

Mexico's New Consul Is Platimer in Tucson Area

Mexico's new consul in Tucson is practically an Arizona pioneer. Gen. Arturo Elias is the oldest member of Mexico's consular service. He succeeds Eliseo Ruiz Russek, who is being transferred to St. Louis, Mo., as consul there.

From April 20, 1972, at Guaymas, Son., he was educated in one of Tucson's first public schools. Among his classmates were Fred Ronstadt, Antonio Leon, Genaro S. Manzo and the late Carlos C. Jacome.

All of them became noted Tucson businessmen.

Elias started his career in Mexico's foreign service in 1901 as consul at Solomonsville, Ariz., and one of his friends there was Roy Wayland, now chairman of the board of directors of the Valley National bank, Phoenix.

Won Commission

In 1910 he won his commission as a brigadier general during the Mexican revolution. He served in the army at that rank under Madero and Carranza, and can still go on active duty if he chooses.

He has served under 10 Mexican presidents from Diaz to Aleman. "All have been good presidents," he said.

His duties have included consular posts at Tucson, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Antonio, New Orleans, New York and Europe.

From 1923 to 1934 he was postmaster general and director of telegraph services of Mexico. His tenure of office in that post was broken briefly in 1932 when he served for a short period as governor of Lower California.

Served Under Calles

One of the presidents whom he served under was his brother, Plutarco Elias Calles, who was chief executive of the nation from 1924 to 1928.

The Elias family is scattered all over Mexico and southwestern U. S. Its ancestors came to the new world in the 1700's and General Elias is of its fifth generation here.

He asked for this assignment for reasons of health and expects to spend a lot of time reminiscing with old friends in this community.

As for U.S.-Mexico relations, he figures they are better now than they ever have been.

Sees Better Relations

They are going to get better all the time too," he said. "wonderful progress has been made. Our countries are very friendly—we are neighbors, you know, and we have to be.

"As for myself, I have always had the cooperation and friendship of the people of this country."

U. S. President Howard Taft was a personal friend of his, and he knew Coolidge and Hoover well.



ARTURO ELIAS

Arturo M. Elias In Service of Mexico 43 Years

Arturo M. Elias, Mexican consul in Douglas, has one of the most interesting backgrounds of any man in the Mexican consular service. Mr. Elias, the eldest brother of Plutarco Elias Calles, former president and iron man of Mexico, has spent 43 years in consular work.

Mr. Elias' first assignment as consul was at Solomonville, Ariz. He later served in Tucson, Phoenix and Los Angeles in the same capacity.

He then was made inspector general of consulates in the United States of America and in this position was stationed in El Paso and San Antonio, Texas, New Orleans, La., and New York City. From New York Mr. Elias was sent to Europe as inspector general there.

In 1928 he was appointed postmaster general and telegraph officer of Mexico.

This is not Consul Elias' first tour of duty in Douglas. In 1908 when he was inspector of consulates he visited the consular office here. At that time Antonio de la Maza, father of Tony Maza, who resides in Douglas at the present time, was consul. Again in 1911, during a revolutionary period in Mexico, Mr. Elias was sent to Douglas to investigate the claims of the American citizens who had been injured or had property that had been damaged by stray shells.

In 1909, Consul Elias was appointed to arrange a meeting between the American president, Taft, and the Mexican president, Diaz. This council was held in El Paso, Texas, and Juarez, Chihuahua, in the month of October.

Mr. Elias has served in Douglas as consul since February of 1943.

Visiting Lecturer At University Of Arizona

Dr. Polyxenie Kambouropoulou, on leave from Vassar college, has been appointed as visiting lecturer in psychology at the University of Arizona, and Eileen M. Butler, Oak Park, Ill., is to be an instructor in physical education for women. Dr. Kambouropoulou has been associate professor of psychology at Vassar since 1926. Miss Butler replaces Miss Jeannette Mickey, teaching assistant for the past year.

Toastmasters Hold United Election of Officers

7-2-57

A TEST STATION — "Mag-
—superb—outstanding."
...showered down
...men who were
...for posts in the newly-
...Toastmasters Club at Yu-
...Station.
...offices were at stake, rang-
...from president to sergeant-at-
...formed for a "real fight",
...members conducted the 40-
...election — complete with
...speeches — in a hard-
...fast-moving political con-
...atmosphere.
...election was a climax to
...of preparation. Club mem-
...composed of officers and ci-
...personnel at the test sta-
...burned the midnight
...on their carefully-prepared
...statements. To insure
...one spoke overtime, an al-
...lock rang as a two-minute
...
...such as "fully quali-

ed" and "without comparison" in
describing candidates, brought
mingled cheers from the audience.
The move of one candidate in
having an attractive, young Yuma
Union High School student pass-
ing out cigars on his behalf, was
good-naturedly branded as "un-
fair" by his opponent.
Main objective of the club, as
is the case in similar Toastmaster
groups, is to instill self confidence
in the individual to permit him
to speak on given subjects with
ease.
The campaign stickers, the
signs, and all the trappings of the
"political arena," resulted in the
following being elected: Alfred
Hammann, president; Major Rob-
ert Oakley, educational vice pres-
ident; Armando Elias, administra-
tive vice president; Captain Wal-
ter Bloomfield, treasurer; Captain
Louis Young, secretary, and Lt.
Col. Anthony Cerasoli, sergeant-at-
arms.

General Arturo M. Elias
CONSUL DE MEXICO

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