

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1914.

WHAT TO DO WITH MEXICO.

Four-fifths of the people of Mexico are pure Indians, ignorant and brutal, and divided still into tribes which keep alive their old tribal dissensions. Above them are people of mixed blood and of little or no property. Above all a comparatively small handful of educated people, generally of Spanish blood, who alone are competent to govern, but who have no conception of government of, by and for the people. Their only idea is to use their political power for their own ends. For the use of the mass of the population as means to this end, and, in order to hold down the masses, to keep them in ignorance, poverty and semi-servitude.

The only escape from oppression for the people is to join a revolution or a band of brigands. The only conception of war is to kill all who oppose them, even after victory is won, and to rob armed and unarmed alike. The government forces are made up of the same type of men and do no better than the rebels. They have no respect for the rights of a diplomatic or consular representative, as their conduct at Monterey shows.

To treat such people as though they had any regard for the amenities of civilized life, or were capable of establishing and maintaining a genuinely democratic government is absurd on its face. They are at best semi-barbarians and should be treated as such. Their so-called elections have been a sham, and the only election which rarely votes. If the dominant party is defeated, it counts itself in, and a defeated party which does not start a revolution is regarded with popular contempt. A leader who does not fight when defeated in an election is regarded as a quitter.

If the mediation of the A B C alliance should succeed in inducing Huerta to wipe out the insult to the American Nation, we will follow him, we will withdraw our forces and leave Huerta and Villa to fight it out. If we should demand Huerta's resignation and the holding of an election of President as a condition of our withdrawal, how can we justify ourselves that the election is honestly conducted and that the defeated party submits to the result? The only way is to occupy the country, conduct the election ourselves with American soldiers on guard and install the winner in office. How can we justify ourselves so hateful to the Mexican people, who are as proud as they are ignorant and turbulent, that our withdrawal would be the signal for revolt against a ruler set up by the "gringos." Having placed a man in the Presidential chair, even by the votes of a majority of the diminutive electorate, we could only maintain him there by force.

President Wilson's policy of recognition is a recognition of the fact that the President can thus be made effective only by force, and after our Army had installed the supposed popular choice, its continued presence would be necessary to prevent its work from being undone as soon as we evacuated the country. Only by prolonged occupation can we establish a constitutional government in Mexico. In order to do so, we should need to begin at the foundation by educating the people, releasing them from the debt-slavery in which they are held and giving them small holdings of land through which they would have a stake in peace and orderly government. In fact, we should need to do just what we have been doing in the Philippines. Let Mr. Wilson show his opposition to that policy by tearing down much of the structure which had been laboriously built up in the islands in preparation for self-government.

The most hopeful feature of South American mediation is that the mediators will find a way for Mr. Wilson to draw back gracefully without either recognizing Huerta or imposing on this nation the burden of teaching semi-barbarous people how to establish and maintain a democracy. If Huerta should withdraw, Mr. Wilson could boast of having gained his immediate end and could then have the satisfaction of being through the form of an election. He could claim the credit of having given notice to the Mexicans that no man who seizes the reins of government by force and by assassination will hereafter be recognized by this country. He would have given a striking demonstration that, if the American flag and the American uniform be insulted, the offender will be punished. If he be not content with that, the only alternative is to make Mexico a Philippine problem. If he adopts this alternative, the United States must complete the course of training before withdrawal, not leave it half finished, as the present Administration attempts to do in the Philippines.

PLAN IS OUTGROWN.

Ever since the seat of government has been located in the City of Washington, D. C., that district and city have had no local government, appointees of the President acting as executive and officers and Congress as the legislative branch. In the early days, when Washington was a small city, this arrangement worked, no doubt, satisfactorily. The Government then owned a very large percentage of the property of the district and in lieu of taxes, that is, direct taxes on the Government's property, the Government took upon itself a large share of the administrative expense of the city and district.

But Washington has shown a large growth and is now a city of something like 400,000 people. Last year the municipal expenses of the city

and district were more than \$14,000,000, half of which was expended by the Government, the rest raised from the people of the district by the usual methods of taxation.

As the city grows the labor of administration pursued by Congress have become more onerous and more exacting and now it is no unusual thing to see the Senate of the United States grinding away on District of Columbia affairs for days at a time. One great committee of the Senate occupies all of the time its members can take from their other business in looking after district business.

The way the district affairs are now run is continually causing friction between the people of the district and Congress, and this friction becomes more acute each year. Then the time consumed by Congress each year in attending to the petty details of district affairs seems to be practically wasted. Probably Washington could and would be better and just as economically governed if the Federal Government were to pay a legitimate tax on its property in the capital and to let the people of the district free to run their own affairs in their own way.

DAME RUMOR.

An interesting sidelight on the abnormal mental state of wartime is afforded in the present lull by a perusal of the issue of the *Littell* magazine immediately preceding the halt imposed by a mediation plan. In Mexico City, of course, these rumors took on their wildest and most lurid aspect. The explanation lies in the vivid imagination of the Latin American, the ignorance of the masses and the free reign given to sensational newspapers.

The United States was reported to have precipitated a war with the great power of Europe. American soldiers were accused of having shot down women and children at Vera Cruz. Mexican forces were reported to have invaded the United States, where they were joined by negroes of the Southern states. Old Dame Rumor, who ruled with the unrestrained fancy of a maniac, was rampant.

The very nature of these rumors indicates the varying points of view which the people of the United States and those of Mexico hold of each other. They have been passed on by the Mexican side of the populous districts as a rapacious and inhuman lot who would pause at nothing. On the other hand, the Mexicans have been shown as an uncivilized set who would not hesitate to murder for gain, and who, under the leadership of a frenzied attendant upon armed invasion, the shutting off of formal communication between Mexico City and Vera Cruz alone was needed to conjure up wild fancies based on the most trifling facts.

Dame Rumor is a venomous and vicious jade when she escapes the fetters placed upon her by Truth.

RITUAL MURDER DISPROVED.

The Russian people themselves have begun a reaction against Jew-baiting, and it will be advanced by the murder of Yushinsky at Kiev was not a ritual murder, but was the work of a band of thieves. How strong is this movement against Jew-baiting is shown by the suffraging endured by a man who collected this evidence and the energy he displayed in procuring it.

This man is Nicholas Krasovsky, former chief of the secret service police of Kiev. He says that, when he reported to the military authorities the murder of Yushinsky at Kiev was not a ritual murder, but was the work of a band of thieves. How strong is this movement against Jew-baiting is shown by the suffraging endured by a man who collected this evidence and the energy he displayed in procuring it.

DANGER IN STANDING PAT.

When an industrial dispute has brought anarchy upon a state, as has the coal mine strike in Colorado, the rights of the mineowners and the demands of the miners must both be considered in any plan of mediation. When the President of the United States calls upon the principal owner of a great corporation, as President Wilson has called upon John D. Rockefeller, to make some concessions in the interests of the public peace, it will become Mr. Rockefeller to say he will fight to the last, even though he lose all he has invested.

The original cause of the Colorado quarrel seems to have been forgotten in the bitterness it has produced. It is safe to say in such a conflict that both parties are partly right, partly wrong. Some of the miners' demands would not stand the test of impartial inquiry, but men speaking thirty-six different tongues would not have stood together so long and fought with such grim determination had they not suffered some grave wrongs. They would hardly have resisted the state militia if there had been no cause for their anger, for considering it in the service of the employers.

Mr. Rockefeller stands pat on the rights of property. He needs to be reminded that the possession of property imposes a duty so to administer it as to contribute to the public good. He particularly is in no position to be a stickler for the extreme exercise of his rights, for, had the law always been rigidly enforced as far as the mineowner is concerned, he might have possessed far less property than he now enjoys. He holds property by virtue of his fees

latitude given to corporations, which are creations of the law to which he appeals. Corporate holding of property is a privilege which, while conferring rights, imposes obligations. George F. Baer, who died a few days ago, learned a lesson on this subject which Mr. Rockefeller might well take to heart. He, too, stood for the rights of property against striking miners, even at the risk of depriving millions of fuel in Midwinter. Had he not yielded to the demands of a strong-willed President, he might have provoked the Government to take a leap toward socialism which would have made him gasp. Mr. Wilson has shown himself no less strong of will, though more reluctant to resort to extreme measures such as were contemplated by his predecessor. It would be well for Mr. Rockefeller and all of his kind to think more than of their own driving Mr. Wilson to act with that decision of which the President has shown himself capable.

OUR AWFUL PAST.

New Yorkers are enjoying the blessed privilege of gazing at a collection of horrible examples in Victorian domestic art. The exhibition is open at the Modernist studios on East 14th street, where, in a convenient anteroom, samples of cubist art are for sale. It is hoped that the contrast between the confections dear to our grandmothers and those devised by the inspired leaders of the cubist school will be so striking that the public is likewise afflicted.

George F. Baer, the lawyer and railroad magnate who has just passed away, jumped to fame, like Bryan, in one night. His remark that the Lord had made him and a chosen few other millionaires his special representatives to manage the wealth of the country was received as a product of genius everywhere. It may be remembered when Childs Harold is forgotten, since fully is said to outlive every other human achievement.

The Bryn Mawr alumnae have voted in favor of a project to appoint women hereafter upon the board of trustees for their college. This is a project which has already been proposed in a famous line that the women voters of Oregon should not be represented by the Board of Regents of the State University?

It is predicted that the markets of the United States will soon be supplied with powdered milk. The product is prepared in Normandy, a province famous for its dairies, whence it is to be shipped all over the world. When powdered milk can be bought in this milkman with his 3-o'clock-in-the-morning delivery cart can be obliterated and life will blossom with an added joy.

When mediation was first proposed the argument was advanced in favor of it that foreigners would thereby be given an added opportunity to leave Mexico. Now comes word that scores of them have canceled their reservations and will stay. We shall find it hard to feel sorry for them if they get hemmed in again.

The most absurd yarn of recent times was the rumor that Secretary Bryan had resigned. Ever since he ceased to be a Representative he was striving for an office until he landed the one he now holds. He will not let go for any such slight cause as "military operations" in Mexico.

The hero of many football games sprained his ankle trying to dance some of the latest dancing wrinkles. The average man is much safer in a football scrimmage than trying to cut capers on a glassy dancing floor.

Japan appears to be taking advantage of every opportunity to prove her sincere friendship for the United States. She now officially announces participation on a large scale at the 1915 Fair.

The courtesy extended by this Government in the matter of Japanese in Mexico will show the Tokio government the United States is disposed to be just.

A general strike of coal miners would be deplorable, but if that be the only means of stopping the Colorado calamity, perhaps it were better so.

The "wounded" in the Good Roads campaign are all doing nicely and will be able to use their hands in the course of a few days.

Back in the files, far removed from the spot of a printed page, the fine Italian hand of John Barrett in his mediation plan.

Spaniards in Mexico say they will remain neutral throughout any trouble that follows. They learned their lesson in '98.

lous memory, but every wise person will judiciously cultivate the art of retaining what he needs. A good memory is neither a sieve nor a lumber room. It is a well-ordered cabinet. All efficient systems for training the memory depend upon the great law of association, which is a chain binding facts together. Any trick of association will do. Some remember numbers and dates by their rhythm. We know of a prodigy who can rattle off numbers of ten and a dozen figures simply by their melody, just as musical people remember airs. Many associate facts with arbitrary symbols in order to remember them. The man who ties a string round his finger to remind him of an errand for his wife invokes the great psychological law of association. The trouble with this is that he is apt to forget what the string symbolizes. That is indeed the fatal defect in all memory systems. The scaffolding clings to the mind, but the building within it decays. Berol was an abnormal man by his system never would have done such marvels for him. He must be catalogued with mathematical prodigies and phenomenal chess players.

SYSTEM EXPLOITS THE TAXPAYER.

How many state and county salaried positions will be foisted on us by the great movement now on to statehood? In 1874, Prussia, in order to counteract this movement, made German the language of the schools and forbade public speeches in Polish. In 1888 Prussia began buying the land of the Poles and leasing to Germans. The Polish element continued to claim for the Prussian policy drove the masses into alliance with the Polish nobles and many immigrants came in from Prussia. More repressive measures were adopted, Poles were even forbidden to build houses on their land and took to living in vans. Chancellor Bismarck, who had been beaten for refusing to say the Lord's Prayer in German. He confessed in the following year that the Prussian policy had failed, but persisted in forbidding use of the Polish language in the schools.

Quarantine for Diphtheria.

BANDON, Or., April 26.—(To the Editor.)—Please publish the following information. Does each health officer have his own laws? Can one member of a family be quarantined and the other members of the family be in the same rooms? There is a contagious disease in our town, and if one is very sick or dies the doctors call it diphtheria. It is well known that diphtheria is called tonsillitis, and the person may be allowed to run at large.

Let Women Organize.

PORTLAND, April 27.—(To the Editor.)—Will you kindly inform a long-time reader of your paper if there is any plan for the formation of a street committee of good women of Portland to frustrate the plans of the organized political grafters, disappoinment, wild-bird-soldiers, impotent house and rumshop keepers, impotent Weary Wilkes (I. W. W.) and others of like ilk, who in the cowardly way—the dark—are working to take from office officers of the street and efficient, but to them unmanageable city officers. If so, will you inform your readers of such an organization?

Sale of Manufactured Articles.

PORTLAND, April 27.—(To the Editor.)—Is the manufacturer of an article of food, who has a factory in Portland, obliged to have a license to sell his goods? A SUBSCRIBER.

It depends upon the method employed in selling the products. It can be manufactured and sold to stores without license or orders can be taken from house to house and deliveries made later without license. To peddle from house to house requires a license.

Suit for Damages.

JUNCTION CITY, Or., April 26.—(To the Editor.)—Testator's wife was injured by negligence of defendant. She brought suit for damages. How can she recover damages sustained to such estate by her injury. Damages consisted of medical attendance of wife and loss of wife's services. What judgment? A SUBSCRIBER.

Minor Aliens.

PORTLAND, April 27.—(To the Editor.)—Is it necessary for a person coming to Portland from Canada 20 years ago to take out naturalization papers? A SUBSCRIBER.

Getting Book Published.

PORTLAND, April 27.—(To the Editor.)—I have written a book published to sell. Where shall one apply for definite information regarding such? M. B. Submit it to some book publisher.

The Volunteers.

"The Volunteers," a song of the Mexican War period, was written by William Haines Lewis. It was an Ohio boy who served in the Mexican War and also in the Civil War. He was killed at Chickamauga, September 20, 1864.

Big Saving All-Around.

Boston Transcript. "Bulger has stopped drinking." "His friends will save money."

THE SPIRIT OF WAR.

Thundering voices, Fiercely the heart of Thor Gloating rejoices, Wickedly picturing it all in his mind's eye, "Quick shall the blood of the sons of men flow, Painful the road with its sickening red dye, Filling the heart of the Nation with woe."

It is Oklahoma City.

ARLINGTON, Or., April 26.—(To the Editor.)—I am not sure which is the capital of Oklahoma Territory or Oklahoma City, and will be much obliged if you will let me know. GEORGE MOORHEAD.

DO PRUSSIAN OPPRESS POLES? Denial of Charges Compared with Recent Historical Facts.

PORTLAND, April 26.—(To the Editor.)—Your article in Monday's paper in regard to Prussia colonizing Posen is misleading and mischievous when it states that the Prussians supplanted the natives, the Poles, and might breed hostility between Prussians and Poles in the country. Some five years ago a Catholic bishop at the dedication of a Polish college in Chicago commented on the German government as barbaric because it enforced the German language in the schools. We have to forgive him. He gets his living from the Catholic Poles, not from the Protestant Germans. It is different with you. History tells us it was the Asiatic Poles who drove the Germanic and Teutonic tribes out of the country. Some five years ago a head of the German Knights, defensible order, checked and pushed back the advancing Poles and as reward was made administrator of East and West Prussia by the Emperor of Germany. In your today's paper is the statement that Prussia has spent \$250,000,000 in Poland, and that it took about 400 years of hard and constant fighting to check their advance. It was the founder of Hohenzollern dynasty who, at the head of the German Knights, defensible order, checked and pushed back the advancing Poles and as reward was made administrator of East and West Prussia by the Emperor of Germany. In your today's paper is the statement that Prussia has spent \$250,000,000 in Poland, and that it took about 400 years of hard and constant fighting to check their advance. It was the founder of Hohenzollern dynasty who, at the head of the German Knights, defensible order, checked and pushed back the advancing Poles and as reward was made administrator of East and West Prussia by the Emperor of Germany.

Half a Century Ago

From The Oregonian of April 28, 1869. San Francisco, April 27.—Tom Avery, a well-known local prizefighter, fell dead in the ring this morning during a sparring exhibition with Ed Cuffe.

Twenty-five Years Ago

From The Oregonian of April 28, 1889. San Francisco, April 27.—The Sunset Telephone & Telegraph Company has incorporated. The directors are George A. Ladd, Saml. S. Williams, Oliver and Monroe Greenwood, San Francisco; Percy T. Morgan, of Berkeley, and David Gage, of Oakland.

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Your Thrifty Neighbor

Somewhere, among your friends, is one who has the National... on upon you because of her thrifty disposition. She is always a alert, active, economical and inspiring. Shopping has no terrors for her. She is never in the dark on the subject of prices. She always knows good quality from bad. She is sure where to shop to secure first-class service. And she is the envy and admiration of sound-minded folk who have not yet fully learned from practice the "thrifty" benefits to be derived from the study of newspaper advertising. Begin now! It pays to be thrifty.