

MEXICO TO CALL AIR RAID PARLEY

Cardenas Proposes a World Labor Meeting to Protest 'International Aggression'

ATTACKS OIL COMPANIES

Blames Them for Mexico's Economic Ills—Warns News- papers 'to Be Careful'

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Special Cable to **THE NEW YORK TIMES**.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 24. — President Lazaro Cardenas today opened a campaign for the support of labor in Mexico and abroad for "the difficult economic situation" he said Mexico must meet. The appeal came as the President's prohibitive tariff scheme appeared to be a failure and the land division program in a state of near collapse.

Speaking before the National Congress of the Federation of Mexican Workers, Señor Cardenas charged foreign petroleum companies with responsibility for the present economic crisis in Mexico. He then attacked international aggression and announced that he would call a meeting of world labor in Mexico in order to prepare a program against such aggression.

Thus, after months of vacillation in which moderating forces urged him to make peace with United States and British companies on a compromise basis in order to restore credit for the key agrarian program, President Cardenas apparently has decided that the matter has reached a point where labor backing is essential to his regime and, ignoring the Conservative forces, he came out wholeheartedly in support of labor.

With Vincente Lombardo Tolodano, labor leader, who Tuesday asserted that "Mexico is in danger from fascism within and without the regime," standing on the platform beside him, Señor Cardenas declared that the "policy of the Mexican Government will be to continue to protect the conquests of the proletarian classes."

President Cardenas fully backed Señor Lombardo who declared Tuesday that the Mexican Supreme Court will rule against foreign petroleum companies, who have an investment of \$450,000,000 in Mexico, in the oil wage controversy. The companies have said they will be forced to cease operations in case of an adverse ruling. The oil companies subsequently declared that there was an obvious denial of justice if a labor leader could dictate a decision of the Supreme Court in advance. Señor Cardenas countered today by warning all Mexican newspapers that publish the companies' statement to be careful.

"It is necessary that we be always ready to resist, even at the cost of economic sacrifices, the attacks of those who have not understood the justice of Mexico's cause and who seek to make it fail by creating a situation of uncertainty and alarm," President Cardenas

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said. "Such seems to be the case of petroleum companies who have taken from Mexico their bank deposits and effecting a publicity campaign to restrict or deny credit to industries and to alarm business men."

Insisting that the "army has not remained cold to enthusiastic work in favor of the revolution," Señor Cardenas continued: "The laboring class does not limit its objectives to the solution of domestic problems, but feels itself intimately concerned with the solution of international problems. I, therefore, place a transcendental situation, interesting to all of the workers in the world, before this assembly.

Urges Sanctions by Workers

"The bombardment of open cities is a move against humanity which, to shame humanity, has been used in the present armed conflicts. Some governments, justly indignant at these crimes, have taken some measures to avoid the bombardment of undefended cities. Any new step, including international conventions, to suppress criminal bombardment cannot but be met with the fervent support of all nations.

"But this is not enough. Solution of the problem requires more urgent and more efficient measures than those that might originate from a pact among nations, as experience unfortunately demonstrates that international agreements are subject to violations of all kinds.

"We should work so that all the workers' organizations in the world unite to make agreements for sanctions to apply against a nation or faction which in international or civil war bombs open cities.

"I therefore, submit to your consideration the idea of convoking a world congress of laborers in which they would adopt the measures which the people themselves should take to prevent and to punish those guilty of these crimes of menacing the lives of millions."

After the announcement that Señor Lombardo would call such an international workers conference, President Cardenas declared that action by the workers against arms firms could be the first step. "The elimination of imperialist wars," he said, "depends on the pacifist solidarity of the workers of the world."

President Cardenas's speech followed by one day the statement of the Bank of Mexico, showing that metallic reserves had risen only 100,000 pesos in the past five weeks despite prohibitive tariffs designed to keep funds from leaving the country.

In a statement to stockholders yesterday the Bank of Mexico publicly revealed that the government's overdraft still is 85,000,000 pesos, as compared to 115,000,000 pesos in metallic reserves.

Señor Cardenas's speech forecast the possibility that he may be forced to reduce the budget, halt public works and reduce salaries.