

The Evening Times and Star

ST. JOHN, N. B., FEBRUARY 25, 1921.

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THE MEXICAN PUZZLE

In view of all that has been said in the American press about the dawn of a brighter day in Mexico, one is surprised to read in the last issue of Leslie's Weekly an article with this heading: "Americans, keep out of Mexico. General Obregon is not redeeming his promises and the country of which he is the incompetent head is a slumbering volcano."

At the outset the writer of the article quotes two utterances of President Obregon. One was to the effect that he did not consider it necessary that commissioners from the United States should study conditions in Mexico as a preliminary to the recognition of his administration. The Times not long since referred to a publication issued by the Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles, following a visit to Mexico by a large delegation of its members. They declared that all was well in Mexico, and gave the reader an opinion directly opposite of that expressed in Leslie's Weekly. He asserts that while the Mexican government "spent a large sum of money transporting and entertaining American visitors during the inauguration of President Obregon," and that they attended with the expectation of opening up business relations in the country, yet "what they saw prompted them to wait and they are still waiting." He adds that "thousands of Americans have rushed into Mexico in the past two months, but they are washing out again thoroughly discouraged with the conditions."

The second remark of President Obregon with which Leslie's writer deals is as follows: "We will not need treaties to force us to meet our moral debts." This was in reply to a suggestion from Secretary of State Coby that a treaty be negotiated, defining and protecting the rights of American residents and investors; and it is not regarded as at all satisfactory under present conditions in Mexico. We quote:

"General Alvaro Obregon was inaugurated as president of Mexico December 1, 1920. He had been elected by that name in Mexico as a large plurality. He is a one-sided veteran of the revolutionary wars and is, or was, a popular idol. His promises on both domestic and foreign policies were fair, conservative and impressively expressed. Their fulfillment would insure domestic peace and justice and restore to foreign capital the rights and property of which they had been unjustly deprived under his revolutionary predecessors. It is certain that no man since Benito Juarez had succeeded to the presidency of Mexico with such general support and with such universal confidence as General Obregon. Even the sceptical hoped that he was the strong man who was to regenerate Mexico from within, and under whose rule it would again become a land of peace, plenty and contentment. In eight short weeks, the mirage has been dispelled. Obregon has shown no sign of strength. His popularity with his people is falling; the confidence that his foreign friends had in him has ebbed; his promises are unfulfilled; his policy is that of inaction; his accomplishments are practically nothing beyond the establishment of a surface peace by the most dangerous of methods."

To fortify his assertions the writer says that Obregon has not disarmed the numerous bands of bandits, who are still under arms, subsisting by plunder; the confiscatory policy towards foreign investments has not been changed; the moving of freight on Mexican railroads is today more difficult than during the revolution, and this physical condition is growing worse; the radical element has not been checked, but "Bolshevism is still nurtured in the national palace"; political stability has not been restored, and rival governments or legislatures are trying to function in several states; exiled citizens of good character have not been invited to return to Mexico; the army is not being reduced; no interest is paid on government bonds; former leaders of revolution are real—if not official rulers of several states; and "the Bolsheviki have the only effective political organization in Mexico."

This is a very serious indictment, and if it is not inspired by a desire to bring about American intervention in Mexico it points to further turmoil and revolution. It is evidently necessary to take Mexican news that comes through American channels with reservations; but unless this correspondent is a prevaricator of the worst type there are troubling days ahead for the Mexican republic, which at this moment is said to be in need of financial assistance in the form of a loan which it is thought may be sought in the United States.

The Manitoba Council of the College of Physicians and Surgeons has suspended for periods ranging from one week to six months sixteen physicians who issued wholesale prescriptions for liquor. One of them gave ten thousand in one month. Such men are a disgrace to their profession. A physician ought to be above suspicion in such matters.

The discussion on rentals at the Commercial Club meeting should throw some light on this vexed question.

THAT SENATE APPOINTMENT

A Moncton despatch to the Standard says that legal advice will be sought to learn if it is possible to protest legally the appointment of Mr. J. A. McDonald to the senate. The same correspondent says there is talk of a convention of Conservatives from St. John, Albert, Westmorland and Northumberland to demand the resignation of Hon. Mr. Wigmore. The despatch also gives currency to a rumor that Senator McDonald would be quite willing to succeed Hon. Dr. Reid as minister of railways. All this lends interest to the questions to be asked in parliament by Mr. Gaurau, member for Temiscouata, who will enquire if the government has taken notice of the protest against the appointment of Mr. McDonald, and if Premier McEwen proposes to take any action in regard to the appointment or the demand for Mr. Wigmore's resignation. Up to the present time both the premier and Mr. Wigmore have preserved a modest silence concerning the whole matter. The revolt now appears to have reached proportions which might move them to say something, although there does not appear to be much they can say that would be satisfactory to everybody. Neither Mr. McDonald nor Mr. Wigmore is likely to resign at this stage of the proceedings.

Rev. J. O. L. Spracklin of Ontario has been acquitted of the charge of unlawfully killing Beverly Trumble, who was shot by him during a liquor raid. The case has excited widespread interest because the man who did the shooting was a minister as well as a liquor inspector. Violation of the law in the region around about Windsor became so notorious that bitter ill-feeling was aroused and all kinds of threats made. Had the shooting been done by an ordinary officer of the law, much less would have been heard about it. One does not like to think of a minister going about with a revolver, and there is a general feeling that Mr. Spracklin should not have deemed it necessary to carry arms.

The King's Bench, in Dublin, has declared that a state of war exists in the south of Ireland. That being so, there will continue to be acts of violence and a continuous record of deaths by violence. This state of affairs will continue until the armed agitation for a republic is abandoned. It is a most unhappy condition. If the people will try the experiment of home rule now offered them it should lead to happier times.

Those who are interested in daylight saving should go to the polls on Monday and record their vote. Indifference on voting day spells defeat. There is a difference of opinion on the subject. The city council has asked the people to decide. They have the opportunity to settle the matter decisively, and can have no complaint to make if as a result of their indifference the verdict goes against them.

The Moncton Times devotes a column to the appointment of Mr. J. A. McDonald to the senate, and, among other things, says: "In this matter a very serious error has been committed by the person or persons on whose advice the government has acted. The appointment is not likely to be received with any greater favor in Nova Scotia than in New Brunswick."

Mr. Herbert Hoover has consented to join the Harding cabinet at Washington. He is one of the really big men who emerged during the war period, and should make a very able administrator of the commerce department. Mr. Hoover, and this physical condition is growing worse; the radical element has not been checked, but "Bolshevism is still nurtured in the national palace"; political stability has not been restored, and rival governments or legislatures are trying to function in several states; exiled citizens of good character have not been invited to return to Mexico; the army is not being reduced; no interest is paid on government bonds; former leaders of revolution are real—if not official rulers of several states; and "the Bolsheviki have the only effective political organization in Mexico."

Ottawa Journal: "Mr. Charles E. Hughes, former governor of New York, justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the man who almost became president in 1916, will be secretary of state in President Harding's cabinet. He should rank high among several who have won special distinction in that office."

A bill prohibiting the sale of cigarettes or advertising them in the press awaits the signature of the governor of Utah. If the old Mormon marriage custom still prevailed, we might understand this legislation. No man would want to buy cigarettes for thirty or forty wives.

A Maritime Home for Women, on the lines of the Maritime Home for Girls in Truro, will do great good. Arrangements will no doubt be made to segregate the younger delinquents from the older and more hardened offenders.

The Red Cross should have a million members in Canada, for its peace-time work is not less important than that which it carried on during the war.

The Quebec liquor law comes into effect on May 1. If it stops the export to New Brunswick our people will be grateful.

Hon. T. A. Crerar and many others left the Meighen government it has lost the confidence of the people, but it refuses to be convinced.

FATHER'S STORY.

We put more coal on the big red fire, And while we are waiting for dinner to come, Our father comes and tells us about A story that he has read in a book. And Charles and Will and Dick and I And all of us sit on father's legs, And some of us sit on father's legs, But one has to sit on the little red chair.

And when we are sitting very still He sings us a song or tells a piece; He sings Dan Tucker went to Town Or he tells about the golden fleece. He tells about the golden wool, And some of it is about a boy Named Jason and about a ship, And some is about a town called Troy. And while he is telling or singing it through I stand by his arm, for that is my place. And I push my fingers into his skin To make little dents in his big rough face. —Elizabeth Madox Roberts, in the Atlantic Monthly.

LIGHTER VEIN.

We see by the paper — our favorite medium of information — that Duluth is to have an evening of "wrestling and dance." A keen eye can probably tell the difference.

A Humble Beginning.

She was an ardent suffragette and was arguing with her father about the ballot for women. "Well, what are you suffragettes going to do?" inquired the father. "We are going to sweep the country," she replied proudly.

"Well, do not despise small beginnings, my dear. Suppose you start with the dining room."

A Valued Souvenir.

"Madam," shouted the angry neighbor, "your little Cosmo has just thrown a brick through our window." "And would you bring me the brick?" beamed Cosmo's mother. "We are keeping all the little mementos of his youthful pranks."

A Proof of True Love.

Little Edna turned to her mother, who was a widow, and said: "Mama, do you really and truly love me?" "Why, of course, my dear. Why do you ask?" "And will you prove it to me?" "Yes, if I can."

"Then go marry the man around the corner who keeps the candy store."

Cause For Thought.

"I notice that Agnes doesn't go around being over people with her ailments as she used to." "No; she met a man who cured her completely." "A doctor?" "Oh, no. She was telling this man some of her symptoms when he remarked, 'It's strange how many of these things afflict people as they begin to grow old.' Since then she has held her tongue about them."

A STATE OF WAR EXISTS IN SOUTH PART OF IRELAND

King's Bench Unanimously Reaches Important Decision Regarding Trials.

(Canadian Press Despatch.) Dublin, Feb. 24.—The King's Bench, composed of the chief justice and four other judges, rendered an important decision today in a case involving the powers of the military. The judges unanimously decided that a state of war existed and that the military had full power to deal with the situation without interference by the civil courts.

The judgment was rendered in the case of John A. O'Brien, who was sentenced to death by a court martial in Cork for having a revolver and ammunition in his possession. The sentence was challenged before the King's Bench on the ground that the court martial had no jurisdiction to impose the death sentence which is not provided by law for such offenses, or any sentence when the ordinary courts were open.

MORNING NEWS OVER THE WIRES

At the head office of the Bank of Montreal, Toronto, yesterday about noon, the sum of \$8,169 in cash and \$11,000 in clearing house certificates were stolen. The loss to the bank will likely be more than \$60,000, as the large bills will no doubt be torn up to avoid detection. The certificates are not negotiable. The method of the theft is unknown.

According to a report received by Pope Benedict from Monsignor Andre Olli, Archbishop of Loretto, the loss caused by the fire in the Chiesa della Casa Santa amounted to 12,000,000 gold lire.

The new rate of pay of all laborers in the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company, Pittsburgh, will be thirty-seven cents an hour, the present rate being forty-six cents an hour, a reduction of twenty per cent.

The Mount Allison campaign to raise \$500,000 has ended without reaching its objective. The total amount subscribed was \$300,000.

At a meeting of the Teachers' Association in Moncton yesterday it was recommended to the New Brunswick association that the minimum salary for grade teachers be \$1,000 a year instead of \$800.

DENIES HE IS TO WED MRS. MACSWINEY London, Feb. 25.—Art O'Brien of the Irish Self-Determination League has authorized denial of a report that he is engaged to Mrs. Terence MacSwiney, widow of Lord Mayor MacSwiney of Cork. He says the report probably was started for the purpose of annoying Mrs. MacSwiney.

BEQUEST HAS SHRUNK MORE THAN A HALF Princeton, N. J., Feb. 25.—The \$15,000,000 bequest of Henry Clay Frick to Princeton University, has depreciated on the basis of present prices of securities to \$6,000,000, according to the announcement made here by John O. H. Pitney, chairman of the finance committee of the board of trustees.

Princeton University receives under the terms of the will the residue of the estate when some fixed bequests have been paid.

LOCAL NEWS

UNION MADE Overall at \$2.49. Comp. at \$4.48. Also a full line of men's and boys' clothing and furnishings at reduced prices. Union Clothing and Furnishing Co., 200 Union St. 2-27

SPORTS ON CARLETON RINK St. George Athletic Association will hold sports on Carleton Rink Saturday afternoon.

TONIGHTS IRISH CONCERT At St. Vincent's Theatre Overture 8.30. Secure tickets early.

Try the new Danish pastry at the College Inn, 105 Charlotte St.

ELECTRIC FIXTURE SALE Regular \$80 out-let. Eleven fixtures, window complete, with shades for \$38. If you are in need of fixtures don't forget where to buy. L. M. Johnson, 96 Charlotte street. 2-28.

SPECIAL SALE SPRING FLOWERS. "Say it with flowers" Daffodils 75c to \$1 per dozen; tulips 75c to \$1.50 per dozen; paper white narcissi \$1 per dozen; potted plants 75c to \$1.50. K. Pederson, Ltd., 36 "Wingside" Charlotte street. 2-29.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK DRAGOONS Meeting of all members of regiment in armories tonight at 7.30. By order, H. A. Seely, Captain, Adjutant New Brunswick Dragoons.

Carnival tonight Carleton Open Air Rink. Admission 25c.

Chestnut hard coal landing for feeders. J. S. Gibbons & Co. Ltd. Phone Main 2880 or 3294.

Woodmere beginners special practice 7.30 tonight.

Carnival on Carleton Rink tonight; band in attendance.

Blankets for \$1.98 pair at Bassen's Sale, corner Union and Sydney. 2-26

Cookies, 8c. doz. College Inn.

Rummage sale, Douglas' Hall, Murray St., Feb. 26, 2.30 p.m. 2-25.

OUT \$200 AND SOME OF HIS HAIR

Parnio Has Woman in Court and Says "Mystic Powers" Failed.

New York, Feb. 25.—Saying he is almost ten locks of hair and \$200, Grochinski Parnio appeared in court yesterday to press a charge that Amelia La Verdi obtained money under false pretences when she promised to cure him and his children of life by use of mystic powers.

The woman, who denied the charges, was held in \$1,000 bail for examination today.

Detectives told the court that Parnio had been employed at the Halifax shipyards will be reduced five cents an hour beginning on Feb. 28, so it was announced by General Manager J. E. McQuinn.

EX-EMPRESS IS SAID NOW TO BE UNCONSCIOUS Potsdam, Germany, Feb. 25.—Former Empress Augusta Victoria of Germany is reported to be unconscious at Doorn, Holland. Her early death is indicated.

GOOD WILL OF U. S. AND THE EMPIRE

Toronto, Feb. 25.—Dr. John A. Stewart, chairman of the board of governors of the Empire Club of Canada, yesterday, said:—

"No matter what you may read in the newspapers of the United States, it is a certainty that the U. S. is a nation filled with good will towards Canada." He said that the United States and the British Empire would continue their friendly relations, but admitted that the supporters of British-American friendship in the United States had not an easy proposition before them. He said that the Sulgrave Institute was associated with seventy-one vital American organizations in fostering good will between the American and British peoples.

MORE SLEEPING SICKNESS CASES AND ALSO SOME SMALLPOX IN NEW YORK

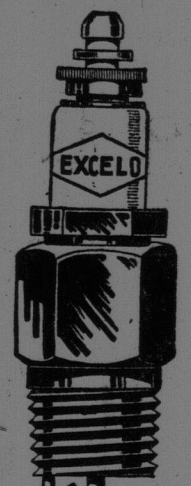
New York, Feb. 25.—Seven new sleeping sickness cases in New York city and one death from the disease in White Plains, a suburb, were reported yesterday. From the 294 cases reported since January 1, six fatalities have occurred. One case of smallpox also was reported yesterday, making nine since the first of the year.

DEATH WAS NATURAL

Chicago, Feb. 25.—Mrs. Nancy Chamberlain, ninety-one years old, art devotee, whose body was found in a geranium bed in her yard, where it had been buried by her daughter and granddaughter, died a natural death, according to the verdict of a coroner's jury. The daughter and granddaughter were held by city health officials to be mentally deranged.

U. S. AND THE WAR DEBTS

Washington, Feb. 25.—Rinaldo Ossola, Italian ambassador to the United States, had been authorized by his government to take up with the United States the matter of funding Italy's war debt of \$1,631,338,956 to that country. Negotiations for funding of any of the allied war debts will be left to the Harding administration.



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Much Underpriced

Where is the housekeeper who does not love to see fresh, clean, new curtains on the windows? What a difference they make, too, in the appearance of the whole house, especially at this time of year when Spring is in the air. And at the prices now being asked, it is cheaper to buy new ones than to have the old ones done up. We would like you to see these Nottingham Lace Curtains. The neat designs will be sure to appeal to you as much as the little prices asked, which are from \$1.98 to \$4.95 pair.

LACE CURTAINING—36 to 45 inches wide, in Cream, White and Ivory; pretty artover and bordered designs, some with lace edges—39c to 88c yard.

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The Store for Silks **DYKEMAN'S** The Store for Silks

THE ONTARIO ALCOHOLISM CONVENTION IS ENDED

Toronto, Feb. 25.—Opening with a pageant representing a meeting of the league of nations against alcoholism, in which delegates represented twenty-four countries, attended in picturesque costumes and closing with a declaration from the new president, D. V. Sinclair, that the cause of temperance never looked as bright as it did at the present time, the three-day prohibition convention of the Ontario branch of the Dominion Alliance was brought to a conclusion last night at a large mass meeting.

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