

Mexico's Economic Situation Growing Worse Under Obregon

The Military Situation Is Better, International Situation In Status Quo and Business In Bad Shape After Two Years Of Rule By the Successor To Carranza.

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Mexico City, Nov. 22.—A military situation that is decidedly better, an economic situation that is without doubt worse, and an international situation that is in status quo. These are the terms used by impartial observers here to describe conditions in Mexico as they were on December 1 when President Obregon completed the second year of his administration. Combined optimism and pessimism are expressed by persons who, during the past 24 months, have watched General Alvaro Obregon, the revolutionary successor of President Carranza, unfold his program of national reconstruction which, according to him and his adherents, is to lift Mexico from turbulence and rebellion to a place of dignity and credit among the nations of the world.

It cannot be denied that Mexico today is more at peace than at any time during the past decade. Rebel leaders of importance have either been killed or have fled in battle. General Francisco Murguía, the most pretentious rebel, was executed last October following his capture at Tepic, Durango, by federal forces. His death was closely followed by that of General Juan Carrasco, who for many months had terrorized the west coast, principally in the state of Sinaloa. The elimination of these two revolutionaries had a salutary effect upon lesser rebel chiefs who, according to war office statements, have made requests for amnesty in large numbers. Each case is being decided upon its individual merits.

Mexico as yet is not wholly at peace. Every state harbors its disgruntled elements which at times adopt harassing tactics, sack villages, blowing up trains and pillaging haciendas. Marie Ferrer heads considerable forces in Oaxaca; Miguel Aleman and others are heard from frequently in Vera Cruz; Puebla, Jalisco, Hidalgo, Michoacan

and Guerrero each has its well known malcontents. The northern tier of states—Tamaulipas, Coahuila and Chihuahua—also reports outbreaks, but these are said by federal authorities to be inspired by rebels operating from the United States side of the international boundary. Among those cited as the chief conspirators are Candido Aguilar, Pablo Gonzalez, Esteban Cantu and Manuel Palafox. All these men, however, from time to time during the past few months, have disclaimed any intention to start trouble in Mexico.

The army has been reduced to approximately 20,000 men, and the war office budget for 1923 shows a material reduction from that for 1922. Trains are running everywhere and new highways are being opened. These facts are pointed to by friends of President Obregon as substantial proof of the assertions that the era of nationwide peace is near at hand. Economically, Mexico is not in as good condition as it was a year ago. The absence of United States recognition has withheld the anticipated influx of foreign capital, and business is at a virtual standstill. Money is tight and banks are loaning only on a tight security. The general economic situation in Mexico has shown no improvement during the month of October, and conditions are somewhat worse, says a report to the United States department of commerce by John P. Bushnell, acting trade commissioner in Mexico, covering the current month. This situation is due to the gradual decrease in the purchasing power of the population and the low state of general production. Up to the end of October the national congress had failed to pass any legislation which would have a remedial effect on existing economic conditions of certain labor laws by some domestic conditions. This, with the en-states, is causing some apprehension. The agrarian policy of the administration continues to be enforced.

Summed up, there is a general lack of confidence in commercial circles that is reflected in decreased sales and production.

The most optimistic note in the economic situation arises from the agreement reached last June in New York between Secretary de la Hueria and representatives of Mexico's foreign creditors. The treasury department says that the 12,000,000 pesos necessary for the initial interest payment due next January 3 is now on deposit and that the remainder of the 24,000,000 pesos to be paid next year will be available on the prescribed dates. If Mexico meets these payments promptly, financial circles admit that business stability will be greatly increased.

The past year has seen no forward step taken toward recognition of Mexico by the United States. Great Britain or France, in fact, the deadlock which has existed ever since Secretary Hughes made his famous demand that Americans rights in Mexico be secured by treaty, has merely been emphasized. President Obregon and the foreign office have reiterated that to sign such a treaty would stultify national honor. Secretary Hughes is insistent that proper guarantees for life and property be given, and there are no indications that either side will recede.

Twenty-six nations have now recognized the Obregon regime, including Germany, China, Japan, Italy, Holland, Sweden and virtually all of the South and Central American countries.

President Obregon has a congress, elected last September, that is distinctly favorable to him in the lower house and not openly antagonistic in the senate. The chamber of deputies ratified without dissenting vote the de la Hueria agreement and has signified a willingness to give full consideration to the various projects of law which the chief executive either has submitted or plans to submit. Among these are a regulation of Article 27, which is the thorn of disagreement in international affairs; an amendment to Article 123 dealing with labor and numerous other measures concerned with domestic reconstruction.

Despite rumors of disagreement and personal jealousies, the "Big Three" continue to direct in the main the destinies of the republic. President Obregon, Secretary of Interior Calles and Secretary of the Treasury de la Hueria have maintained throughout the past two years a

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Don't forget to visit our stores when you are doing your Xmas shopping.

- Oranges by the peck . 60c
- Apples by the peck . 60c
- Apples by the box . \$3.50
- Broken mixture candy, per lb. 15c
- Malaga grapes, per lb. 30c
- Tokay grapes, per lb. 25c
- English walnuts, per lb. 34c
- Almonds, per lb. 34c
- Brazil nuts, per lb. 20c
- Mixed nuts, per lb. 25c
- Filberts, per lb. 20c
- Pecans, per lb. 70c
- Tangerines, per doz. . 40c
- Imported Figs, per lb. 20c
- Stewing Figs, per lb. . 20c
- Raisins, per lb. 25c
- Cranberries, per qt. . 18c
- Chrystallized Cherries per lb. 80c
- Chrystallized Pineapple, per lb. 80c
- Currents, per pkg. . . 28c

SPECIAL
Carolina Maid Fruit Cake, 5 lb. \$3.21
P. S.—Our stores open evenings this week so you can shop after supper.

The U-SAVE-IT Stores

- Store No. 1
HENRY HUNTER
122 North Elm
- Store No. 2
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Cor. W. Lee and Ashe Sts.
- Store No. 3
HUNTER AND HUNTER
McAdoo Heights

Old Eskimo Women Pushed From Cliffs To Their Deaths

(Detroit News.)
Christian Leden, the Norwegian explorer, spent many years among the Eskimos.

No other white man was with Mr. Leden. He lived with the Eskimos and slept in their crowded igloos made of ice and kept always below freezing to prevent the roof from thawing and dripping down on the sleeping occupants.

He tells strange tales of the Eskimo women of how, when they are old and unable to continue the ceaseless wandering, they are killed, and themselves conveniently asking to be led to some high cliff and pushed off.

The young women, however, are not so casually treated. Often a bride will run away from her husband as many as three times, returning to her father's home. And each time the patient husband goes back, pleading and coaxing and fetching her gently home again instead of battling her over the head with the bones of a whale.

Often accustomed to each other, however, they usually remain faithful—though occasionally two couples will become quite chummy and trade wives.

SEE NO PRICE DROP.

Committee Advises Acceptance Of Present Levels.

(New York Herald.)
No drop in prices to the prewar level is to be expected for the next 10 years in the opinion of the Harvard committee on economic research. Prof. Charles J. Bullock, chairman of the committee, said recently at the first session of a national conference of subscribers to the Harvard economic service at the Harvard club of Boston.

"Business is affected by price movements," he said, "more than by any other single factor. The probable movement of commodity prices during the next 10 years is, therefore, of especial importance at a time when the revival of business activity is clearly disclosed."

"The plausible inference that prices must return to a pre-war normal has frequently been drawn from the fact that prices have reverted to their former levels after previous periods of currency inflation in the early and middle nineteenth century. The Harvard committee, however, cannot find that the governing conditions exist today which brought about lower price levels in the past."

"If we are prepared to accept, as apparently we must, the present price level as substantially that around which the fluctuations of the business cycle must play during the coming decade we can contribute powerfully to financial stability throughout the world. Any final war we wage consistently to this view, we can make it clear that little indulgence can be expected by debtors who adopt policies calculated to increase indefinitely the burden of debt inherited from the great war."

Some people live to a ripe old age, while others step on the throttle instead of the brake.

TURKEYS

We've got 'em 12 to 35 lbs.

Also
Fine Fat Hens and Fryers

Lettuce, celery, cranberries, grapes, apples, grapefruit, tangerines, English walnuts, soft shell almonds and cream nuts.

Cakes From All the Leading Bakeries Plain, Layer and Fruit

Our stock consists of too many things to enumerate. Let us know your wants. We can supply you.

To the Holiday Trade
Nice juicy oranges 65c peck
Phone your order early for prompt delivery. Quality and service unsurpassed.

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For the Feast

We are ready for Christmas with a wonderful line of holiday goods—everything that will make the big Christmas feast a happy one.

Cranberries, Celery, lettuce, beets, collards, Sweetsweet oranges and grapefruit, Tokay grapes, apples, tangerines, raisins, figs, dates, fresh cocoanuts.

Young hens and fryers, fancy nuts and candies of all kinds, Carolina Maid Fruit Cake.

Greene Street Cash Store

259 North Greene Street Phone 832

Your Christmas Dinner

will not be complete unless there is **Meat On the Table**

Let us supply you, so you can rest assured that you are getting the best.

Sliced cured country ham, also pork hams. Let this be your Christmas Market

Young Hens, Turkeys and Fryers, Dressed or Alive.
Choice cuts in native beef, pork veal and lamb.
Fancy Oysters and Fish.

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Sweet Florida Oranges, per pk. 65c

We have just received a shipment of these juicy oranges direct from the grove and are selling them at an attractive price.

We Are Headquarters For Xmas Nuts

Jumbo soft shell pecans, California Diamond Brand Budded walnuts, paper shell almonds and butter nuts.

Apples, tangerines, Turkish figs, dates, Christmas candies and fruit cakes. Full line of holiday goods. We deliver.

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Buy at Cotten's—You Can't Do Better

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Extra fancy celery, per bunch 10c
Merchant's Fruit Cake, pound 60c
Cranberries, lettuce, apples, oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, fresh cocoanuts, raisins, figs, dates.

Young Hens and Fryers
Fresh Country Eggs
Christmas Candles and Nuts

Orders Taken Now For Fresh Cream

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Your Wife's Idea of a Real Christmas Present

Perhaps she hasn't told you so—the little wife, mother or sister who still bends over an ancient cook stove, kindling fires, sifting ashes, lifting heavy coal buckets—but she'd like a bright, shiny new gas range for her Christmas present.

Come in and See the Different Styles.

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NOT THE PLACE FOR A BATTLE

Every rush hour in the ordinary grocery store rages the battle for a place in line. The reward to the winner is the doubtful privilege of being "next."

But is a grocery store the place for a battle?

If you don't think it is, you'll like PIGGLY WIGGLY. You'll like the ease and comfort with which you can select what you want and take your time about it. You'll like the cleanliness, to, and the orderliness of everything and the reasonableness of ALL the prices.


In fact, you'll like the PIGGLY WIGGLY Plan. You'll see the saving in paying cash and carrying home your purchases.

See for yourself how ideal it is—there's a PIGGLY WIGGLY near your home.

For our Christmas trade we have a wonderful assortment of candies, nuts, fruits, vegetables and fancy groceries. We wish to call particular attention to our candies, both box and bulk. The quality and prices are right.

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This item is just one of the many money saving values in our stock. Get our prices before you buy good eats for your table.

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