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MEXICAN NEWSPAPERS.

JOURNALISM AND JOURNALISTS IN A SPANISH REPUBLIC.

How the Press Is Subsidized by the Government — Something About "Newspaper Row" in the Mexican Problem City—The Profits of Newspaper Work.

Here's your daily paper of tomorrow! This is the cry I hear at 5 o'clock every afternoon in the streets of Mexico City. Dozens of newsboys are crying it. Ragged, dirty little fellows, they lock out their top lofty voices in the sleeply printed newspapers under your nose while they yell out in Spanish the names of their papers and say that they contain all the news of tomorrow. In the morning they will cry the same papers as just from the press and pretend that they contain all the news of the day.

Mexican daily newspapers are always printed in the afternoon before the date of publication. The editors and reporters are too lazy to think of night work and they have no idea of the value of news. Telegrams are just as likely to be printed three days after reception or to be thrown out entirely as to be used at once, and a page home item about an editorial office cow is not a big accident or good news matter. The Mexican reporters do not know what the word "scoop" means, and many of them will not take telegrams, because they say they have not the room for them.

Nevertheless, there are twenty-nine dailies in Mexico City. The most of these are subsidized by the government. All have small circulation, and the biggest journal of the whole Mexican republic prints not only about 5,000 copies daily. This is El Monitor Republicano, which is the great independent daily of Mexico City, which contains about 300,000 people and which is bigger than Cincinnati.

NEWSPAPER ROW.

The Monitor Republicano pays $40,000 a year and it is the best newspaper property in Mexico. It gets no subsidy from the government and it is supported by the Conservative party. It is one of the most independent of journals in its advertising methods. It will not take an advertisement for any fixed time, only for as long as it is convenient to publish it, and it will not make any reduction in price for a number of insertions. It has four pages and sells for six cents a copy.

The editor of The Republicano is now and then too decided in his criticisms of the government, and like all other editors in Mexico he suddenly finds himself arrested and gives a few months or a year or six imprisonment in the penitentiary. There is practically no freedom of the press in Mexico. The editor of a newspaper who is obliged to sign his name to his matter never feels certain as to whether he will not be taken to Belem, which is the name of the Mexican penitentiary. There is, in fact, a corridor of this prison which is devoted to newspaper editors and which goes by the name of "Newspaper Row."

The most of the articles in a Mexican newspaper are signed, and the paper has to print in every issue the name of a man who is responsible for those which are not signed, and in case of trouble as to the unsigned articles this man goes to prison. In some of the newspaper offices here the attaches assume this responsibility turn about. El Tiempo or The Times is the organ of the Church party, and it often denounces the government. Its editors are frequently imprisoned, but it makes about $10,000 a year and it considers itself doing well.

The leading governmental paper is El Universal. This is subsidized by the government and it gets $1,000 a month from President Diaz. The editor has also been made a senator and he gets a senator's salary. The Universal has about fifteen editors to every one reporter, and this is the proportion in most of the offices. The editorials are chiefly essays.

THE PAY OF EDITORS AND REPORTERS.

The Mexicans do not know what the very paragraph means. The first page of every Mexican newspaper is devoted to long winded critiques and commentaries on current events or history.

The only five papers that the city has are two dailies published in English and translated by the English speaking people of Mexico. One of these is The Two Republics, which was established about twenty-five years ago and which makes about $10,000 a year. The other English paper is known as The Mexican Herald. All kinds of newspaper work in Mexico are poorly paid. Editors get from $20 to $25 a week in Mexican money, which is only from $5.50 to $6.50 a week in American money. The essay editors get the highest salaries. As to telegraphic news, the papers seem to think nothing of quoting from their contemporaries telegrams which have been read a day or two before, and I saw one item that could not be put in with as much assurance as though it had just happened. Time, in fact, is of no importance in my affair of Mexican life, and neither the people nor the editors seem to care as to whether the matter is new or old.

I found newspapers in every one of the big cities of Mexico I visited, and there is no perfecting press in all Mexico. The presses in use are of the old French style, made after patterns which have long since been abolished. The amount paid for telegraphic service in Mexico City ranges from $1 to $37 per week per newspaper, and I do the total daily newspapers pay anything for the grams. As to newspaper correspondents, these are paid by getting a copy of the paper free, and the papers themselves are not at all the money-making ground. The printers get from 50 to 75 cents per thousand ems and a good foreman receives a salary of $20 a week. Such printers as are on salaries get from $6 to $12 a week, and all of these sums are in Mexican money, which is worth only 72 cents to the dollar.—Frank G. Carpenter in New York World.

WHY WOMEN FAIL.

In the Telegraph Business They Marry and Upset the Service.

Not long ago a new telegraph service was organized on one of the West India islands under the supervision of an English governmental staff. The island was a long way behind the times in its method of communication and everything else, and the establishment of postal telegraph stations all round the island was looked upon as inaugurating a more hopeful and progressive era. The chief of the department found that women were cheaper than men, so the stations were placed in charge of a knight and presiding nymph of the wooded groves respectively, who took kindly to their new task, and for awhile everything went smoothly.

Presently, however, an epidemic fell on many of these island towns, and it invariably took the same form. The clerk from a merchant's office or store would be seen lounging in the middle of the day when the fierce tropical sun was beating down on the white glaring streets, and driving every white man within the jalousies of his cooled plants; or in the bowe of the young planter, who had ridden into town from the cane or tobacco or the adjoining sugar estate, would be fitched up for an unmeasurable time under the silver clashed mango tree, the fruit of which could be plucked from the windows of the clerk and upon station, which contained the whole score of these unwonted phenomena.

In a single year the service went to pieces, and the chief had to face the fact that nearly every member of his staff had either resigned already or was about to resign, in consequence of approaching matrimony.

The officers of the Western Union company seem to be having a similar experience. They complain that the female proponents of the telegraph girls to get married is a source of constant discouragement and change in their offices. Just as soon as a woman gets broken in thoroughly and can handle a heavy wire almost as well as a man she falls in love with some telegraphist and marries. In more cases the woman quit work and go to housekeeping, while the husband has to change the key twice to lead to share of housekeeping.

This, however, makes no difference; not a single one seems to be deterred by the experience of her predecessor, and the old story perpetually repeats itself. In point of fact, the business of matrimony seems to flourish better in telegraph offices than in the houses where men and women are supposed to meet their fate at so much per head; and so seriously is the position of the telegraph office disturbed thereby that the companies declare they would give up women operators altogether in the large offices if it were not for the sake of economy.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Stories of the Meeting House.

Mr. Spurgeon has been reviewing a book on "Primitive Methodism on the Yorkshire Wolds," and finds in it some stories very much to his mind. He is especially pleased with one criticism of a sermon.

"Ah, say, mister, you preached a goodish sermon tonight, but if it had been cut short at beath rods, and set alive in the middle, it was a deal more good."

Mr. Spurgeon "scarcely remembers a better criticism than this."

Another story is of a not very fluent young man, who, being in the habit of saying in his prayers, "Lord, help me to pray," was answered one night by an old man's ejaculation, "And the Lord help thee to give over."

Mr. Spurgeon also likes the story of a shoemaker who at a noisy prayer meeting, succeeded almost and said "My dear friends, the Lord is not deaf. Now don't you think you could pay a little more quietly? You remember, when the temple was being built at Jerusalem, there was no sound of any tool heard in it while building."

"Yes, sir," said one of the brethren, "that's all very true; but, you see, we're not building the temple; we're only blasting the rocks."

Partial Success with an Artificial Calf.

M. Tresbe succeeded in making an artificial calf that would grow. He took a drop of gelatine, which, after being boiled for thirty-six hours, lost its coagulability. After drying it for several hours in the air by the aid of a red fired in the cork of a vessel partly filled with a solution of tannin he plunged the drop of gelatine into the tannin. The outer portion of the gelatine, which dissolved, combined with the tannin and produced a stoned cell. This distended more and more, growing after the manner of a living cell, but would not stop at the limit of growth as regards size, but grew on some cells as in living tissue.—New York Times.

Baron de Goeloin, the Brazilian India rubber merchant, who is trying to secure the entire rubber output of the Amazon region, is an energetic man of Portuguese birth, forty-one years old. He is of medium height and very gentle figure, with light complexion and red hair.

In Russia there is a grave deficit in the wheat crop. The peasants are starving, and there is small hope of relief. In India there is serious scarcity, a famine prevails over a considerable portion of the country.

A Conversation with Many Watches.

"There are a good many 'wrinkles' on watches," said Dr. McMillin. "I know a member of the house who carried a watch in every pocket. Some were gold, some silver and some nickel. Some had nickel cases, but gold fronts, and some were fastened to him with a cord or a chaining. The curious feature of the thing is he was exceedingly sensitive on the subject."—New York Herald.

There is a cone of burnished tin, 20 inches in height and 12 in diameter, on the top of Mount Katahdin, plumed there by the Appalachian club of Bangor, Me. It denotes the distance from which the summit of the peak may be seen.

Punishment of Russian Glass.

Use has been found for worn glass by Moses Redding, Gardner & Guide, of Paris. Any fragments of broken or defective glass ware are mixed together, after having been broken to a suitable size, they are then placed in moulds lined with silica, talc or some other resisting material and fired. A coherent mass is produced which can be dressed and cut into blocks, which are of some irregularity owing to the blocks may be used as architectural ornaments.

The blocks are usually rough on one side, owing perhaps to incomplete fusion; this gives a surface which is admirably adapted for cementing them, especially if they are cut like in form, to adhere to mass with the addition of a little mortar. For decorative effects one than be produced. Decline in relief can be obtained by pressure while the block or slab is plastic.

If a suitable mold be prepared with movable partitions then pieces of glass can be arranged in such a way that upon firing a very effective "stained glass" window is produced, the necessity of using "leading" as in the ordinary way, being thus obviated. This kind will enable many manufacturers who have heaps of "waste" glass lying about useless to turn them with very little expenditure to profitable account.—Manufacturer.

Use for the Search Light.

There is no doubt that if every large passenger steamer was provided with several search lights many dangers would be avoided and the yearly loss of life at sea would be greatly lessened. This statement applies especially to midnight disasters, in which so many lives are in jeopardy in times of danger. It has been recommended that the equipment of such vessels with search lights should be made compulsory by the governments of the countries under whose flags they sail and at whose ports they touch.

As an instance of the simplicity of a search light outfit and the advantages to which it can be put, it is only necessary to look to the navigation of the Suez canal. Vessels unprovided with the electric light can hire a searchlight plant while passing the canal either at Suez or Port Said. The whole arrangement can be set up in an hour or two, and the steamer can then go through the canal at night. Formerly every ship in the canal had to tie up to the banks at night, and the passage often occupied fifty or sixty hours. Now it is generally made in eighteen or twenty hours, and on some occasions even quicker time has been made.—Electricity.

Continental Confidence.

The answer to hypocrisy is stuck in the remark, "So man is worse by unmeaning goodness." This may sound freely epigrammatic, but unfortunately there is not a word of truth in it. Any one is always worse by mistaking goodness, for that means assuming the appearance of it without the reality. Not only is he more vicious than before, but his vice has acquired an additional smirking quality, which makes the man more contemptible person, and infinitely more dangerous to the community. Imitation is the tribute which vice pays to virtue, doubtless, but the vice is none the less vicious.—Dr. R. W. Clement in Popular Science Monthly.

Adulteration of Coffee.

The adulteration of coffee in France has reached such alarming proportions that it has become a subject for investigation by the chamber. The adulteration is made by admixture of flour and substitute of bran, which is pressed into the shape of a coffee bean, the resemblance being difficult for even an expert to detect by sight. A small amount of chicory is sometimes added, and the exterior is given a touch of oil to make it shiny.—New York Times.

"August Flower"

What is It For? This is the query personally on your little boy's lips. And he is no worse than the bigger, older, bolder-headed boys. Life is an interrogation point. "What is it for?" we continually cry from the cradle to the grave. So with this little introductory sermon we turn and ask: "What is August Flower for?" Accurately answered as asked: It is for Dyspepsia. It is a special remedy for the Stomach and Liver. Nothing more than this; but this terrible. We believe August Flower cures Dyspepsia. We know it will. We have reasons for knowing it. Twenty years ago it started in a small country town. To-day it has an honored place in every city and country store, possesses one of the largest manufacturing plants in the country and sells everywhere. Why is this? The reason is as simple as a child's thought: it is honest, does one thing, and does it right along—it cures Dyspepsia. G. G. GREEN, Sole Man'fr, Woodbury, N.J.

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