

Student Worksheet 2

Manuel Aburto Panguilef used media outlets, primarily newspapers, to spread information about the political meetings and conferences held by the **Araucanian Federation** as well as the cultural events they organized, for example, those of the theatrical company “**Llufquehuenú**”.

The text you are about to read is one of the interviews he gave in 1923 with *El Mercurio* entitled “**Los fines que persigue la Federación Araucana de Loncoche (Collimallín)**” after founding the Araucanian Federation. In each section you will find a short extract from the interview. Analyze what Aburto Panguilef says about the Araucanian Federation (A.F.) and how he says it.

+ *Note: Manuel Aburto Panguilef was a lawyer and Mapuche leader. He was born in Collimallín, Loncoche, in 1887 and he died in 1952. He founded and led a Mapuche organization, the Araucanian Federation (1921-1952). He became a regional governor during the government of Marmeduke Grove in the 1930s.*

1 The interview in *El Mercurio* with Aburto Panguilef begins with the following sentence:

“las primeras palabras del señor Aburto Panguilef, se concentraron en un agradecimiento especial de la Federación Araucana para *El Mercurio*, único diario- dijo- que ha dado acogida más amplia a nuestras publicaciones.”

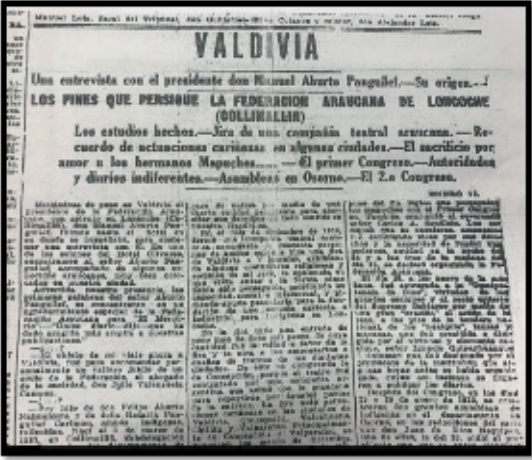


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a. Why do you think Aburto Panguilef perceived *El Mercurio* as useful to his Araucanian Federation?

- b. Why do you think Aburto Panguilef begins his interview in this way?
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2 Here, Manuel Aburto speaks about his family.

“Mi abuelo y su citado hijo, tío carnal mío según tradición y antecedentes que debe tener el Supremo Gobierno, por medio de la Intendencia de Valdivia, les cupo un gran papel en la pacificación de la Araucanía en esta provincia de Valdivia y jamás permitió que los indígenas faltasen el debido respeto al gobierno.”

- a. How does Aburto represent his family and the community with which he identifies?
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3 In the extract cited below Manuel Aburto Panguilef talks about the First Araucanian Congress organized by the Araucanian Federation.

“En tal virtud hice que la sociedad de que era presidente, convocara al Primer Congreso Araucano en los días 24 y 25 del mes de diciembre de 1921, estableciendo entre otros puntos que debían someterse a su consideración el que se refería a la fundación de una Federación Araucana, que con estatutos propios y ajenos a otras entidades, debía luchar en todo sentido para sublimar todas las costumbres religiosas y sociales de esta raza que nadie puede impugnar científicamente, defendiendo su moral, sus derechos que por leyes especiales les corresponden y que no a obstante a ello, ha sido despojada de todas sus tierras. Para demostrar al pueblo y al Supremo Gobierno que en el referido Congreso no se iba a tratar nada en contra del orden constituido y que sólo ejercitaría sus discusiones dentro de las leyes y autoridad moral, se invitaron a todas las autoridades del departamento y a todos los presidentes de los distintos partidos políticos de Loncoche para que concurrieran a este Congreso y se sirvieran un almuerzo con los caciques el día 25”

■ a. What are some of the objectives of the Araucanian Federation? Identify two.

■ b. What strategy did Manuel Aburto Panguilef use to demonstrate to the government that the Federation was not going to disrupt the “constituted order” during the First Araucanian Congress? Do you think this strategy is effective?

✚ **Research Project:** Would you like to continue researching this topic?

In groups of 2-3 students, talk about the work of Manuel Aburto Panguilef and the Araucanian Federation. Do you think a Federation like this would be successful today? Why? Look on the Internet for organizations that share some elements with the Araucanian Federation. Once you have found an example, identify some similarities and differences.