

The **AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL**

VOL. 27, NO. 5

MAY 1950





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VOL. 27 NO. 5

MAY 1950

COVER PICTURE: The Matamoros-Brownsville Gateway. Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico is in the background and Brownsville, Texas, USA lies in the foreground. The Rio Grande, with the international highway bridge near the center and the international railroad bridge in the upper right hand corner, divides the two cities. Photo courtesy Vice Consul Peter J. Raineri.

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Letters to the Editors

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SELECTION OUT

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To the Editors

AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

As I have repeatedly said, the whole trouble stems from the lack of guts shown by those in high places in the Foreign Service. Everyone knows what to do with deadwood; lop it off. But under our former personnel setup, no individual was ever willing to wield the ax. So instead of curing the evil by installing a personnel board that would have the stamina to fire ruthlessly those who do not meet the standards which a foreign service should possess, we evade our responsibility by setting up a mechanical device—the selection board—so that the deadwood can theoretically be painlessly and slowly discarded by slide rule methods, with no incriminations possible of invocation on FP, which can always piously explain that it had nothing to do with the selections. To those of us who remain human enough in our advancing years to harbor still a little strain of vindictiveness, it is pleasant now to sit back and enjoy the spectacle of FP grappling with Frankenstein and worrying as to whether the wrecking of the whole service by filling the top grades with great intellects for most of whom there will be no outlet except cutting each other's throats, is not a rather high price to pay in return for getting rid of a few misfits, drunks and loafers who deserve no consideration anyway, especially as in the process there is going to be a heavy mortality among the vast middle group of FSO's. For let no one kid us with nonsense about only a 10 to 12 per cent loss. Just inspect the statistical tables carefully and it will be easy to see that with so many officers now being regularly promoted every two years, it will be only a matter of five or six more years before the top grades will be so overloaded with intellect that there will be few openings for the new supermen moving up into the middle grades. Consequently, with increasingly rare exception, there will be no place at all for those just below the great intellects to go except out.

Other than the ruthlessness I have always preached, I have no solution to offer, at least not to those in the Office of the Foreign Service whose problem it is. For my fellow servicemen, however, I offer the reassurance of an old proverb: "Sit back in your doorway and watch the body of your enemy carried by."

ROBERT JANZ

TRANSPORTATION AND HOME LEAVE

Wentorf, Germany
February 28, 1950

To the Editors,

AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

As a junior Foreign Service Officer confronted for the first time with the problem of obtaining home leave, I am prepared to receive scant sympathy from my elders who can offer instance after instance of uninterrupted years spent abroad. I thus ask for your attention only because a recent circular memorandum* from the Supervisory Consul General at Frankfurt presents an aspect of the problem of

*Dated February 16, 1950.

(Continued on page 5)



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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

(Continued from page 3)

interest not only to those in Germany directly affected but to all Foreign Service personnel. This is the offer to provide eligible personnel with home leave by Army transportation.

The memorandum states that the Department has agreed "that Foreign Service Personnel employed on the regular and displaced persons program in Germany might be given statutory leave without taking into account the requirements of the Service elsewhere in this respect, *provided Army travel facilities to the United States and back are used.*" It is also indicated that those who refuse such transportation "will probably not receive leave orders during the remainder of the fiscal year." Incidentally, "The Army has agreed to supply surface transport, but not air accommodations, on a space available basis."

While this is undoubtedly intended to offer those eligible for home leave a desirable alternative to remaining longer in post-war Germany, it carries with it a tacit admission that the Department has once again failed to secure the leave funds which the Congress enacting the Foreign Service Act of 1946 intended us to have. Since a reliable estimate of the number of persons who would become eligible during fiscal 1950 was undoubtedly available, I fail to see how such a situation could have arisen so early as February. Let me herewith join the ranks of those who feel that the leave provision of the Act of 1946 should be either implemented or amended.

With particular reference to the offer of Army transportation I believe that most of us rightly or wrongly have come to regard "minimum first-class" transportation as



On the left V.C. Dallas Coors and on the right V.C. Margaret Kelley return home for leave from Saigon and Venice, respectively, aboard the Isle de France.

part of the compensation we expect in return for accepting positions requiring long absences from home. The many in the Foreign Service who have now had military service will scarcely be convinced that an Army transport by any stretch of the imagination can be called "first-class." Except for the fact that I was homeward bound, my one voyage on a troop ship was the most miserable I ever experienced; and I, for one, joined the Foreign Service on the assumption that whatever hardships it might offer there would not exist the same features which I found so obnoxious in military service.

Is, then, the proffered use of Army transportation to be regarded as an unfortunate emergency measure, which we can as yet feel free to decline; or will it serve as a precedent and means of avoiding a fundamental solution of the leave problem? If personnel from Germany can be carried by Army transport, there is probably room for those from Poland and Scandinavia and perhaps all of Europe; and the Army probably can be persuaded to make similar facilities available in the Orient. An economy-minded Congress

(Continued on page 7)



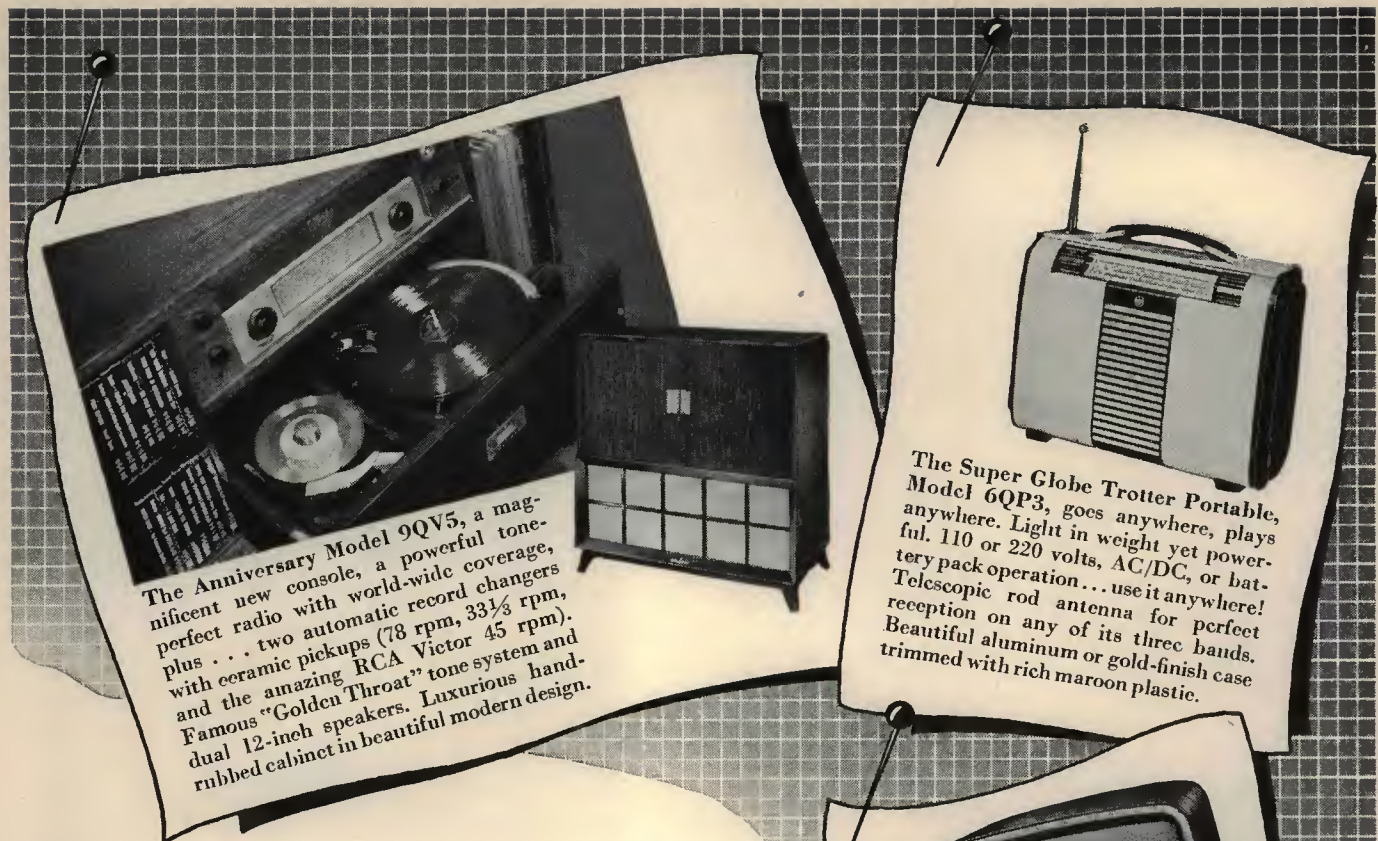
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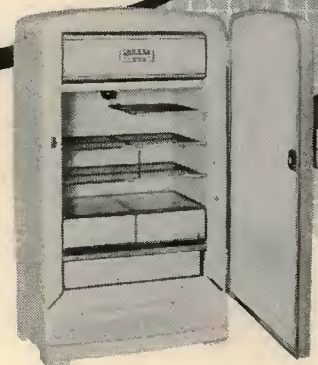
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LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

(Continued from page 5)

would probably be only too willing to require that we use Army facilities where available and provide travel funds sufficient only for our brethren in areas where the American military has not yet landed still to enjoy the right of "minimum first-class."

I trust the Army will not be offended by our lack of enthusiasm for this offer, but I think most of us here in Germany will decline with thanks and wait until we can travel home in the same manner as the diplomatic personnel of other countries.

C. M. SONNE, JR.

CHARLES A. HUTCHINSON

Seoul, Korea

To the Editors,

AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL:

FSO Charles A. Hutchinson, First Secretary and Consul at Seoul, Korea, died March 8, 1950, in the Tokyo General Hospital, Tokyo, after being flown to Japan in an effort to save his life. Mr. Hutchinson had begun his overseas Foreign Service career in Tokyo (after the short period at Windsor, Canada, customary in those days) twenty years before, and it was there that he and Mrs. Hutchinson, the former Ruth Murphy of Duluth, Minnesota, were married.

After six years in Tokyo under Ambassadors Cameron Forbes and Joseph Grew, Mr. Hutchinson was assigned as Consul in Charge (at 29) of the American Consulate at Adelaide, South Australia. His nine years there were outstanding for the closeness of his relation to the Australian community.



CHARLES A. HUTCHINSON

"By reason of circumstances arising out of the war, Mr. Hutchinson's term of service has been unusually prolonged, and after nine years, he has become something of an institution. No consular official in South Australia has ever enjoyed wider esteem and popularity," the Adelaide *Advertiser* wrote editorially on the Hutchinsons' departure in December 1945. The South Australian

Parliament gave him a carved inkstand as a memento of its regard.

After Adelaide, the Hutchinsons were assigned to Havana in May, 1946, where he was First Secretary and Consul, in charge of citizenship and protection work. In June, 1948, he was assigned to Seoul.

Unquestionably the most loved man in the mission at Seoul. Charles Hutchinson, as his friend the Rev. Dr. A. K. Jensen of the Methodist Mission remarked at the memorial services, had the "rare quality of making persons feel wanted and welcomed, and a remarkable ability to retain friends in lands where he served."

C. W. PRENDERGAST

CORRECTION

The address of retired Foreign Service Officer H. F. Arthur Schoenfeld was incorrectly given in the list published last month. His correct address is 3301 36th St., N. W., Washington 16, D. C.

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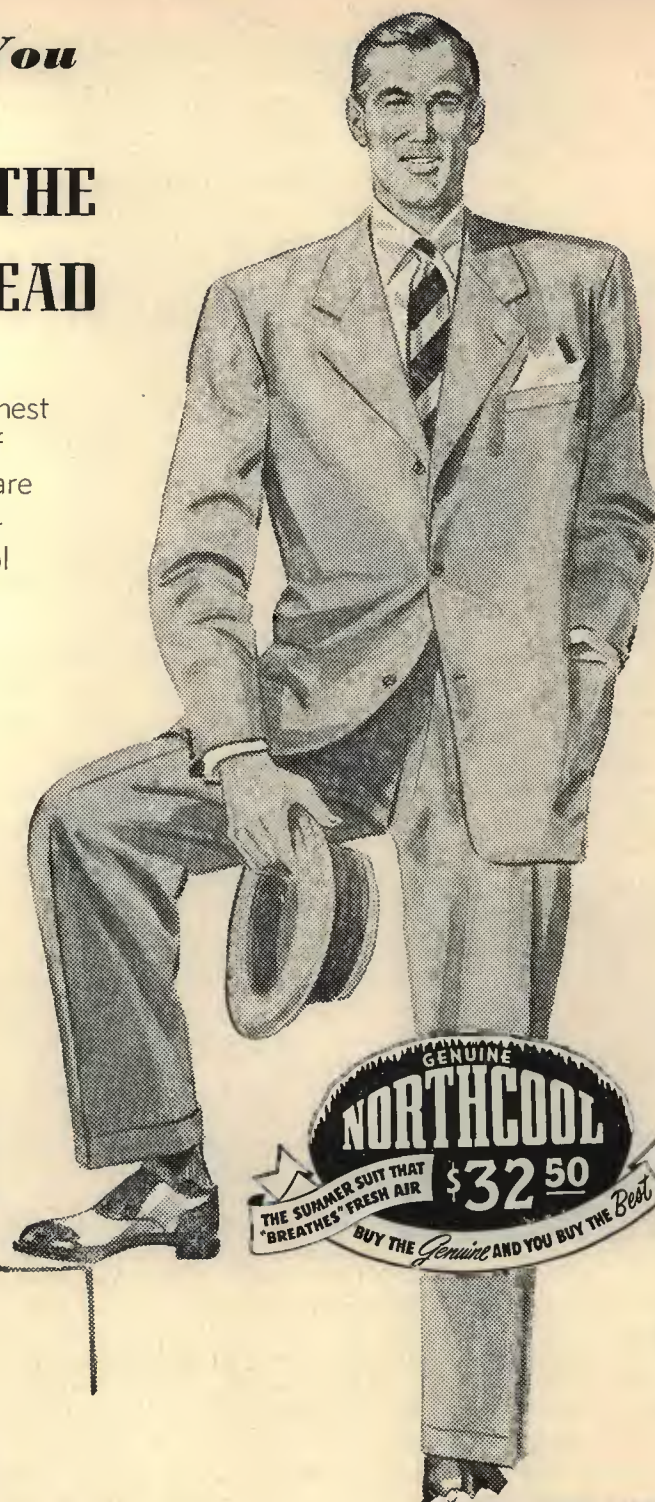
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Adams, J. Wesley, Jr.	Department	Cairo	2nd Sec. Consul
Ainsworth, R. Harriet	San Salvador	Ottawa	FSS
Allen, Arthur P.	La Havre	Vancouver	VC-Visa Off.
Allington, Mary E.	Department	Geneva	FSS
Anderson, Orville C.	Rome	Department	FSS
Aronson, John A.	Department	Tokyo	FSS
Asmus, Josephine M.	Department	Calcutta	FSS
Balla, Michael P.	Department	Frankfort	Admin. Asst.
Barnard, Robert J.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Barton, Donald R.	Tehran	Athens	Att. (Info. Off.)
Batjer, Helene Ann	Sofia	Rome	FSS
Bauer, Irene M.	Department	Manila	FSS
Beach, William H.	Leopoldville	Department	FSO
Bell, Elsie C.	La Paz	Buenos Aires	FSS
Benson, Mark T.	Seoul	Department	FSS
Bentley, Alvin M.	Rome	Department	FSO
Berry, Francis E.	Munich	Manila	Senior Engineer
Biggane, Helen	Athens	Luanda	VC-Econ. Asst.
Bogardus, George F.	Algiers	Toronto	VC-Visa Off.
Bogden, Grey	Department	London	FSS
Boginis, Robert	Ankara	Department	FSS
Bond, Barbara L.	Department	Budapest	FSS
Bragonier, Reginald	Quito	Lima	1st Sec. (PAO)
Brananan, Jacqueline C.	Calro	Moscow	FSS
Brannon, Vivian I.	Tehran	Department	FSS
Brinsmaid, Bernard W.	Port-of-Spain	London	FSS
Brolly, Aileen A.	Belfast	Pretoria	FSS
Brown, Anne E.	Department	Paris	FSS
Brown, Emerson M.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Brown, Francis T.	Department	Beirut	FSS
Brown, Madeline T.	Zurich	Tijuana	FSS
Brozier, Virginia L.	Department	Bangkok	FSS
Buleza, Ann J.	Department	La Paz	FSS
Burke, Maurice C.	Praha	Port-of-Spain	FSS
Burton, Frances P.	Rome	Haifa	FSS
Burton, Marion M.	Department	Copenhagen	FSS
Butler, Charles T.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Byland, George A.	Department	Sapporo	FSS
Byrd, Ernest C.	Beirut	Tehran	FSS
Campbell, Dorothy	Madras	Mexico	FSS
Canup, William C.	Stuttgart	Luxembourg	3rd Sec. VC
Carbone, Martha C.	Department	Praha	FSS
Carito, Graziano	Rome	La Paz	FSS
Carson, Charles C.	Vancouver	Lisbon	2nd Sec. VC-
			Pol. Off.
Chapin, William A.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Chipman, Norris B.	Paris	Rome	1st Sec. Consul
			Pol. Off.
Churchill, George T.	Department	Frankfort	Admin. Asst.
Collins, Virginia	Warsaw	Department	FSS
Cizauskas, Albert C.	Djakarta	Surabaya	VC (Econ. & Con-
			sular Off.)
Clark, Lewis	Canton	Bern	US Rep. on the
			Advisory Council
			for Libya
Clewett, Miriam L.	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Clifford, Robert L.	Rangoon	Beirut	2nd Sec.-Consul
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Colligan, William J.	Sofia	Moscow	FSS
Comber, Patricia A.	Department	Baghdad	FSS
Conklin, Helen M.	Department	San Jose	FSS
Coster, Henry L.	Department	Mexico	3rd Sec.-VC
Courand, Claude	Rio de Janeiro	Department	FSO
Cox, Charles W.	Department	Tabriz	FSS
Crane, Rufus S.	Genoa	Department	FSS
Crawford, Douglas M.	Department	Guatemala	Att. (Econ. Off.
			Agric.)
Creager, Nita L.	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Crooks, Bruce R.	Tehran	Mesheh	VC (Prin. Off.)
Crosby, Oliver S.	Athens	Lahore	VC (Admin. Off.)
Cross, Charles T.	Taipei	Djakarta	Asst. Att. (Asst.
			PAO)
Curtin, Eleanor V.	La Paz	Habana	FSS
Dabbs, James W.	Warsaw	Santiago	Radio Operator
Dalferes, Sabin J.	Strasbourg	Le Havre	Consul-Prin. Off.
Davies, John	Department	Frankfort	Pol. Off.
Davis, Emiscah G.	Department	Tangier	FSS
Davis, Robert D.	Bremen	Johannesburg	VC-Consular Off.
Dean, Jonathan	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Dean, Robert W.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
DeGrace, Marylouise	Department	Saigon	FSS
Delgado-Arias, Domingo E.	Lima	Department	FSR
DeLambert, Richard M.	Lima	Valparaiso	Prin. Off. Consul
Delu, Theresa V.	Genoa	Naples	Econ. Clerk
Deyman, Philbert	Milan	Belgrade	VC
Dillingham, Sherburne	Winnipeg	Montevideo	2nd Sec.-Consul
			(Econ. Off.)
Dominek, Ann A.	Palermo	Belfast	FSS
Dorman, Philip F.	Moscow	London	FSS
Dorros, Leon G.	Luxembourg	Toronto	VC-Cons. Off.
Doyle, Eva M.	Department	Buenos Aires	FSS
Dubs, Adolph	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Dulemba, Helen C.	Department	London	FSS
Dyer, Edwin P., Jr.	Luanda	Bordeaux	Consular Off. VC
Dzaugis, Frank C.	Amman	Tripoli	FSS
Eagan, Mary E.	Praha	Frankfort	Info. Off.
Edman, George W.	Athens	Rangoon	1st Sec. (PAO)
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Flach, Edna T.	Sofia	Warsaw	Asst. Att. Disb.
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Cooperation —

Key To Good Neighborliness

By Rafael de la Colina

Ambassador of Mexico to the United States

The Editorial Board of the FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL, through the dedication of this issue to Mexico, has placed me under an obligation which I am glad to discharge, however inadequately, by offering their members, with my sincere thanks, my best wishes for the continued success of this outstanding publication.

The people of the United States are now challenged by such perplexing questions and tremendous responsibilities that the inattentive observer is often misled into thinking that this country is interested only in problems affecting remote regions. It may be fitting here, therefore, to recognize and reaffirm the abiding nature of our unique relationship and to reassess the diverse elements upon which the depth and cordiality of our friendship depend.

Paralyzing doubts and sickening fears prevail in wide areas of the globe. Gone is the exultant optimism of the previous century. Henry Adams speaks to our generation in a clear language, which was well-nigh unintelligible to most of his contemporaries.

Against this tempestuous background, foreboding conflict and desolation, there stands out, as a pattern of good neighborliness reared upon grounds of mutual respect and increasing cooperation, the reciprocal trust and active goodwill binding our two Republics.

To those of us who have devoted the greater part of our lives to the task of strengthening the bonds of amity between Mexico and the United States; who have steadfastly believed in the importance of bridging misunderstandings and erasing prejudices; who are firmly persuaded that the progress of our relations measures to a large extent the healthy growth of the Inter-American System, it is heartening to confirm the widening scope and unaffected cordiality of our daily contacts.

Not always have these relations been pleasant. There have been times when even the most cheerful wondered whether a basis for lasting concord could ever be found. Happily the perilous omens have not been fulfilled and today we stand together as true friends.

Even before the Policy of the Good Neighbor was propounded by its immortal champion, relations between our two Republics had improved. Adherence to the principle of non-intervention and a strict regard on the part of the strong for the sovereign rights of the weak, have helped to solve in an equitable and friendly manner thorny situations that in former times might well have been the source of considerable friction.

The community of our interests was put to the test when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Shortly after that dastardly deed, Mexican ships were also attacked. My country, faithful to its international commitments, quickly became a staunch and effective ally of the United States. We furnished large quantities of strategic materials at fixed prices; we permitted the emigration of hundreds of thousands of agricultural and railroad workers in order to alleviate the acute labor shortage prevailing in this country; thousands of young Mexicans were allowed by their Government to enroll in the United States armed forces under a special bilateral agreement and a Mexican fighter squadron joined in the air war against Japan.

But the real import of these events was that the trial of war brought into relief what was already apparent to the close student of our relations. Such constant factors as geographical propinquity, parallelism of purposes and analogy of democratic institutions dramatically emerged at the critical hour to confute those who, north and south of the border, stubbornly denied the inherent solidarity of the American States.

Obviously there are enormous differences in population, natural resources and political traditions as well as in wealth and power between our countries; yet, the fundamental objectives, the overall trends, the inspiring ideals of your Founding Fathers and of our Liberators are strikingly akin. Furthermore, what the superficial examination of our differ-

(Continued on page 13)

Rafael de la Colina, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mexico to the United States, entered the Mexican Consular Service in 1918, just before his twentieth birthday. Since then he has held increasingly important positions representing his country's interests in the United States. He has represented Mexico on the Delegations of over a dozen international organizations. He is the author of a number of important monographs, both in English and Spanish.



Mexico

OUR GOOD NEIGHBOR

By Walter J. Thurston

Ambassador of United States to Mexico

I welcome the opportunity to share with Ambassador de la Colina the privilege of contributing to this special Mexican edition of *THE AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE JOURNAL*. We have already shared for some time the agreeable task of promoting good understanding, friendship, and profitable business relationships between our respective countries. I am confident that our deepest convictions with respect to these important matters are identical.

Although a young nation, in the sense of that epithet as it often is applied to our own country, Mexico has experienced the full gamut of political vicissitudes and has now become mature and confident as to its place in the world order. Twice in modern times an Empire, four times the victim of foreign invasions, rent on more than one occasion by destructive civil war, our neighbor has long since put her affairs in order. Today, under the vigorous leadership of President Miguel Alemán, Mexico enjoys domestic tranquility and international amity. Her people are strongly conscious of their nationhood and determined to improve

The Embassy in Mexico held a ceremony in the garden between the Chancery and the Residence on November 7, for the presentation to 27 members of the staff of the Length of Service Awards received from the Department. Ambassador Walter Thurston presented gold pins to one American and four Mexican members of the staff, silver pins to seven Americans and two Mexicans, and bronze pins to eight Americans and four Mexican employees. The 27th award was for the Ambassador himself, who received his gold pin representing 32 years in the Foreign Service from Minister-Counselor Leslie A. Wheeler. Bottom row, left to right: Louis L. Kirley, Francisco Hernandez, Ambassador Thurston, Antonio Villanueva, Pablo Gomez, Cornelio Gonzalez. Second row: Chester H. Kimrey, Donald W. Smith, Mariono Dominguez, Marvin A. Derrick, Dorsey G. Fisher, Ethel A. Barnes, Margaret Louise Carnes, Jean C. MacDonald, W. John Wilson, Jr. Third row: Jose Vallejo, Elena Pacheco, Lee B. Douglas, Carl W. Strom, Roberto Solis, Charles B. Parker, Juanita S. Wilson, Miguel Ezeiza. Top row: Elizabeth Eistetter, Philip Raine, Charles R. Burrows, Roberta Meyerkort, Santiago Ramirez.

Career Ambassador Walter Thurston's first connection with the Foreign Service was an appointment in 1914 as clerk to Department representatives in Mexico. Since he has served in Guatemala, Berne, San Jose, Managua, Sao Paulo, Lisbon, Rio de Janeiro, Asuncion, Madrid, Moscow, San Salvador, La Paz, as well as in the Department. He has been Ambassador to Mexico since May, 1946.



and strengthen their country in every way. Mexico is a staunch and active member of the United Nations, within which organization able and distinguished Mexicans occupy posts of importance, and she has long been recognized as a leader in the community of American States. Her voice has always and instantly been raised against international oppression and violence; her place among the free and democratic nations is unchallenged.

Mexico's vast area of more than 750,000 square miles is inhabited by approximately 24,000,000 industrious citizens, whose communities are being joined by a growing network of highways and airways, and are being stimulated by the construction of new schools, hospitals, irrigation and power installations, and other facilities designed to accelerate the pace of the nation's steadily rising standard of living. Like so many others of the capitals of this hemisphere, Mexico City has been growing rapidly in recent years, and can now claim a population of over three million persons—a figure equalled by but few cities in our own great and thriving land. I have become accustomed to this dynamic modern Mexico, but I have observed that it often astonishes visiting compatriots, who apparently are unprepared for the sight of its imposing buildings and great industrial suburbs, with their automobile assembly plants, tire factories, refineries, chemical works, steel mills, and other major enterprises.

We "North Americans" are a heterogeneous people, most of whose ancestral ties are with Europe. For this reason, among others which perhaps include semantics, we are apt to think of other peoples not only as foreign in themselves, but as inhabitants of separate and



remote areas. The inaccuracy of such a concept of Mexico is, of course, obvious. In fact, the paramount element in the relationship between Mexico and the United States is that they are neighbors in the closest geographical meaning of the word.

The concomitants of this intimate neighborhood are many and varied. Four of Mexico's principal railway lines and three of its great highway systems are linked with our own, and are supplemented by the international services of Mexican and American air lines. Through these and other arteries of communication flow an interchange of commerce which, in 1949, amounted to approximately 725,000,000 dollars, as well as a tourist traffic (as distinct from the millions of border crossings by adjacent residents) of about 300,000 persons, who, it is estimated, contributed to the credit side of Mexico's balance of payments account the sum of 30,000,000 dollars by the end of the same year. If "border crossers" were to be included, the credit figure would be about 125,000,000 dollars. The waters of the Colorado and Rio Grande are drawn upon by Mexican and American alike for great agricultural endeavors in the border areas—where, it may be mentioned, Mexico, in 1949, increased its cotton crop over 1948 by 320,000 to a total of 880,000 bales—in addition to supplying our consumers with winter vegetables valued at about 14,000,000 dollars. Moreover, migrant Mexican labor—some 100,000 in number—helped last year to harvest the crops of our farmers from California to the Mississippi. There are some 25,000 Americans resident in Mexico, of whom about 6,000 are in Mexico City. Conversely, there are in the United States several hundred thousand Mexicans or persons of immediate Mexican descent, and we recall with gratitude that during the last war many thousands of fine young Mexicans fought beside our soldiers, while great Mexican labor battalions provided maintenance for our railways and help in harvesting crops.

Pilot Project for Point IV

It is a source of satisfaction that American capital, enterprise, and technical skills have contributed importantly to the development of Mexico during the past century. Throughout this period they played a leading part in the creation and expansion of the country's great petroleum and mining industries and the building of its railroads. More recently, they have participated in the remarkable industrial growth of the country, through the establishment, often in partnership with strong and capable Mexican associates, of large manufacturing enterprises, such as those already mentioned, and lighter industries which are producing electrical goods, refrigerators, radios, tin containers, aluminum goods, and many other excellent and essential articles. With propitious conditions and adequate safeguards as to capital investment and returns from investment there can be no doubt that American financial and technical cooperation will continue to be available for such purposes when desired.

It has been our privilege, in the area of official action, to collaborate with Mexico, to our mutual advantage, in matters concerning health and sanitation, cultural and educational programs, civil aviation, mining, agricultural development, the eradication of dangerous animal and plant diseases, the control of international narcotic traffic, and other problems. Our public funds have been advanced, through the Export-Import Bank, for the execution of public works, the purchase of agricultural machinery, the promotion of industry, the rehabilitation of railways, and other constructive undertakings. Indeed, it might not be inappropriate to suggest, as Ambassador de la Colina points out, that the practical working relationship that exists between Mexico

and the United States could in general serve as the pattern or prototype for the execution of President Truman's Point Four doctrine.

Although there have been unfortunate episodes in the common history of our two countries, and the dramatic evolution of the continent we jointly occupy has even brought us into collision, relations between Mexico and the United States have long been stabilized in friendship. They are maintained upon the basis of reciprocal respect, identical concepts of democracy, similar international policies, and the spirit of intelligent cooperation. We are, in brief, Good Neighbors.

BY AMBASSADOR de la COLINA

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ences had failed to show is that such diversities often make for strong reciprocal attraction.

MEXICO is in the midst of a thorough, far-reaching transformation. The Mexican art movement, to cite only one instance, bears witness to the powerful forces that have been set in motion by my compatriots.

My country's checkered history, singular appeal and intrinsic grandeur, perhaps are best explained by the fact that Mexico is a microcosm, whose multiracial population and contrasting social elements may be properly regarded as the epitome of the world's peoples. None of our racial strains has remained totally submerged for long, and today all are working in harmony to forge a more productive, healthier, happier Mexico.



The staff of the Mexican Embassy in Washington, from left to right: Julian Saenz, First Secretary, Rafael Aveleyra, Consul General, Carlos Peon del Valle, Minister Counselor, Rafael de la Colina, Ambassador, Rafael Nieto, Counselor, Justo Sierra, First Secretary, Nicolas Graham Gurria, First Secretary, and Fausto Madrid, Third Secretary.

We have a great deal to learn from your scientific techniques, your executive and organizational ability, your art of government. On the other hand, you might derive valuable lessons from our love of beauty for Man's sake and from our deep-seated racial tolerance.

Under President Aleman, Mexico has made greater strides towards agricultural self-sufficiency than at any other period in its long history. It is only fair to add that valuable assistance has been rendered in one aspect of this vast undertaking by the Rockefeller Foundation. The development of several new varieties of hybrid corn through the joint efforts of Mexican and American scientists constitutes one of the most signal achievements ever attained in the field of international cooperation. In fact, I would dare say that what has been done in Mexico in this respect could well be taken as a model by the "Point Four" planners.

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Reports From Mexico

From Tijuana to Merida Foreign Service posts south of the border have sent their contributions to our special round-up of "Reports from Mexico." The editing and the painful task of paring down items that were just too long has been skillfully done by FSO Richard H. Courtenaye of the Embassy at Mexico City. A number of the individual stories, excerpted briefly here, are being considered by the JOURNAL's Board for publication in full. (The photo of San Xavier on the left is by Paul Carr, that on the right of a Mayan idol by Henry G. Krausse.)

MATAMOROS

BY PETER J. RAINERI, *Vice Consul*

The Matamoros-Brownsville Gateway between Mexico and the United States has long been an example of good relations on the border. The two cities have grown up together. Matamoros and Brownsville are making a strong bid to be the scene of a proposed meeting of the Presidents of the United States and Mexico for the exchange of captured battle flags between the two nations.

Matamoros is one of the oldest ports along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico and was one of the principal ports of entry and egress for goods going to and from inland points such as Laredo, until the construction of the Texas-Mexican Railway from Corpus Christi, Texas, to Monterrey, Mexico. The port is still active but does not now receive ships of large tonnage.

Matamoros is the starting point of a highway constructed by the Mexican Government which greatly shortens the trip by motor car to Mexico City for tourists originating in the eastern part of the United States and affords an alternate route.

Matamoros and Brownsville were the first Mexican boundary cities to erect, on April 14, 1948, an international monument on the Gateway Bridge celebrating One Hundred Years of Peace between the two countries.

GUADALAJARA

BY DEWITT L. STORA, *FSO*

Guadalajara is currently in the midst of a civic improvement program which involves work on the water and sewage systems, street-paving, new parks, well-drilling, pedestrian tunnels, highway construction and widening of principal streets (including the one on which the Consulate is now located). The Administration envisions, for 1951, a city of broad and paved avenues, living pedestrians, plentiful water, efficient sewage disposal and beautiful parks which will be

accessible by super-highways, but at the moment its motto seems to be *no hay paso*.

Following the general self-improvement trend, the Consulate will move to new and larger quarters soon. The new offices are located in a brand-new building on Avenida Juárez, the city's principal street (already widened and now being equipped with a pedestrian tunnel). The floor space is more than twice that of the present location, which has become increasingly inadequate.

Vice Consul Arden E. du Bois and FSS Jesse C. Hill, together with other amateur archeologists, recently excavated in a "lost" city near Verdía, on the dry shores of Lake Sayula. This city, which the Mexicans call "The Place of the Ancients," has been deserted for centuries, but some traces of buildings and their occupants still remain. The Consulate party dug up a figure of the ancient God of Sleep, a number of arrowheads and some human bones, although the last-named promptly crumbled to dust.

However, the most important recent event in Mexico was the birth of Susan Linda Stora on March 3 in the village of San Pedro Tlaquepaque!

CIUDAD JUAREZ

BY ERNEST B. GUTIERREZ, *Vice Consul*

A new indication of the importance of Ciudad Juárez and El Paso is the fact that the new Central Highway from Ciudad Juárez to Mexico City, a distance of approximately 1,226 miles, was completed recently and was inaugurated with an automobile race from Ciudad Juárez to El Ocotil, Chiapas, Mexico, on the Guatemalan border, on May 5, 1950.

The annual exchange presentation of medals between schools in Ciudad Juárez and Austin High School of El Paso, Texas, instituted in 1943 by the Consulate, is of great significance in bringing about closer collaboration and friendship between the students and people of the United

States and Mexico.

In these programs, students from Austin High School present citizenship medals to honor roll students of Ciudad Juárez schools, and in alternate years the programs are held in El Paso. Entertainment is provided by students of the various schools.

The principal of Austin High School and the Federal inspector of the Third General School Zone in Ciudad Juárez cooperate in these programs and have contributed greatly to their success. The Consulate at Ciudad Juárez has also been duly represented at the programs and assists in making arrangements.



International Boundary and Water Commissioner L. M. Lawson presented the Honor Awards to members of the staff at Ciudad Juárez. Shown at the ceremony here are (left to right): Mrs. Martina Soto (13 years service), Mrs. Blanche B. Lyons (10 years), Consul General Stephen E. Aguirre (33 years), Mrs. Naomi L. Mizener (22 years), Commissioner Lawson, Consul George H. Winters (24 years), Consul Kennett F. Potter (22 years), Consul Jones R. Trowbridge (25 years), and Vice Consul Lionel S. Mordecai (24 years).

NOGALES

By MRS. ANNA G. WRIGHT, FSS

This post was opened as a Consular Agency on November 1, 1884, raised to a Consulate in 1889, and has continued as such since that date.

The Consulate over the years functioned through the many revolutions in Mexico. The writer witnessed the Escobar-Topete Revolution, which began on March 3, 1929, and centered around Nogales. The Consulate took an active part in bringing the two factions together, and on April 30, 1929, the armies of the two factions met in the street in front of the Consulate building and agreed on the terms of peace. Before this revolution ended, the consular staff was very busy issuing visas to political refugees who were fleeing from Sonora, and there were many tense and exciting days.

By GEORGE H. STRUNZ

This office closed early one day last fall to celebrate with a "café" Vice Consul Frank C. Niccoll's 30th anniversary in the Service. Speeches were made and two presents were tendered to Mr. Niccoll to commemorate the occasion. One of them, a cigarette box made of solid Mexican silver with the famous Aztec calendar engraved on the lid, expressed the staff's esteem and good wishes while the other one, a sturdy cane looking rather like an elongated totem pole, was Vice Consul Antonio Certosimo's contribution to Mr. Niccoll's security in the future.

Mr. Niccoll joined the Consular Service at Milan, Italy, on October 1, 1919, shortly after having been honorably discharged at Paris, France, from the U. S. Army with which he served in the legendary Rainbow Division under General Douglas MacArthur. During his long career, Vice Consul

Niccoll has been assigned to posts in Italy, Canada and Mexico but his wanderlust has taken him to 23 European countries, the British Isles, Egypt, Abyssinia and Gibraltar, to which the 48 States of the Union can be added for good measure. During the Italian campaign in World War II, he was attached to the Fifth Army under General Mark Clark as a Naturalization Officer for alien boys serving in our armed forces.

Service Awards

A simple ceremony was held in the Consulate on November 8, 1949, to present length of service awards to those members of the staff who had completed ten years or more of employment in the Foreign Service. The importance of the occasion was enhanced by the presence of Consul Luis F. Blanchard, of Mexico City, who happened to be vacationing in Nogales at the time. The awards were:

Silver emblems: Consul Ben Zweig, 22 years; Vice Consul Frank C. Niccoll, 29 years; and Anna G. Wright, 21 years.

Bronze emblems: Vice Consul Antonio Certosimo, 19 years; and Mexican messenger Martin Martinez, 18 years.

TAMPICO

By ELVIN SEIBERT, FSO

During the past three months the Consulate at Tampico has had what can only be described as a whirl. Special events of a purely Foreign Service character have been added to our participation in a series of local activities which have made this season in Tampico more active than it has been for a long time.

The Consulate has been concerned with the visits, in rapid succession, of FS Inspector Haering, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, US Destroyer Division 121 with five vessels and 1700 crew members, an ROTC training ship, and hundreds of tourists here for the annual Tarpon Rodeo and the yearly golf tournament.

Just as the destroyers were leaving, along came Homer Gayne, Embassy audio-visual chief, on a routine trip which coincided happily with the visit of Governor Gárate of Tamaulipas, in town for the setting-up of a Tampico Good Neighbor Committee promoted in response to the recent establishment of the Texas State Good Neighborhood Commission. At a luncheon for the Governor, Mr. Gayne gave a splendid talk on the Embassy's USIE program.

Next comes the shipment of the archives of the office from the beginning of the century to 1935, the carrying out of the inspector's suggestions, the installation of an expected large shipment of requisitioned furniture, and other Foreign Service domestic events.

NUEVO LAREDO

By V. HARWOOD BLOCKER, FSO

Of importance at this border point was the fifty-third annual observance of George Washington's birthday by the officials and citizens of Laredo, Texas and Nuevo Laredo, Mexico. The celebration, with the exception of three bull fights in Nuevo Laredo, was held in Laredo.

Thousands of persons from both sides of the border, including dignitaries from Mexico and the State of Texas, attended the celebrations which lasted from February 18 through February 22. Included in the five day celebration was a livestock show, a pageant sponsored by the Society of Martha Washington, banquets, balls, concerts, cocktail parties, a dazzling fireworks display and a parade.

An outstanding event was the meeting on February 22 of the American and Mexican officials at the boundary marker on the international bridge. The Mexican officials accompanied by Consul V. Harwood Blocker and Vice Consul Charles H. Taliaferro, proceeded on foot from the federal building on the Mexican side to the boundary marker where they were met by the American authorities from Laredo, Texas. As expressed by Mayor Juan de Dios Hinojosa of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, "the participation of both American and Mexican citizens in the fiestas is a symbol of the fraternity existing between the United States and Mexico."

MERIDA

By HENRY G. KRAUSSE, *Consul*



Photo courtesy Henry G. Krausse

Returning from the Habana Conference Ambassador Walter Thurston and his party stopped at Merida for a week-end visit to Yucatan. Here, left to right, are: Mrs. Henry G. Krausse, Consul General Carl W. Strom, Mrs. Strom, Mr. Manuel Zapata, Mrs. Manuel Zapata, Mr. Antonio DIAZ Nicoli (President of the Chamber of Commerce and Honorary Consul of Honduras), Mrs. John A. Hopkins, Dr. Hopkins (Agricultural Attaché), Mr. Herbert Gutierrez (Honorary Consul of the Netherlands), Ambassador Thurston, Mayor Pedro CASTRO Guilar, Consul Henry G. Krausse, and Mr. Manuel PASOS Peniche (General Manager, Henequeneros de Yucatan).

The Honorable Walter Thurston, Ambassador of the United States to Mexico, arrived in Merida on January 17, 1950, for a brief stop en route to the Habana Conference of American Ambassadors. Accompanying the Ambassador were Consul General and Mrs. Carl W. Strom, Agricultural Attaché Dr. John A. Hopkins and Mrs. Hopkins, and Mrs. Lew B. Clark, wife of the Commercial Attaché, all of whom remained in Merida for a few days' visit. The party arrived in the Embassy's plane, piloted by Colonel George P. Champion, Air Attaché, and Captain Joseph R. Sipper, Assistant Air Attaché.

On his return trip, the Ambassador arrived in Mérida during the afternoon of Saturday, January 21, and there followed several social functions in his honor. The Ambassador had a rather full program during his week-end in Yucatan—a reception at the Consul's home Saturday evening; an all-day trip to the Mayan ruins at *Chichén-Itzá*, Sunday; a banquet tendered by the Governor, Monday noon; and a *Vanquería*, or typical native fiesta, which was tendered by the Mayor of Merida at a nearby village, Monday evening.

Royalty Visits Merida

By ROBERT GONZALEZ, *American General Clerk*

On the afternoon of February 23, H.R.H. Bernhard, Prince of the Netherlands, swooped down on Mérida, in a DC-3 piloted by the Prince himself, for a brief overnight visit.

A group of five motorcycle policemen escorted the motorcade of officials and businessmen who greeted the Prince on its trip from the airport into town, driving at low speed through the street on which the Consulate is located. Since the procession passed just at closing time, the entire staff had ample opportunity to obtain a perfect glimpse of His Royal Highness, who rode in the second automobile, the first being occupied by agents of the Federal Security Corps.

At each of the places His Highness visited there were throngs of people who gathered to pay tribute to visiting royalty, and the comment heard all around—from the ladies—was the equivalent of the popular "Oh! isn't he handsome!"

REYNOSA

By EDWARD S. BENET, *Consul*

The Consulate here was opened in June 1942. Reynosa was a small town of less than 15,000 then. None of the streets was paved and there were only a few buildings on the central plaza which were of solid construction and of any importance in size.

Today, Reynosa has become one of the most important cities along the Mexican border. The discovery in 1947 of important oil fields in the close vicinity of the city, and the completion of an extensive irrigation system along an approximately ten mile depth on the northern fringe of the Reynosa Consular district the year before, have greatly increased economic growth in the entire area. With the completion of the Falcon Dam, scheduled for 1953, the irrigation project connected therewith will bring under irrigation an additional 150,000 acres of land in the Reynosa district.

Recently the Consulate has been very closely connected with a problem of major importance to the Department which came about as a result of the signing of an Agricultural Labor Agreement between the United States and Mexico, the so-called *Bracero* Agreement. At least fifty percent of the principal officer's time has been devoted to obtaining information and compiling reports on the ramifications of the program since its inception in August 1949. The work has been most interesting and instructive and quite unique as compared with the more routine consular duties. The situation is very delicate inasmuch as it requires dealings not only with Mexican officials but with a large group of American farmers and citrus growers in the Lower Rio Grande Valley who up to this time have voiced strong opposition to the implementation of the Agreement. No less than fifty reports have been submitted by the Principal Officer on this subject alone during the past six months. Indications are that in the months ahead the Consulate will be required to continue to keep the Department informed on the subject through frequent reports.

CHIHUAHUA

By HENRY T. UNVERZAGT, *Consul*

Chihuahua, which has the reputation of being one of the cleanest and most progressive cities in Mexico, has long been a favorite stopping place for sportsmen from the United States who come here to hunt and fish. Excellent bass fishing at Lake Toronto, better known as "La Boquilla," which is only about three hours from the city of Chihuahua by automobile, is one of the principal attractions.

The Central Highway, extending from El Paso, Texas to the Guatemala border, is being completed and will be inaugurated on May 5, 1950, with an automobile race which is attracting international attention. The first leg of the race, which will take five days to complete, will be from Ciudad Juárez, opposite El Paso across the border, to the city of Chihuahua.

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Mexico at Eight \$ixty-five

BY HERBERT JOSEPH MANGHAM

Life can be as beautiful in Mexico as in a soap opera for Americans now that they get 8.65 pesos for one dollar. From the time of its devaluation in August, 1948, the peso has dropped from the seven-year figure of 4.85 to the price at which it is now fixed, which is equivalent to 11.5 cents. Prices have risen perhaps less than any other country that has devaluated. The rise is enough to pinch the natives, but not people with dollar incomes. Americans can get at least twenty per cent more for their money than before the devaluation, and Mexico was a bargain even then.

After devaluation, the government set strong controls on such staples as corn, meat and rice. Storekeepers marked up American imports as fast as the peso changed; a box of breakfast food would sometimes have three or four markings on it. American clothing and hard goods are astronomical. Most Mexican clothing, even before devaluation, was high priced.

But expenses of immediate interest to the tourist remain about the same. The handmade articles that excite shoppers have gone up only slightly, for hand labor is always cheap in Mexico, where families are still living on three pesos a day. Hotel and restaurant owners advertise that they are not raising prices, and it is almost true. Pre-World War I travelers who pine for the room-with-bath-for-a-dollar-and-a-half and the fifty-cent dinner can satisfy their nostalgia here. Three dollars gives one a glimpse of luxury. There are hosts of interesting small towns whose hotels ask from 30 to 80 cents for a room, or around a dollar for a room and meals, but that may mean eccentric lighting and plumbing, hard beds, and community baths, which are a test of a traveler's ability to take punishment in all Spanish-speaking countries.

Housing

Furnished apartments and houses are plentiful in Mexico City and Cuernavaca at from 30 to 50 dollars a month and up. Furnished quarters are rare outside of Mexico City and Cuernavaca, but family-size houses, although hard to find, can often be had for less than 15 dollars. Tiny cottages in the Indian villages, totally without conveniences and sometimes even without windows, rent for two dollars a month and even less. The climate and the ever-open doors compensate for the windows, and more than one American has found that the cheapness and fascination of his surroundings compensate for the lack of conveniences.

A retired couple in Cuernavaca, making no particular effort to economize, pay 400 pesos for a five-room furnished bungalow and average 150 pesos a month for household expenses, including a cleaning woman. Sixty-three dollars. That doesn't include all dinners, which they usually eat in a restaurant that charges 5 pesos—another 35 dollars. Of course, people who scan the shelves for American trademarks cannot live that cheaply. Servants usually cost Americans 50 to 100 pesos a month, and a good cook can save her pay by knowledgeable shopping and preparing Mexican dishes from cheap meat cuts.

Meat costs half what it does in the United States. The French-style rolls called *bolillos* now cost half a cent for the smallest size. Most vegetables are less than in the United States. The height of the season brings jumbo Loma Bonita pineapples to the central markets for the equivalent of 10 cents. Bananas hover around 3 or 4 cents a pound, less at the point of origin. Mangos come 2 to 8 for a peso (11½ cents). Oranges cost 1 or 2 cents.

Among the restaurants, only a few tourists' haunts have

raised prices substantially, claiming that they have to provide their patrons with the back-home dishes they demand. Most tourist-type dinners cost about a dollar. Tourists who want to spend more can easily. On the other hand, good small restaurants all over Mexico City serve dinners for from 35 to 75 cents. For instance, an American-style restaurant on Insurgentes serves a full filet mignon dinner for 45 cents. Small towns are very cheap but often difficult for unconditioned stomachs. Lard is used excessively and vegetables and fruits seldom leaven the diet. There are exceptions, like Tuxpan, Veracruz, an attractive town with mediocre hotels, which has four restaurants that dish up abundant and good meals for 35 cents.

Budget Balancers

Streetcar and bus fares run around two cents, and other transportation is cheap. Haircuts range from 45 cents in the downtown shops to 10 in the villages. Trousers get pressed for 6 cents. Most other incidentals are correspondingly low.

A tourist's permit used to cost 2 pesos. During the war the price was raised to the equivalent of \$2.10. Now it is \$2.10 and nothing else, and if a tourist has been so foresighted as to convert all his money before he applies to the customs or a border consulate, he has to leave his things while he searches out a bank or exchange booth and buys two dollars and ten cents.

This is a feeble gesture towards replenishing the dollar coffer, and the baggage-searching is the result of the outcry against contraband.

The stabilization of the peso at 8.65 and its implications of austerity were greeted with astonishing resignation, although the figure was lower than generally expected. The 1947 list of proscribed imports and the subsequent devaluation caused howls of anguish. During the war, dollars poured into Mexico. Thousands of employers built comfortable homes. Beggars got jobs. *Braceros* returned from the United States bulging with earnings and bug-eyed from alien wonders. Citizens shrank from the prospect of life without motor cars, jaunty American clothes, and their beloved juke boxes, which they like good and loud. Now they are realistic. They recognize the inevitability of a period of austerity. On all sides the talk is of work, national self-reliance, and the development of native agriculture and industries. The period of austerity may be short-lived, for agriculture and industry are being developed. Much of the dollar depletion results from expenditures for farm implements and industrial machinery which will raise production.

Flight capital in increasing amounts is returning for investment in native enterprises as the result of the policies of the present administration. In 1949, for the first time since the war, Mexico exported more than it imported. Even the yellow afternoon paper, *Ultimas Noticias*, which has been the most bull-headed in its assaults on devaluation, gave a banner headline to that.

One import that nobody suggests for the proscribed list is American students, in spite of the notable bad manners of some few. Senoritas become exceedingly demure at sight of blue eyes and a crew haircut. Dark-eyed men haunt soda fountains just to gaze at a dirndled habitue a head taller than themselves. Just to gaze is a common, though less publicized, Latin pastime; as is generally known, response to encouragement can be disconcertingly quick. These youngsters, most of them have curiosity and understanding. International amity needs a million more such.

BOYS' TOWN with a *Spanish Accent*

BY DEWITT L. STORA, FSO



Father Cuellar and two of his charges.

A ragged, grinning urchin, his face entirely innocent of any recent contact with soap and water, stood by the side of the road and casually sifted the dust with his toes.

"Yes but I know where the Boys' Town is, why not? I myself will bring you there, señor."

"Do not inconvenience yourself," I countered hastily, anxious to avoid a leech-like appendage on the side of my car (the disappearance of the running board was a cruel blow to these self-appointed guides in Mexico). "Only have the goodness to tell me where it is and I will find it."

"Clearly it is no inconvenience, señor." The boy deftly hooked one elbow over the open window and hoisted himself into position. "I have many desires of inscribing myself in the *Ciudad*. Already I am on the list. It is well that I show myself again to Father Cuellar, so that he may recall me well, since there are so many."

So it was that one more youngster was carried into the *Ciudad de los Niños* (sometimes called *La Casa del Niño Obrero*, or the House of the Working-class Child), the coveted goal of hundreds of the younger, underprivileged generation in Guadalajara and the surrounding country.

Two hours later I began to understand why it must seem a Paradise to the children of the city's slums. About 250 boys were happily busy in the *Ciudad*—busy tending the fields of the model farm, busy playing "futbol," busy mastering the machines and tools of the different shops, or busy acquiring an education in clean, airy classrooms. Busy, in short, learning to take their place in Mexico's future.

The boys themselves are the *Ciudad's* own best testimonial. They are presentable in neat, serviceable clothes, they are well-scrubbed, they are alert and intelligent, they are robustly healthy and, most important of all, they show a quiet pride in themselves and in their school. Any casual visitor to the poorer districts of Guadalajara can testify to the change that must have taken place in them since entering the *Ciudad*. These boys are all orphans, or semi-orphans whose surviving parents were unable to feed another mouth. Drawn from the lowest strata of society, they are well on their way toward making honorable, respected lives for themselves. Proof is already at hand. The 100 graduates of the *Ciudad* include priests, teachers, accountants, printers, radio technicians, carpenters, mechanics, etc. One is a Guadalajara physician, another is a priest in San Antonio, still an-

Four years in the Army following his graduation from the University of California and a few months as a reporter for a press association preceded DeWitt L. Stora's appointment as a Foreign Service Officer in 1946. Montevideo was his first post. He has been Vice Consul at Guadalajara since September 1948.

other served with the American Army during the war and is now stationed in Japan.

Padre Roberto Cuellar, the man responsible for these amazing transformations, is a kindly-faced, gray-haired Jesuit priest of about 50. He first came to Guadalajara as a teacher in a private school, but soon decided that he was more urgently needed elsewhere. In walking about the city he had been struck by the pitiful plight of the young boys in the workers' districts, many of whom were dirty, ill-clothed and underfed. Homeless, unwanted and forced to rely on their own wits in battling a none-too-friendly world, they eked out what could hardly be called a living. Some of them doubtless deviated a trifle from the straight and narrow path, which is understandable in such circumstances.

A Beginning is Made

Father Cuellar gathered up some 65 of these luckless youths and talked the owner of a vacant lot into lending it to them for a playground. Between games the priest introduced his gamins to the three R's. Not a few of the pupils arrived in the afternoon minus breakfast and lunch, so the priest began to give them soup and whatever other food he could provide. Then he learned that many of his charges were sleeping in the streets and alleys, so he somehow acquired beds for them.

Soon the project attracted the attention of public-spirited citizens. A local manufacturer donated a building in the downtown section. There Father Cuellar set up printing, machine, tile, shoe and weaving shops.

But Father Cuellar was far from satisfied with this makeshift arrangement. He visualized a complete city for his boys, where they could work and play and study completely removed from the temptations of their old environment. His long-awaited opportunity came in 1946, when



Father Roberto Cuellar, Consul T. J. Hohenthal and part of the student body at the *Ciudad* during presentation of books to the school library.

three landowners jointly donated a tract of some 87 acres about 7 miles from the center of the city. Although the problems of clearance, buildings, sanitation, etc., presented enormous difficulties, at last the dream of a true "Boys' Town" was in sight.

The stocky figure of the priest, dressed in a baggy corduroy suit, very soon became a familiar sight in the streets, offices and factories. The entire city was asked to help and the people of Guadalajara, always open-handed, responded generously. Pretty society girls stood on street corners jingling their collection boxes. Cantinflas, the Chaplinesque Mexican comedian, gave one of his famous hilarious bull-fights. There were dances, dinners and concerts. With the aid of these benefits, and the pledges of hundreds of citizens, the existence of Boys' Town was assured. Today the buildings of the Ciudad are valued at almost \$70,000. And work has already been begun on a new, larger *Ciudad* which will accommodate 600 boys. Some 750 day students are learning useful trades in the downtown school. Theoretically, at least, there is a monthly tuition fee of 11 cents, but this is for the most part ignored.

Consular Contribution

"The fame of the *Ciudad* is slowly spreading beyond Mexico's borders. American Consul T. J. Hohenthal recently presented, in the name of the people of the United States, a fine collection of children's books to the school library. Father Cuellar was greatly touched by this demonstration of support from the sister republic. All of the Guadalajara newspapers praised the Good Neighborly gesture."

By an interesting coincidence, Father Cuellar and the late Father Flanagan, founder of the well-known Boys' Town in Nebraska, both worked toward the same goal of a model city for homeless boys, but neither knew of the existence of the other. Father Cuellar first learned of the American Boys' Town when the motion picture of that name was shown in the city. The two priests then developed a warm friendship through correspondence, although Father Flanagan's untimely death prevented the latter from visiting his Mexican counterpart.

The *Ciudad* differs from Boys' Town in that it tries to rehabilitate not recognized, but rather potential juvenile delinquents. There are no fences around the Ciudad so that

the incorrigibles who are occasionally sent there seldom remain long.

To be admitted, the boy must be at least 10 years old and must agree to remain until he is 18. For his work in the shops and on the farm he is paid a small wage, part of which is withheld. When he graduates, he is given this lump sum to make a start in his chosen trade.

In keeping with Mexican democratic ideals, the *Ciudad* is almost completely self-governing. The boys are organized into brigades of 25 members. Each brigade elects its chief, who is responsible for the good conduct and work of the rank and file. A Disciplinary Committee, also elected by the boys themselves, is empowered to punish most infractions of the rules. Extra-curricular activities, such as sports, social affairs, recreation, etc., are in the hands of elected committees. The idea of community responsibility is so deeply implanted in the boys that Father Cuellar is seldom obliged to do more than suggest a course of action to the youthful leaders.

This, then, is the *Ciudad de los Niños* of Guadalajara. Starting from nothing, it has become an institution which would do credit to any country in the world. Endowed with little save faith and high ideals, it produces model citizens for its city and for Mexico.



Mexico and Her Mountains, a Case Study

By RAYMOND J. BARRETT, FSO

Cortez, when asked by the King of Spain what Mexico was like, is supposed to have crumbled a piece of paper and laid it before the King with the remark, "That, Your Majesty, is Mexico." Even if the story is not true, it is apt. Mexico is dominated physically, historically, economically and psychologically by mountains.

Mexico's mountains are geologically young. Sheer precipices and virtually impassable stretches succeed each other in dizzying array. The continental *cordillera*, dividing into two branches south of Mexico City, sweeps north the length of the country. Lateral spurs cross from east to west. The country is effectively compartmentalized. Until a highway was constructed in the early 1930's a wheel had never turned in the streets of Tepotzlan, a good-sized Indian village with-

in a few miles of famous Cuernavaca, and only about fifty miles south of Mexico City.

The mountains imposed and still impose extreme parochialism. Life long revolved about a small isolated, self-centered and virtually self-contained group. There was little contact with, knowledge of, or concern with the outside world. Loyalty was to the local group, and customs and behavior patterns were governed almost exclusively by local mores. The concept of the Mexican nation had no real validity for most of the country and its inhabitants. To only a limited extent has this changed, and only in very recent decades.

Engineering problems in traversing the mountains are well-nigh incredible. Anyone who has travelled the Laredo-Mexico City highway can only marvel at a brilliant feat of construction. The high cost of railroad and highway construction and of transportation by these means over such

(Continued on page 37)

A graduate of Columbia University, 25-year-old Raymond J. Barrett has been a Foreign Service Officer for just over a year. Mexico City is his first post.

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MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to select a country which serves as a better example than Mexico, when one wishes to analyze the specific ways in which foreign relations have been developed successfully between the United States and other great nations. These relations provide an almost unique instance of the way in which it is possible to bring about a change for the better—to create and nurture a strong bond of cordiality and warmth where uncertainty and friction existed before. The companion articles that appear in this issue of the JOURNAL, by His Excellency, Señor Don Rafael de la Colina, Ambassador of Mexico in the United States, and by the Honorable Walter Thurston, Ambassador of the United States in Mexico, symbolize the friendly informality and close collaboration which prevails today in Mexican-United States relations.

Members of the Foreign Service may well take pride in the fact that this successful example in foreign relations is more than a coincidence with representation by men such as these two ambassadors, both of whom epitomize the foreign service as a profession. Each of these distinguished gentlemen has had very long experience in the foreign service of his country. Each has had long experience in the country to which he is now accredited. Each has truly been "through the mill" with a large variety of assignments. Each has extraordinary qualifications for his present duties. And both Ambassador de la Colina and Ambassador Thurston have a deep affection for the countries in which they are serving as well as the countries they represent.

The articles by the two ambassadors reveal many of the specific measures of cooperation which have emerged from the mutual understanding that has been earnestly sought by representatives of Mexico and the United States in recent decades. Their articles coincide impressively in suggesting that the great variety of practical relationships between Mexico and the United States may well be used as instructive suggestions of the methods for giving "Point IV" reality in other parts of the world. Both articles give clues which may well lead students of diplomatic history in foreign service to trace for themselves the fascinating milestones and vicissitudes in relations between Mexico and the United States. The Foreign Service may profit from an unintentional example provided by Ambassador de la Colina. This ambassador of a Spanish-speaking country has given the JOURNAL an article which reveals a profound and artistic mastery of our own language, a mastery which he exercises with precision and beauty which will enable him to hold his own with the literateurs of this country.

Other articles and pictures in this issue of the JOURNAL may suggest many avenues of pleasant and profitable investigation. Not the least of these are the personal memoirs, reflections and observations of several United States representatives who have lived in Mexico at various times during the past 50 years. These writings are colorfully described by Donald B. Campbell. Particularly those representa-

tives who recorded the more discouraging episodes in the mutual history of Mexico and the United States would have rejoiced if they could have been present on such occasions during recent years as the visit by President Truman to Mexico City and the visit of His Excellency, President Miguel Aleman to Washington. The companion articles in this issue of the JOURNAL are consistent with those visits which were not just the official visits of two chiefs of state but the cordial manifestations of two peoples who have learned to live side by side not only as practical good neighbors but as good friends.

A NEW FOREIGN SERVICE CLASS

The nominations of eighty-one new Foreign Service Officers have just been sent to the Senate and three more nominations may be expected to follow shortly. This important event was long overdue, for many of the persons now awaiting confirmation have been on the eligible list since 1947. In brief, the effect of these new appointments is to a little more than halve the waiting list, clear up completely the group of candidates who passed the Foreign Service examinations in 1947, and to reduce somewhat the list of eligible 1948 examinees.

Three years is a long wait for young people eager to embark on a chosen life's career and consequently some ten potential appointees declined appointment. Of the group awaiting confirmation fifty-five are already working in the Foreign Service or the Department and only six of that number are employed in positions of lesser grade than will be theirs upon commissioning in the Service. Only twenty-nine of the new officers are outside the Department. It is gratifying that the Office of Personnel found it possible to tide over this long waiting period by placing such a large percentage of the new class in temporary positions pending their definitive appointment as Foreign Service Officers. This was particularly important since the average age of this group as a result of service in the Armed Forces is higher than is usual and a larger proportion have wives and growing families.

The new class is characteristically drawn from a wide area of the nation and includes, in addition to one member from Hawaii and four from the District of Columbia, representatives from twenty-nine different states. Illinois and New York have the largest contingents, numbering ten each. New Jersey and California follow, each with six representatives. There are three young ladies in the class destined to continue in the distinguished footsteps of their predecessors who have made such a notable contribution to the work of the Foreign Service.

To our new colleagues, one and all, we extend a most warm welcome. We trust that they will soon find in their new careers more than adequate compensation for their long wait on the threshold of the Service.

IN MEMORIAM

GIOVANINI. Philip W. Giovanini, FSS, died on January 15, 1950.

NELSON. Dr. M. Frederick Nelson, former specialist on Korea for the Department, died in Arlington, Virginia, on April 1, 1950.

COLBY. Bainbridge Colby, Secretary of State from 1920 to 1921, died on April 11, 1950.

The American Foreign Service

By THE HONORABLE DEAN ACHESON

After delivering his prepared radio address at an American Society of Newspaper Editors' dinner meeting last month, Secretary Dean Acheson gave another speech to the same group, extemporaneously. Although excerpts have been carried in the Wireless Bulletin, the JOURNAL is reprinting here in full that portion which is concerned with our Foreign Service.

There is no need for anyone to feel defensive about the Department of State. What I want you to consider with me are the facts.

Let us turn for a moment to the career service. The career service, made up of the Foreign Service and the departmental offices, is equally in good shape. This is a service of men and women who are giving their entire lives to the United States, not for a few years, not even ten years, as I have given, but their entire lives, from the time they are young men until they retire at the end of their service. They are giving their whole lives to the United States. They are competent, they are courageous, and they are devoted.

Only this past week, two of our missions were bombed. That is not a pleasant experience. Have any of you ever had it? Have any of you ever had a bomb tossed in the window of your house and had it go off and injure people? Two of our missions have been through that this week. Fortunately, no one was killed, but many people were hurt. Do these people want to come home? Do they say, "This is too dangerous?" Not at all. This is in line of duty. They know their duty. They perform it. It is quite likely that they may be killed, but there is no squeak out of them.

We have just had an officer home who had been held by the Chinese Communists for a year, many months of which he spent in jail, under conditions of incredible hardship and torture. At the direction and request of President Truman, he is going about the United States telling people of what was done to him. Does he ask to retire? Not at all. With great difficulty, we are keeping him in the United States doing this. He wants to go back to the most difficult area that we can find for him. He is not asking to quit. He is not asking for sympathy. This is his duty. He likes it. He wants to go into it again.

We have scores of our people who are now in Chinese cities which are being bombed by the Chinese Nationalists. Are they whimpering about it? Not in the least. They were ordered home because the President decided that was the wise policy. They were perfectly willing to stay there and take whatever came to them.

We have scores of people through southeast Asia who are in areas of hot war—Indo-China, the Philippines, Malaya, Indonesia. Bullets are flying all the time. It is not a cold war in those areas; it is a hot war. And these men and their wives and their children are there, and they are doing their duty. They don't ask to be transferred. They know it is their duty, and they are performing it.

And in other places, in Africa and other parts of the world, we have men with their wives and children who are in situations of the greatest danger, so far as their health is concerned. They are living under very unhealthful condi-

tions. If they are ill, they take their chances under the most primitive medical conditions. There are no schools. There are no oculists to take care of the children's eyes. There are no doctors to give them all the inoculations which your children take. None of those things are available. They don't complain. This is their duty. This is their life. All they ask is that occasionally they be transferred to some situation which is not quite so tough.

Then there are others who are behind the Iron Curtain, and there they are treated as criminals. They cannot have any association with anybody. They cannot have any of the ordinary pleasant relations that all of you have. Anyone who meets them or talks with them will be in jail the next day and possibly hang the day after that. They have to live in a little circle, seeing the same few people day after day. But that is their duty, and they are carrying it out.

Here, again, there are no schools. And if you have a toothache and you want to go to a dentist, you don't call up a dentist; you call up the Foreign Office, and the Foreign Office calls up the secret police, and the secret policeman makes an engagement and comes and sits right beside you in the dentist chair to be absolutely sure that the dentist does not take a message out of your tooth and give it to somebody else.

Those are the circumstances under which these people live.

I don't have to defend these people. There is no reason in the world why they need any defense.

I should like to suggest to you that you would find it a very interesting exercise to try, in your papers, an open letter to these Foreign Service officers of the United States, who are now your front line of defense, who are serving you in these dangerous and difficult parts of the world. Explain to them the attacks which are being made upon them and upon the Service of which they are just as proud as you are proud of the profession to which you belong. Explain to them, if you can, what is happening to this country behind them. Explain to them why it was that during the war we had USOs and letter-writing campaigns and everything in the world for the soldiers at the front to show them that the country was behind them and recognized the sacrifice that they were making; and try to explain what is happening now when it comes to these "soldiers," these people who are in the front line of the defense of their country. Explain that to them if you can. You will find it difficult to do.



The Secretary relaxes at home—
photo by Penfold.



Impressions of a Local Courier

By JAY KELLOGG BURNHAM, FSS

Once air-borne from Balbuena (Mexico City) you rock the seat back and run through your documents with secret misgiving: are the tickets all there, and is this really the right flight? After all, the plane to Acapulco was loading simultaneously and the passenger lists were all mixed up. And your wallet . . . yeah, it's there, pretty empty though. Will a couple hundred pesos keep you fed and bedded through 13 degrees of latitude and back? What if you aren't met at the airport, especially the whistle stops? Oh well, wait and see. Here comes the steward with breakfast.

Barren country, and rugged. Wish you'd brought a map. As far as the eye can see there's red-brown dirt and rock, chopped, sawed, gouged, stacked up or smoothed out, and the whole thing cut and ravaged by meandering lines. Ninety-nine percent is water erosion, they used to say in Geology IA, but where's the water? Not a trace of green in sight, not even a stipple of sagebrush color or mezquite. No wonder Mexico imports wheat and corn—there must be

And so over a wall like one side of the Grand Canyon, and down into a glare of heat at San Luis. Olin's right there, with ten minutes of condensed information on the District, and answers for every question. "You'll see the smelter chimney over yonder when you fly out; certainly it's *setecientos*-odd feet high, but we need fog lamps here now and then. Hot, isn't it?" Olin's right, it's hot.

But once upstairs again, it's comfortable. More kiln-dry country, with a couple of little *lugares poblados* that look like scatterings of dandruff with radiating lines that may be roads, and for the rest an immensity of space, a turbulent vacuity of surface. Here's a thin crossline, so straight you fancy its chord is the curvature of the earth, too straight to be a road: could it be the Aftosa quarantine line or the Tropic of Cancer?

Eventually, after you read another story in the old *Colliers*, you're coming into Torreon, and after interminable taxiing you clamber out of the DC3 and see John Oliver waving his passport at you. More intelligence, closure of little mines, capacity smelter operation, big backlog of ores. . . Yes, transfer's almost due, leaving on the 25th. Agrees it will be quite a change. Sends regards up and down the line.

A short stop at the Parral field. In circling you can see the big plant built into the side of the cliff. Smallest airport yet, and a control tower with a dirt floor. Cattle in sight—the terrain must be deceptive from the air, it looked pretty bleak. Come to think of it, it *is* bleak; maybe the cattle have a patented chlorophyll process and nourish themselves on sunshine. Plenty of calories in the air you're breathing: it would probably melt solder.

Now you take off and fly right at a saddle as if you were going to pole vault over it. But your confidence in the captain has grown so much you start watching across the aisle for a glimpse of the town of Parral, disregarding the señorita who thinks you're staring at her (*quien sabe?*—a cad can look at a queen), and when you look back you see the saddle far below, composed of alligator teeth done in black rock. Room to spare, a thousand feet or so, though the DC3 is galloping. Stop the steward and he'll bring you a beer and a sandwich.



Photo by Courier Jack Grover

From a 115-foot cliff near Acapulco a young diver heads for a wave whose crest momentarily adds seven feet to the eight-foot depth of the waters below. On the opposite bank (not shown here) a crowd has gathered, and paid, to watch the death-defying dive.

a hundred miles here without enough cellulose to sustain a termite.

Imposing mountains, though—that barrier up ahead is considerably higher than we are. Wonder about those tiny welts running right up the cliff. Couldn't be roads or walls. When will that pilot pick up a little more altitude? Bet you could cast a fly and snag that outcrop over there. . . Those glistening pinheads down there must be *jacales*; maybe you're higher off the ground than you thought.

Jay Kellogg Burnham, FSS 12, was born in Portland, Oregon, Nov. 22, 1916. He is a graduate of the University of California. A Japanese language interpreter and translator in World War II, he joined the Foreign Service in February, 1946. Since joining the Mission at Mexico City, Burnham has served in several capacities, including that of Assistant Administrative Officer, before finding his niche as Junior Reporting Officer in the Engineering Section. Recently he was moved into the job of assistant to Chief Horace H. Braun of that Section, vacated a short time ago by Second Secretary Dave Post.

Now you're hungry again, but you're too close to Chihuahua to ask for a free lunch. The rest of the country so far has been a swamp compared to the scenery spread out below. It looks like mother rock everywhere. Even as you slant down over the city it seems so dry a drop of moisture would probably explode. Doubt anybody's still living here.

There's Charlie Rice to pick you up. "Don't head for that new Buick, I'm just a consular officer," he says as he leads you to his motorized fossil, same year as the one you have. You talk about Foreign Service brats, starting with bilingual problems of your own. "Likewise," he says; "we couldn't figure out why the youngster couldn't say 'here' in Spanish or English; we just discovered today that he's saying 'aqu-heer.'"

Friendly post, Chihuahua, like all the others; Consul Unverzagt and Mr. Torres the one-man economic unit talk over their work and their problems. The Consul arranges a visit to the smelter, introduces you to the staff, and otherwise goes out of his way for you. The question you hear at every post (as if the Embassy ever heard the news first): how about the three-thirty?

Good room and meals, at what you ought to have expected to pay, but the per diem sure doesn't add up. They show you the town, the new recreation project, costing something like eight figures in pesos, the Los Angeles-type river. "There's only enough water left to run the city for eight more days," they tell you, "even though it's only on for a couple of hours a day now." Sure, there's a well drilled that could help a lot, but the city can't afford casing and pumps. This drought is several years old already. Cattle—you can guess—pawing at parched ranges, fewer head every year.

An hour out of Chihuahua the next morning, you run through cumulus clouds. Off in the distance there's a monumental thunderhead swinging a keychain of lightning and walking across the plain on two thick legs which are columns of rain. It takes twenty minutes to reach it and pass it by, and the nimbus towers miles into the sky above you. Are these DC3's lightning-proof, you wonder? Seem to recollect that they are.

Beyond, the country isn't quite so barren. Nuevas Casas Grandes is in a cultivated valley. But you fly on to Cananea over desert with only a few streams and verdant patches in the narrow valley pockets.

Cananea looks just like the pictures — great terraces geometrically cut into the mountain, and the plant below pouring out smoke. Funny to think of doing so much work to so much rock to wind up by throwing away 99 parts to get the last hundredth, and most of the gross profit out of that last hundredth going back across the desert to Mexico City as taxes. The plant shimmers in the heat, and you know the centipedes and scorpions have taken refuge from it.

Soon after, here is Nogales, a cluster of houses in an abrupt little valley. Mrs. Wright saves you from the tangle of inspectors and drives you, furrowing through the tangible heat to the Consulate to meet notable Ben Zweig, Esq. Tomatoes and smugglers, visas and repatriates, mining promoters and consular invoices, tourists and the Espee, floods and droughts—and the threethirty, whaddya hear about it. This again is a consulate that goes out of its way to be hospitable and friendly.

Border Spanish sounds better than you remember it, though with a lot of gringo slang intermingled. Seems to typify the subtle difference in the psychological makeup here from that in Mexico City. You can theorize that there's an orientation toward the States here, based on nearness, contact, perhaps mutual understanding on a real-life level.

The border works the other way too: to people in California, Mexico always added up to something that people in Chicago had no idea of. Anyhow, you can safely summarize that there are four Mexicos in terms of people and their habitat, consisting of *capitalinos*, denizens of the desert, the tropics, and the border. Their music, their talk, their habits, everything they do identifies them.

At 7 the next morning, while it is still so cool you could be comfortable in a cold shower with an electric fan on if you were in an ice house, you take off for points south. A kind of milk run, calling at Hermosillo, Guaymas, Ciudad Obregón, Navojoa, Los Mochis, Culiacán, etc.

Hermosillo is surprisingly bordered by spotty green hectares; but when you ease out of the plane you feel like Mark Twain's spider who stepped on a red hot shovel. You act surprised for a second, and then shrivel up. *Feicillo*, they used to call the place, but it appears to have been spruced up a hit.

Guaymas—Wilson's there, again with information galore, and one question. The *Termo-eléctrica's* not going to be ready for a while. Observes that it was a hundred and twenty-two yesterday, but that was because the weather got off to a slow start. Today it's taking up where it left off.

And so south, over country that is neither verdant nor desert, with numerous visible streams heading generally west. At Navojoa the windows of the plane fog before it quits rolling, and you locate the fire extinguisher in case your diplomatic pouch should begin to char.

Great psychological relief comes from flying over the blue Pacific, though you feel like a leg of lamb in a pressure cooker. Interminably you take off, swelter; land, sizzle; stagger off the bumpy field and swelter again at two thousand feet. The airports consist of dirt runways, occasionally fenced off from cattle, with little wooden shacks for tickets and radio, and a blanched windsock.

People ride the planes here as nonchalantly as they go to market. One kid of maybe six is making the run alone from Nogales to Los Mochis to look up an aunt, and at Navojoa folks who'd come to *despedir* decide to take the empty seats as far as Culiacán. Perhaps this explains why even the local winter tomatoes are used to traveling clear to Chicago.

Por fin, Mazatlán. There's Tony Certosimo, pinch-hitting for Art. Off to the Belmar and a third floor room which balconies onto the Pacific. Shower, then another one, *pargo a la veracruzana*, beer and icewater, ice cream and icewater. Check your reservations, then back to the consulate—an exquisite clean cool office, quiet except for the typewriters,

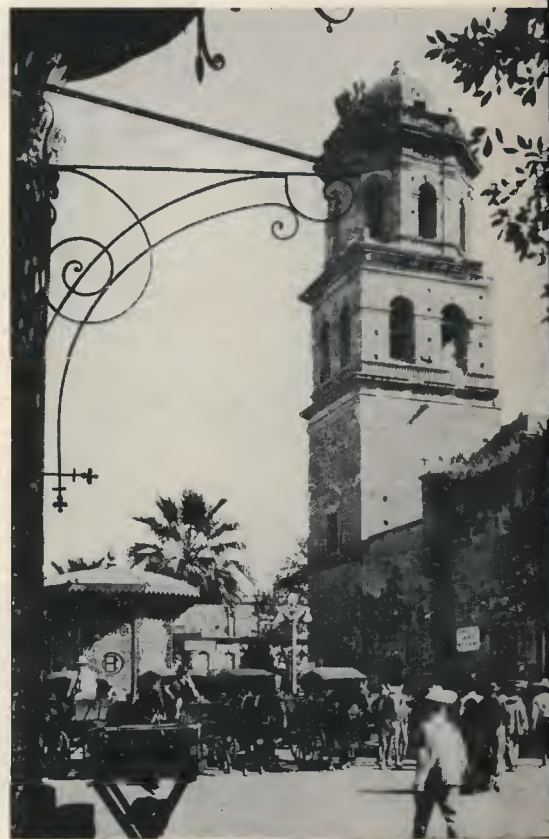


Plate loaned by Pan American Union
Street scene in Guadalajara

deep shade, but you're thirsty again. Tour the smelter, the port works, the observatory, then cocktails and hospitality in key with the tropical, colonial, seashore, slow-tempo city with its gradual horse-drawn *arañas* rocking over the cobblestones. Perhaps at its legendary best the consular service may once have embraced several such posts.

Early the next morning—at six, before you can even get coffee—off to the airport and out toward Guadalajara. Now you have dramatic scenery, *barrancas* to your left, a littoral the width of your hand to the right, and frequently clouds in between. Such scenery goes on and on, the *barrancas* assuming ever more heroic proportions, but you can't tire of watching.

Guadalajara briefly, Du Bois meets you and briefs and interrogates . . . then off again over the region that seems most productive in all Mexico, green cultivated valleys, frequent towns and numerous roads, brief rains, clustered hill-side dams with brown water marking them, and eventually, at noon, you find you are circling in a lazy S over the Capital.

Now you've turned in your pouch. You're a free man again. How do you feel? Well, a little tired. But you've picked up a sense and a feel of the country that you'd never have gotten sitting behind your desk.

You think that the Department gets its money's worth twice over, since it's willing to spend the price just to have the pouch carried around the country under the specified circumstances; and into the bargain the trip has equipped you to do a little better job. Physical acquaintance with the country is useful when your work depends on and consists of information.

And contact with the consulates supplements and enriches the too tenuous relationship expressed as "I have the honor" on the one hand and "The Embassy refers" on the other.

LOURENCO MARQUES CONSULAR CONFERENCE

The Consular Conference held at Lourenco Marques from February 27 through March 2, 1950, was one in the series of Regional Conferences, and concerned itself mainly with United States interests in West, Central and East Africa. Delegates were most comfortably accommodated in the Polana Hotel, which is ideally situated facing Delagoa Bay,

and the extensive grounds with their recreation facilities, including a swimming pool that was the envy of even the Californians attending the Conference, were used during the odd moments when Mr. McGhee allowed us to relax.

The Consular residence, presently unoccupied, was used for Conference discussions. They lasted from 9 in the morning until 6 or later in the evening, with a two hour break for luncheon. Social activities, like the Conference work, being jammed into 4 days, were intense and included an informal supper and dance party given for the delegates by the Assistant Secretary, a formal banquet tendered by His Excellency The Governor General of Portuguese East Africa in his residence, a cocktail party given by the Consular Corps of Lourenco Marques, and a dance arranged by the Hotel in the grounds surrounding the swimming pool.

Field delegates departed for their respective posts on Friday, March 3, and the majority of Washington delegates were scheduled to fly that same day via Johannesburg and Nairobi for Cairo and another Conference from March 7 to 11 inclusive.

ROBERT G. MCGREGOR.

RIO DE JANEIRO

Rio de Janeiro has been to many people no more than a faraway place which popped romantically into mind on a rainy night. It has not always been romantic for the unmarried members of the Embassy staff. A surprising number of them have married within a few months after arriving at their next posts. This nourished a reputation of rather dubious quality, which recent events fortunately have challenged. It all started back in June when Mel Croy of the General Services Office married Miss Terry Leite of Rio de Janeiro. Shortly afterward Mary Jane Willson of the Payroll Unit flew home on leave—but stayed only long enough to purchase her trousseau—returning in plenty of time for an August wedding to Sgt. Paul R. Johnson. In the last days of June when Ruby Frazier, Chief of the File Room, was sailing home on leave, Marjorie Cressey arrived to work in the File Room. Mack Hawkins of the Disbursing Unit took one look at Marjorie and shifted into high gear. In the space of a few short months his campaign had proved

(Continued on page 50)

Consular Conference held at Lourenco Marques, Portuguese East Africa, February 27 to March 2, 1950. Here, on the steps of the office building housing the Governor General of the Colony and his Staff are, l. to r. (1st row): Lt. Col. J. J. Davis, Lt. Col. E. A. Bland, Oscar W. Meier, The Hon. Edward R. Dudley, The Hon. George C. McGhee, His Excellency Gabriel Teixeira, The Hon. George R. Merrell,



Edward M. Groth, Sydney B. Redecker, William H. Beach, Elmer H. Bourgerie, Major E. T. Harshbarger. Rest of group, l. to r.: William P. Shockley, Jr., Walter C. Isenberg, Jr., Eugene D. Sawyer, Hyman Bloom, James Foster, The Hon. Richard P. Butrick, Harry Price, Dean R. Hinton, Chester R. Chartrand, D. Vernon McKay, Nicholas Feld, Mrs. Feld, Dudley Bostwick, Robert W. Ehrman, Rogers B. Horgan, Robert G. McGregor, P. K. Norris, William O. Brown, Harold Miller Null, Porter C. Kuykendall, Margaret Joy Tibbets, Samuel J. Gorlitz, Leo G. Cyr, John A. Birch, B. A. Thirkield, H. Gordon Minnigerode, Thomas G. Murdock, David G. Wilson.

Photo courtesy Robert G. McGregor



Courtesy James B. Stewart

Sixteen members of the Sanborn family. Sanborn's in Mexico City was the "Crossroads of the Americas" for many years and Frank and Stella Sanborn are known to all who ever served at the Embassy or the Consulate General.

Left: Bombay, India. The girls of the Consulate go home for lunch via the Consulate jeep. Left to right: Iris Harrod, Dorothy Sparks, Winnie Burrowes and Kakijan, the Consulate chauffeur.

Service Glimpses



Above: Mr. and Mrs. Culver Gleysteen (the former Elisabeth Katarina Morner) leave the church after their wedding on January 21st.



Right: Pictured here at the reception at the Minister's residence following the wedding in Budapest last November of Miss Eleanor M. Novak (a member of the Legation staff) and Captain Martin O'Reilly, USA, are (left to right) Major Donald E. Griffin, Assistant Air Attache; Miss Nancy Harris, FSS; the bridegroom; the bride; the Honorable Nathaniel P. Davis, Minister to Hungary; Miss Marion Shaw, FSS; and Lt. Col. William E. DePuy, Assistant Army Attache.

Right center: Seen at Embassy Warsaw's costume party last Halloween were Mrs. Terry Symans, wife of Assistant Attache Edward A. Symans, and Air Attache Col. John Ericksen.



NEWS from the DEPARTMENT



Joan David

OUR MEXICAN ISSUE

Editing the JOURNAL has a fascination that never seems to lose its spark. Putting together this month's copy has been particularly heart-warming because of the vast amount of unsuspected writing talent revealed in the course of canvassing Foreign Service posts in Mexico for this special Mexican-American issue. Never has the JOURNAL had so many good stories from which to choose. Throughout Mexico the JOURNAL has received enthusiastic support in its first venture into specialization. In addition to the many authors represented on these pages, we would like to thank CONSUL GENERAL CARL STROM, who set in motion the machinery for receiving material from our posts in Mexico, FSO RICHARD COURTENAYE, who did such a splendid job of editing these stories, First Secretary DORSEY G. FISHER, who negotiated for permission to reprint the Spanish article on page 34, and forwarded to us some first-rate material from members of the Embassy staff, and FSO P. JEFFERSON REVELEY (see March JOURNAL). In addition to the article he wrote for the JOURNAL, AMBASSADOR THURSTON has most generously and helpfully acted as a kind of literary agent on our behalf.

PERSONALS

STANLEY WOODWARD, the Department's Chief of Protocol and a member of the Foreign Service Class of twenty-five years ago, has recently been named Ambassador to Canada. He fills the vacancy created by the death of AMBASSADOR LAURENCE STEINHARDT.

JOSEPH B. PHILLIPS, columnist for *Newsweek* and former chief of information at the U. S. Embassy in Moscow, has

Inter-Agency Foreign Trade Course, Department of Commerce, April 19, 1950-June 2, 1950. Clockwise, around the table, starting at left: Charles Sawyer, Secretary of Commerce; Joseph E. Wiedenmayer, Milan, Italy; George H. Strunz, Nogales, Mexico; Elden Bert Erickson, Mukden, China; Charles K. Ludewig, Sao Paulo, Brazil; Frank G. Siscoe, Praha, Czechoslovakia; John V. McCarthy, Department of Commerce; Cabot Coville, Tokyo, Japan; John A. Armitage, Bern, Switzerland; William B. Cobb, Jr., Madras, India; E. Osborn Crocker, Asuncion, Paraguay; Harold E. Allen, Department of Commerce; Robert W. Stookey, Nairobi, Kenya, E. Africa; Adolf B. Horn, Habana, Cuba; H. P. Van Blarcom, Department of Commerce. Upper right hand corner: James F. Laverty, Department of Commerce; Kenneth R. Davis, Department of Commerce; Charles F. Boehm, Department of Commerce; John A. Moran, 3rd, Naples, Italy. Second row at left: Loring K. Macy, Department of Commerce; Charles R. Hersum, Department of Commerce; George Bogardus, Algiers, Algeria; Stanley B. Wolff, Johannesburg, South Africa; Randall S. Williams, Tehran, Iran.



been appointed special consultant to ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARRETT.

Former AMBASSADOR JAMES BRUCE has resigned as head of the military aid program. He will be succeeded by New Yorker JOHN M. OHLY, his Deputy Director since the program was started.

JOHN G. ERIHARDT, Minister to Austria, has been named Ambassador to the Union of South Africa. His appointment would fill the vacancy left by the retirement of former AMBASSADOR NORTH WINSHIP.

Retired on April 28 after thirty years with the Department, was MRS. LORRETTA E. FITZGERALD. She started as a clerk in the same Division from which she is retired as a Communications Analyst.

The HONORABLE GEORGE MCGHEE made the speech of thanks and acceptance at the Washington Zoo to India on the occasion of the presentation of two baby elephants to the United States. A record crowd of small fry plus a sprinkling of adults enthusiastically applauded the Assistant Secretary, the beautiful MADAME PANDIT and Ashok and Shanti, the two elephants.

COURIER JACK GROVER showed us some wonderful pictures of Peru the other day and then remarked casually that he'd snapped them while hunting for buried treasure! Jack says he thinks he has it located and is going back one day to dig it up.

When FSO WILLIAM CHRISTENSEN, our erstwhile correspondent from Marseille, visited the JOURNAL office before heading home for leave and a look at his brand-new daughter, we asked him how home, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, had ever been so named. Bill claims that the first settlers there had been told the falls rivalled Niagara's rushing torrent, but that when they arrived, it seemed, compared with expectations, no more than the dripping of a leaky pump. They were (you guessed it) quite chagrined!

J. HALL PAXTON's story of his trek from Tihwa is the lead story in the *Saturday Evening Post's* issue of April 29 and is featured on the cover. It has been titled "I Escaped Over the Roof of the World" and makes exciting reading, even for those familiar with the facts.

VICE CONSUL DALLAS COORS, recently back from Saigon, gave us a broadened view of the duties of a Foreign Service Officer. It seems that a recently purchased residence in Saigon was getting some last-minute refurbishing in anticipation of a reception to be given there by Ambassador-at-Large Philip Jessup. The morning of the reception Vice Consul Coors found himself detailed to poking the newly-painted walls—just to make sure none of the guests would carry off the decoration on the backs of their coats.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Chairman of the U. S. Delegation to the International Telecommunications Union's International High Frequency Broadcasting Conference at Florence last month was J. PAUL BARRINGER of the Department's Office of Transport and Communication Policy. Other Department employees on the Delegation were FRED H. TRIMMER, HARVEY B. OTTERMAN, MORTON GLATZER, RAYMOND KAPLAN, ROGER C. LEGGE, JR., LYLE L. SCHMITTER, and FSO BARTLEY P. GORDON.

A South Pacific Conference, the first of its kind in the

South Pacific area, convened at Suva, Fiji, late last month. **ROBERT R. ROBBINS** of the Department's Office of Dependent Area Affairs is the principal adviser to the United States Commissioners—**DR. FELIX M. KEESING** and **MR. MILTON SHALLECK**.

In London for the preliminary discussions to the London Conference are, in addition to **AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE PHILIP C. JESSUP** and **ASSISTANT SECRETARY GEORGE W. PERKINS**, the following officials: **Messrs. G. HAYDEN RAYNOR**; **LEROY D. STINEBOWER**; **HENRY R. LABOUISSÉ, JR.**; **PERRY LAUK-HUFF, FSO**; **WILLIAM SANDERS**; **JAMES C. REBER**; **HENRY A. BYROADE**; **G. McMURTRIE GODLEY, FSO**; **RAYMOND A. HARE, FSO**; **LIVINGSTON T. MERCHANT, FSO**; **JACQUES J. REINSTEIN**; **HAROLD G. KISSICK**; **BRUCE GRAINGER**; and **MISS MIRIAM CAMP**.

IRWIN TOBIN, Labor Adviser for the Department's Bureau of European Affairs, was one of the advisers to the U. S. Delegation to the International Labor Organization's Conference on Migration which convened at Geneva a few weeks ago.

EDWIN F. STANTON, Ambassador to Thailand, has been nominated by the President to be U. S. Representative on the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East.

The U. S. Delegation to the FAO ninth session (at Rome) includes **JOHN W. EVANS** and **URSULA DUFFUS** of the Department of State. Miss Duffus was also an Adviser to the Delegation at the Joint Committee of the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Office of Epizootics held at Paris a week later.

The U. S. Delegation to the Third World Health Assembly of WHO included: **HOWARD B. CALDERWOOD**, **WALTER W. SOHL**, and **MRS. JEANNE ENDE** from the Department, and **ALVIN ROSEMAN**, U. S. Representative for Specialized Agency Affairs at Geneva.

JOURNAL CHANGES

Once again the Journal is changing its masthead. Missing from the list of our Editorial Board is the name of **FSO Martin Herz**, who is now Second Secretary of Embassy at Paris. Making up in activity for what his term lacked in length, the energetic, industrious Mr. Herz will be greatly missed by his fellow Board Members.

Newly appointed to the Board is **FSS William J. Handley**.



WILLIAM J. HANDLEY

Born of American parents in Paramaribo, Netherlands Guiana in 1918, Bill Handley has crowded a great many things into a fairly brief time. After graduating from British Guiana's St. Stanislaus College, he was from 1937-39 manager of an import company and an announcer, producer and script writer on British Guiana's radio station. From 1939 to 1940 he worked for Sears Roebuck, then went back to school and received a degree from the University of Maryland in 1942. With WPB and FEA from 1942 to 1944, he entered the Foreign Service in October 1944 and was Labor Attache in the Near East from 1945-48. After a Labor Department inter-service assignment he came to the Department. Now Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary **George C. McGhee** and Labor Adviser for NEA, he is mar-

ried and has a seven-year-old daughter. Bill tells us that he spends weekends and vacations working on his father's tobacco farm in nearby Charles County. If Banks' o' Dee's crop is smaller this year, blame it on the Journal.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

by James B. Stewart

The May 1925 JOURNAL is an exciting issue. On the cover there is a picture of "The Old Game Cock Trainer of Bali" showing off his prize bird. Inside there is a photograph of members of the Shiite Sect of the Sitt near Damascus in the annual and gory ceremony of cutting their heads. Another shows the fanatics beating themselves. They were "on the spot" shots by **Consul Jim Keeley**, used by his wife for her descriptive article of the ceremony.

The leading article is about the new Foreign Service School. **William Dawson**, Chief Instructor, stated that the first session of the school would commence on April 20, 1925 when some twenty candidates who passed the entrance examinations, would assemble in the Department for instruction and training.

In 1925 the entire Service mourned the untimely death of **Representative John Jacob Rogers** of Massachusetts, and the JOURNAL contained his photograph and tributes from the Secretary and Under Secretary. Through Mr. Rogers' efforts, the Diplomatic and Consular Services were combined in a single Foreign Service by the Rogers Act of 1924. Mrs. Rogers, elected to Congress June 30, 1925, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, has been a member ever since.

Consul J. J. Watson wrote of George Washington's visit to Barbados and his bout, while there, with smallpox. He was twenty and it was the first and only time that he left the United States.

In the May issue there is a photograph of the eight (count 'em) officers of the Embassy at Mexico City. **Ambassador James R. Sheffield** is seated on a very small sofa squeezed between **Arthur Schoenfeld**, Counselor, and **Alex Kirk**, First Secretary. Which reminds me of the late **George (Summy) Summerland**. Once when he was Chief of Protocol he was in the back seat of a car (narrow then) between two Mexican ladies, and he stammered and sputtered and turned red (so he said) when one of them moving away from him said "Why Señor Summy, you are tight!"

It happened in Jamaica: Once upon a time at the Consular Agency at Port Maria, cries of "Help, Murder, Police" came from below. **Consul Henry I. Wilcox** ran to the balcony and excitedly inquired the cause of the trouble of a negro bystander who replied "Gen'lman chastisin' a lady, Sir."

A few of the Service hands who were either "going or coming" in May of 1925 were: **Willard L. Beaulac** (Puerto Castilla), **Edward S. Crocker** (Warsaw), **Henry A. McBride** (Malaga), **Fletcher Warren** (Habana), **Fayette A. Flexer** (Mexico City), **Robert M. Scotten** (Rio), **Waldemar J. Gallman** (San Jose), **Thomas M. Wilson** (Inspecting), **Cecil M. P. Cross** (Laurenco Marques), **Morris N. Hughes** (Montevideo), **Maynard B. Barnes** (St. Gall), and **Ernest E. Evans** (Mexico City).

General Motors, Dodge Brothers and Hupp Motor Car Corporation (Huppmobile) each carried a full page ad in May 1925 when motoring togs were in vogue.

The BOOK SHELF

Francis C. deWolf
Review Editor



A History Of Spain. By Rafael Altamira (Second Spanish Edition) Translated into English by Muna Lee. *D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., Toronto, New York, London.* 1949, 748 pages, \$6.75.

REVIEWED BY IRENE A. WRIGHT

Professor Altamira's *History of Spain* is the master work of a judicial mind long trained to objective observation and to clear deduction. The volume is proof of the author's "scrupulous adherence to . . . historic fact . . . humane and generous concepts . . . rectitude of criterion . . . temperateness of judgment . . ." In so describing Don Rafael in her foreword Miss Lee has not exhausted the praise due to him, especially from North American historians in the Hispanic American field. This reviewer recalls, for example, an occasion when, in public session, at an international conference, all their work was being intentionally disregarded and the United States excluded from plans under discussion. Then it was that Don Rafael arose—the very embodiment of the Spanish people he describes on pp. XXIX-XXX of the volume under review. In a few words in which the lawyer spoke for the historian, he paid tribute to his North American colleagues and to their work based on research among original sources. No further attempt was made to exclude them from the intellectual Pan-America it had been hoped would emerge as the result of that particular conference. Nor is this the only instance when the "scrupulous adherence to . . . fact . . . generous concepts . . . rectitude of criterion . . . temperateness of judgment" which Miss Lee lists, and the radiant kindness of this eminent man, have combined to encourage and to inspire hewers of wood and drawers of water in the fertile field of Spanish and Spanish American history.

What an undertaking the volume under review represents! An Herculean task—accomplished. For here, with amazing ability to select and proportion, in a book of 748 pages Don Rafael tells the story of Spain from prehistoric times (recorded in human bones and stone implements) to the present division of the Spanish people into "two generations"—one continuing to reside upon the Peninsula, the other expatriate, scattered abroad. He himself is numbered among the latter. Nevertheless, surely none in the other "generation" can quarrel with Don Rafael's presentation of the recent tragic events which tore the Spanish people into two parts (of two different ideologies) "with no moral possibility of the two parts being welded into one."

It is perhaps the most amazing of many amazing things in this book that, after so masterly a review of all of Spain's momentous past, and of her present, this Spanish historian can look fearlessly to the future and forecast Spain's continuing contribution to human affairs in that ". . . universality . . . the human sense of the highest individual and collective minds striving . . . to find the formula and the method for a future of peace, of justice, and of truth, which will make life on this earth good to live."

Professor Altamira was fortunate in his association with Miss Lee. She has not merely translated a text from Spanish into English—she has produced an English counterpart worthy of the original.

Guests of The Kremlin. By Lieut Col. Robert G. Emmens. *The Macmillan Co., New York, N. Y.* 1949. 291 pages. \$3.00.

REVIEWED BY COL. A. G. SIMSON

Guests of The Kremlin is the Odyssey of one of the B-25 bomber crews which participated in the historic Doolittle bombing raid on Tokyo and was forced to land in Siberia because of gasoline shortage. It covers thirteen months and 8,000 miles of experience under communism as it is practiced by the Reds. In fact, the book might well be titled "How Communism Works."

It is in no sense a "political" book but rather an exciting adventure story expertly told. There isn't a dull spot in it. At the same time it is a devastating chronicle of the filth, squalor and want of a slave people who are doomed to live and die in an atmosphere of terror, ignorance and utter hopelessness. In his foreword the author states that "This book, rather, is an attempt to show, by describing the treatment the Soviets gave five American airmen, five men of a nation with whom they had allied themselves in the fight against Nazi aggression, a glimpse of the life, attitude and character of the product of the Soviet government—the Soviet citizen, today."

As internees, Col. Emmens and his fellow crewmen were well treated according to Soviet standards. Their lot, as the author repeatedly points out, was infinitely better than that of some of their brother flyers elsewhere. Nevertheless it was pretty grim. For, while at that time, the Russians deemed it inexpedient to give the Japanese cause to enter the war against them, at the same time they were almost equally anxious not to take any action with respect to the United States which might prejudice the flow of lend-lease aid to Russia or to delay United States participation in creating a front in Europe.

Some of Col. Emmens' comments may seem overdrawn to one who has never been behind the Iron Curtain but, in the opinion of your reviewer, such is not the case. They tally too well with his own observations in other parts of Russia.

This book is highly recommended, not only because it makes entertaining reading but also because it is an important contribution to the mosaic of our knowledge of what living really is in the Russia of today.

Lessons in Security and Disarmament from the History of the League of Nations, by Dr. James T. Shotwell, Acting President, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and Miss Marina Salvin, Lecturer in Government, Barnard College, *Columbia University Press, King's Crown Press, New York*, 1949. 149 pages. \$2.25.

Reviewed by ARTHUR SWEETSER

This little book adds another to the long list of most useful publications which Dr. James T. Shotwell has sponsored over the past quarter century. It comes at a time when the United Nations is beginning to experience some of the same difficulties as the League and when men's minds are open to studying the rich experience of that agency as

they were not open in the halcyon days of San Francisco when it seemed as if, on the rare occasions when inquiry was made as to what had happened in the 1919-1939 era, it was simply for the purpose of doing just the opposite! The United Nations has, in somber fact, been born into a far more dangerous and divided world than was the League, and has had immediately to devote itself to a series of specific individual crises running across the continents from Iran through Syria, Greece, Palestine, Kashmir, Indonesia, Korea, and back to Berlin. It has not had time to go as deeply as did the League into the general philosophy and practical organization of collective security. Dr. Shotwell has thus made a timely contribution in revivifying the herculean efforts at the organization of peace which featured the League's two decades: notably, the Treaty of Mutual Assistance, the Geneva Protocol, the Locarno Agreements, the General Act of 1928, the General Act of 1930, and the Treaty to Develop the Means of Preventing War. Following this general summarization is a somewhat uneven section on "A Comprehensive Survey of Security Disputes before the Council," and two excellent sections on the Manchurian and Ethiopian crises, which show, in the first instance, the almost fatal difficulty created by America's non-membership in the League, and, in the second, the little appreciated fact that sanctions, imperfectly applied as they were, were nevertheless almost critically dangerous for the aggressor state. Dr. Shotwell seems justified in saying in his Preface that "... It is time that some of the problems which were dealt with so seriously and at such great length by the statesmen at Geneva should be explored, not only for their historical interest but for their practical bearing upon the work of the United Nations."

Education In Occupied Germany. By Helen Liddell, Edmond Vermeil, and Bogdan Suchodolski (Librairie Marcel Riviere et Cie, Paris) *Columbia University Press, New York, 1949, 148 pages \$1.25*

REVIEWED BY VAUGHN R. DE LONG

The studies which are collected in this volume were prepared by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, the Centre d'Etudes de Politique Etrangere and the Polish Institute of International Affairs for a conference on some aspects of the German problem, held in Holland at Baarn October 6-11, 1947, and at Scheveningen April 11-17, 1948. The articles by Vermeil and Suchodolski are printed in the French language.

The distinctly unique approach to reorientation in each of the four occupation zones is clearly portrayed. Miss Liddell's discussion is especially clear on this point. The effects of the policy in each zone and the German reaction to it is objectively treated.

The most important part of the book is the introduction which summarizes the proceedings of the two conferences which prompted the studies here reported and others given at the conference.

It is interesting to learn that the delegates to these conferences were as unable as the four occupying powers to agree on an approach to the problem of German reorientation. This was true on the negative aspect of denazification, and how to deal with former NSDAP party members just as it was with positive German reorientation to democratic thinking.

One school of thought was that a reform of the social structure of Germany was basic to any German reform leading to increased democratic thinking and living. The other school of thought held that reeducation cannot be accomplished by imposition from without. This second idea would make it one of the principal duties of the Occupying

Powers to open Germany to democratic influences so that the Germans might understand the principles of Western democracy and develop their own adaptation.

Adherence to the ideas of the second school of thought also means acceptance of the belief that the establishment of international institutions by means of which Germany is integrated into the cultural life of Western Europe is one of the best guarantees for the future.

The Bismarck Episode. By Captain Russell Grenfell, R.N. *The Macmillan Company, New York, 1949, 219 pages, \$3.00*

REVIEWED BY W. B. AMMON, JR.

By mid-May, 1941, the British position at sea was serious and approaching the critical. Since the fall of France, merchant losses had mounted and had reached the point where the War Cabinet felt it could no longer release monthly sinkings. Into this crucial situation, on the 21st of May steamed the Bismarck.

"The Bismarck Episode" by Captain Russell Grenfell, R.N., is the story of the Bismarck's foray, her action with H.M.S. Hood and Prince of Wales, her race for the French Coast, and her subsequent sinking. The author's style is clear, simple and objective. Captain Grenfell has written the book for the layman rather than the professional, but the simplification is not overdone.

The author has presented his readers with many previously unknown details and facts of the action, such as H.M.S. Ark Royal's planes making a torpedo attack on a British cruiser and the fact that the Hood, through an error in identification, was firing at the Prince Eugen, not the Bismarck, before the Hood blew up. Captain Grenfell points out two major failings in the British Navy of 1941; poorly designed turrets for the 14 inch guns of H.M.S. King George V and Prince of Wales and the lack of high speed tankers.

"The Bismarck Episode" is better than the usual "now-it-can-be-told" book. Captain Grenfell has written a concise and most interesting account of a complex action.

NEW AND INTERESTING

The Grand Alliance. By Winston S. Churchill. Volume III of the history of the Second World War. The war in 1941 up to Pearl Harbor told in Mr. Churchill's own inimitable style. The Book of the Month selection for May.

East of the Iron Curtain. By Vernon Bartlett. The British newspaperman recently visited the satellite countries and reports the good and the bad he found—he was most depressed by Czechoslovakia and most impressed by Poland.

Crowded Company. By Philip Gibbs. Chit-chat about the great and near great. Fluffy and escapist, but after all cream puffs have their place on a menu.

I Was There. By Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy. President Truman comments, "They provide an authoritative source for all those interested in the strategy by which victory was achieved over the Axis powers in World War II."

The American Mind. By Henry Steele Commager. A survey of the American mind during the last 75 years including fiction, poetry, architecture, philosophy, politics, history. Interesting and useful, especially if you have to convince foreigners that Americans do think.

FRANCIS COLT DEWOLF

Pages from Diplomatic Notebooks

BY DONALD B. CAMPBELL
Embassy Librarian at Mexico City

Amazing, isn't it, when you think of it, how very little trace there is, in an Embassy as long established as this post, of all the officers and staff who have preceded us. A laundry slip with Powhatan Ellis' signature, dated 1841, slipped between the leaves of an old volume of the Statutes at Large. A collection of treaties, neatly bound and indexed, marked "Dabney fecit." (Dabney was Secretary of Embassy back around 1908). And stored away someplace, a collection of signed portraits of Ministers and Ambassadors who have served here. (I've never seen them, perhaps they have been destroyed by now).

Very little, when you think of all the Ministers and Ambassadors, and all the Secretaries, Military Attachés, Consuls, Vice Consuls and clerks, from the scrivener who made neat longhand copies of Poinsett's burning despatches, to the gals of today who muss their pretty fingers up making copies in sextuplicate with a grease ribbon.

But wait. Haven't we overlooked something? What about the ten or more Foreign Service people who have written books on Mexico? Let's leaf through some of their writings and see what they have had to say for themselves, their staffs, and the Mexican people among whom they lived.

Joel Poinsett

First, there is Joel Poinsett's "Notes on Mexico, Made in the Autumn of 1822 . . . by a Citizen of the United States." Poinsett, an enthusiastic traveller, made a brief visit to Mexico to have a look at the country and its self-made Emperor, and to report back to Washington. It was not until nearly three years later that he was appointed first American Minister to Mexico.

This South Carolinian of French Huguenot descent was well prepared for his post by years of travel and public life, and by previous experience as Consul General accredited to Buenos Aires, Chile, and Peru. Always the "flaming apostle of democracy," he had a penchant for exceeding his instructions, a trait which has made him a national hero in Chile, and a national scape-goat in Mexico.*

His "Notes,"* written as letters to a friend back home, contain an amazing amount of information about Mexico. He saw through the tawdry trappings of the Iturbide "empire," and correctly predicted its early demise. Of the Mexican Indians he said: "Measures must be taken to educate them, and lands distributed among them, before they can be considered as forming a part of the people of a free government." This prophetic advice was not followed until over a century later. Poinsett liked the Mexicans, and made many friends during his brief stay.

Brantz Mayer

Brantz Mayer is our next literary diplomat. He came here as First Secretary in 1841 and remained a little over

Donald B. Campbell went to teach in Habana right after he graduated from Harvard in 1932. A few years later he became a private teacher in Mexico City. From 1937 to 1941 he did editorial and commercial work there and in 1941 he was appointed a clerk in the Embassy. Mr. Campbell has been Embassy Librarian for over two years now.

*C. F. article by P. J. Reveley, September 1948 Journal.

a year. Our Minister at that time was Powhatan Ellis of Mississippi, of whom I have almost no information. Mayer's first book, "Mexico as It Was and as It Is," was published in 1844, and went through three editions. It is a hodge-podge of travel notes, antiquities and history, with many illustrations drawn by the author himself. It is still a highly readable book, abounding in acute observation and skillful description. Mayer, like Poinsett, was a great traveller, and managed to see quite a lot of the country in spite of its unsettled conditions. For over six months he lived with a Mexican family, a fact which accounts for some of his insights: "In the privacy of this dwelling, I learned to estimate the love and regard between parents and children; the beautiful benevolence of ancient friendship; the universal respect for genius; and besides, had frequent occasion to notice the expanding spirit, ardent patriotism, desire of cultivation, and quick talent, which embellish the Mexican character. . . It has been my task—amid the desolation and ruin of the country—amid the dust and ashes to which a great nation has been reduced by civil war—to seek for some living embers, and to discover sufficient elements of a sound and healthful society, from which the regeneration of the country may be expected."

Mayer has practically nothing to say of Legation affairs, but a remark of his throws light on the pace of life in 1842: "There is intelligence from the United States, perhaps, once a month, and about as often from Europe. The information brought by these arrivals, passes chiefly into the hands of merchants,—and, after a while, is gradually translated in fragments for some of the meagre newspapers, which treat you, months afterward, to a *refacciamento* of the stories or improvements that you had already forgotten."

After leaving Mexico, Mayer returned to Baltimore, his native city, and practiced law for a while. In 1852 he brought out a second book on Mexico, a two-volume history, under the title "Mexico, Aztec, Spanish and Republican."

General Waddy Thompson

General Waddy Thompson of South Carolina came to Mexico as Minister in 1842, and in 1846 published his "Recollections of Mexico." Thompson's outstanding diplomatic triumph was the liberation by Santa Anna of more than 200 "Texian" prisoners. Here is his description of this event: "On the 16th of June, 1842, the Texian prisoners of the Santa Fe expedition were released by General Santa Anna, that being his birth-day or rather the anniversary of his saint. . . Fearing that the immense populace . . . might offer them some violence, I went out knowing that my official station would protect me and might enable me to protect them. Never was fear more groundless, nor a surprise more agreeable. . . When the order for the liberation was given it was received with acclamation and shouts by the Mexican troops. . . officers and others threw pieces of money to the Texans, and as they passed through the crowd, instead of jeers and insults every Mexican had a word of kindness for them, running up to them and shaking hands, and exclaiming '*amigo, amigo!* my friend, my friend!' I saw one poor *lépero* pull off his blanket and offer it to a Texian who was rather more ragged than he was himself."

Robert McLane

Robert McLane, American Minister in 1859 and 1860, and co-author of the unratified McLane-Ocampo Treaty, published a volume of "Reminiscences" in 1903, but no copy is available here, so I pass it over.

John W. Foster

One of our most popular Ministers to Mexico was John W. Foster of Indiana, whose "Diplomatic Memoirs," published in 1909, contain a wealth of good reading. Foster, who was Minister from 1873 to 1880, saw the rise of Porfirio Díaz. While appreciating the statesmanlike qualities of the man, his approval was by no means as unqualified as was Henry Lane Wilson's, who saw the old dictator's fall in 1910. "The benevolent autocracy under his administration," says Foster of Díaz, "has resulted in great prosperity for the country, but it has done little to educate the masses of the people in their duties under a republican government."

The Fosters were in the habit of keeping open house on Tuesday evenings. These events were very popular, and were occasionally attended by President Díaz himself. It was in the American Legation that Díaz met his future wife, Carmen Romero Rubio, the daughter of a political enemy.

Foster travelled extensively over Mexico, mostly on horseback, and visited most of the Consulates. "The American Consuls in Mexico were as a rule a creditable body of men," he says, "attentive to their duties and patriotic representatives of their country. During my seven years' residence I only once had occasion to recommend to the Department a change. The chief consular post in those days was the port of Vera Cruz, and it was filled by Dr. S. T. Trowbridge, who had an honorable record of service in the Civil War and was an estimable gentleman. He had an interesting family of six children, one son and five daughters. They were all musically inclined, each one of them playing some instrument, and the Consulate was thus a merry meeting place for Americans."

"Dr. Trowbridge, for the diversion of his children, purchased a private printing-press and its equipment of type, etc. They issued at odd times a paper called 'Leisure Hours.' He wrote a sketch of his life, which was all set up, printed, and bound in his house by his daughters, and made quite a respectable volume. He claimed that such work was a good education for his girls in a locality where there were no English schools."

I regret that the Embassy Library has no copy of either "Leisure Hours" or the autobiography of Dr. Trowbridge. Should any descendant of his chance to read this, I should appreciate receiving more information regarding this early experiment in progressive education.

Edward Herbert Thompson

One of the most fascinating books on Mexico that I have ever read was written by our Consul at Mérida, Edward Herbert Thompson. "People of the Serpent" is its title and it tells of nearly half a century of adventure and scientific exploration among the Maya. Thompson used to say that he arrived in Yucatan via the lost continent of Atlantis, by which he meant that an article he had written about Atlantis had attracted attention to his talents and had landed him the post of Consul. His duties were more scientific than consular, as he was expected to explore the Mayan ruins which were then beginning to attract attention.

What a life! Thompson had his wife appointed clerk to look after the office for him, and devoted most of his time to travel over the Maya country. He came to know and

love the Mayas as few men have, and he spoke the difficult Mayan language fluently. He lost health and money, but he had a wonderful time: "I was an enthusiast by nature and so completely did I give myself to my work in Yucatan that some of my contemporaries spoke of me as impractical. I carried out many explorations for such institutions as the Peabody Museum of Harvard, the Field Columbian Museum of Chicago, and others, but when there was an expedition to be made and no great foundation at hand to sponsor it, I was wont to undertake it all the same, on my own account. I purchased and restored the great plantation of Chichen Itzá, ancient capital and sacred city of the Mayas, so that I might better study this, the greatest monument of a vanished race. I have squandered my substance in riotous explorations and I am altogether satisfied."

Henry Lane Wilson

Now I must regretfully turn from Thompson and his labor of love to the holocaust of 1910-1920. Díaz' iron peace and open door to foreign capital and immigration had attracted nearly 100,000 Americans to Mexico when the storm broke, and tens of thousands of them lost their fortunes and their homes, and many hundreds lost their lives. No other period has produced so many books from diplomatic and consular pens. I have already mentioned Henry Lane Wilson, whose "Diplomatic Episodes in Mexico, Belgium and Chile" described the fall of Díaz, the tragic ten days which culminated with the murder of Francisco Madero, and the Embassy's efforts to protect the lives and property of American citizens. I pass no judgments here, and would urge those who would condemn Wilson to read his book to form a concept of what he had to face.

I, for one, am grateful to Henry Lane Wilson for giving us glimpses of the Embassy staff and details of the work. "The clerical force of the Embassy rose and fell with the surge and resurgence of important political events; at times there were . . . as many as six clerks and at other times the number fell to three, but whether we were supplied to the limit or reduced to normal, the work in hand always exceeded the hours of the day and sometimes extended into the middle of the night."

"Mr. Charles B. Parker, a young man of fine character and qualities, was second clerk and remained with me to the last. He enjoyed my full confidence and was cognizant of every act performed by me, and every written word." (Charlie Parker, after a long business career in Latin America, returned to the Embassy in 1941 as Senior Economic Analyst, and is still with us.)

Edith O'Shaughnessy

When Wilson was recalled in 1913, First Secretary Nelson O'Shaughnessy remained as Chargé. Edith O'Shaughnessy, his wife, produced two books, both of which originated in daily letters which she was accustomed to write to her mother; they are "A Diplomat's Wife in Mexico" and "Diplomatic Days." They afford us vivid glimpses of the foreign diplomatic corps and the tragic events of which she was an eye witness. There are also passages about her cute little son, Elim O'Shaughnessy, now Officer in Charge, French-Iberian Affairs.

Will B. Davis

In Guadalajara, when the storm broke, was an American doctor who also officiated as Vice Consul in the absences of Samuel E. Magill, the regular Consul. Inexperienced Will B. Davis found himself in full charge during four full

(Continued on page 49)

Letter From Mexico

By Philip and Alice Raine

"Enjoy Mexico. Your vacation Dollar stretches 40% more than two years ago. Come to wonderful Mexico! Come by land, by sea, by air — but come . . . !"

Full page ads with variations on that theme, embellished with smiling señoritas and views of the Floating Gardens or the cathedral of Taxco are bringing more and more people this way. That these ads, paid for by the National Tourists Commission, are blossoming out in important U. S. magazines and newspapers this year, emphasizes the importance which the Mexican government concedes to this source of revenue. Though Mexicans may still smile superciliously at the sun-goggled, camera-hung, barelegged *turista* they nevertheless appreciate what he (read "she" for barelegged) means to the economy of the country and graciously accept him as part of the panorama of Mexico. According to the Tourist Commission almost 300,000 tourists (96% of them Americans) visited Mexico last year. Discounting what Mexicans spent abroad as tourists, Mexico was left with a net of close to a hundred and thirty million dollars from the tourist trade, which in a total of \$920 million dollars of foreign trade is no mean sum. During December of 1949, 25,000 tourists left 12 million pesos in Acapulco alone. Though it is as difficult as ever for a foreigner to acquire a permanent living or working permit for Mexico, tourists—anyone living up to six months—are made to feel that Mexico exists solely for them. This even goes for customs-inspectors, that universal bane of the travelers' existence.

Stateside Touches

To make Americans feel at home hotels are adding such United States features as ice-water, soda-fountains and pretty girls selling newspapers in the lobby. In addition more and more attractions are dreamed up. To mention only two: the brand-new "La Perla" nightclub in Acapulco whose dance-floor hangs precariously a hundred feet or so over the Pacific Ocean; and the hunting- and fishing-lodge at "Enchanted Beach." The gardenia-strewn swimming-pool

Foreign Service Reserve Officer Philip Raine has been Cultural Attache at Mexico City since January 1948. His prior experience includes work with the Department, with the Office of Inter-American Affairs, plus a stint in the Army.

Hotel de la Borda, Taxco. Photo courtesy Pan American Union.



at Fortin is as popular as ever. And as the advertisements point out, vacations cost less now after the stabilization of the peso at 8.65 to the dollar. An excellent lunch at the Tampico Club in Mexico City, a lunch of 6 courses and coffee, is still to be had for seven and a half pesos. But if you want international cuisine with music you can pay as much as 35 pesos—about four dollars—in the tonier spots like the Capri, where Agustín Lara, Mexico's Irving Berlin, and composer of such songs as "You Belong To My Heart," "Maria Bonita" and "Madrid" holds forth at the piano; El Patio, where Duke Ellington was contracted to play until the Mexican musicians' union decided they would have none of it until Petrillo makes some concessions to Mexicans; or the Versailles Room at the Hotel Prado, whose French food is really tops.

Low currency, good hotels, polite hosts, a stable government, "eternal spring" climate—even if it sometimes seems a rather wintry spring,—are among the reasons why Mexico City also bids fair to become the convention capital of the world. To make a list of the international conventions, meetings, congresses, held here last year would be too long; just to mention a few might give an idea of their variety: Architects, Engineers, Pediatricians, International Telecommunications Conference, Advertising Men, Travel Agents, Race Track Chemists. . . . And in order to start 1950 right the philosophers of this hemisphere, together with a sprinkling from Europe, met here during January to discuss their eternal values of truth, freedom and understanding. The world's physicists are expected for June.

Philosophical Fling

The Third Inter-American Congress of Philosophy was the news of the hour, with newspapers giving it front page coverage. Editors of United States papers would have wondered if all they had ever learned about newsworthiness hadn't been full of gaps somewhere along the line, considering the headlines philosophical discussions achieved here. Even so, the Mexican Existentialists, in the last days of the Congress stole most of the headlines away from such stellar attractions as Yale's Charles Hendel, Wesleyan's Cornelius Krusé and France's Alexander Koydré. Some think now that if Existentialism ever amounts to anything it will be because of the group of young Mexicans, led by Emilio Uranga, who may well move Existentialist philosophy's capital from Paris to Mexico City.

That Existentialism is the vogue in certain sections of intellectual Mexico is borne out by the list of plays recently presented here, some under the auspices of the French Cultural Institute, some by local impresarios. Sartre's "Manos Sucias," and "Muertos sin Sepultura," have had successful runs as has a play with a Sartre-inspired theme, written by a Mexican who studied in France. This coming season American plays sponsored by the Mexican-American Cultural Institute will somewhat balance the French fare, Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill having been chosen as the United States entries. The picture of an average American produced in a non-travelled Mexican's mind after Tennessee Williams on the one hand and Hollywood on the other, must present some rather strident colorations. Tennessee Williams, by the way, is already well-known here. "Un Tranvia Llamado Deseo" in whose translation Rodolfo

(Continued on page 47)



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José Clemente Orozco

por ANTONIO CASTRO LEAL

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Asistimos, desde hace poco más de veinte años, a un momento de esplendor de la pintura mexicana. Se diría que las fuerzas de la raza, dormidas mucho tiempo, sólo esperaban que las circunstancias de nuestra historia y la nueva visión de nuestra tiempo brindaran ocasión y sustancia, aliento y sentido a las imágenes y a los símbolos de nuestra pintura. Después de la Revolución de 1910 México descubrió nuevas formas, que había considerado indignas el arte de las Academias, y colores más brillantes y luminosos de los que podía soportar la paleta tradicionalista. Un temblor conmovió a todos los espíritus; se sintió la necesidad de buscar expresión a aquel descubrimiento, de establecer las bases de una nueva solidaridad nacional.

Ante estos imperativos, la pintura abandonó el cuadro de caballete — producto aislado de la vida en las galerías de los museos o escondido entre recuerdos de familia en las colecciones privadas— y se decidió por el muro, el muro generoso y épico, el muro a la vista del pueblo, en donde la obra del artista —recreo unánime y público mensaje— pertenece a todos. Y la pintura mural mexicana se multiplicó y fué creciendo en fuerza y depurando su calidad hasta llegar a ser una nueva contribución de México al tesoro universal de las

artes plásticas. La tercera contribución en el transcurso de unos cuantos siglos. La primera, ya lo adivináis, fué la escultura precortesiana, el conjunto de realizaciones de esos pueblos de los que decía Roger Fry que 'nos han dejado más obras maestras de escultura pura, que todas las civilizaciones de Mesopotamia o que la mayoría de las civilizaciones modernas de Europa.' La segunda contribución fué la arquitectura barroca mexicana del siglo XVIII, que no es una simple repetición del barroco español, y que, en sus derivaciones arquitectónicas y plásticas, forma por sí sola un capítulo del arte universal, de manera que, como lo ha dicho con tanta justicia Sacheverell Sitwell, no es posible escribir la historia de la arquitectura sin tomar en consideración las iglesias de Tepozotlán y la Valenciana, la parroquia de Santa Prisca, en Taxco, y el Santuario de Nuestra Señora de Ocotlán.

Pues bien, el principal creador, con Diego Rivera, de esa pintura moderna nuestra de valor universal, es José Clemente Orozco, uno de los artistas más fuertes y originales de nuestro tiempo, a quien acaba de concederle México el Premio Nacional de Artes Plásticas, correspondiente a 1946. No ha habido entre nosotros artista más honrado consigo y más ansioso de que el arte se alimente de las esencias más puras y más ricas. Se rebeló con violencia contra la pintura que es nada más juego de copista y exactitud servil, de la pintura que se ha llamado 'reproducción fiel de la realidad.' Que el pintor de la antigüedad se contente con que los pájaros piquen las uvas que coloreó su pincel; que el espectador ingenuo se asombre el espantar la mosca que el pintor holandés dibujó en los belfos de su famoso toro. Para Orozco la naturaleza no es otra cosa — según la frase del pintor francés Delacroix — que un diccionario. Y una pintura, lejos ya del ideal de reproducción fiel y fotográfica de la naturaleza, es más bien — como lo ha dicho con tanto tino el propio Orozco — un poema, 'un poema y nada más.' En ese diccionario de formas de la naturaleza, que Orozco conoce a maravilla, nuestro pintor busca las palabras para decir, en términos de pintura, su pensamiento.

Podemos muy bien afirmar que las pinturas murales de Orozco son una serie de poemas que van desde la elegía más tierna y doliente hasta las más arrematadas visiones apocalípticas, pasando por la sátira despiadada y la epopeya que enriquecen los símbolos de una nueva mitología. Pero no es Orozco — digámoslo desde luego para evitar incomprendiones — no es Orozco un pintor literario, que llame en su auxilio sugerencias o alusiones que pertenecen al campo de las bellas letras. Lo que dice, por más abstruso y complicado que sea, lo dice con la línea y el color, los cuales son en cada pintor, aun antes de que el espectador haya desentrañado el mensaje que contiene el cuadro, una expresión del modo de ser del artista, de su modo de sentir y de interpretar la vida. ¿Quién no podrá distinguir una actitud espiritual diversa en la línea gozosa y la coloración ardiente de Rubens, y en las entonaciones frías y las líneas graves del Greco?

No es Orozco un pintor fácil y consolador, sedante y complaciente. Todo el gran arte de nuestro tiempo perdió ya, acaso para siempre, esas características. Nuestro mundo está en el centro de un huracán de inquietudes, ante las amenazas de la negación y del vacío. Este mundo tan revuelto, tan confuso y trágico, en ningún pintor de nuestro tiempo alcanza expresión más desgarradora y sincera que en José Clemente Orozco.



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Mayan Ruins

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JUNGLE CIVILIZATION

By CONSUL HENRY G. KRAUSSE
Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico

An ancient civilization was made known to the modern world by two members of the American Foreign Service—John Lloyd Stephens, Special Envoy of the United States to Central America (1839), and Edward Herbert Thompson, American Consul at Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico (1885-1909).

Three thousand years prior to the Christian Era, the Maya, a civilization which rivaled and perhaps excelled the ancient ones of the Old World, flourished here. Stupendous monuments, scattered throughout the Yucatán Peninsula, are mute evidence of a great and brilliant past.

The Maya possessed only two of the five major aids which anthropologists recognize as essential in development from savagery to civilization. The two were the conquest of fire and cultivation of the earth. The ancient Old World civilizations—Egyptian, Assyrian and Babylonian—made use of all five factors, including metal tools, domesticated animals and the wheel (for both transportation and pottery-making). The only one to develop under the adverse conditions of the jungle, Maya civilization, survived for over one thousand years.

In addition to the finer arts, the Maya evolved a vigesimal numerical system and employed the concept of zero before it was borrowed from the Arabs by the Europeans; had a calendar more accurate than that used in Europe at the time of the Spanish Conquistadors; built "surfaced" roads used by runners and other foot travellers and had an economic system based almost entirely on the cultivation of maize. The Maya undoubtedly possessed an outstanding political and governmental system in order to have successfully maintained a millenium of empire.

These people, after they began recording their chronology

Ever since he joined the Foreign Service as clerk in the Consulate at Matamoros, in 1917, Henry Gustave Krausse has served at posts in Mexico. Henry, Jr., incidentally, is now Vice Consul at Aruba.

in stone in the year A.D. 317, experienced three major periods in their history, namely, the Old Empire (A.D. 317 to 987); The New Empire or Renaissance (A.D. 987 to 1194); and the era known as the Mexican Period when the Maya were conquered by northern tribes, presumably the Toltecs (A.D. 1194 to 1441). At the time of the Spanish conquest of Yucatán, 1541, the Maya civilization had completely disintegrated. It is interesting to note that the Maya almost completely assimilated the Toltec conquerors. Although some of their later monuments clearly show Toltec architectural influence, the Maya to this day have conserved their language.

Diplomats, Archaeologists, Explorers

The existence of great ruined cities buried in the jungles of the Yucatán Peninsula was unknown to the outside world until John Lloyd Stephens was entrusted in 1839 by President Van Buren with a confidential mission to Central America. He was so greatly impressed with what he observed that he made two trips to the Yucatán Peninsula, purchased the ruined city of Copán in Honduras for a price said to have been \$50, and wrote two volumes in 1841 and 1843, respectively, relating to his travels in Central America and southern Mexico. He is credited with having brought to the attention of the outside world the great ancient cities of Maya civilization.

Another American diplomat, Edward Herbert Thompson, was an archaeologist who had been deeply impressed during his youth with the writings of Stephens. His chief purpose

for coming to the Peninsula* was to explore the ruins at Chiehén-Itzá, probably the most famous of the ancient Maya cities and site of the "Sacred Well." Thompson, like Stephens, also purchased a ruined Maya city—Chiehén-Itzá—then part of an old plantation, at a price said to have been the equivalent of \$500. During his twenty-five years in Yucatán he made several valuable archaeological discoveries in his ruined city, including that of the "Tomb of the High Priest." His obsession, however, centered on discovering whether the ancient Maya did in fact offer sacrifices of young maidens to their rain-god, *Yum Chaac*, who supposedly dwelt in all his majesty at the bottom of the well, sixty feet below the water's surface. In this venture, Thompson was most successful. He dredged from the well, in the face of great difficulties, many human skeletons, a fortune in gold and jade jewelry and many other objects of Maya culture, which have helped to piece together the Maya story as it is known today.

Chichen-Itza as It Is Today

A visit today to the ancient Maya capital of Chiehén-Itzá, is a revelation to the layman and a delight to the student of archaeology. The ruins of the ancient city are divided into two sections—the old and the new. Most of the structures comprising the newer section have been partly restored by archaeological expeditions from the United States and Mexico City. With a few exceptions, the ruins of the older section of the city present to the eye a vast panorama of mounds covered with vegetation, as yet untouched by modern man.

Chiehén-Itzá is a "must" for visitors to Mérida. Recent tourists include: Ambassador Walter Thurston, Mr. Kenneth Atkinson and Mr. J. B. Henning of the Department, Foreign Service Inspector George J. Haering, Consul General and Mrs. Carl W. Strom, Agricultural Attaché Dr. John A. Hopkins and Mrs. Hopkins, Air Attaché Colonel George Champion, and Mrs. Lew B. Clark, all from the Embassy at Mexico. All have been greatly impressed with their visit to a place "out of this world."

The story of the Maya has just begun to be told; the surface has been barely scratched. It is notable that the immense effort that has gone and will continue to go into the absorbing study of this ancient civilization was launched by two men who served in the Foreign Service of the United States.

MEXICO AND HER MOUNTAINS

(Continued from page 19)

unfavorable terrain impedes the development of a national market. The economic drain seems to have made it impossible to provide for the physical maintenance of the transportation system. Transportation tends to be uneconomically large in the "production cost" of goods; the difficulty is even worse compounded because the purchasing power of rural Mexico is so limited that even minor price increases produce a sharp overall decrease in purchasing ability.

The larger part of Mexico today still either lacks highway or railway service entirely or has but token and inadequate service. The airplane has helped, particularly in communication, but its cost as a means of transportation is usually uneconomically high. It is not yet clear whether the interconnected, interdependent national market that is the key-stone of a modern industrial (or even semi-industrial) society is economically or psychologically possible in Mexico.

The lack of effective transportation and communication also presented problems in government. How could there

*He was Consul at Merida and at Progreso.



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be effective democracy when there was not even any real comprehension of the idea of the nation, when the overwhelming mass of the population could not read or write, and when the communication and transportation facilities necessary for an election were absent? The inability to bring governmental power to bear throughout the land made stable government most difficult. It tended to reinforce Indian tribal authority and caused power largely to devolve upon strong men in various sections of the country. Revolutions relied on guerrilla activities. Mountains and wild terrain made them exceedingly difficult to put down. Any central government virtually had to use force and dictatorship to maintain itself and make its power effective.

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Mining products long provided the government with almost all its revenue and made up the bulk of Mexico's exports. The mining industry until recent decades bore the load of the economy, and it is still the largest item in the Mexican national product.

In addition, mountain elevation provides much of Mexico with a climate that is extremely pleasant. Lying below the Tropic of Cancer, most of Mexico would be an all but uninhabited jungleland (as is much of the low-lying southern part of the country) if it were not for the mountains. Mexican climate is determined primarily by altitude, not latitude, and its balmy spring-like weather has attracted a flourishing tourist trade. The breath-taking mountain scenery and the several volcanoes in the country have also helped. The mountains block off rain clouds from large sections and cause a seemingly ever more acute water shortage plus the many problems and uncertainties of dry-farming. It has been necessary to embark on large-scale irrigation projects. New and shifting mountain formations also pose the problem of frequent earthquakes.

The country and its people have been so influenced by the physical contours of the land that virtually every facet of Mexican life has been touched in some degree. The subject really evolves into a description and analysis of Mexican conditioning and behavior for Mexico truly has been molded by her mountains.

REPORTS FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 16)

MONTERREY

By MRS. HELEN STEELE, FSS

Probably the most exciting developments in the Monterrey Consulate during the past year have been in the field of cultural relations. It has been breath-taking to watch the expansion of the Monterrey program.



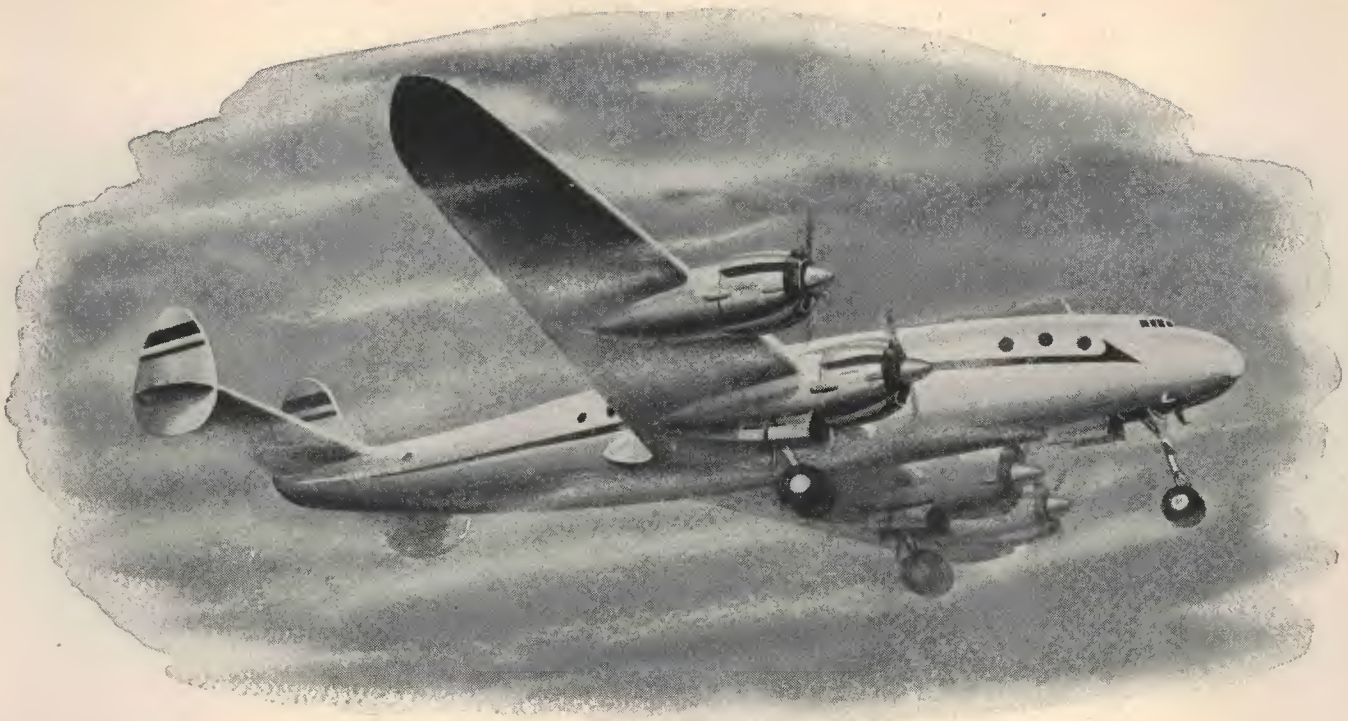
At the Honor Awards Ceremony at Monterrey, Consul General Rolland Welch pinned silver emblems on Vice Consul William B. Murray, Consul Stanley G. Slavens, Vice Consul Myron H. Schraud; bronze emblems on Guadalupe Tristan and Mrs. Mae D. Narro of the Visa Section, and Mrs. Helen S. Steele, Administrative Assistant. The veteran officer, Vice Consul Murray (28 years service) then pinned a silver emblem on the Consul General. Here, left to right, are: Mrs. Steele, Mr. Tristan, Mr. Schraud, Mr. Welch, Mr. Murray, Mr. Slavens, Mrs. Narro.

Now that the Department has provided the Consulate with a USIE section under Public Affairs Officer Robert Neprud, things are booming. In February the motion picture audiences numbered almost 22,500 and the March report showed an all-time high of 41,000.

A major development in the field of Mexican-American cultural relations was the First Congress of Historians of Mexico and the United States held in Monterrey early last September. Top social event of the year not only for the

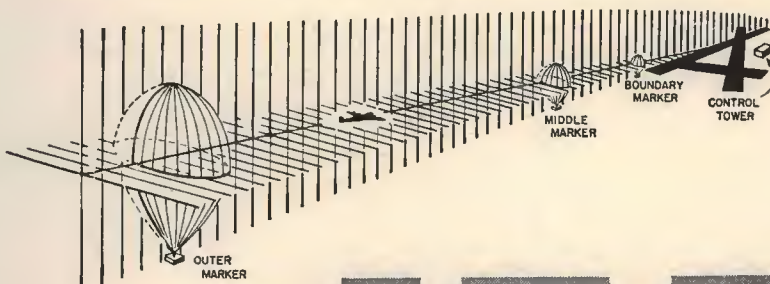
(Continued on page 40)

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REPORTS FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 38)

Consulate but for all of Monterrey, was the reception given by Ambassador Walter Thurston and Consul General and Mrs. Welch for the opening of the Congress. The very attractive roof of Monterrey's Casino was the scene. It was a unique experience to see so many of the best historians of the two countries under one roof (or, rather, sky). While Mr. Thurston and other Ambassadors had often visited Monterrey, this was the first time in history that any Ambassador had given a reception here and the local newspapers devoted entire pages of praise to the event, which they accepted as an especial compliment to the city. Besides the delegates to Congress about 600 prominent citizens of Monterrey and Mexico City attended the reception. Editorially, the newspapers hailed the Congress and the reception as the event of the century in fostering good relations between the two countries.

PIEDRAS NEGRAS

By WILLIAM KANE, Consul

The Mexican border city of Piedras Negras, Coahuila, across the Rio Grande from Eagle Pass, Texas, is making extensive preparations to celebrate its first Centennial this coming August.

The planned festivities will consist of the coronation of the Queen of the Centennial; a cattle exposition; a pageant of the historical caravan that came to form the military colony of Guerrero in Piedras Negras; a historical parade; pilgrimage to the village of San Juan Bautista de Rio Grande (now Villa Guerrero); *noches mexicanas*; battle of flowers; popular dances; a historical and literary contest; old fashioned dance contest; bull fights; and other interesting events.

The Centennial Committee expects a large number of visitors both from the Republic of Mexico and from the United States.

GUAYMAS

By SAMUEL O. LANE, FSO

Guaymas, famous for its excellent deep-sea fishing and shrimp, visited and occupied successfully by United States Naval Forces in 1847, and visited unsuccessfully for occupation purposes in 1854 by the French Count Gaston Rousset de Boulbon, was visited March 15-19, 1950 by a group of thirty students from the Verde Valley School of Sedona, Arizona. Headed by Hamilton Warren, a former Department of State official, this coeducational institution has as its special theme the training of students for world citizenship.

Arrangements made through the Consulate included a morning attending classes at the local schools. As a result some twenty Mexican students spent several days visiting at Bahia San Carlos where the American students had camped.

Judging by comments heard both from Mexicans and Americans alike, this interesting experiment in fostering better understanding and cultural relations between two impressionable groups from two different countries is sure to bear fruit.

TIJUANA

By PAUL B. CARR, Vice Consul

Lower California is an arid finger of land stretching approximately 700 miles southward, separated from the Mexican mainland by the Gulf of California or Sea of Cortez. Most of the peninsula is a sterile desert broken by rugged mountains. It is a fierce land isolated from its mother country by the gulf, and great portions of it are not only uninhabited but virtually unknown. Tourists from the north flock by the hundreds of thousands across the border from the United States but are stopped short in the border towns by lack of roads below. It is difficult to realize that certain

areas of this peninsula were developed and its Indians civilized long before the first mission was raised in our own California. Lower California is the mother of upper California and her already well established mission system sponsored and nurtured those in our own state of California.

In many ways the mission days were the great days of Baja California. Today those missions or their ruins are scattered in a single line the length of the peninsula like the beads of a rosary. They are tangible reminders of a great past, monuments to the Padres who gave their lives in devotion to the cross. The Indians have now gone but many of their missions still stand. The part they played in the development of our own southwest adds to their interest. Some day when a good road has penetrated the peninsula these missions will be an important attraction for tourists and historians.

VERACRUZ

By ROBERT W. EASTHAM, FSO

Veracruzanos have the reputation of being the most cheerfully informal of all Mexicans, but they have recently outdone themselves in the celebration of the Silver Anniversary of the Veracruz carnival. The *fiesta* began on the 16th of February and lasted for seven uproarious days and seven sleepless nights. Besides a practically 100% turn-out of the local folks, it is estimated that about 20,000 visitors came from far and near to take part in the merrymaking. But, although there were many familiar faces in the *portales*, the natural *jarocho* hospitality and the mellowing effects of the *tequila Añejo* soon made bosom friends of even the newest acquaintances. Consul Warren C. Stewart, having survived



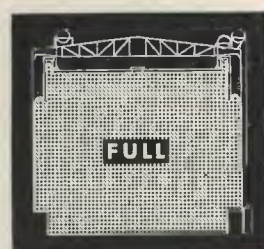
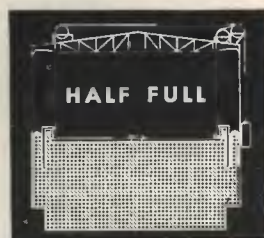
Carnival at Veracruz

last year's carnival, retreated to Mexico City to conserve his strength in calmer surroundings, while the rest of the Consulate staff stayed on hand to watch a delightfully dissipative week.

The following days and nights proved to be a continuous test of human endurance. The ubiquitous *Mariachi* bands were out in all their silver-embroidered glory, pouring out *ranchero* songs with every decibel of sound obtainable from throats, fiddles, guitars and trumpets. There was dancing in the streets until 3 in the morning! These Mexican equivalents of the "Grand Ole Opry" ensembles are absolutely untiring. File Clerk Delia Hinojosa, after sitting for seven hours with her left ear in front of the trumpet claims she still wakes in the mornings to an "umpty-ump-ump!" It is the writer's considered opinion that the *Mariachis* wear those extremely wide brim *sombreros* so that, hidden from the gaze of their audience, they can snatch a few undetected winks even as they continue to pick, how, and puff.

Parades of floats and costumed merrymakers wreaked complete havoc with the automobile traffic which normally operates just short of chaos. Wiser heads kept their cars

(Continued on page 42)



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REPORTS FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 40)

in the garage. Chief Clerk Fred Toombs, for one, gave his late model "Stanley Steamer" a well deserved and much needed rest.

The funmaking ended on the 22nd when Juan Carnaval was laid to rest for another year. All in all, it was about the most thoroughly celebrated Silver Anniversary in which the writer has yet been involved. And so, back to the even tenor of life in Jarocholand for another year!

MAZATLAN

By ARTHUR V. METCALFE, *Vice Consul*

Mexico's tropical port of Mazatlán was recently visited by the U.S.S. *Uhlmann*, a naval reserve ship, which was enthusiastically received by all the townspeople of Mazatlán.

After a reception held at the Consulate for the officers, the Captain invited the ladies present to visit the ship. The invitation was eagerly accepted, and on a bright sunny Sunday morning twenty of the beauties for whom Mazatlán is famous throughout Mexico lined up on the dock to board the shore boat which would take them to the *Uhlmann*, anchored about a mile and a half away in the outer harbor. The tide was exceptionally low and lack of an adequate ladder or stairway made it necessary for the ship's officers to assist the shrieking girls as they descended some eight feet from the wharf to the launch.

Mazatlanecans, especially the ladies, in spite of the inconveniences of their trip to the *Uhlmann*, are now anxiously awaiting the arrival of the U.S.S. *Blenny*, a submarine scheduled to call here on May 19-22. The Consulate has received many requests from townspeople that arrangements be made for them to visit it. Most of them have never seen a submarine and interest in its arrival is unusually keen.

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The comments in the Announcement of March 1, 1949, about hospital-surgical coverage for Members will not apply subsequent to May 31, 1950. The Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance became effective at 12 o'clock noon March 1, 1950.

You will find application forms at the back of the Announcement of March 1, 1949 which should be on file in all Foreign Service establishments, or you may receive an application form by writing direct to the Association.

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MEXICALI

By GEORGE H. ZUENTZ, *Vice Consul*

The 1950 International Desert Cavalcade which took place on the Calexico-Mexicali border March 17 through 19 was an unqualified success as a factor in good Mexican-American relations. The Cavalcade, commemorating the cultural and historical bonds between California and Mexico, was characterized by its usual gaiety and color and had a greater attendance this year than ever before. Vice Consul George H. Zentz entertained the distinguished Cavalcade guests in an official reception at his residence in Mexicali. The guest list of over one hundred "good neighbors" included Governor and Mrs. Earl Warren of California, Governor and Mrs. Alfonso García González of the Northern Territory of Baja California; Governor Soto of the State of Sonora, Mexico; and Colonel and Mrs. Gil Proctor, representing Governor Dan Garvey of Arizona. The reception was in keeping with the prevailing spirit of the Cavalcade which in the words of Governor Warren was "an exemplification of international goodwill at the 'grass roots' level."



Reception given for honored guests of the Eleventh International Cavalcade at Consular residence on March 17, 1950. From left to right: Vice Consul Ernest S. Guaderrama, FFS; The Honorable Ignacio Soto, Governor of Sonora, Mexico; The Honorable Earl Warren, Governor of California; The Honorable Alfonso García González, Governor of the Northern Territory of Baja California; Vice Consul George H. Zentz, FSS; Vice Consul Ernest K. Griffin, FSS; Mason A. Evans, FSS; Rita E. Thomas, FSS; Guillermo Rascon, FSL; Margarita J. Farias, FSS; Jose R. Meza, FSL.

AGUA PRIETA

By Consul Arthur R. Williams

I know you must be tired of the old items to the effect that FSO Joe Doaks and his family passed through on their way to their new post at Wherezit. Anyway, nobody ever passes through here.

You might be interested in a local Mexican specialty, academically only, I hasten to add, and that is—MEZCAL. Some may want to know about TEQUILA, too. Well, tequila is mezcal, but not all mezcal is tequila. How come? That's easy. Tequila is mezcal produced from The Blue Agave *Tequilana Weber Amarilidaceas* chiefly in the State of Jalisco, whereas other mezcals are produced from somewhat similar plants elsewhere in the country. In other words, tequila is the champagne of mezcals.

A publication of the Bureau of Standards, Department of Economy, Mexico City, tells us that "TEQUILA is a transparent liquid, colorless, or, when it has been aged, slightly yellow; of a characteristic odor and flavor; with a strong quantity of alcohol and a weak proportion of extract." The brochure adds (just so that nobody can say that he wasn't warned) that tequila "is used as a drink."

The booklet also tells us how to taste-test tequila. You (not I) pour 25 milliliters (i.e. 25 cc) of tequila into a

(Continued on page 44)



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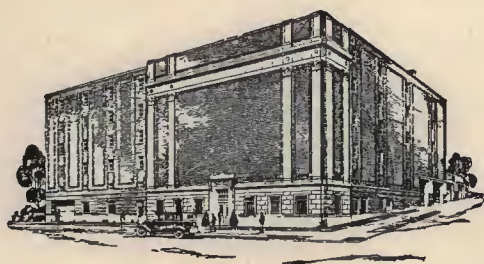
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REPORTS FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 42)

conical glass, diluting with a little warm water, if you wish (and you are advised to so wish); cover the glass with a watch crystal; shake well; uncover; then judge the odor. Immediately thereafter (if the whiff didn't knock you out) taste it, holding the liquid in your mouth for "some seconds"; then spit it out and appreciate (judge) the flavor. The odor and flavor must be typical of this drink, the little book says.

Another way to taste-test tequila, I'm told, is to take a swig from the bottle so labeled. If it only takes the skin off your tongue, it's tequila; but if it also burns your necktie off as it goes down your gullet, it's just plain old mezcal.

Now, if anybody, being warned, wants to try a shot of this stuff here's how he should prepare himself. In the fingers of one hand he holds a chunk of green lime (lemon just won't do), and in a dimple on the back of that hand, or in the depression formed when the thumb is pressed against the forefinger, our hero holds a small quantity of common table salt. He seizes the "copita" of tequila in the other hand, shoots the liquid into his oral orifice with one bold gesture, quickly licks up the salt, and as quickly chews on the chunk of lime. (For the neophyte it is recommended that this performance take place while seated on a thickly-carpeted floor.) The reason for the lime and salt is not entirely clear, but the combination seems to act as a back-fire.

Last year Clerk Anita C. Garbony, of this office, wrote a highly-praised report on the preparation of mezcal. Here's how they do it in this region, to synopsise her account.

The "maguey" (agave) plant is uprooted with a sharp iron bar, and the pineapple-like leaves are carefully stripped away, leaving the ball-shaped heart. About three thousand to eight thousand pounds of maguey hearts are loaded into an igloo-like oven made of adobe or of stone, through a door in the top. This door, of iron, is closed and dirt shoveled on top of it to prevent the escape of heat. A big bed of coals is built up and the maguey hearts steam in their own juice for 48 hours. When removed, the hearts, originally white, have turned brown and smell like molasses.

The maguey hearts then are converted into pulp. Cooled, water is added and the mixture allowed to ferment from five to eight days, depending upon the weather. No yeast is needed.

The first-run distillate, called "agua vino," has a nasty flavor but is redistilled. The product of the second run is (guess what!)—mezcal. One ton of maguey hearts yields about eighteen or nineteen gallons of mezcal, which ought to hold you a while. *Salud!*

MARRIAGES

RENDALL-WOLFF. Miss Carol Wolff and FSO Edwin C. Rendall were married in Wilmington, Delaware, on October 1, 1949. Mrs. Rendall formerly worked in the Department's press section. Vice Consul Rendall is attached to the Consulate General at Marseille.

ALBERTS-WALLER. Mrs. Vivian Waller and Dr. Hugo W. Alberts were married in Washington on February 4, 1950. Dr. Alberts was formerly Agricultural Attache in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Mrs. Alberts formerly worked in the Transportation Branch of the Division of Central Services.

SEIFERT-GILMAN. Miss Edna Anne Gilman and FSS Herbert Lee Seifert were married in Arlington, Virginia, on February 11, 1950. Mr. Seifert was formerly assigned to Jidda and is now at the Embassy in Athens. Mrs. Seifert was with the Transportation Branch of the Division of Central Services.

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BIRTHS

CUNNINGHAM. A son, Andrew Francis, was born on December 6, 1949, to FSO and Mrs. H. Francis Cunningham, Jr., at Saigon, Indo-China, where Mr. Cunningham is Consul at the Legation.

BARTCH. A son, Karl Christopher, was born on December 23, 1949, to FSS and Mrs. Carl E. Bartch at Nicosia, Cyprus, where Mr. Bartch is assigned as Vice Consul at the Consulate.

TERRELL. A daughter, Katherine Diane, was born on January 25 to FSS and Mrs. Edwin M. Terrell in Habana, where Mr. Terrell is Assistant Attache.

HOYT. A daughter, Joanne Linda, was born on February 19, to FSO and Mrs. Henry Hoyt in Habana, where Mr. Hoyt is Second Secretary of Embassy.

HORNER. A son, Christopher de Jongh, was born on February 22, 1950, in Moscow, to FSO and Mrs. John Evarts Horner. Mr. Horner is First Secretary of Embassy at Moscow.

MITCHELL. A son, Raymond Nelson, III, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mitchell on March 30, 1950, at Buenos Aires, where Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Embassy staff.

BELTON. A son, Timothy, was born on April 5, 1950, in San Francisco, California, to FSO and Mrs. William Belton. Mr. Belton is First Secretary of Embassy at Ciudad Trujillo.

WEININGER. A son, Robert Stephen, was born in Washington, D. C., on April 12, 1950, to FSO and Mrs. Arthur D. Weininger. Mr. Weininger is now on loan to ECA.

LETTER FROM MEXICO

(Continued from page 32)

Usigli, the famed Mexican playwright had a hand, produced by Seki Sano, a Japanese, had the longest run of any play produced in Mexico for a number of years. All this long before London and Paris took up the by now world-famed "Streetcar."

Mexico's artistic life, its painters, writers, sculptors, are so continually and brilliantly active that it becomes impossible to highlight only a few without feeling that important ones have been neglected. Diego Rivera's monumental "Fifty Years of Painting" exhibition has just been closed, having been seen by 400,000 visitors in 6 months, including wealthy society ladies dripping furs and picture-postcard Mexicans in huaraches and straw hats. Rufino Tamayo, going big guns in Paris at the moment, and Carlos Mérida, both have had exhibitions here recently.

Orozco's death a few months ago was a black day for all Mexicans who share their painters' lives with vicarious passion. The great and near-great fought for the honor of standing watch at his coffin and President Alemán himself presided over a memorial ceremony honoring the great artist. Symbolically his last work—an outdoor mural in a new 1000-family housing project in Mexico City—is to remain unfinished, the way he left it.

Government-Sponsored Art Gallery

Most important for the artistic growth of Mexico was the recent opening of a government-sponsored, non-profit gallery, directed and nursed by American-born Susana Gamboa, wife of the Assistant Director of Bellas Artes. During its first two and a half months of existence a record of 50,000 pesos worth of paintings were sold here, a tremendous encouragement to the many vital and exciting painters who had not had up to now an adequate place to show their wares.



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Literary production keeps apace too, but perhaps the most significant story in the field is that of the publishing firm, the *Fondo de Cultura Económica*, which recently celebrated its fifteenth anniversary with an impressive banquet attended by the cream of Mexico's intellectual life. Altogether some 700 volumes have been published by the *Fondo* in its first fifteen years. Beginning with a capital of 100,000 pesos (the *Banco de Mexico* has a financial interest in the firm) and a program of publishing one book a month, the *Fondo* now has a capital of 5,000,000 pesos and issues about seven titles each month. It has probably done more than any publishing house in Latin America to make known to Spanish speaking peoples of the Americas the work of scholars of the United States in such fields as sociology, economics, anthropology, philosophy and history. Kluckhohn's "Mirror for Man" and Schneider's "History of North American Philosophy" are two titles which recently came off the *Fondo's* presses. Soon to be published with assistance from the State Department's book translation program is a Spanish edition of Commager and Morrison's "Growth of the American Republic." This is an event of no small importance since no first rate complete history of the United States has ever been translated into Spanish.

Embassy Aids in Starting Children's Library

A moving sidelight to literature and the Embassy's educational exchange program, was the recent opening of a children's library in San Luis Tlaxiatemalco. Eva Anttonen, children's librarian of the United States sponsored *Biblioteca Benjamin Franklin*, was visited not long ago by a delegation of *campesinos* from that little town. Dressed in their big *sombreros* and *huaraches* they had come to the capital to buy 200 pesos (an important sum to poor peasants) worth of books with which to start a children's library. Miss Anttonen went with them to bookstores where each volume was considered and leafed through with great care until the 200 pesos were spent. The small collection purchased by the delegation was made larger by the addition of a gift of a number of translations of books by United States authors, made by the Embassy's cultural section. When the library was inaugurated in the school of the village, which rests in the shadow of one of those picturesque pink Mexican churches, it was indeed an important event in the life of San Luis.

Ancient and Modern Combined

But returning to Mexico City. The capital is not a brilliant, sophisticated cosmopolis alone. It still has in it much of those pre-colombian cultures which the Spanish *conquistadores* tried in vain to erase, only to be largely assimilated themselves. Mexico still is a country where a maid in black uniform and starched apron abandons a steady job because she must go on a pilgrimage to the miracle-working Virgin of San Juan de los Lagos to have her headaches cured; where the discovery of Cuauhtemoc's bones had old Indians weeping with emotion—and almost precipitated a political crisis because an official commission dared question the authenticity of these remains of the last great Aztec emperor; where less than 30 miles from Mexico City which can boast perhaps the world's most advanced cardiological institute, the world's most dramatic modern architecture, the inhabitants of one Indian village attack and burn down a neighboring village in a passionate century-old quest for land; where the Day of the Dead is celebrated by eating realistic candy skulls and sugar-coffins; where an 800-year old stone-owl is unearthed digging in one's rose-garden; and where such a subject as the planting of cacti along the Champs Elysees-inspired Paseo de la Reforma is passionately argued by all segments of the population.

PAGES FROM DIPLOMATIC NOTEBOOKS

(Continued from page 31)

years, from 1912 through 1916. He simply did his best, as any good American does, and wrote frequent letters about it to his daughter in California. After it was all over, he made extracts from his letters, added a running commentary, and published at his own expense his "Experiences and Observations of an American Consular Officer During the Recent Mexican Revolutions" (Chula Vista, 1920). No literary heavyweight is Will Davis, but his letters are honest and vivid, and throw light on what Americans and Mexicans suffered, and how they responded. Davis found himself the protector not only of Americans but of many other foreigners as well. Without instructions for long periods, he stuck to his post through thick and thin while Carrancistas and Villistas battled it out and the civilian population suffered. The following passage shows him in a characteristic quandary: "If the Villistas should retake Guadalajara, it is my present determination to remain here. I could not get the other Americans out, and I could not bear the thought of deserting them. I know I would not have any official standing with the Villistas since Washington has recognized Carranza—and might therefore be in a more critical position than if I had never been a Consular officer—but I have served as a sort of shepherd to these people so long, and through such trying times, that to desert them in the face of this new plight—I fear it would be beyond me—except in obedience to instructions from my superiors."

George Agnew Chamberlain

And finally, we have the philippic of Consul General George Agnew Chamberlain, "Is Mexico Worth Saving?," published in Indianapolis by Bobbs-Merrill in 1920. This book reveals more of Chamberlain's own state of mind than of what actually went on from 1917 to 1919. Mexico City was Chamberlain's last post in the Service; he resigned in 1919 and settled down to writing novels, of which he has produced over thirty. I remember reading one of them once in the Saturday Evening Post—I think it was "The Phantom Filly"—a good yarn and well told.

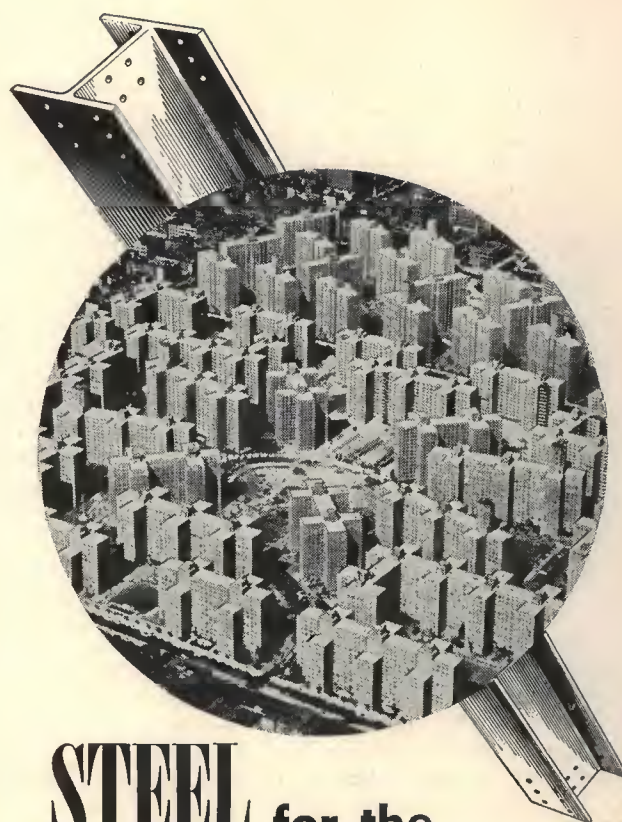
Mrs. Dwight Morrow

A century after Joel Poinsett was struggling for prestige and advantage over Mr. Ward, the British Minister, Dwight Morrow was winning friends in Mexico and the high esteem of a contemporary British diplomat, who even went so far as to write the American's biography. It is unfortunate that Morrow did not live to write a book about Mexico, but we do have Mrs. Morrow's "Casa Mañana," with drawings by William Spratling, privately published (only 300 copies) at Croton Falls, New York, in 1932.

Josephus Daniels

The beloved Josephus Daniels' voluminous autobiography contains a whole volume on Mexico, "Shirt-Sleeve Diplomat," which is full of a variety of things, including a wealth of anecdote. And finally, there is Herbert Cerwin's "These Are the Mexicans" (Reynal and Hitchcock, 1947), an understanding volume written for the multitudes. Herb Cerwin was head of the local branch of the Office of Inter-American Affairs during World War II.

If I must draw any generalizations from this collective book review (and I suppose I must) I would point out the sincere friendship which nearly all of these Foreign Service authors have had for Mexico and the Mexican people. Most of them served in trying times, when difficulties between the two governments subjected them to great pressure and strain. Taken as a whole, their work has contributed to a better understanding of Mexico, her people, and her problems.



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NEWS FROM THE FIELD

(Continued from page 24)

victorious and Marjorie was wearing an engagement ring. They flew to the United States in mid-October,—several days before Ruby Frazier returned and found that her new clerk, whom she had not met before home leave, had already resigned. However, the Service is not really losing Marjorie. She and Mack were married Thanksgiving weekend and are leaving for Ciudad Trujillo, where Marge will get her first experience as a Foreign Service wife. Other Embassy romances are now being closely scrutinized for possible nuptial consequences.

On the diplomatic front, Ambassador Herschel V. Johnson has made official visits to the states of Pernambuco, São Paulo, and Santa Catarina in the past few months.

Meanwhile, a number of Embassy staff members have made unofficial visits to the grounds of the Ambassador's Residence to see a small orchid plant in bloom on a tree near the porte-cochere. For a time there were twelve gorgeous orchids in simultaneous full bloom. Other signs of spring are the gardenia bushes whose super-fragrant blooms are eagerly plucked by American hands. The first splashes of red are appearing on the flamboyant trees and African tulip trees. Rio will soon look more like a tourist poster than ever.

In these days of inexorable unification, the Foreign Service establishments in Brazil are not dropping behind schedule—at least not where names are concerned. Ambassador Johnson's stenographer is Eugenia Johnson and for a time Margaret V. Johnson was his secretary. Mary Jane Willson Johnson now holds forth in the Code Room. Both top executives of the Standard Oil Company and Coca-Cola in Brazil are named Johnson, and the latest word from the Department is that Robert C. Johnson, Jr., has been design-

nated the new Consul at Bahia. A rose by any other name?
ROBERT A. CHRISTOPHER.

PALERMO

December 1949

During 1949, this post has undergone an almost complete change of personnel, beginning with the arrival in March, from Tokyo, of Consul General and Mrs. David C. Berger, daughter Betty, and Mrs. Maude R. Mott, mother of Mrs. Berger. Other arrivals have been FSO Warren S. Moore, Jr., wife and two small daughters, from Geneva; FSO M. Louise Schaffner and her mother, from Praha; Vice Consul Doris H. Allen, from the Department; Vice Consul Michael A. Falzone, from the Department, and Clerk Ann Dominek from Budapest. In September, via stork, there arrived Margaret Louise Berger and Daniel Collier Whitaker.

Vice Consul Bruce W. Forbes departed on home leave, and is now at his new post at Praha, and Clerk Nina B. Chapman, after leave in the United States, is expected to reach Praha in December. FSO Neil M. Ruge and his bride of five months soon leave for home leave, after which they proceed to their new post at Casablanca.

Visits of U.S. naval vessels in recent months have served to break the monotony of the ordinary routine here. During the year we have had the pleasure of having the *USS Coral Sea*, the *USS Providence*, the *USS Algal* (AKA), and *HMS Liverpool*, with Admiral Mountbatten on board. The *USS Leyte* and three destroyers are at present in the harbor for a four-day visit.

On November 27th, Congressmen John J. Rooney of New York, Daniel J. Flood of Pennsylvania, and John E. Fogarty, Rhode Island, accompanied by Bill Hall from the Department, were here for an hour from Naples to discuss several

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visa cases. They were due on the 26th, but high winds prevented the flight, an occurrence that knocked awry the plans made here for their reception and greatly disappointed the Consul General and his staff who had been looking forward to their visit with pleasurable anticipation. Another long overdue visit is that of the will-o'-the-wisp of the FBO, Fritz Larkin.

In October, Inspector Laurence C. Frank paid us an official visit. We are hoping that his impressions of this post were favorable, and his report and suggestions are eagerly awaited.

The much-talked-of Giuliano is reported still to roam the hills back of Palermo, with occasional depredations on the wary, but always outsmarted, wealthy and wicked. There is a certain amount of chagrin among members of the staff because they have never been able to meet Giuliano, looking at it from a romantic viewpoint, of course. It is believed that he may not yet have applied at the Consulate General for a visa — thus adding further to his unique distinction by being the only living male Sicilian who has not yet applied!

Visitors will always be welcome at Palermo, but bring plenty of money if the idea is to purchase anything.

LEONARD E. THOMPSON.

BREMERHAVEN

The month of February was, despite its shortness, a busy one. The destroyers USS Power and USS Steinaker paid an official visit to Bremerhaven from the 2nd to the 5th. The officers of the two ships were entertained ashore by local Naval Base officers on the night of the 2nd and on the 5th the ships gave a party for children of the American community in the afternoon, and held a dinner for adults that evening.



On the 9th Vice Consul Jim McFarland and wife arrived in Bremerhaven en route to Munich after home leave. Jim expected to find a new car awaiting him in Hamburg but fortunately found out via *telephone* that it had not yet arrived there.

The photograph was taken at our Washington's Birthday celebration. Left to right, the persons are Brig. Gen. Charles D. W. Canham, Gen. George Washington (!), Lord Mayor Gullasch, Vice Consul Houston, and Mayor Dr. Gerhardt Rumpf.

ROBERT B. HOUSTON, JR.

MANILA

At the Chancery of the American Embassy at Manila the Christmas season was ushered in by a Children's Christmas Party, which lacked nothing in spirit, for all its exotic locale. All members of the staff and their families attended, and approximately 350 children waited excitedly on the wide

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lawn fronting Manila Bay to welcome Santa.

The tropical setting did not quite lend itself to the conventional manner of Santa's arrival, but the Committee in charge of the party applied ingenuity, and Santa and his "gnomes" came speeding up in a bright red Fire Department "jeep" festooned with cotton and with siren blaring.

They were met on the terrace steps and officially welcomed by Ambassador Cowen, Mrs. Cowen and their daughter Sandra. The Ambassador and his family, accompanied by members of the staff, escorted Santa and his "gnomes" on a tour of the grounds to see the "Manger" and "Punch and Judy" show, which were two of the feature attractions. Made by members of the staff, the manger setting showed a section of barn and straw-thatched roof, with life-size figures and animals made of fibreboard and handpainted, a striking setting for the Christ Child in His straw bedded crib. The "Punch and Judy" show, an adaptation of Little Red Riding Hood presented by Mr. Bandoni, wife of one of the Embassy staff members, met with delighted acclaim.

Santa was then escorted to his throne beside the Christmas tree in the Chancery ball-room and all the children flocked around to receive gifts. Each got a gay red bag filled with candy, fruit and a toy. Punch was served on the terrace, and ice-cream pies and popsicles were dispensed from small carts on the lawn.

One of the colorful features of Christmas in the Philippines is the "Christmas Lantern" usually in the form of a large star, the frame of which is made of bamboo, then covered with crepe paper. More widely used in the Philippines than the conventional Christmas Tree, they are displayed in the windows of most of the homes, and are usually made by members of the family. A number of the Embassy's Filipino employees brought theirs to the party and they were festooned across one end of the ball-room, lending an ad-

ditional air of festivity.

Mr. Spencer S. Beman III played the part of Santa, and his four "gnomes" were the Misses Edith Roller, Ann Leavitt, Violet Newell and Ann Henderson. The Christmas party Committee, composed of Mrs. Hackett, chairman; Mr. &



Mrs. Bandoni, Miss E. Connor, Miss H. Ivory, Miss K. Pond and Miss Nina Howard, was assisted by a number of other members of the staff, including Mrs. Ogletree, Mrs. J. Armstrong, Miss Gloria Lloyd, Mr. McElroy and others.

FLORENCE S. HACKETT

TANGIER NOTES

During the last year, the Legation has witnessed numerous personnel changes and it was our sad duty to say goodbye to a number of our old friends who are by now, we hope, enjoying their new assignments abroad or in Washington. On the other hand, we were compensated for our losses by the arrival of several newcomers who, we hope, will be as happy here in Tangier as we are to have them.

The list of those who left for other fields to conquer included, in order of their departure, the Curtis Stronges (Washington), the Robert Stookeys (Nairobi), the Forrest Shivers (Washington), Marorie Fried (Ankara), Nancy Howard, (Nairobi), the Albert W. Sherers, Jr. (Belgrade), Colonel and Mrs. Marion Carson (Virginia), Major and Mrs. John P. Bedford (Washington), Virginia Biddle (Paris via the U. S.) and Robert G. Caldwell (Washington). The list of newcomers includes Bernice Cloutier, a ten-man U. S. Marine Guard Detail under the command of Master Sergeant Floyd D. Schaeffer, Robert Sheehan, Margaret M. Barrett, Elmer Yelton and his mother, Major and Mrs. Joseph Bloomer, Colonel and Mrs. Robert I. Stack, the Fred Sharps, Madeline Law, May T. Kenney, the Edwin L. Smiths, the Jack Miklos, Dorothy Broussard and the Joseph J. Jovas.

In February, the American Red Cross of Tangier put on a cabaret show in one of the local hotels which was attended by approximately four hundred persons. Mrs. E. A. Plitt, president, and Mrs. Gertrude Anderson of the Legation staff, secretary, of the local organization worked hard to make a success of the occasion. They were excellently supported by everyone in the Legation who participated in the show and it was amazing how much dancing, singing and acting was discovered among the staff. The proceeds from the entrance tickets, programs and bar (manned by Fred K. Blackburn and your reporter) netted sufficient funds to enable the local Red Cross unit to keep up its good work of feeding and clothing underprivileged children and destitute native families for one year.

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In September, Tangier had the pleasure of entertaining the cruiser "Juneau" and the destroyers "Bordelon" and "Stribling" for a three-day period. PAO Robert Sheehan lost no time in arranging for a group of local newspaper men to visit the ships. After being taken on a conducted tour of the vessels by one of the officers, the scribes returned to shore and wrote glowing accounts in all the local papers describing their visit and raving about the American ice cream which they were served on board at the termination of their sightseeing tour. An official luncheon was given at the Legation and that same evening, the Diplomatic Agent and Mrs. Plitt gave a large reception in the Residence in honor of Admiral Foskett and his officers. After that, members of the Legation staff and their wives took over and tried to show the visitors as much of Tangier and its surroundings as possible during their too short stay in port.

On the fourth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Organization, the Tangier Rotary Club was host to approximately 500 officials and prominent Tangier residents at a reception at which Minister Plitt was the guest speaker. The Minister gave an extremely enlightening talk on the objectives of the UNO and a summary of the work which that body had accomplished to date. Not only was the audience interested in everything that the speaker had to say but it was also impressed by the fact that the talk was given in faultless French.

Thanksgiving Day evening, the Diplomatic Agent and Mrs. Plitt had a small cocktail party in the Residence for all members of the staff. We learned during the evening that one of the main purposes of the party was to witness the presentation, on behalf of the Department, not only of a Superior Service medal to Mr. Ernest J. Denipster, who had received his citation in February (previously reported), but also ten length of service certificates and lapel buttons. It came as a complete surprise to the recipients among whom were Mrs. Gertrude N. Anderson, Mr. Gregory T. Abrines, FSO Bolard More and seven of the native messengers. Although the Minister failed to name one of the recipients, FSO Bolard More remedied the oversight by announcing that Mr. Plitt had also received a length of service certificate and silver lapel button.

GEORGE E. PALMER

VANCOUVER

The winter of 1949-50 will be one of the most widely discussed subjects in Vancouver for a long time. Actually, it was only what one expects of a Canadian winter, if all the books, motion pictures and legends about Canada are taken into account; but the residents of this "evergreen playground of the Pacific Northwest" were shocked when the temperature this year shattered a fifty-year record and dropped to zero several times. Foreign Service personnel formerly stationed here who remember roses at Christmas-time in Vancouver will find it difficult to picture all the cold, the snow, sleet, fog, rain and floods which for months kept everybody talking about the weather.

In November, the Capilano River flooded, then changed its course, and washed out an eighty-foot gap in the solitary driveway between Vancouver and West Vancouver. Consuls Andrews and Callahan, Vice Consuls Duggan and Carson, Clerk Kalenda, and their families were for a while completely isolated. Eventually, however, some ancient ferries were put into operation and the thousands of inhabitants of Vancouver's north shore, including the greater portion of the consular staff, were able to get into town to their jobs while a new bridge was being constructed. Consul and Mrs. George D. Andrews were dealt with most severely by the elements and were forced to abandon their beautiful riverside country home and flee with their belongings to a downtown hotel. A photograph of Mr. An-

draws, knee-deep in the rising waters, loaded with household effects and wearing hip boots and a Derby hat, was published in the local press and reproduced in newspapers as far south as Spokane. (George explained that he had not put on formal attire for the evacuation, but was merely using his head as a hat rack.)

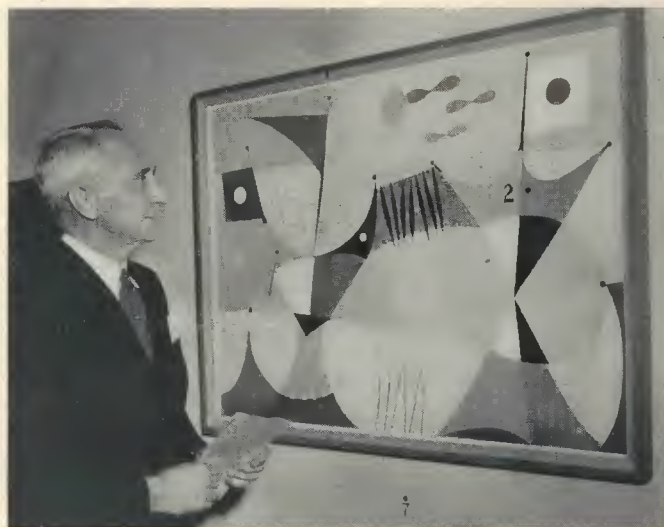


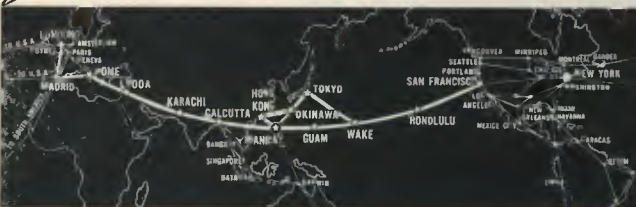
photo courtesy of The Vancouver Daily Province
Foreign Service Officers are called upon to perform varied duties. Here Consul General Alfred W. Klieforth is shown examining some modern Canadian art at the Vancouver Art Gallery where he was invited recently to open the eighteenth annual British Columbia Artists Exhibition.

In January the USS NORTON SOUND, having completed a scientific research cruise in the Gulf of Alaska, paid a four-day visit to Vancouver ("to permit the officers



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and men to familiarize themselves with the waters and other operating conditions of this part of the Western Hemisphere." Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, in the absence on leave in the United States of the Consul General and Mrs. Alfred W. Klieforth, gave a reception for Captain John Quinn and his officers at the consular residence. On the afternoon of this affair, Vancouver had the first blizzard in its recorded history. Two and one-half million tons of snow are said to have dropped on the city within three hours. The snow, combined with a driving wind, completely paralyzed the city. For hours, until the fury of the storm had passed, the streets were filled with 22,000 trapped and motionless automobiles and frustrated drivers. Fortunately, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews set out for the residence early in the afternoon and arrived only about an hour late at their own party. The invitations read "from five to seven;" but many guests who left their own homes or offices at a quarter of five arrived two or three hours later. Some, of course, were driven back.

Nevertheless, all recent news from Vancouver is not bad news. December 15 marked the wedding day of Miss Marian Bush to Mr. Charles Bentall of Vancouver. The desk vacated by Mrs. Bentall was taken by Miss Eileen Kerley who has served previously at Dublin and Regina. Furthermore, our days have been brightened by visitors from other posts, among them Messrs. Kilcoin and Francis, Capt. Custer, naval attaché, and Col. Hodgson, air attaché, from Ottawa; Vice Consul Augustus C. Owen and Mrs. Owen from Calgary, Alberta, where Mr. Owen is officer-in-charge; and Vice Consul and Mrs. Herbert Gordon, en route from Sydney to their new post at Athens. In February the Consul General and Mrs. Klieforth returned from their holiday in Arizona and California and during the month attended the opening ceremonies of the British Columbia parliament at Victoria.

CHARLES C. CARSON

FOREIGN SERVICE CHANGES

(Continued from page 9)

NAME	POST FROM	POST TO	TITLE
Forman, Douglas N.	Shanghai	New Delhi	VC-2nd Sec. (Pol. Off.)
Foster, Glorianna	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Frank, Pauline M.	Pretoria	London	FSS
Gaffney, Johanna C.	Department	San Salvador	FSS
Gannett, Michael R.	Vienna	Department	FSO
Gelinas, Lorette L.	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Gerard, Robert Lee	Paris	Manila	FSS
German, Robert K.	Moscow	Department	FSS
Gibbs, Russell L.	Brussels	Madrid	Budget & Fiscal Off.
Godsey, Fred	Budapest	Rome	Econ. Off. Asst. Att. VC
Gonzalez, Virginia M.	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Gordon, Hazel E.	London	Pretoria	FSS
Gough, John D.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
Haas, Alfarata E.	Canberra	Brussels	FSS
Harben, William W.	Department	Frankfort	Admin. Asst.
Harnit, Jessie L.	Belgrade	Paris	Accountant
Harrison, Eleanor	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Hasekump, Caroline M.	Department	Bangkok	FSS
Hauser, Marian A.	Department	Rome	FSS
Hein, George M.	Tsingtao	Department	FSS
Hejno, Francis J.	Naples	Frankfort	VC (Visa Off.)
Hendricks, Engwalds	Department	Helsinki	FSS
Henon, Rita A.	Tenerife	Luanda	FSS
Hermanson, John H.	London	Johannesburg	VC-Visa Off.
Higgs, L. Randolph	Department	Moscow	Counselor Pol. Off.
Hill, John C., Jr.	Bucharest	Frankfort	VC-Consular Off.
Hector, Thomas F.	Department	Bordeaux	Resident Off.
Hollander, Mary Ann	Department	Paris	FSS
Holley, Franklin S.	Department	Madras	FSS
Holloway, Willis M.	Department	Monrovia	FSS
Hope, Sheila H.	Department	Damascus	FSS
Howe, George L.	Paris	Geneva	Disb. Off.
Hufford, Audrey D.	Habana	Department	FSS
Huneycutt, Miriam F.	Mexico	Port-au-Prince	FSS
Hutchinson, Jack W.	Department	Saigon	FSS
Iscbrands, Mabel M.	Department	Trieste	FSS
Janota, Hildegard	Praha	Paris	FSS
Jelich, John W., Jr.	Department	Pretoria	VC (Disb. Off.)
Jenkins, Walter E., Jr.	Department	Frankfort	FSS
Jensen, Olive M.	Vienna	Djakarta	Asst. Att.
Junghans, B. Margaret	Department	Paris	FSS
Jurczak, Charlotte	Reykjavik	London	FSS
Kaiser, Herbert	Department	Glasgow	VC
Kane, John M.	Department	Frankfort	Admin. Asst.
Keim, Mary E.	Department	Rotterdam	FSS
Key, David McK.	Department	Rangoon	Minister-Counselor
Kirsch, Mildred E.	Habana	Pretoria	FSS
Klotz, Edwin R.	Bangkok	Seoul	Asst. Disb. Off.
Knittel, Albert L.	La Paz	Bangkok	FSS
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Stave, Thomas C.	Department	Frankfort	Resident Off.
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Young, Karl V.	Rio de Janeiro	Rangoon	FSS

BY AMBASSADOR DE LA COLINA

(Continued from page 13)

Of equal merit has been the work of the Mexican-American Commission for the eradication of the hoof-and-mouth disease, through whose untiring efforts notable advances in the control and eventual wiping out of this dreaded plague have been effected.

In its efforts to expand agriculture, mining and industry, Mexico is receiving technical and financial aid from its friends in the United States, for contrary to a widespread misconception, Mexico welcomes private capital. It only asks that foreign investors comply with its laws and refrain from seeking a privileged position.

In this connection, I remind myself that counsel is often tendered to partially developed countries—doubtless in a spirit of sincere helpfulness—to the effect that such of their laws and regulations as appear to obstruct the unrestricted flow of foreign investments be repealed. The advocates of so sweeping a legislative reform fail to take into account that restrictive provisions of the type to which I have alluded, are usually the outgrowth of historical experience. In my opinion, their modification will come about in a natural way when such countries are developed to a degree that no foreign economic domination will be feared.

Active and loyal cooperation, based on mutual respect and enlightened self-interest, has been and will continue to be the most effective means to increase our trade, to foster sympathetic understanding of each other's problems, to enhance our friendship and to advance the democratic cause in the Americas.

In conclusion I will quote a passage from President Aleman's address to the Congress of the United States on the occasion of his official visit to the United States:

"The true significance of good neighborliness is co-operation. It springs from the democratic tenets that bind us together. It exceeds the scope of diplomacy. It goes beyond the exchanges of military staffs. It brings our peoples closer to one another, holding fast to their inalienable rights, those very rights which your Declaration of Independence sets forth as supreme goals: life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

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