

# MANNERS OF THE MEXICAN

## Etiquette of Greeting and Parting Between Friends—Odd Funeral Customs

To an American there are some peculiar phases in the manners of Mexico. When beckoning to a person the Mexican extends his hand, palm down, and gives it a downward and inward sweep instead of holding the palm upward and giving it an upward and inward sweep, as Americans do. Mexicans employ the American motion in beckoning to the dogs.

To indicate the height of an animal Mexicans extend the hand with the palm downward (as Americans indicate the height of any person or thing), the height of a thing by hold-

ing out the palm vertically and the height of a person by extending the flat with the index finger pointing upward. To beckon to a person as one would to a dog or to indicate a person's height as one would that of an animal or thing might give offense.

When Mexicans, and particularly the women, wish to greet one another from such a distance that speech is impracticable (as across the street) they hold the right hand even with the eyes and wiggle the fingers.

The handshake in Mexico is a great institution. When one stops to chat or talk a little business with a person on the street, no matter how many times one may have met him the same day, they shake hands at the meeting and likewise at the parting, in the meantime inquiring about and telling healths. To say "Howdy!" in Mexico is a matter of two or three minutes at the very best. When one drops into a man's office on business likewise these pleasant little formalities must be scrupulously observed, else one would be set down as an ill-mannered boor. When presented to a woman do not hesitate to extend the hand for the regulation shake. It is the only thing to do.

When one meets a friend whom one has not seen for some time it is the custom to fall upon his neck, throwing the right arm about him and patting him lovingly just above the small of the back. Women indulge in this custom with their own sex.

Mexican pedestrians turn out for each other on either side, but seem to have a preference for the left. In meeting women, however, one must always give them the inside of the walk. This rule also holds good when one meets superiors, always granting that an American will acknowledge any man to be his superior. One may frequently see these courteous Mexican men almost quarreling to make the other fellow take the inside track. "Pase, señor," they implore each other.

It is customary for men to raise their hats upon passing each other in the streets. The carrying of canes is very general in Mexico. When acquaintances of opposite sex meet, as upon the street, the man is expected to bow first. This, as may readily be seen, is important if one has any acquaintances among Mexican women. Pass one without bowing, and she may not know one next time. One's only hope lies in the possibility that she knows enough about American customs to condone the offense on the score of your ignorance of the customs of the country.

To call a servant, hold up street car or that sort of thing, clap the hands. "Adios" is employed as a passing greeting as well as an adieu. In passing a friend with no intention of halting one may say, "Adios," which covers the greeting as well as the parting. This form of greeting is much more commonly used than "Good morning," "Good evening," etc.

The Mexicans are inveterate smokers, but they never chew tobacco. That practice is monopolized by the superior "Americanoes." Moreover, the Mexican is seldom offensive with his smoking. The practice is permissible nearly everywhere—in hotel or other dining rooms, after or even at meals, in railroad coaches, in street cars, in places of amusement, etc. Clerks in dry goods stores may frequently be seen taking a few whiffs at a cigarette, and policemen on their beats smoke whenever they can get a cigarette.

But no matter how sensitive one may be to the fumes of tobacco, one is not likely to suffer from the Mexican's style of smoking. He will light his cigarette—in rare instances a cigar—take a few deliberate puffs and quit. He never smokes in that feverish fashion or raises the dense smudge that is the delight of the average American smoker, who seems bent upon getting the full worth of a big cigar. Most Mexican women of the commoner classes love their cigarettes and may be seen puffing complacently in their homes, on the streets, in the street cars or as they lead their little street corner stands. Even these people do not create much of a smudge.

## No Danger, Buy a Gas Range Quick



### RACE SUICIDE?

NEVER—

Mr. President—so long as gas ranges are so popular! Two million gas ranges used in 1902. One in every 15 of population—in cities where gas is sold.

Cooking by that old-fashioned process on an old wood or coal stove is simply unbearable this hot weather. With a gas stove only a few minutes are required to prepare each meal. The kitchen is cool and pleasant, and the old terrors of summer, to housewives are avoided. Don't delay on this most important question of the hour, as the health and happiness of your family are at stake. We have a full line of the best gas stoves in the world. Call and examine them. Glad to show you around.

## CITIZENS' LIGHT & TRACTION CO.

A. WELCH, Manager.

This universal habit of smoking reveals itself to the uninitiated "gringo" sometimes in the most amazing manner. It is calculated to jar the sensibilities of the raw American to see some reputable looking woman of the fair, fat and forty type in a railroad coach or in some other equally public place calmly light a cigarette and smoke contentedly for a few moments. No one seems to mind that sort of thing or even notice it, and one soon comes to take it as a matter of course.

It is no uncommon thing to see a boy of three or four years smoking cigarettes. Large quantities of cigars are consumed there, but the cigarette is the national smoke. Mexicans are not given much to the pipe smoking. The priests are reputed to be habitual snuff takers and are not infrequently seen in the streets smoking cigarettes. In short, the smoking habit is not there considered disreputable in any way.

It is customary for men to lift their hats as a funeral procession passes through the street, and the custom is generally observed among all classes.

Many men, chiefly of the peon class, raise their hats when they pass a church or meet a priest.

Mexican women never go to the church or to the grave when their relatives are buried. They remain at home and mourn. In case the dead man was a person of substance large numbers of carriages accompany the body to the grave, but they are never occupied. The friends of the dead man either walk to the cemetery or go in street cars. The bodies of the poor are conveyed to the cemetery on the shoulders of four peons, the friends following on foot. The coffins, which are usually cheap affairs, painted in gaudy colors, are as a general thing only rented for the occasion. After the bodies are taken from them and deposited in the grave the coffins are returned to the dealer.

Before one has been in a Mexican city long one will be likely some day while passing through the streets to see nearly everybody—men, women and children—suddenly bare their heads and drop to their knees, no matter whether they are on the sidewalk

or in the middle of the street. One is likely to be considerably mystified as to the meaning of this sudden movement until somebody is good enough to explain that a carriage has just passed that contained a priest, who, carrying with him the sacred wafer, was on his way to administer extreme unction to some person who is in extremis. The popular demonstration is for the host, not in behalf of the dying man.—New York Tribune.

### Furious Fighting.

"For seven years," writes Geo. W. Hoffman, of Harper, Wash., "I had a bitter battle, with chronic stomach and liver trouble, but at last I won, and cured my diseases by the use of Electric Bitters. I unhesitatingly recommend them to all, and don't intend in the future to be without them in the house. They are certainly a wonderful medicine, to have cured such a bad case as mine." Sold, under guarantee to do the same for you, by J. C. Perry, druggist, at 50c a bottle. Try them, today.



### Salem Box Factory

G. F. MASON, Prop.

I am in South Salem, where you will find me for all kinds of fruit trays, orchard boxes and hop baskets. Miller street, Salem. Phone Red 2101.



YOUNG MEN who wish to win good wives can't be careless about their clothes.

Clothes do not make intellect, neither do they detract from it, especially when the judge is a young lady.

Our stylish outfits for young men give their wearers distinct advantage either in love or business affairs.

### E. KOPPE,

Clothing and Furnishing goods. Y. M. C. A. Building, Salem.

### University Shoes \$3.50

The best shoes in the market for the money. Noted for style, quality and comfort.

We manufacture ladies' woolen shawls to order. See our designs.

### Proposals Invited.

For supplies for the Oregon State Penitentiary during the period ending December 31, 1905.

Sealed bids for drugs, dry goods, groceries, shoes, leather and findings, plumbing supplies, hardware, flour, fish, meat, etc., will be received at the office of the superintendent of the State Penitentiary until July 10, 1905, at 2:30 o'clock p. m., at which time they will be opened.

A deposit of \$200 in cash or certified check, payable to the superintendent, must accompany each bid for meat or flour, and all other bids must be accompanied by an amount equal to 10 per cent of the amount of the bid.

Samples to accompany all bids, where practicable. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids, and to accept or reject any portion of a bid. On each envelope should be inscribed the nature of the bid. Goods of Oregon manufacture or production will receive preference, other things being equal. All goods and supplies must be delivered to the penitentiary within 20 days after the contract is awarded.

Schedules of the various lines of the goods will be furnished upon application to the superintendent.

Vouchers will be issued for payment on the first of the month following the completion of contract, and monthly on continuous contracts.

Bidders will take notice that there is no appropriation available for the maintenance of the penitentiary; therefore, claims for supplies can only be audited by the Secretary of State, and certificates of evidence issued to claimants. As soon as there is an appropriation available, warrants will be issued in lieu of the certificates.

Bidders are invited to be present. O. W. JAMES, Superintendent Oregon State Penitentiary.

Salem, Oregon, June 10, 1905.