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Capital Journal
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Mexican Problem Inherited

In the minds of Hughes politicians and editors there is considerable confusion with respect to modern American-Mexican history. Some of them seem to think that the Mexican problem is the creation of the democratic administration and that it is a 'Wilson problem.' The truth is it is a 'Wilson problem' and it was as much a Taft problem as it has been a Wilson problem, and in the event of Mr. Hughes' election it would be a Hughes problem. It is very likely that as Mr. Wilson handled the problem much as Mr. Taft, Mr. Hughes' method of handling it would not differ materially from that of Mr. Wilson.

Let us take a glance at the record. Mr. Taft became president on March 4, 1909. Within twenty months after Mr. Taft's inauguration, trouble in serious form broke out in Mexico, and during all of the balance of his administration this trouble continued.

On November 8, 1910, there was rioting in Mexico City. The American legation was destroyed, the windows of American residences and business houses were broken, a street car containing American school children was stoned and the son of the United States ambassador was assaulted. These disturbances continued during November 9th.

On November 10th there was rioting in Guadalajara. The American legation was burned and windows of American banks and stores were broken. These disturbances continued two or three days.

On November 10, 1910, there was rioting at various points in Mexico. American consulates were wrecked and the records of the consulates were destroyed.

On November 18, 1910, the Madero revolution broke out and from that date on there was general disorder in Mexico.

On March 7, 1911, twenty thousand United States regulars were mobilized along the Mexican border.

On April 15, 1911, Mexican forces took Agua Prieta, opposite Douglas, Arizona. In Douglas, Arizona, three Americans were killed and five were wounded.

On April 4, 1911, Mexicans again attacked Agua Prieta, half the town of Douglas, Arizona, was under fire of Mexican guns. On that occasion seven Americans were wounded.

Governor Sloan of Arizona called upon President Taft for the protection of Americans. The president replied declining to take military action.

On October 10 and 11, 1911, Mexican rebels attacked and captured Juarez. One thousand American troops patrolled the American border and in El Paso, Texas, five Americans were killed and seventeen wounded.

On May 12, 1911, Secretary of State Knox sent to Mexico City a note denying that the United States intended to intervene.

On March 29, 1912, rifles were sent to the American legation in Mexico City for the protection of American citizens. American soldiers in northern Mexico flouted the border, and there was great damage to American property by the Mexican mobs.

On April 14, 1912, the state department warned Madero and Orozco against further outrages to American lives and property.

That all occurred prior to the presidential election of 1912.

On December 4, 1912, President Taft, in a message to congress described his Mexican policy, which was practically the same as Mr. Wilson's has been, and he called it the policy of 'patient non-intervention.'

On February 9, 1913, there was an uprising against the Mexican government in Mexico City. Many days of street fighting followed. Several hundred Mexican civilians were killed, including two American women.

It was in February, during President Taft's administration that Madero was killed and Huerta demanded recognition, but there was no recognition of Huerta and no intervention under the Taft administration.

On March 15, 1911, a few days more than two years after President Taft was inaugurated and about two years before his term expired, President Taft addressed a letter to the chief of staff and in that letter he declined to do the very things Republicans are now denouncing President Wilson for not doing.

Following is an extract from President Taft's letter: 'The assumption by the press that I contemplate intervention on Mexican soil to protect American lives or property, is of course gratuitous, because I have no authority as I have such authority. . . Indeed, as you know I have already declined, without Mexican consent, to order a troop of cavalry to protect the break-water we are constructing just across the Colorado river at the mouth of the Colorado river to save the Imperial valley, although the insurgents have scattered the Mexican troops and were taking our horses and supplies and frightening our workmen away.'

On April 17, 1911, the governor of Arizona sent a telegram to the president, reading in part as follows: 'As a result of today's fighting across the international line, but within gunshot range of the heart of Douglas, five Americans were wounded on this side of the line. . . In my judgment radical measures are needed to protect our innocent people. . . It will be impossible to safeguard the people of Douglas unless the town be evacuated.'

To this telegram President Taft replied as follows: 'The situation might justify me in ordering our troops across the border. . . but if I take this step, I must face the possibility of greater resistance and greater bloodshed, and also the danger of having our motives misconstrued and misrepresented, and of thus inflaming Mexican popular indignation. . . It is impossible to foresee or reckon the consequences of such a course; and we must use the greatest self-restraint to avoid it. I cannot therefore order the troops at Douglas to cross the border, but I must ask you and the local authorities in case the same danger occurs to direct the people of Douglas to place themselves where bullets cannot reach them, and thus avoid casualty.'

The only difference between the Wilson policy and the Taft policy was that Mr. Wilson called it 'watchful waiting,' while Mr. Taft called it 'patient non-intervention.' (See message 1912.)

On November 26, 1910, the Outlook, which became famous by reason of the fact that Theodore Roosevelt was its contributing editor, had an editorial calling attention to 'the anti-American demonstrations which have lately taken place in Mexico,' in which 'great student demonstrations were made, mobs broke windows in buildings occupied by Americans, attacked newspaper offices favorable to Americans and attacked street cars containing Americans.'

On March 25, 1911, the Outlook said that 'events in Mexico are very confusing' and on April 22, it declared that Mexico presented 'a serious state of affairs.'

It was on April 29, 1911, that Senator Stone, democrat, insisted that President Taft be authorized to employ whatever force might be necessary to restore order in Mexico. Senator Root, now one of President Wilson's most bitter critics, said that a threat of force in the hands of the president of the United States and take a step backward in the path of civilization.'

Senator Lodge, republican, and another bitter critic of the Wilson administration, said that President Taft would not ask for force until our diplomatic methods had failed.

It was on April 29, 1911, during the Taft administration, that the New York American (Hearst's) referring to the Mexican situation said: 'One hundred or more of American citizens have been slain' and it asked 'Does anyone think that Germany would have endured this outrage for a day? Does any man believe that English warships would not already be bombarding Vera Cruz for a similar outrage upon English citizens?' The Mexican situation under the Taft administration was so serious that in its issue of September 21, 1912, the Baton Rouge Times said: 'The American flag is only a rag in Mexico.' El Paso, Texas, and other border papers expressed similar sentiments. All of which goes to show that the Mexican problem is an American problem rather than a democratic problem.

It has been a happy week for the little folks, with something almost every afternoon. Today the dainty little Miss Billie and Mrs. Copper entertained a group of friends with a merry Halloween party.

The decorations were all suggestive of the season and the guests were greeted by the little hostesses attired as dainty fairies.

Games were played and later the party closed with refreshments served at a table centered with a huge Jack Horner pie. Gay Jack's lanterns marked places for the Misses Rovena Eyre, Margaret and Elizabeth Lewis, Elice Brown, Ruth Beckner, Faith Priddy, Helen Reeler, Harriett Austin, Constancia Fox, Maxine Glover and Françoise Madsen.

Mrs. Copper was assisted by Miss

SOCIETY

(Continued from page two.)

the home of the former on the Wallace road.

The rooms were prettily adorned with scarlet berries and late in the afternoon the hostesses served a dainty repast.

Mrs. Frank M. Brown, who went to Albany Wednesday to attend the tea and Kensington for which her sister, Mrs. J. H. Robinson was hostess, Thursday and Friday afternoons, returned Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. John J. Roberts will motor to Albany Wednesday to be the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Young, at a Halloween dancing party to be given that night.

The pleasant and hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Acheson on North Capitol was thrown open to the members of the Mother's class of the First M. E. church, Tuesday evening, when they entertained their husbands, friends and families at a pre-Halloween celebration. The rooms were radiant and beautiful in appropriate decorations, with flying witches and bristling black cats every where in evidence.

A pleasing program, consisting of a reading by Mrs. Ronald Glover, and vocal duets by small Josephine and Robert Acheson, was well rendered and warmly received.

Later, while the lights were dim, Mrs. Glover related, in her inimitable manner, a ghost story, which produced the desired effect and brought out the 'spirits' of the season. Much merriment was afforded during the evening by the telling of fortunes by the witch, impersonated by Mrs. Floyd Utter, children as well as their elders sought her

Edna Hall.

At the Commercial club a Halloween party will be given Monday night by the Salem Floral society. The affair is in celebration of the first birthday of the society and an excellent programme, refreshments and all manner of diversions will make the evening a gala one. The committee will appear in weird ghosts costumes, and everyone is invited.

Among the popular Salem artists who will participate in the programme are Tom Ordemann, who will be heard for the last time in Salem, as he leaves soon for New York to pass the winter. Dan Langenberg and Mrs. Hallie Parrish Hinges will also sing solos and Mrs. Blanche Liston Niemeyer will give a reading.

Mrs. S. E. Yantis and her daughters, Miss Anna Yantis and Miss Berdine Yantis, will leave Sunday for Fargo, North Dakota, where they will make their home.

Complimenting Miss Josephine Johnson, whose marriage to Arch Harris of Eugene will take place November the fifteenth, Miss Alma Ashby was hostess for a miscellaneous shower at her home, 210 North Nineteenth street, Wednesday evening. The guests were the close friends of the bride-to-be and she was the recipient of many pretty gifts.

Those present were: Miss Alice Schindler, Miss Laura Yantis, Miss Lena White, Miss Pearl White, Miss Florence Cory, Miss Ruby Welch, Miss Lois Ashby, Miss Grace Humphreys, Miss Blanche Howard, Mrs. Roy Bates, Mrs. C. C. Cory, Mrs. C. Van Patten, Mrs. Jessie Eyre, Mrs. F. R. Yantis, Mrs. Guy M. Nugent, Mrs. Nettie Jones and Miss Ruth Van Patton.

A delightful event of Monday will be the bridge party for which Mrs. George W. Lewis will be hostess at her residence 892 South Twelfth street.

A group of young girls will gather as the guests of Miss Valerie Briggs, tonight to participate in the informal '500' party for which she will be hostess at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Briggs. Her guests will be the members of the 'Kia club.'

Vitaly associated with the foremost dramatic tendencies of the present day stage is the class room theatre movement which Professor Wallace MacMurray, A. M., of Willamette university will present to Salem this winter in a series of six public lectures.

Although dedicated to 'Those Who Live in the Land of Never Was,' the repertory is of signal interest to all lovers of the beautiful and the simple both in literature and in life. The course promises to be remarkable for its cultural value and its vivid distillation of life as presented in the dramas of some of the greatest thinkers of the twentieth century. The subject matter, which has greeted Prof. MacMurray in his previous two lecture series shows that his ability as a dramatic interpreter is increasing both in the local community as well as in many higher institutions of learning throughout the country. Indeed it was no other than Dr. Richard Burton, who is recognized as America's leading literary critic, who said on the graduation of Prof. MacMurray from the University of Minnesota that he considered Willamette's present professor to 'possess one of the brightest minds for critical dramatic study that has ever been graduated from the University of Minnesota.'

Artistry is the characteristic note of the plays which have been selected for the professor's consideration. The various aspects of the modern school will be given explicit analysis so that the importance of the new movement may become the permanent possession of the listener. It is Prof. MacMurray's primary purpose to so interpret the plays that 'new thoughts, a greater spirit of happiness and a freedom from the sordid and colorless routine of everyday life' may be the lasting message gained from the course.

In illustrating 'The Drama of Symbolism,' the first lecture subject and introduction to the new movement, Prof. MacMurray has chosen Lord Dunsany's 'The Golden Doom' as a striking example of this type of dramatic work. While Lord Dunsany is a comparative stranger to the casual lover of literature, Dunsany of today, he is nevertheless recognized as one of the greatest exponents of the imagination and simplicity of the new school. Even though Lord Dunsany is known to be the disciple of Maeterlinck's early mysticism, he is a master in his chosen realm of dramatic expression. Combined with the symbolism of his fosterparent Maeterlinck, Dunsany's craftsmanship is striking for its definiteness and unapproachability. 'The Golden Doom' is a serious play showing the working out of the lowest and highest on one another. Destinies are so wrought by the hand of fate that king is shown to be dependent on child and child on his royal ancestor. Interwoven through it all is that fascinating intangible something which is distinctly Dunsany's. The extreme polish and simple potentiality of the Lord's work will undoubtedly be of interest to Salem's literary populace.

The staging of the play will be exactly representative of the spirit and the letter of the early Babylonian days with which the conflict deals. The settings while distinctly of the modern futurist type will be most appropriate for the speaking cast of 12 who are to interpret the roles. Already plans are well under way preparatory to the first number which will occur early next month.

Following at intervals during the winter will be 'The Future of the One-Act Play' and the presentation of Lady Gregory's 'The Traveling Man' the 'Art of Simplicity' and 'Yeats' 'Cathleen Ni Houlihan.' Both Yeats and Lady Gregory are the dominant playwrights of the Irish school and their plays reflecting the spirit of the map of Ireland always please the reader and spectator. 'Alladine and Polorides' will be staged in connection with the lecture on 'The Mysticism of Maeterlinck' and a second play of Lord Dunsany's 'The King Argimenes and the Unknown Warrior' is scheduled for the sixth offering to illustrate 'The Play of Imagination.'

Unusual interest will be taken in the fifth lecture 'The Drama and the Great War.' Prof. MacMurray himself has written the play 'The Song of Happiness' which will be presented in connection. The professor's play is the result of years of study and thought,

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so its first introduction to the stage will be of no mean significance to Salem.

As all of the repertory is new and with none of the plays ever to the professor's knowledge, staged outside of New York, the community interest in this versatile artist's production of the winter forecasts much.

One of the gayest affairs planned for next week is the dancing party for which Mr. Kola Neis, will be host at the Hotel Marion.

Friday evening the young women of the United Brethren Sunday school class entertained the young men of the senior class at the parsonage on Mission street.

The decorations were suggestive of Halloween, and the evening was devoted to music and games. Later refreshments were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Asahel Bush, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. W. Melvin Plimpton, motored to Portland this afternoon. They will return tomorrow night.

The juvenile members of the Artisan lodge were entertained on Wednesday evening at the home of Miss Georgia Bewley. Games formed the evening's entertainment, and later refreshments were served.

Those present were: Leah Nichols, Annabelle Golden, Grace Davis, Edna McFarland, Bessie Shafer, Garnett Clearwater, Beta Claggott, Margaret White, Dorothy Esch, Thelma Low, Maud Schramm, Marie Cook, Thelma Cook, Esther Anderson, Ruth Mase, Hannah Hoising, Luella Wilson, Roy Clark, David Adolph, Rex Adolph, Lawrence Deneon, Roland DeSart, Frank Patterson, William Reinke, Glenn Nichols, Benjamin Rider, Lowell White, Dencie Herrick, Leone Townsend, Orla Leftingwell, Mrs. H. St. Helens, Mr. and Mrs. Matlock, Mrs. Bewley and Mrs. George Gilbert.

Carrying out the idea of distinct formality the annual 'At Home' of the Adeline literary society yesterday afternoon to the non-society university girls was one of the season's most attractive functions. During the hours from 4 to 6 o'clock more than 120 girls and the wives of the faculty members visited the halls where they were formally received by the society members. Blending with the soft brown tones of the newly decorated furnishings were pot-pourri and huge baskets of chrysanthemums artistically arranged on pedestals. Adding a touch of enchantment to the gay scene was the mellow glow from a myriad of candles. Interspersed at enjoyable intervals were violin selections by Miss Mary Schultz accompanied by Miss Georgia Bewley. It is Prof. MacMurray's primary purpose to so interpret the plays that 'new thoughts, a greater spirit of happiness and a freedom from the sordid and colorless routine of everyday life' may be the lasting message gained from the course.

Y. W. C. A. NOTES

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