

of the evening are certainly deserving of a very serious reprimand, which I hereby request be administered; and I cannot rid myself of a feeling of great disappointment that the general body of officers assembled at the dinner should have greeted the carrying out of such a program with apparent indifference to the fact that it violated some of the most dignified and sacred traditions of the service. I am told that the songs and other amusements of the evening were intended and regarded as "fun." What are we to think of officers of the army and navy of the United States who think it "fun" to bring their official superiors into ridicule and the policies of the government which they are sworn to serve with unquestioning loyalty, into contempt? If this is their idea of fun, what is their idea of duty? If they do not hold their loyalty above all silly effervescences of childish wit, what about their profession do they hold sacred? My purpose, therefore, in administering this reprimand, is to recall the men who are responsible for this lowering of standards to their ideals; to remind them of the high conscience with which they ought to put duty above personal indulgence, and to think of themselves as responsible men and trusted soldiers, even while they are amusing themselves as diners out.

WOODROW WILSON.

[See vol. xvi, p. 1229]



Mexico and the United States.

To save the Bank of London and Mexico, President Huerta proclaimed a legal holiday extending from December 22 to January 2. The bank continues to do all business except pay depositors who wish to withdraw their accounts. An examination is being made by the directors, with a view to restoring confidence, but thus far the panicky fear continues. [See vol. xvi, p. 1229.]



Conflicting reports regarding the movements of President Huerta continue to come from Mexico City. It has been announced that Enrique Geurostieta, Minister of Justice, will succeed Huerta early in January, and that the latter will take the field against the Constitutionals. On the 23d President Huerta revived an old custom by giving an elaborate and formal banquet in honor of his own birthday, at which some violent speeches assailing the United States were made.



The long-delayed Mexican thanks to Japan for its participation in the Mexican centennial have been delivered by Special Envoy, Francisco de la Barra. The Japanese government received the Envoy with circumspection calculated not to offend the United States, but the opposition leaders, and several thousands of the people, made a demonstration in honor of La Barra and embarrassing to their own government.

Great Britain has adopted the watchful waiting policy of the United States, by establishing a patrol along the border between British Honduras and Mexico and between Honduras and Guatemala. It is surmised also that Great Britain's action in landing marines at Belize for this patrol duty has in view the restraint of the activities of General Manuel Brito, ex-governor of the state of Campeche, who last June sacked the bank of Yucatan of \$300,000.



General Villa remains at Chihuahua, confiscating big estates, issuing blood-curdling pronunciamientos, and despatching troops to the various federal posts. He sent 4,200 cavalry, with ten cannon and six machine guns on the 24th to attack the federals at Ojinaga on the border opposite Presidio Texas. Villa's orders were "Sweep the border clear of federals, and do not take any prisoners." Constitutional forces are reported to have bottled up the federals in Torreon, and to have captured the adjoining towns of Lordo and Gomez Palacio. General Villa expects to remain at Chihuahua until the federals at Ojinaga are destroyed, which will leave him in possession of all the territory north of Torreon and west of Monterey.



English Affairs.

Politics generally were ignored during the holidays; but even through the merry-making season the land question continues to attract attention. Premier Asquith's unqualified endorsement of Lloyd George's land program brings the question to the fore in political discussion. That the Government's land policy is producing practical results, is evident from the effect on the real estate market. There is a decided movement among the land holding nobility and gentry to part with family estates. These owners believe the new land policy, added to the land-tax of the Lloyd George Budget, will depress the price of land, and are hastening to sell while there is still a market. They find buyers among the new-rich who seek the distinction of land holding. [See vol. xvi, p. 1229.]



Re-election of Mrs. Young.

Mrs. Ella Flagg Young was re-instated as Superintendent of Schools by the Chicago Board of Education at its regular meeting on December 24, the Board having reconsidered its action of December 10 in electing Mr. John D. Shoop to the superintendency. Mayor Harrison had on December 22 filled the remaining two of the five vacancies on the Board by the appointment of Axel A. Strom, to take the place of Charles O. Sethness, and the re-appointment of Harry A. Lipsky whose attitude toward Mrs. Young was