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TWO SUNDAY TIMES

FILMS DILYS POWELL

TOMORROW afternoon at 6.30 the NFT's season of recent Mexican films opens with Reed: Insurgent Mexico, directed by Paul Leduc. John Reed was an American journalist, an eye-witness in Mexico in 1913; later he went to Russia and wrote the book, Ten Days Which Shook the World, which gave Eisenstein the basis for his famous film, October. Insurgent Mexico describes the Mexican revolution as Reed saw it, and I must say it is a startlingly persuasive view.

Or perhaps startling is the wrong word, for the film is deliberately low-key, the violence merely suggested, the setting arid, undramatic. It would be a help to be able to read with ease the sub-titles, almost illegibly faint against a pale sepia background; recommended all the same.