

Workers Rallying Against Fascisti Revolt in Mexico

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MEXICO CITY.—Federal troops are defeating the rebel armies on two fronts, altho three more generals have revolted and joined the Fascist counter-revolutionary ranks. Gen. Manuel Garcia Vigil, governor of Oaxaca, by his revolt has placed the state of Oaxaca in the hands of the rebels. Gen. Fernando Segovia, by his defection in Yucatan, caused the socialistic governor Felipe Carrillo Puerto to flee.

The most serious loss was that of Gen. Fortunato Maycotte, who was in command of a division of Obregon troops, freshly equipped, and sent out to join in the attack upon Sanchez. This sudden disloyalty of a trusted general whose troops were not yet very far from Mexico City, imperilled the safety of the main body of the federals who had advanced as far as Oriental and Esperanza on the two railroads running to the Vera Cruz port. Obregon, who was on the western front near Guadalajara, rushed back to the eastern front near Puebla. The minister of war also left the capital and the two of them are now personally directing the operations in the vicinity of Puebla.

The Valley of Mexico is extremely exposed, being a level saucer-like plain entirely surrounded by mountains and lacking in military value except of tremendous significance from a standpoint of morale. For that reason the president is taking no chances of further defection on the Vera Cruz, Puebla, Oaxaca front and has declared that Mexico City will not be abandoned under any circumstances.

But from a military standpoint, the western or Guadalajara front is much more important, as an advance of a few hundred miles to Irapuato by General Estrada would mean the cutting of the railroad line to El Paso and a further advance of about 50 miles or a little more to Celaya would cut the line to Laredo, thus cutting off communications with the United States and with the whole north of the republic. At present the entire north, much the largest portion of the republic, is in the hands of the government.

Thus the president and the loyal forces are under the necessity of fighting on two fronts at once, one for moral reasons, the other for military. On the Guadalajara or "railroad" front, they are slowly forcing Estrada back. Some of Estrada's own forces are going over to Obregon.

Meanwhile, the labor elements are not idle. General Calles, with many labor leaders, has left for the north of the republic to form workers' regiments. Other labor leaders have gone to San Luis Potosi for similar purposes. The Communist local of Mexico City in its entirety, less two men, have accepted recruiting commissions from Governor Tejeda of Vera Cruz, the state in which they have most influence. Altho this state is in the center of the rebel forces, Tejeda and his band of agitators will enter at some northern point and arouse the peasantry who have benefited so greatly there from land distribution. In Puebla, General Gasca, laborite, has recruited 2,000 armed workers and in Mexico City there is a workers' regiment that drills daily.