

TAMAULIPAS OIL FIELD STILL HELD BY DE LA HUERTA

Backbone of Fascisti Revolt Is Broken

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(By The Federated Press)

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 25.—The backbone of the counter-revolt is broken and the question of punishment or amnesty has become the order of the day.

The forces of Enrique Estrada on the western front, tho recently defeated in a sensational battle won by the heroism of a Yaqui Indian regiment which crossed a river under fire, have not been demoralized or scattered. Nor for that matter has the eastern army of the fascisti ceased to exist tho it is disorganized.

Nevertheless the backbone of the counter-revolution is broken and both Vera Cruz and Guadalajara, the two former fascist centers, have been occupied and normal train service is running to both.

Vera Cruz, Key Point.

The strategic importance of Vera Cruz as a custom center and consequent source of revenue, and as the principal port of the republic, cannot be overemphasized. The taking of Guadalajara is not important strategically, but the victory accompanying it, for the time, protected the railways to the north.

One more strategic center remains to the hazards of combat—the oil fields of Tamaulipas. When the fascisti were beaten at Esperanza and Cordoba, they withdrew in fair degree of intactness toward Tuxpan, the fascist military center in the oil district. This is the next federal objective and oil gives it a tremendous importance.

On the other hand, the objective of the fascisti is Tampico. A successful occupation of the region from Tuxpan to Tampico would oil the bearings of the fascisti machinery considerably. But it is not likely.

Ham Lewis After Concessions.

Even the friends of the rebellion here are beginning to admit that the revolt will gradually be reduced to civilization-destroying guerilla warfare. The government has begun paying its employes again, the American concession hunters, headed this time by ex-Senator J. Hamilton Lewis, are back in the Hotel Regis, the broken economic life of the country is slowly being repaired, and the big conservative dailies in the capital are writing editorials in favor of amnesty to the fascisti and magnanimity in the treatment of their leaders.

Amnesty is the topic of the day. The pro-government organ, El Democrata, has declared against it. "We must set such an example," they declare, "that military elements will never again attempt a coup d'etat." The secretary of Gobernacion (secretary of state) has issued a declaration in similar vein.