upon me and beat me about the head and body with their guns and pistols, 'til I lost my senses.

"When I woke up I was lying on the cobble stones in the courtyard of the jail with my hair wet with clotted blood and feeling sore all over. Nobody paid any attention to my calls for a doctor, nor would they even give me a drink of water. I was kept there for two days. At last Mr. Spinola came and I was let out, because Mr. Shine, unbeknown to me, had paid \$25 for me, which they claimed as a fine.

"Afterward I went to Puerto Barrios to be treated by Dr. Wallis, the American marine surgeon there. I wanted to go to Livingston across the bay to see the American consul there, Mr. Reed, but the Guatemalan commandante at Puerto Barrios would not let me go."

Evidently Mr. Reed, at his vice consulate across the bay in Livingston, near British Honduras, must have heard of the trouble there Americans were in, for he appears to have chartered a small steamer and came straight to Puerto Barrios. There in the American Marine Hospital he found these victims of a Guatemalan holiday laid up in bed from the brutal treatment they had received.

Milliken was the worst hurt, suffering from a scalp wound penetrating to the skull, and from concussion of the brain besides other hurts, while Shine had bruises and contusions all over his body. Shine told the American vice consul that he did not know what had brought this brutal attack upon him. He said he owned a small hotel in Zacapa with a barber shop and bar-room. For this last he paid a license fee of \$2.50 per month with an additional license fee of \$10 for the privilege of keeping open from 9 until 11 p. m. The commandante, he said, on that evening entered his place at 10:30 and savagely attacked him without any provocation on his part before he even had time to show him his license. After that he was dragged to jail and spent thirty-six hours there.

Here follows Vice Consul Reed's report, as transmitted to the American state department.

"I have known Simon Shine for a number of years and can attest to his sobriety, integrity and industry. I feel he is an unusually good man, who has, by his frugality, saved up considerable money from which he purchased his property in Zacapa.

"For cruel and blood-thirsty methods Governor Aris has a reputation equalled by few, not only in Zacapa, but in other places where he has governed.

"This Aris has a habit of splashing with his whip across the faces of passers-by in Zacapa, who don't raise their hats to him when he goes riding up the street.

"This governor is known to be of a very vindictive character. Once he gets down upon a person, he will ruin that person, or worse yet, have him killed in some trumped up brawl. Once a person has incurred his displeasure there is nothing left for that person but to move out of the governor's jurisdiction.

"Heretofore the governor has confined his cruelty to his own unfor-

minate countrymen, but now that he has turned on our people, he ought to be made to understand that he cannot pound, bruise and torture our people just for the fun of the thing."

"This sounds like pretty vigorous language, but unfortunately it was not followed up by correspondingly vigorous action on the part of our American legation at the capital. At all events nothing was done about the matter for a long time.

Meanwhile the consequences of having dared to make an official complaint followed thick and fast for Shine. Witness the following letter from him to Vice Consul Reed, transmitted by the American consulate in Guatemala to the state department in Washington:

"I have closed my place of business in Zacapa and have a watchman guarding the place. I was doing a very profitable business in Zacapa, all of which is ruined now. People are afraid to enter my establishment lest they displease the commandante and be liable to ill-treatment from him. As it is now a patrol of soldiers comes every hour of the day and evening to inspect my place. As I am at any moment subject to the governor's anger and resentment I must close my business and abandon my home.

"In fact, I am afraid to live in Zacapa now, as I am sure General Aris will make it his business to ruin me and to do personal violence, or he may order some of his emissaries to murder me. When I went down to Puerto Barrios to have my wounds dressed and to see my consul, one of the governor's men followed me all the way from Zacapa to Barrios."

Matters went from bad to worse for Shine, and still nothing happened. Finally he grew desperate and wrote a personal letter to President Roosevelt. A copy of this letter was shown to the writer sometime afterwards when he was at Zacapa. Here is the bulk of it:

"I write this letter to let you know that I have been all beat up by the Governor of the Department of Zacapa, General Enrique Aris. He, himself, struck me. At the same time two other Americans were nearly clubbed to death by pistols that were in the hands of the friends of General Aris.

"On the night of September 16, General Aris and his body guard rode up to my place, got off their horses and came in. There were some words and I answered as best I could in Spanish. All I said was 'Si Senor.' Whereupon the governor hit me a hard blow on the face with his fist. His nephew, who stood behind him, reached over and hit me on the head with his revolver, a heavy 44. At this a number of them closed on me and began pounding me. Someone snatched my gold watch from my pocket. It had cost me \$225. They carried me off to jail, pounding me all the way, and kept me there all night. The next day I was let out.

Another American, George Milliken, was standing outside of my place, and the governor's friends beat him with their revolvers until he was nearly in the hospital. Also they pounded to jelly the face of Monroe Williams, another American who was a bystander.

"Please, Mr. President, can't you order our man-of-war now at Puerto Cortez to come over here to investigate the beating up of American citizens. Then Guatemala will have to do me justice and I will be sure of getting the same good treatment that Guatemaltecos get in our country. This is my right as a citizen and that is all I ask. Mr. President please protect us. We have no one to look to but you."

When this letter reached Mr. Roosevelt something happened. Telegraphic inquiries and replies flashed back and forth between the state department and the American legation at Guatemala. Mr. Sands, American charge d'affaires at that time called upon Mr. Kent, the American consul general in Guatemala to probe this matter to the bottom. All Americans involved were summoned to Guatemala City and their depositions were taken. The charge d'affaires went to the minister of foreign affairs, Don Juan Barrios, now in Washington, and the consul general was summoned before the Guatemalan president.

The upshot of it all was that General Aris was deposed from his governorship and was recalled to Guatemala City, where he came to his death soon afterward in a tavern brawl at the hands of bravos believed to be in the pay of Estrada Cabrera.

The Guatemalan government agreed to pay \$5,000 each to Messrs. Shine and Milliken, the American citizens who have been maltreated.

Thus ended the characteristic little piece of Guatemalan diversion. The drollest thing about it is that all the residents of Zacapa, natives and foreigners, are now mourning over the loss of Governor Aris. He was a hound, as they admit, but with all his faults he was a thousand times to be preferred to the human blood hounds of a governor who came after him and is there now.

The Martin Printing Co. Printers and Book Binders 121 Front Street Hattiesburg, Miss. BOTH PHONES 301

Good Plumbing Sanitary Plumbing Co. No room in the home deserves more attention than the bath room, because your health may depend upon the quality of the fixtures and the plumbing. Defective plumbing creates sewer gas and sewer gas brings typhoid fever and malaria.

Graham Construction Co. Special Attention to All Kinds of Construction in South Mississippi. If you need quick service either wire or write for our representative to call For Heavy Hauling inside city call Home Phone 22

LOGGING RAILROADS CONSTRUCTED BY WM. D. CASSONE, Contractor, Allentown, Pennsylvania If the money market is dull with you I will build the road and furnish the labor money. Keep this address for future reference.

DOLLS DOLLS TOYS TOYS We have a complete line of Toys and Holiday Presents, Suitable for Everybody. SEE OUR LINE BEFORE YOU BUY HATTIESBURG HARDWARE CO. 612 MAIN STREET

ABSOLUTELY FREE When we put your saw in order, we will surface both sides on our new surface grinder, making it smooth and almost like new, and will make no extra charge for this. This represents from \$3.00 to \$5.00 additional work, and costs you NOT ONE CENT. We do this because we want your work and the order for that new saw. We have facilities found in no other shop in the U. S. Remember that the best of men cannot make a badly marked or dented saw run and hold up without the saw is surfaced, skinned or ground. We are the ONLY people this side of Chattanooga or Atlanta who can do this. CONSIDER YOUR INTEREST. A good saw will make you money. A poor one will bust any man. One day's sawing will more than compensate for our charges. Then you have a saw which you can depend on. Follow our directions and if saw does not run right ship it to us by freight COLLECT. WE WILL REHAMMER IT FREE. Genuine Hoe Bits and Shanks in stock at a little lower than Hoe New York price J. H. MINER SAW WORKS, Lumberton, Miss.

We now have the following Second Hand Machinery for sale: 1 50 h. p. Return Tubular Boiler 1 90 h. p. Return Tubular Boiler 1 100 h. p. Return Tubular Boiler 3 70 h. p. Return Tubular Boiler 1 20 h. p. Return Tubular Boiler 1 60 h. p. Portable Boiler. 1 12 x 20 H. S. G. Engine. 1 Hill Nigger. 2 Twin Engines. 3 Portable Saw Mills Complete. Union Mfg. & Supply Co. HATTIESBURG, MISS.