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MEXICAN MERCHANT FLEES; TELLS OF CHAOS

No Hope of Peace in Mexico Until Strong Hand Takes Hold, Says Morales.

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 24.—A graphic story, illustrating the chaotic conditions prevailing in Mexico, is told by Senor Augustin Morales, formerly a prosperous manufacturer of vegetable oils at Morelia, Michoacan, which adjoins Mexico province. Morales has just joined the Mexican refugee colony in Los Angeles with his wife and two children.

"There can be no hope of peace in Mexico until a strong hand seizes the reins of government and suppresses a multitude of great and petty chieftains who are spreading ruin and devastation, murdering and torturing a helpless people with no other object than self-aggrandizement and self-enrichment," said Morales.

"The oil business that I had in Morelia was handed down to me by my father. It had been in our family for generations. But there came the revolution. I was neither a Maderista, a Villista, a Zapatista nor a Carranzista. I was made to face death again and again.

"My native State of Michoacan is one of the districts which have suffered most of the revolutions. One day there came marching into Pantoja with an armed force of men a leader who called himself General Panjota. He commanded every automobile in the city. I ventured to protest humbly that the machine was needed in my business and that, owing to the condition of the country, I could scarcely procure another. Pantoja ordered me thrown into jail immediately, and I was forthwith sentenced to be hanged. But I had with me an old schoolmate, Domingo Samano, and he and Pantoja happened

to be friendly. Samano obtained my release, but he dared not ask the restitution of the automobile. I was being led out to the executive when the order to set me free arrived.

"One of the conditions of my liberation was that I order a number of tires for the machine. I did so, but traffic on the railways was interrupted at times and always uncertain. Pantoja wearied of waiting for the tires and, in order to expedite their arrival he had me thrown into jail again, and once more sentenced to be hanged. I managed to send word of my plight to Samano on his ranch at Pumandiro, and once more his intercession saved me. You see, senor, it is all a matter of drag with those people, but there are so many of them that one cannot have friends who know them all, and in the end comes one who brings ruin and death.

"General Pantoja was killed in a battle shortly after that, but my troubles were not yet over. There came a General Sanchez one afternoon. He called the 500 members of the Chamber of Commerce of Morelia together and ordered us to give him 50,000 pesos before sundown. The banks had been looted and we found it impossible to raise such a large sum in so short a time. Sanchez ordered the arrest and execution by a firing squad of the last man of us. But another band of revolutionists was approaching and Sanchez needed all his ammunition. He left in such a hurry that we were forgotten and managed to get out of jail.

"I was resting in my house one evening when some revolutionists called me out and showed me my old automobile in front of the door. It was a wreck. They ordered me to repair the mechanism immediately. I looked in the tool box and found it empty. I explained to them that the trouble could be easily righted with the necessary tools, but that I could not do it with my bare hands. Less than an hour later I was standing with my back against a blank wall and before me were a squad of soldiers with rifles and a man with a sword about to give the order to fire,

when friends ran up with a pardon they had obtained by providing the needed wrenches and tightening a few loose bolts.

"Sanchez, too, had been killed, but there are others—these generals are not all ignorant men, like the politicians, seeing only money and power, and the people are those who suffer."

"Don't you think, Mr. Morales," he was asked, "that American intervention would be the best?"

"Ah, senor," he answered dismally, "the pride of nationalism is deep-rooted, and it is hard to bring one to say yes, but I sometimes think so. Perhaps if the government would only give full recognition to one of the leaders, either Carranza or Villa, and quit turning from one to the other furnishing arms and ammunition for our murdering, then peace might come."

STUDYING HISTORY OF PINK BOLL WORM

Destructive Cotton Pest for the First Time is Discovered in North America.

(By Victor Elliott)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 25.—Entomologists in the government's service here are engaged in a study of the history of the pink boll worm, the most destructive of cotton pests, which for the first time has been discovered on the North American continent. It has caused several million dollars loss to cotton growers of Egypt, India and other cotton growing countries.

The pink boll worm spread from India to Egypt about eight years ago. Until recently it had been communicated to practically all the cotton growing countries of the world except the United States. To shut out the pest from these shores, this country had for years prohibited the in-

roduction into this country of cotton seed, seed cotton and cotton hulls from all cotton producing territories except six northern States in Mexico. Now such imports from this section have been barred also.

The Lagune district where the insect has been discovered is one of the most important cotton producing areas of Mexico. This region is an elevated plateau country near San Pedro, the State of Coahuila in central northern Mexico. Cotton culture is there more extensively prosecuted than anywhere else in Mexico.

The destructive insect is supposed to have been introduced into the Lagune district through the importation of seed from Egypt or other foreign countries in an effort to improve the grade of Mexican cotton.

The insect hibernates in the larval state of the seed. In this way it is readily carried to any quarter of the world by seed exportation. The adult insect is a small moth. The worm attacks the immature cotton bolls and in most cases reduces the yield fifty per cent. Besides, the amount of oil obtained from the seed of the infested cotton is lessened from fifteen to twenty per cent.

All cotton interests in the United States have been urged by the Department of Agriculture to assist the Federal authorities in preventing any movement in violation of the new amendments to the quarantine regulations promulgated by Secretary of Agriculture Houston seeking to prevent the worm from entering the United States.

GEORGE BRYANT, FORGER, RELEASED

Negro Served Thirty Days For Obtaining Money on Post-office Money Order.

George Bryant, colored, was yesterday discharged from the county jail after serving a thirty-day sentence imposed on him at the last term of District court held here, after he had pleaded guilty to forging a signature to a postoffice money order. In addition to the jail sentence, Bryant was taxed with the cost of the case and ordered to pay the amount of the money order, which was a little over eight dollars, to the party for whom it was intended, which has been done.

There are two George Bryants in New Bern and the money order received by the defendant was intended for the other man. The failure of the delivery of the order to the proper party was called to the attention of the postoffice department and an inspector put to work on the case, with the result that he soon had Bryant arraigned in United States Commissioner C. B. Hill's court, charged with forgery.

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INCORPORATED
The Home Furnishers
NEW BERN AND MOREHEAD CITY.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE

New Bern Banking and Trust Company,

AT NEW BERN, IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, NOVEMBER 17TH, 1916.

RESOURCES	
Loans and Discounts	\$474,451.47
Overdrafts Secured and Unsecured	3,470.45
All Other Stocks, Bonds and Mortgages	28,005.00
Banking Houses, Furniture and Fixtures	17,115.00
All Other Real Estate Owned	850.00
Due from National Banks	\$54,151.67
Cash Items	27,352.15
Gold Coin	60.00
Silver, coin, including all minor coin	
Currency	5,736.79
National bank notes and other U. S. Notes	12,094.00
TOTAL	\$623,286.53

LIABILITIES	
Capital Stock Paid In	\$100,000.00
Undivided profits, less current expenses and taxes paid	30,937.48
Dividends unpaid	20.00
Deposits subject to check	\$304,554.59
Trust Department	9,087.90
Time Certificates of Deposit	64,728.67
Savings Deposits	105,697.68
Cashier's Checks Outstanding	341.72
Bank Deposits	7,918.49
TOTAL	\$623,286.53

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, County of Craven, Nov. 24, 1916.

I, O. W. LANE, Cashier of the above-named Bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

O. W. LANE, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 25th day of November, 1916.

W. H. LEE,
(SEAL) Notary Public.

My com. expires March 20, 1917.

Correct—Attest:
T. A. GREEN,
WM. B. BLADES,
C. E. FOY,
Directors.