

DISCIPLINE FOR MEXICO NEEDED

Time Has Come When Nation May Get It

Big Account To Settle

Murders and Destruction of Property Not Yet Dealt With—Pro-German Attitude Another Item in the Bill

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
If the Peace Conference should entrust the United States with the task of restoring and preserving order in Mexico the result would be a benefit to the world, and particularly to Mexico, as well as to the United States and Great Britain, which are more largely interested in Mexico than any other foreign nations. Both have long accounts to settle with the Mexicans. The nationals of both have been murdered and their property left at liberty. Property owned by them to the value of millions has been looted and destroyed. Neither can have forgotten the pro-German leanings of the Carranza government, the efforts made to stop the production and shipping of the oil so vital to the British and Allied navies, nor the constant extortions and blackmail to which British and American property owners have been subjected. Mexico has not the potentialities for a future world war that one of the Balkan States has, but Mexico has been a disturbing and hostile neighbor for years. It is high time she was made to walk the carpet—or the plank—and the United States is now in admirable condition to attend to her.

Watchful Waiting a Failure.

President Wilson's policy of "watchful waiting" would appear to have been a failure. If Mexico is not now so insolent as she was when the policy was first announced it is not because of the policy, but because of the fact that the United States in the meantime has come to a war footing. Villa and his band are still at large, and there are many thousands like Villa roaming the country, according to Russell Hastings Millward, F. R. G. S., who has spent many years in Mexico, and who gives his impression in the New York Sun. The country, fabulously rich in natural resources, is practically bankrupt, with a public debt of \$75,000,000 pesos, upon which the government cannot pay even the interest. Mr. Millward thinks that only through outside aid will Mexico be put on her feet, and this outside aid, meaning outside capital, as well as advice, will not be forthcoming until there is an honest and stable government appointed. In fact, he seems of opinion that Mexico is hardly better fitted for self-government than is Egypt. She needs a man like Cromer, and another man like Kitchener.

The Good Old Diaz.

Mexico's greatest days were the days of Diaz, notwithstanding that in those days there was oppression, bribery, corruption and a general throttling of popular government. But what is popular government in a country where ninety per cent. of the people are steeped in ignorance, and another five per cent. steeped in corruption, to give Mr. Millward's estimate? In the fifty-seven years immediately preceding Diaz's entry into the city of Mexico, the country had fifty-one revolutions. There had been virtually no development, the land was a wilderness. The twenty-seven different tribes that made up the Mexican population dwelt in a state of uncivilization bordering in many cases on savagery. The adventurers who from time to time, and at intervals of only a few months, got control of the country's government plundered it to the best of their ability and then with their spoils left it to the next successful revolutionist. In the thirty-one years of Diaz, all the old abuses were by no means eradicated, but law and order and security were established. Foreign capital was encouraged, railways were built, natural sources of wealth were uncovered. It may be that the people of Mexico themselves—the average man, the half-breed that makes up the bulk of the population—did not find themselves rolling in wealth, nor did they find their children better educated than their father was.

What Revolution Achieved.
It was because under Diaz these hard conditions were not greatly improved, because Diaz apparently was not particularly interested in improving them, that Madero was listened to when he began to talk revolution, and followed when he raised the standard. Madero was something like Kerensky, although a better man than the Russian. But he as little understood the forces he was dealing with. Like Kerensky, when he failed immediately to usher in a new era, and Huerta took his place. Huerta was simply a desperate adventurer, and he gave place to Carranza and Villa. There has hardly been a peaceful day in Mexico since old Diaz was deposed. Villa, of course, is simply a clever bandit and murderer. It is not so easy to classify Carranza, except to classify him as a failure in so far as solving the great Mexican problem is concerned. Things have not improved under him. Maybe if he had to deal with a man of another type from Wilson, with a Roosevelt, for instance, Carranza would have displayed different traits.

One of Diaz's Secrets.

One of the secrets of Diaz's ability to keep peace in Mexico was related to Mr. Millward by Porfirio Diaz, Jr., son of the former president. It was the threat of American intervention that he held over the heads of the turbulent generals who were disposed to challenge his authority, especially when they were located in the north, to induce their natural taste for raids on American territory. If they did not fear Diaz, they feared an American army, and the old president contrived to keep this fear constantly before them. Of course they would never fear such a baneful and circumscribed invasion of Mexico as was made by Pershing a few years ago. That was a joke, but a real invasion by land and sea for the purpose of punishing those responsible for crimes committed against American citizens they would fear, especially if the prospect were held out to them of having the name of the country changed from Mexico to Anahuac.

An Irishman was declaiming against the injustice done to his country, and in stanced absentee landlordism as one of the worst. "But," said one of his listeners, "that evil has been considerably remedied in recent years. There are not so many absentee landlords now." "Sorr," was the reply, "the country swarms wid 'em."

FARMERS

For Forty Years We Have Been Allies

Do you remember what farming was like in Canada forty years ago? We remember very well what manufacturing was like, what there was of it. The farmers were struggling on farms and getting low prices for their produce. The few manufacturers were also struggling, for the most part unsuccessfully. For forty years we have worked together. Have we not both prospered? We buy from you most of what you grow. You buy from us most of what we make. That has been and is the basis of our alliance.

The manufacturing establishments in Canada employ nearly 700,000 people. Their wage-roll is about \$700,000,000 a year. Moreover, they buy annually nearly \$2,000,000,000 worth of raw material, mostly in Canada. Around these factories are congregated a hundred other forms of business. All these are your customers, and statistics show that this home market is four times as valuable to you as your entire foreign market. Decrease its buying powers, and your sales lessen and your prices drop.

How A Minority Seek to Sever Our Alliance

The Prairie Grain Growers are urging the Government to throw down the tariff wall between Canada and the United States because they want to save a little money (mainly on freight rates) by buying from the United States manufacturers just south of them. They, who constitute about 20 per cent. of the agricultural population of Canada, ask all the other farmers, who constitute the remaining 80 per cent., to change the policy which they have supported for forty years.

Furthermore, to raise the Dominion Government revenue, they would substitute for the tariff, which collected last year about 60 per cent. of that revenue, an increase of income taxes, inheritance taxes, corporation taxes and taxes on unimproved land values. As it is quite obvious that such taxes would affect the farmer but little, this is the inducement they are using to get you to forsake us and follow the free trade prophets no one knows where.

We think this appeal will fail. First, because it seems to be founded on the assumption that the farmers of Canada want to slip out of paying any increased taxes that may be needed for soldiers' pensions, gratuities and

re-establishment. We have found in all our experience that the farmers of Canada are not this class of men. Second, because the argument is unsound. It requires little reflection to see that if our market is thrown open and flooded, many of our manufacturers, caught in the struggle to re-adjust themselves from war to peace conditions, will not be able to keep going. Would this not result in many of our people, unless they were able and willing to take up farming, leaving for the United States? Would not the rest of the population then, which might consist chiefly of farmers, have to pay all the taxes?

The Grain Growers do not represent the entire population of the Prairie Provinces. They do not represent the business population; they do not by any means represent all the farmers. The Prairie Grain Growers' Associations are dominated by a group of free traders whose one idea seems to be to get free trade all over the world. Unfortunately for their theories, just at the present time all the rest of the world seems desirous of getting protection.

Tariff Policy of Other Nations

GREAT BRITAIN is shutting out the goods of other countries (except the Dominions). FRANCE and ITALY are shutting out the goods of other countries by import restrictions.

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY in the United States, which advocates low tariffs, seems to be going out of power, and the Republicans, who always support high tariffs, have now a majority in both Senate and Congress. Do you think that this means that the United States' tariff is going up or down?

In opposing the demands of the Grain Growers, we do not in any sense intend, as they sometimes say, to show hostility to them. They are our customers. Is not our prosperity affected by theirs? Beyond all this, if the farmers do not prosper, neither we nor the country can prosper. Agriculture and industry are the basis of the country's strength.

But we feel that these demands of the Grain Growers aim a deadly blow, not only at industry but at the whole farming community.

What justifies the Grain Growers in demanding that their personal grievances be cured at the expense of the rest of the country? Are they in a desperate position? Have they been losing heavily? Are they suffering from too much adversity or too much success? Are they in any danger comparable to the one great danger in Canada now?

THE DANGER OF UNEMPLOYMENT

the danger which may place thousands in need of shelter, food and clothing? Most Canadians feel strongly that until this danger is avoided, and the country safely restored to a peace basis, the nation should not be disturbed by any tariff controversy at all.

When this danger is passed, and the country knows where it stands, and what other countries of the world are going to do, then the tariff question should be taken up and such a tariff should be framed as will suit, not the manufacturers merely, nor the farmers merely, but the country as a whole, and by adding to the prosperity of the nation, add to the prosperity of each and every class—the only safe path to prosperity for any country or any class in that country.

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