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48 WESTMINSTER ST.

CITY OF PROVIDENCE, R. I. Sept. 16, 1920.

Hon. General Obregon  
President of Mexico.

Dear Sir:

Not pretending to know much about the causes of National troubles in Mexico, I venture a suggestion for consideration, in the adjustment of land title rights of the poor and illiterate population, principally of the Indian tribes.

It seems to me that a great factor in restoring permanent peace and promoting industry among the people, would be the adoption of a system whereby allotments of farming lands be given or sold in fee simple, coupled with legal safeguards providing that, such people could not mortgage or sell the land without the consent of the government as to terms.

Also that they be secured a right of redemption, in case of sale under mortgage and foreclosure with a stated period upon re-payment of the principal and interest, and payment of public assessments and for the value of necessary improvements made on the premises within redemption period.

Also that, in case of sale, the net proceeds be invested in other land or held in trust by the government for the grantors or their heirs, thus securing said people against the frauds and misrepresentations of mercenary jobbers in land.

Also that, in the event of oil or minerals being discovered on the land, the government to receive a percentage of the value to be held in

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trust with the principal, and administered for the benefit of government protected people.

Also that, the government retain a certain proportion of the value of all underground wealth, for the public benefit, granting leases to operate mines, oil fields, etc. subject to the right of government to inspect property, books and to insist upon operation, also to fix prices.

Also that, the government act as administrators of the estates of minors, and incompetents of full age who are next of kin, or beneficiaries of deceased owners.

Also that, sales of lands by such people (Indian) shall be advertised under government supervision, prior to sale, so as to secure competition and get the real value, and prevent fraud or imposition. In some such way these people will be protected against their own improvidence, and confidence deception.

Also that, holders of large tracts of unimproved lands be compelled to sell to the government or under government supervision, at such values as government appraisers fix, so that all who wish may have an opportunity to possess homes and become and remain self-supporting, good citizens, and a good government asset.

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Some such arrangement (laws) with provisions for free public education, would produce generations of honest, industrious, patriotic, intelligent citizens, who would work for and maintain peace and ensure permanent prosperity of the nation.

You are a young man. All this may be accomplished within the public service period of your career.

May you be blessed with good health, and a long, happy and progressive administration: *and in the enjoyment of the friendship of the United States of America forever*  
Yours sincerely

*P. J. McCarthy*