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MEXICO.

The strict official silence being observed by the United States Government in regard to the chaotic conditions in Mexico has naturally given rise to strong protests by members of the diplomatic corps in Mexico City in reports to their respective governments. Many countries, including Great Britain and France, have large interests in Mexico, and the refusal of the United States to take any steps to restore order or to recognize the Huerta Administration is the main cause of the complaint.

President Wilson maintains that the policy of the United States is to withhold recognition of any Mexican Government until a constitutional election has been held in Mexico, and the people have a chance to express their choice for President. As the Mexican elections will not be held until October, this decision is not likely to be accepted as satisfactory by other nations concerned. Great Britain recognized the present Government of Mexico on April 1, 1913; Spain on April 11; Japan, Salvador, Guatemala, on May 13; China, Italy, Germany, Portugal, on May 17; Belgium on May 21; Norway on May 25; Russia on June 1. The United States, the self-appointed guardian of Latin American countries, has given no recognition.

At present there are no indications that any European government interested intends to take any action in Mexico that would be regarded as objectionable to the United States. Much may depend on the announcement President Wilson is expected to make after receiving the report of the United States Ambassador to Mexico, who will arrive in Washington next week.

INCREASED FOREST RESERVES.

By an act passed towards the close of the last session, the area of the Dominion Forest Reserves was increased from about 25,000 square miles to nearly 36,000 square miles. This action was taken by the Government upon the basis of reports prepared by the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, from information secured by a large number of field parties who had been engaged in securing the necessary data.

During 1911 the Commission of Conservation took an active interest in the establishment of the Rocky Mountains Forest Reserve, and assisted materially in securing the large addition which increased the area of Dominion forest reserves from less than 3,000 square miles to about 25,000 square miles. The new additions, like the original reserve areas, are scattered throughout the forest sections of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Railway Belt of British Columbia.

Practically all of this land is reported as being non-agricultural and chiefly valuable for the production of timber. On much of it, fires have caused extensive damage, so that the amount of merchantable saw-timber over considerable areas is relatively small. However, in addition to the saw-timber, which in the aggregate amounts to a good deal, there is a large amount of pulpwood and a vast area of young growth which, if protected from fire, will become of merchantable size. The relative accessibility of a great deal of this timber land to the new settlements in the Prairie Provinces makes reservation and protection extremely important.

A NOTEWORTHY TOUR.

A party consisting of members of the British Parliament are due to arrive in Canada towards the end of next week on their way to Australia. They represent the United Kingdom Branch of the Empire Parliamentary Association, of which the Lord Chancellor and the Speaker of the House of Commons are presidents, and are going as the guests of the branch of the association in the Australian Commonwealth Parliament.

Among those selected for the tour are Lord Emmett, Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies; Lord Calthorpe, Lord Castlemain, Lord Sheffield, Rt Hon. C. B. Stuart-Wortley, Rt. Hon. Thomas Lough, Mr. Donald McMaster, Mr. M. S. Amery, Mr. J. Norton Griffiths, Mr. Hamar Greenwood, and many other leading figures in British political life. The Government will tender a banquet to the visitors at Ottawa before they leave for Toronto and other points on their way to Vancouver.

Their stay in Canada, according to the programme arranged, will unavoidably be limited to about twelve days. They will sail from Vancouver to Auckland, and after spending a few days in New Zealand, the voyage is completed from Wellington to Sydney. A month will be spent in Australia. On the homeward journey the party will sail from Fremantle, and coming via the Cape are timed to arrive in London by the middle of November. From every point of view these tours by members of the British Parliament are to be commended as giving them the opportunity at first hand to gather much valuable information regarding the progress and development of the self-governing Dominions of the Empire.

BULGARIA'S POSITION.

In a recent issue the Frankfurter Zeitung made a suggestive comment on the outbreak of hostilities between the Balkan Allies. It says that when one sentry on the border of a European state happens to wound a soldier across the line, it instantly threatens to become a casus belli; but that in the Balkans, fighting and treachery have been so common, even in times of peace, that whole companies and regiments take to shooting at each other, yet it is called merely a mischance.

A striking confirmation of this view of the extreme irregularity which marks Balkan practice was given when the announcement was made that Roumanian troops had invaded Bulgarian territory, yet that Bulgaria would virtually take no notice of the fact. This must be attributed, of course, not to unconventional ways of looking at warlike acts, but to Bulgaria's discovery that she had made a terrible blunder in seeking to make herself the dominating power in the Balkans.

Bulgaria received ample warning against what she attempted. The King solemnly warned the Balkan delegates in London that a fresh war would be a crime against humanity. From Russia early protest was made. The Czar notified both Servia and Bulgaria that he would hold as traitorous to the Slav cause whichever state began another war. In spite of all, the fighting began with a shameless lack of provocation, and with brutal motives, which shocked the world. The result has been only humiliation and disgrace for the Bulgarian war party.

AVERAGE CROP PRODUCTION.

Although there is need of a progressive policy to benefit the farmers in the Old Country it is noteworthy that the average yield per acre of the various crops is greater than in many other countries. The United States Department of Agriculture recently published in one of its Crop Reports a table of the index figures showing the relative productivity of over thirty different countries. These figures were based on six crops—wheat, oats, rye, barley, corn and potatoes—comprising the bulk of crop production in most countries of the world.

In order to ascertain the index figures the average yield per acre for a series of years was obtained and these average yields were reduced to their percentage of the average yield of all the countries examined. The percentages for each country were combined and weighted in proportion to the relative acreage of the various crops in each country to obtain the index number of production.

Taking 100 as representing the weighted average of all countries the eight leading nations were: Belgium with 221, Switzerland 202, Netherlands 190, United Kingdom 177, Germany 169, Denmark 168, New Zealand 167 and Egypt 161. Canada was tenth with 136 and the United States seventeenth with 108. Then followed fifteen other countries in diminishing amounts, including India 84, Australia 76, Russia 71·2 and ending with Tunis 37. From this statement it is evident that the United Kingdom still stands high among the nations of the world in the productivity of the crops.

CURRENT COMMENT

The Pauper Spirit.

(Ottawa Journal).

A certain section of the press is going around yelping that under the auspices of Colonel Sam Hughes the country is being turned into an armed camp. The magnificent view of such people is that we should depend on some other country's charity for defence. We in Canada pay more per head for our fire insurance. The defence of a country is just as important to its citizens as the insurance of their homes against fire. What can be said for the one measure can be said for the other.

Raising Money.

(Toronto News).

Despite the monetary stringency, new issues aggregating upwards of £120,000,000 or $600,000,000, were brought out in London during the first six months of the present year. Of this vast sum $300,000,000 was for use within the British Empire. Canada got $102,000,000, Australia $60,000,000, South Africa $27,000,000, and other British possessions $30,000,000. Could there be better proof of the financial advantage of membership in the British Empire?

Chicago's Rapacity.

(Winnipeg Telegram).

Chicago has finally decided to steal Lake Michigan. The canal district draining board will ignore the federal ruling in favor of Canada to prevent the lowering of the lake level. The crooked government of the Windy City has stolen about everything else in sight so the lake was the only loot left.

DIARY OF EVENTS

HISTORIC DAYS IN CANADA

THE ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT

Maj.-Gen. H. L. Smith-Dorrien, in command of the Nineteenth Brigade in South Africa, issued an order thirteen years ago today in which he paid a high tribute to the bravery of the officers and men of the Royal Canadian Regiment. Some idea of the hardships and dangers to which the Dominion troops were subjected may be gained from the following statements contained in the report:

"The Nineteenth Brigade has achieved a record of which any infantry might be proud. Since the date it was formed, namely, the 12th of February, it has marched 620 miles, often on half rations and seldom on full. It has taken part in the capture of ten towns, fought in ten general actions, and on twenty-seven other days. In one period of thirty days it fought on twenty-one of them and marched 327 miles. The casualties have been between four and five hundred and the defeats nil."

THE PASSING DAY

THE URUGUAY REPUBLIC.

It was eighty-three years ago today that the Oriental Republic of the Uruguay, or Banda Orientale, promulgated its constitution, which, with a few minor changes, continues in force to this day. The anniversary has ever since been celebrated, and Montevideo and the smaller cities are blazes of color and aflame with patriotism on each eighteenth of July.

Since the discovery of the country just four centuries ago, six flags have waved over its capital. For over two hundred years Spain and Portugal fought over the country, which was successively occupied and evacuated by their troops. In 1877 the territory was definitely ceded to Spain. In 1807 the British flag was raised over Montevideo, but the occupation continued only a few months, and the city then reverted to Spain. The spirit of revolution was then in the air, however, and in 1811 the Spanish forces were routed by the Uruguayan general, Jose Artigas, the great pupular hero of Uruguay. For a time Uruguay was a part of Argentina, then called the United Province of Rio de la Plata, but this claim was disputed by Brazil, and the emperor of that country sent troops to occupy the country, which he incorporated with Brazil as the Cisplatine State. The patriots, assisted by the Argentines, defeated the Brazilians in 1825. After a war between Brazil and Argentina, both countries agreed to the independence of Uruguay.

Following the ratification of the constitution on July 18, 1830, Gen. Jose Rivera was elected as the first president of the republic. Although the smallest of the independent states of South America, Uruguay is now one of the most prosperous and stable.

Uruguay's population is now about a million and a quarter, over a fourth living in the capital city, Montevideo. Although overshadowed to some extent by its giant neighbor, Buenos Ayres, the Uruguayan capital is a modern and beautiful city. In size it compares with Washington and New Orleans, and is larger than Montreal or Minneapolis. Its situation at the mouth of La Plata river is a splendid one.

THE HUMAN PROCESSION

ROSE PASTOR STOKES.

In the lower east side of New York, and especially among the Russian Jews, the name of Rose Pastor Stokes is one to conjure with. The life story of this young woman, famed throughout the world as a Socialist and a social settlement worker, is more romantic than any fiction.

Mrs. Stokes will celebrate a double anniversary today, for this is the thirty-fourth anniversary of her birth at Augustava, Suvolk, Russia, and the eighth anniversary of her marriage to James Graham Phelps Stokes, scion of one of the most aristocratic families of New York, and a millionaire.

Mrs. Stokes is a Jewess, the daughter of Jacob and Anna Wieslander. The persecutions to which they were subjected led the Wieslanders to shake the dust of Russia from their feet and seek refuge in England. Rose's youth was spent in the ghetto of London, and for three years she attended the Jewish Free School in that city. This was about the extent of her educational opportunities, yet today few college women are her equals in learning.

She was only eleven when she first set foot on American soil. Cleveland was her first home, and there for thirteen years she followed the trade of cigar maker. They were years of hard labor and poor pay, of life in squalid tenements, of shabby clothes and insufficient food. But the weary treadmill of unceasing toil did not grind life and hope out of the young Jewess. While her nimble fingers plied their allotted tasks, her brain was busy with thought and filled with visions of the future. While her companions dreamed of escaping from the factory by marrying wealth, Rose thought only of the welfare of all the workers. Unconsciously she assimilated socialistic ideas, and began to express her theories on paper. While she was still employed in the cigar factory she began to contribute articles, in Yiddish, to the Jewish Daily News of New York. These articles, which were not of a socialistic nature, became immediately popular, and in 1903 she was offered and accepted the post of associate editor of the New York paper. In that capacity she served as mentor and guide to the Jewish girls of New York.

It was while employed as a journalist; and in welfare work among her people, that she met J. G. Phelps Stokes. That young man, by reason of birth, breeding, wealth, and rare intellectual gifts, was the matrimonial "catch" of New York. That he chose to spend most of his time among the poor was considered an eccentricity, which many Fifth Avenue maidens were quite willing to undertake to cure.

The marriage of Mr. Stokes and the Jewish cigar maker, which took place at Horoton, Conn., July 18, 1905, was the social sensation of the year. Since then Mrs. Stokes has continued her newspaper work on a Yiddish Socialist daily, has led in many movements for the benefit of working girls, and has engaged earnestly in the propaganda of socialism. The possession of great wealth has not alienated her from the class to which she belonged before her marriage, but has only given her greater power to help.

OPHELIA'S SLATE

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IN LIGHTER VEIN

LOVE.

Love's pictured as a little chap,
A little chap he may be.
At any rate his troubles seem
The troubles of a baby.
He must be fed so tenderly,
This winsome, wee gossoon,
And often he spends hours and hours
A-crying for the moon.

Old Love and New Rug.

Here's the overheard conversation that made the day seem more springlike:

"Those people next door to us have been married a long time, haven't they?"

"Perhaps they have; but their honeymoon isn't over yet."

"How do you figure that out?"

"Well, it was awfully sloppy last night. But when he came home she made him step inside and kiss her before she told him to go back on the porch and wipe his feet."

"Well, honey, wouldn't you——"

"No, I wouldn't. We've got a new rug."

A Common Occurrence.

"Wouldn't you promise to obey a man of whom you thought enough to marry?"

"I might," replied Miss Cayenne "But I should undoubtedly have a few things to say if he were ever so impolite as to remind me of my promise."

Elucidated.

"Henry, it says here that Mr. Jackson pelted the pill for three sacks. What does it mean?"

"Good heavens, Mary, can't you understand plain English? It means that he slugged the sphere safe and landed on the third pillow."

His Profession.

"The young fellow who's coming to see you, Elsie, must be a lawyer."

"What makes you think that father?"

"Because I notice whenever he comes to court, he always pleads for a stay."

To the Nursery of Earth.

"Say, mamma, was the baby sent down from heaven?"

"Yes, Willie."

"They must like to have it quiet up there, hey, mamma?"

One Freak.

Inspector—Any abnormal children in your class, Miss Pedagog?

School Teacher—Yes; one of them has good manners.

Well Supplied.

Guest—You advertise, "No Mosquitoes."

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Seems Hard.

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