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**CONDITIONS IN MEXICO ARE RAPIDLY IMPROVING**

Senor Eliseo Arredondo, Ambassador Designate of the Republic of Mexico to the United States, recently returned to Washington from a brief visit to the Mexican Capital. It was the first time in more than two years that Senor Arredondo had made any extensive tour in Mexico. To him it was a journey of investigation besides its purely governmental occasion, an opportunity to register first hand impressions of the true conditions existing within his homeland.

The diplomat's investigations were unrestricted. He studied Mexico as would any newcomer and he saw much. By reason of the very recent exploitation by certain elements of the American daily and periodical press with regard to food, health and other conditions which were described in sensational and erroneous fashion as alarming, Senor Arredondo admits that unavoidably he had imbibed the idea that some of these descriptions might possess elements of truth, and for this reason also he gave especial attention to just these conditions. It is gratifying to report that none of the tales of the sensation-mongers were found to be based upon fact.

The truth is, Senor Arredondo assures The Mexican Review, that normal conditions practically prevail in northern and central regions, in the States visited by him, and that all over the Republic the autumnal harvests have been better and larger than in any previous season for two decades. Besides, in all the States, the Government has not only allowed the poor people to cultivate untilled lands without cost for their use, but has advanced the necessary seeds, implements and money for the production of a crop. As a result, the areas under cultivation have been vastly increased. To-day, the supply of corn, beans, wheat and other grain is so much larger than heretofore that there are no apprehensions of food shortage. There is practically no suffering from hunger.

The State of Tamaulipas, ranking eight in area but only twenty-first in population, owing to the arid character of much of its surface, alone this year produced over 1,650,000 bushels of corn, besides large quantities of other grains, while similarly encouraging reports come from other agricultural sections. Much new territory has been put under cultivation in all portions of Mexico, under the plan noted, and the entire arable belt extending from the American boundary to Mexico City is a scene of activity.

Many of Mexico's largest mining camps are being opened. Many really never suspended at all. Notable among the latter are the rich and extensive mines at Pachucha, the capital

of the State of Hidalgo, the largest bullion producing camp in the Republic, and whose principal mines have not been closed down at any time since the revolution began in 1910, with the possible exception of a period of less than a week, to be exact, because of delays in receiving chemical supplies necessary for the treatment of the ores. In San Luis Potosi, in Guanajuato, and at Villaldama, Matehuala, Concepcion and other important camps, the mines are in operation and are giving employment to full complements of laborers, while many of the Coahuila coal mines are also in active production.

At Monterrey, one of the largest industrial centers in Northern Mexico, there is great activity. The steel works, smelter, brewery (the largest in the Republic), railroad shops and other industries, employing thousands of hands, are in operation, while many minor industries are being restored and many new ones established. The extensive cotton factories in Mexico City, and in the States of Queretaro, Puebla, Vera Cruz, etc., are in full operation, as they have been almost continuously. The great tobacco, shoe clothing and other manufacturing establishments in the Capital are also in full operation. In fact, normal conditions as regards industrial enterprises are being rapidly restored throughout the Republic.

Regarding the elections that have recently been held and others that are to come, Senor Arredondo gave the following explanation: The municipalities elected civil officers on September 15th., and these are now in office, supplanting the military authority. On October 22nd. delegates to the Constituent Congress were selected in all States, there having been several parties to the field and a heavy vote having been polled, the Indians taking part in large numbers for the first time. This Congress will meet at Queretaro on November 20th., and will be charged with the sole duty of revising the Constitution and of adopting, amending or rejecting any of the decrees of the First Chief that have been issued during the revolution. After the adoption of the revised Constitution, the municipalities will elect State Governors, and these officials will in turn call for an election of Congressmen from each State. This Congress will call a Presidential election under the provisions of the new Constitution. If the First Chief's recent decree abolishing the position of Vice-President and reducing the Presidential term to four years, shall have been sanctioned by the Constitutional provision of a six-year term, with a Vice-President. Under either, the President can not be chosen for a second consecutive term. The Presidential election will probably take



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place in the latter part of January or the early portion of February, and the successful candidate will be installed in office with as little delay as possible after Congress shall have announced the result.

The Presidential campaign, it is expected, will be conducted upon lines somewhat similar to the quadrennial American ballot-battle. There may be two or more political parties in the field. On October 30th, the candidacy of Mr. Carranza for the highest office in the gift of the Mexican people was announced by his supporters, General Alvaro Obregon, Pablo Gonzales, Benjamin Hill and Eduardo Hay. The field, however, is open to all aspirants, and the election will be free and untrammelled—the true expression of the wishes of the whole people of Mexico. Every Mexican citizen of legal age will be invited and permitted to express his choice.

Naturally, it is hardly to be expected that any pronounced opposition to the elevation of the First Chief to the Presidency will arise. The selection of Mr. Carranza is likely to be unanimous. It is well right here and now to admit this likelihood, and, in passing, it may also be brought to the attention of the potential critics of all matters Carranzista, that the election in the United States of America in 1788, and consummated by the electors in 1789, had a similar unanimity of choice.

The many published reports regarding efforts alleged to have been made by the Constitutionalist Government to secure a foreign loan were declared by Senor Arredondo to be entirely without foundation. No such attempt has been made, nor will it be made until the proper time shall have arrived. Nevertheless, the Government has every reason to believe that whenever the opportune moment comes, a loan sufficient for all requirements will be negotiated upon distinctly favorable terms for the nation.

Senor Arredondo declares that the Constitutionalist Government is pursuing its course steadily, is carrying out the purposes of the revolution, and each day sees it more firmly entrenched in power and in receipt of the hearty support of the people, who recognize the difficulties that the Chief and his associates have had to contend with, not only at home, but abroad, and are disposed to acquiesce in all the steps that have been taken for the redemption of the pledges of the revolution. They are convinced of the sincerity and patriotism of those who are in control, and are willingly bearing those hardships which are unavoidably incident to a reconstructive period, especially where such radical changes in long existing conditions are involved. They realize that the land question is not one to be satisfactorily settled in a day, nor can many of the other reforms be put into effect except after careful study and planning; but what has already been done has convinced the people of the intention of the authorities to bring about the promised changes as rapidly as possible, and there is no ap-

**Supreme Court**

The trial of James Bellman for rape to which we alluded recently is occupying the attention of the Supreme Court to-day. His Lordship the Chief Justice presides and the following jury were sworn to try the case:— Frank Connors, Jno. Savage, Geo. Cook, Arthur Wood, Saml. Fever, Wm. Jackman, Raymond Cramm, Ml. Wadden, Jno. Lawlor, James Barter, Fredk. Chafe and Ambrose Shaw.

The prisoners is a resident of Grand Bank and to-day Mr. Gibbs, K.C. for the Crown stated the case and called Mrs. Catherine Ryan (against whom the outrage was committed) of Port Saunders, who was examined and cross examined by Mr. L. Emerson, B.L. for the defence.

After this an adjournment was taken till 2.30 p.m.

**FOGOTA FOR LABRADOR.**

The S.S. Fogota, which only a few days ago arrived from Makovik, Labrador, will go again to that far northern country to-morrow. She will go down as far as Rigolette with freight, and we hear, will bring up some people—Americans—who are down there. It is not often that a ship undertakes such a voyage at this season of the year, but the Fogota is a "dandy" little ship, and will no doubt get there without trouble.

**IS STILL MISSING.**

As far as we can learn there is still no sign of the missing schooner "Ford River," nor has any word been received from her. She was a large Canadian vessel, and left here some three weeks or more ago, with freight for Campbellton. There are now grave fears that the vessel has come to grief and that her crew have perished.

**HERRING VERY PLENTIFUL**

At Salmonier, St. Mary's, River Head and Mall Bay the past week herring have been very plentiful and good hauls have been made. Boats get three and four barrels daily and good prices are offered for the herring, which are of excellent quality.

To-day lines of cars and trucks, all laden with freight for the Prospero, extend from Ayre & Sons' building on either side of Water Street to Bowring's Cove. The cove itself is also filled with teams laden with freight and enough is offering to fill the ship twice over.

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parent disposition or desire to hamper those entrusted with these transcendently important duties in carrying them to successful completion.—The Mexican Review.

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