

Uncle Ted's Bed-Time Stories

THE MEXICAN DISGRACE.

"The other day you promised you'd tell us all about Mexico, Uncle Ted," said Jack as he pulled Uncle Ted into his favorite chair. "I want to know all I can about it because Tommy Smith who was a soldier in the big war is going to help some of us boys give a Mexican show."

"Well, Jack," answered his uncle, "I don't know whether I can tell you much to help you get up your Mexican show but I can tell you a few of the things that have happened in that country in the past few years and how hundreds of Americans who live there have been killed and robbed and how many others have had their homes destroyed. It is a long story and so you and Ruth will have to be real quiet so I can tell you as much as possible."

"I shall start after the summer of 1912, the first year that Woodrow Wilson became president. That summer had been quiet in Mexico but in October, General Felix Diaz, nephew of the former President Diaz, led a revolt against the government which was then headed by President Madero. He failed at the time but after being sentenced to death was released and again went after Madero. The next February, General Huerta who had been helping Madero, deserted and the result was the arrest of President Madero. While Madero and Suarez, who had been his vice president, were being taken from the palace in Mexico City to the penitentiary they were shot and killed. Huerta became president then and ev-

eryone in this country was anxious to see what President Wilson would do, because of the many Americans living there and the nearness of that country to our own. It was important that he act firm and make the new Mexican government understand that we would stand for no nonsense. Henry Lane Wilson was then our ambassador in Mexico and he urged President Wilson to recognize Huerta as the Mexican president but our president would not do so although Spain did so in April, 1913, Great Britain and France in May and many other countries a little later. A great many people believe that this failure to recognize Huerta was the first of a thousand big mistakes that President Wilson made in dealing with Mexico and that had he recognized Huerta it might have saved years of trouble and hundreds of lives."

"Why did they think this?" asked Jack.

"Because, Jack, the attitude of the United States encouraged Huerta's enemies who called themselves 'Constitutionalists' and after capturing several towns they set up another government with Carranza, who is now president, as 'provisional president.' By June they controlled nearly all of north Mexico. Because President Wilson didn't agree with Ambassador Wilson he was called back to the United States and resigned July 4, 1913, and John Lind, former governor of Minnesota was sent to try and settle the troubles in Mexico for Woodrow Wilson. But he failed and Mr. Wilson admitted it in a message to congress on August 27th of that year. Things went from bad to worse in Mexico with Villa, the bandit leader, capturing many towns, and killing Americans and British. On April 3, 1914, Mr. Lind gave up his job and came home. Villa fought harder

William MacLeod Raine

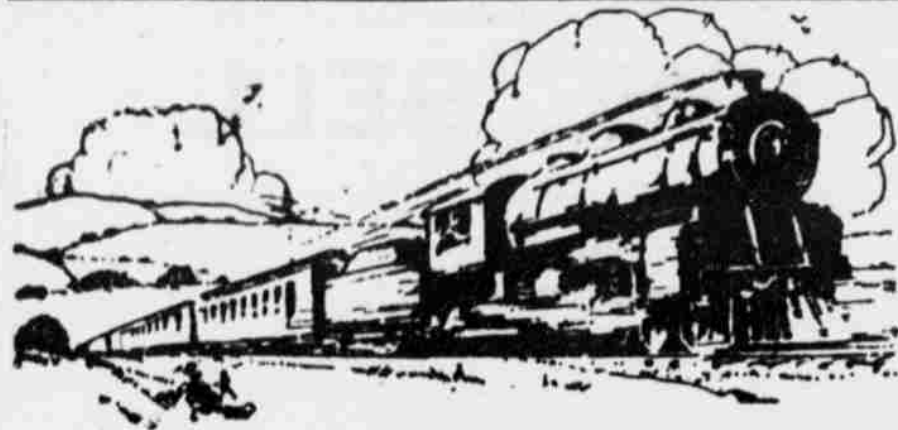


This writer, who was transplanted from England to the West at an early age, so that he has grown up and become a part of it, is eminently qualified to write its big stories; and he has been doing so for nearly twenty years. Such stories as "A Daughter of Ramsey," "Wyoming," "Ridgway of Montana," "Bucky O'Connor," "A Texas Ranger," "Mavericks," "Brand Blotters," "The Vision Splendid," and "The Highlanders" will be recalled. He has also contributed a host of serials, novelettes and short stories to English and American magazines. His "Crooked Trails and Straight," probably his best, will appear in this paper in serial form. Do not miss the first installment.

and started what finally caused the downfall of Huerta. While they were fighting at Tampico on April 13, 1914, shells fell near the city and damaged many oil tanks. Rear Admiral Mayo, who then commanded the U. S. fleet stationed in the harbor, ordered the fire directed away from them, and on April 10, when some U. S. marines were landing at Tampico to get gasoline for their launch, they were arrested by Mexican federal troops. The Mexican colonel who arrested them changed his mind, released them and apologized but Admiral Mayo was angry and demanded that the American flag be saluted as an apology. Huerta refused to do this. Our fleet was then ordered to Mexico and President Wilson ordered that our flag should be saluted by Huerta before 6 p. m. April 19. The salute was never given and the only result was the landing of our marines a few days later and the loss of many of their lives. Ever since that time, with the shifting and changing of affairs in Mexico, President Wilson has done nothing but send notes and warn Mexico until it has become a joke with Mexico and she does as she pleases.

"In 1915 a convention was held in Washington between representatives of the United States and the South American countries to try and bring peace in Mexico. Villa agreed to make peace but Carranza demanded he be made president. In August of that year Mexican bandits crossed into Texas and raided American towns. Villa kept up his attacks upon Americans and in March, 1916, he attacked the army post at Columbus, New Mexico, killing seventeen persons, some soldiers and burning and stealing from many buildings. The American women had to be removed from the town to safety. This kept up all along the border until the Americans were in danger of their lives at all times. Everyone wanted us to send our troops into Mexico and stop this terrible thing but President Wilson refused to be 'rushed' and kept on with what he called 'watchful waiting.'

"Finally General Pershing was sent into Mexico with 4000 men with orders to capture Villa, dead or alive. He would have done so, but was ordered back before he had the chance. On October 19, 1917, after dozens of Americans had been killed, American towns raided and homes burned, Mr. Wilson recognized General Carranza as president of Mexico. But the trouble was not over. Day after day these outrages continue and Mr. Wilson sends notes of warning and Carranza promises to punish the guilty Mexicans. From January 23 to July 31, 1918, there were 61 outrages committed in the oil regions of Mexico. The most recent outrage is the case of William O. Jenkins, U. S. consular agent at Puebla, Mexico, who was kidnapped by bandits last October and whose friends had to pay \$150,000 to get him away. Later he was arrested and put in a Mexican prison because Carranzistas said he helped the bandits to kidnap him. He is still held for trial and although Secretary Lansing has sent a lot of notes demanding his release Carranza seems to laugh at the matter. I just learned that two American oil men have been murdered by Mexicans near Tampico, which makes a total of 19 to be murdered since April, 1917.



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—JAMES J. MILL.

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And the first word to reach Washington about these last two murders came through private sources, our state department, which should keep in touch with these matters at all times, not learning about them until afterward.

"So you see children, this Mexican situation is a disgrace to our country. If we had had a president who from the very first would have given Mexico to understand we would stand no nonsense, we could have avoided all this trouble and these terrible murders."

WHAT A YOUNG MAN KNOWS

"Presumably every young man knows, as a physical fact, that he can do nothing next year which he cannot in some degree, do today. . . . The important question is whether the time will come early enough in life to do him any particular good. A lazy man cannot possibly make himself industrious in the future; or an extravagant man, economical. If it is done at all he must do it at an immediate present moment—at some 'right now'! No man ever saved a penny in the future, or ever will. He has got to save the penny in his hand at the moment or he will be broke to the day of his death. . . . To save the penny in hand he must resist the temptation to spend it. . . . Every year that he does not resist weakens his ability to resist. It is within the knowledge of everybody who has the ordinary circle of acquaintances that, after a certain time, the man who lives up to the limit of his income—which about nine times out of ten means a little beyond—accepts that as a normal condition and just automatically spends all that he gets. . . . If he can realize by thirty, or sooner, that he is spending his future every day, it will be a good thing for him."—Editorial from the Saturday Evening Post.

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PEACE CONFERENCE DEMANDS EXTRADITION OF EX-KAISER

PARIS—The Temps asserts that the secretary of the peace conference has sent to the Dutch minister a note from the supreme council demanding the extradition of ex-Emperor William.

The note recalls the cynical violation of the neutrality of Belgium and Luxembourg, the barbarous system of hostages, massed deportations, the devastation without military reasons, the submarine warfare and continues:

"For all of which acts responsibility, at least moral, reaches the supreme chief, who ordered them or abused his unlimited powers to break, or permit others to break, the most sacred rules of human conscience."

MANUFACTURER'S DIRECTORY ISSUED FOR THIS STATE

A directory of all the manufacturing concerns in the state or Oregon has recently been put out. The volume of 166 pages lists the manufacturers in two ways, first by towns and manufacturers in alphabetical order, and second, by commodities in the same order. Fifteen thousand copies have been printed. The book will be sent to every retail merchant in Oregon, to every manufacturer in Oregon, to every city and county official, every school director, newspaper and public library in Oregon. The work is done under the auspices of the Associated Industries of Oregon.

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