WHAT THE UNITED STATS IS DOING IN SANTO DOMINGO, NICARAGUA AND HAITI.

Excerpts From Most Interesting Article Appearing in the National Geographic Magazine.

Domingo, is the scene today of two of the most interesting experiments in government that may be found anywhere in the world.

After a century of effort to maintain itself as a separate, independent, sovereign nation, Santo Domingo in 1905 found itself about to fall victim to its own excesses. Revolution had followed revolution almost with clocklike regularity. There were assassinations, there were betrayals, there were conspiracies, there were wars within and wars without-war with Haiti over boundary questions and civil war over the control of the government. Debts were piled up without thought of the day of payment, or even provisions for meeting interest charges. Those who were in control of the government, whether for a day or for a year, were more concerned about the money that could be abstracted from the national treasury than they were about the preservation of the national credit.

Finally the day of reckoning came. Foreign warships approached the ports whose harbors had given refuge to the great discoverer, Columbus, and whose capital city still contains what are undoubtedly his ashes, and demanded that the claims of the subjects be satisfied-claims for money advanced, claims for interest accumulated, claims for property wantonly destroyed-and they demanded it at the point of the big naval guns.

Ordinarily the Domincans, like most other peoples of tropical America, dislike the Monroe Doctrine and view it as a reflection upon their strength. They think they are big enough to take care of themselves and look upon that international policy as one tending to interfere with their sovereignty.

Any Port in a Storm.

When Santo Domingo's treasury was empty, however, its borrowing dier in the tropics, and thousands of capacity at zero, and Europe at its door threatening to take over its administration, and thus to collect its ave, was elected with the approval of debts, no harbor ever looked more the American authorities, and the like a haven of refuge to a storm- American authorities, and the United from which they were powerless to those with Santo Domingo and Nicextricate themselves, they were ready eragua. It provides for an Americanenough to negotiate a treaty turning officered constabulary which shall over the control of the country's cus- have control of the peace of the countoms to the United States if, in re- try and the regulation of all matters turn therefor, the United States would pertaining to arms and ammunition. protect them from angry European Furthermore, it provides for the apcreditors and rejuvenate their treas- pointment of a sanitary engineer ury. And so it was that in 1905 the vouch for her debts.

For a long time it was thought that, deprived of the opportunity of secur- insure peace, quiet, honest adminising customs-house revenues through tration; and if it does, Haiti will cerseizure of ports, revolutions could not tainly go forward as few small counsupport themselves. But after six or tries ever have. Its mountains are seven years of peace, during which filled with mineral wealth; its valleys unprecedented strides of progress are so fertile that the slightest attenwere made, trouble broke out again, tion can make them produce like Eden; and during 1914 and 1915 it became its ferests contain vast stores of preso serious that the United States was clous hardwoods and dyewoods. It is, forced to intervene in behalf of peace indeed, a region where nature has lavand to demand, with marines on shore ished its richest gifts, and where a and naval guns trained and pointed simple population, under a firm, yet on the ports, that the country return gentle, beneficent guidance, may realto a state of quiet. And today the ize the blessings of tranquil abun-Dominicans, realizing that the Mon- dance. roe Doctrine is determined to afford them protection from their own excesses, their own bitter passions and needs; who supplies yours?

blind purposes, have accepted the inevitable and have secured the blessings of peace from without when they could not attain that end themselves.

Nicaragua Next in Turn.

The success in Santo Domingo custems administration and debt amortization led to another experiment along The island of Haiti, upon which are the same lines a few years later. Niclocated the Black Republic of Haiti aragua became revolution-torn, reand the Mulatto Republic of Santo sulting in the overthrow of Zelaya and the conversion of the country from an unspeakable despotism into one of ruinous anarchy. Rival factions issued fiat money as freely as tap water flows from a spigot. The treasury was bankrupt, interest was in default, foreign creditors were threatening through their governments to collect their debts with gunboats and cruisers, and there was not enough money to be had by the party in power even to pay salaries, much less soldiers' vages.

> In its insecure tenure under these conditions, the party in power was only too willing to save itself, and inidentally the country, by appealing o the United States. The United States accepted the opportunity, and a treaty was entered into giving this country control of Nicaraguan finanes and the right to intervene in the nterest of peace during the life of the ompact.

> Here, again, the plan worked beauifully as long as the hydra-headed revolution remained under cover. Trouble broke out again, however, and only the presence of the American narines has served to keep the peace. The "outs" are bitterly against the ole being played by the United States; but Nicaragua is being rejuvenated, in spite of exery handicap hat their state of mind entails.

> > New Order in Haiti.

It has not been without effort or xpense, nor yet without actual sacrifice of blood and life that our counry has stepped in to play the role of Good Samaritan to the people of Santo Domingo, Haiti, and Nicaragua. In Haiti alone we lost one officer and six marines and had a number wounded. How much money it has cost has not been ascertained officially, but the usual estimate is that it costs \$1,000 a year to support an American solthem have been sent down there.

A new President, Tudre Dartiguentossed mariner than the Monroe Doc- States stands behind his government. trine did to the Dominicans. In a hole The Haitien treaty goes further than whose recommendations, as approved United States undertook to serve as by the United States, are to be cartreasurer of Santo Domingo and to ried out in the cleaning up of the cities of the Republic.

This new departure probably will

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