

DAILY PEOPLE

VOL. 10, NO. 344.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 1910.

ONE CENT.

EDITORIAL

HOT FROM THE ANARCHIST OVEN.

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TIERRA! (Earth)—the Havana Anarchist sheet, quoted from last week as denouncing Pablo Iglesias, the recently elected Socialist to the Spanish Congress, for a “police spy” and other bad things, on account of his approval of the Socialists not having taken a hand in the recent Barcelona burning down of convents—assails Iglesias in the same issue (May 14) with another line of arguments and allegations that merit reproduction as samples of Anarchist mentality and morality.

The allegations of fact are to the effect that Iglesias received 5,000 francs *{sic}* from Germany for the relief of imprisoned and exiled Spanish revolutionists; that at “Teruel, Huesca and in other towns” the exiles are in utter destitution, and that 15,000 exiled souls are being pinched with hunger and cold “in the mountains (sierras) of Spain.” From these allegations the paper concludes: “And yet Pablo Iglesias, who received 5,000 francs *{sic}* to be distributed among the persecuted people, keeps the money in his pocket-book until, the spirit solidarity having been cooled or exhausted, there may be left among the victims of the reaction only a few of his own milk-and-water pets, or some of his own cronies, whereupon he may, with impunity, appropriate for his own electoral campaign funds moneys gathered by international solidarity for the victims and sufferers of the late insurrection.”

Not a vestige of evidence, except the paper’s own say-so, that the 5,000 francs *{sic}* were allowed to rest idly in Iglesias’s pocket book:—that much for the consistency of the Anarchist objection to the “authoritarianism” of Socialism.

Not a minute’s thought given to the consideration that the 5,000 francs *{sic}* might, perhaps, just possibly, have been expended upon the sufferers crowded in many other towns than the two that are mentioned, and crowded in numbers larger than the numbers of the less accessible 15,000 souls stated to be wandering about

“in the mountains of Spain”—that much for Anarchist thoughtfulness.

Not the slightest regard for the fact that 5,000 franks *{sic}* , even if distributed even among these accessible crowds only, could not go very far, let alone leave a surplus for the inaccessible stragglers “in the mountains of Spain”—that much for Anarchist rationality.

And yet, upon such unauthenticated allegations, from such surmises, suspicious and heels-over-head reasoning, the charge of misappropriation of charitable funds for private purposes is hurled at a man with the deliberate confidence of “Authority,” and is expected to be taken for current coin.

Such is Anarchy.

If an intelligent man proceeds in such fashion he would be justly branded infamous. The brand, however, would not fit the deformity of Anarchy. The Anarchist is a creature of underdeveloped mentality, and over-developed bestiality.

Transcribed and edited by Robert Bills for the official website of the Socialist Labor Party of America.
Uploaded June 2011

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