

THE OBSERVER

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THE HANDICAP OF MEXICO.

It cannot be said that educated nations never go to war, nor that education and culture prevent wars. Such claim is not true, as is evidenced by the present European conflict. But education may act as a preventive of war. It may show the way without the necessity of resorting to arms.

Can it not be said with at least some semblance of truth, that if Mexico had been an educated nation, that much of the turmoil which has disturbed her, might have been prevented?

The vast majority of Mexican people are illiterate. Most of them can neither read nor write. The educated class, taking advantage of the ignorance of the lower classes, have imposed upon the latter until the rebellion now coming to an end, was the result.

Some eighty Mexican educators have just finished a tour of this country. They came to the United States to investigate our public schools with a view of introducing a system of public education in their forlorn land. They did not hesitate to say that Mexico has paid a tremendous price for not having given attention years ago to general education. The rich took advantage of educational opportunities but the peons and the lower classes were compelled to remain in total ignorance.

Our educational system appealed to the visitors and in it they professed to see the secret of the progress and prosperity of our country. What impressed the Mexicans more than anything else, in connection with our schools, was the attention paid to the primary branches. They could understand our universities; they had themselves attended colleges. But they could not understand our primary schools, never having seen anything like them.

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HAND BAGS.

One lot of \$1.25 to \$1.50 hand bags— Clearance . . . . . 25c All \$1.25 hand bags . . . . . 95c All \$1.50 hand bags . . . . . \$1.15

MEN'S HATS.

Regular \$3.00 Gordon Hat at . . . . . \$2.40 Regular \$4.00 Stetson Hats . . . . . \$3.20 Regular \$5.00 Men's winter Caps . . . . . 38c Regular \$1.00 Men's winter Caps . . . . . 75c

BOYS' SUITS.

\$5.00 Boys' Suits now at . . . . . \$3.75 \$6.00 Boys' Suits now at . . . . . \$4.50 \$7.00 Boys' Suits now at . . . . . \$5.25 \$8.00 Boys' Suits now at . . . . . \$6.75

SHOES.

Ladies' black satin Shoes, Goodyear Welt, very heavy grade satin, regular \$4.50 values . . . . . \$2.95 Black Suede Goodyear Welt, also same in grey suede \$4.00 and \$4.50 values— Clearance . . . . . \$1.95 All of our Women's Pat. Button Kid Top Shoes in genuine welt soles, Cuban heels \$4.00 values most all sizes and widths, clearance . . . . . \$2.75 Utz and Dunn Gun Metal Button in Cuban heels genuine Goodyear welts, regular \$3.50 value, clearance . . . . . \$2.95 Women's Vici Kid lace in low or Cuban heels, welt soles, a few pair in turn soles, regular \$3.50 values at . . . . . \$1.49 One lot of Party Pumps in satin and patent, \$3.50 values, choice . . . . . \$1.95

WASH GOODS.

One lot Gingham small patterns good gingham, regular 10c and 12 1-2c values special at yard . . . . . 8 1-3c One lot fine Zephyr Gingham, dainty, neat, in the best of colors and of the best dyes to withstand washing, clearance, yard . . . . . 11c All fancy genuine Windsor Crepes suitable for kimonos, etc., sell anywhere at 25c yard, clearance yard . . . . . 15c Fancy Rippettes, checks and stripes very best quality, clearance, yard . . . . . 11c Fine quality fancy Flannelettes, values 15c, choice yard . . . . . 10c

ONE LOT MEN'S OVERCOATS.

\$12.50 Overcoats at . . . . . \$6.25 \$15.00 Overcoats at . . . . . \$7.50 \$17.50 Overcoats at . . . . . \$8.75 \$20.00 Overcoats at . . . . . \$10.00 \$25.00 Overcoats at . . . . . \$12.50

MEN'S PANTS.

Regular \$1.50 Men's Pants at . . . . . \$1.15 Regular \$2.50 Men's Pants at . . . . . \$1.90 Regular \$3.00 Men's Pants at . . . . . \$2.25 Regular \$4.00 Men's Pants at . . . . . \$3.00 Regular \$5.00 Men's Pants at . . . . . \$3.75

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SMALL BOYS SUITS.

in Dutch styles, middy styles and others, all new: Regular \$4.00 Suits at . . . . . \$2.00 Regular \$5.00 Suits at . . . . . \$2.50 Regular \$6.00 Suits at . . . . . \$3.00

BOYS' OVERCOATS.

Regular \$4.00 Boys' Overcoats . . . . . \$2.00 Regular \$5.00 Boys' Overcoats . . . . . \$2.50 Regular \$6.00 Boys' Overcoats . . . . . \$3.00

WOOLEN DRESS GOODS.

One lot Dress Goods values to 60c, odd pieces etc., a bargain at yard . . . . . 21c One lot of Dress Goods, odd pieces, sold formerly to 50c yard, choice . . . . . 19c One lot fancy novelty wool Dress Goods, small pin stripe on dark blue or dark green and one piece solid blue, regular selling price 60c, clearance yd 39c 27 inch half wood plaids suitable for children's dresses, clearance yard . . . . . 15c One big lot of Dress Goods, every yard all wool, in plaids, checks, and plain colors, American Broadcloth, Granite Cloth, Serge, Fancy Suiting, Dress Materials, former selling prices to \$1.50, none less than \$1.00 per yard; width 40 to 52 inches wide, choice yard . . . . . 65c

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One big lot of \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00 values 50-56 inches wide extra low price at yard . . . . . \$1.39

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TRUNKS.

\$6.50 Trunks now at . . . . . \$5.20 \$8.50 Trunks now at . . . . . \$6.80 \$10.00 Trunks now at . . . . . \$8.00 \$12.50 Trunks now at . . . . . \$10.00 \$15.00 Trunks now at . . . . . \$12.00

BOYS' FURNISHINGS.

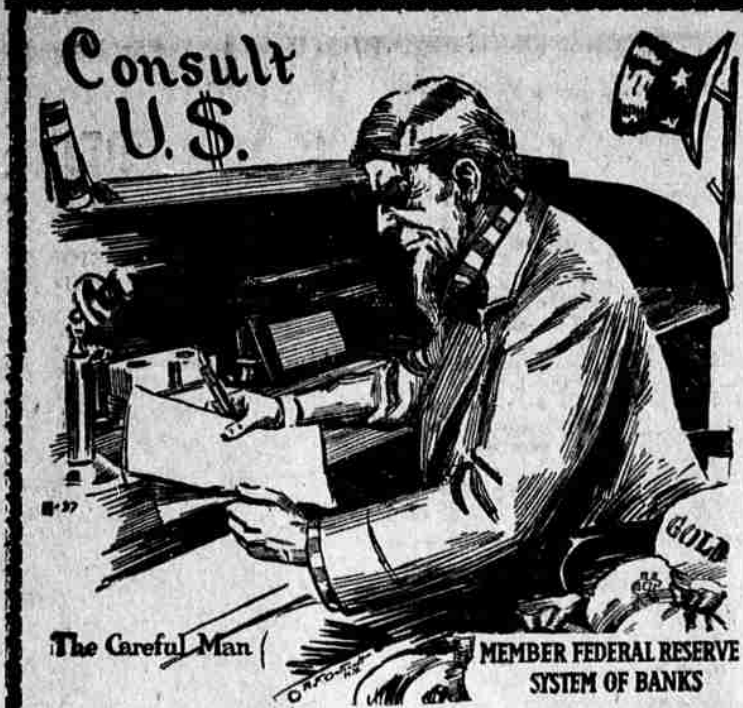
Boys' 50c blouses at . . . . . 40c Boys' 25c blouses at . . . . . 20c Boys' 50c caps now at . . . . . 38c One lot Boys' \$1.25 felt hats . . . . . 75c 75c Boys' Pants at . . . . . 57c \$1.00 Boys' Pants at . . . . . 75c \$1.25 Boys' Pants at . . . . . 95c

MEN'S SUITS.

\$15.00 Men's Suits now at . . . . . \$11.95 \$17.50 Men's Suits now at . . . . . \$12.15 \$20.00 Men's Suits now at . . . . . \$15.00 \$22.50 Men's Suits now at . . . . . \$16.90 \$25.00 Men's Suits now at . . . . . \$18.75



Every Article in the Store Reduced



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1915 Review of the War—Russia. Petrograd, Jan. 5.—Watchful waiting, that well-known American policy regarding Mexico some months ago, sums up the war situation in Russia today, but watchful waiting in Russia has a meaning all its own. Whereas Uncle Sam, after experiencing a few pin-pricks in his patience, remained passive, the great Russian bear after sustaining a healthy, life-sized wallop on his tender snout left out a roar that shook the earth continents away. Reduced to plain English the roar was: "Give me munitions; I've got enough men." That was several months ago. Russia's greatest arsenal, near Petrograd, had been blown to smithereens; the armies of Grand Duke Nicholas, yielding to the Austro-German steam roller, had been driven from the Carpathians back into Russia and had lost Warsaw and the whole of Poland; there was political dissension in Russia, alarming semi-revolutionary outbreaks were occurring here and there; the ever advancing enemy was threatening even Moscow, and the greatest seaport in the Baltic, Riga, appeared to be about to fall. In Winter bears usually hibernate, but all these things are more what happened to the Russian bear in the Summer and Fall of 1915 precluded any idea of his going into winter quarters this year. Russia is today the most active "inter" bear extant. Russia has now mobilized her industries and shells and other munitions in great quantities have begun to flow from the factories and shops in every important Russian city; the Russian cabinet has been reformed with particular reference to a more active conduct of the war; the peasants who used to drink vodka have become used to a vodka less Russian and are putting their profits from vodkaless harvests—hence bigger harvests—into the provincial banks; Grand Duke Nicholas has been superseded by the Czar as Commander-in-Chief and has taken hold of the important campaign in the Caucasus. Stirred to renewed vigor under its Ruler, the army has used the shells born of the industrial mobilization and repulsed the enemy in the vicinity of Riga, besides putting him on the defensive elsewhere. These and many more things have happened in Russia since the double eagle whacked the bear on the snout. The roar for munitions which the bear let out soon reached Japan, England, and America, and for the last three months rifles, shells and cannon have been pouring from the Pacific and Arctic ports. Canada's ice-breakers will keep Archangel open all winter for munition-laden ships from America. Heavily loaded trains are crawling across the Siberian plains in almost endless procession, stopping here and there to deposit rifles and cartridges for the men who have been training with sticks and only lacked the arms wherewith to join the armies now preparing for Russia's future campaign. With the beginning of the New Year various estimates place the number of fresh armed Russian troops at five million. At least two million more are being armed at the rate of over half a million a month. An additional million of twenty-year-old youths were called up on December 4. These will take their places in the ranks early in the year. Russia's veterans already holding the battle-line from Riga to the Black Sea and operating in the Caucasus are estimated to total at least 4,000,000, all hardy fighters, making the total of Russian military strength in sight approximately twelve million men. Like England, France, and Italy, Russia is preparing to fight in the Balkans. This campaign, which is already under way, is under the leadership of General Dimitrieff, ex-commander of the Ninth Bulgarian Army, who renounced Czar Ferdinand and Bulgaria, and sent back the military decorations tendered him by his former sovereign. Dimitrieff's first objective is Bulgaria, anticipation of which early in December sent Austro-German and Bulgarian regiments hastily to Rostchuk, the nearest Bulgarian city to the Russian border. It was Russia that delivered Bulgaria from the Turkish yoke. When faced by the Russians as a foe, led by a former popular general of the Bulgarian army, wholesale desertions from the Bulgar forces are considered a potent possibility. Russian forces too, have been sent in ample numbers to the Caucasus in order, if necessary, to lend aid to the British in the event the Suez Canal should be seriously threatened by the reinforced German-led Turks. Though Russia has lost an estimated million and a half prisoners to Germany and Austria, nearly a million men of the double enemy have been captured and sent to Siberia where they are in no danger of liberation, as are the Russian prisoners in Germany and Austria. The Austro-German losses during the last three months, on the Russian front, have been enormous. Russia's own losses have not been slight, but they undoubtedly are far under those of the

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