

Q-1

Is it possible to purchase Lower California under existing laws of Mexico?

A-1

There is no law in my Country under which part of our territory can be sold nor is there a single Mexican citizen that would sanction it.

Q-2

If not, the resolution is futile and it only tends to irritate a sensitive people?

A-2

The resolution is completely absurd, and it only shows the absolute lack of knowledge of our laws and character in those responsible for its introduction in Congress.

Q-3

Is there not a general desire on the part of Mexico to establish a spirit of neighborly intercourse between the two Republics?

A-3A general ~~want~~ desire predominates in Mexico for the most cordial neighborly and commercial intercourse with this Country.

Q-4

In spite of the fact that there are mischief makers and malevolent men in all countries, does not the General believe that the attitude of all good and forward looking Americans, is one of friendship for Mexico?

A-4

I earnestly believe that the majority of the citizens of this Country view with delight that the best of harmony exists between the two Republics, with the exception only of a few very reach men and corporations whose material interests have been affected by our new legislation.

Q-5

In the opinion of the General, does he not believe that with the existing of cordial relations, Mexico will become one of the principal consuming markets for the products of this Country?

A-5

I believe that Mexico ~~that Mexico~~ not only offers a most advantageous market for the products of ~~this~~ this Country's industries, but it may be as well one of the most accessible markets for the raw materials to be used in these same industries.

The above statements are made by General Obregon as a plain Citizen of Mexico as he has no official connection whatsoever with the Mexican Government.

San Francisco, Cal. Jan. 25d'1919.

1. Es posible comprar Baja California, bajo las leyes actualmente en vigor, en México?
1. No hay ninguna ley en mi País que autorice la venta de territorio Nacional, ni un solo Mexicano que lo permita.
2. Si no le és, la moción presentada al Congreso de EE UU resulta futil y solo tiende a irritar los animos de un Pueblo por lo regular sentimental?
2. La moción presentada al Congreso es completamente absurda y denuncia en los que la presentaron una falta absoluta de conocimientos sobre nuestras leyes y nuestro carácter.
3. Es el deseo por parte del pueblo Mexicano en general, fomentar relaciones amistosas y de intercambio comercial entre ambos países?
3. En México predomina un sentimiento general, en favor del más cordial acercamiento amistoso y comercial con este país.
4. A pesar de que en todos los países existen gentes malevolas e intrigantes, en la opinión del General, no creé que la actitud de la mayoría de los ciudadanos Americanos bien intencionados, es de franca amistad hacia México.
4. Creo fundadamente, que a excepción de algunos grandes Capitalistas o Compañías, cuyos intereses materiales han sido afectados por nuestra nueva legislación, todos los demás ciudadanos de esta República verían con gusto que las relaciones entre ambas Naciones, se encaminaran hacia la más franca armonía.
5. En la opinión del General, no creé que existiendo buenas relaciones puede llegar México a ser uno de los principales consumidores de los productos de Estados Unidos?
5. Creo que México, además de ser uno de los mercados de mayores ventajas para los productos industriales de este país, puede llegar a ser la fuente principal donde estas mismas industrias puedan obtener las materias primas a precios mas ventajosos.

Las anteriores declaraciones son hechas por el General Obregón en su carácter de ciudadano mexicano, pues no tiene investidura oficial alguna con el Gobierno Mexicano.

San Francisco, Cal., enero 23 de 1919.

W. H. METSON
F. C. DREW
J. A. MACKENZIE

E. H. RYAN
R. G. HUDSON

TELEPHONE DOUGLAS 726 ³

METSON, DREW & MACKENZIE
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
Nos. 511-523 BALBOA BUILDING

January 31, 1919.

General Alvaro Obregon,
Nogales,
Sonora, Mexico.

My dear General:

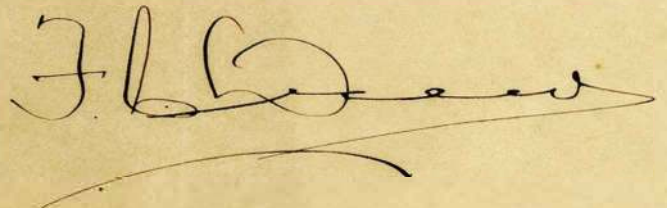
I regret very much that I was unable to see you on your recent visit here, but I had to undergo another operation - milder in form than the previous one, but still it put me out of business.

As you know, there has been a great deal of comment caused by the recent speech of Senator Ashurst on the purchase of Lower California. I enclose herewith an editorial from "The Bulletin" which speaks for itself.

Do you expect to come to San Francisco shortly?

With kindest regards, I am

Yours truly,



2/KCA

Enclosure

SENATOR ASHURST PLAYING ZIMMERMAN GAME IN MEXICO

By JAMES H. WILKINS.

Does Senator Ashurst wish to be the American successor of the German Zimmerman? Assuredly he is playing the Zimmerman game when he fathers the absurd and futile resolution for the purchase of Lower California by the United States, alleging as a reason therefor his fear that it will be acquired by Japan. To get the United States at loggerheads with Mexico and Japan has been an object long and patiently pursued by a certain interest, and it is noticeable that Senator Ashurst's name is itself sinister and suggestive; for if you eliminate the first two letters of his name, what remains?

It can hardly be unknown to the senator that title 13, article 1071 of the Mexican Penal Code, defines as high treason punishable by death an attempt to alienate any portion of the national domain. And by special enactment this is made applicable to the president of the Republic. But the gentleman holding the office he has disgraced has started a little trouble; so where's the odds?

And what is the matter with our own freak Legislature of California? At a time when all that is good in human nature is striving to reach a basis of permanent peace, why should these imitation statesmen throw a monkey-wrench into the machinery?

General Obregon, the foremost living Mexican next to the President, who will be his successor if he likes, has been spending a few days in San Francisco. He is a picturesque figure of a man with powerful stocky figure and handsome, thoughtful face, both indicating at once unusual physical and mental strength. An empty sleeve shows that he has been no carpet soldier.

General Obregon was the military genius of the Carranza movement. With the restoration of peace, and vested authority, he became Minister of War, but like recent American cabinet makers—resigned to look after his material interests. He is an enlightened farmer, eager to improve the agricultural methods of his country, but yet a man of affairs. Although holding no office whatever he is still the Colonel House of Mexico always consulted on vexed questions and close decisions. Beyond that he is an earnest promoter of the most friendly relations possible between Mexico and the United States.

In my interview with him General Obregon, in relation to the Ashurst resolution, answered and signed his name to the following pertinent questions:

Question: Is it possible to purchase Lower California under existing laws of Mexico, as proposed by United States Senator Ashurst's resolution?

Answer: There is no law in my country under which any part of our territory can be sold nor is there a single Mexican citizen who would sanction it.

Q. If not, and the resolution is futile, does it not only tend to irritate a sensitive people?

A. The resolution is completely absurd, and it only shows the absolute lack of knowledge of our laws and

character by those responsible for its introduction in Congress.

Q. Is there not a general desire on the part of Mexico to establish a spirit of neighborly intercourse between the two republics?

A. A general desire predominates in Mexico for the most cordial, neighborly and commercial intercourse with the United States.

Q. In spite of the fact that there are mischief makers and malevolent men in all countries, does not the General believe that the attitude of all good and forward-looking Americans is one of friendship for Mexico?

A. I earnestly believe that the majority of the citizens of the United States view with delight that the best of harmony shall exist between the two republics, with the exception only of a few very rich men and corporations whose material interests have been affected by our new legislation.

Q. In the opinion of the General, does he not believe that with the existence of cordial relations, Mexico will become one of the principal consuming markets for the products of the United States.

A. I believe that Mexico not only offers a most advantageous market for the products of this country's industries, but it may be as well one of the most accessible markets for the raw materials to be used in these same industries.

The above statements are made by General Obregon as a plain citizen of Mexico, as he has no official connection whatsoever with the Mexican government.

A. OBREGON.
San Francisco, Cal., Jan. 23, 1919.

FONDO: A.O.
SERIE: II.6
EXP: 19
INV: 1247

FUENTE SAN FRANCISCO BULLETIN AUTOR _____ARTICULO MEDDLING IN MEXICOFECHA 29-ENERO-1919

Meddling in Mexico.

THE BULLETIN is in receipt of a letter which sets forth in detail the importance to Imperial Valley of acquiring Lower California by purchase from Mexico.

All of the writer's statements and deductions are admittedly true. But it would be of far more importance to the United States to acquire British Columbia by purchase from Canada, extending our coast line unbroken to the North Pole, or to control absolutely the Great Lakes by purchasing their north shore or to secure the navigation of the St. Lawrence river to the open sea.

But all these propositions do not even admit of argument. For, if the wildest and wooliest representative who ever sat in Congress offered a resolution affecting the territorial integrity of Canada it would end at once an amity between two nations built up by an intercourse of almost a hundred and fifty years.

No more does the proposal to purchase Lower California admit of argument. It can serve only the purpose of a reckless politician to urge a policy forbidden alike by the laws of Mexico and by the ideals of her people, even if such a policy would benefit the United States. The incredible ignorance of our people concerning our near neighbor to the south is a constant source of lamentable friction. The Ashurst resolution, followed up by the absurd action of our State Legislature, has done more harm in unsettling our rapidly cementing friendship with Mexico than all Lower California is worth.

Before the revolution our commerce with Mexico was vast. She was our third best customer. Under new conditions, with European competition cut off, that commerce can be multiplied peacefully many times over if we only give our one sure opportunity a chance.

FONDO: A.O
SERIE: II.G
EXP: 14
INV: 1247

HIS SWAY NOT ENDED

General Obregon, visitor in San Francisco, who is the Colonel House of Mexico in his influence in political affairs.



FONDO: ALVARO OBREGON
SERIE: II.6
EXP: 14
INV: 1297