# REVIVED INDUSTRY IS SEEN IN MEXICO

## Conditions Sound at Bottom, but More Stability Is Needed.

## INVESTORS AT CAPITAL

## Great Influx of Foreigners Gives Prospect of Speedy Development.

That Mexico is on the eve of an industrial revival, and that the country is in the position of a business that has been mismanaged but which is fundamentally sound are statements made by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York in a message to American business men now being distributed in pamphlet form. This booklet, entitled "Trading With Mexico To-day," sets forth in detail the commercial conditions existing in Mexico to-day as collated on the spot by their own trained observer.

Exhaustive data concerning the possible markets for all classes of merchandise are contained in this booklet, which it should be to the advantage of all American exporters to read. Humboldt, according to the author, was fully justified in calling Mexico "the greatest treasure house in the world." It is pointed out in substantiation that her soil is capable of producing all the cereal crops and 90 per cent. of the known fruits of the world, that her vast tracts of timber include many varieties of hardwoods and dyewoods, that her substratum contains every known mineral and that her great petroleum fields produced in 1918 more than 63,000,000 barrels of oil.

In a trip made during April and May, 1919, from the Texas border to Vera Cruz to ascertain general business conditions, an investigator found in Mexico City and in other points, a great many indications that Mexico—provided there is no really serious political disturbance—is on the eve of an industrial revival.

### Influx of Foreigners.

Among the visitors to the capital at that time were manufacturers, bankers and engineers from the United States and Canada, from nearly all the countries of Europe, and from Japan, seeking orders and opportunities for investment. There were delegations from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, San Antonio and Dallas. There was a party from Oklahoma interested in oil properties, and among the Japanese groups was one interested in the newly discovered oil deposits in the Gulf of California and another studying the iron ore deposits in the States of Durango and Colima. Then there were mining engineers from San Francisco and a group of Norwegian capitalists from Christiania.

As a result of the recent tour of a large party of Mississippi Valley business men throughout Mexico, the Chicago Association of Commerce has opened an office in Mexico City, and the American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico has formed a New York auxiliary.

In 1918, after nearly nine years of revolution and with the railroad system badly dilapidated, with rebel activities necessitating the carrying of armed guards on all trains, and with thousands of cars and locomotives in the repair shops, Mexico was still able to export products to the value of $183,852,125 (American money), of which the United States' share was $175,037,150. Imports into Mexico were $82,235,017 (American money), of which $70,576,314 came from the United States.

The American farmer depends chiefly on the Mexican henequen (sisal) fibre for his binding twine, and the exports from Yucatan to the United States of this fibre in 1918 were valued at more than $30,000,000.

### Chance for Tropical Products.

For rubber, coffee and other tropical products Mexico is a very important source of supply to the United States, but that business is only a fraction of what it might be. There are vast ranges suitable for cattle and sheep. Mexico ought to export wheat and corn instead of importing them. It has more land suitable for sugar cane than Cuba, but its production of sugar has fallen to less than 100,000 tons annually, while Cuba's production has risen to 3,000,000 tons a year.

Mexico is in the position of a business that has been mismanaged but is fundamentally sound. An expressive indication of the economic vitality and resiliency of Mexico is afforded by the fact that last year, in face of the ruin and prostration wrought by the revolution, her total revenues were greater than in any other similar period in her history. The transportation of commodities on the railways under Government control in Mexico (8,116 miles, or about half the total mileage of the country) furnishes a good indication of the conditions.

For the year ended June 30, 1918, these Government operated lines carried 463,906 metric tons of forestry products, 1,237,441 metric tons of agricultural products, 216,443 metric tons of animals and animal products, 1,953,105 metric tons of inorganic products, such as coal and coke, lime, cement, minerals, petroleum, &c., and 372,475 metric tons of general merchandise.

# ELECTION CALLED FOR PERUVIAN CONGRESS

## Constitutional Reforms to Be Effected.

LIMA, Aug. 10.—Provisional President Leguia has called a special election for a new Peruvian Congress whose duties will be to effect new constitutional reforms along the following lines as outlined by the President:

Complete reforms in the legislative power which shall coincide with changes in the executive power.

Legislative and executive authority shall extend for a term of five years.

The President, Senators and members of the lower House shall be elected by popular vote.

Vacancies in Congress shall be filled by special elections.

Diplomatic officials shall be appointed by the Government with the consent of Congress.

Individual guarantees shall not be suspended by law or any authority whatsoever.

Differences between capital and labor shall be settled by compulsory arbitration.

Fiduciary coinage shall not be created unless in the case of war.

There shall be three legislative regions representing the north, south and centre of the Republic.

There shall be a Council of State named by the Ministry and with the approval of the Senate.

### Check on Profiteers.

HAVANA, Aug. 10.—Importers dealing in the necessities of life and wearing apparel are compelled to exhibit a price list in a place that may be visible by the public, according to a decree presented by the Secretary of Agriculture to the President of the Republic for signature. Heavy fines are imposed for violations of the law.

# GREAT FLIGHT MADE IN SOUTH AMERICA

## Italian Aviator Crosses the Continent.

One of the most important air voyages in the history of aviation was made last week by the Italian aviator Lieut. Locatelli, who flew from Santiago, Chile, to Buenos Ayres without stopping. The time was 7 hours and 10 minutes. The aviator flew on an average of seventy miles an hour and at times reached an altitude of 17,500 feet.

In view of the success of this flight the people of the two countries are now discussing the feasibility of establishing a direct mail route by air between Buenos Ayres and Santiago. Owing to the continual trouble experienced in carrying passengers and mail over the Trans-Andine Railroad during the winter months officials from both countries have been endeavoring to formulate new plans by which the mails at least may be despatched from one country to the other without delay. The flight of the Italian aviator has added considerable encouragement to proposed plans for the establishment of an aerial mail route between the two countries.

With the practicability of flying between the two capitals established, however, a way has been shown for an improvement along these lines and it is reported that an English and Italian company are negotiating with the two Governments for the establishment of an aerial route that will carry mails and small packages as well as passengers.

If the development of aerial navigation progresses as fast as it has within the last few months in South America it is the opinion of many that an aerial line between points in the United States and South America will be a fact of the not distant future.

# DANCE AN IMPETUS TO MEXICAN UNION

## Further Development With American Friendship Club Is Promised.

Extensive plans are now under way for the further development of the Mexican Union and American Friendship Club, which held its first formal assembly on Friday evening last at the Hotel Pennsylvania, according to members of the organization committee who have the matter in charge.

"The concert and dance," said Mr. Hess, who was active in arranging the affair, "was so well attended, and the whole idea has met with such cordial and spontaneous response not only by Mexicans of all classes and of all the so-called factions but by so many influential Americans as well as South Americans, that we are encouraged to believe that a project inaugurated under such favorable circumstances will prove an assured success."

The gathering was attended by more than 450 Mexican residents, Americans and members of the local Latin American colony. Several well known members of the former Mexican Opera Company took part, among whom was the prima donna Senorita Ada Navarrete de Carrasco, who will be heard at the Metropolitan Opera during the coming season. Senora Carrasco is native of Yucatan and studied in Milan. Another brilliant opera singer who took part in the programme was Srita Carmen Garcia Cornejo, also Mexican and a graduate of a conservatory in Madrid.

Among the other artists who sang were Senor David Silva, a principal of the Mexican Opera Company; Srita Haydee Osorno, Mme. Shantley and Senor Carlos Encisco. Vittorio Trucco, a talented Mexican boy of 10; Senor Jorge del Moral and Srita Artemisa Elizondo rendered selections on the piano and Senor Arturo Espinoza played several violoncello solos. Senor Joaquin Mendez Rivas, who might be referred to as the poet laureate of Mexico, having been three times awarded the Juegos florales by the Mexican Government, delighted the audience by reciting a poem of a patriotic nature which he had written especially for the occasion.

In a speech delivered in Spanish Senor Manuel Carpio, a well known Mexican journalist, the ideas and purposes behind the organizations of the club were explained.

"We hope," said Senor Carpio, "through closer association and more intimate social relationship to make the people of this country feel that the Mexican people want their friendship, their cooperation and their respect. We also shall endeavor through this same organization to unify discordant elements among the Mexican people themselves. When these two objects can be obtained the mission of the Mexican Union and American Friendship Club will have been gloriously fulfilled."

It was announced that club rooms had been engaged in the Pennsylvania Hotel and that the next meeting would take place on September 15, that day being the anniversary of the independence of Mexico.

Among those prominent in the work of organizing the club are Oscar Braniff, a member of an old family in Mexico, and a graduate of Georgetown University; P. Luna Parra, Mexican attorney for the Texas Oil Company; Jerome S. Hess of the firm of Hardin & Hess, lawyers; F. R. Smith, lawyer and a member of the Commission Regularadova; R. Martinez Carrillo, a Mexican lawyer; Manuel Carpio, a Mexican journalist; Dr. Alfredo Carureggil, financial agent for the Mexican Government; Lorenzo J. Roel, a Mexican lawyer; Jose Castellot, a Mexican Senator; Felipe G. Canton, a Mexican merchant; James H. Oliver, an exporter of this city; Justo Acevido, an exporter; Joaquin Mendez Rivas, a Mexican poet, and Dr. Luis Lara Pardo, a lawyer.

Others on the committee were Nelson S. Spencer, Ricardo Adalid, Pedro Palma Puerto, Emilio Torre Diaz, Harry Wright, Frank A. Oliver, Walter Wildes, Felipe G. Solis, J. D. Diaz, Francisco Preve, Juan di Bella, D. M. Garcia, Francisco Gonzales, Manuel Massa, Leopoldo F. Garcia, Juan J. Gorbea, Laul Lombardo, Juan Castro, Raul Negrete, Domingo Bermudez, H. G. Banker, Emilio L. Figueroa, Jose L. Requena Legarrita, Dr. Alvaro Torre Diaz, Manuel L. Hernandez, David Reyes Retana, Guillermo Carranza, Alberto de Lasne, Jose C. Acevedo, Francisco de Joyos, H. V. Garza, Lorant Degre, Lic. Rodolfo Menendez, Eduardo Del Castillo, Enrique Diaz, Jose Sales Diaz, Gabriel S. Yorke, M. L. Rodriguez, M. F. Canle, S. Bermudez, Ciro Reaud, Jose Venegas, Gustavo Garcia, Angel Perez del Camino and Fernando Galera.

### Tourists Will Flock to Cuba.

From 60,000 to 70,000 tourists are expected to visit Cuba this coming winter, according to an official of the Tourist Development Company, which is composed of Cuban and American business men engaged in attracting travellers to the island. With the Florida hotels full for the coming winter and the dry law taking effect in the United States it is expected that tourist travel to Cuba will break all records during the winter.

### Rain Checks Chilean Industry.

Heavy rains in the South of Chile have paralyzed industry, according to reports reaching this country. Farm labor is at a standstill. There is no work and provisions are running low as there are no means of transportation for reaching the affected districts.

# PROGRESS IN THE TROPICS DEPENDS ON SANITATION

## Great Industrial and Commercial Enterprises Impossible Without Safeguard of General Health—South America Gets Lesson From Canal Building.

By S. P. VERNER.

*(Formerly one of Gen. Gorgas's Lieutenants in the sanitation of Panama, and with previous experience in the tropics covering a period of more than thirteen years.)*

*Written especially for the Latin American Section of* THE SUN.

Tropical America is waking up to the value of sanitation as an essential element to the successful conduct of industrial and commercial enterprises. During the ten years of my experience there I have seen many undertakings fail utterly because the promoters did not understand that without sanitation they could not succeed. Specifically among these failures have been those of the Bayano Lumber Company, the Boston Rubber Company, the El Encanto Plantation project, the Rio Chilibre mahogany concern, the Trinidad Colony scheme, the Cali coal mines and the Cativa sugar plantations. The oldest gold mine in America, and the most remunerative at the time it closed down, that of the Darien, went to pieces from the same cause.

Business cannot go on without labor and labor cannot and will not stay on the job when decimated by endemic and epidemic disease. It was Mr. Roosevelt's grasp of scientific principles as a naturalist which caused him to back Col. Gorgas on the mosquito theory when "practical" men were threatening to destroy his work, and to hold the Colonel there till Panama was made the healthiest place in America (as statistics show)—just as his capacity in scientific matters in another field enabled him to turn down the majority report of the engineers and to decide with the minority for a lock type of canal, as against the sea level project. The result showed that Mr. Roosevelt and Col. Gorgas were right—the Canal was completed ahead of time, endemic disease was eliminated and the biggest single business enterprise in history is functioning without a hitch, as the recent passage of the Pacific fleet so clearly showed.

### Great Work Yet Ahead.

Latin American countries were slow to follow the example set at Panama for two reasons—lack of money and lack of trained sanitarians. As a consequence the Canal has been obliged to maintain a strict quarantine at Balboa and Cristobal against some adjacent ports, greatly to the prejudice of business interests. Either yellow fever or bubonic plague or both have continued to exist at Cartagena, Barranquilla, Puerto Colombia, Buenaventura, Tumaco and Guayaquil and other maritime centres in northern or tropical South America, while malaria is there and in the surrounding districts all the time. This quarantine means that ships from these ports must be delayed at the Canal up to as long as a week in some cases, with the chance that passengers miss connections and cargo suffers delay, while the reputation given to those ports and the country round them by this fact has been a strong deterrent to their development. They are the gateways to the richest potential regions in America in gold, platinum, silver, copper, oil, rubber and other resources, but men will not go there as freely as they might but for this handicap, while disease contracted interferes with enterprises which might otherwise be much more successful.

The immense importance of this matter may be realized when we reflect that the day is at hand when northern South America, including the magnificent regions of the upper Orinoco and Amazon, must be opened to civilization; and unless this movement is accompanied by proper sanitary measures, suffering and death will ensue on a scale comparable only to what happened when malaria and trypanosomiasis took their deadly toll of millions in central Africa when the whites rushed in where angels might well have feared to tread.

It is well to make this matter clear to the business layman. Endemic disease is terrible in any locality in proportion to the existence of or arrival of non-immunes.

A non-immune to a certain disease is a person who has never had that disease. Surviving an attack of yellow fever, for example, confers immunity against future attacks. This is the case with some diseases, though not with all, but it is especially the case with certain highly epidemic forms. It is true to a certain ill-defined extent in the case of malaria. The writer, for example, has survived forty-six attacks of malarial fever, and it may be that some of the earlier attacks conferred a sort of partial immunity against the later ones. When a non-immune person arrives in a community in which yellow fever exists, along with the conveying mosquito, the stegomyia, he is very apt to get the disease; and if another one comes along soon after he will probably get it, and so on, but if no newly arrived persons come in, the disease might die out by killing off part of the population and immunizing the rest.

Panama before its cleanup was a fine case of this for centuries. Non-immunes were constantly arriving there on their way to California or the west coast of South America. They kept the infection alive there. The South American coast settlements also got a steady stream of newcomers and when the new railways enabled the people of the mountainous regions, who had been free from local infection, to travel freely to the coast they set up a vigorous recrudescence of the disease, which was especially noticeable in the case of Guayaquil, where the railroad to Quito played the part of a promoter of yellow fever in spite of the best intentions.

The impression as to the heavy cost of sanitation at Panama had much to do with the slowness with which the example set there was followed elsewhere. It as thought that only such immense resources as those of the United States could effect such radical results.

As Col. Gorgas points out in his book—"Sanitation in Panama," D. Appleton & Co.—this is a mistake. Much of the cost of sanitation in Panama was covered, almost invariably, into engineering accounts. For example, an immense fill in Colon was charged to sanitation, and although the revenue derived from the land filled in is now producing an annual rental of about $300,000 from ground rent alone, sanitation has not been credited with this sum, the capital value of which, at the rate of interest prevailing there, is $3,000,000. Much of the fever producing conditions in South American ports are analogous to those at Colon and property values from reclamation, drainage, &c., would rise to an extent to amortize the cost of sanitation very quickly. The chief means of eliminating the stegomyia mosquito is by a pipe borne water system, and this is much cheaper eventually than the makeshifts adopted before proper municipal water supply is installed.

I have carefully worked out the details of the cost of adequately sanitating the average business enterprise in the tropics, with the result that it may be said that 5 per cent. added to the capital estimated as necessary for most industrial and commercial enterprises will cover the cost of sanitation sufficiently to eliminate all risk of failure from that source. For example, if it is contemplated to operate a sugar plantation and $1,000,000 is available, then (except in very unusual cases) the sum of $50,000 should be set aside for the total sanitary work in the capitalization, while 5 per cent. set aside from the gross profits of most enterprises would maintain a high degree of sanitary safety in perpetuity.

### Profits Through Sanitation.

It is to be noted that tropical enterprises can easily bear this expense because they are intrinsically usually more profitable than those elsewhere. The saving in the fuel bill for keeping employees and plants warm alone exceeds the cost of sanitation. The United Fruit Company is one concern which has followed the example of the Canal in this matter to a large degree and it is earning a dividend now of about 40 per cent. In fact, with sanitation once thoroughly provided, almost any enterprise in the tropics in which the other elements of business success are present will fare better than competitors further north for a variety of reasons.

Business men have begun to act on this principle in advance of Latin American governments. The Guggenheims at Chuquicamata secured a sanitarian from Panama at the outset of their work. So did the Vanderbilt interests at Portoveo, Ecuador, in their gold mining there, while the Messrs. Amsinck are doing the same thing in their new work at Buenaventura. I had the pleasure of recommending an experienced sanitarian to their engineers just before leaving Panama last June.

But the Rockefeller Foundation is doing par excellence the noblest work of its kind in the world in affording direct cooperation, inspiration, example and training in Latin American countries, where funds are scanty and experienced agents wanting. It seems likely that this work will react upon the governments concerned eventually and, by giving concrete evidence in specific communities of the advantages of sanitation, secure the needed popular political support for the inclusion in the budgets of the countries in question of appropriations for purposes so indispensable to the progress of the nations of tropical America.

# PLOT IN URUGUAY IS NIPPED IN TIME

## Military Chiefs Attempt to Overthrow Government and Are Suspended.

MONTEVIDEO, Aug. 10.—A plot to overthrow the present Government of Uruguay, in which the prominent military chiefs and the President of the Council of Administration were implicated, was frustrated by the prompt action of President Brum, who immediately suspended various military officials suspected of being involved in the attempted revolution.

The trouble grew out of parliamentary differences between President Brum and Dr. Feliciano Viera, President of the Council of Administration.

Dr. Brum, fearing that a plot among the militarists would be hatched as soon as he ordered the dismissals, took refuge in the artillery barracks, but later when he learned that the suspected military heads had surrendered their arms to those who had been named in their places he came out from cover.

Later the Minister of War dismissed hundreds of officers from the army, as well as the navy, on suspicion that they were implicated in the plot.

The Government as a precaution against further trouble placed machine gun men at strategic points in the city and in the Government buildings. As soon as the people learned of the sensational events thousands rushed to the Presidential palace to express their loyalty to President Brum.

From the balcony of his official residence President Brum said: "Fellow citizens: With you I learned to be a democrat and to interpret the popular will, dedicating all my energies toward the development of our country. Today as President of the Republic, which office I assumed by your aid, I shall place the national interest above all other. This popular demonstration encourages me but it does not turn my head. The defence of our country is the first thought among us."

# ARGENTINA TO AID SMALL FARMERS

## Rich Lands Will Be Expropriated and Divided by Government.

The extensive holdings of rich land owners in the Province of Buenos Ayres, Argentina, will be expropriated by the Argentine Government and cut up into small sections which will be sold to farmers, according to information forwarded to the State Department by Ambassador Stimson.

"The law contemplates the expropriation of the extensive tracts of land situated along the railroad lines of the province, and which are to-day in the possession of a few landowners who either do not cultivate them or do so imperfectly," says the report.

"The provincial government declares that one of the greatest obstacles to the development of the province is the system of dividing the lands, which has resulted in the ownership of immense tracts by a very few landowners. This has resulted in the failure to cultivate a large part of the province, which has the appearance of a desert, and farmers and their families are unable to acquire lands in this region unless they have funds in large quantities to make such purchases. On the other hand the large landowners not only have refused to sell their properties to farmers but have endeavored to monopolize additional tracts.

"The law proposes to prevent this state of affairs and to make possible the purchase of the land by farmers. The lands near the railroads will be expropriated by the Government, divided into small tracts, and sold to the smallest cultivators. On each lot the Government proposes to construct at its own expense living quarters and other necessary buildings. At the same time it will provide purchasers with stock, seeds and trees.

"The purchaser must pay a certain sum on the day he takes possession, and the balance within a certain number of years, which will be limited by law, and on the most liberal terms. In seasons when the crops are bad the Government will step in to tide the farmer over."

# PERUVIAN COTTON GAINS FOOTHOLD

## More Than One-quarter of Product Now Shipped to United States.

## USED IN TIRE MAKING

## Native Planters, However, Are Slow to Adopt Modern Methods of Trade.

One very important effect which the trade of the United States has undergone as a result of the European conflict is the acquaintance with Peruvian cotton which war exigencies have given our cotton manufacturers. For many years all qualities of Peruvian cotton have been very well known in the markets of Liverpool, but it is only in the last two years that this country has become a purchaser to any great extent. To-day we are using from one-quarter to one-third of Peru's total output.

The chief reason for the growth of this importation from Peru is to be found in the fact that during the war it was very difficult for us to secure Egyptian cotton. This fibre is very essential for weaving the cloth used in the manufacture of automobile tires, and when it was found that the Metafifi cotton of Peru was very similar to the Egyptian product a strong demand for it sprang up immediately. This proved advantageous to Peru, for about 50 per cent. of the cotton exported is of this variety.

As to whether Peruvian cotton will continue to have a good market in this country no predictions can be made. It depends entirely on the Peruvian planters. In the past they have failed signally to follow the demands of the trade, and for this reason their product has not gained the importance owed to it by its natural value.

### Price Fixing Efforts Fail.

The planters have tried to fix the prices of their shipments without regard to the fact that the market price depends entirely on the demand. They have insisted that they be consulted by cable as to the prices they will accept, not realizing that these are subject to hourly fluctuations in the various markets of the world. They have also failed to understand that it would be better for them if they would retire their lots from the market whenever the prices quoted do not suit them, rather than to attempt to impose upon the purchasers prices not in accord with the market value of their product.

Peruvian planters have also failed to follow the example of their Egyptian competitors, who always can secure a good market through the care with which they classify and grade their cotton. The former sell their output to foreign buyers who classify and grade it after having bought it and are thus in a position to obtain the highest price, selling the best grades separately. This difference in prices would fall to the Peruvian planters themselves if they made the grading.

One very important advantage which might be theirs and which they have failed to make use of lies in their ability to sell their cotton at the time of year when the demand for it is very great. Best Egyptian cotton is scarce from May till the end of August, and this period is the best for selling Peruvian cotton. The new Egyptian cotton cannot come upon the market till September, and with a little effort the early Peruvian output could arrive several months before that date.

### Cling to Antiquated Methods.

In the past the Peruvian planters have waited until the completion of their harvest before making any shipments and so have not secured the prices which they would have obtained had they shipped the first pickings immediately. In the same way they fail to get the prices for their poorer qualities which they could realize if they would ship them before the inferior Egyptians arrive upon the market in November and December.

With the growth of the automobile industry the use of long fibre cotton will increase unless some substitute is secured for the fabrication of tires. Accordingly, then, if the harvesting of the Peruvian metafifi is put on a modern basis and is carried out after the Egyptian methods it can be sold quickly and at a good price in the United States. The planters, however, must be willing to go to some trouble. Ancient methods will not suffice, and until the Peruvian planters decide to pay attention to efficient methods of cultivation and shipment the millions of dollars which should be gained by them will fill the pockets of foreign purchasers who are disposed to take upon themselves the burden of sorting it and placing it on the market at advantageous times.

### Railroads Resume in Ecuador.

GUAYAQUIL, Aug. 10.—Normal railroad transportation has been resumed between Guayaquil and Quito. During the war a number of trains were taken off on account of the heavy expenses of operation. It is expected that large sums of money will be spent in rolling stock this fall.

### Statue of Liberator Arrives.

LIMA, Aug. 10.—The monument of Don Jose de San Martin, the great South American liberator, arrived in this city from Spain on board the steamer Iquitos. It will be placed in the plaza San Martin in this city. The statue is the work of the Spanish sculptor Mariano Benlliure.

## South American Buyers Now in New York

Domingos A. da Silva Oliveira of Co. Ind. Importadira "Atlas," Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Interested in shoes. Address care International Buyers Club, 130 West Forty-second street, New York.

Luis Hozzo, Jr., and Enrique Mora of Brunet Saenz & Co. S. en C. of San Juan, P. R. Interested in automobiles, tires, accessories and parts. Address care of Hotel Astor.

Manuel Pardo of Quito, Ecuador. Interested in jewelry, watches and clocks. Address Hotel America, New York.

Hugo Sarmento of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Interested in agencies for machinery. Address Herald Square Hotel, New York.

Aguilas Espinosa Jarrin of Ecuador. Interested in cattle for breeding purposes. Address care Ecuadorian Consulate, New York.

Buyers from South and Central America may register in this column by telephoning Beekman 2200, Latin American Department.

## Latin American Holiday

(Furnished by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.)

THERE is a holiday in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela Friday, August 15.

This is mentioned as a reminder to those who transact business by cable.

# PLAN CUBAN HOTEL CHAIN.

## American Syndicate Said to Be Behind Scheme.

The formation of a gigantic syndicate composed of American capitalists for the purpose of constructing and operating six magnificent hotels on the island of Cuba to accommodate the thousands of visitors that visit the neighboring republic annually is rumored in Latin American circles.

The policy of the proposed syndicate involves the operation of a line of steamers plying between New York city, Florida and Havana for the purpose of transporting tourists who may be attracted to the island on the completion of the hotels.

The purchase of large tracts of land on which the hotels are to be constructed is reported. It is said that in conjunction with the hotels such attractions as golf courses, swimming baths, baseball grounds and beautiful tropical gardens will be laid out on the property of the proposed syndicate. Hotels will be built in Havana, Santa Clara, Cienfuegos, Matanzas and Santiago de Cuba.

# COFFEE CROP DAMAGED.

## High Prices for Brazilian Product Now Certain.

High prices in Brazilian coffee, as predicted in an article in the Latin American department of THE SUN several weeks ago, will be a certainty owing to the damage done to the crop by the weather, according to authentic reports coming from that country.

The greatest damage to the crop was done in Sao Paulo by the heavy frosts, and the State which usually produced great quantities of coffee is not expected to produce over 2,900,000 bags this year, which is about 58 per cent. less than the crop ended June 30 of this year.

The crops in four municipalities were completely destroyed by the frosts.

# PROSPEROUS DURING WAR.

## Bank Deposits Increased in South America.

The prosperity of the South American countries during the war period is indicated in reports collected in connection with bank deposits from the five leading countries—Argentine, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile and Peru.

In 1914 the total value of bank deposits in the above named countries amounted to $986,326,252, while in 1918 it amounted to $1,089,750,893, an increase of over $100,000,000.

The following figures show how each country increased its bank deposits during the war period:

| | 1914. | 1918. |
|---|---|---|
| Argentine | $609,942,900 | $1,207,744,870 |
| Bolivia | 7,563,726 | 13,885,551 |
| Brazil | 236,000,304 | 371,679,514 |
| Chile | 97,119,841 | 177,620,519 |
| Peru | 35,717,472 | 39,520,437 |

### Shipyard Concession Sought.

The shipping firm of Burmeister & Wain of Copenhagen is negotiating with the Mexican Government for the purpose of obtaining concessions for the construction of shipyards in the Republic of Mexico. The Mexican Charge d'Affaires in Copenhagen has informed the shipping men that the Mexican Government will give every possible cooperation consistent with the laws of the country in the construction of the yards. Just where the yards will be located has not been announced.

### Low Rates Stimulate Shipping.

According to an announcement made by the United Shipping Board last week noticeable stimulation in American shipping to South America has been the immediate result of the recent reduction in freight rates.

### Cuba Adopts Electoral Reforms.

HAVANA, Aug. 10.—The electoral reforms sanctioned by the Cuban Congress will be put into effect immediately. Some of the important features of the new law include the reorganization of all political parties, and prohibition of employes of the government, provinces or cities from political conventions. The law also prohibits the naming of presidential candidates before the year in which elections are to be held.

HOTELS. | HOTELS.

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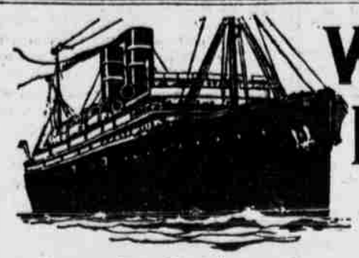

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# THE TRUTH ABOUT MEXICO

## IS THERE A CONSPIRACY AGAINST MEXICO?

¶ There are many people who fail to understand the reasons for the increasing campaign which is being carried on by well known enemies of Mexico to bring about intervention; but, is not the origin for these activities accounted for by the knowledge they themselves have that each day the opportunities to accomplish their objective are less because each day the Government of President Carranza is more strongly organized and the general conditions of the country are remarkably improving?

¶ This is the only explanation that can be found for the increase, at this time, of their mischievous campaign against Mexico, which is being carried on more vigorously than when Mexico was really in a state of revolution.

¶ Who can deny that there exists now in Mexico a Government ready to fulfil its international obligations as soon as the complete pacification of the country, which is of the utmost importance, is accomplished? The enemies of Mexico have not been able to quote a single statement or a single act of the Mexican Government showing that these are not its intentions nor can they mention a single instance in which Mexico has ever repudiated any of its international obligations.

¶ If Mexico's creditors are convinced of the natural wealth of the country, and therefore, of its solvency, as its total public debt up to June 30, 1919, amounted only to $264,786,042.62 U. S. currency, that is, $16 per capita, would it not be wiser not to hamper the legally constituted Government of Mexico in its relations with foreign countries?

¶ And to think that the Mexican Government does not request the aid of those elements, but wishes merely to be left alone and unhindered!

¶ Would it not be better to do thus than to provoke scandals, taking advantage of deplorable accidents suffered by foreigners, when it is evident that these accidents happen at isolated places, and which may occur the world over, in cities as well as in uninhabited regions?

¶ What is wise, judicious and sensible, is not to place obstacles in the way of the Government of Mexico in its patriotic effort toward the betterment of social, industrial and economic conditions for the benefit of nationals and foreigners within the national territory.

Information regarding Mexican commercial, financial or statistical matters can be obtained by addressing Financial Agent of the Mexican Government, 120 Broadway, New York. Department A.