

INVASION OF NICARAGUA BY AMERICAN CAPITALISTS



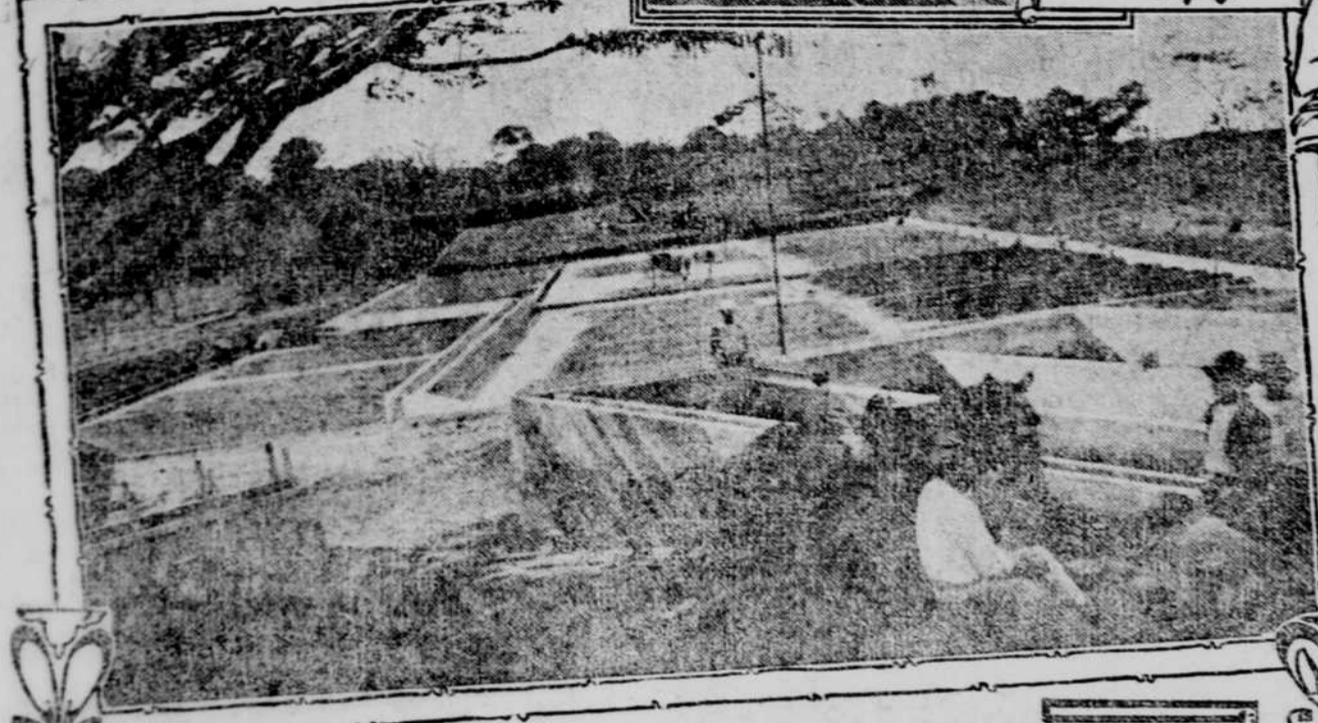
AMERICAN LEGATION AT MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

NONDURAS, in the light of recent developments, is playing the same game as did Nicaragua, and it is expected here that the firm hand of the United States will be felt in north Central American republic. Too many American interests are at stake to let the threats of Spanish rulers go unheeded, say Managua officials. One by one as these troubles arise throughout Central America it is the intention of President Taft and his subordinates to force a lasting peace.

It hasn't been long since United States Minister Merry was chased through the streets of Managua by the soldiers of President Zelaya, but conditions in these three years have wonderfully changed. Perhaps no man saw farther into the future of these Latin-American Republics than did Minister Merry. A sea captain on a Pacific Mail liner, he became a student of the native and his country. He probably



HON. WILLIAM L. MERRY



DRYING COFFEE

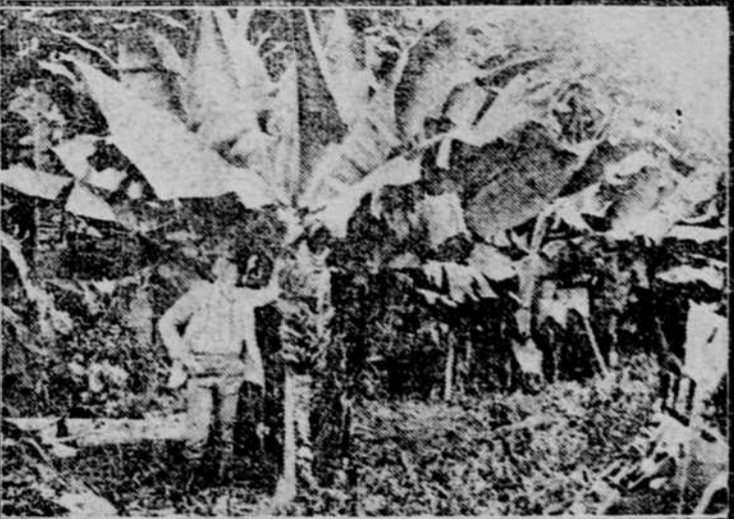
know better than any other diplomatic official that left alone, they would never cease fighting.

As the result of his work in the service, the United States has virtually established a protectorate over Nicaragua. At all times an American warship is within four hours' call by the wireless. An American postage stamp is as good in Nicaragua as it is in Louisiana. Mail for the United States goes through the American consulates and is carried in sealed sacks to New Orleans and Mobile, or to a port on the Pacific coast in another. It is not handled by natives. There is no opening of mail addressed to the subjects of the United States these days, as was common in the past.

That is one result of Minister Merry's work and today he is in the diplomatic service in Costa Rica, watching his labor bear fruit.

President Estrada is a good fellow as Nicaraguans go—but he couldn't last twenty minutes as the head of a people who love to fight, if the United States department at Washington wasn't holding his hand over the rough places. They are going to send a commission down there in a short time to straighten out affairs and conduct the first honest election the country ever had. Then J. P. Morgan & Co. will handle the refunding of the \$20,000,000 bonded debt. By that time the United States will be well in charge, probably with Consul Moffat as minister and real head of the government.

Just as rapidly as possible Nicaragua is being made a good place in which to live. American capitalists and investors are crowding into the country with rapidly. Now that the days of the revolution are ended—the machete made an implement of agriculture instead of war—the future of the little republic looks bright. Mines are being developed, forests cleared, lagoons drained and homes built. Men from the north and middle western states are causing the hustle. There are business



BANANA PLANTATION IN NICARAGUA

men from St. Louis, Kansas City and Chicago and men from numerous smaller cities who are interested financially in agriculture and mining work in Nicaragua. Many are already realizing on their investments. Along the Rio Grande river there is a wide stretch of territory covered with bamboo, some of which is planted in bananas. Shipments of bananas were taken out of that section for the first time a few weeks ago by the Pan-American company, a Kansas City and St. Louis concern. There are half a dozen small companies beginning operations and within six months fully 200,000 or 300,000 acres of bananas will have been planted along that river, which is said to be the best for the culture of this particular fruit of any in the republic. The bananas—about 3,000 bunches—shipped lately were the finest taken into the port of New Orleans.

In the northern part of the Republic and founded the Lone Star mine. Today he is several times over a millionaire. Joe La Pere, a French Canadian, discovered the Bonanza mine from which millions in gold have been taken. The Topaz Mining company is another paying venture. The chief difficulty with the mining is the matter of transportation.

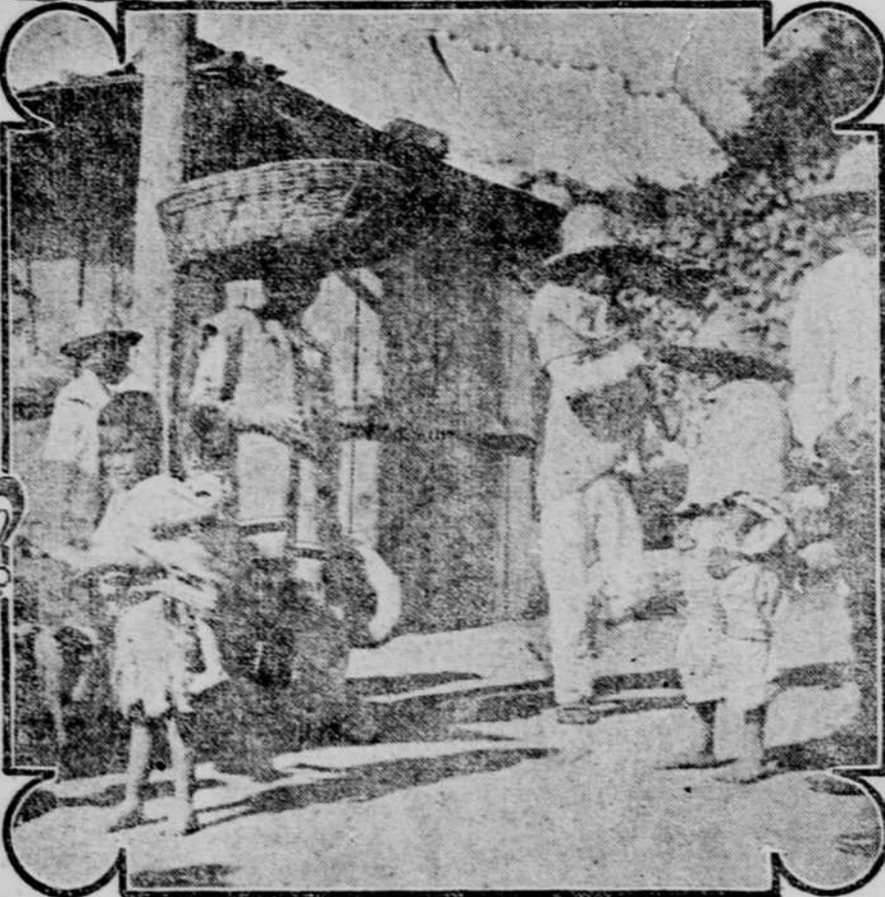
While the earnings of the various mines have proven satisfactory, yet it is in the banana business that the figures presented by American experts prove amazing; they show payment for land, cost of clearing, planting and harvesting at the end of the second year with an additional profit of 50 per cent. on the investment. They are indeed starting, but the men who make them point to the United Fruit company, having started business on a

shoeing, so to speak a few years ago, and being worth a few dozen millions today.

They have tried rubber and made a failure, coconut plantations bring forth fruit slowly, pineapples grow large, as do grape fruit and oranges, but they ripen so quickly and the import duty is so heavy that exportation under present conditions is hardly to be considered. Rice does fairly well, while coffee on the west coast reaches a high grade of perfection. The coffee, diplomatic and other officials assert, is the finest in the world.

The chief trouble on the east coast is finding a hillside level enough to stand on and cultivate the product.

The labor question in Nicaragua has the servant girl issue in the United States beaten a nautical mile. One man will tell you he has no trouble in getting labor. If he means real work there is plenty to be done, but from the standpoint of the employer, the task is no easy one. Money means nothing to the average native. One plantation manager told a correspondent he had 60 men working for him and that he transacted business on 500 sols—monkey money, they call it—a year. This plantation conducts a store, as do the majority. The men are paid in the national currency, which just as steadily comes back into



A NICARAGUAN FAMILY

the store. Paying off labor in Nicaragua is much like taking a dollar from one pocket and putting it into another. That's all right, so far as it goes, but when the laborer—generally an Indian or a Jamaican—thinks he has too much to do he quits. He can live without work, and works merely to please his foreman. The foreman who can get the good will of the Indian is the valuable man. The superintendent of a coffee plantation has been trying to get 300 men to work for the last two years. At one time he had 130—and he is a man the natives like, too.

The manager of a big banana plantation is having the same trouble. A month or two is frequently spent getting half a hundred men together. Indians stay close to their villages and the hope of the planter is the building of these conglomerations of huts. Give the workers a bamboo covered shed in which to live, build them a church of the same material and secure for them a preacher, even though their morals seem lax, and the natives will probably spend their lives on the plantation—working when they feel so inclined. Now and then they want to wander away and get all the bad whisky they can buy, but they return in time to again take up the machete. Good treatment appears to be the only secret if there be any secret of getting labor in Nicaragua.

of the coast claimed by Honduras, while to Nicaragua she agreed to surrender her protectorate and recognize the sovereignty of Nicaragua.

Nicaragua in turn, agreed to grant complete local self-government to the Mosquito tribes, then of blood largely diluted with strains of white and Jamaica negro, and using English as their official language. Nicaragua also bound itself to make a free port of Greytown, at the mouth of the navigable river by which the great central lake of Nicaragua discharges into the Caribbean sea, and for ten years to pay annually to the Mosquito Indians a subsidy of \$5,000.

After 19 years less than half of the subsidy had been paid, while in violation of the treaty Nicaragua had imposed duties at Greytown, under the pretext that they were to pay the subsidy, and had introduced a governor and a garrison at Bluefields, the Mosquito king's capital, and was otherwise vexing the inhabitants so as to force them to abandon the English language and their local self-government. Finally, after most ineffectual treatment of the British consul at Greytown, who had been appointed the Mosquito king's agent to receive the arrears, England sent a warship to Greytown. Nicaragua protested that, as the British protectorate had been withdrawn and Nicaragua's sovereignty recognized over the coast, it was none of England's business whether Nicaragua fulfilled the treaty stipulations in favor of the Indians. But the captain of the warship was not moved by this, and after much parley the entire matter was submitted to the arbitration of the emperor of Austria.

On two points the Nicaraguan contentions were upheld, first, that the subsidy was of

the nature of a gift, and therefore that interest should not be added to the arrears; and, second, that the vessels belonging to the Mosquito coast should hoist the Nicaraguan flag, though against Nicaragua's contention they were allowed to hoist their own alongside of it; but on every important point the decision was in favor of England.

Under this decision settlers began to come in, especially from Canada and Jamaica, and business became quite brisk. Nicaragua failed in another attempt to induce the coast to vote in favor of full citizenship, and matters went on merrily till a few months after Zelaya's rise to the presidency, when, in January, 1894, a Nicaraguan army suddenly appeared at Bluefields, kidnapped and sent to the interior the chief justice and all the leading men of the coast, and in their absence ordered an election, with soldiers at every polling place, to determine finally the status of the coast.

In this election there could be only one result, and Nicaragua announced that the coast had accepted full citizenship in Nicaragua, and, therefore, British interference was at an end.

For ten years, in spite of occasional attempts at revolution, one nearly successful, matters went on fairly at Bluefields and business grew, but in 1904 there began systematic attempts to oppress this coast.

As a further vexation of foreigners, the Moravian missionaries and the Church of England rector at Bluefields, who, since the Catholic churches have been hauled out of existence, are the only representatives of religion of any kind in all this region, have had their schools closed because tuition was in English.

Linoleumed His Sanctum. If the Times is a little shy this issue please lay the blame upon Boonie and Cliff Boone, who have been giving our humble quarters a thorough interior decoration of paper and white paint, and not that we had the money, but the credit, we have linoleumed our cosy little sanctum and arranged things most conveniently for our daily visitors. If you think we're looking too nice, just drop in and make yourself as much at home as you always have.—Louisiana Times.

The Kitchen

IF SEEMS dinners are but innovations, whilst breakfast and suppers are men's most ancient and natural meals. The manna was sent night and morning.

Milk and Its Care. Until the consumer works with the producer to have pure milk there will be little accomplished, as unclean and carelessly-handled milk is often delivered to the consumer. A dish that is not properly cleaned and sealed, may hold bacteria enough to wipe out a whole family. Milk dishes should be first rinsed in warm water, then well washed and dried and sunned. The sun is a fine germ killer, even the tuberculosis germ succumbs to old So's gentle power.

Typhoid, scarlet fever and diphtheria are disseminated by milk, as has been proven over and over again and that boiled milk enjoys a much greater immunity from the chance of carrying disease is well known.

With a milker with clean hands and clothes, a cow well brushed and the udder washed, a sterile pail to receive the milk, one has a fair chance to get pure milk.

Milk should be cooled quickly to keep the bacteria always present from becoming active, then if kept cold until wanted, the milk will be suitable to feed little children.

The custom of some mothers of keeping the milk warm all the time in a pan or pail of water cannot be too strongly condemned. The milk should be warmed only in the quantity the child requires at a feeding, and any left over should be thrown out because of the rapid growth of bacteria in warm milk.

The animal that manufactures its life blood for us should be treated with respect and consideration.

Good food must be one of the first considerations as milk cannot be made out of poor and insufficient food, that she must be treated with gentleness. A cow pounded over the back with the milking stool is not going to return to you a pail full of milk. Milk is manufactured while milking and the more quiet and calm you and the cow are the bigger the pail of milk, all things considered.

Milk is called a perfect food, as it contains all the food principles, fat, protein, mineral matter, sugar and water.

As a beverage, milk should be taken in sips, as if drunk too rapidly the casing acted upon by the juices of the stomach become hard lumps and are so difficult of digestion.

WE may live without books—what is knowledge but grieving? We may live without hope—what is hope but deceiving? We may live without love—what is passion but pining? But where is the man that can live without dining? —Lucile.

Dishes for the Sick. It is often a great problem to know what to feed a sick person, as the appetite being poor, needs something daily and that which appeals to the taste. Of course, a physician's orders should always be followed, as in some diseases only certain foods are allowed.

Chicken Purée.—Take the whitest meat from the breast of a chicken that has been nicely roasted and a large tablespoonful of breadcrumbs. Pound the meat and bread together, mixing in a little chicken broth to moisten to the consistency of thick cream, season to taste, warm slowly and serve in a small cup.

Savory Eggs.—Beat up two eggs with salt, pepper and a tablespoonful of cream. Melt an ounce of butter in a saucepan, then pour in the eggs, stirring constantly; as they thicken, throw in small pieces of tender roast chicken. Serve piping hot on toast.

Rice Cookies.—Take half a cup of cold boiled rice, one egg, a teaspoonful of butter and half a cup of milk; add to this three tablespoonfuls of rice flour and a pinch of salt, mix well together and bake in small tins.

Sage Soup.—Cook two tablespoonfuls of sage in one cup of water until soft, then add an egg yolk and half a cup of cream. Have ready a cup of beef essence and mix together.

Beef Juice on Toast.—Take a half cup of freshly squeezed juice, salt to taste and stand in a dish of hot water to heat. Butter two slices of well-browned toast and pour the juice over it. Serve hot.

Broiled Oysters on Toast.—Broil six large oysters before a very hot fire; have ready two slices of toast nicely buttered. Arrange three oysters on each slice, sprinkle with salt, pepper and lemon juice and serve immediately with horseradish sauce.

Cheese as Food. We need to be reminded occasionally that the use of cheese in the cuisine is most important. Cheese is a highly concentrated food and a very little is sufficient to furnish a good meal. Every bit of dry cheese should be saved and grated to be used in omelets, soufflés and other dishes.

Cheese crackers to serve with salad.

The Ready Wit of Cornelia. The matron Cornelia, returning to Rome after a season abroad, was being held up at the custom house and subjected to such various indignities as were called for by the enlightened polity of the public.

And particularly they asked her about jewels.

"These are my jewels!" she declared, and pointed to her sons, the Gracchi.

Whereupon the collector of the port recognizing, in spite of the density

COUNTRY OF CONTINUAL UNREST

"The beginnings of the troubles that wreck Nicaragua at frequent intervals lie back to its discovery by Columbus. A small remnant of Indians has recently been found living on an island near Bluefields, speaking the language of the Aztecs and having traditions of ruling in splendid cities over the subject tribes of the coast.

These cities, of which great ruins remain, at once attracted the Spaniards to the interior, so that from Panama to Yucatan not an important Spanish settlement was formed on the Caribbean coast, and thus the coast tribes, freed from Aztec domination, remained almost unknown to the Spaniards, having no property worth looting.

Loot was plenty among the buccaners, but fresh food and women they lacked. These the Indians supplied. Commercial relations soon grew up, which speedily developed into an alliance against the Spaniards, by means of which the Indians maintained their independence, until their chief was carried, in 1688, with great pomp, to Jamaica, where he surrendered his authority to the duke of Albemarle, and was then crowned and received back his insignia as a vassal king, under a British protectorate, of all the coast from Chivicut Ingon to Yucatan, along what is known as the Mosquito coast.

Subject to occasional clashes with the Spaniards, matters went on thus for a century, each successive Mosquito king going to Jamaica for investiture and to do homage. Finally, in 1783, by the peace of Paris, England specifically abandoned its protectorate over all of the Mosquito coast, except for the part

now known as Belize, or British Honduras, which then became and still remains a British colony.

However, it was only 14 years before the French revolutionary turmoil again brought war between Spain and England. In the course of this, the protectorate was revived, so that, in spite of Spain's becoming later the ally of England against Napoleon, the three succeeding Mosquito kings of the first half of the nineteenth century were crowned as of old in Jamaica or Belize, and did homage for their kingdom, the last in 1847.

In 1821, after a long struggle, all Central American broke away from Spain, and offered to join the United States as five states, an offer which was at once refused, as the population was not considered sufficient in number to justify ten seats in our senate, nor sufficiently advanced otherwise to be a desirable element. The refusal stirred up bad blood against the English-speaking peoples and a dispute with England over the protectorate.

By the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850, both England and the United States bound themselves not to seek exclusive rights in any part of Central America. Again the protectorate made trouble, and London and Washington agreed on a treaty by which the Mosquito coast was to be protected by treaty with the Central American states interested, but these refused the suggested terms, and, finally, in 1850, Great Britain concluded separate treaties with Honduras and Nicaragua, by which to the first she surrendered absolutely all authority over the almost uninhabitable portion

of their own, and though their speech was in clear, good English their accent showed that they came from some foreign land.

"There's what I would like to have," said the small girl as they passed, looking up at something in the toy store window; and looking up at the object that the little girl had indicated and then looking down at her, the mother said smilingly: "Wait till the ship comes in."

"It interested me greatly to hear this said that by a person from an

other country, for somehow this phrase, familiar as it has always been to me, had always seemed to me peculiar to my own land and region, and at first it did surprise me. But then, to be sure, human hopes and aspirations are the same in all lands, and though around the world they may be voiced in many tongues there are many sayings that we may think peculiar to us, that really are ancient and common, and of those expressing a hope that is universal, 'when our ship comes in,' is one."

"When Our Ship Comes In"

A Phrase That Is Common to More Lands Than Ours.

"I was born in New England," said Mr. Yankinton, "and not born rich. We were not what you call poor folks. We were comfortable, but we depended upon labor for our support, and while we did live comfortably we did not have many luxuries. Those we were going to have, as we used to say,

when our ship came in, to which coming we always looked forward cheerfully and hopefully.

"The other day, walking past a toy store which had many pretty things displayed in its window, I encountered a mother and her little daughter, a little girl of maybe eight. They were comfortably and nicely dressed people, but they were not rich, their means, I should say, were about like