

St. Patrick's Day March 17

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Mrs. Walter S. Fisher will not receive tomorrow.

W. C. Roth left on last night's train for Calgary on a holiday trip.

Rev. W. H. Pierce arrived on last night's train from Port Essington and is registered at the Hotel Prince Rupert.

Capt. W. B. Finglass, C.G.M. M., marine superintendent, returned to Vancouver on the Chelohsin last night.

Presbyterian Ladies Aid will hold a social in the Church Hall on Friday, March 9, at 8 o'clock. Program by the children. Admission 25c.

P. G. Shalcross is expected from Vancouver on the Prince George this afternoon. He is to visit the city in connection with the adjustment of the St. James Hotel fire loss.

St. Andrew's Ladies will hold a Sale of Work and Home Cooking in the Elks' Home, March 16. Cards and Dancing in the evening.

Soap for quick sale. One Edison disc phonograph. I need the money. Also one Apex Talking machine. Chas. W. Teetzel, 114, Third Avenue.

Passengers sailing for the south on the Chelohsin last night included H. Kemp, Arthur Gothard, A. Morgan and Chris Steen for Ocean Falls, and W. B. Finglass and W. J. Poullon for Vancouver.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Big Three Concert and Pantomime "Wanted—a Wife," Methodist Church, Wednesday, March 14.

Sale of Easter Novelties, home cooking, etc., in Methodist Church, Wednesday, March 21.

Ladies of the Royal Purple Annual Easter Sale of Work and Home Cooking, Tuesday, March 27, Elks' Home.

Presbyterian Ladies' Aid Easter Bazaar, March 28.

Hill 60, Amateur Theatricals, Westholme, April 24.

CATHOLICS BREAK WITH GEN. OBREGON

Expulsion of Papal Nuncio Recently From Mexico Arouses Adherents of Church

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 7.—The Obregon administration has definitely broken with the Catholics in Mexico, and an antagonism that has been more or less submerged during the past two years is now real and apparent. The expulsion of Monsignor Ernesto Filippi, apostolic delegate, for his alleged participation in an open air religious ceremony contrary to Article 24 of the Constitution of 1857, has provided the issue upon which the Liberals and Conservatives have come to open disagreement which many observers believe is prophetic of a bitter struggle for political supremacy.

Even the friends of President Obregon admit that his order for the expulsion of the papal nuncio as a "pernicious foreigner"—he is an Italian—was prompted by political expediency. It was a smashing, direct blow they say, to check the influence of the Catholics as a political body, not as a religious organization. All quarters construe the act as an indication of fear by President Obregon and his advisors that the once powerful Clerical party is again on its feet and in motion to scuffle for leadership with an administration, which although more lenient than some of its predecessors, is fundamentally opposed to the Church. And Obregon expelled the Monsignor, personal representative of Pope Pius in Mexico, although the latter was and is his personal friend and was many times a guest at the presidential residence.

Smarting under years of repression dating back to the reform days of President Juarez, the Catholics were agreeably surprised shortly after President Obregon took office, two years ago, to find that a great degree of religious freedom was to be permitted. Numerous churches long closed were reopened; parochial schools were again started; priests and nuns appeared on the street in clerical garb, a thing unheard of in the time of President Carranza. President Obregon, reiterating his policy of freedom, often was a church visitor on the occasion of some special function. The first lady of the land, Sra. Maria Tapia Obregon, is a devout Catholic and is prominent in the charity work of the church.

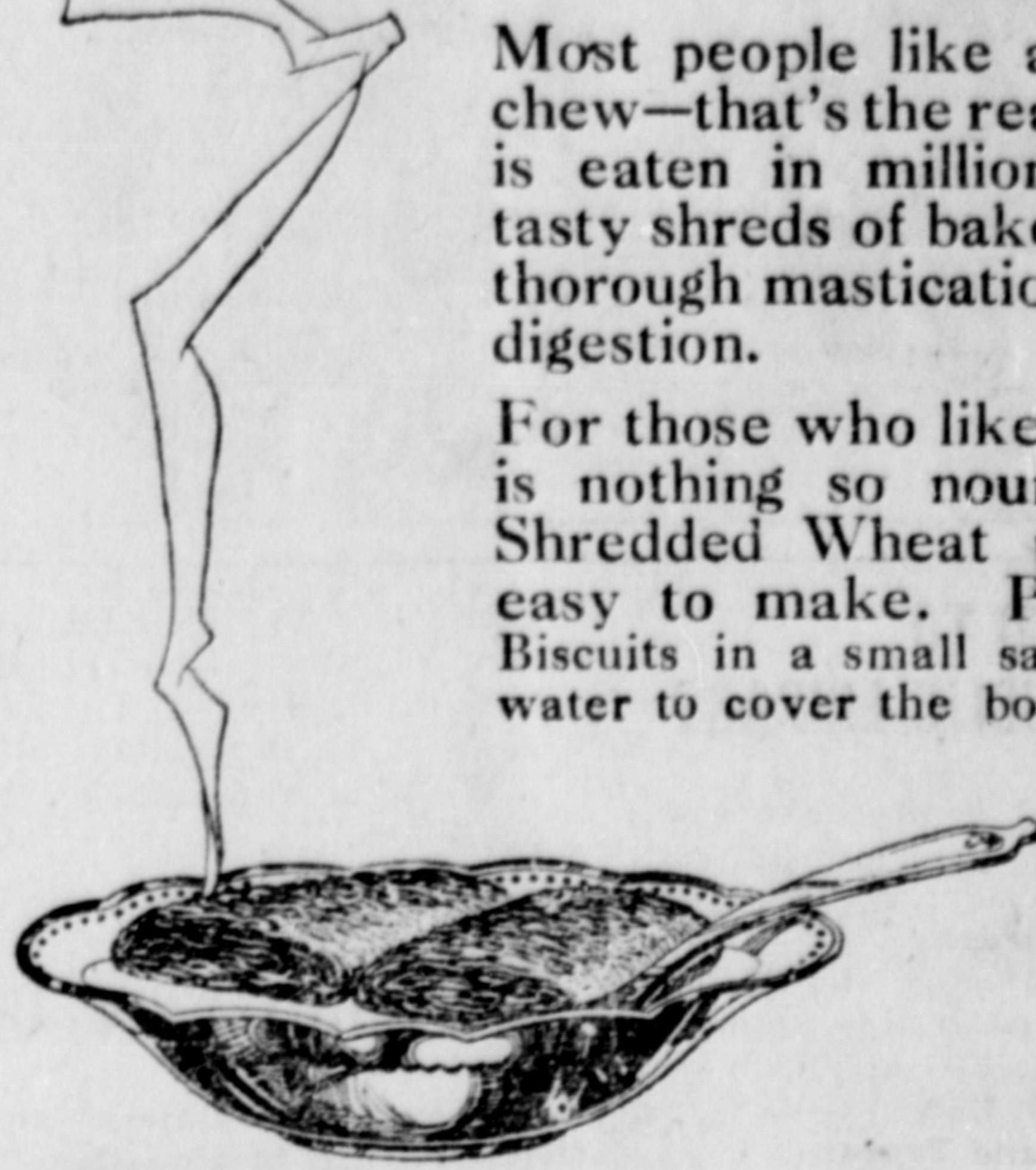
But a year or so ago there were rumors of activity in Catholic ranks not all of which was of a religious character. Reports were circulated of well laid plans to contest in the elections. The Catholic or Clerical Party, which polled only a comparatively few votes against Obregon, was revived. Catholics as such contested for seats in Congress. Newspapers told of anti-government propaganda being spread in the interior by priests, and during the past year a dozen or more have been expelled, giving some substance to reports of their activity. Monsignor Filippi arrived from Rome and the clergy of the republic were mobilized to spread the doctrines of the Vatican. Many persons in the government assert they also mixed in politics.

The Foreign Secretary, explaining to Cardinal Gasparri, papal secretary of state, the reason for the expulsion asserted it was because "under Monsignor Filippi's direction the clerical elements were organizing politically, even contrary to Christian precepts."

When Monsignor Filippi presided at an outdoor religious service held January 11 near Silao, Guanajuato, the government realized the law had been violated and that an opportunity to make an example of the highest ranking prelate in Mexico was offered. The Monsignor was immediately ordered expelled and was given 72 hours to quit the republic. The apostolic delegate denied there was any intentional violation of any federal or state law, and asserted his willingness to submit to any and all laws of the nation. Without opportunity for defense he was told to leave—and he did so without protest.

During the last three days of his stay, the Monsignor received the homage of virtually the entire Catholic population of the republic. Hundreds stood for hours in front of his house in a futile effort to see him. Telegrams, letters and formal protests arrived by the thousands. The Catholic faithful of the nation, united in the open for the

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first time in many years, were not afraid to show their sympathy for the prelate and their bitterness against the government. Thousands were at the railway station to say farewell to the Monsignor the night he left out, in order to avoid possible trouble, he slipped out of the city and took his place in a border-bound train in a suburb.

Smouldering Resentment
And there the situation rests today—smouldering resentment on the part of the Catholics and vigorous defense of its action by the government which is supported by the radical and anti-clerical groups. Many see in President Obregon's move a fear of the growth of the Fascist movement in its ranks. Many predict that the Clerical Party will now start to function in the open as an opposition force. All are wondering whether the unexpected attitude of President Obregon against the Monsignor will be followed by others of a similar nature. In view of the fact that Mexico is normally a Catholic country, some interesting developments may be expected.

ALICE ARM

The Alice Arm Citizens' Association has received a letter from Fred Stork, M.P. giving assurance that an appropriation for the building of a government float here will be included in the estimates for the year.

The Alice Arm Citizens' Association is asking the provincial department of public works that the proposed bridge across the Kitsault be nearer the town than the point where surveys have recently been made by J. A. Stephen, engineer.

The railway from the beach to Tretheway's logging camp has been practically completed and actual logging operations, it is expected, will commence about the middle of the month.

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