

rates to be paid at some point between the maximum and minimum rates so established by congress. But no rate so fixed and approved shall become effective or operative for eighteen months after it has been promulgated by the president in order that every industry affected by tariff changes may have ample time to adjust itself to the new conditions. "If anyone should suggest," says Mr. Fowler, "that such a commission could not constitutionally fix the tariff rates at any point between the maximum and minimum rates established by congress because that would be an exercise of legislative power, let him ask himself whether the power to so fix rates is any such stretch of legislative power as that given to the interstate commerce commission and approved by the supreme court to fix a reasonable railroad rate." Returning to his attack upon the present control of congress Mr. Fowler declares it to

be now perfectly clear, "that unless the republican party gets rid of Aldrichism and Cannonism, the people will get rid of the republican party." He asserts that the people's hopes have been turned to disgust and their faith to resentment, and he says he does not believe they will permit Mr. Aldrich "to pick their pockets through the legerdemain of words." He prophesies "thunderbolts of righteous indignation and punitive wrath," as about to "strike, shatter and paralyze the republican party unless it utterly repudiates Aldrichism and its subservient complement, Cannonism." Impending defeat and the loss of the next house of representatives, Mr. Fowler says, can be avoided only "by emblazoning on our party banners these pledges: "First—We are against Aldrichism and Cannonism; Second—We demand tariff revision hereafter by evolution and not revolution; Third—We demand tariff revision based

upon ascertained facts and not upon selfish trades and corrupt agreements; Fourth—We demand a permanent, broad and responsible tariff commission which shall ascertain these facts, obviate trade wars and assist in securing and retaining the good will and friendship of all nations by wise, just and advantageous trade treaties."

Daniel Goodsell, bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church in New York City, is dead.

Commissioner of Corporations Smith, in his annual report, denounces the system of trading in vogue on the cotton exchanges of the country as mere gambling, and says it should be stopped.

**ZELAYA AND NICARAGUA**

(Thomas R. Dawley, in New York Times)

Nicaragua was called by its Spanish conquerors Mohammed's Paradise. It was a land where the native lived without toil—a land of eternal summer, producing much with little labor. Neither did the people go to war, but under the despotic rule of Jose Santos Zelaya all this was changed. The poor Indian had to hustle. And not only has the poor Indian had to hustle, but his ladino master, who always exploited him as well, for the despot Jose Santos Zelaya must have wealth, and he made his subjects, whether ladino or Indian, shopkeeper or merchant, hustle to get it, and if for no other reason the people hated him.

For sixteen years this despot has ruled the country with a rod of iron. Those who would not submit to his rule, or even demurred, had to die or get out. It is said that 10,000 of his people have been driven into exile, but this is undoubtedly an exaggeration, as the total population of the entire country does not exceed half a million, and less than a third of this belonging to what is known as the ladino or creole element. The rest are Indians, pure and simple. They never leave the country.

While a great deal has been said against Zelaya as a man, there is one thing that can not be said against him, and which his enemies never have attempted say against him, and that is that he is not a brave man. It usually takes a brave man to rule any one of the turbulent Latin-American so-called republics.

Diaz of Mexico began his career as a soldier and a revolutionist, and so did his compeer, J. Rufino Barrios of Guatemala. Castro of Venezuela, while not a soldier, began his career as a fighter and a leader. With a band of poorly armed cow herders from his native mountains he raided a few bordering towns and fought his way on to Caracas, where he landed himself in the presidential chair.

But Zelaya differed from these in that he began his career as the gentlemanly son of a planter. He had little else to do than ride over the vast estate belonging to his father. He was sent to school at the capital and given all the education that his masters could supply. Extravagant in his tastes, he drew on the old man's purse strings, leaving the plantation frequently for the town, where he was the leader among a gathering of young men of about his own age and circumstances. For amusement they paraded the streets of the town at night, twanging the guitar strings and singing love songs to their sweethearts.

Had Zelaya been content with this amusement he might have succeeded to the ownership of his father's estate and have passed the remainder of his days in quiet comfort, for his country was quietly, yet strongly, ruled by the conservative President

Charmora, his party having been in power since the final defeat of the American filibuster Walker, who had landed on the coast with his fifty-six immortals and fought his way to the presidency.

Zelaya told his young friends and compatriots that he did not approve of the conservative rule. He said they were too far behind the times; that they favored the priests and the friars, who were back numbers, and he thought his country should keep progress with the world by throwing them out. His talks became speeches; he grew bolder, and denounced the government openly, with the result that he was thrown out. In other words, he was exiled. He sought refuge in Guatemala, then ruled by J. Rufino Barrios, the first of the stern liberal rulers of the Porfiro Diaz type. It was in the stern school of this military despot that Zelaya received his training that not only fitted him for his subsequent career but showed him the way.

No country was ever more completely organized under a military rule than was the little republic of Guatemala at that time. Barrios had not only re-organized a very much dilapidated army but he had virtually created a new one. He had stationed garrisons in all the little towns, strung his country with a network of telegraph wires, ordered his local commandants to report by wire to the national capital daily at sundown that all was well, and thus he had established peace in his country and put an end to revolutions that was lasting.

In this army of Barrios, Zelaya, the exile from Nicaragua, sought and obtained service. Commissioned only a lieutenant, for Barrios was frugal with his commissions, he was soon given a place on the president's staff, where he took full advantage of the opportunities given him to study the "old man's" method of governing a would-be troublesome republic.

Barrios, the strong man of Central America, had his life's ambition ever before him, and that was the unification of the five Central American republics. It was this ambition that led to his undoing, for one bright morning in February, 1885, a proclamation appeared nailed upon the door of the capitol, and upon the doors of the cabildos, or town halls, throughout the republic announcing that he had united the five republics, and for fear that some one of them or all of them might see fit to disunite he was at the head of an army of 30,000 well disciplined troops marching to the first and strongest one of them, San Salvador.

It is said that a similar proclamation appeared on that same morning on the breakfast table of each of the presidents of each of the other four republics informing them that they had been united, or annexed, as they claimed.

However, marching with Barrios at the head of that army of 30,000 the grandest army Central America had ever seen, were the young lieutenant and exile, Jose Santos Zelaya. But Salvador did not propose to be either united or annexed, and Barrios, the greatest president undoubtedly whom any of those turbulent little republics have ever known, rode to his death. He fell upon the plains of Chalchuapa, mortally wounded, in the very act of leading his army to victory.

Young Zelaya was not only a staunch admirer of old Barrios, as he is affectionately remembered, but he believed in him and his methods of government. As he rode by the side of him to that fatal battlefield of Chalchuapa he expected to continue with him across Salvador and Honduras into his own country, where he would see the principle for which he had stood and for which he had been exiled, thoroughly estab-

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