

THE NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION.

Part Played by President Zelaya, Despot and Dictator.

HOW THE UPRISING STARTED.

Juan Estrada, Leader of the Movement, is the Prospective President. Side Lights on the Man Who Held Two Americans Summarily Executed.

By JAMES A. EDGERTON.

Jose Santos Zelaya, president of Nicaragua, has been called the mischief maker of Central America. It may turn out that when he had two American citizens shot without proper trial he made mischief once too often. As an ordinary thing your Uncle Samuel does not grow highly excited over these Latin American revolutions, but when some two by four despots like Zelaya imagines he can shoot Americans in



JOSE SANTOS ZELAYA.

the same high handed manner he does his own subjects it is time to put the fear of God into his heart.

Zelaya has been lord high boss of Nicaragua for sixteen years. That is not the official name for his job, but is more nearly descriptive of it than his official title. To be precise, he is known as president and is supposed to be elected every four years. But to be truthful—which is more important, at least outside of diplomatic circles—he put himself in by bayonets and has maintained his power by bullets. True, the forms of an election have been gone through at stipulated times, but there was no opposition for the reason that if anybody else had dared to be a candidate Zelaya would have had him taken out and shot.

During much of the time he has been in office Zelaya has been engaged in putting down revolutions or in fighting some of the other Central American republics. He was putting down one of these annual uprisings or trying to do so at the time he got gay with the two Americans Leroy Cannon and Leonard Groce and had them shot one morning before breakfast. It is hard to tell why all these Latin American executions occur before breakfast. Possibly it is for the purpose of giving the executioners an appetite.

How the Trouble Began.

The ordinal number of the present Nicaraguan revolution is not known. It may be the seventeenth or the sixtieth, but anyway it is something high. When the band plays at an unusual time down there it is usually the signal for a new revolt. Somebody wants to be president, and, inasmuch as he will be shot if he goes about it in a peaceful way, he tries to shoot first.

This uprising was started by the Estrada family, which has furnished some of Zelaya's chief officials. There were five of the Estrada brothers, but one of them is now dead. The youngest of the five, Juan Estrada, is the leader of the movement and prospective president. The two Americans Cannon and Groce, who were large property owners in Nicaragua and elsewhere in Central America, joined the Estrada standard, and one of them was placed on the commander's staff. Zelaya surprised the insurgent army by crossing into Costa Rica and attacking it, and the two Americans were captured among others. Instead of being treated as prisoners of war they were summarily executed. It is this which has caused the rushing of American gunboats to Nicaraguan waters and which occasioned the sharp note from Secretary Knox stating that the United States would not for one minute tolerate such action. The execution of prisoners unless they are spies is contrary to international law and opposed to civilized warfare.

Zelaya a Chronic Disturber.

This is not the first trouble we have had with Zelaya, but on former occasions he has evaded giving satisfaction on the pretense that the American demands were aggressions. From well authenticated reports that have come from his dominions he has revived the terrors of the Spanish Inquisition and has tried to make of himself a cheap composite of Torquemada, the Duke of Alva and Cipriano Castro. Zelaya is better educated than Castro, being the son of a planter and having received his schooling in Paris. After

his return to his own country he was one of the young bloods and declared so violently against the government that he was banished and joined President Barrios of Guatemala, whose dream was to become head of all the Central American republics, an ambition that Zelaya himself afterward entertained. The young soldier became a member of Barrios' staff and followed him to his death. Zelaya then returned to his own country, led a revolution and landed in the president's chair.

Nicaragua is about the size of New England and has less than a half million inhabitants, most of whom are Indians. In the old days it was called Mohammed's paradise, but if the followers of the prophet were to see it they would forswear their religion. Nicaragua has no roads and in the interior is as primitive as in the days of Columbus. The principal industries are raising revolutions and avoiding work. Zelaya has added one other occupation to those two—that of paying taxes. He is a great money maker and has amassed a private fortune of millions. He is brave, however, has shown some military ability and made of his army something more than the joke it is in some Latin American countries.

QUICKER TELEGRAMS NOW.

Device to Make a Telegraph Office Out of Every Telephone Station.

A revolutionary change in the telegraphic facilities of New York city was recently predicted by persons holding high office in the new merger of telephone and telegraph interests, formed by the American Telephone and Telegraph company securing the Western Union. The messenger running, or, more often walking, to the telegraph office with the dispatch is to be eliminated.

According to these plans, it will soon be possible for the telephone subscriber to write out his dispatch on an electric machine, which will reproduce it simultaneously in the office of the telegraph company. This will virtually make a telegraph office out of every telephone station and will add enormously to the facilities of the telegraph companies.

Persons in authority said that it would be only a short time before such a device would be placed at the command of all the large business houses of the United States.

It is believed that such an instrument can be supplied to large subscribers at virtually no extra expense, while it will be possible for small subscribers to have it at a relatively low cost.

The charge for such a writing machine with a direct telegraph connection will not probably in any case exceed \$100. In cases where from three to four hundred messages are sent each day there will be no extra expense whatever. One result of this improvement will be to provide all telephone subscribers with almost instantaneous telegraph service, and there is no doubt that it will divert to the telegraph company a large volume of the business that is now handled at much larger expense over the long distance telephone system. One very important development expected to follow the working out of the alliance between the telephone company and the telegraph company is the ultimate reduction in the expense of sending a telegraph message.

One of the highest officers of the telephone company said that he believed it would be possible after awhile for the telegraph company to accept messages on the basis of a twenty-five cent charge for a fifteen word message, instead of a ten word message.

WEDDING THAT WAS A POEM.

Ceremony in Elegy Introduced by a Middletown (N. Y.) Pastor.

A genuinely poetic marriage was the one at Calvary Baptist church in Middletown, N. Y., the other morning, uniting Clarence B. Crane, a young business man of Middletown, and Miss Luella May Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac M. Clark.

The Rev. John A. Courtright, pastor of the church, performed the ceremony, which was nearly all in poetry, and the service was so impressive that it promises to become a popular fad with those eligible for the ceremony. Mr. Courtright only recently assumed the pastorate of the church, and his remarkable innovation in weddings has been a decided hit.

Memorial to a Great Golfer.

It was agreed at a committee meeting held in St. Andrews, Scotland, to erect a bronze panel representing the head and shoulders in life size of the late Tom Morris. The panel will be placed on the west gable of the royal and ancient clubhouse. The balance of the memorial fund after paying the expenses for this erection will be used to endow a bed in St. Andrews Cottage hospital to be known as the Tom Morris bed and upon which golf professionals and caddies are to have first claim.

New Pin Money League.

A number of well known society women of Bloomfield, N. J., have organized the National Pin Money league. The object is to enable persons shut in by illness to earn money for their needs by making fancy articles, rugs, etc. Miss Lillian W. Babcock is president, with headquarters at 343 Belleville avenue, Bloomfield.

Novel Social Fad.
An Atchison (Kan.) man who will give a man party shortly will have portieres made of wienerwurst and will give a prize to the one guessing nearest to the number of sausages in the decorations.

WHAT SAVED THE CHERRY MINERS.

Owe Their Lives to Government's Rescue Corps.

RUSHED TO SCENE OF DISASTER

As Soon as Word Was Received of the Catastrophe Men Trained at Experiment Station in Pittsburgh in Use of Oxygen Helmets Were Sent to St. Paul Coal Mine.

It is believed by United States government officers in Washington that the miners who were recently saved from death in the St. Paul coal mine at Cherry, Ill., owe their lives to the work of the government's rescue corps connected with the geological survey. These men, who are stationed at Pittsburgh, where the survey has an experiment station for investigating the causes of mine disasters, were rushed to Cherry as soon as word of the catastrophe was received.

Each member of the corps had been trained in the use of what is known as the oxygen helmet, an apparatus that permits artificial breathing in the presence of deadly gases. Equipped with such helmets the government's life savers were able to enter the shaft of the burning mine and fight the fire at close range.

Officials said that had the methods that have been in use in the past been employed the mine shaft would have been sealed until the fire had been smothered for want of oxygen. This, of course, would have meant a delay sufficient to have caused the death of every man under ground.

Much Time Saved in Reaching Miners.

Geological survey officers said that the ability of the government's rescue corps to enter the mine, filled as it was with smoke and gas, saved at least several days' time in reaching the entombed men. To these officers the rescue at Cherry is the most practical demonstration ever given anywhere in the world of the efficiency of the oxygen helmets.

They asserted that this experience would go a long way toward showing mine owners and miners the necessity for having a complete equipment of oxygen helmets at each mine, together with a corps of men trained in their use. It is their belief that hundreds of lives can be saved in this manner and the terrible death rate in American mines thereby reduced to a figure somewhat approaching the comparatively low rate of casualties in European coal mines.

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With the government's method this agonizing wait at the shaft for the gas to dissipate is done away with and it is not necessary to pour fresh air into the mine, for the members of the rescue corps in their oxygen helmets can enter any atmosphere, however deadly, and remain for a period of two hours. If there has been an explosion of gas the members of the corps enter the mine at once and look for small fires that usually follow explosions. These fires are extinguished at once, and then the ventilating current is turned on without any danger. In other words, the mine's normal condition is restored at the earliest possible moment, and the men who are in the farthest recesses of the mine, where the black damp has not yet penetrated, are able to walk out.

The station erected at Pittsburgh consists of an explosive gallery, where the powders used in blasting the coal are tested and standardized, and also a large room for the training of miners in rescue work.

Equipment of the Rescuer.
The oxygen helmet and auxiliary apparatus weigh between thirty-five and forty pounds. The helmet is a metallic case inclosing the head with an insulating front. The helmet proper is connected with tubes leading to two tanks of oxygen, which are carried on the back in a manner similar to a soldier's knapsack, the straps supporting it going over the shoulders.

Each tank contains oxygen sufficient to last one hour. An indicator attached to the oxygen tanks shows the wearer of the helmet just how much time he may remain in the mine. This is absolutely necessary, for if the rescuer has walked half a mile into a mine and it has taken him thirty minutes to traverse the distance he must figure on thirty or forty minutes' time to return.

In addition to the tanks of oxygen, there is a cartridge of potassium hydrogen which takes up the poisonous matter from the breath and absorbs it, thus keeping the oxygen in its purity to do the two hours' work. These helmets are in general use in European coal producing countries and are credited with saving many lives.

Crime Page for Each Newspaper.

Placing all the crime in a newspaper on one page was the idea presented to the Federation of Women's Clubs in annual session at Rochester, N. Y., the other day by Mrs. A. C. Fisk, newspaper and magazine writer. The federation after Mrs. Fisk's address adopted resolutions in favor of the plan, which, if adopted by newspapers, would allow subscribers to tear out the crime page of the paper before their children could read of the murders, robberies, slanders, divorces and other too frank adult doings.

ZELAYA A GREAT FIGHTER.

President of Nicaragua, Who Executed Two American Citizens.

The revolt which recently broke out in Nicaragua came as a climax to a series of persecutions inaugurated by Jose Santos Zelaya, titular president and actual dictator of Nicaragua, against whom President Taft and Secretary of State Knox have decided to take drastic action for his summary execution of the two Americans, Leroy Cannon and Leonard Groce. Zelaya is fifty-one years old, and the wonderful thing about his life is that he has lived so long after making himself so many fervent enemies.

Zelaya belongs to the aristocracy of his country. As a boy he was sent to Paris and received his education there, but his success has been obtained by means of the sword rather than the pen. It is likely that he inherited a considerable fortune, but this has been built up since he became ruler of Nicaragua until now it must be estimated in the millions. He owns enormous coffee plantations alone and controls the exclusive rights to many of the industries.

This is not the first time that Zelaya has defied the United States. That has been one of his principal diversions, as a matter of fact. Whenever the United States has sought redress he has set up the cry of aggression.

Zelaya gained his ascendancy in 1897 by winning a big battle. He is a fighter and a tactician, and if he has drenched his country and the other little countries that are unfortunate enough to border it in the blood of thousands of their inhabitants he has done it on a military scale that is seldom attained in Central America.

Ever since he first became president he has been combating revolutions or else fighting with some other state that had pluck enough to resist his domineering attitude. In 1899 the Conservatives of Nicaragua rose in rebellion and were defeated with much slaughter. He bullied Honduras and Salvador and Guatemala and even manipulated their politics. After 1901, when he was re-elected president, his rule was unquestioned.

All sorts of stories have been circulated about his cruelties. If one tithe of them have been true, then certainly Zelaya has maintained a rule that for sheer ferocity has surpassed anything alleged against Russian grand dukes. Those for whom he had personal enmities he is said to have caused to be removed at will. He is credited with having reintroduced the methods of the Inquisition and the practices of the Spanish viceroys of the eighteenth century. The dungeon and the firing squad and trial by court martial have been his instruments of justice.

MEMORIAL TO WASHINGTON.

Costly Building to Be Erected in Honor of First President.

The George Washington Memorial association announced the other day that it had begun a campaign to raise \$2,500,000 for the erection of a memorial building at Washington as headquarters for scientific, educational, patriotic, art and literary organizations of the United States.

With the support of the Washington Academy of Sciences, National Federation of Art, National Academy of Sciences, American Medical Association, Association of American Physicians and other bodies it is planned to raise by popular subscription a building fund before Feb. 22, 1910, the one hundred and seventy-eighth anniversary of the birth of George Washington.

Senator Elihu Root, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, Dr. William Welch, Professor Alexander Agassiz, General Horace Porter, Professor H. Fairfield Osborn and Dr. Ira Remsen have volunteered to serve on an advisory council with Mrs. Henry F. Dimock, who is leading the movement.

"Among the \$80,000,000 of Americans we feel sure we will find enough support to assure the \$2,500,000 required to give George Washington this much needed memorial," said Mrs. Dimock, who has headquarters at 25 East Sixtieth street, New York city. "There is not a national organization in the land that will not benefit by the accommodations of this structure that we propose to rear to the memory of Washington. It has long been a constant source of shame to the American people that their capital held no fit meeting place for national and international conventions in the cause of general knowledge, and in remedying this practical defect we can at last gratify the dearest wish of Washington."

New Industry in China.

Among the new industries that have sprung into being in Hongkong lately is a shoe factory, where footgear for Chinese is turned out by modern machinery at a rate unprecedented for Hongkong. In this connection the manufacture of European boots and shoes on a wholesale scale is in contemplation.

Young Prima Donna.

Among the youngest prima donnas is an English girl, Miss Maggie Teyte, who is now singing in London. Though scarcely twenty years old, Miss Teyte has made her debut at the Paris Opera Comique. There she played Mary Garden's role of Melisande and won a great triumph.

Aero-plane Omnibus Next.
Bainbridge Hinde, speaking at a meeting of a cycle and motor company at Coventry, England, the other day, said that he believed that within the next few years aeroplanes would be built to serve as omnibuses for the carrying of passengers.

Christmas Specials

O. S. gold filled, hunting, 20 year case, Elgin or Waltham.....	\$11.50
12 gold filled open face 20 year case, Elgin or Waltham.....	9.50
16 gold filled open face 20 year case, Elgin or Waltham.....	9.50
18 gold filled open face 15 Jewel Waltham.....	10.00
14 karat gold wedding rings, per dwt.....	1.00

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Everyone should know and appreciate Shakespeare. Everyone should hear FREDERICK WARDE, Jan. 26.