

APPENDIX C

A BRIEF HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY OF MEXICO

INTRODUCTION

Mexico is a large Spanish-speaking country. Mexico's predecessor Aztec nation was conquered by the Spanish in the 16th century. The name, Mexico, is reported to have been derived from "the Mexica, one of seven Nahuatl tribes"¹ that inhabited the central highlands of the country. Mexico's border with the United States was not stabilized until 1848.

As "the Viceroyalty of New Spain," Mexico was ruled as a colony by the Spanish for over 300 years. During those many years, Mexico acquired the language and many of the customs of the Spaniards. Spain itself had been dominated for 700 years by the Moors from North Africa, and thus the Spanish customs and language include a Moorish North African influence.

Mexico gained its independence from Spain on October 4, 1824. During the next 100 years, Mexico suffered from anarchy, revolution, political strife, and war. In 1836 the Texans established their independence from Mexico, and in the process firmed up the border between Texas and Mexico. Nine years later, in 1845, the U.S. Congress passed the Texas Admission Act making Texas a part of the United States. On April 25, 1846 a war broke out between United States and Mexico. In 1848 a peace treaty was signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo ending the war, and territory along its northern border became part of the United States, including Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

It is interesting to note that when the first Mormon Pioneers came to the Great Salt Lake Valley they had actually settled in Mexican territory. Thus, when the Mormons went to Mexico to establish a place to live, this was not the first time the Mormons had lived in Mexican territory. The first pioneers entered the Salt Lake Valley in July of 1847, but it was not until 1848, about one year later, that the pioneers' mountain valleys became a part of the United States through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

When Mormons moved to Mexico during the latter part of the 19th century, Mexico was ruled by Porfirio Diaz. Diaz served as president of Mexico for thirty years between 1877 and 1911. Several of the Mormon leaders, including Henry Eyring, met with Diaz when they first came to Mexico; they explained their intentions to permanently settle in Mexico and make positive contributions to the economy of Mexico. Economic development was dear to the heart of Diaz; so, he viewed the arrival of the Mormons as a blessing to Mexico. Junius Romney in his recollections of Ida's father said that Henry Eyring had made a

¹ James N. Snaden, *The 1996 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia (TM) Version 8.01* published by Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc.

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profound impression on President Diaz. On one occasion when Junius was in Chihuahua at the Governor's Palace, President Diaz who was there "inquired about Henry Eyring by name, as he did of some others of the leaders."²

It was in 1911, when Diaz was deposed in a revolution headed by Francisco Madero, that life in Mexico for the Mormon Colonists became even more uncertain. After being ousted, Diaz left his native Mexico, and fled to Paris, France, where he died as an exile four years later on July 2, 1915.

IMPORTANT DATES, NAMES AND EVENTS IN MEXICO

Some of the important dates, names and events which are associated with Mexico are shown below in order to provide the reader with some background regarding Mexico's turbulent rise as a nation. The information is not complete, and there may even be some minor discrepancies between what is presented and what one might find in historical sources. For example, there is not space enough to include the more than 50 individuals who served as "president" of Mexico between 1821 and 1928. I have mainly selected those referred to in Ida's journal.

Aug. 13, 1521	Fall of the Aztec Empire to Spain by <i>conquistador</i> Hernán Cortés. Mexico became the Viceroyalty of New Spain.
1810	Mexicans under the insurgent leadership of Miguel Hidalgo and José Morelos rebelled against the Viceroyalty.
Sept. 16, 1810	The day usually celebrated as Mexico's Independence Day.
July 30, 1811	Hidalgo was captured and executed by the Spanish.
Dec. 22, 1815	Morelos was captured and executed by the Spanish
Sept. 27, 1821	Agustín de Iturbide, an officer in Spain's viceregal army who came to terms with the Mexican insurgents in 1821, overthrew Spain's viceroy, and proclaimed Mexico as an independent constitutional monarchy. For about one year (1822-23), Iturbide served as Emperor of Mexico.
March 1823	Iturbide was overthrown by Antonio López de Santa Anna. During

² *The Journal of Henry Eyring, 1835-1902*, Addendum entitled "Recollections of Henry Eyring," by Junius Romney, March 15, 1951.

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- the following year, 1824, Iturbide tried to regain power; but, he was unsuccessful and was executed for treason.
- Oct. 4, 1824 This is the day on which Mexico, after being ruled as a colony of Spain for 300 years, actually gained its independence.
- Mar. 2, 1836 Texas declared its independence from Mexico.
- Mar. 7, 1836 Mexican forces under General Santa Anna defeat Texans in the Battle of the Alamo at San Antonio, Texas.
- Apr. 21, 1836 Texans under the direction of General Sam Houston defeated Santa Anna at San Jacinto near the present city of Houston; Santa Anna was taken captive. Sam Houston later arranged for Santa Anna's release after Santa Anna agreed "that Mexico would recognize the Rio Grande as the southern border of Texas and would also recognize the independence of Texas."³ With the help of U.S. President Andrew Jackson, Santa Anna was given safe passage back to Vera Cruz, Mexico.
- Dec. 29, 1845 The U.S. Congress passed the Texas Admission Act.
- 1846 Santa Anna was reelected president of Mexico.
- Apr. 25, 1846 Outbreak of war between the United States and Mexico along the Rio Grande River, the southern border of Texas as claimed by Texas and the United States. Mexicans attack U.S. forces under General Zachary Taylor. Taylor was successful in his defeat of the Mexicans in two battles on Texas soil; Taylor then proceeded south into Mexico with victories "at Monterrey and at Buena Vista outside Saltillo."⁴
- Nov. 1846 U.S. General Winfield Scott, under orders from U.S. President James Knox Polk, landed by sea on Mexico's Gulf Coast.⁵ After the defeat

³ *Texas History Movies, Story of the Lone Star State*, Pepper Jones Martinez, Inc., Dallas, Texas, 1985.

⁴ *Texas History Movies, Story of the Lone Star State*, Pepper Jones Martinez, Inc., Dallas, Texas, 1985.

⁵ Charles A. Beard, Mary R. Beard, and William Beard James N. Snaden, *The Beard's New Basic History of the United States*, Doubleday & Company,

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- of the Mexicans at Vera Cruz, Scott proceeded on a successful year long drive towards Mexico City.
- Jul. 24, 1847 Mormon Pioneers enter the Valley of the Great Salt Lake.
- Sept. 14, 1847 U.S. General Winfield Scott occupied Mexico City, and the fighting in the war between the United States and Mexico ended.
- Feb. 2, 1848 Peace treaty between the United States and Mexico was signed at Guadalupe Hidalgo; ratified by the U.S. Senate on Mar. 10, 1848, and by the Mexican Congress on May 25, 1848.
- 1853 Santa Anna became dictator for the last time.
- Dec. 30, 1853 Gadsden Purchase by the United States: for \$10 Million, Mexico ceded to the U.S. a strip of land along the border between Mexico and the states of Arizona and New Mexico.
- 1855 Santa Anna was overthrown; he was succeeded by Ignacio Comonfort who, because of opposition, resigned in 1857.
- 1858 Benito Juárez became President of Mexico.
- 1862 The French invade Mexico.
- May 5, 1862 On this day, "Cinco de Mayo," the Mexicans defeated the French forces in the Battle of Puebla; the French went on to win the war and take control of Mexico.
- 1864 The French impose an empire on Mexico; they bring the Emperor Maximilian and Carlota to Mexico.
- 1867 The Mexican resistance against the French was headed by Benito Juárez ; the French were finally defeated and withdrew from Mexico ending the French-imposed empire of Maximilian; Maximilian was executed and Benito Juarez was reelected president.
- 1871 Juárez was again reelected president, but he died on July 18, 1872, thus cutting short his second term.
- 1877 Porfirio Díaz became president of Mexico; he served for thirty of the

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	years between 1877 and 1911.
1880	Manuel González served as president.
1884	Porfirio Díaz was again elected president of Mexico.
1885	Mormon families cross the border and began to settle in the State of Chihuahua.
April, 1887	Henry Eyring arrives in Colonia Juarez with one of his families.
May 1st, 1890	Ida's family leaves St. George for Mexico. ⁶
May 15th, 1890	Ida's family arrives in Colonia Juarez. ⁷
1910	The Madero Revolution commenced. ⁸
March 5, 1911	Francisco Madero with 500 rebels attacked the federal garrison at Casas Grandes which was very close to the Mormon colonies of Dublan and Juarez. ⁹
May 1911	Francisco Madero, with the help of Pancho Villa, Emiliano Zapata, and Pascual Orozco, successively forced Porfirio Díaz from power; the banished Díaz died in Paris on July 2, 1915.
July 31, 1912	The Mormon Colonists left Mexico and crossed the border into the United States for protection. Edward & Ida Turley and family stayed in El Paso for 26 months. ¹⁰
Feb. 1913	Victoriano Huerta overthrew the government of Francisco Madero; and, then Huerta became provisional president of Mexico; Madero was shot and killed.

⁶ *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley*, {p. 1, 1874-1895}

⁷ *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley*, {p. 1, 1874-1895}

⁸ *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley*, {p. 2, 1896-1912}

⁹ Clarence F. Turley & Anna T. Turley, *History of the Mormon Colonies in Mexico*, Published by Lawrence & Marilyn Lee, 1995, p. 92.

¹⁰ *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley*, {p. 2, 1896-1912}

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- July 1914 Victoriano Huerta only served as president for one year; in 1915 he was forced to resign; he fled first to Spain and then to the United States where he was imprisoned and later released for health reasons and died shortly thereafter on Jan. 13, 1916.
- Sept 16th, 1914 Edward & Ida and family, except for Vernon, returned to Mexico. "There were quite a number of families in Juarez and Dublan, and more were returning."¹¹
- 1915 Venustiano Carranza assumed the presidency; later in 1917 he was elected President.
- 1916-1917 U.S. General John J. Pershing led a punitive expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa. The American troops "arrived at Dublan on March 17, 1916, and returned to the U.S. at the end of January, 1917; they were here for almost a year."¹²
- 1917 Mexico adopted its present constitution.
- May 1920 Venustiano Carranza was overthrown by a coalition led by Álvaro Obregón; Carranza was killed while trying to escape.
- Dec. 1, 1920 Álvaro Obregón was elected president of Mexico; he served as president for a 4-year term.
- 1924 Plutarco Elías Calles was elected president of Mexico.
- 1928 Álvaro Obregón was again elected president of Mexico; however, he was assassinated before he could take office!

Note: The 1996 Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia (TM) Version 8.01 published by Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc. was an invaluable and readily available source for many of the dates, names, and events listed above. Other references have been noted in the footnotes.

¹¹ *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley*, {p. 3, 1914-1915}

¹² *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley*, {p. 5., 1916-1917}

APPENDIX D

A BRIEF GLOSSARY

Some of The Names and Terms Mentioned in Ida's Journal

- ACADEMY: Juarez Stake Academy (JSA) was established in 1897, and continues to be "a regional center of culture and learning."¹
- ALABASTINE: A verb used by Ida which apparently meant to apply *alabaster* as a plaster finish to the walls of a home or building; a colored glue, a stain or white wash.² The dictionary definition of *alabaster* states that it is a dense translucent, white or tinted fine-grained gypsum; a variety of hard calcite, translucent and sometimes banded.
[see {pgs. 55, 56} in Ida's diary]
- CARRANCISTA: A follower of Venustiano Carranza.
- CHIHUAHUA: Chihuahua is the state where the following Mormon colonies were or are located: Diaz, Juarez, Dublan, Pacheco, Garcia, and Chuichupa. This is Mexico's largest state. Prior to the Spanish occupation it was inhabited by Apache Indians. The state capital, Chihuahua City, was settled in 1709.
- CLUB: This was a ladies town club initiated by Gertrude Keeler.³
[see {p. 32}, and the Index of Ida's diary]
- CONSTITUTION: The 1910 Revolution inaugurated dramatic social change that led to the creation of the "Constitution of 1917," which remains in force.
- CORDABA: According to Clarence F. Turley the Cordaba was one of the "all

¹ Shirley Taylor Robinson, *Encyclopedia of Mormonism*, Macmillan Publishing Co., New York, Vol. 2, p. 897

² Response from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter, July 15, 1996].

³ Responses from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter dated Jul. 15, 1996], and Harold E. Turley, El Paso, [from his son, Brent, Aug. 7, 1996].

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- powerful State Police."⁴ [see {p. 34} in Ida's diary]
- CUAUHTÉMOC:** A small town south of Colonia Juarez. Also, a large town about 80 miles west of Chihuahua City, originally named San Antonio.⁵ Named after *Cuauhtémoc*, the last Aztec king who was defeated by the Spanish conqueror Hernán Cortés. [see {p. 69} in Ida's diary]
- CUMBRE:** Spanish for top or summit. [see {p. 70} in Ida's diary]
- DÍAZ:** In the late 1800's dictator Porfirio Díaz brought a long period of stability and development to Mexico through foreign interests.
- HECK:** A term used by Ida on {p. 132} in her diary. It most likely means hectoliter; a hectoliter is a metric unit of capacity or volume, used in dry measure, and equal to 100 liters or 90.8 dry quarts. She speaks of 15 hecks which would have been equivalent to 1500 liters, and would have filled approximately 80 of the usual 5-gal containers used in the U.S. for long term personal home storage of wheat.
- NED:** Word used by Ida in her description of the Aurora Borealis and its effect on the nation's communications system, apparently this word meant havoc or disruption.⁶ [see {p. 45} in Ida's Diary]
- OROZQUISTAS:** Followers of Pascual Orozco; also called "Red Flaggers."⁷
- RED FLAGGERS:** Mentioned by Ida [see {p. 3, 1914-1915} in Ida's Diary]. Name given to the followers of revolutionist Pascual Orozco; they were also called "Los Liberales," and they chose a red flag as their banner.⁸

⁴ Responses from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter dated Jul. 15, 1996], and Harold E. Turley, El Paso, [from his son, Brent, Aug. 7, 1996].

⁵ Response from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter, July 15, 1996].

⁶ Responses from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter dated Jul. 15, 1996], and Harold E. Turley, El Paso, [from his son, Brent, Aug. 7, 1996].

⁷ Clarence F. Turley & Anna T. Turley, *History of the Mormon Colonies in Mexico*, Published by Lawrence & Marilyn Lee, 1995, p. 96, 97.

⁸ Clarence F. Turley & Anna T. Turley, *History of the Mormon Colonies in Mexico*, Published by Lawrence & Marilyn Lee, 1995, p. 97.

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- REVOLUTION: One of the characteristics of Mexico after it gained its freedom from Spain in 1824. The 1910 Revolution inaugurated dramatic social change.
- RUN: May have meant *ring worm*.⁹ [see p. {49} in Ida's diary]
- SALAZAR: Inez Salazar was one of the rebel leaders who was associated with Zapata, Villa, Orozco and Madero; he had his headquarters in Casas Grandes.¹⁰ Ida writes about an incident the colonists had with Salazar. [see {p. 6, 1917} in Ida's Diary]
- SONORA: Sonora is the state in which the Mormon colonies of Morelos, Oaxaca, and San José were situated. This state is located west of the state of Chihuahua and is Mexico's second largest state in area. The Yaqui and Seri Indians occupied the area prior to the Spanish settlers. The capital city is Hermosillo.
- TAPIACITA: Tapia means mud wall; and, *cita* is a diminutive suffix in Spanish which may indicate size, affection, admiration, appreciation, or pity. [see p. {244} in Ida's diary]
- THE LAKES: Water storage reservoirs developed by the Mormons as a part of their irrigation system. Located 2 miles east of Nuevo Casas Grandes.¹¹ [see pgs. {110, 218} in Ida's diary]
- THE STATION: Name which was used to describe the railroad station which is now known as Nuevo Casas Grandes.¹² [see pgs. {27, 32, 40, 66, 68-70, 92, 119, 132, 164, 170, 197, 200, 202, 244} in Ida's diary]
- UNION MEETING: This was a monthly meeting held in the Juarez Stake for priesthood and auxiliary leaders. [see p. {17} in Ida's Diary and the Index]

⁹ Response from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter, July 15, 1996].

¹⁰ Clarence F. Turley & Anna T. Turley, *History of the Mormon Colonies in Mexico*, Published by Lawrence & Marilyn Lee, 1995, p. 96.

¹¹ Responses from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter dated Jul. 15, 1996], and Harold E. Turley, El Paso, [from his son, Brent, Aug. 7, 1996].

¹² Response from Clarence F. Turley, Colonia Juarez, [letter, July 15, 1996].

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VILLISTAS: Followers of the revolutionist Pancho Villa.¹³

ZAPATISTAS: Followers of the revolutionist Emiliano Zapata.

¹³ *Diary of Ida Elizabeth Eyring Turley, {p. 3, 1914-1915}.*

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for

THE DIARY OF IDA ELIZABETH EYRING TURLEY

As Transcribed