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### ZELAYA'S RECORD AS FINE TROUBLE MAKER ABOVE PAR

Long List of Insults He Has Offered to Foreign Governments Would Fill Large Series of Books.

### FOR NEARLY A SCORE YEARS HE HAS RULED

All Industries, Native or Foreign, Have Been Compelled To Pay Toll to Autocratic Nicaragua Ruler.

(American News Service)  
 Washington, Dec. 2.—The internal and international quarrels in which the Zelaya government of Nicaragua is now involved have brought forcibly to the attention of this and other governments the arrogant ruler of that turbulent Central American republic—Jose Santos Zelaya—who for nearly a score of years has been one of the most troublesome figures in international affairs.

That the latest difficulty in which he has become involved through the execution of Groce and Cannon, citizens of the United States, will result in his final elimination from the field of politics.

The long list of insults to which various nations have been subjected by this treacherous executive, and which culminated in the killing of Leonard Groce and Leroy Cannon, American residents of Nicaragua, will be avenged by Uncle Sam. While a substantial indemnity undoubtedly will be demanded for their deaths, the intervention of this nation is expected to result in the success of the present revolutionary movement, under General Juan Estrada. This would mean Zelaya's deposition as president and undoubtedly his exile from Nicaragua.

For nearly a score of years this autocrat has ruled Nicaragua with an iron hand, substituting military force where moral suasion proved ineffective, and sowing the seed of discord among the other Central American states, which would ultimately be harvested to his advantage.

#### Is Immensely Wealthy.

All industries, whether native or foreign have been compelled to pay toll to this avaricious ruler, who supports his various military movements with the proceeds. The most profitable of these, such as sugar, tobacco and coffee, are controlled by himself or his representatives, and the vast returns have made him immensely wealthy.

One source of revenue, however, he has been unable to get control of, namely the vast mineral wealth of the eastern coast. Yankee ingenuity has developed this section and despite the heart-breaking tariff and various other Zelayan schemes, the Americans have managed to retain their hold.

Zelaya has blamed the Americans for the many revolutions stirred up against him, and when the recent and most serious uprising broke out in the Bluefields district, it did not serve to increase his affection. This has been the basis for the report, that the execution of Groce and Cannon was

purely a matter of personal revenge on the part of the Nicaraguan executive.

Zelaya is a man with a purpose, and for many years, even before his advent to the presidency, had had in mind the union of the Central American states with himself at their head.

#### Of "Unmixed" Blood.

Born of wealthy parents, very little is known of his early life except that he was of "unmixed" blood. The date of his birth is fixed between 1845 and 1850.

According to the best information obtainable, his early days were spent in the dirty little city of Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, where, with his indolent companions he passed his time in gambling and cock fighting.

As military service is compulsory, young Zelaya entered the army at an early age. This marked the beginning of his career. The energetic qualities of his character, which had long lain dormant, now asserted themselves.

The enormous power of the army in the affairs of the state formed a blazed path for his stormy career. He quickly recognized the vast undeveloped mineral and agricultural wealth of the Central American states, and the deterrent effect the revolutionary character of the inhabitants had on the country's future. His prophetic eye easily discerned the vast revenues that would ensue, when the five states were formed into one harmonious nation.

**A Student of War.**  
 But he was also keen enough to appreciate his deficiencies. He knew he must possess a thorough knowledge of state and military affairs in order to realize this dream of an empire.

With this end in view, he left his native country and spent ten years in traveling in Europe and United States, where he studied the various forms of government and military training.

Fully equipped for his new enterprise he returned to Nicaragua, where his superior knowledge of military tactics won him a place at the head of the army. Then he waited for his opportunity. This came in 1888, when, after he had suppressed a revolutionary movement, he made himself president. The dramatic details of this event furnish a good illustration of Zelaya's character.

President Sarcasa, who was then in office, and the members of his cabinet were seated in the council room of the capitol at Managua, to welcome the victorious general.

When Zelaya, surrounded by his officers, strode majestically into the room, the president began his little speech of thanks, praising the conqueror for his great victory. But the expression in the piercing gray eyes of the stalwart soldier, caused the words to die in his throat.

#### All Turned Pale.

Then drawing a revolver from his belt, Zelaya advanced to the table, while all present, with the exception of his escort, turned pale.

"The revolution is dead," he said. "Long live the revolution! I am now the revolution. Do you think I won the victory for you? No."

"My army holds the town and the country. The soldiers are devoted to me. It is useless for you to protest or resist."

"Today you must all leave the city under escort, for the coast, and you will depart to the United States or Europe by the first steamer. If you refuse, you will be shot."

They went.

Zelaya had now achieved the first step and his ambition. With a well equipped army, he quickly silenced all opposition, for as he was wont to say, "Opposition is anarchy, and anarchy must be suppressed."

Soon after he assumed control, he issued a proclamation incorporating the Mosquito Coast, which lies on the Atlantic side and had for many years been under the protest of the British

consul, who was clapped in jail because of his persistency. England immediately jumped in and brought Zelaya to his senses by forcing him to pay an indemnity of \$75,000.

#### A New Constitution.

In 1894 he drafted a new constitution, but, from a Zelayan point of view there was a serious defect in it, which provided that a president could not succeed himself. He had this remedied by an amendment in 1896.

In the meantime, he had begun his active campaign against Honduras. The settlement of this was not satisfactory, and was quickly followed by another. His campaigns became so frequent that the Nicaraguan army was spending the greater part of its time marching across the state line. On the slightest pretext old troubles were revived, and when there was nothing else to fight about, Zelaya would select the boundary line as an excuse: this being a never failing source of dispute, since the states were first formed.

Finally, with the aid of the United States and Mexico and Central American Peace Conference, was held in Washington in 1897 and each republic signed a agreement not to interfere with the government of the other and agreed to refer all to a court of arbitration at Costa Rica.

Under the watchful eye of this country and Mexico, this agreement has been fairly well carried out, although Zelaya has been charged several times with trying to destroy the Costa Rican court.

**Forms a Federation.**  
 His military efforts, curbed by this agreement, Zelaya began exercising diplomacy, and in August, 1898, he induced Honduras and Salvador to join a federation, known as the United States of Central America. It soon became evident, however, that Zelaya wanted to be the president of the new republic, and govern it as an autocratic as he had his own. The two states immediately protested and the federation was dissolved in November of the same year.

But the international entanglements of Nicaragua were not the only questions that this ingenuous ruler was far more successful with.

His enemies were numerous and when the quadrennial election periods came round he had to see to it that they were carefully removed. He developed a system of espionage which rivals that of Russia, and thousands of citizens, whose only crime was their opposition to the administration, were forced into exile, and their estates forfeited. Others were clapped into jail until the election was over, while some of the more dangerous element were placed against a stone wall as targets for a file of soldiers.

On one of the elections a unique scheme was devised by this clever politician to deceive the ignorant provincials and insure his election. It consisted in the printing of three names on the ballot—Jose, Santos and Zelaya—all candidates for the presidency. The result showed the election of all three; or in other words, Jose Santos Zelaya was unanimously re-elected.

By such methods Zelaya has managed to be thrice re-elected, in spite of his enemies.

#### Attempts to Kill Him.

Many attempts have been made to assassinate him, and in 1902 his palace at Managua was blown up and 150 soldiers killed, but the wily executive escaped unharmed. His undisputed bravery and many miraculous escapes from death have led the more superstitious of his enemies to believe that he is in league with the devil.

In one instance he learned of a plot that was being organized against him, in which several of his officers were involved. Through his spies he discovered their meeting place and determined to surprise them.

The conspirators were gathered around a table discussing the details of the plot, when there came a knock on the door. When the summons was answered, the officers were dumb

founded to see the president standing in the doorway.

"Good evening, gentlemen, he said," advancing toward the table. I heard you had a party here this evening and thought I would look in and share the fun. Quite a distinguished gathering of my officers! You all seem to be serious. Discussing military matters, I suppose?"

He took his seat with the party and chatted affably for about a half hour, while the conspirators stirred uneasily in their seats.

Finally, filling his glass with wine, he raised it and said: "I will give you a toast. Here's long life to the president of Nicaragua and confusion to traitors!"

He then dashed his glass against a window, a squad of soldiers entered and placed the conspirators under arrest.

#### Was Unusually Lenient.

When they were brought up for trial over territorial rights. At the same time war broke out with Mexico, this country was involved in a dispute with Great Britain over territory in the Northwest. "Fifty-four-forty or fight" was the common cry. Feeling over this dispute was even greater than over the territorial dispute with Mexico, yet the United States played safe and settled the English dispute by arbitration and forced war to obtain the other claim.

The Spanish-American war should have been prevented according to the speaker. Spanish officials wanted to arbitrate the differences. Gen. Foster said that he did not believe this war was precipitated on this country by the blowing up of the battleship Maine, through a plot by Spanish officials.

#### What Cost of War Is.

The extreme cost which such wars inflict on the country were pointed out. Taxation is one effect, but the most notable is that a country is practically depopulated, of all of its good men.

The downfall of the Roman Empire, the present position held by France, England's long time recovering from the effects of war, likewise Germany's plight following long and serious wars, were conditions arising because the best men of these countries were killed in battle, leaving only the weaklings.

Labor will assert its demands in the near future and will refuse to follow its rulers to war. The cause of war between nations does not often interest the men who fight, according to the speaker.

Gen. Foster accounts for the great strength shown by Socialism in European countries to the fact that labor is not satisfied with the war policies of these countries. Labor's assertions for peace will be strong enough to cause the establishment of an international peace tribunal, Gen. Foster thinks.

Opponents of the establishment of such a tribunal say that war promotes patriotism.

The enormous amount of money required in the equipment, building and upkeep of a navy, according to the speaker, causes more than half the amount raised by taxation in Germany, England and other countries to be spent for such purposes. Because Germany is building an enormous navy other countries are following her example.

#### Against Great Navy.

Gen. Foster does not believe a large navy essential for the protection of this country. He says that all it needs for a navy is for police protection. The constant change of navy patterns are such that the marvelous navy which represented this country in the Spanish war is now antiquated, and even the navy which went around the world recently, is so much below today's standard, that the speaker said it is estimated two European Dreadnaughts could destroy this country's entire naval power. We do not need a large navy to carry out the Monroe doctrine, because the doctrine is founded on sound principles, and our geographical position assures us of protection, according to the speaker.

A war with a maritime nation might re-

Told the Truth and Set Down.

The man whose sense of politeness was not entirely calloused looked up from his seat in the crowded car at the stout lady who swayed in front of him. Finally he struggled to his feet and offered her the place.

#### The Top of the Morning.

There is a beauty in the old Hibernian greeting that wishes one "the top of the morning" which few of us are able to comprehend. The morning's prime, with its fresh, sweet hours of tonic breezes and untainted air, the invigoration of body and spirit, the impulse to start with the birth of the day to do all things well until the sun down brings its rest and happy repose and "depths of incommunicable dreams"—if you go a-walking in "the top of the morning," ready to be guided by nature, all these wholesome influences will come to you, and every hundred yards of the way will find you stepping out more jauntily and with a lighter heart.—London Mail.

#### Hogge's Horse.

Hogge's Horse, at Buxted, Sussex, England, in the center of the old iron district, was formerly the residence of Ralph Hogge, an ironmaster. He is celebrated as having been the first to cast a cannon in one piece. This occurred in 1543.

**ORGANIA:**  
 I don't like your cook book—it doesn't recommend Gold Medal Flour. **IMOGNE:**

Mrs. C. A. Brehm went to Cincinnati where she will buy an entirely new stock of Winter Millinery at a great reduction to be sold regardless of cost.

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## ROMEY'S

### Advance Holiday News

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