

CHICKASHA DAILY EXPRESS

GEO. H. EVANS, Publisher and Business Manager. WM. T. LAMPE, Managing Editor.

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TAFT, WILSON AND MEXICO

In an address Saturday Col. Roosevelt denounced the Mexican policy of the administration, declaring it to be "rainous to Mexico, dishonorable to ourselves and infamous from the standpoint of humanity."

It is interesting to note that criticism equally as harsh was directed against President Taft in connection with Mexican matters. In September, 1912, the Baton Rouge Times declared that "the American flag is only a rag in Mexico" and other papers repeated the sentiment.

In April, 1911, when Senator Stone, Democrat, insisted that President Taft take drastic steps to restore order in Mexico, Senator Root, Republican, opposing the use of force, said such a course would "reverse the policy of the U. S. and would be a 'step backward in the path of civilization.'"

To judge justly concerning the criticism of Col. Roosevelt and other Republicans who are now attacking the administration's Mexican record, it is well to look into history and see how the last Republican president handled the same matter. Here is the record, as set forth by the Democratic National committee:

Mr. Taft became president on March 4, 1909. Within twenty months after Mr. Taft's inauguration, trouble in serious form broke out in Mexico, and during all of the balance of his administration, this trouble continued.

On November 8, 1910, there was rioting in Mexico City. The American flag was destroyed, the windows of American residences and business houses were broken. A street car containing American school children was stoned and the son of the United States ambassador was assaulted. These disturbances continued during

November 9th.

On November 10th there was rioting in Guadalajara. The American flag was burned and windows of American banks and stores were broken. These disturbances continued two or three days.

On November 10, 1910, there was rioting at various points in Mexico. American consulates were wrecked and the records of the consulates were destroyed.

On November 15, 1910, the Madero revolution broke out and from that date on there was general disorder in Mexico.

On March 7, 1911, twenty thousand United States regulars were mobilized along the Mexican border.

On April 13, 1911, Mexican forces took Agua Prieta, opposite Douglas, Arizona. In Douglas, Arizona, three Americans were killed and five were wounded.

On April 4, 1911, Mexicans again attacked Agua Prieta, half the town of Douglas, Arizona, was under fire of Mexican guns. On that occasion seven Americans were wounded. Governor Sloan of Arizona called upon President Taft for the protection of Americans. The president replied declining to take military action.

On October 10 and 11, 1911, Mexican rebels attacked and captured Juarez. One thousand American troops patrolled the American border and in El Paso Texas, five Americans were killed and seventeen wounded.

On May 12, 1911, Secretary of State Knox sent to Mexico City a note denying that the United States intended to intervene.

On March 29, 1912, rifles were sent to the American legation in Mexico City for the protection of American citizens. American colonists in Northern Mexico flocked across the border, and there was great damage to American property by the Mexican rebels.

On April 14, 1912, the state department warned Madero and Orozco against further outrages to American lives and property.

That all occurred prior to the presidential election of 1912.



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On December 4, 1912, President Taft, in a message to congress described his Mexican policy, which was practically the same as Mr. Wilson's has been, and he called it the policy of "patient non-intervention."

On February 9, 1913, there was an uprising against the Mexican government in Mexico City. Many days of street fighting followed. Several hundred Mexican civilians were killed, including two American women.

It was in February, during President Taft's administration, that Madero was killed and Huerta demanded recognition; but there was no recognition of Huerta and no intervention under the Taft administration.

On March 15, 1911, a few days more than two years after President Taft was inaugurated and about two years before his term expired, President Taft addressed a letter to the chief of staff, and in that letter he declined to do the very things Republicans are now denouncing President Wilson for not doing.

Following is an extract from President Taft's letter:

"The assumption by the press that I contemplate intervention on Mexican soil to protect American lives or property, is of course gratuitous, because I seriously doubt whether I have such authority. . . . Indeed, as you know, I have already declined, without Mexican consent, to order a troop of cavalry to protect the breakwater we are constructing just across the border in Mexico at the mouth of the Colorado river to save the Imperial Valley, although the insurgents have scattered the Mexican troops and were taking our horses and supplies and frightening our workmen away."

On April 17, 1911, the governor of Arizona sent a telegram to the president, reading in part as follows: "As a result of today's fighting across the international line, but within gunshot range on this side of the line. . . . In my judgment radical measures are needed to protect our innocent people. . . . It will be impossible to safe-guard the people of Douglas unless the town be vacated."

To this telegram President Taft replied as follows: "The situation might justify me in ordering our troops across the border. . . . but if I take this step, I must face the possibility of greater resistance and greater bloodshed, and also the danger of having our motives misconstrued and misrepresented, and of thus inflaming Mexican popular indignation. . . . It is impossible to foresee or reckon the consequences of such a course; and we must use the greatest self-restraint to avoid it. I cannot therefore order the troops at Douglas to cross the border, but I must ask you and the local authorities in case the same danger occurs, to direct the people of Douglas to place themselves where bullets can not reach them, and thus avoid casualty."

The only difference between the Wilson policy and the Taft policy was that Mr. Wilson called it "watchful waiting," while Mr. Taft called it "patient non-intervention." (See Message 1912.)

Too Wide for His Mouth. Teacher—"Freddie, you mustn't laugh out loud in the schoolroom." Freddie—"I didn't mean to do it. I was just smiling and the smile busted."

OPEN LETTER TO HUGHES Dear Mr. Hughes: You'll please excuse My dullness if I seem obtuse, or fail to properly entuse, When you break loose.

The papers give me all the news And more advice than I can use; But when I try to get you views On public questions, then I lose My patience, and I sigh and say "Oh, what's the use!"

I give the devil all his dues; I rather liked you, Mr. Hughes, When you were judge. But when you choose To be a knocker and abuse Our President, I must refuse To read your "goose."

The Democrats you still accuse; Your lamentations I peruse. These may alarm—they can't amuse, And thinking men they won't confuse; But altogether, Brother Hughes, You're too profuse.

One final word before adieux: If you would stand in Wilson's shoes You'll have to try some other ruse— For, by the gods, you're going to lose! The Republican party will get its dues; You'de up against it, Mr. Hughes. —Luther H. Rice, Columbia, Mo., September, 1916.

Now walk right up to the trough—it's Pay-Up Week. St Simp says he always succeeds with his undertakings except when he fails.

Furthermore, it is pretty hard to head off a widower when he decides to go again.

Are you celebrating Pay-Up Week? Better pay the first time if you don't want the collectors to call again.

But any motorist will tell you that there is mighty little pleasure in speeding when it costs \$5 per throw.

While not consumed by high ambitions, we don't mind admitting that we prefer a "place in the sun" on those cool mornings.

Another way to economize is to write on both sides of the paper, but don't do it when you are preparing "copy" for the press—it has a tendency to make printers and editors use profane language.

Called down by Sam Durbin and numerous other Shakespearean authorities, the Express hastens to confess that it was Shylock, not Sherlock, who insisted upon having the amount named in the bond. Have pity—even Homer nodded occasionally.

A STOLEN SMILE 'ER TWO.

Old Fashioned. Daughter—What does old fashioned mean?

Mother—Anything that I think is right and you don't, dear.

A Modern Version. Tommy had been learning the story of Creation for his Sunday school teacher, but she found him not quite word-perfect. "What did God say," she asked, "after He had made the heavens and the earth?" "He said, 'Let there be light,' and— and He pushed the button."

Teacher—"Freddie, you mustn't laugh out loud in the schoolroom." Freddie—"I didn't mean to do it. I was just smiling and the smile busted."

EXPRESS PACKETTES. The pay-up game has now begun. All day collectors on the run Have garnered in our hard-earned fun— We have to smile as tho' 'twere fun.

Revival meeting starts—quit your meanness. Even the preachers are in favor of Pay-Up Week.

J. W. Kayser will not decide till after the election whether to make the little fellow associate editor or assistant postmaster.