

Guatemala is Peaceful.

That Guatemala is prospering under the rule of President Estrada Cabrera, and that her financial and economic difficulties are in a fair way toward a sound solution, is the substance of a letter which a prominent Nicaraguan in New York received recently from a correspondent, who is close to the present Guatemalan administration. The writer deals with the political situation, the economic evolution, and the opportunity for business investment there. The letter reads in part :

"The political horizon of Central America cleared off with the downfall of General Yelaya. It is true that the solution of the Nicaraguan problem is still pending, but there can be no doubt that these clouds will vanish soon. Guatemala has been following very skilfully international politics, always trying to safeguard her own interests and those of her Central American sisters. She has observed an absolute neutrality toward practically all exterior occurrences.

"In this country the actual political situation is calm. Interior peace is fully assured ; order reigns ; there are no diplomatic difficulties. The government attends to its obligations with preciseness, and public instruction is continually encouraged.

"At the present time great projects are under study, which will aid the economical development of the nation, and all those projects have been planned by President Cabrera. The electoral campaign does not show great evidence of struggle. Every one is convinced that President Cabrera must remain at the head of the nation.

"The capital of Guatemala is now connected with the Atlantic Ocean by the Northern Railroad, placing her at a distance of only six and a half days from New York, and enabling the farmers to export their products by means of a rapid, easy, and cheap way.

"Large foreign enterprises have now brought to this country their capital and labourers, investing great amounts of money in agricultural and mining development. The railroad extension to Salvador and Mexico will be shortly finished, by which the commerce of Guatemala will be benefited.

"It might be said that the depreciation of the national money constitutes a problem of vital importance for the political economy of the

country, and that while such is not settled all the rest is in want of firmness. Well, be it so ; but it cannot be denied that in no other place has so much been done within a short time with so limited resources and under the continuous threats of international complications. It is also true that our money is in want of guarantee and that it is absolutely necessary to settle the exterior debt, but it is well known that those are precisely the points that pre-occupy the most advanced governments.

"To perform truly its evolution, Mexico needed forty years, 900 million dollars, and 3,000 million francs from European investors ; the Argentine Republic for its development had to invest 200 millions of pounds sterling, and incurred a dreadful exterior debt. Brazil, Peru, and Uruguay, to reach their actual standing, needed many years of peace, large sums of money, and immigration. Costa Rica has advanced thanks only to foreign energies. Guatemala, until lately, had nothing to depend upon. The errors of the past years were so many and so great that she was compelled to reconstruct everything, and it is widely known that a reconstruction is, indeed, a harder task than the one of construction. Estrada Cabrera's Administration has, therefore, accomplished a great labor."

Since the above letter was written news has reached us of the re election of President Cabrera for another period of six years.



Insufficient Life Assurance.

"Unfortunately few people take as much insurance as they ought to have," said a prominent life assurance man recently. "Few take anywhere near as much insurance as they can carry. Practically every holder, when he matures a policy, wishes it had been for more. He often openly chides the agent for not making him take more. And certainly the dead, if they could speak, would many times be indignant that their interests were not better conserved in the matter of life insurance."

The Sun Life of Canada is
"Prosperous and Progressive."