

Regeneracion.

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These Peasants had
the Pluck to Act

"El Pais" is the great Roman Catholic Daily of Mexico; the organ of that church which always sides with authority, always upholds what are called "vested rights," and is itself one of the largest and most iniquitous of land monopolists. Great, therefore, must be the pressure of events that forces such a paper to give prominence to the article we now translate and reproduce. It is well worthy of perusal and confirms, in every line, the position taken by the Mexican Liberal Party when it adopted as its motto "Land and Liberty." Furthermore, it gives the lie direct to the ignorant "Appeal to Reason's" statement that "The Mexican Revolution is at an end," and to Eugene V. Debs' most cowardly and treacherous article in the "International Socialist Review."

Read the article, which is by Sr. Don Carlos Basave y del Castillo Negro, and is entitled "The Agrarian Aspect of the Revolution." The translation follows:

Revolutions prepare themselves slowly, and the more forcible the repression of their first manifestations—even though such manifestations may be promptly crushed—the more formidable their final explosions.

As for the revolution in which we find ourselves, which has completed its first stage with the overthrow of the Porfirian dictatorship, we should get from it whatever contributes to the nation's permanent benefit.

More change in the "personnel" of the government can produce only transient satisfaction; for the new elements are not trusted, however good their intentions may be and however great their ability to realize them.

If these new elements do not respond duly to the hopes to which they have given birth—hopes, no doubt, exaggerated but legitimate and urgent—their life will be short; for public opinion, which grows in importance daily and finally must be decisive, will withdraw its support.

No mere political aspiration caused the masses to interest themselves in the revolution. Looking beyond that the rural population saw that its final result would be the realization of an ambition always dear to its heart—that of becoming owners of the soil; recovering that of which it had been despoiled by powerful neighbors, able to cover up, more or less, their spoliation with legal formalities.

Wanting in precision though these aspirations may have been, even among those saturated with them, they have not been formulated by the movement's leaders. At this very hour none of them knows enough to take into account what actually has happened; still less to foresee what is about to happen, and happen quickly.

They seem to be convinced that it is a political revolution in which they have taken part; to think they have conquered, effectively and gloriously. Nevertheless, this is only an apparent and theoretical conviction. Their instinct urges them to bring their work to a conclusion; not to lay down their arms; not to suspend their activities; and, consequently, to disregard the peremptory orders of the very government they themselves have recognized.

Moreover, it is precisely in those States wherein the movement had its chief centers that the situation is most complicated.—In Chihuahua, Sonora, Durango, Guerrero, Morelos, Puebla.

There one may observe most clearly the aspiration to which I have referred, and cite concrete examples; for

on numerous estates the country folk have settled down, not merely as armed bands but as cultivators, appropriating to their own use the growing crops.

It has been found impossible to disperse them, and bargains of expediency are now being resorted to for the sake of keeping titles intact. The peasants are being recognized as renters, and in some cases as part owners.

Similarly other hacienda owners have resolved on a policy of selling portions of their estates in lots, being convinced that there will be no return of the days when their influence was decisive, even when contrary to equity and justice.

Understand clearly that I am not justifying a course of action, but establishing a fact; a vital fact that, in its final expression, is the brutal assault made by what is felt to be an imperious necessity, that must be satisfied, despite laws, despite rights and despite social conventions.

NOT THE RANK AND FILE

"But why are the socialists at war with the Mexican Revolutionists? Why did they attack the Revolution when Madero ascended to the seat of power? Why should socialists turn on the class whose cause they pretend to champion? There is but one answer to this question: They are opposed to revolution, especially in Mexico, for there is much evidence of a deal between them and Madero whereby the latter has promised them his support in return for their aid in the suppression of the revolution.

"This is not the work of the rank and file of the party. It has been engineered by the bourgeois bunch who handle the party's affairs. The better element among them will repudiate this dastardly betrayal of the working class. No socialist with a spark of manhood in him will swallow this sell-out to Madero. If there is a man in the party who will say, he wants the workers of Mexico held in slavery so that the socialist party may preach the class struggle to him, I want to hear from him.—(Jay Fox in "The Agitator.")

HELP! YELLS DE LA BARRA

San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 8.—Provisional Pres. de la Barra of Mexico has sent an urgent appeal to Jose Yves Limantour, at Paris, to return and take charge of the situation in Mexico, where conditions have passed beyond De la Barra's control, according to a cipher cablegram, a copy of which H. D. Bradford, a mining man, who is in this city, Tuesday, claims to have received.—(L. A. Record.)

SHOULD HAVE KNOWN BETTER

By a despatch that appeared in last Sunday's "Times," and by a private letter, this office was led into the belief that Jose Maria Rangel, one of our most esteemed leaders; Prisciliano and Ruben Silva, and others whose names were not ascertained, had been handed over to Mexican federal troops by the authorities of El Paso, without the formality of a trial. As this would have been an infamous breach of neutrality we immediately telegraphed Bob La Follette, Victor Berger (since Rangel was a member of the Socialist Party,) the Western Federation of Miners, Vincent St. John, secretary-treasurer of the I. W. W., and to the secretary of the Mexican Revolution Conference of New York, urging immediate protest and action. The following day private advices informed us that the comrades in question had been captured on Mexican soil, and that the El Paso authorities had been "blameless in the matter. We instantly telegraphed the correction to all those named above, with our apologies.

Rangel and his comrades were captured through a trick; having been decoyed into a conference at which, as represented, a number of Madero's followers were to unite with them. On appearing at the rendezvous they were fired on and Rangel was wounded seriously. It is, one supposes, part of the game of war; but the incident shows the depths to which certain of Madero's supporters will stoop in their determination to crush their one formidable enemy, the Mexican Liberal Party.

Meanwhile we apologize to the public for having shown such confidence in the veracity of a "Times" despatch, and particularly we tender our regrets to Senator La Follette, who lost not a moment in setting enquiries afoot.

Officers Under Arrest

Mexico City, Aug. 5.—(By leased wire to the L. A. Tribune.)—Yesterday warrants were signed for the arrest of more than 100 Maderist soldiers, including several generals and other officers in the recent revolution, because they signed a protest couched in seditious language against the acceptance of the resignation of Gomez from the cabinet.

Mexican Revolution Teaches
Valuable LessonsConditions in the United States Little
Better, but We Ignore Them.

How stands the Mexican situation? Thus. So far as pretense of aiding the workers is concerned the Madero myth is punctured; punctured for eternity. Madero as the Moses, opening up the way for labor organization; Madero as "The Liberator" and Socialist pathfinder is an exploded fake. He eats out of Wall Street's hand and joins forces with De la Barra and Reyes to put down the proletariat.

Meanwhile the Mexican Revolution is marching as the great French Revolution marched, but with the added wisdom a century of experience has produced. It is not talking much but it is acting, and acting to the point; retaking possession of its heritage, forcing the enemy more and more to terms, doing its own thinking and managing. It is evident that the Mexican peasant is far better armed and more capable of fighting than was his French brother a hundred years ago; which is a most important fact. It is also evident that capitalism lacks the repressive forces possessed by feudalism, a highly-disciplined body that had ruled Europe for a thousand years; which is a second most important fact. It is further evident that the dissolution of centralized authority is the workers' opportunity, which is a third and most important fact. These discoveries fill the disinherited with hope, and hope makes successful revolutions. So the conflagration spreads, fanned by a thousand winds.

Manhood cannot sleep for ever. Sooner or later Labor sees himself as the despised outcast he actually is; notes that he does the work and receives little but the kicks; casts his eye over the filth in which he lives and contrasts it with his masters' quarters; realizes that his sons fill the jails and his daughters the brothels; becomes disgusted with his surroundings and smashes right and left. That moment has come to Mexico and is coming rapidly to all the Latin race, which is generically impatient of slavery and enamored of the joy of living. It is certain, furthermore, that American plutocracy has no magic wand with which to stay the clock.

Plutocracy is far too cynically luxurious itself to shoulder arms. Its reliance—so far as brute force goes—is on mercenaries, on proletarians driven by the stern needs of their stomachs to the donning of its livery. On any clear-cut issue, when there is anything like a decent prospect of success, these hirelings will desert their masters. We have seen what Diaz really formidable-appearing army amounted to, and have had recent experience with the American troops despatched to guard the border. They either deserted or habitually shut their eyes to the stream of armed men that flowed constantly across the Rio Grande. That is another valuable fact, jotted down carefully for future reference.

A far more dangerous enemy is the politician, and especially the politician of the petty bourgeois type, for he is oratory incarnate and poisons the is oratory incarnate and poisons the entire movement with his muddy talk. To him mainly we owe all the windy conventions, that amount to nothing; all the flamboyant platforms, that amount to nothing; all the debasing compromises and stupid schemes, that amount to a great deal worse than nothing; all that inexpressible flabbiness which renders the United States labor movement the laughing stock of plutocracy, and the despair of sincere thinkers. For nothing comes of all these generations of talk. Thirty years ago I listened to just the sort

CASES AGAIN POSTPONED.

Hearing of the cases against the members of the Mexican Liberal Party Junta and Gens. Pryce and Mosby, Lafin and Reed was scheduled for August 7th, but was postponed once more, on motion of the prosecution, to August 21st, at 2:30 p. m.

The I. W. W. feels confident that the charges against Mosby, Reed and Lafin will be dismissed. It is hesitating greatly about taking part in the protest meeting to which it has been invited by the two Socialist parties; feeling that it has borne the burden single-handed up to this date, and that the meeting will be used—

of speeches you may hear today at any labor meeting; but my recollection is that the speeches were apt to be more pointed, and that the audiences were fully as large, much fresher and more enthusiastic. We have grown stale with talk.

This country is pillaged systematically by the largest and most voracious army of financial pirates the world has known. "Business is business" is their motto; a skull-and-crossbones motto that would have delighted Capt. Kidd. Their trail is to be seen in the highest rate of suicide on record; in what is, by far the highest rate of insanity on record; in ruined homes and broken, prematurely-shortened lives; in overflowing prisons, lengthening bread lines and all that goes to make the ruin of a nation. All these facts are admitted by every sociological student, and men of the Morgan-Rockefeller type—the money kings, steel kings, lumber kings, mining kings and all the piratical crew—are spoken of in common parlance as thieves and murderers. It is recognized that they sacrifice everything to the pursuit of the almighty dollar, which means that they have no regard for either human rights or human life. But when we meet in solemn session to consider the wholesale slaughter of our working men and women do we ever tackle the problem as it is? Do we act as we should act toward the petty thief who stole our spoons, or the colored gentleman who raided our chicken yard? Not at all. We dodge the issue; talk of what our party will accomplish a hundred years from date, and add an old-age pension plank, or some similar frivolity, to our preposterously over-weighted platform.

With no such impotent weapons as those can great emergencies be met and overcome. The emergency is great and it is growing continually greater. Another winter approaches and the army of the unemployed will be larger than it ever was—especially on this Pacific coast. Every jail is full and the land is over-run with ex-convicts who find it practically impossible to get work. Every one of these men has a stomach that must be filled—somehow; a body that must be sheltered—somehow; other physical wants that must be satisfied—somehow, and not by "charity." That only makes the matter incomparably worse, since it multiplies the parasites who feed on labor and, by smothering the righteous voice of discontent, encourages the plagues to pursue their piracy. Something drastic, truly radical, must be done and done immediately, or something immediately will break.

Across the border—in a country of which we know practically nothing and, therefore, naturally despise—something has already broken. Sick to death of crushing poverty and exploitation an entire nation has broken into action; has realized the necessity of fighting for its life. It is taking back the national treasure from those who stole it; is giving the world notice that it proposes to hold for its own use the land it cultivates; has sent to the right-about the old tyrant whom Taft and Roosevelt hailed as the leading statesman of the age; has risen from its knees and begins to live, throwing out of gear the whole slavish treadmill to which apparently we ourselves have grown so accustomed that it has become our second nature. Could anything be more shocking to our conservatism? Naturally the official head of our one supposedly revolutionary party gasps "Bandits!" and its papers boycott us.

as others in the past have been—for political purposes.

All members of the I. W. W. who took part with Mosby in the battle of Alamo are requested to call at, or communicate with I. W. W. headquarters, southeast corner Sixth and Crocker.

DON'T FORGET THEIR PIONEER.

The I. W. W. will hold a picnic tomorrow, Sunday, Aug. 13, at Eucalyptus Grove. Take Edendale car at Sixth street depot. Fare 5 cents. Admission free, and a good time promised.

"Please Play in Our
Backyard," says
Sarabia"Let Us Form Another
Party to Watch the
Wicked Legislator"

From our excellent friend, Theodore Schroeder comes "The New York Call," of August 2, with "An open letter from Juan Sarabia to Ricardo Flores Magon." Unfortunately it is too long for reproduction as a whole, but we have read it with the utmost care and can give its gist with strict impartiality. It is important because it is practically the plea of Debs and of a number of Socialist leaders—a plea that we of "Regeneracion" regard as sophistry of the most deadly type. Furthermore it raises issues of facts as to which we are at absolute variance, and we believe that what Juan Sarabia alleges as a truth is actually a lie. Here is a passage that fairly represents Sarabia and will show exactly what we mean:

"The whole nation, satisfied with the political liberties obtained, is all against you, and begins—although this is not just—to hate, as a general rule, and to consider you as insensate who rebel against the general longing. The patriotic sentiments of our people, which are still uncontrolled and show very little logic, look with great disgust to the large number of foreigners in Lower California, and this adds to the already bad feeling they have against you."

First, it may be said, and said without the wish to flatter him, that Magon is the type of man who will espouse what he believes to be the right, regardless of popularity or unpopularity. Secondly, it may be said that we consider the evidence overwhelming that the nation is NOT "satisfied with the political liberties obtained," and we submit that every issue of this paper proves it. Mexico today, so far from being satisfied, is a seething sea of violent economic revolution; mechanics striking, peasants taking possession of the land, politicians quarrelling furiously and Madero denounced on every hand. Read the excellently balanced article with which this issue of the English section opens if you want to be convinced of the error of Juan Sarabia's statement.

The letter is largely in praise of Madero, who is described as dignifying the party that he heads, and Sarabia lays great stress on the alleged fact that Madero is popular, as may be seen from the following quotation: "If Madero was not actually popular, how could he still be the head of the revolutionary movement? How could he command obedience from all the revolutionists in the Republic? How could he come to this capital in triumph, where he was received with open arms, not by the official element but by the whole people?" As to which we answer that the temporary popularity of Madero, following the fall of Diaz, argues nothing; and that, anyhow, the question is not whether Madero is popular but whether Madero is straight; whether he intends to help the people to acquire the bread and butter relief they expected from the revolution. On this head we say that Madero is a fraud; that we have shown, by the best documentary proof, that he was hand in glove with Wall Street from the first; that we have shown from his own speeches that his aims are solely political, and that, economically, he is one of Mexico's landed grandees, so far from proposing to abolish that landed monopoly which is the curse of Mexico, as it is of every country, counsels the starving peasant to the practice of truancy. We have not indulged in unsupported abuse of Madero. We have quoted chapter and verse at every point to prove our charges.

Follow Debs' Lead
Sarabia pleads with Magon to call off the slaughter—as if Magon could do it if he would!—and announces his belief (after the manner of the one-time revolutionary Debs) in the "constant" and indefinite advance, relatively slow, of humanity." Here we quote him at some length and bespeak a careful reading of the passage, as being most remarkable. He says:

"I believe that in order to bring some good to our country we shall adapt ourselves to the conditions created by the triumphant revolution, and within the relative liberties that we now enjoy, under a democratic regime, constitute with the elements we used under worse circumstances, which are the best elements of the nation an advanced and sane party,

which could very well be the Socialist party, that should watch the acts of the government, that would use the influence of its members with government positions or as private citizens, to better effectively the poor and exploited classes, and which would be an important factor for progress in our social evolution and a great force in our political medium because it has high ideals, honest views and unselfish adherents."

We say that is a remarkable passage; remarkable because it is printed in what professes to be the leading revolutionary Socialist daily organ of America, and because it is well known that the Sarabias have been hand in glove with the leaders of the Socialist party, for some of whose papers Manuel Sarabia, from whose translation of his brother's letter we are quoting, has been a most diligent correspondent. What do you think of the passage? How can you make it gibe with that Socialism which teaches that, always and everywhere, the economic question is the crux of the situation? What do you suppose Marx and Engels, who wrote the adored "Communist Manifesto," would have said of such a doctrine? Why, they would have scolded it without mercy and with an eloquence we cannot hope to command.

Words, Words and Words
Sarabia is not preaching the gospel of the revolutionist but of the reformer of the mildest and most innocuous type; yes, of the most absolutely barren type. He does not propose that the people should be encouraged and aided in getting possession of their own, but that the government and "members with government positions" should be "watched." While reading such propositions one fancies oneself at the meeting of some civic improvement club, and realizes that Sarabia and Ricardo Magon are as far apart as the most bigoted free thinker and the most bigoted Roman Catholic possibly could be.

What the individual Sarabia may or may not think is not of much importance; but it is of the very greatest importance to ascertain, beyond all question, whether such views (which seem, for example, to be those of Debs) represent the present sentiments of what was once the revolutionary Socialist Party. To get a clear answer to that query is the duty of every living Socialist.

WRITES OPEN LETTER

TO EUGENE V. DEBS

Dear Sir:

I have been reading your article, "The Crisis in Mexico," in the "International Socialist Review," wherein you disagree with Magon and others for using "direct action."

You say the people must be organized, educated and so on, in order to gain their rights. It is just because they are not educated that they are not competent to vote; but they are educated enough to know that nothing will ever be accomplished by charlatan politicians. As long as these are elected to authority they will deceive the people, as the Socialists have done in France.

Furthermore, what will the people gain by the election of a Socialist government? Will these men produce any of life's necessities? Then, will they not live at the expense of the people, as under the present system?

Again you say: "What would the masses, in their present ignorant and unorganized state, do with them—the land, factories, railroads, etc.—after having obtained them?" What would they do, indeed? What have they been doing? What have they done for centuries? Who works these things—the workers or the so-called owners? Would the workers starve and perish after creating their own production? So, how can you ask, Mr. Eugene Debs, "What would they do with them?"

You state also that the capitalists will protect their property with American soldiers. They surely will if the slaves of this country—especially the Socialists—keep dumb from fear, because "direct action" is being used, thus leaving to be crushed the only way of obtaining human rights.

Do not the Socialists' principles teach that the people are the "law of earth" and the real power on earth? Then why do you describe the people as so humble and cowardly, and capitalism as the monstrous power that can crush the people's movement at will?

You write that "the overthrow of Diaz will mean at least the right to organize the working class." The right to organize, and free press and free speech, are all a mockery. Free press! When "Regeneracion" is not allowed in that country! Free speech! When men are imprisoned for speaking against Madero! The Mexican race would perish of hunger if it waited to gain its liberties by political action.

LUCILLE NORMAN.

Strikes and Peon
Uprisings still on
the IncreaseRevolutionary Govern-
ment Finds Itself Im-
paled on Horns
of Dilemma

Strikes, peasant uprisings and collisions between rebel and governmental forces occupy some six columns of the Spanish portion of this week's issue. The accounts have been taken almost exclusively from such conservative papers as "El Pais," "El Diario," "El Tiempo" and "El Imparcial," and have been condensed as much as possible, the editors making practically no comment of their own. Our own limited space permits only an occasional selection.

Telegrams to "El Tiempo" from the State of Michoacan declare the situation grave, as the Indians are taking possession of the land; and "El Pais" says that State and Guerrero are in a condition of anarchy, ex-Maderist leaders doing exactly as they please, occupying estates and levying on towns at will. Similar accounts of seizures of landed estates come from other quarters; notably from the State of Morelos.

In the State of Hidalgo the workers at the Santa Gertrudis and San Guillermo mines went on strike. Maderist forces were sent to suppress them, but the miners, being well armed, promptly marched against them and, after an encounter in which many were killed and wounded, put them to flight. The strike is expected to spread to all mines within the borders of the State. "El Imparcial" remarks that there is much discontent among the Maderists, and that an uprising may take place at any minute.

At El Oro the workers in the Esperanza mine went on strike and ran up the red flag. Troops were sent against them and a fierce fight ensued, the number of dead being given as fourteen and of wounded as forty. Here again the strike is reported as spreading, it being expected that from 7,000 to 10,000 will be involved. The accounts—taken from "El Pais," "El Diario" and "El Imparcial" say that many of the miners are without arms or ammunition, and add that soldiers and machine guns have been sent to the scene of action. The miners have issued a manifesto in which they say: "The time for rhetoric, fine words, magnificent theories and LITTLE BREAD has passed." The public appears to be in sympathy with these rebellious miners, who were joined by the workers from another mine known as "Mexico." Having got the better of the troops the miners sacked the stores, seizing all the arms and ammunition available. They are said to have a quantity of dynamite, taken from the mines.

"El Diario" reports an active reorganization on the part of rebels in Lower California, saying numerous bands have made their appearance in the neighborhood of Alamo and Ensenada. It adds: "Another band, composed of some 170 Magonist, is marching South and is now near the Calmali mine."

Much guerrilla activity is reported and we note particularly the account of a serious uprising in the State of Jalisco, under the leadership of the Maderists Jose Martinez and Bruno, who are said to be at the head of some six hundred men.

In our judgment a better bird's-eye view of the general situation is obtained from the comments of the best periodicals than from a dry recital of the long list of outbreaks. Such an extract as that given in column 1 throws a flood of light on conditions as they actually are, and accordingly we close this column with a quotation from "El Imparcial," of August 6, dealing with the El Oro strike, previously mentioned. It runs as follows:

"We must fix in our minds the fact that the revolution, in order to win popularity, made the people promises of an essentially Socialistic character, and that fulfillment of many of those promises will play havoc with the existing order and with vested interests. Is the revolution to go back on those promises? If so it will lose its popularity and hold upon the masses, who will say, and rightly, that they have been deceived. Is it to fulfill those promises? If so the El Oro uprising will be but the preliminary to other, less more sad and terrible. That is the dilemma that confronts the revolution."

Meanwhile it may not be amiss to recall the words of the miners' manifesto—"The time for rhetoric, fine words, magnificent theories and LITTLE BREAD has passed."