



The Old Man & the Constitution

Venustiano Carranza

- Bridge quotation (341)
- Encyclopedia on Mexican History; Idolizes Juarez
- Pragmatism > Idealism (338)
- From northern state of Coahuila; wealthy family
 - Studied in Mexico City during Diaz coup in 1870s
 - Madero supports him as governor of Coahuila in 1909
- 1910 Coup – Carranza suggests Madero needs a real revolution (337) → Maderistas did not listen



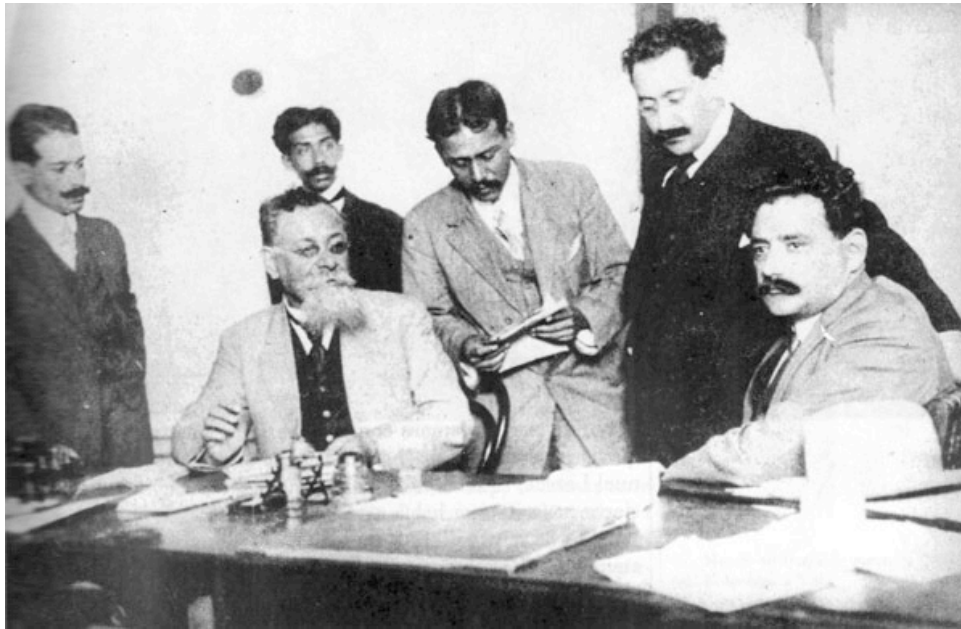
Appearance & Impact (340)

- Age – 54 in 1914 = “Old Man of the Revolution”
- Height & Composure – 6’ 4” & very proper
- Beard = Respect. Slow & deliberate manner



Plan de Guadalupe (342-43)

- 3/26/1913
- Overthrow of dictator & restoration of const. gov.
 - No social reforms → restore law, then help the masses (343)
- Results: New Constitution, national bank, laws for peasants & workers, international relevance



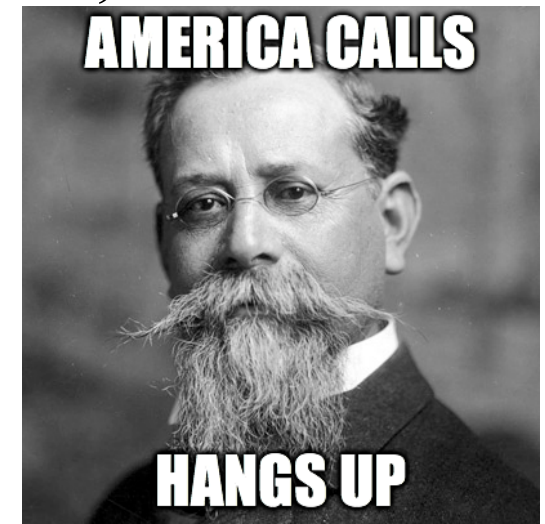
Primer Jefe

- “First Chief” of the Constitutionalist Army
 - Supported by Villa & **Alvaro Obregon**
- HQ in **Sonora** → Villa leads troops in East, Obregon in West, to Mexico City →
- **7/15/1914** – Huerta flees to Europe → Carranza becomes provisional leader



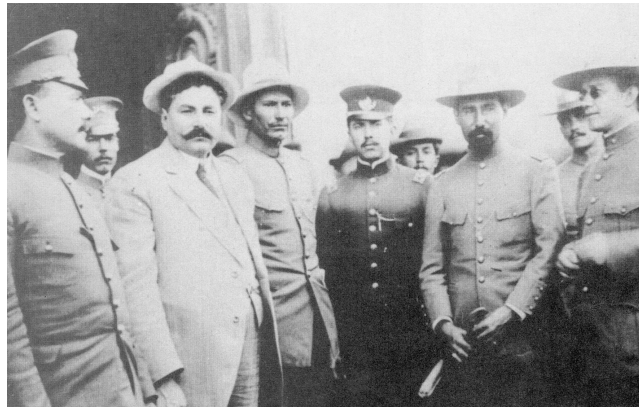
Seeds of Discontent

- Really hated America (346)
- US Marines land at Veracruz (4/21/1914)
 - Mexican sovereignty violated
- “Not the only *jefe*”
 - Zapata breaks with him September 5
 - Villa disavows him September 23
 - **KRAUZE** – “Power belonged to no one, and almost no one was loyal to anyone but himself”



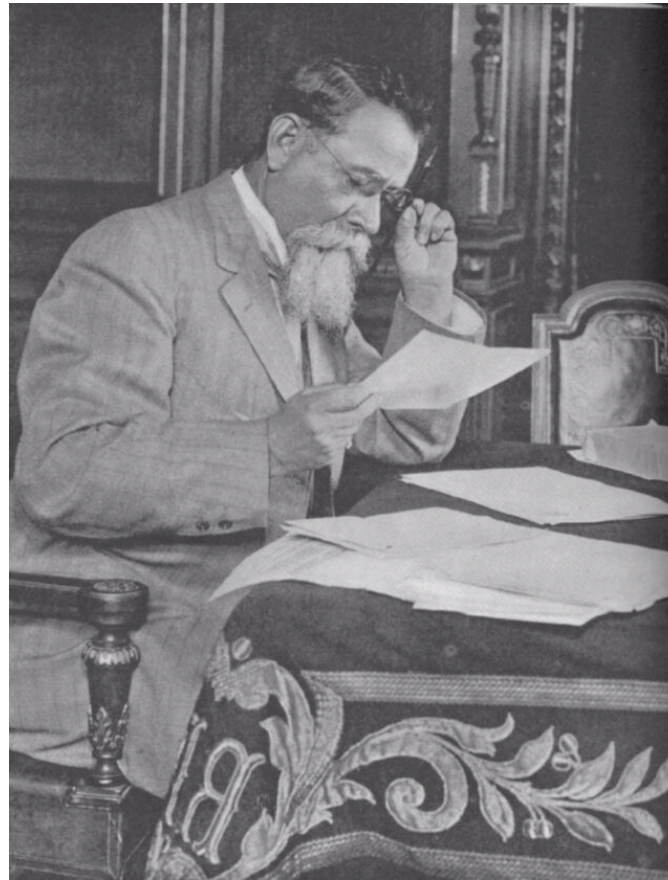
Aguascalientes & After (349-51)

- October 1914
- Youth calls for Carranza's resignation
 - Carranza's conditions 1. Effective pre-constitutional regime, 2./3. Resignation & exile of Zapata & Villa
 - Distrusts "assemblyism" → only he can do it (350)
- Moved government to Veracruz
 - Negotiated unconditional US withdrawal
- US recognizes him (Oct.1915) → Back to MexCity



Road to Constitution (351-52)

- **Laws of Reform (1915)**– constitutional liberalism
 - Discussion to break up estates, but only through const.
 - Result: Slow, tedious process that ends in more violence than land redistribution



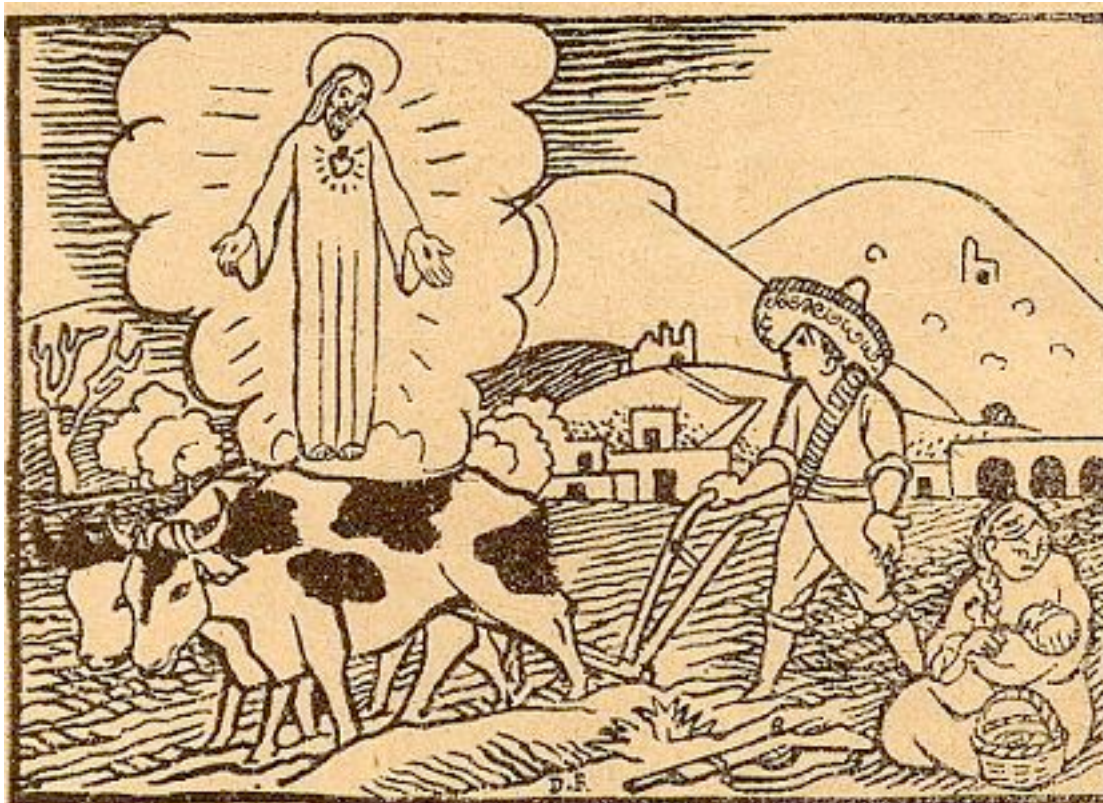
Reds & Foreigners (353-356)

- “**Red Battalions**” – Workers join up with Carranza to take on Villa & Zapata→
 - 1916 – Carranza has reactionary response to strikes, drafts all the workers, abolishes right to strike/unions
 - Workers figure they’ll wait for someone better
- Tries to reclaim natural resources by taxing UK/US oil/mining→ refuses diplomacy & never repeals



Church & State

- Followers commit acts of sacrilege→
 - Carranza did not denounce their actions→
 - Puts Church under Ministry of Finance (357)



Constitutional Convention (1916)

- Carranza (Reform) vs. Radicals (Revolution) (359)
 - 85 Conservatives & 132 Radicals attend
 - Radicals, led by **Mugica** wanted social reform in text



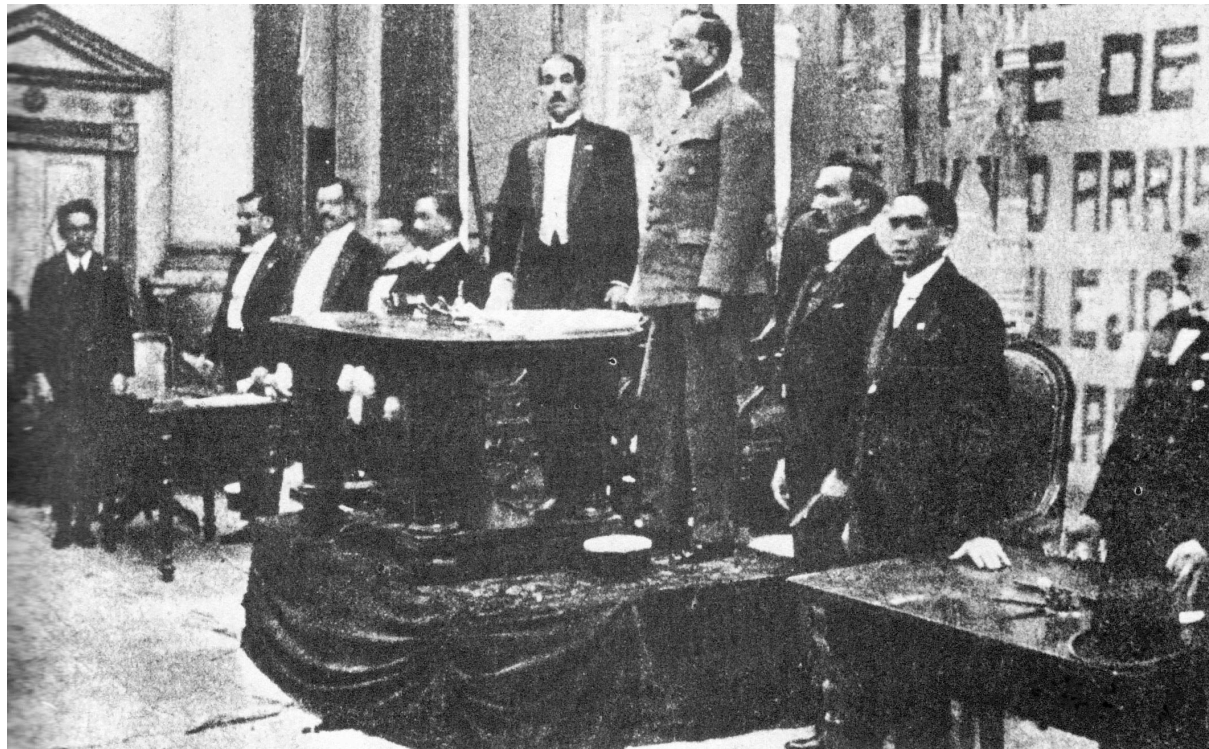
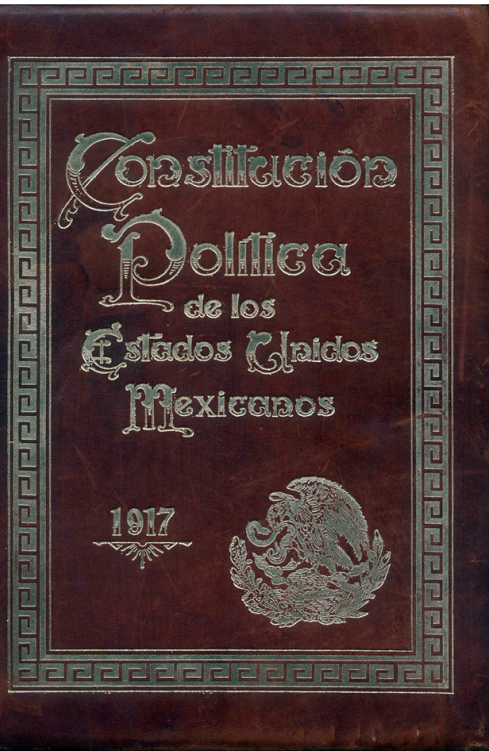
Notable Articles

- **#27** – Land Reform (359-60)
 - Small, private ownership vs. collectivization of land & natural resources by the Nation (W)
 - Only Mexicans can own property in Mexico
 - Only government could issue property to foreigners
 - Not anti-capitalist → State capitalist (Keen)
 - **KRAUZE**: Only Bolsheviks would go further

- **#123 – Labor Relations (360-361)**
 - Minor changes to rights, but NOT right to strike vs. 8hr. Workday, no child labor, protection of women, holidays, fair pay in cash, arbitration, unemployment, day care & prenatal care(W)
 - **KEEN** – Most advanced labor code in the contemporary world
- **#3 & #130 – Church & State (361-62)**
 - “The customs of people don’t change overnight” vs. “The clergy is the most dismal, most perverse enemy of the fatherland” (W)
 - Deny church legal rights, priests must register, religious education forbidden, rituals denied outside Church, religious property = national property

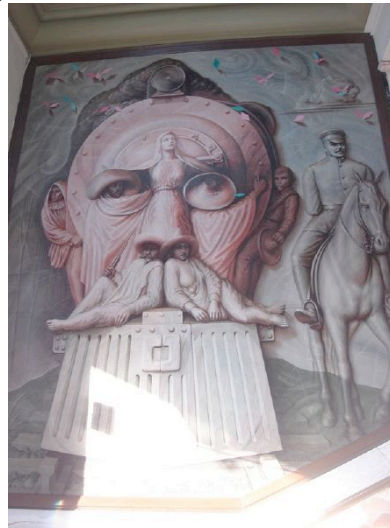
Birth of 20th Century Mexico (365-366)

- Politically, Carranza gains w/ new Constitution
 - Executive power strengthened, No VP, legislature weakened, judges appointed for life as check on leg.
 - Women denied citizenship & political rights
- 5/1/1917 – Carranza legally elected President



Some Bad Stuff Happened...

- Carranza very conservative → didn't abide by Const.
 - No education reform, only helped foreign business, neutral in WWI (flirtation w/ GER) (368)
- Debt, unemployment, destruction of infrastructure, black markets, disease, crop failures, etc.
- No mercy toward enemies (Angeles, Villa, Zapata)
- **KRAUZE** – History would blame him, and with reason (367)



Fall of Carranza

- 1920 – “A man whose time had passed” (369)
- Constitution barred reelection → puppet **Ignacio Bonillas** was rigged to win election (370)
- Sonora generals, led by Obregon, opposed him w/ *Plan de Agua Prieta* when rigging was clear →
 - Leads coup to depose Carranza
- While on the run, Obregon’s henchmen catch up to him → it is likely he took his own life (373)

