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Who said the revolution was over?

Have you read "Barbarous Mexico," the book, yet?

The January International Socialist Review will contain an article about the revolution written by John Kenneth Turner.

Have you noted that the railroad companies have called off their regular Christmas excursions to Mexico? Why is this? Wasn't somebody telling us that the revolution had been wiped out?

We note by a dispatch dated the 20th that Diaz is having his food tasted and is changing his sleeping room every night in fear of being blown up by a bomb. Sic semper tyranni. He brought it on himself.

We note that since the publication of the State Federation of Labor Committee report on The Times disaster The Times has kept pretty quiet on the subject of who or what blew up The Times. Perhaps it feels the necessity of being wary of being caught in its own trap.

The fact that the revolution is gaining ground is shown by the strenuous efforts now going on to fortify the city of Chihuahua. Trenches have been dug, big cannon planted and the city is full of soldiers. Chihuahua is preparing for a siege like unto that of Port Arthur.

We read that the Diaz troops are massing for a final crushing blow against the revolutionists. We have read this so many times that it has ceased to terrify us. Especially in view of the fact that the revolutionists have delivered some pretty respectable blows themselves during the past week.

Where is Madero? It does not matter. The revolution goes on without Madero. The revolution is not Madero's revolution. It is a revolution of the people against the intolerable conditions of tyranny. While Madero precipitated it, he will not be able to control the revolution. The people will take as much of his program as they want and no more.

The Los Angeles Express has an editorial writer who persists in referring to Diaz as if he were a tyrant and not the constitutionally elected president of a "sister" republic. Look out, Mr. Earle! Better fire that young man or you may wake up some morning to learn that defects have been discovered in the title to your Mexican land concession!

Charles Edward Russell, in writing in The Coming Nation of the doctoring by Diaz of the news reports relating to the revolution, speaks of the "recent" revolution. Which indicates that this good friend, although acquainted with the ins and outs of "skillfully applied influence," and even writing an editorial on it, was himself deceived so far as to be under the impression that the revolution had finally been crushed.

American troops have been patrolling the border for the purpose of driving back any hands of rebels who might, in the course of their flight from pursuing Diaz troops, seek safety by crossing the Rio Grande onto American soil. According to dispatches, the rebels have chased a band of Diaz troops across the line. Did the American soldiers drive them back? Hardly. That is not the sort of "co-operation" that Taft sent them there for.

Under date of November 5th the Philippine Press, the leading weekly magazine of Manila, re-prints one of the original articles on "Barbarous Mexico" which appeared in The American Magazine over a year ago. In an editorial introduction the Free Press says that the articles were called to its attention by a British merchant of Manila who had read them in an English magazine. Thus

does "Barbarous Mexico" complete its circuit of the world.

One significant difference between the forces of the government and the forces of the revolution is shown by the different manner in which they treat prisoners. When Navarro took prisoners near Podornales, December 11, he lined them up and shot them. Not only that, but he lined up some thirty non-combatants and shot them, also. When the revolutionists captured 150 federal troops near La Junta, December 16, after stripping the prisoners of their arms, they permitted them to go their way. This thing of butchering all prisoners wholesale is a recognized policy of Diaz, who has been putting it into practice for thirty long years.

The police are still holding up Mexicans on the streets of Los Angeles and other border towns, searching them for weapons, and, if they find any, throwing them into jail. Then along comes a judge and assesses an usually large fine. Note that—an usually large fine. Who gave these police their orders? Who gave these police judges their orders? Speaking of skillfully applied influence upon journalism, how about skillfully applied influence upon police and judges? The police persecution of Mexicans on their way to take part in the revolution is no mere coincidence. Where did it come from? Who started it? Is this Russia or the United States? Why don't the American people wake up, anyhow?

Is Henry Lane Wilson, the United States ambassador to Mexico, employed to attend to diplomatic matters which come up between this country and Mexico, or is he employed to aid Diaz in his campaigns against the revolutionists, on the one hand, and to deceive the American people as to the importance of the revolution, on the other? This is not an idle question. According to authentic dispatches, the day the revolution broke out Wilson offered Diaz advice as to the proper distribution of his troops. Later, on December 13, after it had been erroneously reported that Diaz troops had captured the town of Guerrero, Wilson wired Washington: "This cleared the state of Chihuahua and other parts of the country of all organized resistance to the government." This was a lie and Wilson knew it. He sent the dispatch with a deliberate intention of fooling the people and staying the downward progress of the price of Mexican stocks and bonds.

How much did you contribute of the \$76,430.39 which has just been divided among the families of the victims of The Times disaster? If you contributed anything at all, do you feel that you have done a fine and noble thing? Or have you discovered that you have been just a little bit of a sucker? Why did you contribute the money? Because the poor folks needed it, you will say—of course! But has it not occurred to you that there is another party who was not only able to pay that money, but also who, if there is any justice in the Los Angeles courts, could have been compelled to pay it? To speak more definitely, have you not been paying out money in charity that General Harrison Gray Otis should have been compelled to pay? You have been squaring Otis' debt; how easy you are! Otis tricked you into it and it is quite likely that this very minute he is chuckling over the "good thing" that you have been!

It has been said that the persecution of Mexican political refugees came to an end with the proceedings initiated in congress for the purpose of investigating those persecutions. This seems to be a mistake. The conspirators have not been frightened off, after all. Right in the city of Washington itself they have put in jail Juan Sanchez Azcona for no other reason than that he is politically opposed to Diaz. Coming at this time, the arrest seems almost a challenge to those gentlemen who have professed that they wished an investigation. We think it is up to them to push the matter or admit that they were only fooling, in the first place. Azcona, by the way, was editor-in-chief of Mexico Nuevo, a daily paper which was suppressed three times before finally being put out of business altogether by the government. Azcona is an intelligent man. Time was when he was in the official family of Diaz, but he has been gradually becoming more and more progressive until we hope that, by the time he is through with his fight against extradition, he will be a Liberal.

MEXICO AND THE REVOLUTION.
 An illustrated lecture by
 L. G. De LARA
 at LABOR TEMPLE,
 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29th,
 at 8 p. m. sharp.
 Silver offering at the door.

Shall Mexico Be Annexed?

In discussing Mexico and the problems that confront her, there are many Americans who say:

"Well, after all, why not annex Mexico to the United States?"
 The motive that prompts such a remark arises from one of two sources—either from a desire to graft and grow rich upon the Mexican people, or from a notion that we shall be doing Mexico a great kindness by taking her under our flag.

To those who hold the former attitude of mind I have nothing to say. Like King Midas of old, their whole beings are given to the thought of gold, till they have become hard and soulless as the metal itself—and it is neither profitable nor amusing to talk to a piece of metal.

It is for those who think that we can do Mexico a kindness by annexing her that this article is written, for those who would have the United States, like a comfortable mother hen taking orphaned ducklings under her wing, gather in Mexico under her dominion, forcing upon her some such control as she exercises in the Philippines.

Of course it is a ridiculous question. Mexico does not want to be annexed. She will not have it. She will fight to the last ditch against it. All parties alike would oppose the foreign protectorate. For Mexico has pride in herself as a national entity. With blood and tears she wrenched herself free from the grip of Spain; with blood and tears she would struggle to escape the clutch of the new paternalism, however mild it promised to be.

It must be remembered that Mexico is not a child in world experience. She has suffered, and suffered more bitterly than we Americans can realize. She has always had terrible problems to solve. She has felt the strangle hold of Spain and of the Catholic Church, and lastly of a despotic born of herself, a man of a medieval mind who has tried to drag her back with him to the days of barbarism. For Mexico the nineteenth century has been a series of struggles to free herself from chains. During the past thirty-four years of "peace" she has struggled, and her struggles have resulted in massacre. Today she is struggling. She is about to make herself over by revolution. She looks with great hope toward the day when the chains shall fall away and she will be free. If the chains hold fast this time, she will struggle till they are broken, but she intends to struggle alone.

Yet let us suppose, for the sake of those who think that we should do Mexico a kindness by claiming her, that annexation is a possibility. Should we do Mexico a kindness by annexing her?

Of course we should free the slaves,

you say, and improve conditions generally. No doubt the horrors which exist today would be moderated. But Wall Street rules America and America's possessions, and Wall Street would see to it that conditions were not improved so vastly that Capital might not exploit and grind and wring profits from the people to the greatest possible extent. The iron heel would lift its pressure no more than was absolutely necessary, and since the iron heel is upon the neck of the United States government, its need for lifting the pressure would be small. American capital has a part in the slavery of Mexico today. Can you expect Capital to turn against itself?

However, if Mexico today were a nation dead, if the Mexican people were apathetic in their slavery, if they were indifferent to thought of betterment, if they had ceased to hope, then for the sake of humanity there might be some excuse for desiring to trust her to the mercies of American capital, hoping that whatever democratic rights we possess might in some measure react upon her.

But Mexico is not dead. She is teeming with life. She is surging with hope. She is rebelling against her slavery. She is moving to the battlefield. The mailed fist of tyranny has struck many a bitter blow. The wounds have been sore. But though the body has been bruised the spirit remains unbroken. Mexico rises to revolt. The arm behind the mailed fist shakes. Tyranny has grown afraid.

The movement dominated by liberal ideas which has played something of a part in Mexico's past and will play a greater part in her future, will do more to further democracy than anything the United States can do. This movement is a force now. It is growing. It will continue to grow. The hope of the slaves is in this movement, not in the United States.

Mexico's future belongs to Mexico. Her progress will depend upon herself, and only by herself can she really progress. Dependency of any sort is degradation. It breeds mental and moral stagnation. It breeds oppression and contempt on the one hand, hatred and rebellion on the other.

If we wish well for Mexico let us not talk of annexation... Mexico is in revolt. The revolt will grow. The United States government may lend a hand in crushing it, in order to keep Diaz upon his throne. When that moment comes, if it does, if you hate oppression, lift your voice in protest against any move that will aid in the upholding of despotism and the perpetuation of slavery.

ETHEL D. TURNER.

Los Angeles, Dec. 15, 1910.
 Friends of "Regeneracion,"

After all his ever so well meant efforts realizing that he can not fathom the economics and the policies nor reconcile the utterances with the tactics of the Liberal party of Mexico, "a contributor to the English section" here eliminates himself as thoroughly incompetent to do the subject any justice, and hopes that the press censor will consider such public declaration permissible for print, if it is worth while.

With best wishes to your cause,
 ALFRED G. SANTFLEBEN,
 232 E. 7th St.

This, of course, shows at once that there has been an unfortunate misunderstanding. The misunderstanding arose through a correction which we printed in the English section last week. The week previously Mr. Santfleben had printed an article which spoke of the Liberal party having joined hands with the middle class revolutionists, headed by Madero. Fearing that the public would misinterpret our position and take it that we were fully in accord with Madero's program, we felt the necessity of pointing out the difference between us. In doing this we had no intention of reflecting upon Mr. Santfleben in any way.

Perhaps it would be well to state our position in regard to the Maderists a little more clearly than we did in the correction mentioned.

The revolution which is now going on in Mexico and which seems, at this moment, to be extending its influence, has our heartiest endorsement. Hundreds of the men in the field are members of the Liberal Party. Many of the officers are Liberals. Our own personal representatives are on the ground. This is true, although the revolution was precipitated by Madero and his friends. We wish the revolution to succeed, but we wish it to succeed as a Liberal revolution and not as a middle class revolution. In other words, we are not satisfied with Madero's program. Madero is not our choice for president, and we do not wish anything to appear in this paper which would give ground for such a

We do not wish to lose the services of Mr. Santfleben. We do not know, as it grows, the revolution shall be dominated by Liberal ideas and by Liberals.

We trust that this explanation

makes it plain why we felt it necessary to disclaim the responsibility for a remark which we are sure Mr. Santfleben made in all innocence, of Mr. Santfleben. We do not know

Critics and Corroboration

Taken from the Book "Barbarous Mexico"

By John Kenneth Turner

(Continued from last issue.)

Here is an ordinary news item clipped from the Mexican Herald of May 30, 1909:

"Angel Contreras, an enganchado, belonging to a good family, is reported to have been brutally killed by being beaten to death with staves at the nearby San Francisco sugar mills in the El Naranjal municipality. Local newspapers state that other similar crimes have been committed at that place."

This is the first information I have had that men are beaten to death in the sugar mills of Mexico.

I present a news item from the Mexican Herald which describes better than I did in my fourth chapter one of the methods pursued by labor snarers to get their fish into the net. The newspaper prints the story as if the occurrence were unusual; I reprint it in full because it is typical. The only difference is that in this particular case the victim was rescued and the labor agent was jailed for a day or two only because it chanced that the victim had been an employee of the national Department of Foreign Relations. Had the authorities wished to stop this sort of non-stealing, as the Herald would have us believe, why did they not arrest the keepers of the other "casas de enganchados" which they found, and liberate the prisoners? But here is the item, headlines and all:

"BOY OF 16
 TRAPPED HERE.
 "ALAMEDA SCENE OF BOLD
 KIDNAPING BY
 SPANIARD.
 "TO GO TO OAXAQUENA.
 "CONTRACTORS PLANNED TO
 SEND BOY TO AMERICAN
 PLANTATION.
 "When Felipe Hernandez, agent of a company of labor contractors, commonly referred to in Mexico as 'enganchadores,' met sixteen-year-old Benito Juarez, in the Alameda on Wednesday afternoon and induced him by brilliant promises of work and wages to accompany him to a house on la Calle de Violeta, he (Hernandez) made one of the serious mistakes of his life. By refusing to allow young Benito to go out of the house after he had once entered it, Hernandez violated one of the federal statutes and he is now being held in the fifth comisaria to answer a charge of illegal detention.

"Hernandez claims that he is an employee of one Leandro Lopez, who is securing laborers for the Oaxaquena Plantation Company, an American concern operating an extensive hacienda on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, on the state boundary of Veracruz, not far from Santa Lucetia. Both men are Spaniards. The whereabouts of the boy, Benito Juarez, was not definitely ascertained until yesterday afternoon, when his release was secured upon the demand of Subcomisario Bustamante of the fifth comisaria, who subsequently arrested Hernandez after the lad's statement had been placed on record at the comisaria.

"On Wednesday afternoon, at about 2 o'clock, young Benito, who had been working with his mother, a bread vendor, was sitting on one of the benches in the Alameda when, according to his account, Hernandez happened along and in a benevolent way asked him if he wanted a job at \$1.50 a day. The man explained that the work was at an alcohol factory near the city and that the position was something in the character of time-keeping or other clerical work. The lad agreed and was induced to accompany his new-found friend to Calle Violeta, where the details of his engagement were to be arranged.

"On the way they stopped at a cheap clothing store, where Hernandez purchased a twenty-cent straw hat, a fifty-cent blouse, a pair of sandals and a pair of trousers. Arrived at the house on Calle Violeta young Juarez received orders to put on the peon clothing and to relinquish his own suit of good apparel. In the house where he found himself he encountered three or four other men in the same situation with himself who apprised him of the fact that he was now a contract laborer destined for a plantation in the hot country.

"Before that I had told him that I would have to ask my mother's permission before I could go. He told me he was in a great hurry, so I wrote her a note and gave it to him to be delivered. Later he told me my mother had read the note and had given her permission, but I have found out since that she never received it and was hunting for me at the time.

"I was given a peso and five cents as an advance on my pay and the next morning I was given twenty-five cents with which to buy food, which was sold in the house. All this money was charged up against me, to be paid after I went to work, as I learned before I left the place. Breakfast, which cost thirteen cents, consisted of chile and chicharrones (the crisp residue of dried-out pork fat), while dinner, a bowl of soup, cost

me of the department of foreign relations on the Paseo de la Reforma and it was a fairly good suit of clothing that he had worn while working there that he exchanged for the peon's outfit. It was also through the charity of his former employer in the government office that he was released from his unwilling detention in Calle Violeta.

"The boy's mother, Angela Ramos, who lives at No. 4 Calle Zanja, had expected to meet him at the Alameda, where he was waiting when Hernandez came along. Not seeing him, she started inquiry, which elicited the information that he had been seen going away with a man who was supposed to be a labor contractor, and she forthwith hunted up Ignacio Arrellano, who is employed in the foreign relations building, and explained to him her trouble.

"Police Appealed To.
 "Mr. Arrellano, accompanied by Alfredo Marquez, an employee of the department of fomento, secured the addresses of three establishments, commonly known as 'casas de enganchadores,' located variously at Calle de Motezuma, 7a Calle de Magnolia, and la de Violeta. Their experience as related yesterday to a representative of The Herald was much the same at each place and was about as follows:

"At each of the labor contractors' 'offices' where they sought admission they were refused, being told that they had no such individual as the boy in question in their charge. At each place the assertion was made that they never contracted persons under age. Finding their efforts fruitless, Arrellano and Marquez took the matter to the fifth comisaria, where it was explained to Subcomisario Bustamante, who detailed an officer and two secret service men to the places in question with orders to search them thoroughly.

"Searching the House
 "No particular resistance was made to the entrance of the officers at either the Motezuma or Magnolia street places. In the former were about a dozen men who had signed contracts to go out of the city to work on plantations, while in the latter were about twice the same number. These men are said to have claimed that they were refused permission to leave the place where they were lodged while waiting transportation to their ultimate destinations.

"At Calle Violeta, however, the door-keeper at first refused the officers admission, only submitting when threatened with the arrest of every person in the house. Here young Juarez was found and was taken to the fifth comisaria for examination. As soon as his statement had been taken the arrest of Hernandez was ordered, and after his identification by the boy, the latter was set at liberty.

"The Boy's Account."
 "Recounting his own adventure last night, young Juarez described the meeting in the Alameda and the exchange of clothing, and continued: 'After I entered the house I learned from one of the men who was already there that I had been fooled in the promise of pay at \$1.50 as time-keeper in an alcohol factory, and when I asked the man with whom I had come if his promises were not correct he said that of course they were not and that I was to go to work as a peon on the Oaxaquena plantation at fifty cents per day. Then I asked him to let me go, as I did not want to do such work, but he would not let me leave the house, saying that I owed him five pesos for the clothes he had given me.

"Before that I had told him that I would have to ask my mother's permission before I could go. He told me he was in a great hurry, so I wrote her a note and gave it to him to be delivered. Later he told me my mother had read the note and had given her permission, but I have found out since that she never received it and was hunting for me at the time.

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anyone else capable of doing the work that he is doing who is also free to do it.

We therefore reject his resignation and hope that he will continue with us.

Good Work of the Police
 "From the time that the first notice of the infraction of the labor law was received by the police officials at the fifth comisaria until the prosecution of Hernandez was put under way their activity has demonstrated beyond any question how far the government authorities are from connivance in labor abuses with which this country has been charged.

"The Mexican law provides punishment by five years imprisonment for offenses of this character against minors, and expressly forbids the signing of contracts by persons under legal age binding themselves to work. As there is no legal detention without process of law, the prospects for a severe punishment of the man Hernandez, if the assertions of the law are found correct, seems certain, as he is likely to be made an example of for the benefit of other labor contractors disposed to be careless of their methods."

I doubt if I could do better than to end this chapter with quotations from official reports of the United States government. Cold-bloodedly as were the succeeding paragraphs written, the statements that they contain are yet exceedingly corroborative. They are from Bulletin No. 38 of the United States Department of Labor, published in January, 1902. I should like to quote more extensively, but I take only a few paragraphs from pages 42, 43 and 44.

(To be continued.)

"TRYING IT ON THE DOG"

A press dispatch says that Diaz is having all his food tasted before he eats it, for fear that it shall be poisoned.

That's it, try it on the dog. If the dog dies, there are plenty of other dogs to take his place. The master will be saved, and what else is of any importance?

Thus it is always. The people are the victims of a despot's ambition. They are the victims of his fear. The god whom monarchs serve requires endless sacrifices, and the sacrifices must always be the people.

Let the people cease to be the sacrifice. Let them rise in revolt against despotism. Let them cease to be "the dog," but be free men.

E. D. T.

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"Barbarous Mexico"

John Kenneth Turner began last year in the American Magazine a true story of the horrors of slavery in Mexico today, where men, women and children are bought and sold, where they are worked to death or beaten to death.

These articles told only half the story. It remained to show that this slavery is only made possible by the military despotism of Diaz, and that this despotism is kept in power by the aid of American capitalists and the United States government.

The whole story, with many vivid photographs, is now offered to the American people.

The book may be obtained from the author, 1921 Darien Place, Los Angeles, California.

SINGLE COPIES, \$1.50, postage paid; three copies for \$3.00.

This is the publisher's price for the book.

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