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HONG KONG KOLUM

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"I don't think," said the lawyer, "that there being ladies on the jury, it would be wise for Mrs. Jones, the defendant, to dress better than they do."

• • •

In a certain English village, the rector, seeing that his big congregation were giving liberally, realized that some help must be given the aged contribution plate passer. He called to a rustic altar boy.

"Tam," he whispered, hastily, "go into the dining room, take that glass dish from the sideboard and walk with it down the left aisle. Then come up the right aisle to the altar to where I stand."

The rustic departed; he did as directed. When he returned to the rector, his face was flushed and he called the clergyman aside.

"I passed it all up and down both aisles," he confided, "but none o' them would have any."

The plate had been filled with biscuits!

• • •

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR!

A wise old guy in Washington took his pencil and paper and gave the cause of the war in Europe as follows: (read the first letters of each word down)

Germany
Russia
Austria
Belgium
France
England
Servia
Turkey.

• • •

"When the war's over and the Germans are whipped," exclaimed the red faced ally sympathizer in the street car, "I know a good job for the kaiser."

"What is it?" asked the pale conductor.

"A diver's job—so he can go down and take a look at his fleet now and then!"

• • •

Judge (to actor found guilty of murder)—Is there any announcement you would like to make before I pass the sentence of death?

Actor—Yes, your honor, I would like to announce that this will positively be my last appearance!

• • •

AT THE RIBBON COUNTER

(Characters—bashful youth, pretty shop girl, cool floor walker. Time 4 p. m.—Scene, department store).

Youth—I w-w-wish to get s-s-some ribbon for a r-r-red baby!

P. Girl—Oh!

Youth—I mean some baby for a ribbed r-r-red one!

P. Girl—Beg pardon, sir!

Youth—That is, you know, I mean some ribbed red baby for some—some red ribs for one baby—some one's red baby's ribs—some red ribs for one baby—thunder and lightning—where's the door!

P. Girl—Really, he is dippy!

Floor Walker—This way out, sir!

• • •

If it's in style, anything looks like a hat to a woman.—Judge.

Dentist—Open wider, please—wider!

Patient—Ah-a-a-a-a-ah!

Dentist (inserting rubber gag, towel and sponge)—How's your family?

PORFIRIO DIAZ

A STRONG man and in many ways a remarkable man passed away when Porfirio Diaz breathed his last in Paris recently. Ruling spirit of Mexico for over a third of a century, with powers of absolute monarch, he had the greatest of opportunities for service to his nation and humanity. That he missed his opportunity is proven by his death in exile, execrated by his countrymen, while the nation he ruled by the strong arm is rapidly approaching anarchy.

During Diaz' regime he was haled as a great and enlightened statesman, even as a benefactor. The nation was apparently prosperous as it modernized. Yet the prosperity and advancement were only a thin veneer over its wretchedness.

The gospel of force and greed ruled Mexico. Diaz' ideals were the feudal ideals. Might replaced right. The logical outcome of misuse of power is reflected in the chaos that has followed the removal of repression.

Tyranny invariably unfits a nation for government. Injustice ever breeds rebellion and anarchy. Diaz has left Mexico more miserable than he found it, and the fruits of his reign sowed the seeds of discord for futurity.

Far from being the savior of his nation, Diaz became its oppressor. History must regard him as a common tyrant, bent on selfish ends, instead of a benefactor of humanity.

The prosperity of a nation rests on the prosperity, welfare and advancement of the masses. Diaz never comprehended this. He substituted the feudal idea that the nation's welfare rested on the prosperity of the classes, in the creation and perpetuation of privilege, in the subjugation and degredation of the people. The government he created was an oligarchy of privilege. The many were robbed for the few. The solidarity of the nation, in consequence, was an illusion that the first breath of adversity dissipated.

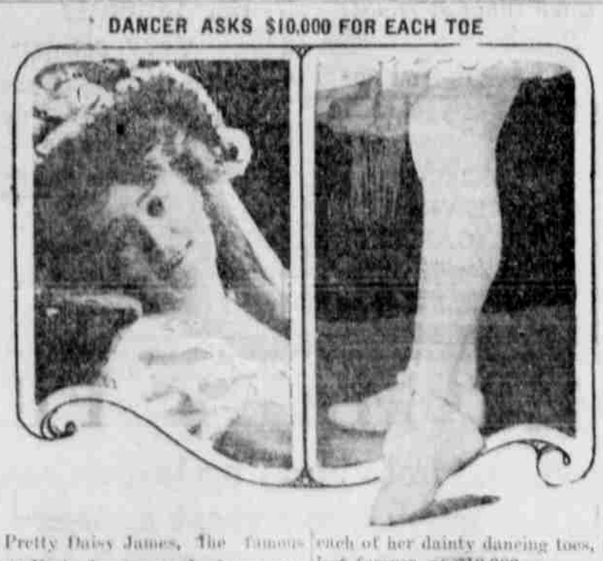
What did Diaz do for the people of Mexico? He confiscated their common and pueblo holdings for his officers and he reduced the owners to peonage and slavery. He perpetuated and extended the Spanish system of spoliation and added a new class of oppressors. The natural resources and heritage of an undeveloped nation he bartered away for foreign gold and added foreign masters whose only object was to loot the nation.

While the haciendas grew in extent the people grew in poverty. The wealth of the classes was in sad contrast to the squalor of the masses. The superficial culture and beauty of his capital were a mockery on the ignorance and superstition of the nation. Knowledge, ever a foe to tyranny, was banished to keep the multitude in subjection.

The huge undeveloped resources of Mexico and the open door to their acquisition brought the spoilers from every land to prey upon the nation. Vast tracts of land, great mineral belts, immense forest areas, went as "concessions" and the followers of Diaz became wealthy as the nation became poorer. His dictatorship might be called the triumph of graft—with Diaz the master grafter—an ideal commercial regime.

Diaz might have improved the condition of the Mexican people. He might have educated them. He might have materially, socially and intellectually advanced them—but he was content to exploit them. He might have ranked as one of the world's great patriots, as the redeemer of Mexico. Instead he will rank in history as a selfish, sordid tyrant, blind to his great opportunity to uplift humanity and found an enduring nation.

DANCER ASKS $10,000 FOR EACH TOE



Pretty Daisy James, the famous New York dancer, can't dance any more because she lost both of her feet in a railroad accident recently. She was in haste to board a train and ran under the closed gates, where she was dragged beneath the car wheels.

Now she has filed an action in the supreme court for $100,000 against the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad company—for she values each of her dainty dancing toes, now lost forever, at $10,000.

Miss Janes wishes now that she had taken the advice of her friends when they told her to have her feet insured. "But I would gladly part with all the money in the world if it were mine—just to be able to dance," she said shortly after the accident.

Her feet were described as being "as light as the tips of wings." She studied dancing for many years and during that time always took the very best care of her feet.

MRS. HOLT TOLD OF HOLT'S DEATH

DALLAS, Tex., July .—Mrs. Holt was told this forenoon that her husband had taken his life.

"My daughter was prepared for anything and had been very calm," said the Rev. O. F. Sensabaugh, her father.

Holt will be buried at Ithaca, N. Y., Mr. Sensabaugh announced. No member of the family will attend the funeral, he said, but Mrs. Holt and her mother plan to visit Holt's grave as soon as the wife is able to travel.

It was first announced that Holt's body would be buried here, but the plans were changed.

When told of wireless messages reporting the liner Philadelphia safe, the Rev. Mr. Sensabaugh exclaimed: "Both Mrs. Holt and I thank God for that."

A wealthy western farmer wrote on a post card to an old lady friend in Kansas: "Ten days here in Monte Carlo—have lost 12 pounds and a shilling.

"Great Scott!" exclaimed the old lady, "haven't they got any health down in that country?"

MAY DECLARE "MODEL CITY" BANKRUPT; APPOINT RECEIVER

LOOTED CITY TO TRY UNIQUE METHOD TO RESTORE CREDIT

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 7.—A city of more than 100,000 people declared bankrupt and put into the hands of a receiver!

That may be the unique fate of Nashville, for following astounding revelations of the looting of the city treasury, Harry S. Stokes, 37 years old, brilliant attorney and unattached politically or corporately, has brought suit to throw the city into the hands of a receiver.

If the young lawyer succeeds in his suit it will mean the demonstration of a new form of city government—government of a big city by a receiver—which would be more unique and daring than the Dayton plan of a city manager.

It will prove particularly sensational and surprising because Nashville has enjoyed all the latest novelties in municipal management, such as commission government, the recall, city audits and publication of financial statements.

These latest improvements in municipal machinery were supposed to have ended forever the careers of old-time city burglars of the Tweed type, but in spite of this the city has been staggered by the revelations of wholesale looting of public funds.

Following these revelations have come—

The indictment of City Comptroller Miles Burns for the larceny of the city records, which disappeared last April.

The indictment of City Treasurer Charles Myers on a charge of appropriating $17,000 of the city's interest on daily bank balances in the banks.

The indictment of City Commissioner Lyle Andrews for larceny of city money to an indefinite amount, and for guilty knowledge of the disappearance of the city's records.

It has also been brought out that Assistant City Treasurer Johnson West is somewhere in the Orient on a permanent vacation, with his salary paid in advance to October.

Another sensational development of the scandal is the fact that a safe in the city hall was forced and important vouchers destroyed in a room supposed to be under the eyes of six detectives.

As yet the real extent of the "loot" is unknown, but the prevailing belief is that the peculations from the city treasury alone will prove to be more than half a million dollars, covering a period of eight years.

Stokes, the daring, jumped into the ring as attorney for Miles Burns, the comptroller, who was denounced by his fellow officials for the disappearance of the city's books.

Insisting that Burns was slated to be the "goat" for the others, Stokes filed a bill to enjoin the dismissal of Burns from office, reinstated him in the city hall under an armed guard and then, on behalf of Burns, filed a petition to have a receiver appointed for the city, thus automatically removing all the officials.

It is alleged that Comptroller Burns has "squealed" to his attorney and that he declares the mayor and other officials knew about the disappearance of the records months before their loss was publicly admitted.

The position of Mayor Hilary Howse, a picturesque bachelor business man of the "self-made" type, and other city officials not yet "involved," is peculiar.

Howse was a typical boss, who was not in favor with the silk stocking element, and is supposed to possess the "rugged honesty" of the uncut diamond variety. His friends insist that the looting was carried on without his knowledge.

They further insist that the trouble is confined to the few peculations of the revenue department, but the people of Nashville believe there is something far worse. They believe that underlying the actual burglaries of the city's cash box there is a vast ocean of graft on contracts and by "police protection." It will mount up to more than $3,000,000 is the popular belief.

Already recall petitions are in circulation to retire the entire administration.

Leader of prisoner's in penitentiary—Warden, we want permission to form a new club in the prison.

Warden—What kind of a club?

Leader—An outing club!

Prominent in Nashville's public moneys scandal. In upper left hand corner, H. S. Stokes, who has sued to have receiver appointed for city; below him, Lyle Andrews, an indicted city commissioner. In upper right hand corner, Hilary Howse, mayor, and below him, Charles Myers, city treasurer, another of those indicted.

GERMAN VIEWS UPON SUBMARINE WAR OUTLINED

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Further messages from Ambassador Gerard were today transmitted to President Wilson at Cornish, N. H., outlining the point of view of the German government on submarine warfare as embodied in a tentative draft of the German note to the last American note.

The dispatches tended to show that Germany is anxious to bring about a compromise on the question of her submarine campaign and there were indications in official quarters that the proposals in their present form are not acceptable to the United States. Just what memans would be adopted to inform Germany of the disapproval of the United States is not apparent. It is believed, however, that Ambassador Gerard will be instructed within a day or two to make clear in advance of the receipt of the formal and final cop of the German note that he is unable to make any comment.

Although from press dispatches and other sources, it appeared that the German proposals were unsatisfactory, the situation was not regarded in well informed quarters as hopeless, much encouragement being drawn from the fact that a tentative draft of the note was submitted to the American ambassador. This, it was believed, indicated that if the preliminary draft was not satisfactory there might be changes made designed to meet the American point of view on submarine warfare.

Business Advice

"Every employer wants a square peg, my boy."

"Yes, dad."

"In other words, there is no place for the rounder."—Judge.

MONTENEGRIN RECRUITS HALTED BY U.S. OFFICIALS

PORTLAND, Ore., July 7.—A train bearing a party of 147 alleged Montenegrin recruits, bound from Globe, Arizona, to Vancouver, B. C., stopped her today and the agent in charge A. E. Gurasevich, was taken to the office of U. S. Attorney Clarence L. Reames. Representatives of the attorney's office stated, however, that the men were not under arrest. They were permitted to proceed, but the agents arrested.

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Officials of the department of justice said they had every reason to believe the arrests had frustrated a plan to return thousands of Montenegrins to their own country. Although they are not certain how many Montenegrins now live in the United States, they say the operations of the men already arrested indicate they hoped to enlist several thousand men. The department is keeping close watch on reported attempts to enlist men in the United States for the Italian army, but so far no definite evidence has come to light.

NO GERMAN DYES FOR UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, July 7.—Efforts of the United States government to secure dyestuffs from Germany for American manufacturers have reached a deadlock, which appears unbreakable, and officials here today expressed little hope of an arrangement being made which would give this country a supply of German-made colors.