

Nicaragua Seeks American Help In Development

By Frank H. Bartholomew
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Managua, Nicaragua, Dec. 21 (UP)—This is what it is like to interview the head man in one of the central American republics where life and politics, pretty much synonymous, move toward surprising endings as in the days of O. Henry.

This is Nicaragua, that highly vitalized little country regularly on the world's front pages with catastrophic earthquakes, slim, deadly young bandits like Sardino, erupting volcanoes, invasions by the United States Marines, and the private wars of William Walker.

The latter gentleman, it may be remembered, was an attorney from Marysville, Calif., who precipitated one of the outstanding legal controversies of history. Two republics declared war on him personally. He raised an army and navy and retaliated with enthusiasm. A third republic, interviewing in judicial capacity, grabbed and executed him first, as a condition of its determination of the rights and wrongs of the situation, and as a sensible precaution.

So do you send a telegram to General Anastasio Somoza, now finishing his tenth year as president of Nicaragua, and ask an appointment. The telephone has retrogressed in Central America to a point somewhat less efficient than the original instrument invented by Alexander Graham Bell in collaboration with Don Ameche, and no one uses it, successfully at least. You receive a prompt and courteous invitation from the president.

The hotel is on the lakefront so you drive a mile or so across town up Roosevelt avenue to the Loma de Tiscapa, a hill crowned by the presidential palace.

The roadway circling and ascending the hill is guarded by soldiers. The first guard raises a bar across the road, of the railroad-crossing-arm type, and the car passes underneath. At the next turn you are under surveillance of more soldiers in a circular guardhouse of re-enforced concrete, with gun slots. Next you are foot on the palace steps, turning for a quick look at the panorama of the capital city, the lake and the volcanoes below and to the east.

Enter Grounds
You enter the spacious palace and chatter noisily and self-consciously along the tiled floor of the long reception hall, under a series of Moorish arches and between two rows of Nicaraguan citizenry waiting to see the senior president. At the far end there are still seats available under a portrait of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Your interested gaze takes in your end of the reception chamber, as you wait for your entrevista. It terminates in a raised platform nearby, featuring a grand piano, a 16-foot stuffed alligator which had been shot by the president's son, and a juke box. This latter affair will, according to its label, for a modest investment of from one to 10 coins give forth not only music but also movies—"soundies" is the word. You decide not to put it to the test, since everyone is looking at you anyhow.

Find President
A secretary says the president will see you. You pass through two inner offices and find a well-built man with an intelligent, good-humored face seated at a desk piled two feet high with correspondence. This is "Tacho" Somoza, the boss of Nicaragua.

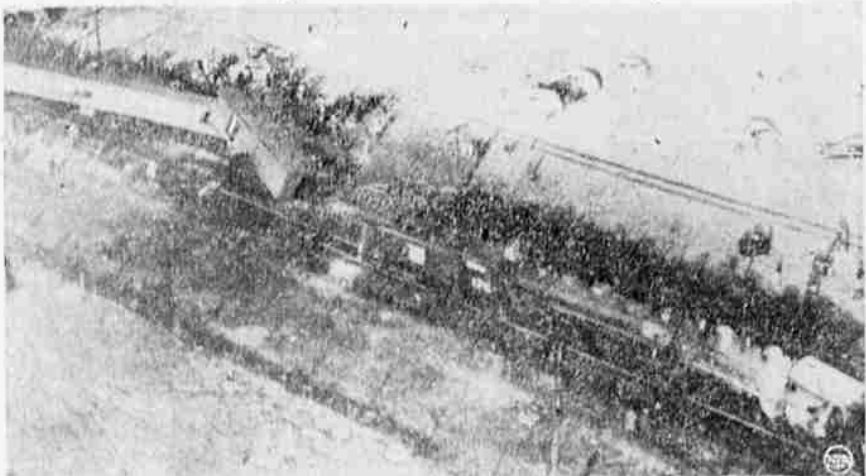
He wants to know how you are and how you like the country. He says he is looking forward to February 2 when his term of office expires, and that he is going to the United States for a physical checkup thereafter. Will he take an active part in the next administration?

"If my services are desired," he says, "I can not refuse."

You ask what he considers to be the highlights of his 10 years as president.

"We have built and paved good

'Farmers Special' in Collision on Way Home



(NEA Telephone)
Thirteen-car Western Pacific passenger special carrying Eastern members of Farm Bureau Federation took their homes after national convention in San Francisco, collided head-on with a local freight train near Salt Lake City, Utah, injuring 17. None were killed. Cars are shown overturned on roadbed.

roads," he says. "Our part of the Pan American highway is almost complete. We have intensified education throughout Nicaragua and have opened night schools for adults. Low cost, sanitary housing has been completed for the laboring people in every state capital. We have set up labor courts to prevent strikes and lock-outs; either the workman or the boss can now come in to court to have his rights and obligations legally determined."

You ask this quick-thinking, expressive man, who seems on the youthful side of middle age, what his country still needs, and get a rather surprising answer.

Need Builders
"American builders and American investments," he says. "We need home construction and we need electrification. If your American engineers and architects want to come down here and build homes for our people, the government will furnish the land and guarantee the investment until the builders have had their money back with interest, from the rentals. There's no shortage of labor here and no general material shortage; we have all the cement, lime, lumber and stone needed."

"The electrification program is equally important. If the Americans want to electrify our railroads there's ample waterpower to be harnessed, and the railroad system would carry the current to all principal cities of the republic."

Additional Sports
Cleveland Browns Favored To Win

Cleveland, Dec. 21 (UP)—The Cleveland Browns rated two touchdown favorites today as both the Browns and the New York Yankees rounded out their practice sessions for the all-American conference championship game here tomorrow.

Those odds seemed about right considering the two defeats Cleveland hung on the Yankees during the regular season, but officials of both clubs disagreed.

Coach Paul Brown of Cleveland called it the "toughest assignment of the year," and Ray Flaherty, coach of the easterners, labeled it "a toss-up, but one we're out to win."

Wolves Get Back In Win Column

(By United Press)
The Hollywood Wolves climbed back into the victory column today after a three-game losing streak to increase their southern division lead in the Pacific Coast Hockey league to six games.

The Wolves hit the stride which has given them 23 victories and six defeats this season against the collar-dwelling Oakland Oaks for a rousing 5-2 triumph. Eric (Doc) Prentice, Hollywood wingman, scored once each period to pull the hat trick.

In the northern division, the Vancouver Canucks took over possession of third place by blasting New Westminster, 4 to 1. The two teams were in a third spot tie before the game.

Coasting Along In The Sport World

By Alex Troffey
(United Press Sports Writer)

Moscow, Idaho, Dec. 21 (UP)—It took 23 years and a war to bring University of Idaho a basketball championship, but the Vandals are afraid the fun is over this year.

As defending champions of the Pacific coast conference's northern division, the Vandals might expect to be treated with considerable respect by the experts when prognosticating on the outcome of the 1947 cage scramble.

But that is not the case: University of Washington, Oregon and Oregon State are rated as the "teams to beat," and Idaho, they say, is slated for another dull season.

It was a long pull that put the Vandals on top of the heap last season—23 years to be exact—but the Vandals did it.

Four of the five members of that team are back this season; eighteen lettermen turned out for the squad; coach Guy Wicks, as canny a strategist as ever trod the hardwood, is back in the saddle after a navy hitch.

All this and height, too, but no soap. The experts say: It took a war to give Idaho the title. The war is over.

Genial coach Wicks, never an optimist, says conservatively that "Idaho is going to have a good representative team this year."

He admits that the Vandals were strictly a defensive club last season. None of the other northern division teams had many hot-shots. Idaho made them play Idaho's game, and the Vandals outwaited a championship.

The best example of this was in the play-off against University of California. The Vandals won a game from the usually high-scoring Bears by holding them to a humiliating 23 points.

Realizing all this, and taking a lesson from the lickings Idaho got against fast company on an eastern barnstorming tour, coach Wicks is convinced that a fast break must be his gospel if Idaho is to be in the running.

Spear-heading the new Idaho attack will be Fred (Wimpy) Quinn, a natural floor artist from Pocatello who returns from last year's team. Quinn, who holds the northern division record for scoring in a single game—27 points—was all-coast last year and mentioned on several all-American teams.

His running mate at forward will be letterman Grant Mortensen from Sugar City, Ida., for-

mer all-Big Seven conference player and another holdover.

Jack Phoenix, from American Falls, is the six-foot, nine-inch tower of strength at center. Tallest man on the coast cage courts last year, Phoenix has gotten over his awkwardness of 1946 and is expected to be among the top scorers in the conference.

The guard positions will be held down by veteran Bill Carbaugh, Spokane, Wash., and Norm Fredelind, Coeur D'Alene, the only newcomer with the champions.

BASKETBALL RESULTS
(By United Press)

Oregon State 80, Portland All-Stars 58.
Illinois 58, California 36.
Portland 61, Fees Roller-drome 36.
Lewis and Clark 63, Oregon college of Education 33.
UCLA 83, Los Angeles Police 18.
San Jose 53, Willamette 38.
Washington State 60, Montana 49.

WIN EIGHTH GAME
Corvallis, Ore., Dec. 21 (UP)—Oregon State college ran its pre-season basketball victory string to eight straight by beating the Portland All-Stars, 80-30, here last night.

FIGHT RESULTS
(By United Press)

Hollywood — Larry Cisneros, 145½, Los Angeles, decision Vic Grapico, 136½, San Francisco (10); Chick Musgrove, 165, Los Angeles, decision Bobcat Lee, 162, Lincoln, Neb. (4).

State Employees Seek 5 Day Week
Salem, Ore., Dec. 21 (UP)—The Oregon State Employees' association, which represents about half the 8,000 classified state workers, has outlined its legislative program for the session which begins Jan. 13.

Major aims of the organization are to sponsor a five-day, 40-hour basic work week with time and a half for overtime, make civil service pay plan wage scale effective Jan. 1, 1947, and to set up an emergency salary fund for the next biennium to cover any salary increases which might be justified by rising living costs.

Expert Says Male Of Species Sets Up Standard For Beauty

By Claire Cox
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Chicago, Dec. 21 (UP)—American women use cosmetics because they want to be as attractive as men, a male expert on what makes women beautiful said today.

The ladies worried so hard on their face building projects this year that they ran up an unprecedented cosmetics bill of \$3,000, 000,000, while the men remained as handsome as ever without spending a cent for rouge or lipstick, he said.

Dr. Ivor Griffith, Philadelphia, president and research director of the Philadelphia college of pharmacy and science, said it was sad but true that men always have been more appealing to the eye than women.

"Humans are just like any other animals, as far as beauty goes," Griffith said. "Just look at the proud, strutting rooster and the timid brown hen. And the lion always has been the beau bruminal of the jungle, while Mrs. Leo is an ill-tempered old shrew of a wife."

"Well, it's the same with women. They actually need more care of the body. For proof, just notice that a careless woman always looks worse than a careless man."

Griffith, who was in Chicago to address the American chemical society, said most women pined away in an unattractive state until about 1915. They started large scale lipstick purchases the day they first voted, and they've been caiking it on ever since, he said.

"Women had inferiority complexes, and they had only a secondary place in family life," he said. "Now look at them. They are covered with cosmetics and winning the admiration of the men for their attempts to be beautiful."

Griffith said that women worked so hard this year at trying to give men some competition that they used 8,000 miles of lipstick—enough to encompass the return trip from Hollywood to Coney island."

They also used 750,000,000 boxes of face powder and 400,000, 000 rouge compacts, he said.

"The average American woman spends \$110 a year on cosmetics and beauty culture," he added. "They have made the soap and

water advocate almost extinct. "In fact, the women have carried their search for beauty so far that they are going to the beauty parlor more often than they go to church."

Soldier Killed in Night Club Fight
Tokyo, Dec. 21 (UP)—The U. S. army newspaper Stars and Stripes has reported that one American soldier was killed and two others injured last Saturday night when white and negro troops clashed in a Tokyo night club.

Eighth army provost marshal headquarters said Pvt. Lon V. Mills, Boonville, Mo., died a few minutes after he was taken to a dispensary from the "Tokyo club."

M/Sgt. James A. Ade, Williamsport, Pa., and Sgt. Richard R. Quarz, Walker river reservation, Schurz, Nev., were injured in the fight.

Easter Lily Bulb Business Good
Bandon, Ore., Dec. 21 (UP)—The Easter lily bulb industry in Oregon, which blossomed to big business when the supply from Japan was cut off because of World War II, really went places this year, figures released here have disclosed.

The total Oregon production was 31,000,000 bulbs in 1946, or three times the size of the 1945 output.

Cos and Curry counties accounted for 87 per cent of the bumper 1946 crop.

Russia Speeds Up Work on Rails
London, Dec. 21 (UP)—A track-laying railroad train, which allows 20 men to handle a job formerly requiring 5,000, has been developed in Russia, a radio Moscow said yesterday.

The broadcast, which quoted a Tass dispatch, said the Odessa-Kishinev railway had been restored in one-third the normal time by use of the mechanical track layer.

Gambling Loot Found In Reno

Reno, Nev., Dec. 21 (UP)—Police investigating a suicide attempt today discovered the largest collection of crooked gambling devices ever seen in Reno in its long history as a gaming center.

The cheating equipment filled six suitcases and boxes, police reported, and was found in a hotel room occupied by Harold Joyce Covington, 30, who tried unsuccessfully to end his life Wednesday.

The equipment ranged from illegally marked dice to an elaborate rotor and magnet for controlling a roulette wheel.

Several of the dice were "loaded" with magnetized bits of metal. Police also found numerous control lead-sized magnets used to control the antics of the ivory cubes. A receipt found in the room indicated the magnets alone cost \$65.

Inventory Taken
Police also found the following: A set of duplicate punchboard slips.

Several "trippers" for slot machines, used to control payoff of the gambling devices.

Two expensive instruments for trimming and marking cards.

More than a dozen "buttons" containing wax for card marking.

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★
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TOWER
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JIMMY DURANTE
PLUS 2ND HIT

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