

Former Omaha Printer Tells of Missionary Work in Guatemala



Idoltrous Indian Devotees

After an absence of twelve years in Central America, where he and his wife have been doing missionary work among the Toltèques and Aztecs, whose origin is believed to antedate that of the Aztecs, C. F. Secord and his wife have returned to Omaha on a brief vacation.

For some time C. F. Secord held "office" on The Bee. In 1900 he declared his intention of going into the interior of Central America, there to devote the remainder of his life to spreading the gospel among the natives. His friends scoffed at the idea and predicted that inside of twelve months he would be back, working at the trade in which he had become proficient. Secord, however, was not made of the kind of stuff that causes men to turn back. Taking his young wife with him, he started out on his new line of work, never returning to the states until a few days ago, when he came to visit Omaha friends for a few days. Mrs. Secord coming with him.

When Mr. Secord left Omaha, he went first to Guatemala, the largest of the six Central American states. He heard that up at the ancient city of Chichicastenango, then more than 200 miles from a railroad, there was a population of more than 1,000,000 persons in the Quiché district who had never heard of the word of God expounded, and who for unknown ages had been worshippers of the sun, idols and animals. This was the place which Mr. and Mrs. Secord had sought and they journeyed thither. There they located and since then have been doing missionary work. In the meantime Mr. Secord studied medicine during his leisure hours and secured a degree of doctor of medicine.

Guatemala is a republic with a population of 2,000,000 persons, one-half of whom are descendants of the Toltèques and Aztecs and the balance of mixed bloods, Spanish, Germans, English and a few Americans. Here in this, the Quiché district, Dr. and Mrs. Secord found the inhabitants paying tribute and homage to all the old gods of mythology. They worshiped the god of fire, the god of fruits. All over the mountains and valleys altars had been erected. On these they placed the fruits and grains and animals, and now and then sacrificed a human being to appease the wrath of and please some God that had been offended.

Progress Was Slow.

Teaching a people who for countless ages had fallen down before idols and worshiped false gods was slow work, but Dr. and Mrs. Secord knew no such word as fail, and after a few months the results of their work became apparent. They went out into the open and held services, they told the simple natives the story of the Nazarene, and in time they secured many converts to the Christian religion. Doing missionary work was far from being a bed of roses. It meant long rides on horseback over mountain roads and through jungles. The wrath of the medicine men and the seers of the tribes was often incurred. These men saw their influence slipping away from them. Twice they attempted to murder Dr. Secord, but each time his life was saved by friendly natives. At another time they made preparations to hang him and deliver his body as a sacrifice to one of their gods, whom they claimed was angry. Upon this occasion they went so far as to place a rope about his neck, but again the friendly natives came to his relief and again his life was saved.

The most strenuous objection to Dr.

Secord's presence came in 1902. It was the year of numerous earthquakes and the eruption of several volcanoes. After the earthquakes, the wizards and medicine men spread the report among the mountain tribes that Dr. Secord was responsible for the disturbances; that his presence had angered the gods and that nothing would appease their wrath but his death. Not even expulsion from the country would be sufficient. Then it was that the plots against his life were laid.

Some years later Dr. Secord formed a intimate acquaintance of President Manuel Estrada Cabrera of Guatemala, one of the most progressive executives who has ever ruled over the country. After that his work was much easier. He had the confidence of the president, and consequently he had the confidence of the people of the dominant party.

Republic in Name Only.

As to President Cabrera, Dr. Secord describes him as a man who rules as with an iron hand. The country is a republic in name, but not such a republic as is known to the people of the states. The word of the president is law, and while the people are of a liberty-loving class, their ideas of liberty are somewhat different from those of the people of the United States. A president is elected every six years and he is now just entering upon a new term of office. The people own their own land, and, according to the holdings of the congress, only those born in the country can ever become citizens. All others, regardless of the term of residence, are designated as foreigners.

As to the progressiveness of President Cabrera, it is becoming more marked each year. He is encouraging the coming of capital, especially that for the construction of railroads, and is doing everything in his power to put the country upon a high educational plane. In the villages and cities he has caused to be

established free schools and colleges, aided in the building of hospitals, libraries and things intended to advance the knowledge of the people. The public utilities are all owned by the cities and states and graft is said to be unknown. In the cities, lights, water and everything of a public nature is furnished the people at actual cost.

A peculiarity of the school system is that men teach the boys and women the girls. The children learn rapidly and in the cities the schools are of a high character. The president is a highly educated man and prior to his election to the presidency was an attorney of high standing. He has caused to be established a military school, where 600 finished soldiers are turned out annually, later to become officers in the army.

Quite an Earthly Paradise.

While Guatemala lies well down under the equator, it is not a country of intense heat, as many have supposed. Down in the valleys, where the cotton and the sugar cane grows it is continual summer, but up on the plateaus and on the sides of the mountains, which extend entirely through the state, well toward the Pacific coast, and which range from 4,000 to 5,000 feet above the sea, every climate of the temperate zone may be found. One of the higher altitudes cereals of the north are grown and many of the fruits and vegetables. There is no winter, and, except at the very tops of the ranges, snow is unknown. As a result, a living is something that does not have to be considered seriously, there not being any heavy coal bills or the expense of buying heavy clothing.

In the valleys and lowlands there are vast forests of mahogany, ebony and rosewood, and for hundreds of miles in every direction great trees that will scale 1,000 to 2,000 feet of these valuable woods may be found. Where the land has been cleared, there are immense sugar and

cotton plantations, which generally are in the hands of the Germans, they having been the people who in the past have invested the money and reaped the rewards. The government is so stable that these people feel safe in investing in the industries of the country.

The story of Guatemala, according to the learned men of the country, dates back to the creation, for in the public library at Chichicastenango is said to be the only copy extant of the Toltèque Bible. It is called "Popul Vuh" and deals with the origin of man. It takes up the creation, and in this connection three gods figure. One is an Indian, whose name signifies the "roaring wind," another the "powerful creator," and the third, the "great plumed serpent." These three gods are supposed to have created every living thing, even man. They are supposed to have created the land and water and all that is in them contained.

Story of Early Wanderings.

The story of the Toltèque bible reads much like the book of Genesis of the Old Testament. It describes the deluge and the exodus from a place that corresponds with Egypt. There is the story of the confusion of tongues, after which the people separated and commenced to travel. In this story, it is told that on their travels they reached a great body of water that, upon their approach, separated to let them through; and after a long journey the fortunate ones reached Mexico, designated as a land of many caves. Here the people, according to the Toltèque bible, built many cities, chief of which was Palenque, in the south of Mexico, now an interesting heap of ruins. Leaving there, the people moved south and overspread the isthmus into South America, building many cities as they went, and governing in a most exemplary manner. As the early settlements were

Dr. C. F. Secord, Wife and Child

High Caste Aztec Girl

Monday we bake honey apples, biscuits and orange cake

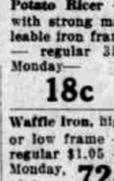
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An Expert Demonstrator will give FREE INSTRUCTION to all in the use of FIRELESS COOKERS at our store this week. Ideal Cookers are pure Aluminum lined throughout and fitted with pure "Wear-Ever" Aluminum Utensils. Come in and let us show you their many wonderful, interesting and money saving points.

They boil, stew, roast, bake and brown, 80% less fuel, 75% less labor. The modern, hygienic, sanitary, economical stove. Come and see what they do. Special inducements to purchasers next week.

	6-ft extra strong Step Ladder with rod under each step, Regular \$1.50, Monday \$1.08		Potato Ricer with strong malleable iron frame regular 35c, Monday 18c		Waffle Iron, high or low frame regular \$1.05, Monday 72c
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FIREPROOF warehouse means low rate of insurance. When you store your goods you can best tell the Fireproof warehouse by the insurance rate the Company has to offer on their building contents. No one has ever contradicted us when we made the statement that merchandise or household insurance rates for contents is lower in our building than in any public warehouse in the United States.

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LESLIE SCORES LAWYERS

Says Practice of Securing Judgments by Misrepresentation Must Stop.

ENJOINS THE JUSTICE COURT

Judge Declares He Will Do All Possible to Stop Underhand Work Now Being Carried On by Some Attorneys.

Attorneys who evade the exemption laws by securing justice court judgments against poor creditors and misrepresenting the nature of the accounts on which the judgments are secured were roundly scored by Judge Charles Leslie of the equity division of the district court, when he issued a permanent injunction restraining Justice of the Peace George C. Cockrell from issuing an execution against property of Edward LaPage to satisfy a \$18 judgment.

The equity judge's ruling was based upon a finding that while LaPage owed on an ordinary commercial account for horseshoeing he did not owe for work and labor in the meaning of the statute and a judgment for work and labor was secured because no property is exempt from execution to satisfy such a judgment.

J. E. Von Dorn, attorney for Mullen & Freeman, had secured the justice court judgment and Justice Cockrell was about to issue an execution to satisfy the judgment when LaPage employed an attorney and started injunction proceedings.

"This court is going to do what it can to put a stop to such practices as are shown by the evidence in this matter," said Judge Leslie. "The practice of attorneys against poor debtors who are willing to pay, but find it difficult, going into justice courts and securing judgments for work and labor in order to get executions when the judgments really should be on accounts entirely exempt. It is an abuse that the courts can do much to end, and this court is going to do its part."

To Protect Laborers.

"Under the statute nothing is exempt from execution to satisfy a judgment for work and labor. The laborer is worthy of his hire and the man who employs another to perform labor for him must pay. None of his property is exempt. The statute is for the protection of the laborer; but it never was contemplated," in the court's opinion, "as a means to enable a merchant or tradesman of any sort to compel payment of an account for a person who is unable to pay and who has property that is exempt."

"Under the statute the property of this plaintiff is exempt from execution except for work and labor because it does not exceed \$50 in value. It is exempt from execution to satisfy a judgment on an account. To evade that exemption a judgment for work and labor was secured. An execution cannot issue in this situation because the judgment cannot stand. The plaintiff did not and does not owe the creditors for work and labor."

"Poor debtors, realizing that they owe accounts and knowing they cannot

resist suits, make no defense. Generally they could not employ lawyers to defend them. They are willing to pay when they can. They can do nothing but let the judgments be secured by default. When such advantages are taken this court will do what it can to protect the creditors. This statute of exemption was made to protect."

Gould Officials See Business Ahead

A party of Missouri Pacific officials, including General Superintendent DeBernard, General Freight Agent Wherry and Assistant General Freight Agent Matthews of Kansas City and General Agent Barkley of St. Joseph arrived in Omaha Friday night and early yesterday morning went south, making an inspection tour of the Nebraska and Kansas lines of the railroad system.

Superintendent DeBernard, spokesman for the party, is optimistic over the outlook for the coming season. He is predicting good crops in Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas and consequently an enormous business. He clings to the idea that the Belt line district is soon to become a great factory and warehouse territory of Omaha and that a number of new industries will locate out there this spring and summer.

Col. Yeiser Writes to Taft Manager

Colonel John O. Yeiser refuses to be discouraged in his campaign for the nomination of Theodore Roosevelt. His very latest endeavor is directed to convincing Chairman McKinley of the Taft organization, that he can make a hit by falling into line for presidential primaries everywhere. In a letter to Chairman McKinley, which he asserts will also be sent to President Taft, Yeiser asks that he be permitted "to criticize modestly" the reply to Senator Dixon's request for presidential preference primaries all over the country. As justification for this criticism he points to a declaration of the president in an eastern publication in June, 1908, wherein the chief executive expressed the view that the president should be always near the people in thought, for the best accomplishment of the popular will. Mr. Yeiser takes occasion to assure the Taft manager that he does not want to see the president "break his word" in the pre-convention fight.

To FAT People FREE



SHOWING REDUCTION OF FAT PEOPLE.

Mr. J. A. Foster writes: "When I began the Dr. Bledsoe treatment, I weighed 215 lbs. Now I weigh 175 lbs. I feel better, and my health is improved. I will send full testimonials with names and addresses of a legion of men and women who have been cured of their fatness. I have a FREE PROOF TREATMENT and BOOK OF ADVICE TO FAT PEOPLE. All free in plain wrapper. Costs absolutely nothing. Send for it today. Dr. Bledsoe, 20 E. 27th St., New York. Licensed physician by the State of New York."

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That's what Stuart's Calcium Wafers are intended to accomplish and do so promptly. Their principal ingredient is Calcium Sulphide, the quickest and most thorough blood cleanser known.

These wonderful little wafers get right into the blood, and destroy eruptive substances present in it. In some cases a few days is sufficient to make a marked improvement. And when the blood is pure the whole system is a hundred per cent better.

Don't fret any longer about those blackheads, pimples, boils, tetter, eczema, spots or skin eruptions; they all go and "go quick" if you use Stuart's Wafers.

You can have a trial package of Stuart's Calcium Wafers, simply by sending your name and address to F. A. Stuart Co., 117 Stuart Bldg., Marshall, Minn. Free when you have proved that you can get the regular-size package for 25 cents at any drug store.

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Steel Corporation Report.

NEW YORK, March 8.—Announcement was made by the United States Steel corporation that the unfilled tonnage on its books on February 29 totalled 5,642,200 tons against 4,257,122 tons on January 31.

BRANDEIS STORES ANNOUNCE A Special Sale and Demonstration

WEAR-EVER ALUMINUM UTENSILS

In the China Dept.—West Arcade

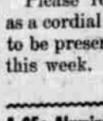
Wear-Ever Cooking Utensils actually reduce the high cost of living. A whole meal can be cooked in a double heater over one flame of gas. Pot roasts in the cheaper grades can be wholesomely cooked without grease or water, and cereals like rice, mush, etc., can be made without stirring. Every day this month a demonstrator will explain these many superior points.

Please regard this as a cordial invitation to be present any day this week.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON

A 65c Aluminum Sauce Pan, 29c

During this demonstration we will give one of our 65c Aluminum Sauce Pans for this coupon and29c




BRANDEIS STORES

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The Twentieth Century Farmer, to meet the demand of its readers for land information, has gathered and compiled data on soils, climate and farming conditions in all parts of the country. It is willing to give out this information, free, if postage is sent with inquiry.

Do You Want to Know

About government land laws, location of land offices, etc.

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