

who fought for him, but not for his issues, and when the feeling of popular indignation arose the idea of democracy was forgotten by the party in power and it rushed headlong into absolutism.

The largest percentage of the population of Mexico is Catholic. Under the régime of Madero a constitution was formed which encouraged the recognition of the free ballot and was the first step towards true democracy in Mexico, and the annihilation of the tendency of the Mexican people to settle their disputes on the battlefield. This should have guaranteed the rights of the majority, and it did bring about the formation of the Catholic party, who were not priests but laymen, and insured definite principles and public rights. From the moment that Francisco Madero praised the new party, its ideals, its organization, its reliance on principles rather than men, the men of lost ambitions doomed him. That it should be crushed, and with it the church from which it had drawn its principles, was now the object of the Constitution-alists. It was all right if it put them and kept them in power, but all wrong if it did not.

The Monroe doctrine gives the United States certain rights in Mexico, but imposes upon them certain duties. In February, 1913, Felix Diaz's revolutionary army entered Mexico City and engaged in sanguinary battles with President Madero's forces under Huerta. Ambassador Wilson, together with a diplomatic corps from the Mexican senate, was sent to ask Madero to resign, that the cessation of hostilities might be accomplished. Madero refused their request, shot one of their envoys and was himself shot while being brought prisoner by Huerta to a place of safety. The republic was now without a President, and Huerta was elected Provisional President by Congress February 19, 1913, having been recommended by Ambassador Wilson and recognized by President Taft. The result of the late elections found a Democratic party in power under President Wilson, with the Mexican question in public prominence.

Forced into action, President Wilson now made public his policy as regards the Mexican situation, declaring that he would not recognize Huerta or any member of his cabinet. But the orderly element of the country recognized Huerta as the only President capable of carrying out the constitution which he had given to Mexico. American interests were involved, concession-