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The American Exchange National Bank

NEW YORK

LEWIS L. CLARKE,
PRESIDENT

HERBERT N. ARMSTRONG,
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT.

Handwritten notes and scribbles in the right margin, including numbers like 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200.

September 7, 1920.

Dear General Alvarado:

It was a source of great pleasure and satisfaction for me to learn that General Obregon has been elected President of Mexico, in view of your statement that he is a man who has Mexico's best interests at heart, and one who stands for progress and development.

I feel sure that there will be an immediate improvement in conditions in Mexico, and that its future, under the able guidance of General Obregon, will be a happy and promising one.

With warm personal regards and sentiments of esteem, believe me,

Faithfully yours,

Handwritten signature of Lewis L. Clarke

General Salvador Alvarado,
C/o The Hotel Commodore,
42nd St. at Lexington Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK AMERICAN
SEPTEMBER 4, 1920

Today

Why Idealism Fails.
A Wall Street Clerk.
Quaint Japanese Gods.
Workmen's Agreements.

By Arthur Brisbane

Lewis L. Clarke, extremely young and nevertheless head of the gigantic American Exchange Bank, with its hundred and seventy-five millions, sends to his friends a monthly letter of information, meditation, prognostication, affirmation, optimism and warning. This month, wandering far from Wall Street's vocabulary, Mr. Clarke uses expressions such as "capitalistic system," once used only by raging radicals. He says:

"The capitalistic system of industry is even theoretically superior to the best of the idealistic systems."

The French and American republics and the English and Italian imitation monarchies are all four in the "capitalistic system of industry" stage, and Mr. Clarke's statement is true. No "idealistic system" ever succeeds. By the time it succeeds, men no longer call it "idealistic."

Aristotle, as wise in his day as Clarke in his, said there could be no civilization without slavery. Slaves were necessary that superior minds might have leisure for superior thinking.

Aristotle was right, in his day, wrong later, when machines took the place of slaves—including human machines, twelve and fourteen years old, that work in factories. Mr. Clarke is sincere in his belief that the "capitalistic system" is the only good one, now, or hereafter. But, like Aristotle, Mr. Clarke may be mistaken.

A Wall Street clerk, earning \$35 a week, with a family of six, testifying at a Government investigation, said that an apartment costing formerly \$30 a month, now costs from \$60 to \$90. Unable to find a home that he could pay for on his salary, he had moved to a dark basement, and the janitor was trying to put him out because he had five children.

Mr. Clarke, who through all his life, like his father before him, has worked as hard as any slave of modern business responsibility, is right in his statement that the "capitalist system is the best system developed—thus far.

That Wall Street clerk would be right if he said that the human race OUGHT to find a better system, one that would let him take his wife and five children out of the dark basement into the sunlight. "God may forgive you," said Fichte, "for depriving children of bread that costs money. He will NOT forgive you for depriving them of free air and sunlight."

Kensuke Ando, Mayor of Kyoto, in an address of welcome to American Congressmen, said, "The Americans and the Japanese are equally sons of the gods, therefore love should rule both." Most polite Japanese greeting from a gentleman whose Emperor is officially related to all the Celestial bodies. But the one god of the American Congressman and the various gods of the Japanese are not exactly alike.

If American statesmen will read up on some of the Japanese gods and their methods, they will learn that the highly intelligent sons of those gods will bear watching.

Japanese that are "sons" and followers of gentle self-sacrificing Gotama, who let the mother tigress eat him, to make milk for her young, we do not fear. But the Japanese have a queer assortment of gods. Some of their shinto gods, devil gods, fox and tiger gods, might have Japanese sons not exactly desirable among the peaceful people of California.

Workmen demand the right of "collective bargaining." They denounce, justly, corporations, federal judges and others that refuse to meet authorized representatives of workmen.

If, however, workmen want "collective bargaining" to be more a joke, they must keep the bargains that their representatives make.

Leaders of coal miners sign an agreement. The miners stop work, "taking a vacation." No coal for the public.

Street car workers in Brooklyn, city of two millions, enter into certain agreements through their leaders. They break the agreements, stop all cars in the night without an hour's warning. Two million people walk. If workers think that is the way to promote "collective bargaining" and obtain the sympathy of the public, the workers are mistaken. Union labor is mistaken.

Roosevelt's idea is, perhaps, that within the League of Nations council England with her many votes to our one and her European allies would line up against the United States and "a dozen of these republics," including perhaps magnificent Haiti, Guatemala and other great "world Powers."

The League of Nations is a league of war, a league to make America fight and finance new wars. Mr. Roosevelt proves it when he begins looking around for "West Indian, Central American or South American republics" to line up on our side of the fight.

Why not keep OUT of the fight and OUT of the League, attend to our own business and let those fight that think they must?

also, if it imagines it can go far WITHOUT public support.

"We love you, and wish you well in your fight on Russia. But do not seize any Russian territory," said Secretary of State Colby to Poland, and now comes the surprising answer. "You mind your business and I'll mind mine. It may be necessary for me to discipline those Reds by taking some of their land."

It is one thing to wiggle into the League of Nations by the side door, when the Senate won't let you use the front door. It is rather humiliating to be thrown out of the back door, and wobble off with a rap on the knuckles. One thing is certain, the Government of the United States finds it hard to please anybody in Europe.

Mr. Roosevelt made a speech about the war league of nations, but did not travel far in the effort to help partner Cox prove that a war league doesn't mean war.

Newspapers quote Mr. Roosevelt to the effect that America with only one vote would be powerful in the League because she would "control the votes of at least twelve West Indian, Central and South American republics." Roosevelt now says, "I didn't say that; I said the interests of the United States and at least a dozen of these republics are broadly identical."

De

México,
sep. 24
de 1920

Sr. Lewis L. Clarke.
Presidente de The American
Exchange National Bank.
NUEVA YORK. E.U.A.

Muy señor mio y amigo:-

Nuestro amigo el Señor General Salvador Alvarado me mostró la carta que dirigió usted a él con fecha 7 del actual, en la que expresa su satisfacción por el triunfo que obtuvo mi candidatura en las elecciones presidenciales, celebradas el domingo 5 del presente mes.

Deseo expresar a usted mis mas vivos -- agradecimientos por las expresiones que en dicha carta tiene usted para mí, así como por sus buenos deseos con respecto al futuro de México.

Me es grato ofrecerme de usted atento -- amigo y seguro servidor.-

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The American Exchange National Bank

NEW YORK

LEWIS L. CLARKE,
PRESIDENT

HERBERT N. ARMSTRONG,
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

October 4, 1920.


Dear President Obregon:

I most certainly appreciate your cordial letter of September 24th.

I am most pleased that General Alvarado showed you my letter to him, and I now have the honor of expressing to you direct my warm and hearty congratulations on your election to the office which you now hold and which I know you are going to administer ably and well, and to extend to you my best wishes for your happiness and success. I feel sure that Mexico, under your careful guidance, will come into her own.

With kindest regards, believe me to be,

Faithfully yours,


Hon. Alvaro Obregon,
Nogales Sonora,
Mexico.