

STILL THIRSTING FOR BLOOD OF AMERICAN "SLACKERS"

By Linn A. E. Gale.

Nero, immortal in the annals of infamy and watching the helpless people of ancient Rome burn to death, never smacked his lips in more hellish glee than would the munitions-makers, profiteers and imperialists of the United States if they could imprison, torture and butcher the American "slackers" who are still in Mexico.

No clan of cannibals ever lusted more furiously for the blood of their victims than do the financial dictators of the American government lust for our blood.

They forgave the Germans long ago. They never had any intention of hanging or punishing the kaiser. Such talk was bluff to kid the people. If the German empor had been killed because he lost this war, President Wilson's turn or King George's or Lloyd George's or Clemenceau's turn might come later. They had nothing against the Kaiser as an individual, despite their lying assertions. They simply wanted to dominate the markets of the world and to do so it was necessary to trash Germany. Some other time it will be necessary for them to clean up England and Japan in order to maintain supremacy of trade. Altho they were dead in earnest in seeking commercial mastery, they have no desire to be so harsh with the enemy as to affect the stability of the capitalist system. Repeatedly they have shown that they prefer kaiserism any time to Communism and workers' control of industry. But the men who own the wealth of the United States have never forgiven us "slackers". They never will. They hate us with all the fury of fiends. They size us, torment us, mangle us and finally slaughter us and make an example of us before the world.

An Example For Future Objectors

American capitalism wants to show every American that this is what will happen to any man who dares think for himself—who dares refuse to fight in capitalistic wars—who dares to prize human life more than the gold of millionaires, the epaulet of a soldier and the brutal mandate of a degenerate government. That's why American capitalism has never ceased to try to get the fugitives back from Mexico. That's why it has resumed trading with the terrible "Huns" that it was a little while ago so savagely denouncing and centers all its venom and virulence on the "slackers."

For the "slacker" is a menace to capitalism providing he uses his free-

dom on alien soil for the purpose of propagating Communist teachings. Those who simply came to Mexico to save their skins, who had no conscientious or class-conscious objection to the war except that they didn't want to get hurt, who got jobs or opened stores and began to make money here like "good citizens,"—they are all right, from the standpoint of capitalism. Wall St. has no special enmity against them. There are lots of men in the United States who did the same thing in a little different way—who escaped military service by pull or bribery. While the government didn't like such doings as a rule for it wanted to have plenty of men to do the fighting, it wasn't much concerned about it. "Slackers" who came to Mexico in such a quiet, inoffensive way, have frequently gone back to their home towns and been unmolested or at the worst, spent a few months in jail and then gone scot-free.

But the "slacker" who was against the war because he was a Communist, a Socialist, an I. W. W., or a Pacifist, is a danger to the dying system, a danger to the designs of Wall St. Such "slackers" not only fled to foreign soil but they commenced an active and effective propaganda in favor of Bolshevism. They tried to awaken others to the criminality of a system under which wars are necessary. They tried to imbue others with their own spirit of rebellion so that when the next war comes, there will be still more who will refuse to obey the dictates of the international murder trust. And they were very successful, stirring in thousands a spirit hitherto unknown and filling them with that imperishable zeal for a cause that armies and empires cannot kill.

The "Spy" Story

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City of Chicago, attending the convention session in the morning and a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the party in the afternoon. In the evening he was at a restaurant in the same city with a party of comrades. On November 15th, another date definitely fixed, he attended a meeting of the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party in Chicago as could be verified by twelve other members of the committee.

As to the checks which the informer claimed to have seen in the file sup-