

Agosto 14 - 1926

- - - - C A R T A S D E L P U E B L O . . .

Un Cargo y una Contradicción.

Al Editor del Post-Dispatch:

Refiriéndome al artículo publicado en el periódico de la tarde del martes 10 de agosto de 1926, - titulado: "La misión de los Estados Unidos Aprueba la política de Calles," le agradecería que publicara esta carta, rebatiendo el artículo en cuestión:

La "misión" poniéndose solo de una parte, declara que el Presidente Calles está justificado al perseguir a la Iglesia Católica Romana, y que México - está experimentando un programa de reformas educacionales y sociales necesarias para su propia rehabilitación y que todos debemos cooperar en esta --- gran obra.

¿Es que el señor doctor Alva Taylor considera - que la educación espiritual es innecesaria en la sociedad? ¿Es que piensa, lo cual es muy probable, - que la destrucción de la Iglesia Católica Romana es un beneficio para la sociedad? ¿Es que el Dr. Alva Taylor cree que la sociedad se ha beneficiado con - la profanación de la Catedral de Gualajara por el - Gobierno, quien la tornó en caballeriza de las tropas Federales, y con la destrucción de tantas iglesias que el aire está irrespirable por el polvo de su destrucción, y con el encarcelamiento de los estudiantes de las colegios católicos, y con el sarres-

to de los niños porque usan insignias católicas? Y sin embargo, hasta el observador más lleno de prejuicios está obligado a admitir, que todo lo que los mexicanos tienen de cultura, de saber, de bellas Artes, de literatura, etc., lo han recibido o aprendido en las escuelas católicas, dirigidas por sacerdotes católicos. Y con todo esto, en México, conforme a las leyes del país, no puede existir nada que se asemeje a la educación cristiana; hasta hay una ley que previene que la escuela que sea solamente visitada por un sacerdote debe clausurarse. Acaso el doctor Taylor considera que estos son principios humanitarios?

El Presidente Calles declara que la Iglesia católica ha sido siempre un factor político dominante en México y que esta organización religiosa ha desobedecido las leyes del país desde tiempo inmemorial. Y el Presidente Calles se ha hecho cargo ahora de reformar a la Iglesia católica hasta que esté de acuerdo con su manera de pensar, lo cual hace imposible que continúen los servicios religiosos.

Si el Presidente Calles y la "Misión" encabezada por el editor del "Christian Century" se pusieran a analizar la historia de la Iglesia católica, no se sostendrían tan deliberada e ilógicamente en la persecución de los católicos sobre principios de los que no se puede acusar a la iglesia católica, y la "Misión" no volvería a los Estados Unidos exten-

diendo esa persecución con su propaganda antagónica.

Antes de la Ultima Guerra, los católicos romanos fueron acusados de no tener alianza con ningún país, - excepto con el pontífice de Roma, pero han demostrado su lealtad a sus disitintos países, cuando pelearon uno al lado del otro, en contra de ellos mismos. La Iglesia católica no profesa ningún credo político, y esto ha quedado demostrado en muchas ocasiones, y notablemente en los Estados Unidos cuando los católicos se han dividido en favor de uno u otro candidato y han dado su voto por el candidato no-católico en lugar del católico, solo por el bien del Gobierno. - Solo los analfabetos, y los tontos se atreverán a -- contradecir estas afirmaciones, pues los más notables políticos e historiadores han reconocido estos hechos.

Por lo tanto, es increíble que el Presidente -- Calles haga tales declaraciones. ¿Cuál sería el análisis si lo mismo sucediera en los Estados Unidos? No es de creerse; pues nuestro Gobierno no se ha propuesto satisfacer sus miras personales destruyendo -- los derechos religiosos; pero eso es porque nosotros tenemos un^{Gob.} del pueblo y para el pueblo, y el General Calles quiere un gobierno para el pueblo de quien es dictador y del pueblo si así lo desea él.

J. D.



LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

A Charge and a Rebuttal.
To the Editor of the Post-Dispatch.

IN REFERENCE to the article printed in Tuesday evening's paper, Aug. 10, 1926, "Mission from U. S. approves policy of Calles," I would be pleased if you would print this letter rebutting the article in question.

The "Mission" taking a purely one-sided stand states that President Calles is justified in his persecution of the Roman Catholic Church and that Mexico is undergoing a program of educational and social reform necessary for the rehabilitation of Mexico and that everybody should co-operate in this great work.

Does Dr. Alva Taylor consider spiritual education unnecessary to society? Does he think, which he probably does, that the destruction of the Roman Catholic Church would be a great benefit to society? Does the Dr. Alva Taylor think society is benefited by the desecration of the Guadalajara Cathedral by the government, turning it into a cavalry stable for Federal troops, churches being torn down stone by stone till the air is thick with the smother of their destruction, Catholic college students jailed, Catholic school children being arrested because they wore Catholic insignia, and yet the most prejudiced observer would be obliged to admit, all that the people have of culture, of learning, of the fine arts, of literature, has come out of the Catholic education instituted by Catholic priests. And yet, again in Mexico, according to the law of the land, no such thing as Christian education may legally exist, there is even a law that provides that a school be closed if it be so much as visited by a priest. Does Dr. Taylor consider these humanitarian principles?

President Calles states that the Catholic Church has always been a political dominating factor in Mexico and that this religious organization has disobeyed the laws of Mexico from time immemorial. President Calles now takes it upon himself to reform the Catholic Church to meet his views to such an extent that the continuance of religious services is now practically impossible.

If President Calles and the Mission headed by the "Christian Century" editor would analyze the history of the Catholic Church, they would not take such a deliberate illogical stand in the persecution of the Catholics upon such principles which the Catholic Church cannot be accused of and the "Mission" would not come back to the U. S. spreading the persecution by its antagonistic propaganda.

Before the late war, the Roman Catholics were accused of owing their allegiance to no country, except the pontiff at Rome, but they have demonstrated their loyalty to their respective countries when they fought side by side against each other. The Catholic Church does not profess any politics, and this has been proven over and again, notably in the U. S., when Catholics have divided for one candidate or another, and have voted for non-Catholics in preference to Catholics in the best interest of the government. It is only the unread, unintelligent man who would contradict these statements as some of the most noted politicians and historians have acknowledged these facts.

It is, therefore, unbelievable that President Calles should make such statements. What would the analysis be if the same thing was to happen in the U. S.? It is unthinkable, because our government is not bent on satisfying its personal aims in the destruction of religious rights. It is because we have a government by the people and for the people. President Calles desires a government for the people that he dictates and by the people if he so desires.

J. D.



Mexican President Drops Case Against Catholic Primate

Decision Made After Conference with Heads of Government.

By Associated Press.

MEXICO CITY, August 14.—No formal charges are to be made against the Most Rev. Mora del Rio, Archbishop of Mexico, because of utterances made in a recent interview with an American newspaper correspondent, in which he strongly upheld the standpoint of the Catholic Church in its dispute with the Mexican Government over the religious regulations.

After a conference between Attorney General Ortega and President Calles it was officially announced that the President had decided not to "consign" or make formal charges against the prelate.

Situation Still Deadlocked.

Otherwise the religious situation today remained as for days past—deadlocked.

Although most business houses throughout the nation are feeling in varying degrees the effects of the economic boycott by which Catholics are expressing opposition to the government's religious regulations, United States Commercial Attache George Wythe, after a careful survey of the situation, says the two most important industries of Mexico—oil and mining—thus far are not affected and are continuing operations on their usual scale.

Decrease in Mexico City.

Virtually every merchant in Mexico City at present is experiencing some decrease in trade. Smaller crowds are attending all theaters and other amusement places. The silver exchange had a further decline yesterday reaching 5.20 pesos to the dollar. Bankers continue to assert that the boycott is not directly responsible for this.

Reports indicate that Guadalajara, one of the strongest Catholic cities in Mexico, is suffering more from the boycott than perhaps any other place in the republic. General business there is declared to have slumped anywhere from 50 to 90 per cent.

THE CHARLESTON IN MEXICO.

Napoleon in burning Moscow dictated a reorganization of the Theater Francaise. The eagle-eyed statesmen of Mexico can spare a few moments from the all-absorbing issue of church and state to decree a social reform. The dancing of the Charleston in Mexican public halls is banned and barred by the vigilant Department of Health; and with Latin politeness it begs, with assurances of its distinguished consideration, that dancers in private homes will follow its example and crush the enemy. For the Charleston is an enemy, if you ask the Department of Health. It is violent, and a cause of heart trouble. It is antagonistic to terpsichorean grace. It consists of contortions and joint-loosening jerks and twitches prejudicial to health. So it is prohibited; and if human nature in Mexico is like human nature elsewhere the Charleston will be danced more generally, more jerkily, more madly than before; and the halls where it is bootlegged will have no lack of patrons.

Nuns, Fleeing from Mexico, Depart from St. Louis for East

15 Recount Escape in Disguise and Ill Treatment by Soldiers.

Fifteen black-robed nuns, seeking refuge in the United States and Canada from Mexico's stern measures against the Catholic Church, left St. Louis yesterday morning for Wheeling, W. Va., after relating the story of their escape from Mexico.

They were given free transportation to St. Louis by the Missouri Pacific from Laredo, Tex., on the Mexican border. They spent the night here at St. Mary's Infirmary, 1536 Papin street.

The story of their flight from a little convent at Saltillo, fifty miles from the American border, was told by Mother Superior Margarita Marie a Acuna, head of the party and the only one of the refugee nuns who could speak English.

Tells of Bad Treatment.

She described discourteous treatment at the hands of Mexican officers who came to the convent July 31 and ordered the nuns to leave in two days. They hastily moved valuables out of the convent, sent the convent children to private homes and left in the night.

When they departed from St. Louis at 9 a. m. yesterday for Cincinnati, Ohio, they still showed signs of nervousness and the hardship of their travels.

"Our convent was known as the Community of the God Shepard," the mother superior recounted. "We cared for forty orphans.

Convents and Churches Closed.

"Before ordering us to leave the government had closed three convents, six churches and the cathedral in Saltillo. We lived in dread because of reports of terrible things in connection with the closing of a convent in Guadalajara, where the sisters were driven away and the children mistreated.

"Ten Mexican officers came to our convent the night of Saturday, July 31. Eight remained outside while two entered, cursed us and ordered us to pack up and be ready to leave the convent the following Monday.

"After they were gone we worked fast to save our charges. By morning we had them all placed in private homes. We moved valuables from the convent and trusted some of them to faithful peasants. In four hours the convent was empty.

Donned Disguise of Peasants.

"Then we found trunks for our effects. We obtained peasant clothing from friends and some of us got wigs. We had little money, but we managed to pay our way to Laredo."

At Laredo they resumed the habit of the order.

Rev. Father W. C. Lilly of St. Louis University ministered to their spiritual needs here before they resumed their journey.

Until Mexico lifts its religious ban, some of the nuns will remain in the United States and others in Canada.

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COOLIDGE Y CALLES SOSTUVIERON UNA PLATICA AYER POR
LA VIA TELEGRAFICA SOBRE LA CRISIS RELIGIOSA...

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SE DA LA NOTICIA DE QUE COOLIDGE Y CALLES TUVIERON UNA PLATICA POR TELEGRAFO SOBRE LA CRISIS RELIGIOSA.

Personas que están Cerca del Presidente Mexicano dicen que el Jefe del Ejecutivo Americano le dió seguridades de Amistad.

SE HACE FUERTE PRESION SOBRE EL PRESIDENTE COOLIDGE --- PARA QUE INTERVENGAN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Sin embargo, se dice que Coolidge le dijo a Calles que no tenía la intención de intervenir.

por

ARTHUR CONSTANTINE.

Corresponsal del Post Dispatch y del New York World
CIUDAD DE MEXICO, agosto 9.- Una conversación directa por telégrafo tuvo lugar ayer entre Coolidge y Calles, según fué informado el corresponsal por personas que están en contacto íntimo con el Presidente mexicano.

Dicen que la conversación duró como una hora y que en ella se trató la cuestión pendiente entre la iglesia y el estado.

Se dice que fué el Presidente Coolidge quien tomó la iniciativa en la referida conferencia. Según el dicho de los informantes, Coolidge obtuvo comunicación con el Castillo de Chapultepec y comenzó la conversación sin precedente, preguntando amistosamente el estado en que se encuentra el conflicto.

Según se dice, el Presidente Calles contestó que el Gobierno tiene el control de la situación, y Mr. Coolidge le informó que él desea mantener relaciones --

amistosas entre los dos Gobiernos.

Protestas de Amistad.

El reportazgo dice que Mr. Coolidge afirmó que el Gobierno Americano está fuertemente apremiado por los católicos para que interceda, pero que su intención es abstenerse de toda intromisión, y le aseguró al Presidente Calles que podía contar con la actitud amistosa del Gobierno americano, expresando el Presidente Calles su satisfacción.

Se sabe que el Presidente Calles informó al Presidente americano que estaban en estudio las reformas a las leyes existentes y que serían presentadas en la próxima sesión del Congreso en septiembre.

Aunque muy poco se ha divulgado sobre el carácter de las reformas que fueron discutidas, según se dice, por ambos Presidentes, en los círculos inmediatos al Presidente Calles, se sabe que suavizarán los decretos religiosos promulgados con fecha 2 de julio. Se sabe que el Presidente Coolidge expresó su satisfacción al enterarse de los pasos que se piensan dar sobre el asunto.

Se dice que la mayor cordialidad caracterizó esta conversación.

(La American Telephone and Telegraph Co. de Nueva-York dice que no tiene conexión telefónica con México, por lo tanto, se cree que la referida conferencia se sostuvo por la línea telegráfica.)

Las Iglesias siguen abiertas como de costumbre

Otro domingo ha pasado sin misas en ninguna parte-

de México; sin embargo, las iglesias estaban llenas de fieles. Se estima en un 95 por ciento, el número de iglesias abiertas como de costumbre. El domingo pasó tranquilo.

La manifestación de partidarios del Gobierno, que se había anunciado, no llegó a materializarse. Las autoridades dieron órdenes en contrario para evitar el disgusto al pueblo, y no habrá manifestaciones públicas de elementos organizados hasta nueva orden.

En los grandes centros religiosos como Puebla, Guadalajara y Morelia, la asistencia a las iglesias no tiene precedente. Es la respuesta de los fieles a las recomendaciones de los sacerdotes de no interrumpir sus devociones dominicales.

Las iglesias protestantes de la Ciudad de México, celebraron sus servicios religiosos acostumbrados, aun cuando se espera que las autoridades les notificarán en esta semana que los ministros extranjeros no tienen permiso para seguir oficiando en México, y en espera de este edicto todos los sermones tuvieron un carácter de despedida. También en estas iglesias hubo mayor asistencia.

Los Protestantes están Resentidos.

Los protestantes están alarmados debido al anuncio de que el Gobierno tiene la intención de nacionalizar sus iglesias y escuelas y le exigirán a sus Gobiernos que protesten vigorosamente.

El valor estimativo aproximado de las propiedades-

ecleciásticas protestantes en México, es en total de:-
\$50.000.000.

La órden del Ministro de Gobernación, Tejeda, al Procurador del Distrito Federal, requiere la inmediata confiscación de toda propiedad protestante dedicada a usos religiosos. Primero serán inventariadas y luego se exigirán los títulos a nombre del Gobierno Federal.

Los líderes católicos, reiterando que hacían causa común en la cuestión religiosa, expresaron su simpatía a sus hermanos protestantes.

A los protestantes se les pedirá que se unan a los católicos en el boycott económico, y también que observen ayunos como en el tiempo de cuaresma.

Como la resistencia al decreto del Gobierno ha entrado a su segunda semana, los líderes de la iglesia insisten en darle mayor fuerza al boycott para obligar al Gobierno a capitular. Esperan una reducción en los ingresos del Gobierno para lograr esto. En los círculos gobiernistas, sin embargo, se asegura que el boycott económico será un fiasco.

La declaración del Presidente Coolidge, de que el conflicto de México debe ser arreglado por los mexicanos sin intervención exterior, fué publicada en la primera página de todos los periódicos. Los partidarios del Gobierno están encantados con ella, pero los portavoces de la iglesia no han hecho ningún comentario.

Sheffield es partidario de la severidad.

El Embajador americano, Sheffield sale para Estados

Unidos mañana, con el fin de convencer al Presidente - Coolidge de que debe pensar a su manera en las cuestiones mexicanas. Al mismo tiempo dará un informe personal respecto a la controversia entre la iglesia y el - estado.

El Consejero Shoenfeld, de la Embajada americana, - que se encuentra ahora en los Estados Unidos, ha conseguido una prórroga de tres meses a la licencia que tenía, así es que durante la crisis en México, la Embajada estará a cargo del primer Secretario, Arthur Bliss-Lane.

Antes de la protesta americana contra las leyes de "Extranjería" y "Petroleo", fuera entregada a Relaciones el jueves pasado, Sheffield envió un borrador de - la misma al Departamento de Estado. Se sabe que en el mismo urgía a los Estados Unidos a que no aceptaran la retroactividad de estas leyes, y recomendaba que se pidieran enmiendas que salvaguardaran los títulos de propiedades americanas adquiridas antes de 1917, soste---niendo a la vez que cualquier americano que fuera privado de sus propiedades debería ser indemnizado con dinero.

La opinión del Embajador americano, enviada por cable a Washington, lo mismo que por correo, está en favor de la severidad respecto a las decisiones del Gobierno, pues cree que esta es la oportunidad de obte---ner los resultados deseados.

Se sabe que Sheffield no estuvo conforme con la ho

ta entregada a Relaciones, en la que se cree ver la mano del Embajador anterior, Charles Beecher Warren y la política del Presidente Coolidge en asuntos mexicanos, según se rumora aquí, y el nombre de Warren no goza de popularidad en la Embajada.

Pesimismo de Sheffield.

Se sabe que Sheffield no abriga ninguna esperanza de que el Gobierno mexicano modifique las leyes de extranjería y petróleo.

En los departamentos del Gobierno están dispuestos a desearle al Embajador Sheffield un feliz viaje y que sus vacaciones le sean muy gratas, y en caso de que algo ocurriera que impidiera la reanudación de sus deberes diplomáticos, aquí se le daría la bienvenida más hospitalaria a su sucesor.

Al darle el apretón de manos de despedida es con este ademán: "Adios, que le vaya bien" - que traducido a un americano vernáculo equivaldría a: "Aquí está su sombrero; ¿es preciso que se marche?"

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COOLIDGE AND CALLES REPORTED IN WIRE TALK ON CHURCH CRISIS

Persons Close to Mexican President Say American Executive Gave Assurance of Friendship.

STRONG PRESSURE FOR U. S. INTERVENTION

**Coolidge, However, Is Said
to Have Told Calles of
Intention to Keep Hands
Off.**

By ARTHUR CONSTANTINE,
A Staff Correspondent of the Post-Dispatch and New York World.
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Publishing Cos. (New York World
and Post-Dispatch.)

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—A direct conversation by wire between Presidents Coolidge and Calles took place yesterday, the correspondent is informed by persons in close touch with the Mexican President.

They are said to have conversed for about an hour about the church and state conflict in Mexico.

President Coolidge is understood to have taken the initiative in the reported conference. According to the informants, he got into communication with President Calles at Chapultepec Castle and began the unprecedented conversation with a friendly inquiry about the status of the conflict.

It is understood President Calles replied that the Government was in control of the situation and Mr. Coolidge is said to have informed the Mexican executive that he desired to maintain friendly relations between the two Governments.

Assurance of Friendship.

The report is that Mr. Coolidge said the American Government was under heavy pressure to intercede but his sincere intention was to keep hands off. He assured President Calles he might count on the friendly attitude of the American Government, according to the informants, and President Calles expressed his satisfaction.

It is understood President Calles informed the American President that reforms in existing laws were under consideration and that they would be introduced at the next session of Congress in September.

While little is divulged of the nature of the reforms which were said to have been discussed by the two Presidents, it is understood in circles close to President Calles that they will soften the religious decrees and regulations promulgated under date of July 2. President Coolidge is understood to have expressed his satisfaction that these steps were under consideration.

The utmost cordiality is said to have characterized the conversation.

(The American Telephone and Telegraph Co. of New York says that it makes no telephone connections with Mexico. Therefore, it was assumed the reported conference was carried on over telegraph wires.)

Churches Open as Usual.

Another Sunday has passed without masses anywhere in Mexico. The churches, however, were filled with the faithful. It is estimated 95 per cent of them were open as usual. It was a quiet Sunday.

A manifestation of Government supporters, which had been scheduled here, failed to materialize. It was called off by the authorities to avoid exciting the people. There will be no organized public manifestations until further notice.

In the religious strongholds, Puebla, Guadalajara and Morelia, reports reaching Mexico City described church attendance as breaking records. This was the answer of the people to the exhortations of their priests not to interrupt their customary Sunday devotions.

Protestant churches in Mexico City held services as usual, although it is expected the authorities will serve notice on them this week that foreign clergymen no longer will be permitted to officiate. In anticipation of this edict the majority of the Protestant sermons in Mexico City took a valedictory tone. There was a larger attendance than usual at these churches.

Protestants Resentful.

The Protestants are up in arms over the announcement of the Government's intention of nationalizing their church buildings and schools and will demand that their governments make vigorous protests. Revised estimates of the value of Protestant church property



COOLIDGE AND CALLES REPORTED IN TALK BY WIRE

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In Mexico, gives the total at approximately \$50,000,000.

The order of Minister of the Interior, Tejada to the Federal Prosecutors calls for immediate seizure of all Protestant properties devoted in religious uses. They will first be inventoried and then the titles to them will be taken in the name of the Federal Government.

Catholic leaders, reiterating that they were making a common cause of religion, expressed sympathy for their Protestant brethren.

The Protestants will be asked to join with the Catholics in the economic boycott. They will also be asked to observe a Lenten-like social fast.

As resistance to the Government's decrees enters upon its second week, church leaders stress the economic boycott to force Government capitulation. Specifically they expect reduction of Government revenues to achieve this. In Government circles, however, the economic boycott is declared to be a fiasco.

President Coolidge's declarations that the conflict in Mexico should be settled by Mexicans without outside interference were displayed on the first pages of all newspapers. Government supporters are delighted with them. Catholic spokesmen have refrained from comment.

Sheffield Wants Showdown.

American Ambassador Sheffield is going back to the United States tomorrow to undertake to bring President Coolidge around to his way of thinking on Mexican issues. He will at the same time make a first hand report on the church and state controversy.

Counsellor Shoenfeld of the American embassy, now in the United States, has been granted three months' extension of his leave of absence. During the crisis in Mexico the United States embassy will be in charge of the first secretary, Arthur Bliss Lane.

Before the American protest test against the land and petroleum laws and regulations was handed to the foreign office last Thursday, Sheffield submitted a draft for it to the State Department. In this he is understood to have urged that the United States could not accept the alleged retroactivity of these laws and regulations. His recommendations called for amendments that would safeguard American titles to properties acquired prior to 1917. He held also that any Americans separated from properties post-dating that year should be compensated in cash.

The American Ambassador's views, set forth by cable to Washington as well as by mail, favored a showdown on these issues. He further believed this was a time to get results.

The note as it was delivered to the foreign office is understood to have been unsatisfactory to Sheffield. This was taken as evidence of the hand of Former Ambassador Charles Beecher Warren in President Coolidge's policy regarding Mexican affairs, according to opinion here, and the name of Warren is unpopular in the embassy.

Sheffield Not Optimistic.

Sheffield is known to entertain little hope that the Mexican Government will amend the land and petroleum laws.

In Government quarters there is a disposition to wish Ambassador Sheffield a pleasant vacation, and if anything arises to prevent his resumption of diplomatic duties here a hospitable welcome will be accorded his successor.

Their parting handshakes with him is with the attitude: "Adios que la vaya bien"—perhaps best translated into American vernacular as "Here's your hat; must you go?"

lar as "Here's your hat; must you go?"

MEXICAN BISHOPS OUTLINE OBJECTIONS TO CONSTITUTION

By the Associated Press.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—Official announcement that the Government intended to enforce the religious regulations upon Protestant churches has had little outward effect. Mexico City's two Protestant churches held the usual services yesterday and no move was made to interfere with them.

The Rev. William Evans Thomas, American pastor of the Union Church, Mexico City, conducted the usual services. Lay readers conducted the services in Christ Episcopal Church. This has been the custom for several months, since Dean Peacock promised the Mexican authorities he would cease conducting services if they rescinded their orders for his deportation.

The Catholic Episcopate, which withdrew the priests from the churches and suspended services in them as a protest against the Government's regulations, has given no sign of abandoning its passive opposition.

With regard to Protestant churches it is explained that the Government in announcing that it would enforce the law as it applies to all churches does not mean that it will immediately seize or convert Protestant church property to its own uses, but will reserve the right to do so in the future. All Protestant pastors will be required to register and give to the municipal authorities an inventory of church property, but each congregation will be allowed to use this property.

Excommunication of Leaders.

It is the belief of the Catholic Episcopate that several Government leaders have been automatically excommunicated by reason of their attitude in the religious controversy. This opinion was expressed in a statement made by the Episcopate to a question submitted by Dr. Alva Taylor, editor of "The Christian Century," published in the United States, who is at the head of a group of American ministers and writers now visiting Mexico. The statement also said that the Mexican Constitution attacked the divine origin of the church, its objective, its ministers and its property.

To questions as to how Catholics hope to obtain modification of the religious regulations, the Episcopate replied:

"The means would be to make President Calles see he has exceeded himself in his authority, which is declared by many legal experts, Catholics and non-Catholics, and also by amending the Constitution."

Regarding other means adopted by individuals or private secular association—the church will limit itself to saying whether they are lawful or unlawful.

Rejections to Constitution.

Amplifying the answer that the Mexican Constitution attacks the church and its ministers, the statement says the Constitution denies the juridical personality of the church, authorizes federal officials to intervene in its affairs, empowers local legislatures to determine how many priests shall officiate in each state, and forbids the church, its ministers and church societies to own property, all of which makes impossible the life of the church in Mexico.

The statement declares that the regulations consider criminal certain acts ordered by God, such as the fulfillment of religious vows made compulsory by God's law, the duty of parents to teach their children the truths of the Catholic faith and the encouragement, un-

der God's order, of divinely inspired religious vocations.

On the question whether Catholic children are forbidden to attend public schools in Mexico, the Episcopate points out that canonical laws forbids fathers knowingly to educate their children in a religion which is not Catholic.

It is said further that thus far about 50 Catholic schools averaging 150 pupils each have been closed, but if the government insists on execution of the regulations, all the Catholic schools, having a total of 2,000,000 pupils, will be closed.

The Episcopate says it is impossible to give the number of priests and nuns deported, "because of the difficulty in the security of the mails which has become apparent during the persecution." But it is estimated that 300 foreign priests and 30 nuns have been deported and 500 others "placed in positions which require them to leave the country, abandoning their charitable work and teaching."

Asked why the church believes that priests cannot register with the municipal authorities as the law required, the Episcopate replies that by so doing a priest would subordinate his ministry and the church properties to lay powers, which is contrary to the divine constitution of the church, its rights and dignity. Furthermore, it violates the Mexican Constitution, which proclaims freedom of thought and separation of the church and state.

Boycott of Mexico by Spain Is Advocated.

By the Associated Press.

VALENCIA, Spain, Aug. 9.—The political organization known as "Juventud Carlista" has issued a manifesto to all Catholics in Spain inviting them to protest against the religious measures of Mexico. It proposes a boycott of all Mexican merchandise.

Two Government Engineers Murdered.

By the Associated Press.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—The Department of Agriculture has information that two of its engineers, Raymundo Violante and Jose Almeida, were stabbed to death by unidentified persons at Acambaro, State of Guanajuato, last Monday night. It is thought they were suspected of being Government religious agents.

Mexican Officials in U. S. Discuss Religious Situation.

By the Associated Press.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—Arturo M. Elias, Consul-General of Mexico, in a statement, asks if it is the desire of certain Catholics in the United States who are agitating against the arms embargo to Mexico to bring about another massacre of "Saint Bartholomew's Eve."

Manuel Tellez, Mexican Ambassador to the United States, who arrived in Brooklyn Saturday on the Ward liner Mexico, said that "the present conflict between the Mexico Government and the Roman Catholic Church is of no concern to any other nation."

"This is Mexico's affair, and Mexico's alone," he said, when asked about agitation for intervention by the United States. "American property is far safer in Mexico than it is in the United States."

Consul-General Elias denounced

the plea of former Judge Alfred J. Talley, spokesman of the Society for the Protection of Republican Rights in Mexico for the lowering of the arms embargo.

"Is it his desire?" the Consul-General asked, "to bring about another religious war similar to those which bathed Europe in blood during the Middle Ages? If the Government of the United States raised the arms embargo at this time, only one construction could be put upon it by the civilized world."

The Ward liner brought to New York 38 Catholic nuns, refugees from Mexico. Forty others boarded the liner at Vera Cruz, but disembarked at Havana.

CONTENTS OF U. S. NOTE TO MEXICO NOT YET DIVULGED

Opinion Is That It Deals With Observations on Land and Oil Regulations.

Special Cable to the Post-Dispatch and the Chicago Daily News. Copyright, 1926.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 9.—The local American Embassy is significantly silent on the contents of the note Ambassador Sheffield has addressed to the Mexican Foreign Office. It is the first he has sent in two months.

The document is understood to deal exclusively with matters pending prior to the present Catholic rumpus. The opinion is that it will be the last communication containing the United States' official observations on the land and oil regulations.

Locally no connection is seen between the Catholic dispute and the present note, the view still prevailing that whatever interests in the United States are desirous of bringing official pressure from Washington on the Calles Government to settle the trouble, they will be unsuccessful. Reports here are that the American Government considers the matter purely internal and within the province of Mexico as a sovereign state to solve without outside interference.