

Regeneracion.

Published every Saturday at 519 1/2
E. 4th St., Los Angeles, Cal.
Telephone: Home A 1860.
Subscription rates:
For annum\$2.00
For six months\$1.10
For three months\$.60

BUNDLE ORDERS.

100 copies\$ 8.00
500 copies\$12.50
1000 copies\$20.00

Editor and Proprietor, Anselmo L. Figueras.

"Entered as second-class matter September 12, 1910, at the post office at Los Angeles, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879."

No. 30
Saturday, March 25, 1911.

It is no crime to give guns!

All over the country Socialists are holding meetings of protest against the action of Taft in sending troops to the border.

At Casas Grandes 300 federals and 60 rebels were killed. This is the "crushing defeat" of rebels you have heard so much about.

Over twenty new groups organized to work for "Regeneracion" have been formed in various places within the past three weeks.

President Taft says that he has determined to give Diaz every chance to restore order. Lo, the hippopotamus in league with the man-eating tiger!

Juan Cabral, a rebel leader in Sonora, says that the Yaqui wars have greatly retarded the country's progress and would not have been necessary if justice had been done.

Diaz says that he will institute "reforms" when the revolutionists lay down their arms. It is well to remind the credulous that Diaz's ideas of "reform" are a mud wall and rifle bullets.

A newspaper correspondent who recently returned to El Paso after a tour of Tepe, Sonora, and Sinaloa, declares that there are at least 7000 rebels in the three states.

Rebels are seriously threatening Hermosillo, capital of the state of Sonora, and the town is expected soon to fall. Chihuahua, capital of the state of the same name, has been in a state of siege for some time, and cannot hold out much longer against the revolutionists.

When a troop train of Mexican federals recently passed through Nogales, Mexico, the soldiers were locked inside the coaches and only the officers were allowed to step from the train. They were afraid the "loyal" Mexican soldiers might break and run. Truly has the Mexican army been called "Mexico's Chain Gang."

Instead of sending troops to the border to menace the revolutionists lest they "commit depredations against the property of Americans," it would be far more fitting if the United States government would issue a vote of thanks to the rebels for the extreme courtesy which they have steadfastly maintained toward the persons and property of foreigners.

Taft also says that this government shall fulfill its international obligations in stopping the smuggling of arms and ammunition across the border. Thought you had studied law Taft. Well, then, what excuse have you for pretending that it is illegal to send arms and ammunition across the border? We have published evidence before showing it is not illegal. The article "Not a Crime to Send Guns to Insurgents," in another part of this page, also proves that it is not illegal.

Limantour has been playing a slick game. He prated loudly of "reform" and of "peace" in order to insure himself a safe journey over revolutionary territory back to his master in Mexico City. Once there he boldly declares that "no peace overtures will be considered while the rebels are yet in arms." Gustavo Madero, after all his freely expressed boasts of what Limantour was going to do for the rebels with Diaz, must now feel like a very cheap imitation of thirty cents.

The editors of "Regeneracion" have secured a special low price on "Barbarous Mexico," and we are now able to sell the book for \$1.00, postpaid. The book will also still be given as a premium with "Regeneracion"—a six months' subscription and the book for \$1.50 and a year's subscription and the book for \$2.00. The publishers report that the first edition of the book is nearly exhausted and that they are preparing to print a second.

The Liberal Revolution

No dependence of course can be placed in Washington dispatches to the effect that peace overtures are being made by the Mexican government to the Maderist faction of the present revolutionary movement. But if it be true Diaz will yet have to contend with the Liberal party.

Madero is rich and his opposition seems mainly that of a man of Diaz's own class who found it impossible to come before the people as a presidential candidate, owing to the fact that so-called constitutional rights were not in force. He financed the Maderist revolution that has given considerable trouble to the Diaz government. Although the Maderists have increased their demands somewhat, owing to a desire for the assistance of the more radical Liberals, it is easy to believe that they might easily compromise with Diaz.

The Liberals, however, are demanding something really worth while. They not only desire free press and speech and the ordinary constitutional

rights, but they also demand that the oppression of the working class shall cease; that the horrible slave conditions be wiped out, and that the land be returned to the people. The Liberals are the original revolutionists, the real revolutionists in fact.

Diaz probably reasons that with Maderist opposition a thing of the past, he can readily get the assistance of this government in cornering the real rebels and ending their existence in his own way. He has several well-known methods for disposing of them. Letting them rot to death in his underground prisons is very much in favor, but thousands have been shot in cold blood and either thrown into trenches formerly dug by the prisoners, or piled on great barges and hauled out and dumped into the sea. And the pity of it is that our Morgan-Taft government is apparently willing to order our soldiers across the border to assist in thus "preserving the peace of Mexico."

—The Peoples Paper.

STORY OF ARAUJO

Last month there stepped out of the penitentiary at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, a young man, bright, alert, clear-eyed, frank of manner, who, after two and one-half years of prison confinement, was for the first time breathing the air of freedom again. This young man was Antonio de P. Araujo, Mexican patriot and revolutionist. If by locking him up in prison on the charge of "violating the neutrality laws" the authorities hoped to break his spirit, their plan was a miserable failure. He had suffered two years of martyrdom in the land of the free because he had struggled to relieve the unbearable conditions that his race endured at the hands of the tyrant Diaz. He stepped out of prison all the more determined, all the more courageous to go on with that fight.

Araujo was arrested in Waco, Tex., in September, 1908. No warrant had been issued against him. He was carried off to jail and held incommunicado, Diaz fashion. Finally he was charged with violating the neutrality laws and in due time his case came to trial. The charges against him were characterized by incoherence, ambiguity and vagueness, but nevertheless the U. S. government authorities and the Mexican spies managed to work up a case against him and though, in the effort to prove that he set on foot a military expedition from U. S. soil against a friendly power, Mexico, they failed to prove the military character of the expedition, or that it consisted of more than three men, or that they ever reached Mexican soil at all, still this young Liberal was found guilty and sentenced by Judge Maxey to two and one-half years in the penitentiary for violating the neutrality laws, the longest sentence on record for that offense.

In pronouncing sentence upon him Judge Maxey made the amazing statement: "I admit that I am prejudiced against this defendant, but I am determined to break up this conspiracy against President Diaz of Mexico. In my judgment President Diaz is a great and good ruler, and any man who dares to lift a hand against his administration should be severely punished."

Because of his action in this case criticism of Maxey became so severe that he afterwards retracted from this position so much as to appear almost fair toward the revolutionists.

Concerning Araujo Eugene V. Debs wrote shortly after his and Warren's visit to the young Mexican revolutionist in the penitentiary:

"He recognized us, and his very soul beamed from his dark and expressive eyes. He put his arms about us, first one and then the other. His face was a study. Overcome by his emotion he could not speak. But there was a world of utterance in his fine eyes and his clear-cut and mobile features."

In another part of the same issue in which the above appears the Appeal to Reason pays Araujo the following tribute:

"Antonio Araujo, the youthful patriot of Mexico, the very flower of high culture and good breeding, chose the penitentiary in preference to a palace and a life of luxury and ease. He has made his name immortal and in another century his sentence will be his crown of honor and his age's shame."

DIAZ THROWS SOP

President Diaz is now throwing sop to his people in an endeavor to make the world think that he is a benevolent old monarch. He says that the government is planning to purchase the lands of the big estates and sell small portions at actual cost to the

common people—that is, if the revolution is put down.

The Associated Press spreads the news to the people of the United States before it is even sent to the people of the republic of Mexico.

Diaz is a wise boy but his sop will not be accepted by the revolutionists who are fighting for cause and good cause, too.—Calexico Daily Chronicle.

At San Antonio, Texas, Mexican government spies recently seized over 3000 rounds of ammunition and a number of guns intended for insurgents. Think of it. Mexican spies seizing goods on American soil! This is the kind of neutrality the troops are maintaining at the border!

It is reported that there are no troops marching from Ensenada to Mexicali. Neither are there federals in Pichos Pass. It is held by the rebels. Federals are still at Tecate, and ere long we look to see a battle that will avenge the slaughter of Rodriguez and his brave men.

Big Protest From Frisco

A rousing protest meeting, at which over a thousand persons were present, was held on March 17 in San Francisco, under Socialist and Labor auspices. Cloudesley Johns was chairman. Wm. McDewitt was the principal speaker, and according to report aroused the crowd to tremendous enthusiasm. Among other things he said, adopting Burke's famous words to the occasion:

"If I were a Mexican, as I am an American, and the United States troops invaded Mexico to suppress the revolution, I would fight them and never lay down my arms. And, being an American, if I were with the revolutionists in Mexico, and the United States troops invaded that country, I would still fight them and never lay down my arms."

McDewitt was loudly cheered when he proposed a universal strike of workingmen for twenty-four hours as a protest against the sending of United States troops to the border.

Resolutions were adopted denouncing Taft for his action.

LA FOLLETTE SCORES TAFT

La Follette's weekly of March 17 had a stinging editorial on the U. S. government's act of rushing troops to the border to preserve Diaz on his throne. We reprint part of it below:

"Why is the president massing troops on the Mexican border? What reason has he for making a warlike demonstration which is sounding an alarm in every quarter of the world? What canon of international law can he invoke to justify rushing a formidable army equipped for battle to the very boundary of a country at peace with our government? What precedent of intervention can he offer as an excuse for meddling in the internal affairs of Mexico at this time? Can he forecast the complications with foreign powers which may result?"

Congress should require the president to give a strict accounting of this extraordinary use of the army and navy. The whole affair seems incredible. It is unprecedented. In a time of profound peace the president huris the army and navy to the borders of a friendly nation. A quarter of the standing army is put in the field with equipment, ammunition and supplies, as for active war. The start was made under the thin pretense that it was a "military maneuver."

IT MEANS WAR

This is quickly laid aside and correspondents traveling with the president on his southern jaunt announce that the purpose is "to stamp out the Mexican insurrection," and if necessary to this end to "intervene." That is to say, to invade this, our neighboring republic. If this means anything, it means war. * * * Never in our history have we done this thing before. * * * In the case of Cuba more than 200,000 helpless natives were killed in the long struggle for liberty, and still intervention was not invoked. Our commerce with the island, valued at more than \$100,000,000 annually, was totally destroyed and intervention was not suggested. Millions of the property of American citizens was laid waste, and yet no president advised intervention. American citizens in Cuba were imprisoned and cruelly maltreated in violation of treaty and international rights, and still the president did not call for intervention. Not until the battleship Maine was blown up, killing 266 men and officers, and even then not until congress authorized intervention, did Pres. McKinley order the American fleet to Havana. * * * Did Pres. Taft, affable, hobnobbing with Pres. Diaz last autumn, open a new chapter in American history? What is the reason for this unauthorized declaration of war against the struggling Mexican people and this unwarranted and unaccountable use of the military establishment of our republic against a peaceful neighbor?

WHY, MR. TAFT, WHY? Is it because Henry W. Taft, brother of the president, is the director in S. Pierson & Son, an English corporation, the largest single financial interest in Mexico?

Is it because J. P. Morgan & Co., or Kuhn, Loeb & Co., or Speyer & Co., who are the fiscal agents of the bonds issued by the Diaz government, are heavy holders of securities and concessions obtained from the dictator, Diaz?

Is it because Atty. Gen. Wickersham was, until lately, director in the American-Hawaiian company, the corporation holding contracts for the transportation of raw sugar from Hawaii via the Tehuantepec railway, one of the properties of the S. Pierson company?

Is it to be found in former law associations between Henry W. Taft and Atty. Gen. Wickersham, which did business under the name of Cadwallader & Co., a firm now represented heavily in Mexican interests?

Is there any connection between the warlike demonstration against Mexico and recent conferences in New York, participated in by such men as the American minister to Mexico, Henry Lyne, Wilson, Jose Yves Limantour, the fiscal agent of Diaz and Morgan?

Is it possible that the army and navy of the United States are being used as a side show of a gigantic Wall street gamble?

Have we come to this point that patriotism, valor and life and death are openly made the pawns of Wall street politicians, to be moved about as suits the greater profits of Wall street master pirates?

Again we say the whole affair is monstrous and beyond belief.

FREEDOM SHRIEKS ON THE RIO GRANDE

Up here in the village we're wonderin' why
The President's callin' the army out.
Thar ain't nary war cloud hoverin' nigh
An' folks is askin' what's all about.
But John P.
Robinson, he
Sez President T's helping President D.

'Twas at Si Baskin's store t'other night,
We wuz talkin' over this very same
An' wonderin' if we wuz goin' to fight
Or if we wuz only playin' a game.
But John P.
Robinson, he
Sez we ought to trust Morgan and President T.

One hundred and thirty-five years ago
There wuz somethin' doin' in this here land
Like what's goin' on down in Mexico—
Fur Freedom our people wuz takin' a stand.
But John P.
Robinson, he
Sez Freedom is now an exploded idee.

It looks as if Diaz was in a bad fix,
And on this p'int we wuz all agreed;
It's the same old spirit of Seventy-six,
Tho' the folks down thar is a different breed.
But John P.
Robinson, he
Sez George and Andy are now N. G.

We know from the tales that our sires tell
How Freedom once shrieked throughout the land,
When noble and brave Kosciuszko fell—
She shriekin' again on the Rio Grande.
But John P.
Robinson, he
Sez let her shriek and be d dash d.

HOSEA BIGLOW, JR.,
In the New York World.

NOT A CRIME TO SEND ARMS TO THE REBELS

Legal opinion from the Department of Justice, sent out from Washington on March 17, confirms our oft repeated statement that it is no crime to ship guns and ammunition across the border, even if it is to be used by insurgents after it gets there.

The dispatch reads in part: "The Department of Justice's view of the law and its study of the precedents seems to bear out the contention, as viewed by administration officials, that the government can control in a measure the shipment of arms, dealing with each particular case, according to the circumstances surrounding it, but there is no general statute which explicitly forbids the shipments."

"Attorney General Harmon, in 1895, gave an opinion to the State Department regarding the shipment of arms to the Cuban insurgents, in which he held that 'mere sale or shipment of arms and munitions of war by persons in the United States to persons in Cuba is not a violation of international law, however strong suspicion there may be that they are to be used in an insurrection against the Spanish government.'"

"About the same time Justice Brown in the United States District Court held that it was no offense against the neutrality laws of the United States to transport munitions of war from this country to another, as merchandise only, if not designed in aid of a military expedition from this country, whether they were to be used in war or not."

"One case which bears directly on the Mexican situation has been found, that of the United States versus Ybanes, charged with forming an expedition in the United States to invade Mexico. Judge May held that before conviction 'it must be proved that the design and purpose of the expedition was some attack or invasion of another people or country, as a military force.'"

"Judge May also held that the mere fact that men armed with rifles had crossed the Rio Grande into Mexico would be insufficient in itself to constitute a military enterprise of hostile intent, but the proof must be furnished of what they were doing and where their destination was. The court made plain, however, that if any number of men planned in the United States an attack on Mexico, they would be guilty of a violation of the neutrality laws."

"While no official opinion has been given, it is understood the Department of Justice, drawing its views from decisions of the courts and from the apparently unanimous opinions of the department in the past, takes the position that there is no general law to prohibit the shipments of arms to the insurgents, and that this is practically understood by the administration."

We should like to inquire of the luridly imaginative newspaper correspondents of Calexico if the shells of the federal machine guns are whistling over Mexicali still.

Shall America Help To Maintain Horrors of Valle Nacional?

We reprint in part below a recent editorial from the Chicago Daily Socialist. The spirit of this editorial is the spirit that should flame in the heart of every man who cares a whit for justice and humanity. The editorial follows:

The United States government is moving troops and ships to the Mexican border.

It is officially announced that the move is made for practice and maneuver purposes.

That the government descends to such contemptible subterfuges is a sinister omen.

Secrecy, peravication and deception have always been characteristics of plutocratic rule.

Secrecy as to means to be employed in war is justifiable. Secrecy as to general intentions in a situation such as the Mexican of today is unworthy of a people supposed to be free.

But it is in line with previous tactics of the government.

It is in line with the secret conference between Taft and Diaz.

It is in line with the bounding of Mexican patriots by Oscar Lawler and other pets of the Taft administration.

It is in line with the assistance given to Diaz and his gang of murderers and robbers by the closing of the frontier for the purpose of preventing accession of men and arms to the cause of the Mexican patriots.

For years the Mexican government, headed by Diaz, has brutally been robbing its own people, turning their lands and property over to favorites and foreign capitalists, and convert-

ing a fair land into a hell for its common people.

For years all efforts to remedy these conditions have been met by suppression of the freedom of elections, by massacre in the public streets, by deportation into slavery and death in the hot lands of Valle Nacional; by consignment to worse than death in foul prisons such as San Juan de Ulua and Belen.

Thanks to the efforts of the Socialist press these conditions have become quite generally known to the American people.

Yet they stand quietly by and permit their capitalist masters, through a trust-controlled government, to interfere with the struggles of the Mexican patriots by closing the frontier.

We are told that neutrality must be maintained.

To hell with a neutrality that protects robbers and cutthroats!

To hell with a neutrality that makes our people a party to the indescribable horrors of Valle Nacional, San Juan de Ulua and Belen!

Shades of Patrick Henry and Abraham Lincoln, what is this country coming to?

Throw open the frontier to the importation of arms into Mexico and let every man go there freely who wants to assist in the Mexican struggle for liberty and justice. * * *

Let the voice of the American people thunder forth its command to its servants at Washington in a tone that cannot be misunderstood and that will secure obedience.

THE PEOPLES PAPER

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