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# Collier's

THE NATIONAL WEEKLY

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## Good Will

THE swift change of feeling on both sides of the Rio Grande is one of the most inspiring events any of us have seen. Hardly a year ago war with Mexico was a dark possibility which could not be forgotten. Various groups of American citizens seemed to be actively fomenting hatred between the peoples of the two republics. Only recently a powerful string of newspapers published a series of hate-producing documents which, incidentally, were declared by the Mexican Government to be forgeries. Exchanges between Washington and Mexico City revealed the strain under which government officials labored.

Suddenly all this changed. Dwight W. Morrow gave up a partnership which was supposed to pay him a million dollars a year and accepted the relatively minor post of ambassador to Mexico. Immediately the tension seemed to lessen.

Ambassador Morrow and President Calles breakfasted together. Mr. Morrow visited the Presidential estate and admired Señor Calles' horses and cattle. The American ambassador became the center of Mexican news.

It was all good news. Will Rogers, the part Indian philosopher and humorist, accepted an invitation to visit Mexico and all over the United States Rogers' merry comments gave a fresh picture of the Mexican scene.

Then came the audacious Lindbergh flight. The eyes of the world were focused on the twenty-six-year-old son of a radical Minnesota congressman. Lindbergh's skill in completing the voyage under conditions which would have vanquished a less determined spirit aroused the people of Mexico even as it stirred our own emotions.

Mexico hailed the young Galahad of an airplane generation and honored him for his modesty, his self-control, his intrepidity and his resourcefulness just as we had taken him to our hearts as the symbol of the qualities we most admire.

Lindbergh was avowedly an "ambassador of good will." We felt a new kinship to the Mexican people when we perceived that they too were stirred to the depths of emotion by the sight of a young man who realized in his lonely voyages the achievements which for most of us always remain dreams and unfulfilled aspirations.

When we learned that a myriad of Mexicans were beside themselves with joy and enthusiasm at the safe arrival of our hero we knew as we had never known before that we were of the same human stuff as our brothers to the south.

It is important that the Mexican people and that we too rose to this great occasion. Something fine and spectacular had happened and we honored ourselves by doing reverence to a man who sought only to blaze trails of advantage to his fellow man.

But important as was the revelation of the capacity of the Mexican people and of ourselves to applaud a glamorous act and to welcome the hero, it is far more important that President Calles should have been willing to issue his invitation to Lindbergh and that our own government should have been willing to permit its acceptance.

This demonstrated a desire on the part of the Coolidge and the Calles administrations to make use of whatever gifts the gods bestowed to improve the relationship between Mexico and the United States.

The problems of course remain. The difference of interest and of feeling over the land laws and the laws governing the exploitation of oil and other mineral resources are practical matters which cannot be settled offhand.

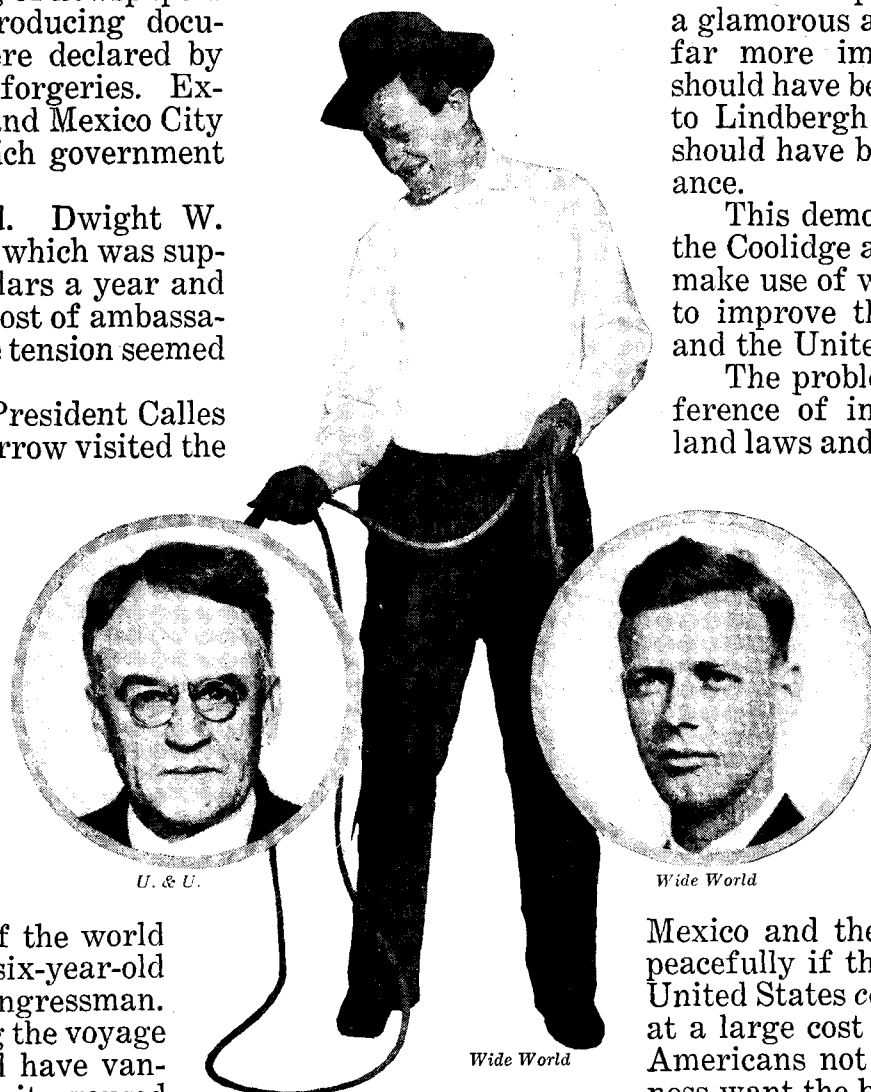
But, and this is the heart of the affair, any problem, however trivial, can lead to fighting if people hate each other and no problem, however serious, is incapable of solution if there is an honest and friendly desire on both sides to reach a solution.

The differences between Mexico and the United States must be settled peacefully if they are to be settled at all. The United States *could* undoubtedly conquer Mexico at a large cost in life and in treasure, but few Americans not blinded by passion or covetousness want the burden of governing that country through a permanent army of occupation.

The alternative to war is peaceful adjudication and only in the glow of friendship can this be successfully carried out. Thanks to Dwight Morrow, Will Rogers and Colonel Lindbergh we are for the first time in a generation bound to Mexico by ties of friendship.

Lindbergh, who risked everything and sought nothing for himself, provided the spark which lighted the fires of international friendship. He made peace as thrilling as war. In so doing he has served mightily his own country and all countries.

When next the Nobel committee canvasses the field to find the man who has best contributed to the cause of peace they will find in Colonel Lindbergh the peer of any. By doing his appointed task gloriously he has lifted the fogs of ill will and let previously antagonistic people see each other in the clear light of international good will.



Ambassadors of Good Will:  
Dwight W. Morrow, Will  
Rogers, Colonel Lindbergh

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