

THE OBSERVER

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ANOTHER LITERARY PRESIDENT.

With the inauguration of Raymond Poincare France becomes one in that rapidly increasing group of countries ruled by men of letters.

Poincare is not only supposed to be the best public speaker in Europe but is the author of many essays and widely read books.

It is to this future that Hanotaux, like Poincare, a former cabinet officer, and like him, too, a literateur and a member of the Academic Francaise, says the United States is coming.

From those taking advantage of the facilities for popular education which these universities afford will come the future leaders of the nation, he said.

MEXICAN INVESTMENTS.

An expert in close touch with all Central and South American countries estimates that the American capital invested in Mexico exceeds that of any other nation.

cially interested in the land of turmoil:

American capital \$1,000,000,000
Mexican capital ... 793,000,000
English capital 320,000,000
French capital 143,000,000
Other capital 118,000,000

The capital covers mining and smelting properties, railroads, agricultural and industrial enterprises, oil wells, plantations and ranches, rubber, sugar and coffee.

The Guggenheims, or the American Smelting and Refining interests, are among the most important on the list of Americans.

The National Railways of Mexico, the most important railroad system and some other roads are controlled by the government, but American and foreign interests are heavy investors in their securities.

American capital is principally interested in railroads, cotton mills, light and power plants, and developments along that line, and to some extent in land.

One of the largest sugar plantations is owned by the French. It is located on the Pasa Loapam river.

The largest concern in which the public is interested is the Mexican Petroleum company, whose shares are actively dealt in on the New York private capitalists are developing the stock exchange daily.

With these vast American interests in Mexico, it is no wonder that such strong pressure is being brought on the government to intervene.

REFORM FROM WITHIN.

Impatience of the masses has called forth many supposed remedies for outworn methods in the courts.

The recall of judges and the repeal of judicial decisions were not proposed simply for the sake of of-

fering something new. They represent the feeling that remedial and corrective measure were necessary to give the average man a square deal in the courts.

One of the strongest appeals that has been made for court reform from within was delivered recently by Judge W. O. Howard of the appellate division of the supreme court of New York.

Warning his hearers that the movement should begin from within instead of from without, Judge Howard continued:

"The people are becoming impatient with discrepancies in justice and they are demanding each day in a louder voice that there be reform. Our laws are becoming inadequate; they do not satisfy the popular conceptions of equal justice.

"Every judge below the judges of the last resort fears reversal; this impels him to follow not his judgment and his conscience but a precedent established, perhaps for 20 centuries.

That which defeats justice, be it either statute or precedent, is pernicious to the public good. Judges should not be sensitive about reversing themselves, and when a decision, rule or precedent made by the courts is found to be wrong, obstructive or obsolete it should be revoked.

"Let us not deceive ourselves," said Judge Howard in closing his address, "the spirit of recall is spreading, the impatience of the masses is growing deeper. Unless the judges act, the people will act; if they do not resort to the recall they will revise the constitution and create new courts—courts to do rough justice; courts to do summary justice; courts close to the common people; courts without technicalities, sophistry and delay, and where substantial right prevails."

Judge Howard is not a demagogue. He is not a political agitator. He is an observer, a student and perhaps a prophet.

PRINTING 12,000 STAMPS A MINUTE.

It is a fact not generally known that the United States has at Washington, D. C., one of the largest and best equipped plants in this or any other country.

An interesting example of what this sort of modern efficiency means is a machine which prints, gums and perforates 12,000 postage stamps a minute.

The machine eliminates 19 separate operations required by the previous method of printing and has effected a saving of 57 per cent in cost.

Whenever a revolution breaks out, no matter in what part of the world, there's an American there to get stung by a bullet.



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By making your selection now you have the advantage of choosing from the most comprehensive style show we have ever offered.

GAGE BROS' Pattern Hats

are one of the many attractive offerings to be found in La Grande only at this exclusive millinery shop.

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WEST'S

THE QUALITY STORE

Our "Ready-to-Wear" dept. is now replete with scores of charming new styles in coats and suits. 'Popular Prices'

THE DITH DIGGERS.

Lytton Ivanhoe, during his two years in the canal zone has not only been busy as a stenographer but has written considerable verse and editorial matter for the Panama Morning Journal.

Their work is to join the two oceans. Down at the Isthmus so rich; And, in spite of contrary notions, They'll finish that mighty ditch.

The canal will be soon completed. The boys will scatter apart With the courage that "undefeated" Gives an American heart.

They're the cream of the nation's manhood; They're rough, but their hearts are right; The tests of martyrs they've surely stood, And they still keep up the fight.

To the world they will open portals Of trade for the East and West; And they'll join the list of immortals Who have served their country best.

So, Uncle Sam looks down from the North— Looks far past the "home-guard" prize— And swells with pride while the sound comes forth, "Ha's off to the man who digs!"

While the progressive movement is deplored by many of our conservative citizens, it is believed that they will not refuse to attend progressive pedro parties.

Dr. Wiley caught some microbes on a train and had laryngitis. Any

microbe who would tackle him certainly has nerve.

Amundsen says Milwaukee has a worse climate than the south pole. But it was not climate that made Mil-

waukee famous.

The public will never be satisfied until the contributing editors of the Outlook and the Commener meet face to face and have it out.

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