Regeneracion.

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Intervention And The Panama Canal

Less than sixty years ago Egypt did not owe a penny and belonged to the Egyptians. Today she is up to her ears in debt, and is, to all intents and purposes, part of the British Empire. As the "Los Angeles Daily Times" correctly says: "England is happy because Lord Kitchener reports extraordinary crops this year from Egypt. It must make the Egyptians very happy to think what a fine navy this extra money will support, especially as England now wants to build more ships for the domination of other Egypts." Naturally, since Egypt is a good many thousand miles away, the "Times" can moralize safely over its reduction to slavery. To take as its example near-by Mexico, or those vast districts of the United States now in the clutches of the money power, would be to trench on dangerous ground.

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Egypt was free from debt, and therefore nationally free, up to 1852; at which date her Khedive granted concessions for the Suez canal. Then began the era of financial entanglements, and, as said before, Egypt has passed into the possession of an alien race. So it is today largely in Mexico, and so it is altogether in Panama, of which a distinguished author wrote recently: "After all, the advertised independence of Panama is only a phrase. The Isthmus is now as nearly American as Cuba is, and will soon be as thoroughly American as Hawaii is." The story carries us into the realms of modern high finance and high diplomacy; shows us the machine at work, and throws a lurid light on what has been going on in Mexico.

Nearly nine years ago there was—they said—a revolution in Panama, which had thrown off its allegiance to the Colombia federation. The well attested fact is that the alleged revolution was confined to the two cities of Panama and Colon, which happen, most conveniently, to be situated at the two entrances to the canal. Colombia sent a force which would have put down the revolution easily, but a United States cruiser, the Dixie, barred the way. Within three days the independence of Panama was recognized by the United States; $10,000,000 was divided among the Panama crowd; $40,000,000 was handed over to Morgan for distribution among the shareholders of the old canal company, among whom the Harriman gang was prominent. Panama became, what it virtually is today, a portion of the United States.

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We are a very busy people, and the papers ring the changes so assiduously that we can master nothing. Nevertheless there was an outcry, among the judicious few; the few to whom attention would be paid if, as a nation, we were anxious for the truth. In leading periodicals they started an investigation, and they unearthed most awkward facts. They showed that shipments of arms to Panama had been concealed; they showed that the destination of the Dixie had been misrepresented; they showed that never before had we acknowledged the independence of rebels in so ridiculously short a time we who threatened war on any European power that should recognize the Southern States, after they had been carrying on their fight for years! In particular they dug up a letter from President Roosevelt to the editor of the "Review of Reviews," which ran, in part: "Privately, I freely say to you that I should be delighted if Panama were an independent State, or if it made itself so at this moment; but for me to say so publicly would amount to an instigation of a revolt, and therefore I cannot say it." That letter was written twenty-five days before the outbreak of the so-called revolution. Does any one believe Roosevelt was ignorant of what was coming?

* * *

There was further scandal. It is obvious that Congress, which alone has power to acknowledge a new nation as having come into existence, could not have acted within three days, and the fact was that Roosevelt had been guilty of the grossest usurpation, having done the whole thing single-handed. When called to account he answered, as all usurpers have answered from time immemorial, that "the interests of civilization, quite as much as our national interests," justified his course. He subsequently boasted that he had acted and left Congress to debate; adding contemptuously that it was still debating while the ditch was being dug. That tickled a public which imagines itself practical and howls incessantly for action, no matter how ruinous it may prove. The ruin I now describe.

* * *

We are not, or were not until recently, a military nation. We are a nation that likes to think in the lump and to which big things appeal. Our first understanding of the Panama canal was, beyond all question, that we were about to carry to completion an enterprise that would cut distance in two and benefit the world. That the shipping of every country would pass through it on equal terms was certainly the general idea. But it was by no means the idea of the "Interests," and the first rift in the lute came when it was suggested that the canal be fortified. Fortifications do not suggest universal brotherhood, and the suggestion was a shock. I may here remark that fortifications mean *the presence of an army to protect* them; that Gen. Wood names 7,000 as the figure for the residential garrison, and that James A. Tawney, chairman of the Congressional committee on appropriations, announced last year that the annual maintenance cost of the canal would be $36,000,000, while the highest estimate of annual receipts did not exceed $4,000,000.

* * *

Clearly the canal cannot be made to pay directly, but it is hoped it may do so indirectly, by building up our prostrate merchant navy. Most economists attribute the prostration to our protective tariff, but for years past the "Shipping Trust" has been proposing to revive the invalid by taxing the public for its welfare. The public, being suspicious of the Steel Trust, Carnegie, Schwab, and the rest of these millionaire philanthropists, has not bitten, but the Trust is not easily discouraged. There are more ways of killing a cat than drowning it, and what could not be worked openly is now to be reached under cover of the Panama canal. Our American ships are to be given special privileges in the matter of tolls; the industry is to be put once more upon its legs, and all is to be merry as a marriage bell.

* * *

Unfortunately there are treaties in the way; for the canal, being obviously an undertaking that concerned the world, immediately became the subject of international agreement. That with Great Britain is known as the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, is dated 1902, and provides specifically that the shipping of every country shall pass through the canal on absolutely equal terms. The language is so clear that it seems impossible to evade it; but where there is a will it is always possible to find a way. We own Panama, and it is held that such ownership now justifies us in what originally we never dreamed of doing. As the "Times" put it, in its editorial of July 27: "We acquired the canal zone in Panama. It is ours absolutely. Our land and our harbors. The canal is our property, built with $400,000,000 of our money. With the absolute acquisition of the ten-miles strip, the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, made when the canal strip belonged to the Republic of Panama, became under the law of nations functus officio."

* * *

Now do you understand what Big Business was doing nine years ago, when it fomented the Panama sputter? Now do you understand what that eminent friend of the people, Theodore Roosevelt, was doing when he usurped authority that belonged to Congress? Do you understand the shamelessness of the transaction, and of the "Times'" additional remark that the canal zone is "a part of the United States as much as Porto Rico or the Philippines or Alaska?" When we went into the Philippines and Cuba, only some twelve years ago, it was with acclaims, trumpeted to all the world, that we were about to confer on them that self-government of which Spain had robbed them. Today they are governed absolutely from Washington, and the Philippines, in particular, have become an asset of the Republican party and were used as such by Taft and Roosevelt to steal from the Democrats the Roman Catholic vote. Forty-six per cent of their total product is what the Filipinos pay for the priyilege of being governed; and one doubts if even Rome, in her decay, wrung from her provinces such frightful tribute.

* * *

According to the latest estimate this country is now afflicted with no less than eighteen thousand millionaires, many of whom number their millions by the score. Side by side with an enormous proletariat we have a still more enormous "leisure" class; which never has done, never does, and never intends to do productive work. It feeds most delicately, dresses most sumptuously and spends money all round with a lavish hand. That money has to come from somewhere, and it is coming more and more, as the wealth of England has been coming, from the conquest of new provinces, whose virgin wealth is extracted for the luxury of the alien by the unremitting and miserably-paid labor of the native. Under the gnidance of our eighteen thousand millionaires we are becoming the octopus of nations, and our tentacles are being thrust into every nook and corner of the universe from which it is possible to extract a cent.

* * *

We own the Panama canal and Panama, as we own the Philippines, Hawaii, Porto Rico, Cuba. We shall fortify the canal, and transform what might have been the world's greatest instrument for peace into a constant threat of war. We shall make it a national possession, and thereby once more block the road to that world-brotherhood of which steam and electricity were harbingers. We have our eyes set on an empire that shall stretch, at least, from the Canadian border to Cape Horn; already we have established our frontier at Panama, but between that and the Rio Grande there still stretches a gap, an irritating gap, and it prevents us from rounding out our holdings. That gap is Mexico, and we shall try to fill it. What is there to stop us? Our consciences?

WM. C. OWEN.

Follow the line of least resistance, as the Socialists tell you. Climbing is hard work; it is far easier to slide. Join the procession; scramble into the band wagon; don't handicap yourself with principles, but boost—no matter what.

The price of cloth goods is to advance twenty per cent; for they tell us that at Lawrence and elsewhere labor has grown dearer. In Los Angeles all the laundries have advanced their charges since the eight-hour law. Long live palliatives!

Rebels Mean To Get Arms, Whatever It May Cost

When American and other plutocrats bought Mexican land by the hundreds of square miles did they ask what right the vendors had to sell it? Did they ask how it was that a few were able to dispose of principalities? Of course they did not. They took their alleged titles knowing them to be absolutely rotten. They knowingly made themselves partners in one of the most gigantic crimes on record. By every principle of justice they should be punished. Most certainly they should not be upheld by American bayonets.

Salazar, who is now described as being the real head of the Orozco army, has been making a speech at Pearson, in the course of which he said: "Mexico is no place for American workingmen, to begin with, and if they have failed in making the American government what it should be in the eyes of the workingmen, how much greater will be their failure in helping bring about an ideal government in Mexico. Foreigners are in Mexico to exploit it and its great resources for their own benefit, and not for the benefit of Mexico, and the sooner that exploitation is stopped the better. Look, Mexicans, at the hovels you live in, then look how your American bosses live in affluence. The President of the United States bows to the wishes of the weak Madero in all matters tending to oppress the Mexican people."

Apparently that speech has created a sensation, but the question is whether it expresses truth. In our opinion it does, stating facts of which the last twenty-five years have given conclusive proof. Foreign capital has gone to Mexico solely to exploit it; to gather into its clutches the virgin resources of a country singularly rich; to work those resources with the pauper labor put at its disposition by the very fact that the people's inheritance had been stolen from them. Hence the Mexican Revolution; a mirror in which the world may see that slavery to monopoly against which everywhere it is rising in revolt.

What It Really Means.

From the first the Mexican Revolution has been an economic revolution; the revolution of starving masses, who wanted to get back their means of livelihood and cared nothing about electing lawyers or landowners to office. It was so by the necessity of the existing situation, and it was so by the necessity of Mexico's own history for nearly a century past. In proof we cite no less an authority than the Encyclopedia Britannica—cold, scientific, able and universally acknowledged as impartial. Treating of the period from 1820 to the recent date at which its article on Mexico was written, that greatest of all authorities says:

"Thenceforward till the second election of Porfirio Diaz to the presidency, in 1884, the history of Mexico is one of almost continuous warfare, in which Maximilian's empire is a mere episode. The conflicts, which may at first sight seem to be merely between rival generals, are seen, upon closer inspection, to be mainly (1) between the privileged classes, i. e. the church and (at times) the army, and the mass of the other civilized population; (2) between Centralists and Federalists, the former being identical with the army, the church and the supporters of despotism, while the latter represent the desire for representation and local self-government."

That was written before the Diaz myth was exploded, and the writer chronicled the fact that Diaz apparently had brought a period of peace. In its elemental facts, however, it is profoundly true, inasmuch as Mexico has been in almost continuous revolution for nearly a century against "the privileged classes." In the past it appeared to Mexicans, as it appeared to our fathers, that the privileged classes were the church, the army, the centralized government. Diaz swung it into line with modern thought and taught it that beneath all these is the power of the purse, buying authority, grabbing possession and constituting the very quintessence of that "special privilege" against which the whole spirit of Mexico has been in revolt for nearly a hundred years. The present revolution could no more help being economic than a bird can help the instinct that bids it fly.

Ready to Cross.

If the papers are to be believed, at this moment—July 31—the United States troops are ready to cross the line and the Texas militia has cannon loaded on a special train, awaiting orders. One reads that "American officers do not hesitate to say that they would not be afraid to go into Mexico with what troops they now have at El Paso." Doubtless not, for near the line they are scarcely likely to encounter much resistance. But that is not what war with Mexico will mean, and such a step will be, in itself, an act of war, from which, once started, the United States will not be able to recede. War with Mexico will mean years of guerrilla fighting in a country that will present the greatest difficulties. This "Regeneración" has tried its best to explain, faithfully and truly, drawing on the most reliable authorities.

War with Mexico will mean not only bitter feeling between the Anglo-Saxon and the Latin breeds, but a constantly growing doubt as to whether we are not being used as the catspaw of plutocracy. Another festering wound will grow more and more inflamed, as has that caused by the conquest of the Philippines and Cuba. For, that conquest Americans by the tens of thousands volunteered their services. If a war with Spain broke out again today they would not.

Orozco's army is breaking up into guerrilla bands—the most formidable foes a government can face. He protests loudly that owing to United States discrimination he has been prevented from getting arms, although no obstacle was placed in Madero's way when he was at war with Diaz. Accordingly he is retaliating by disarming foreigners, but he assures the public that, beyond that, they will not be molested. Nevertheless there are so many thousand Mexicans who must get food and the other necessaries of life out of a country largely occupied by these foreigners who are now disarmed. In a word, it is feared that the spoiling of the foreigners, which hitherto has been mainly indirect—through the cessation of work, inability to collect rents, and so forth—may now become direct. Obviously the situation grows acute.

What Orozco Says.

Orozco issued a signed statement at Juarez, July 29 which ran in part: "If President Madero is able to protect Americans there is no need for them to have arms. We need arms badly and will take them from foreigners and Mexicans alike. If the United States wants protection for Americans in Mexico let it recognize the rebel cause, give me the right to bring in what ammunition I need, and I will protect all foreigners. The present situation has been brought on by President Taft, who has done all he could to aid Madero and crush the revolution, but the revolution will win, despite American unfairness."

Under date of Aug. 1 the "Los Angeles Daily Times" reported him as saying that he "could not extend further guarantees to Americans," his closing words being: "The Americans must now look out for themselves."

July 30 Secretary Knox officially informed Orozco that "attacks on Americans and their property must stop, or the United States would have to take preventive measures." A similar notice was served on Madero.

Reports from El Paso indicate that 2500 refugees, mainly Mormons, will have to be fed, and the U. S. War Department has telegraphed $3,000 for that purpose. The Mormon colonies in the Casas Grandes district, are estimated as having a population of about 4000, and they value their property at some $8,000,000. The Japanese have submitted a claim for $80,000, on account of losses sustained near Madera.

Report had it that the federals, under Gen. Sanjines, had been defeated at Ojitos, west of Casas Grandes, but latest information points to the rebels having been repulsed, with a loss of fifty dead. Success would have cleared the entrance to Sonora.

LIMON ACQUITTED.

Proceedings for the extradition to Mexico of Quirino Limon, accused of having murdered Jose Rios at Mexicali, were squashed Tuesday, July 30, by Commissioner Van Dyke, who held that the killing had been in self-defence. Willedd Andrews appeared for the defendant, and the result is the more gratifying as, owing to lack of funds, we had been unable to send for witnesses. As it was, the testimony showed that Limon was in command at Mexicali during a time of war; that it was his duty to preserve the peace; that in performance of that duty he ordered the arrest of the deceased, who was drunk and threatening trouble; that deceased thereupon drew a knife and stabbed Limon three times, after which the latter shot.

Limon was a witness for the defence in the recent Junta trial, and was arrested in the corridors of the federal building, while attending as such. We have in our possession a written statement to the effect that he was approached by one of the Mexican witnesses for the prosecution, who assured him that he could make money and procure immunity by testifying against the Junta. Limon preferred the honest and manly course, as did Jack Mosby. His acquittal, therefore, gives more than ordinary satisfaction.

These and similar trials attract little attention, but the fact is that in every one of them life is at stake, since extradition means certain death.

TO IMPERIALISM—DEATH.

Manuel Ugarte, the Argentine Republic's greatest novelist and poet, has begun a series of lectures at Columbia University, New York City. With that frankness which distinguishes the Latins, and forms so pleasing a contrast to the timid generalities so dear to our own publicists, he denounced the Nicaraguan loan as the "most monstrous and the most shocking negotiation that has ever been attempted in the world," and declared that the Panama canal "rests upon a base of disloyalty." His lecture continued:

"The mere fact that I am saying these things here in New York City indicates that I have confidence and faith in the fundamental honor of this admirable nation, which is doubtless ignorant of the use that is being made of its strength in neighboring territory, and is unaware that the most acrid antipathy is being reared against it in the rest of the new world. A journey I have just made through all Latin-America convinces me that the blind restlessness and disquietude that besets our people is organizing and crystallizing into an alert and vigorous movement of protest against the imperialism of the United States."

"Uncle Sam," says the "S. F. Call," is more than the policeman for Cuba; he is the family physician." One remarks that the patient is pretty far gone when he is no longer able to select his physician and has to take whatever he is told to take.

You cannot approach the social problem without stumbling across the boulder of land monopoly. You cannot take one step toward solving it until you have dug away, and blasted, and somehow or other, removed that boulder.

Mexico's Struggle As the Magons Know It

(By Enrique Flores Magon.)
(Continued.)

Enrique Magon's manuscript, interrupted by his removal to the United States penitentiary at McNeil Island, Washington, breaks off at the moment when he was beginning to describe the arrest of his brother, of Rivera and of A. L. Villareal, in Los Angeles, August 23, 1907. A full account of that event is given by John Kenneth Turner, in his "Barbarous Mexico," and respecting the arrest itself the author writes:

"Early in August, 1907, the hiding-place of the Liberal leaders in Los Angeles was located. The evidence seems to point to a plot to kidnap them, much as Sarabia was kidnaped. First, the officers had plenty of time in which to procure a warrant, but they did not procure a warrant nor even attempt to do so. Second, they secreted an automobile in the vicinity and did not use it after the arrest. Third, when the three men, fearing a kidnaping plot, cried out at the top of their voices, the officers beat them with pistols most brutally, Magon being beaten until he lay bleeding and insensible on the ground. This circumstantial evidence of a kidnaping plot is borne out by the direct testimony of one of the hirelings of the Mexican consul at that time, who has since confessed that there was such a plot and that the Mexican consul was the man who hatched it." Mr. Turner adds that the mob which quickly collected frustrated all such attempts, and that when the officers took their prisoners to jail the only charge entered was that of "resisting an officer."

It is further pointed out in "Barbarous Mexico" that Ambassador Creel had come all the way from Washington to Los Angeles, where he had been banqueted the evening before by Mexican concessionaires, and that several of the most noted lawyers in Southern California were retained for the prosecution. They were former Governor Henry T. Gage, Gray, Barker and Bowen, partners of U. S. Senator Flint, and Horace Appel. The officers who made the arrest were Thomas H. Furlong, head of the Furlong Detective Agency of St. Louis, another Furlong detective, and Los Angeles City Detectives Talamantes and Rico. For months previous to the arrest of Magon and his associates a card offering $20,000 for their apprehension had been in circulation, and, according to a Los Angeles newspaper, Furlong boasted that he had been after Magon and his supporters for the past three years, and had succeeded in turning over to the Mexican government no less than 180 rebels. He was quoted as saying: "All we want is to get the defendants down into Arizona, and then we will see that they get across the line." It may be added that U. S. Attorney General Bonaparte telegraphed to his district attorney in Los Angeles: "Resist habeas corpus proceedings in case of Magon et al., on all grounds, as they are wanted in Mexico." The telegram was read in court. It is needless to remark that if the prisoners had been taken across the line they would have been shot.

Four Charges Dismissed.

Mass meetings were held, Attorneys Job Harriman and A. R. Holston were engaged and four different charges—resisting an officer, murder and robbery, criminal robbery, and murder of "John Doe"—were dismissed. The defendants were held "incomunicado" in the Los Angeles county jail, bail being placed originally at $5000, and subsequently refused entirely. They were finally adjudged guilty of conspiring to violate the neutrality laws by attempting to set on foot a military expedition against the government then existing in Mexico, and were sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, which they served, first in the penitentiary at Yuma, Arizona, and then at Florence, Arizona. Including their term in the county jail they were in confinement nearly three years. Concerning the conviction "Barbarous Mexico" remarks:

"Their conviction was secured through the palpably perjured testimony of a Mexican detective named Vasquez, who presented the only direct evidence against them. Vasquez claimed to be a spy who had penetrated a meeting of a Liberal club. There, he declared, letters were read from Magon ordering the club to constitute itself as a military body and invade Mexico. At this meeting, said Vasquez, military appointments, forwarded by Magon, were made. The names, said he, were written by a member named Salcido. The paper was produced but handwriting experts brought by the defense proved the document to be a forgery. Vasquez then changed his testimony and swore that he wrote the names himself. This was a vital point in the testimony and had the prosecutors been interested in upholding the law, rather than in persecuting the political enemies of Diaz, they would have discharged the defendants and prosecuted Vasquez for perjury."

In August, 1910, the prisoners regained their liberty and returned immediately to Los Angeles, where, August 7, they were greeted with a magnificent mass meeting, under the auspices of the Socialist Party, at which $414.00 was collected. "Regeneracion" made its appearance once more, September 3, 1910, under the editorship of Alselmo L. Figueroa, with Ricardo Flores Magon, Enrique Flores Magon, and, for a time, Gutierrez de Lara and A. L. Villareal on the editorial staff. Its tone was, if possible, more frankly revolutionary than ever, but it continued to receive the support of Socialists, and the labor organizations under their influence, until the ever-growing quarrel with Madero came finally to a head, with the issue of Feb. 25, 1911.

Madero Repudiated.

The coming storm had been foretold by Alfred Sanftleben's retirement, in December, 1910, from editorship of the English section; a retirement brought about by an article in which he declared that "the Mexican Liberal Party joins hands with the middle class revolutionists." A month before, Ricardo Flores Magon had written that Madero's "ideals are not those of the proletariat; his ideals are those of the rich, of the intellectuals and of the clergy." The position assumed by Mr. Sanftleben, therefore, met with grave disapprobation, and, Dec. 31, 1910, Mrs. Ethel Turner, wife of the author of "Barbarous Mexico," succeeded him, holding the position until April 15, at which date the present editor of the English section took charge. Mr. Turner himself sided largely with Madero, and the Junta was of the opinion that the "direct action" policy it advocated could not be urged with proper force save by some one in full sympathy with its general policies.

Two months later, Feb. 25, 1911, the Junta took its final and most decisive stand, denouncing Madero in a long article, signed by Ricardo Flores Magon, which gave explicit reasons for the loss of confidence expressed. In my personal opinion events have more than justified that article; but, be that as it may, it led to a re-alignment of forces the significance of which, as I believe, we are only just beginning to appreciate. For these reasons I postpone its further consideration until next week, when I expect to bring this memoir to a close.

(To be continued.)

IS NOT THIS SHAMEFUL?

"La Justicia Social" is the official organ of the Socialist Labor Party, (Partido Socialista Obrero, Federacion Catalana,) of Spain. It is a weekly, and on the front page of its issue of July 13 it plays up an article in which A. Fabra Ribas advises Socialists to have nothing whatever to do with the Mexican Revolution. The article is headed: "La Guerra Civil en Mejico; una lucha insensata," which, translated literally into English, means: "The civil war in Mexico; a senseless struggle."

After a bitter attack on Ricardo Flores Magon, Mr. Ribas continues smoothly: "Not wishing to accuse any one in particular, I prefer to accept the thesis sustained in 'The International Socialist Review,' of Chicago, by Wm. C. Owen. This comrade, who edits the English page of the periodical 'Regeneracion,' organ of the Magonistas, writes in the May number of the said review: 'La revolucion mejicana no me ha paracido nunca una lucha en la cual pueda intervenir el movimiento revolucionario internacional" (the Mexican revolution never has appeared to me to be a struggle in which the international revolutionary movement can intervene.)

That seems to me very shameful, for my entire article was devoted to explaining that the Mexican Revolution is a struggle to attain economic freedom, and, therefore, one on which all who champion the cause of the disinherited should unite. The sentence quoted is from the closing paragraph, and, while Mr. Ribas makes me say that the Mexican Revolution is not a "struggle in which the international revolutionary movement can intervene," what I actually wrote was this:

"The Mexican Revolution never presented itself to my mind as a subject on which the various camps of the international revolutionary movement should take sides, and never have I myself felt called on to indorse the particular economic creed of the Magons, or other Mexican agitators. From the first I have regarded it as a struggle by many millions of the disinherited to win back their heritage; as a battle for the right to live. In the hope of assisting that battle, if only to an infinitesimal extent, I have written this article."

I have given the whole paragraph that readers may see how deliberate was the distortion, and how impossible it was for any one of good faith, and with even the most rudimentary knowledge of English, to translate as Mr. Ribas has translated. My whole argument was that the Mexican proletariat is voicing elemental human needs, and that we should not allow "isms" to keep us from lending our support. I was trying to show that the Socialists should stand by the Mexican proletariat, instead of knifing them because the Anarchists have espoused their cause.

GRAFT BY THE BILLION.

In a single generation the spreading of new population over new lands has taken wealth from labor, and has given bonuses to landlords and tenants, by thousands of millions of dollars. Small gains and great ones were to be secured by the mere ability to grab a desirable location upon free soil, squat upon it, and wait to discover if the progress of the country would make improvements profitable, and, by getting there first, be able to prevent all such progress unless most of the profit be given up to secure land upon which to make improvements. Consider the effect upon the general character of our people in thus awarding prizes that aggregate billions of dollars to men who are first to interfere with progress, and who are first to promote the unequal distribution of wealth. (Henry Rawie, in "Wages and the Price of Land.")

In "The Toiler," under the head of labor news from Germany, we read that "the Syndicalists in this country are preparing to make a general house cleaning of the politicians in all the unions." Perhaps some day a similar work will be started in this country. It will be work all right.

You can assist greatly by sending us the names and addresses of those to whom it may be worth while to mail sample papers and other propaganda matter.

THEN AND NOW

PAST AND PRESENT OF MEXICO SKETCHED

(By Aristide Pratelle)
(Continued.)

Diaz fell; but, as could have been easily foreseen, the privileges enjoyed by the rich in connection with the land and production could not disappear with him. Neither De Barra, nor Madero, nor any one else who might be put in Diaz' place, could settle the economic question. At the beginning of the Maderist revolution, Francisco I. Madero, in a solemn discourse, promised adhesion to the plan of San Luis Potosi. (October, 1910.) This plan recognized that the law in relation to uncultivated lands had given rise to abuses, and that many small proprietors, born on the soil they inhabited, had been deprived of their lands. It declared that the illegitimate possessors of such lands, or their heirs, should be compelled to restore them to their ancient proprietors, to whom they should pay also indemnity for damages inflicted. But Madero, who is himself one of the largest landowners in Mexico, imagined that promises were sufficient to bring the demands of the people to an end.

The Maderist revolution promised to suppress officialdom in the small towns and inaugurate justice throughout the country. But, under Madero's rule, the country has lived beneath the same yoke of judicial terror as prevailed under Diaz. Likewise it promised to diminish taxes, and even to suppress them entirely for those who had no property. But Madero, who made his friends governors of the different States, forgot to put them under obligation to keep the promises of reform he had made the people. Even at this very hour, when Maderism is being threatened seriously, Madero cannot see beyond the limits of the constitution, and the same holds good of Vasquez Gomez and others. They all wish that the majority shall have access to the land, but always with the condition that existing legal titles be respected.

The complete failure of Maderism is another proof that millions of dollars cannot make a serious revolution. That Madero will fall soon is inevitable, and one can see that his competitors, Gomez and Orozco, will succeed no better than he has succeeded in maintaining power. At the present moment those who, goaded on by ambition, are struggling against Madero favor the uprising of the peasants, because it tends to increase the general disorder. But let them beware of these peasants, for they may become too troublesome. Whoever may succeed in becoming future ruler of Mexico will have to reckon with ten millon peons conscious of their rights and fully resolved to enforce them.

Ideas Grow Clearer.

In November, 1909, Kropotkine foresaw clearly that the Mexican Revolution, though limited at first to a small body of action and a few personalities, would enlarge its field of action the longer it lasted. He foresaw that its ideal would become clarified and rise to the height of Communist-Anarchism, and that this ideal would be put into practice immediately if the revolutionists could but succeed in securing for a number of months the relaxation of government authority.

It seems that in Spanish-America today they are beginning to realize Elisee Reclus' dream, wherein, toward the end of his life, he insisted that the coming generation would see with its own eyes the dawn of the economic-social-international revolution. The varied events that have unrolled themselves in Mexico within the last ten years—events the history of which has still to be written in Europe—are a heroic and inspiring example set to civilized humanity by the primitive races. Never hitherto have the laying hands on the social wealth, mutual aid and free initiative been put into practice on so vast a scale. Most sincerely do we hope that reciprocal understanding, as between the Mexican comrades and ourselves, of the aspirations common to us; comparison of their experience and ours, their propaganda and methods with ours, may result in a revolution that shall be truly fruitful everywhere, in a future that, we hope, may be near at hand.

(Translated from "Les Temps Nouveaux.")

If there is one question that needs unrelentingly impartial discussion it is that of violence. As it is, we have a set of lunatics who seem to think that violence is always good, and another set which outrages common sense by declaring it always bad. The first make picnics for the police, and the second for the politicians.

Dr. John Creaghe has decided to settle in Los Angeles and practice medicine. He is a licentiate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Ireland, and a member of the faculty of medicine, Buenos Ayres, Argentina, where, for thirty-five years, he had a most extensive practice. Prior thereto he was a United States army doctor. His professional record is a guarantee that he is not a quack, and that which he established during his long and self-sacrificing support of "La Protesta" should convince any one that he is honesty incarnate. He has the further advantage of speaking English and Spanish with equal facility.

If you want to learn either English or Spanish, and learn quickly, you might do worse than apply to the editor of this section—Wm. C. Owen, 914 Boston St., telephone Home, A1360. He has had much experience in teaching languages and guarantees that, if he teaches you at all, it will be quickly. Knowledge of both languages is a valuable asset.