

ISSUE WAR RECORD OF INSTITUTE SOON

Complete History of Technology Men in Service in
Great War Makes Appearance in August—
Contains 8000 Men's Records

CAPT. J. A. RUCKMAN '10 IN CHARGE OF WORK

The record of Technology's part in the World War will be handed down to the classes to come in a fitting form. The War Record published by the Alumni and containing facts and stories of the battles that about 8,000 of the graduates of the Institute took part in, is written in a modest style by the men who actually performed the deeds or by some friend who was on the spot at the time. Many incidents are to be found in the Record edited by Captain J. A. Ruckman '10, which have not been published before.

Toward the close of 1918 it became evident that there was going to be no more fighting on the Western Front. Early in December Mrs. Sedgewick, wife of Professor Sedgewick, wrote to Professor Tyler suggesting the publication of a book giving the history of Technology men in the war. Dr. Tyler referred the suggestion to James W. Rollins '78, chairman of the committee for national service. The proposition was taken up at a January meeting of the Alumni Council and it was voted that a committee should be appointed to publish the book. This committee consisted of H. W. Tyler '34, chairman, Walter B. Snow '32, T. Coleman duPont '34, Ex-Officio, Harry S. Young '31, G. D'W. Marcy '05, Walter Humphreys '97, Ex-Officio, H. G. Pearson, Faculty, and James P. Munroe '32, who was asked to represent formally the Corporation.

Capt. Ruckman Chosen Editor

The committee held its first meeting on June 6, and arranged for a meeting of the class secretaries June 12. At that dinner Dr. Tyler outlined the plan of the book and a provisional table of contents was drawn up. It was originally planned that different chapters should be written by various editors, and the whole compiled into one book.

This however proved impractical. The work of any one chapter was no small task. Moreover, it was evident that without further data, there was no one who had sufficient knowl-

edge of Technology men in the war to write even a single chapter. It was accordingly determined to place the entire publication of the book in the hands of a single editor, and Captain J. A. Ruckman '10, was selected for the work.

Information Blanks Sent to Alumni

Captain Ruckman graduated in 1910 from Course II, mechanical engineering. During his undergraduate years he took an active part in Institute activities, being a member of the football team, track team, Technique Electoral Committee, Technique Board, Mechanical Engineering Society and Cosmopolitan Club. After leaving the Institute he worked for three years as a driller in the California oil fields. Geology appealed to him and he took a post graduate course in that subject at the University of California.

On November first, blanks were sent out to the various Alumni asking them for their war record. Late in October a second appeal was sent out and a third one in December. The answers were rather meagre, but by means of the three appeals, a little over 6,000 records were received. A search was made through Technology periodicals and other publications and records of S. A. T. C. were also gone over. As a result information of about 8,000 men was received. This number is about the entire active list of Technology men. This was considered quite complete

because the Endowment campaign reached the same number of men.

Contains Many Photographs

The stories in the War Record book were obtained from the replies of the Alumni and enlarged by men who had exceptional interest and experience. The book will be very different in character from war records being put out by other colleges. There are articles written on special subjects such as a story on Hog Island by Matthew C. Brush, '01, and on the duPont Powder Works by General duPont. Enough of the Argonne Forest battle was written to make a continuous and interesting story of that campaign. One man writes a part of the story, according as he saw the battle. Then where he leaves off, another Alumnus takes up the story and continues it. In this way the story of the battle is written by six men. Thus some remarkable, but absolutely accurate reports were obtained.

Stories of nearly all the big battles were written up by Technology men as they saw the fights, for a Technology man was in nearly every battle. Some interesting and remarkable photographs were also contributed. Some of these stories have either never been published before or in many cases they tell of things about various events, the details of which have not hitherto been published. The naval battle of Durazzo is a good example of this. Admiral Sims published an account of the fight but the narrative written by one of our men who took part in the battle differs in several particulars and is an exceedingly interesting story.

'17 HOLDS RECORD

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hand for the festivities which begin today. The class of 1918 will have 38 representatives.

The classes and the number returning for reunion follows: '68 to '70—2; '71 to '75—10; '76 to '80—15; '81—5; '82—5; '83—3; '84—6; '85—8; '86—8; '87—7; '88—12; '89—9; '90—17; '91—15; '92—14; '93—16; '94—19; '95—12; '96—17; '97—20; '98—27; '99—12; '00—22; '01—17; '02—21; '03—16; '04—23; '05—36; '06—27; '07—23; '08—19; '09—29; '10—36; '11—28; '12—22; '13—33; '14—36; '15—34; '16—35; '17—47; '18—38; '19—36; '20—35.

TECHNOLOGY ALUMNUS CAUSES REVOLUTION

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ber of the American Institute of Mining Engineers and the American Geographical Society.

Member of American Commission

He has been identified with the revolution ever since its beginning. He has fought with Carranza against Huerta and as a result he was made a member of the official family. In looking around for a suitable man with whom to intrust the delicate diplomatic relations with the U. S., he picked out Bonillas, who was persona grata to our Government. Bonillas was already well known in the southwestern part of the United States. In Washington he was known as a member of the commission which sought without success to devise a settlement between the two countries. He was secretary of communications in Carranza's cabinet and was obliged to solve difficult questions relating to the restoration of the post-office and telegraph. He took charge of the diplomatic post in 1917. During his stay, the countries were quite friendly. It was a difficult task to handle the diplomatic affairs between Mexico and the United States and the success of his administration showed that he understood America and Mexico and was able to steer the right course.

Rebellion Breaks Out

Soon after Bonillas returned from Washington, Obregon started on a campaign through Mexico in favor of his own candidacy. The political duel then started. Carranza decided to stem the rebels before it was too late. He sent troops to Sonora, where the trouble started, in order to arrest Obregon. The troops went over to the revolutionists. From Sonora the revolutionary wave spread down through the states to the south like wild fire. Warfare had actually begun. Obregon and General Gonzales lead all the discontented elements in the unhappy country against the civil party under the leadership of Carranza and Bonillas.

Bonillas was obliged to go to the capitals of the several states to counteract with his presence the effects of Obregon's campaign. On this tour he encountered many dangers.

Kidnapped by Rebels

It was during this period, April to June, that the world heard the news-

paper report of the kidnapping of Carranza's candidate, while on one of his auto rides in the vicinity of Mexico City. A month later there were rumors that he had withdrawn from the presidential race. During this time Obregon was making it quite hot for Carranza in the City of Mexico. By the first of May few states were still loyal to the government. Carranza thought that it was time to flee. On May 7 he left the city together with Bonillas and the official family. The rebels entered the city during the middle of the month. Carranza was fighting in the state of Puebla trying to escape. Then came the tragedy on May 23 in the Pueblo mountains. The party was surprised by the rebel general Herrera and Carranza was assassinated. Bonillas, General Barrigon, and the rest of the official party were unharmed. Having at last lost his support, Bonillas was now out of the presidential game. The survivors were given permission to bring the body of the Mexican president to the Capital. The party was immediately imprisoned by Obregon, pending an investigation of the murder. On May 27 the state department in Washington inquired as to the status of the fate of Bonillas and it was assured of his safety.

Is Still in Prison

Latest reports show that Bonillas is still in prison in the hands of Obregon. Both men come from the same state, Sonora, and they have known each other since childhood. Both fought for Carranza in the early days of the revolution. What will become of Bonillas in the future is a matter of conjecture. We see that the uprising of the rebels prevented a graduate of Technology from becoming the president of an American republic.

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