

EDITORIAL

## MEXICO “PAYING THE PRICE.”

By DANIEL DE LEON

**A**FTER nearly a generation of Dictatorship, during which there reigned in our neighbor Republic the proverbial “peace in Warsaw,” and during which Mexico was being “improved” by American capital,—after all that (or is it because of all that?) Mexico has been for almost three years the theater of armed turbulence, culminating in the military clash around the palace of Chapultepec itself. Mexico is paying the price.

The march of Progress is from Disorder via Order to Freedom. The Order may be dictatorially tyrannical, still will it be a way-station to marching Progress from Disorder to ultimate Freedom, provided there be motion. Where the way-station of Order becomes petrified—whether the petrification take shape as Tyranny or not—the law of social Progress commands a return to the Disorder whence the march originally started. It is your addled egg that takes long hatching, holds true in social science as in the chicken-coop.

Mexico is paying, and will long have to pay the price of the “long term of prosperity” that she “enjoyed” under Porfirio Diaz. A river dammed may turn to a torrent. Progress cannot halt. It is against the law of its existence and of its name. It must forward. When dammed too long at the stage of “Order,” then the accumulated flood reverts to its original stormy, disorderly, condition; thence to start all over again.

Order may, accordingly, be the starting point of Evil as well as Good.

Is it temporary only? Is it preparatorily only for the next, the onward march? Then Order will be the starting point of Good—whether that Order be autocratic or constitutional.

Does, however, the state of Order without ultimate Freedom last too long, then

the Order will be the starting point for Evil in Retrogression.

Will the object lesson that Mexico is holding up to our people be hearkened by them?

If they don't—then the United States also will have to "pay the price."

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