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**LAW MEXICO IS ENFORCING  
IS SAID TO BE 70 YEARS OLD**  
Diplomat Asserts Religious Decree  
Was Laid Down in 1857, Was  
Never Carried Out, But  
Now Necessary.

WASHINGTON, D. C. July 31.—  
In a formal statement explaining the  
Mexican religious policy which has  
brought the government into conflict  
with the Catholic church, Dr. Antonio  
Castro, charge d'affaires of the Mexi-  
can embassy, asserted here tonight  
that at a time when a church exercised  
a powerful political sway in Mexico,  
it never represented in fact a construc-  
tive power for the people.

"It is an unavoidable fact that Catho-  
lic foreign public opinion be errone-  
ous in regard to the so-called religio-  
us question in Mexico," he said,  
"since it is natural for the American  
people, for instance, to judge the  
church in the Mexico by the standards  
of the church in the United States,  
without taking into consideration that  
historical and political conditions, that  
race and methods of government have  
been additional factors which have  
diversified the role of the religious in-  
stitutions in both countries.

**Historical Background Shown.**  
"Without possessing an exact knowl-  
edge, at least of our political history  
of the 19th century, there cannot be  
appreciated the causes which gave  
rise to the constitution of 1857 and the  
reform laws of 1859 which are the  
bases of the Mexican legislation deal-  
ing with religious matters. To judge  
the church in Mexico by what the  
church has done in the United States  
is as erroneous as to judge the con-  
servative parties in Argentina by what  
the Tories have done in England.

"The church exercised a complete  
dominion over the country during  
three centuries without being able to  
launch a movement of progress that  
would, when independence was  
achieved, place Mexico among the  
countries enjoying modern standards  
of life. After the war of independence,  
at the beginning of the 19th century,  
the church in Mexico exercised a great  
political sway, but it never represent-  
ed, in fact, a constructive power for  
the people.

"The struggles for reform put an  
end to a continuous state of political  
friction between the liberal and con-

servative parties, the latter having the  
decisive support of the church. Upon  
the triumph of the liberal party, it was  
possible to separate the church from  
the state, limiting the religious insti-  
tutions to the spiritual action, the only  
one which belongs to them.

**Law Long in Existence**  
"The reform movement gave to the  
country a Magna Charta in which  
there were embodied liberal principles  
which no other country had yet estab-  
lished in the middle of the 19th cen-  
tury. These principles have been grad-  
ually adopted in the constitutions of  
several European and Latin-American  
countries.

"The policy of President Calles'  
government is, in fact, a continuation  
of the one that prompted the reform  
movement; and article 130 of the con-  
stitution of 1917, dealing with religio-  
us questions, is, in fact, the incorpora-  
tion of article 123 of the constitution  
of 1857, and of the reform laws of  
1859.

"The decree amending the penal  
code does nothing but establish regu-  
lations for laws already in existence  
for the past 70 years.

"An unbiased consideration of the  
facts cannot fail to show the uniform-  
ity of policy in regard to religious  
questions during the past 70 years.  
Any person with a clear idea of soci-  
ological and political movements will  
realize that there must exist powerful  
reasons and special circumstances  
supporting the Mexican policy in all  
matters touching religious questions  
during the last 70 years. No unpopular  
movement, no problem artificially  
created by a government, can survive  
in the political calendar of a country  
during 70 years.

**Higher Standards Sought**

"After the dictatorship of Porfirio  
Diaz, our country found great prob-  
lems to be solved. The revolution of  
1910 inaugurated a movement of new  
political ideas, and Mexico is at pre-  
sent passing through a creative period;  
spreading knowledge among the lower  
classes, establishing credit institutions  
for the benefit of industry and agricul-  
ture, opening roads and irrigating  
lands. A rich minority rested upon the  
wretched condition of the poor ma-  
jority. This situation has been fully  
understood and now it is our purpose  
to make it clear to others that the  
people must enjoy better conditions of  
life. In order to carry out our purposes  
it has been necessary to place the  
country in a producing state, and to  
make the people, through education,  
capable to produce.

"At the present time, when the  
country is being reconstructed, the  
government of Mexico has made clear  
that the reactionary elements obstruct-  
ing its work are being, as always be-  
fore, instigated by the church. To the  
maneuvers of the church and to its  
call to the people to disavow the con-  
stitution and the laws of the country,  
the president has only answered by  
putting into force the laws already in  
existence, which had not been in force  
through the tolerance of the govern-  
ment."

**MARY PICKFORD REAL  
"QUEEN OF SCREEN"**

That Mary Pickford is rapidly be-  
coming the "World's Sweetheart" in  
fact as well as in name is indicated in  
the results of popularity contests stag-  
ed in various countries during the  
past few months.

A questionnaire filled out by 37,000  
high school pupils in seventy-six cities  
in all parts of the United States show-  
ed that Miss Pickford is the favorite

actress of both high school boys and  
girls. This circular was issued by the  
Russell Sage Foundation in co-opera-  
tion with the National Committee for  
Better Films, of New York City, and  
is said to be the most accurate check  
on the popularity of picture players  
that has ever been tabulated. The  
Talmadge sisters also stood high in  
the contest. Douglas Fairbanks won  
the boys' vote, while the girls selected  
Rudolph Valentino.

In addition to being the most popu-  
lar feminine photoplay star, Miss Pick-  
ford has also been chosen as the most  
beautiful. This selection was made by  
Neyna McMein, America's foremost  
woman illustrator.

But this artist's popularity is not  
confined to the United States alone.  
This is indicated by the result of a  
contest staged throughout Cuba by the  
leading newspaper in Havana. Miss  
Pickford won by an overwhelming  
majority.

In several European countries the  
same performance was repeated.  
"Eve," a weekly Paris publication, on  
the order of "The Ladies Home Jour-  
nal," and "The Journal," a daily pub-  
lished at Liege, Belgium, have recent-  
ly, independent of each other, had  
voting contests to decide the most  
popular screen stars. In the Liege  
"Journal" competition Miss Pickford  
and Mr. Fairbanks received the most  
votes, and with "Eve," Miss Pickford  
was elected as the most popular femi-  
nine star, and Leon Hathot, a popular

French artist, lead the men with Doug  
a close second.

A popularity contest in Japan was  
won by Miss Pickford and also one  
in Brazil. This all seems to indicate  
that without question Miss Pickford  
is the "Queen of the Screen" through-  
out the entire world.

Her latest feature photoplay, "Ros-  
ita," in which she plays the role of a  
grown-up young woman, comes to the  
Liberty theatre next week.

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DAILY

|              | A. M. | P. M. | P. M.        | A. M. | M. P. M. | P. M. | (A)   |
|--------------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Portland     | 2:00  | 6:20  | Lv. Estacada | 8:00  |          | 4:30  | 8:30  |
| Clackamas    | 2:30  | 6:50  | Eagle Creek  | 8:15  |          | 4:45  | 8:45  |
| Carver       | 2:40  | 7:00  | Barton       | 8:25  |          | 4:55  | 8:55  |
| Barton       | 3:05  | 7:25  | Carver       | 8:45  |          | 5:15  | 9:15  |
| Eagle Creek  | 3:15  | 7:35  | Clackamas    | 8:55  |          | 5:25  | 9:25  |
| Ar. Estacada | 3:30  | 7:50  | Ar. Portland | 9:30  |          | 6:00  | 10:00 |

\* Daily except Sunday (A) Saturday only.  
SUNDAY—Leave Portland 10 A. M. Leave Estacada 4.30 P. M.

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