

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE PILGRIMAGE

Some people have been asking us why the governor of the State of California did not come out to receive us when we finished our pilgrimage in Sacramento on April 10.

We didn't make our pilgrimage in order to get protection from the government. This march on Sacramento was made with the idea of showing the whole world the misery in which the ranchers of this great state hold their field workers. We as Mexicans are not used to begging or crying for help to the governments--and especially when we know that what we are demanding is the just reward for our own work.

We in our pilgrimage brought the Virgin of Guadalupe and carried her for those three hundred miles so that the people who came out to greet us would know that we had not lost faith that our little virgin could bring us justice.

In much the same way, many years ago a leader called Nezahualcoyotl told the Aztec tribe that they would undertake a march toward the south and in that march the children would become old and the old people would die along the road, but that their sons would arrive at a place, where in the middle of a lake they would come upon an eagle eating a snake. This was to be the place when they would build a great nation.

All these things happened exactly as this prophet or leader told them, and today we have the great city of Mexico.

Again, today, a leader told us, "We will go, we will walk 300 miles looking for justice and we will carry the Virgin of Guadalupe so that our path will be illuminated, and so that we will be defended from our enemies who would put themselves against us.

It was because of this that we were brought to the finish with so much success. We think that if the governor preferred to spend the holidays with his family during the finale of our pilgrimage, that our great success was worth much more than the good wishes of any fat official.

(by our correspondent in HANFORD)

