

MEXICAN LABOR NEWS

Published Weekly by the Press Department of the Workers University of Mexico
ROSALES 26 MEXICO, CITY

VOL. 8
No. 32

\$ 1.00 A YEAR December 8th, 1941.

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MEXICO WILL INVEST FORTY MILLION PESOS IN PLAN TO BUILD PETROLEUM

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 8 (MLN) — Mexican government plans for the investment of forty million pesos in the petroleum industry have been received with warm praise by the Mexican Petroleum Workers Union, which has suffered greatly as a result of dismissals forced by the industry's decline.

The Mexican oil industry has been forced to fire more than 3,000 workers during the past year and to cut the wages of many remaining employes as a result of the boycott instigated against Mexico in the foreign market by foreign oil companies.

Prospective settlement of the controversy thru the three-man board shortly to be appointed is expected to break down the boycott and permit the shipment of Mexican oil to the United States and the other democratic powers engaged in war against Italy, Germany and Japan.

AVILA CAMACHO DENIES MEXICO WILL REPEAL CHURCH-FREE EDUCATION LAW

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 8 (MLN) — Blanket denial that the Mexican government is planning to discard Article Three of the Constitution, which provides for a church-free education system, was made here this week by President Manuel Avila Camacho.

The president's statement came after a year of violent agitation against the Article by a coalition of fascist and right-wing Catholic organizations, which have used the controversy as an entering wedge for spreading fascist doctrines.

Avila Camacho added, however, that the method of executing the law may be revised "after we learn the opinions of the various sections of society."

JAP ATTACK AGAINST AMERICA BRINGS
ATTENTION TO DANGER OF SINARCHISM

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 8 (MLN) -- Outbreak of war between the United States and Japan has re-focused the attention of Mexico's democratic forces on the Union Nacional Sinarquista, most powerful of Axis-linked organizations in Mexico.

Attention has especially been brought to bear on Sinarchist plans for the colonization of Lower California, which would place a semi-military, pro-Axis group within striking distance of Magdalena Bay and in position to aid a Japanese thrust against the United States.

Already 500 Sinarchists, forerunners of a proposed colonization of 100,000 have landed at La Paz, Lower California, with intentions to proceed to the site selected for colonization.

Three-quarters of a million Sinarchists meanwhile have been assessed one peso each for undisclosed objectives.

Evidence of governmental tightening of restrictions against the Sinarchists was seen in the past week's arrest of various Sinarchist leaders, including Supreme Fuehrer Salvador Abascal.

Abascal was arrested when he refused to disband an unauthorized meeting of Sinarchist and other pro-Axis elements in Jacana, Michoacan. He was later released.

The arrest of Abascal was in conformity with a presidential order issued last summer providing for the dispersal of all Sinarchist meetings which had not obtained license from local authorities.

In the Mexican Congress an anti-Sinarchist committee, presided by Senator Felix Diaz, has taken the offensive against the pro-Axis organization, and has called for outlawing of Sinarchism and the prohibition of Sinarchist colonization.

MEXICAN LABOR RALLIES TO DEFENSE
OF CONTINENT AGAINST JAP ATTACKS

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 8th (MLN) -- Japanese aggression against the United States has rallied the Mexican workingclass to the defense of democracy, with labor spokesmen calling for all-out aid in the war against the Axis and the relegation to the background of minor differences in the interest of united action against the common foe.

Vicente Lombardo Teledano, head of the Confederation of Latin American Workers and representative of millions of workers throught Central and South America, made the following statement:

"By attacking the United States, the Japanese Empire has committed a damnable act of aggression which extends the war to the whole world. All the peoples of the globe are now in the conflict which will decide the future of mankind for hundreds of years to come.

"In this dramatic hour, the battlefront has been defined. The workingclass of Latin America has already taken its post. We are with England, the Soviet

Union, with China and the United States against Germany, Italy, Japan and all those states whose aim is to destroy human civilization. Euphemisms, hesitation, make-believe are no longer possible. Our war is a war to the death.

"Our task will not end except with the liberation of mankind. In accord with the sentiment of the people of Latin America --- in accord with the resolutions of the recent CTAL Congress -- we take our stand in the place which historical circumstances have set for us. The great popular and democratic strength of Latin America offers its burning, fighting solidarity to the workers and the people and the government of the United States in this holy war against barbarism."

EDITORIAL OF EL POPULAR ON LABOR'S STAND

The morning of Dec. 8, as the news of the Japanese attack against America came to the Mexican people, El Popular, official daily of the Confederation of Mexican Workers, published the following editorial:

"The fascist forces of Japan yesterday launched a premeditated aggression against the United States. By air and sea they attacked the possessions of the great neighboring power and caused hundreds of victims. We are confronted, therefore, with a situation of foreign aggression against the American Continent.

"These acts of Japan extend the war to the whole world. No country remains which can consider itself outside the conflict. The war includes all continents; the destiny of mankind will be decided integrally.

"By attacking the American Hemisphere the Japanese militarists, hangmen of their own people and puppets of nazism, have broken down the dikes of war and defined once and for all the forces of battle: Today there exist but two fronts, that of barbarism, in which are Germany, Italy, Japan and the governments enslaved by them; and that of England, the Soviet Union, China, the United States and all those peoples whose interests are those of freedom.

"The exact outcome of this conflict cannot be foreseen. Neither can anyone predict the sacrifices, the hundreds of thousands of additional lives which must be lost; but to the fascist powers belongs the responsibility. Japan has carried out a typical act of aggression and there is no reason whatsoever which can cover up her criminal attitude.

"The people of Japan are not to blame. The workers, the farmers, the middle class are not responsible. The blame lies upon the military caste; upon the feudal lords of Japan; upon the outright allies of German fascism; upon all those Japanese who wish to prolong a condition of intolerable privilege at the cost of the pain and sacrifice of thousands of youths, women and children of the Far East and of this Hemisphere.

"An since the repercussions and the responsibility of this event are quite clear, we must state definitely that Mexico has come very near to the brink of the conflict. None of the American countries will ignore the danger or their obligations. Costa Rica and Nicaragua have declared war on Japan. The governments of other sister republics are deliberating. In Mexico, the declaration of the Foreign Secretary has clearly established the position of our country in the defense of democracy and the fulfillment of continental solidarity. But our neighborhood with the United States, our complete identification with the democratic ideals at stake, oblige us to say, today, that our people must be

ready for great and definitive sacrifices. The most dramatic and difficult point in our history has arrived; and we must act firmly and with resolution.

"We shall carry out our agreements. We shall carry them out, not only because of governmental accords, but because of the commandments of our patriotic tradition. The people and the government of the United States, the anti-fascist peoples of the whole world, may be sure that Mexico will contribute her best, her most intense efforts for the defense of liberty in the world, for the defense of the American Continent, for the smashing of the barbarism which menaces mankind.

"The workers of the United States must know that the workers of Mexico are ready to take part with them in this historic conflict. The American workers, who joined with us in our aspirations even when the fraction of Yankee imperialism tried to beat down our lawful interests, will know now the effective solidarity of the labor movement and of our people. The intrigues and maneuvers of chauvinists and fascists, who, in order to serve the totalitarian Axis, attempt to revive old feuds liquidated by history for the purpose of turning our people against the United States, will fail before the necessity of a common defense of a common cause.

"The people of Mexico will know how to eliminate the cort radiations artificially created by traitors. Our people unanimously backs the defensive attitude of the United States. The working classes especially begins today a fight without quarter. We are with England, with the United States, with the USSR, with China, with all those peoples fighting for freedom and democracy. The time for contemplation has ended.

"Whosoever tries to break up national unity for the defense of Mexico and the Continent; whosoever carries out or gives aid to the designs of the Axis; whosoever makes agitation about secondary problems in order to serve the aggressors shall be considered an enemy of the country and shall be punished as such.

"The labor movement in particular will do this work of vigilance and purification. BEWARE OF THE FIFTH COLUMN! The Fifth Column must be smashed, whatever the mask it uses. There can be no other party, no other flag than the party and the flag of continental defense, which is also the defense of our country.

"In such circumstances, more than ever we ask NATIONAL UNITY. National Unity around President Manuel Avila Camacho. National unity with all who want liberty upheld. National unity with all Mexicans conscious of the times in which we live. National Unity is the imperative need in this extraordinary period in which the world lives and which our country confronts."

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