

Regeneracion.

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Mexico the Star

Last week the economic revolution now convulsing Mexico passed into temporary eclipse, being overshadowed by the "Los Angeles Times" arrests. But already the Mexican Revolution has re-assumed its place in our dailies as the foremost topic. From that position it will not be driven for many months to come.

We should be the last people in the world to minimize the gravity of the "Times" case, or to write it down. For aught any one can tell it may start a contest that will shake our economic structure to its roots. Nevertheless even such a contest will be of secondary interest as compared with the Mexican Revolution, which, as we stated recently, seems to us the most serious event this side of the Atlantic since the Civil War. We repeat that statement.

For months the American public imagined that the Mexican Revolution was summed up in the fighting near the American border, and a struggle for political power. Both these delusions the Mexican Liberal Party did its utmost to dissipate and today the public knows that revolution is sweeping our neighbor Mexico from stem to stern. It knows, moreover, that the revolution is, first, foremost and above all, economic.

Loud are the calls for intervention on behalf of property; louder and louder will they become, rolling in from all quarters of the globe. For what calls itself our "civilization," a civilization creeping with horrors beneath the crust that calls itself "Society"—is founded on the dollar and the ignoring of human life and happiness. We state the philosophy of the ruling class, a philosophy that the workers naturally loathe.

The overwhelmingly prominent feature of modern society is discontent—breaking out spontaneously, and often simultaneously, from China to Peru. Indeed it may well be doubted if even during the fall of the Roman Empire or the French Revolution discontent was ever so deep and bitter as it is today. The very fountains of society are being moved.

Those at the helm of the ship of state, in this and every other country, know all this quite well. It is not the aristocracy of labor they dread, but the proletariat—the "down-and-outs," the gathering swarm of unemployed, the human tigers ground out by prison mills, the Huns and Goths that crowd our city slums. There is the danger point, and danger is never absent from the modern statesman's mind.

More particularly are the Latin races dangerous; for the Latin races love life, and will not sacrifice its pleasures to the almighty dollar. Spain and Italy are the great centers of European discontent, and it may be well for us to remember that Spanish is the language spoken from the American-Mexican border to Cape Horn.

These people will fight like wild-cats for their ideals—which are no longer what we call religious—and the history of the agitation that preceded this Mexican revolution proves it. Never will the American authorities be able to push repression as Diaz pushed it; and Diaz has failed—contemptibly. His dungeons were more terrifying than his executions, and they have had not the slightest effect in stemming the torrent of rebellion.

What does plutocracy intend to do? Try its hand at out-Diazing Diaz? Not only will it have Mexico, Central America and South America united against it, but it will have social revolution within its own borders. For it is no

exaggeration to say that plutocracy is hated with a hatred beside which the animosity that feudalism engendered was insipidity itself. Ninety-nine out of a hundred of the inhabitants of the United States today would revel in the spectacle of Morgan standing in the breadline or Carnegie begging his bread from door to door. But they want somebody else to bell the awe-inspiring cat, and the Mexicans have belled him. Viva Mexico!

We need not talk. Perhaps we need not even publish "Regeneracion," for events are talking. Take as a sample the following bald statement, clipped from the "Los Angeles Record" of May 3: "The constant stream of pleas for protection by Americans in Mexico, the certainty that, in every province except Chihuahua, the revolt is growing and the danger that it will become so serious as to be beyond Madero's control, are admitted to be giving Pres. Taft most serious concern. He has been informed that at least 75 per cent of the Mexican people favor the insurgents, and reports of secret service men prove that not a single section of the republic to the south is free from rebellion."

Do you not think the Mexican Revolution an event of portentous significance; bound to hold the center of the stage for many moons to come? If you do not we submit that you are crassly ignorant of the history of revolutionary epochs.

Araujo Set Free

Not across the border but when about to cross it on an essentially peaceful mission, Antonio Araujo, Secretary of the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party, was arrested at Calexico, Saturday morning, April 23. He was released Friday morning, May 5. Norberto Amador, who was arrested at the same time, was released last Tuesday.

The arrest was effected by Corporal Odell, of the United States Infantry, who at once took his prisoner before a superior officer. All the information vouchsafed there was that Araujo had "violated a rule laid down by Gen. Bliss," and that he would be held ten or fifteen hours pending further communications.

Araujo was a special envoy of the Junta, charged with the duty of enquiring into alleged depredations in Lower California and authorized to do his utmost for the safe-guarding of innocent non-belligerents. His mission was pre-eminently pacific, and it was hoped that much good would come from the efforts he was regarded as peculiarly qualified to make, since he speaks both Spanish and English fluently and knows the country well.

The Mexican Liberal Party is frankly and outspokenly for the restoration of the land to the people, as contrasted with its seizure and monopoly by greedy millionaires and corporations. Its very opposition to absentee landlords and money leeches makes it the firm friend and upholder of the actual settler's rights.

Salinas Still in Jail.

Francisco Vasquez Salinas, until recently in command of the insurgent forces in Lower California, was arrested in Los Angeles Saturday last, April 23, at the request of the Mexican government. The charges alleged against him are murder and robbery committed in Mexico, in July 10.

It is well known to residents of Marin county, California, that Salinas was at the time living in that county, had been so for months previous to the date of the alleged crimes and continued so long after that date. The Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party has sent an agent to Marin county to secure affidavits to that effect.

In the charges made neither the place of the alleged crimes nor the names of those who suffered from them is given. The Mexican government is simply using the same methods it employed some years ago against many other revolutionists, who were subsequently discharged, no case against them having been established. But they lay in jail for months.

In a world of plenty, why should anybody want? Because our methods of distributing wealth are unscientific and unjust.

I ask you to think with me that the worst that can happen to us is to endure tamely the evils that we see; that no trouble or turmoil is so bad as that; that the necessary destruction which reconstruction bears with it must be taken calmly; that everywhere—in State, in church, in the household—we must be resolute to endure no tyranny, accept no lie, quail before no fear, although they may come before us disguised as piety, duty or affection, as useful opportunity and good nature, as prudence or kindness.—William Morris.

Across the Border

War is war, and no omelette was ever made without breaking eggs. Nevertheless the reports of depredations alleged to have been committed by the insurgents in Lower California are, beyond all doubt, ridiculously exaggerated. The "Calexico Daily Chronicle" gives prominence to an official report by Gen. C. Pryce, commanding the Second Division of the Liberal army, in which he specifically denies certain outrages reported as having been perpetrated on Little's ranch. The foreman of the ranch signs an indorsement of the statement.

Events have forced the plutocratic press to abandon the conspiracy of silence it so long maintained, and the whole world now knows that Mexico in its entirety is a seething volcano of revolution. In reality the public is now likely to be surfeited with sensational news, and from a plethora of important happenings we pick only the salient few. Mexico City naturally focuses attention, both as the country's capital and the seat of government. The dailies apparently agree that some 8000 armed rebels are within the city's limits, that the federal troops have been greatly depleted and are pitifully weak, and that foreign residents are much alarmed.

Mazatlan has been captured by the rebels. Situate in the State of Sinaloa and being an important seaport it makes a most distinct gain for the revolutionary cause. It is reported that about a thousand Americans were in the city at the time of its seizure. As all railroad and telegraph communications have been severed they are unable to get word to their friends.

The capture of Durango City, capital of Durango state, is another revolutionary triumph. It is an industrial center, having a population, given by Rand, McNally & Co. as more than 30,000. Durango has been the seat of much activity on the part of the Mexican Liberal Party.

The State of Sinaloa also reports the taking of El Fuerte by an insurgent force under the leadership of M. Bocerra, and of Mochilahuil and San Blas by other rebel bodies.

In the state of Vera Cruz, Chicontepec, Tantoyuca and Tuxtepec are all under attack and are expected to fall into the hands of the rebels at an early date, if they have not done so already. The insurrectionary movement is very strong throughout the state.

In Oaxaca the city of Teotitlan del Camino is practically in a state of siege, having been rendered incommunicado by the severance of telegraph and telephone wires and the seizure of the principal approaches. The revolutionary movement is displaying great vitality in the southern portion of this state, numerous guerilla bodies being reported as operating in Juquila and the rich district of Jamiltepec.

San Luis Potosi reports more than twenty-five bridges destroyed by the rebel forces along the railroad lines.

Tlascala is a state of wealthy landowners and a large and desperately poor proletariat. It has been for long past the scene of much revolutionary activity which was suppressed with ease at first, and greatly ridiculed, but has grown to formidable proportions. Successful attacks on individual ranches have provided the peasantry with arms and war supplies, with the result that Santa Ana Chiantempan and other cities are reported as panic-stricken.

In Durango, in addition to the capture of the central city, 500 rebels seized Santiago Papasquiaro, getting thereby large supplies of arms and other necessities. They celebrated their victory by raising the red flag. Lerdo, another place of importance, was evacuated by the authorities after a faint show of resistance.

Don't forget the

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SIMON BERTHOLD
REBEL
SOLDIER

Simon Berthold is dead. The reports are verified. He died at Alamo, on April 14, of blood poisoning as the result of a wound received in the leg at the time of the taking of that town by his command some weeks ago. The injury was a flesh wound only, but, though the bullet passed through, the copper jacket remained in the leg, and time, with lack of prompt medical attendance, wrought the tragic result.

My husband and I had the good fortune to know Berthold well. Shortly after the taking of Mexicali, in which event he was one of the leaders, Berthold, who in the Lower California rebel army held the rank of General, came on a brief visit to Los Angeles. He passed three days at our home. Simple in his discourse almost to the point of crudity, one might have supposed that he was like thousands of others, unemotional, unimaginative and uninspired.

But we talked together about the revolution, about Praxedes Guerrero, his life, his glorious death, his genius as a writer. And Berthold said, in his simple, direct way: "When I read his 'Listen,' I cried."

Not only the high ideal of liberty inspired Berthold, as it inspired Guerrero, but there was a most surprisingly tender and poetic vein in him. The morning after his arrival I saw him bending hard with a stubby pencil over a much scribbled piece of paper. After a little while he said, coloring shyly: "I—I've been writing some poetry. Read it and tell me what you think of it." Then, more shyly: "These verses are to her," and he showed me the picture of a beautiful dark-eyed girl.

I read the verses, written in Spanish, for Berthold was of Mexican parentage on his mother's side, and spoke the language as fluently as English. They were well rhymed and metered, simple yet musical, and of a tender and delicate sentiment; verses, indeed, of which any girl might have been proud to have been the inspiration. He asked me if I'd mind typewriting them. I did so, and he sent her the typewritten copy. I have kept the original.

Simon Berthold, rebel soldier, the man of the big, warm heart and lofty ideals, is dead. Others have gone to the fight to die, but the fight lives on and grows, till we see the hideous edifice of despotism totter and hear it roar in the mighty tempest. Prophetically spoke Guerrero:

"Listen! Do you not hear it? It is the breath of the revolution!"
ETHEL D. TURNER.

HERE YOU HAVE IT

Stephen Bonsal, a writer of no inconsiderable reputation—notably in connection with colonial affairs—is reporting the Mexican Revolution for a syndicate, of which the "Los Angeles Times" is a member. In one of his latest articles he says: "The patriotic efforts of the members of Congress to arouse the conservative sentiment throughout the country to the support of the government are largely without effect, because most of those gentlemen have no local standing or influence. They have spent their whole lives in the capital. The case of Deputy Bulnes is a typical one. Although he has represented Lower California for twenty years he has never even visited his constituency." In writing which Bonsal penned not merely a condemnation of the Mexican representative system, but of the world-wide methods of capitalist exploitation. Everywhere industrial armies toil for the benefit of masters they have never seen and never expect to see.

WELL, PUT, COMRADE!

"The Mexican rebel chief, Madero, has signed an armistice preparatory to peace terms based on promises of reforms previously offered by President Diaz. The chief bone of contention is the guarantee of a 'fair election' for the office of president."

"Will the thousands of Mexican people, who have been inspired by hopes of better economic conditions, consent to accept this bogus and absurd 'solution' of their problem. We fear they may; but we hope not. They might better die quickly in the trenches, than die of starvation and overwork in peonage. A 'fair election' is a most worthy solution of the Wall Street-Diaz-Madero aggregation; but it is a most dangerous illusion for the Mexican rebels."—Solidarity.

The Army of Discontent

"La Scuola Moderna," (The Modern School), of Bologna, Italy, which makes a specialty of publishing notable works on the social question, announces as in preparation "Revelations and Notes of the Mexican Insurrection." The prospectus states that the work abounds with information direct from the seat of war. It is one more example of the magnificent international solidarity aroused by the struggle of Mexico for economic freedom.

"The International Socialist Review" for May publishes a translation by Prof. Frederic M. Noa, of Oklahoma City, of the official proclamation of the Organizing Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party. This is the document the Junta encloses in all its correspondence, believing it to be a short and clear statement of its position. We quote two of the sentences, which should, as it appears to us, appeal strongly to the Review's readers. "The Mexican Liberal Party is striving to win rights for the people, and considers economic freedom the basis of all rights." "The program of the Liberal Party, promulgated by the Junta on the first of July, 1906, may be reduced to the following: Land for all, food for all, liberty for all."

"La Batalla" (Havana, Cuba), devotes its leading article to a powerful plea for solidarity on behalf of the Mexican Revolution. It urges all who can to join the ranks of the combatants, and those who cannot to subscribe money without stint.

"La Voz del Dependiente," also a Havana paper, states that it has opened a subscription list for the benefit of the revolution and devotes its main column to a lucid explanation of the differences between the Mexican Liberal Party and the Maderists. Among other things it says: "The Maderists view intervention with a kindly eye, believing that it will soften asperities and secure honest elections." (See this week's exposures of political corruption in the United States.) "The Liberal Party will not consent to any foreign intervention. The words of Simon Berthold explain its attitude: 'If the United States troops cross the dividing line we will fire on them and fight to the death.'"

"The Prolocutor," (Garden City, Kan.), publishes a petition headed "Withdraw the Troops," which has been signed by a large number of Garden City citizens and forwarded to Congressman Victor L. Berger for presentation to Congress. The petition reminds the President and Congress that the American population all along the border is in sympathy with the Mexican Revolution.

"Tierra" (The Land), of Havana, Cuba, again devotes much space to the Mexican Revolution giving verbatim on its first page the manifesto recently issued by the Liberal Party. It also reports an interview with Ramon Corral, at present vice-president of the Republic of Mexico, in which he says: "The revolution does not worry me; it is inevitably a lost cause for the bankrupts who have taken up arms against the government. The bulk of the troops they have raised come from the lower classes, the majority being Indians who are not fighting for any political or social ideal; a handful of illiterates, lacking in ideals, rustics snatched from their firesides and ensnared by promises that with the triumph of the revolution the property of the rich will be divided among the poor." He then remarks that it is unfortunate that the resurrected are generally well mounted, inasmuch as, while the federal troops invariably get the best of all encounters, the rebels quickly gather up their forces again after beating an easy retreat.

The editor of "Tierra," specially commends this interview to the notice of revolutionists in general and "Regeneracion" in particular. We may add that whoever wishes to understand the part played by Ramon Corral in the creation of a bankrupt and illiterate population can find a fairly exhaustive account of that gentleman's monopolistic robberies in "Barbarous Mexico."

Under the heading "War, for whom?" the "Industrial Worker," (Spokane) prints a scaring article on the subject of intervention, which begins: "The United States government has issued a rush order for ten thousand volunteers to join the army immediately. These troops are to be used to fill up vacancies in the infantry companies now stationed on the Mexican boundary line. Their chief function at the present time is to intercept all supplies and provisions being forwarded internationally of capital and of the

across the line to aid the fighting insurgents, and also to stop recruits from crossing over and joining their ranks. It furnishes a shining example of the fact that the troops are maintained for one specific purpose, and that the protection of the private property of the capitalist."

Once more Charles Edward Russell pens in "The Coming Nation," an intensely forceful protest against the continued presence of United States troops on the Mexican border. He says: "The present situation justifies the gravest suspicions and anxieties. The United States, through the inability and lackeyism of the administration, stands at the brink of the frightful abyss of war. A single impulse and the plunge may become inevitable. . . . No man can do more than protest. But every man who feels his blood stir at the thought of Mexican liberty slain by American bayonets in the interests of the common enemy, capitalism, will continue to protest as long as he can speak."

As we have said before, Russell is probably the oldest and by far the most distinguished journalist in the ranks of American Socialism, and no man in the country is a better judge of real news values. He is fully alive to the importance of the Mexican question, to the profoundly vital issues it involves, to the threatening danger of another war of invasion and to the frenzy of militarism it will inspire. American labor has many serious troubles of its own just now, but they will shrink into nothingness beside the avalanche of riot American intervention in Mexico will set loose.

Ultra conservatism and the protection of financial interests, at all and every price, has no more stalwart supporter than the London "Times." In the May number of "Current Literature" it is cited as expressing the opinion that "if the situation in Mexico take a turn for the worse, Washington will hear from the European governments in a manner calculated to impress upon the people of the United States that they have a duty to perform as keepers of the peace in all Latin countries to the south." Do you understand the note of warning and the commanding weight of the London "Times" in the international world of high finance?

"Current Literature" also devotes nearly four pages to a study of "The financial wizard of modern Mexico," Limantour—the same Limantour with whom Madero's father and brothers have been in constant conference. It says: "Senor Limantour is as well and favorably known abroad as were ever in their prime Harcourt or De Witte among the great financiers of the old world." In the opinion of the present writer it is capable of demonstration that the financing of Witte did more than all other forces combined to reduce the Russian masses to absolute starvation and to bring about in that country the revolution, of which the end is not yet.

"Mother Earth," (New York) devotes seven pages of its latest issue to an outspoken consideration of the Mexican upheaval, reproducing the correspondence addressed by the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party to Samuel Compers and Emma Goldman, as similar radical and labor leaders. Its main article outlines the invasion of Mexico by the money power, and insists on the importance of recognizing that Mexico is passing through a genuine and spontaneous economic revolution which extends from border to border.

"The International Socialist," (Sydney, Australia), of April 1, just to hand, remarks: "American Capitalism, through the American government, has decided to come to the assistance of the murderer Diaz if he fails to crush the Mexican revolution by May. Another crime will thus be added to the long annals of the American capitalist class." Australia is a long way off, but the spirit of international solidarity easily circles the globe.

In common with all advanced European journals "Les Temps Nouveaux," (Paris) gives increasing prominence to the Mexican Revolution. In its issue of April 15, just received, it reviews the part played in Central American affairs by the government of the United States and says: "Everything indicates that the influence of Wall Street (the headquarters of high finance) is playing a leading role in the foreign politics of the United States. The conquest of Mexico (meaning the capitalist conquest) is already an accomplished fact." It continues with re-

fections on the revolutionary past of America, and considers that this nation is not naturally warlike, but adds that certain journals, "such as those published by the arch-millionaire Hearst, are endeavoring to spur the public into war."

Under the heading, "Movement of Solidarity," R. F. Magon, in last week's Spanish section of this paper gave a condensed summary of the international agitation now being made on behalf of the Mexican Revolution. In so doing he necessarily traversed much of the ground already covered in this column, and it would be useless to repeat. He calls special attention, however, to the fact that the tobacco workers of San Francisco have started a movement having for its object the declaration of a general strike the moment an American soldier sets foot on Mexican soil, and adds: "We hope this sympathetic idea will be approved by the workers of all the world." The summary ends with these words:

"We have received letters from English, Spanish, Cuban, American and Jewish comrades, as well as from those of other races, cheering us on in our task of bringing true freedom to the Mexican proletariat and promising to make an extensive agitation throughout the world on behalf of the Mexican worker in the present Revolution. On to victory, Mexican comrades! We do not stand alone."

God's Truth

About the cheekiest thing on the political bill board now is plutocracy's demand that the United States shall protect their property in Mexico.

Do you know what that means? It means that the poor, duped young men who wear uniforms and are taught the Christian (?) art of civilized murder, are expected to invade a foreign country for the purpose of shooting down their fellow men to save the property of a set of commercial pirates, who, having robbed the creators of wealth here, have taken their ill-gotten gains and invested them where they can make still greater profits off the labor of workingmen.

The men who own this wealth could not be hired to fight for it themselves.

They are the cormorants who have robbed the workingmen in their own country.

They are cravens in their desire to exploit the wealth creators of another country.

They are cowards to ask other men to do the fighting which they ought to do themselves, if any is to be done. —(National Rip-Saw.)

DISTURBING THE PEACE?

"If you want to blow up somebody's troops go to some foreign country and blow their troops up," so said Judge Fredericks in sentencing W. N. Jones, he I. W. W., who was arrested on the charge of disturbing the peace.

Jones got \$25 or 25 days for making the remark that the working class is likely to blow train loads of troops to atoms when sent to shoot down the working class in times of labor troubles in the near future.

"Your remark is against law and order and government and I'll have to sentence you," said Judge Fredericks. Jones plead his own case and did not pay out a single cent to the lawyers and grafters.

The only peace that was proved that Jones disturbed was the peace of mind of the capitalists, which is a crime against their government and their law and order.

The court room was packed to the doors with Jones' followers, but he refused to allow his friends to pay his fine and chose to serve it out in jail, as paying fines encourages the fining business, and makes it profitable.

There is no such thing as peace nor will there be any until the capitalist system is overthrown and the workers take over capitalist production by direct action and revolution.

ALEX. T. WILSON.

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