

**Railways In Mexico;
Ruin and Havoc
Wrought by Revolution**

PRESIDENT E. N. BROWN of the Nacionales de Mexico (the National Railways of Mexico), the largest railroad in the Mexican republic, has been on a visit to this country and has been in consultation with some prominent railway presidents. The Nacionales railroad is very much in the eyes of the American public just at the present time. It has suffered heavily at the hands of the rebels, who have destroyed a large part of the property, and more damage is still threatened. The Nacionales railway represents an investment of \$834,000,000 Mexican or about \$417,000,000 in our money. At one stage of the revolution the value of its property seized by rebels was approximately \$225,000,000.

The last report of the Nacionales de Mexico recently made public deals with the operations during the fiscal year ending June 30 last. The company's gross earnings, which were \$61,447,000 (Mexican) in 1912, declined \$4,077,000 in the past year. A surplus of \$2,484,000 earned in 1912 was reduced to \$723,000 last year, and after paying one dividend of 2 per cent on the first preferred stock, there remained a deficit of \$468,000 at the close of the year. This reduces the company's surplus from previous years to \$99,000 (Mexican) or about \$49,500 in United States gold coin.

"It will be recalled that reference was made last year to the difficulty of selling at a fair price any of the prior lien bonds or guaranteed general mortgage bonds, and the consequent necessity of meeting the financial requirements by the issuance of short term

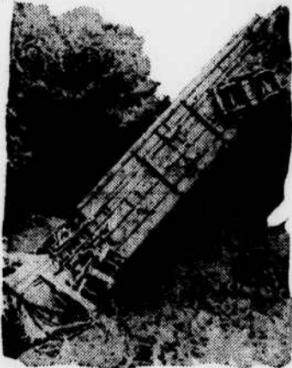


Photo by American Press Association
RECENT WRECK CAUSED BY REVOLUTIONISTS.

notes," says Luis Elguero, chairman of the board of directors. "It is with regret that I have to advise that this difficulty still exists and in a more intense form, for while the world's investment markets have improved slightly, conditions in Mexico have been considerably more disturbed than they were in the previous year, making it practically impossible to sell any of the company's bonds.

"The board fully appreciates the undesirability of issuing short term obligations, but unfortunately the company's position, combined with the general financial conditions throughout the world, has rendered it impossible to adopt any other course."

The report goes on to say: "As is well known, the conditions which have prevailed throughout the country have affected principally the railway lines. In addition to damage done to the physical properties, the disturbances and interruptions had a marked effect on the gross earnings, while at the same time the constant reconstruction work made necessary to keep the lines in operation increased materially the operating expenses."

Since Madero and Suarez were shot to death in Mexico City last February 5,000 miles of railroad in Mexico, worth \$300,000,000, have been seized by rebels or bandits and plundered or destroyed.

Some of the money is now represented by heaps of ashes. Some is accounted for in stretches of desolate roadbed, untraveled by trains for many days. Of other millions nothing is left to tell the tale of destruction. From Monterey to San Luis Potosi, three hundred and odd crooked miles, not a station is standing with the single exception of the station at Saltillo. Four hundred wooden bridges along this right of way have been burned. Iron and steel bridges have been blown up with dynamite saved from looted storehouses. The rebels made a bonfire of a million dollars' worth of rolling stock the night that Monterey fell.

A thousand miles or thereabouts of railroad that cost \$50,000 a mile to build and equip may or may not parallel the coast of the gulf of California. It was there a few months ago. It has not been heard from since.

Chihuahua, Hermosillo, Torreon, Matamoros, Saltillo, Monclova, Monterey—a chain of cities and towns whose names could be linked in many paragraphs—attest the widespread destruction to railroad property during the last twelve months.

With the cessation or interruption of railroad traffic the great industries along the lines were compelled, of course, to shut down. Their idle employees swelled the rebels' ranks by many thousands. Reports of shut-downs became so common that they were no longer published with the acrimony they would have commanded in less strenuous times.

EDUCATOR OF CHILDREN.

Dr. Maria Montessori Returns Home After Lecture Trip In This Country.
Dr. Maria Montessori has sailed for her home in Rome, Italy, after making a tour of the eastern section of this country and lecturing in various cities. She is the founder of the Casa dei Bambini (Houses of Childhood), the system of kindergarten education which trains infants and young children, without corrections, rewards or punishments, to develop their own lives. Her theories are wielding an influence which may fairly be called revolutionary.



DR. MARIA MONTESSORI.

olutionary. Undoubtedly she takes rank with Froebel and Pestalozzi among the great pathmakers of education.

She has quite a following in this country. The Montessori school as it exists in America, conducted in connection with social settlements, public and private schools, through the co-operation of mothers in a community, even in the church school, is a place where rewards and punishments are abolished, where the individual child is observed and directed mentally and physically, and the children are allowed to select those educational materials which they need at their special stage of development.

INVADER OF THE TRANSVAAL

The Once Famous Dr. Jameson Made Head of a South African Company.

Sir Leander Starr Jameson, doctor, pioneer, leader of the famous raid which prefaced the Boer war and premier of Cape Colony from 1904 to 1908, has found a fresh field for his energies as head of the Chartered Company of South Africa, which has millions of acres of grazing land that it plans to turn into ranches.

Jameson, as a young doctor, went to South Africa when he was told that his



DR. (NOW SIR) LEANDER STARR JAMESON.

lungs could not stand the climate of England. At Cape Town he became the leading surgeon, and gossip credited him with an income of £10,000 a year. But he gave up his practice to ally himself with the empire builder, Cecil Rhodes. Alone and unarmed, Jameson traveled to the court of the powerful and dreaded Matabele chief Lobengula, and gained from him concessions which meant enormous wealth for Rhodes' company. He had lived three months in Lobengula's kraal and cured the chief of gout. Subsequently Jameson paid another visit to Lobengula's capital at the head of a punitive expedition which defeated the Matabeles in two battles and added 750,000 square miles to the British possessions.

In 1896 came Jameson's filibustering invasion of the Transvaal, which ended in the capture of the leader, his being sent to England for trial, his sentence to penal servitude and his imprisonment for ten months. He was released after a breakdown in health. His own view of the raid was once given as follows:

"A revolution, to be justified, must be successful. Ours was not. I made a mistake, and I got fifteen months. I deserved fifteen years—for failure." Jameson entered the Cape parliament in 1900. He was the author of important reforms, especially in the treatment of the Dutch after the Boer war. He was knighted in 1911.

Woman's World

Mrs. M. McCormick,
Suffrage Chairman.



MRS. MEDILL MCCORMICK.

Mrs. Medill McCormick, prominent society woman of Chicago, and a leading figure in suffrage circles, recently accepted the chairmanship of the congressional committee of the National Suffrage association.

It was said that Mrs. McCormick would go to Washington immediately to assume the duties of her new office.

The Woman Who Keeps on Trying.
She put on the tombstone of a Massachusetts woman. "She tried to do what she couldn't." The epitaph might be considered humorous, but read in another light it seems to point to a splendid quality in character.

Pride often keeps a woman toiling and thinking beyond her strength for the benefit of others. She refuses to surrender. Her life means nothing to her except as it is given day by day to those she loves. For them she makes a continual sacrifice and denies herself and takes up her cross. She does not tell all she feels and knows. She has learned to suffer in silence and to communicate her joy. The sympathy of such a woman counts for, like Dido of Carthage centuries ago, she has been through tribulation herself, and therefore she knows how to be the comfort and the stay of others.

The woman who continues to do her best in adversity inspires others, though she may not know it. She is as a shining beacon set on a hill in the darkness of other lives. They argue that, as she is strong and brave and not to be defeated, what woman has done woman can do. Even though it should cease to be worth while to try on one's own account, it is always worth while to persevere for the sake of those who might give up if we surrendered.

Montessori's Farewell.

Dr. Montessori came to America to explain her educational system, and to learn. What she says of America may help us to understand all peoples and ourselves. Says this gifted observer:

"Your wonderful country is one of the hopes of the civilized world. The feel of youth is in the air and the soil. You will rear here the greatest race that the world has ever known. It is in your blood.

"The mixing of the people of the earth will produce a great posterity. I must bow with humility to the American mother. She is one of the great wonders of your growing race." This tribute to the American nation is well deserved. And that a great teacher expresses it adds to its emphasis. The American mother is all right. Let her critics cease their railings!

Dress Bags.

In the average house closets are not built to eliminate the dust of the atmosphere. It is for this reason every suit and gown should have its own case or covering. The case should be made a little more than the width of the hanger to slip the dress or suit into. They can be purchased for \$1.50, but why not include them in one's handwork for spare moments? Have the opening of the bag about fifteen inches from the hanger.

This opening might represent the joining of the cloth with the upper part lapping over a good two inches. For convenience sake have a lengthwise opening of eight inches. Fastenings may be by tape or buttons and buttonholes. The length of the bag depends upon whether it is to be used for suits or dresses.

Against the Bachelors.

Women in Pennsylvania have begun a campaign against the bachelor legislators. They will ask the voters of the state to substitute married men instead of the unmarried wherever one of the latter has been nominated for congress. There are said to be quite a number of unmarried men at Harrisburg, and it is contended that they do not understand the interests of the state as well as husbands and fathers.

Women to Edit Newspaper.

John C. Shaffer, owner of several newspapers in Chicago, Denver and elsewhere, has bought the Index, a weekly, at Evanston, Ill. The paper will be run exclusively by women. Miss Hetty Cattell of Denver will be managing editor. There will be a woman sporting editor, a woman city editor, etc.

SHOE ON THE OTHER FOOT.

Why John Was So Eager That Mother Meet His Adored One.

"CONGRATULATE me, mother! Congratulations to me, mother!" exultingly exclaimed John Loveluck, bursting in upon his mother and sister. "Ruth Sweetly has accepted me, and I'm the happiest man alive!" "Why, John," simultaneously exclaimed his hearers, "We hardly know her, you know."

"Yes, I know. But she is the dearest, sweetest, loveliest girl in the world," said John Loveluck, "and I want you to go with me and call on her tomorrow afternoon."

"Um-um! I don't think I can go tomorrow," said his mother. "And I'm sure I can't," said Lizzie. "Bother!" said John. "Can't you arrange it somehow?"

"I'm sure she's a nice girl," said his mother. "I know my John wouldn't engage himself to any one his mother didn't approve of."

"Of course not," said John. "I don't see why you're in such a hurry to have us call on her," said Lizzie. "You'll marry her whether we like her or not."

"Approve of her? Like her?" said John. "Why, I want to know whether she likes you."—"Puck.

Calling the Bluff.

The following exchange of courtesy was recently chronicled in a German paper's advertisements:

"The gentleman who found a brown purse containing a sum of money in the Blumenstrasse is requested to forward it to the address of the loser, as he is recognized."

A couple of days later appeared the response, which, although courteous, had an ominous air, to say the least:

"The recognized gentleman who picked up a brown purse in the Blumenstrasse requests the loser to call at his house at a convenient day."—"Everybody's."

Busy Police.

"Gent uptown telephones for an of ficer at once. Burglar in the house."

"Let me see," said the captain reflectively. "I've got four men out censoring plays, two inspecting the gowns at a society function and two more supervising a tango tea. Tell him I can send him an officer in about two hours."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Difficulty.

"I thought you were going to save so much of your salary every week?"

"That was my New Year's resolution."

"Are you doing it?"

"I started out to, but the wife kicked when I started to take the savings out of her allowance."—Detroit Free Press.

His Pound of Flesh.

Chauffeur—When you sold me that car you said you'd replace broken parts.

Dealer—I certainly will live up to my contract. What's broken?

Chauffeur—Three ribs, an arm and my New Year's resolution not to swear.—Philadelphia Ledger.

True to Life.

Church—What part did he take in the play?

Gotham—He took the part of a janitor of a flat.

"Was it true to life?"

"Sure; the house was cold."—Yonkers Statesman.

In the Asylum.

"Why is that man over yonder keeping up such an awful mowing with his mouth?"

"He? Oh, he's a former suburbanite, and he thinks his wife is calling him to go to work on the lawn."—Baltimore American.

Unpardonable.

"What are your reasons for wanting a divorce, madam?" inquired the judge.

"Failure to support."

"But you live in apparent luxury."

"He failed to support me for a nomination that I wanted."—Washington Press.

No Relief Anywhere.

Conductor of motor bus on the avenue—Passengers all out. We've punctured a tire.

Old Gentleman—By Jove! It's as bad as riding in your own car.—Life.

Thought He Had Something.

"He made every dollar of his fortune honestly."

"Is that so? I thought he was richer than that."—Detroit Free Press.

Comparisons.

Dear, when we dance together you seem but a sylph and I a pig. Your little shoe is number two; mine—well, it's big!

And when I hold your hand in mine your little fingers lightly fall. My glove, I think, is number nine; yours—well, it's small!

So tiny you from foot to glove. So mighty I, who dare not speak. For what I earn per year, my love, You spend per week! —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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