

Odds Are Fearful, But On We March

"Diaz is driven from the throne and Madero mounts it. He in his turn is attacked and defends himself, successfully or otherwise. Blood flows in torrents; industry comes to a standstill; the poor, as always and everywhere, suffer most, and what does it all amount to? Why do the poor permit it? Why do the peons allow politicians to lead them by the nose? It must be either because they are hopelessly ignorant or hopelessly corrupt. In any event they are beyond redemption and we will waste neither time nor money on them." Thus talk our American reformers, and only too many of those who pride themselves on being revolutionists.

Suppose yourself a Yaqui or a Maya, working under the whip on the Yucatan plantations. Suppose yourself a slave in the Valle Nacional, or a day laborer raised in the great State of Chihuahua, which is the special part of this planet reserved, according to the legal authorities, as Mr. Terrazas' private preserve. You have as rankling a sense of the injustice of it all as has any American revolutionist. You come of fighting stock; for no American can show a better record in that respect than the Yaquis, for example, established during the generations in which they held the fort against all would-be invaders. You hate most bitterly the politician who jockeys through the statutes that oust you from the land your fathers tilled for centuries. You curse the government collector who periodically wrings from you taxes which leave you penniless. The recruiting officer is a still more loathsome figure, for he takes away the breadwinner and forces him into the service of those whom he detests. In a word, your soul surges with revolt, and—what are you to do?

Without arms you cannot fight, and you have no arms. Without money you cannot set a military expedition in the field, and you have no money. Your soul may be aflame with heroism, but facts are facts; and, depend on it, there will be hundreds ready to whisper in your ear that rebellion is suicide and meek submission the only practicable course. The priests, extolling humility as the greatest of all virtues, have taught them that. The press, catering always to the money power, has taught them that. The politician, who would bound life by his own petty legislation, has taught them that. These people have gigantic influence. They rule the roost, command the economic situation, and, if they do not shoot or imprison the contumacious, can blackmail and doom them to starvation. Naturally they have a following. Naturally the prudent will warn you not to incur their enmity. Naturally your elders, tutored by the sad experiences of life, will turn against you. On every hand you will meet with opposition that seems invincible. How on earth do revolutions start? Of what stuff are made the few who set out to scale these insuperable heights? Have you ever thought of that?

Somewhat or other the thing is set a-going. A thousand obstacles immediately confront you. Arms and money you must have, cost what it may. The bills must be paid, and paid in a great variety of ways, for the poor must do as best they can. If arms can be smuggled they must be smuggled, whatever the law may say. That means loss by imprisonment of many of your holder and, therefore, most valuable comrades. Certain of the well-to-do are known to be discontented. They have it in their power to furnish money and their good will must be courted, however odious may be the alliance, and however deeply you may distrust them. Men you know as politicians must be thrust into prominence and given commands, because without their help you cannot move. It is necessary to move; necessary to get into action and show the masses you are doing something. You may have no patience with the circuitous courses adopted by the leaders, but you cannot shake them off; you cannot do without the following they command; you cannot cut yourself off from the arms and supplies their money and connections furnish. You, the man of the people, the uncompromising rebel, are not your own master. Regrets cannot be choosers; even when the revolution is at boiling point he who pays the piper will largely dictate the tune.

Any one can put on his slippers, lean back in his armchair, pick up the paper and criticize. "If the peon really wants the land why does not he take it?" Any one can say it. Millions in the United States howl perpetually that the industries ought to be the property of the men who work them. How often do United States workers take possession of that machinery to which they so loudly assert their title? Never. There are lions in the path; fierce watchdogs guarding the property; strong lines of defense before which the would-be captors merely shake their fists. Do you think it is easier in Mexico? Do you expect that the poor, the ignorant, the wretchedly-outfitted Mexican peasant can carry to completion within a few short months the task of which you have been talking for generations, and only talking? Do you blame him for admitting politicians when you actually court them, under the supposition that they will assist you in your journeying to the distant goal?

Talk with ultra-revolutionists who have been through the fighting in Mexico. Always they will tell you precisely the same story. Always they

deprecate the alliances they are forced to make. Always they recognize that the people want the land. Always they express profound distrust of the leading citizens to whom they have to yield; because necessarily knows no law; because fine words, better no pursuit; because the logic-chopping of parlor revolutionists will not equip or feed an army. During the trial of the imprisoned members of the Junta, Rhys Price, being questioned as to certain overtures he had made, declared boldly that he would have made terms with the devil himself for arms and provisions needed by his soldiers. An army, as Napoleon remarked, travels on its belly, and the general who would starve his troops from conscientious motives should be shot.

In other words, the Mexican Revolution has been advancing as best it could. No God has endowed its leading spirits with the power of working miracles. No manna has rained from above to feed their following, and no Jupiter has descended in a shower of gold to give them the wherewithal to purchase arms. These indispensable elements have had to be gathered somehow, and when one considers the apparent impotence of the people only a short time ago, the wonder is not that they have failed, as yet, to reach their goal, but that they still are able to keep up the painful march. In truth, they could not have kept on had they not been inspired by a principle that triumphs over a thousand defeats and surmounts a thousand obstacles. It is a principle more destructive to the existing commercial order—against which so many of us profess to be uncompromising rebels—than any that has yet appeared on the field of action, with arms in its hands and ready to fight for its existence. It is a principle which has obtained a forceful grip everywhere on the educated and thoughtful, who have become intellectually conscious of the precipice toward which Money, and the worship of Money, are hurrying us. But that mere intellectual conviction is tepidly itself when compared with the hatred the average Mexican has developed in his mother's milk against all that typifies money; against all that involves slavery to the money-maker; against the authoritarian whip that drives him to what is, to him, mostly a meaningless drudgery which his soul abhors.

The Mexican Revolution is probably the most destructive movement that has appeared, precisely because it insists that this world is not for auction; because it detests the Money-bag philosophy and detests Money-bags himself with the detestation he will begin to discover only when he actually intervenes. If intervene he does; because it is a rebel against every form of authority which checks that spontaneous and natural enjoyment which is to the Mexican the very breath of life itself. He cannot understand why a man should slave himself to death piling up millions for the detachment of his heirs. He cannot understand why men should toil unceasingly in stifling factories and gloomy mills, that a few millionaires may be created. He cannot see why Otis, or Hearst, or other absentees, should be allowed to set a ring around vast tracts on which he himself could raise with little difficulty all his simple wants demand; on which he is devoted; on which the wife and countless children—as indispensable to him as air and sunshine—could frolic to their hearts' content. He does not understand why, as one feels—knowing how carefully the owners of flats exclude them—Americans do not. He does not understand why, while our average citizen is afraid of dogs, he loves LIFE, for LIFE itself, while the average American has fallen into the appalling degeneracy of measuring it only in terms of dollars.

The Mexican Revolution has LIFE for its ally; an ally infinitely stronger than the artificial absurdities on which the proud edifice of "Society" so fatuously prides itself. Already cracks in that edifice are becoming painfully apparent. Already an ominous handwriting on the wall is growing legible. From Mikado-ruled Japan; from Czar-ruled Russia; from Kaiser-ruled Germany; from Pope-ruled Italy and Spain; from Wall-Street America; from semi-feudal England from all sides rises the voice of discontent, and the fire is stamped out here only to blaze more fiercely at a hundred other points. It will not down; and it will not down in Mexico, whoever may win the Madero-Diaz duel which at this writing is still in progress.

Mexico may fall again under a dictatorship. One does not know. Aspirant after aspirant may scramble to the throne. Nobody can tell. But the volcano will endure and break periodically into eruption until the Mexican people shall have recovered the land for which they hunger, and until there shall have been removed from their necks the authoritarian yoke against which they most righteously revolt. Napoleon had the political sagacity to sweep aside feudalism and cement his power by giving the peasants land. It may be that Mexico will produce a ruler of that clear-sighted type. In such event he will have to fight the American money power and fight it to a finish; as Napoleon fought united Europe.

REMEMBER THE DATE. It is hoped most earnestly that there will be a good attendance at the ball to be held Sunday evening, March 1, at the International Workers' Home, for it will be an important feature in the concerted effort we are making to bring together the Mexican and Italian elements, with a view to organizing them in a substantial form and strengthening materially their economic position. The music will be furnished by the International Workers' Home orchestra, and we shall do our utmost to extend to all visitors the fullest measure of that hospitality for which Mexico is famous.

Mexican Notes.

Madero has come to grief, and, for the moment, Gen. Victoriano Huerta reigns. He was elected Provisional President at a special secret session of the Mexican Congress, held the evening of Feb. 19. The new administration's first act was to arrest Gen. Francisco Romero. Madero himself is in jail, and it is generally reported that he will be taken to Vera Cruz and shipped to Europe. His brother, Gustavo, was put to death. He had been Minister of Finance, and had been cartooned and otherwise attacked, with intense bitterness, for months past, as a looter of the most advanced type. His influence was regarded as exceedingly powerful, and to it was attributed the elevation to the vice-presidency of the unpopular Pino Suarez. The last named is still in jail. It is stated that, after the capture of Madero and his cabinet, an official document was discovered in the palace, with the heading—"Those who should die." It gave the names of twenty-two prominent men, among whom were Francisco de la Barra, Velasquez Gomez and Jesus Flores Magón.

These facts are known to all the world, for the daily press has covered the situation thoroughly. It may not be out of place, however, to call attention to little-noticed telegrams from El Paso, Tex., to the effect that by the thousands were being shipped into the United States from the Madero ranches, and that men in the business expected that the number would run up into the millions. This was immediately before the smash, and it was stated that all other traffic was being side-tracked to make way for the Madero shipments. Compared with the vast system of exploitation in Mexico, which continued under Madero as it had rampaged under Diaz, this is a little thing, but it is not insignificant. What had the peasant, promised restoration of his land, in common with Madero, or the Madero family? Why should he have been expected to support him? Why should not this victim of the rich have revolted, and why should he not continue in revolt. He had grown tired, and he is still more tired today, of—"Words! Words! Words!"

Gustavo Madero doubtless was the most hated member of the family; for he was considered essentially the representative of high finance, and it is against these gentry that the storm everywhere is gathering. We note that the papers are publishing a despatch from New York City, according to which his death was regretted profoundly in the "white light" district, where he had established the reputation of a "spender." That was when he was financing Francisco's revolution, in company with their father and his brothers, Ernesto, Evaristo and Gabriel. Why should not men of that character become hated among the millions, who never have the chance to spend? He is dead, but let us not forget that, during the recent fighting in Mexico City, 2950 were killed and 5260 wounded. The figures are as given by the daily press, and, of course, take no account of the multitude that has succumbed during the struggle which has now ended in Madero's fall. Months ago we estimated that more than 50,000 lives had been sacrificed, and the total today must be vastly larger.

Fleeing the Country. A Tareado, Tex., despatch, dated Feb. 19, states that instructions have been issued by Diaz, directing that a close watch be kept on all members of the Madero family, now trying to flee the country, be taken into custody. We believe that the judgment of Mexico at large, and of reflective persons throughout the world, is identical with that which "Regeneracion" passed long ago. The judgment is that all those lives were sacrificed, and all that blood and treasure spent, because Madero (backed by his family) proved false to his word; because he did not give the people back their stolen lands, as promised; because he did not even make a fair-seeming pretence of intention to fulfill his solemn pledges. Everywhere the orthodox maintain that treason to one's country should be punished with death, and what we ask is the criminality of the ordinary spy as compared with the perfidy of which the Maderos have been guilty? What is it as compared with the universal treason of high finance, which, yelling patriotism, plays only to fill a new set of moneybags?

Porfirio Diaz played high finance, relying on his soldiers. He failed. Madero tried the game on a different system, being a believer in fine words. He also has failed. As the Money Power has not, as yet, been dragged out of the saddle, the game will be continued, and doubtless the old-fashioned tactics of Porfirio Diaz will be resumed. They have proved effective for centuries, and the eminent practical gentlemen who preside over the fortunes of Wall Street believe in them implicitly. The military display made by the United States the moment Mexico City was threatened seriously, was proof of that.

The interview of Col. Juan N. Vasquez, Madero's commander at Juarez, seems worth noticing. He spoke also for Gen. Antonio Rabago, from whom he has received official notice of Madero's downfall, and said: "The army will maintain order and sustain the acknowledged government. All is quiet and, I believe, will remain so. The army is bound to sustain whatever President is named, be it Francisco Villa, Inez Salazar, or any other bandit." There you have the professional soldier's creed. How magnificent! What a truly elevated morality! The government may be administered by admitted scoundrels; it may be founded on the most brutal rapine, and may be devoting itself to the most infamous robbery of its subjects. No matter. The army will support it. Luckily this sentiment is not common in Mexico. Luckily the Mexican is about the least devoted soldier in existence. Madero has found it out, as Porfirio Diaz did before him.

Meanwhile it remains to be seen what will be done by Zapata, Salazar, and a hundred and one rebel chiefs, who are, at least, conscious of the people's economic wrongs and wish to right them.

One imagines that Felix Diaz triumph has turned his head. He has telegraphed Porfirio, "You are avenged." Gustavo Madero is dead. He has also announced a policy of death to Zapata, Orozco, Vasquez Gomez—who has proclaimed himself President—and other rebel chiefs. Naturally this will unite them solidly against the new regime.

Workers' Home

The International Workers' Home, as its name indicates, belongs to all the world's workers.

The various collectivities which may occupy this building will be autonomous. None of them will be obliged to pay rent, but they will be considered in duty bound to assist, according to their abilities, in the fulfillment of the conditions expressed in the contract entered into by Messrs. Vitagliano, Moncaleano and Carmona, as previously published in "Regeneracion."

Every comrade from a foreign land who may immigrate to this city may count on receiving the moral and material support of the International Workers' Home. He will enjoy the following advantages: Sleeping accommodations, hot and cold baths, a library, food, rational instruction, a doctor's services, and those of a corps of interpreters speaking different tongues. The International Workers' Home will do its utmost to get him occupation, by which he may make an independent living. The enjoyment of these rights will impose on him a corresponding duty, and when he finds occupation the immigrant will be expected to give the International Workers' Home his moral and material support.

The Rationalist School will occupy four rooms; ten small rooms will be for the various professors; three large rooms will be set aside as dormitories for children (interns); one will be used as a medical dispensary, one as a barber's shop, six for the establishment of various trades, and one as a storehouse. One large room will be set aside for conferences, meetings, etc.

Two spacious rooms will be used as dormitories, for workmen who need beds and can pay for the same, while four will be dormitories for men out of work. There will be two kitchens for inmates who may wish to use them. One saloon will be used as a library and another as a gymnasium. "Regeneracion's" offices will occupy four rooms; one will be set aside for a bureau of information, and there will be two dining-rooms. The remainder of the building will be divided up as may best suit the convenience of the collectivities who may wish to occupy it. No collectivity will be answerable for the acts of any other collectivity, it being understood that all are autonomous as regards their organization, methods of carrying on the struggle and ends pursued.

As to the School. This will be under the management of two directors, of different sexes, who will watch over the nursery's progress and proletarian morality. The directors will nominate, according to their judgment, a corps of professors, in agreement with whom the school will be managed.

The directors shall keep a record showing receipts and payments, the names of the children matriculated, and whether they are interns or externs.

The languages to be taught shall be: Italian, English, Spanish, French and Esperanto.

All teaching shall have as its basis the analysis of scientific truth. Professors will not be permitted to reward or punish their pupils.

Parents will be able to enter their sons as interns by personal arrangement with the directors, who will notify them of the expenses involved.

The directors of the various organizations congregated in the International Workers' Home shall hold a general meeting for the discussion of the best means of organizing, and formulate rules, which shall be published immediately. The Home will be under the criticism, protection and vigilance of the world's libertarian press, the duty of which will be to lend it impulse, indicate its course and see that its progress is satisfactory.

All libertarian papers which may find themselves in accord with the organization of the International Workers' Home will be invited to open subscription lists to assist in payment of the \$50,000 (the amount to be paid under our option to purchase), as set out in the contract between Vitagliano, Moncaleano and Carmona. All such sums should be sent to the treasurer of the International Workers' Home, who will deposit them in bank, subject to the order of the Executive Junta of the International Workers' Home.

Donations will be divided into two classes. First, donations toward the payment of the \$50,000—the total cost of the property—should be directed to the treasurer of the International Workers' Home. Secondly, donations for the furtherance of the Rationalist School should be directed to the treasurer of the Rationalist School. The treasurer of the International Workers' Home will not be permitted to keep on hand more than \$20. All sums beyond that amount must be deposited in bank, and the bank receipts published in the columns of this paper. The treasurer of the School will not be able to make any payments that have not been approved by the Executive Junta. The Director of the International Workers' Home is Juan Francisco Moncaleano, Los Angeles, Cal.

All donations should be sent to the treasurer of the Workers' International Home; Romulo S. Carmona, 652 San Fernando St., Los Angeles, Cal.

In the opinion of the editor of this section the work of installation has

progressed quite as satisfactorily as could be expected, when it is considered that we have been only two weeks in possession, and that we have started absolutely without capital.

The entire building has received a thorough cleaning and much work has been done along the lines of putting in chairs, making benches, painting signs, etc. The kitchen is now in fair running order, and all the rooms, on the first and second floors, available for residence are occupied.

In two of these rooms, which open into one another, seventeen workers have their individual cots, and perfect order and cleanliness have prevailed. Other rooms are occupied by families, by the house physician and the writer. The barber's shop is doing well.

Two important conferences have been held in one of the large halls. At the first some 150 were present. At the second there must have been an audience of fully 500, and it was found necessary to adjourn to the grounds, which surround the building and are admirably suited for open-air meetings.

We have still a number of halls to let for social and other public meetings, and the extensive premises which the Modern School and the Study Center will occupy are not yet in shape. The Study Center will be devoted largely to giving adults elementary education; the teaching of English, Spanish, etc. Prof. Elias Montoya, who is a well-known Spanish teacher, connected with leading educational institutions in this city, has kindly volunteered his services and is giving lessons nightly. The editor of this section has done the same in the matter of English, but has to except Tuesday and Friday evenings, having classes elsewhere on those evenings.

Every effort is being made to get the International Workers' Home orchestra into shape, for the Mexicans are extremely fond of music and have much talent. The orchestra will furnish the music for the ball which is to be held Sunday, March 1, in this building. That ball will be held expressly to further the organization of the Mexicans and other Latin workers now employed, or unemployed, in this city and district. It will be the first of a series of entertainments and meetings which will be devoted expressly to that purpose, it being the fundamental conviction of the directors, consultative committee and all actively engaged in this work, that the present enterprise will have missed its aim completely if it does not succeed in bettering materially the economic conditions of the workers. The present situation is bad enough, for the masses of the Mexicans, and other Latin workers, being strangers to the customs of this country, ignorant of its language and unorganized, are pitifully helpless.

Invariably he who is helpless is exploited without mercy, and this enterprise has been launched almost exclusively for the purpose of giving the Mexicans, and other members of the Latin race, a center around which they can group themselves, rather information most necessary to them, and exercise the natural talent for co-operation which they possess to a remarkable extent, as the result of their communistic training and traditions.

As previously remarked, the present condition is bad enough, for the city does nothing to straighten out the appallingly disorganized condition of the labor market, while private speculators and land boomers are rocketing prices and rendering life more and more impossible for those without money or influence. Long before the opening of the Panama Canal it will become vastly worse, for already there is overrun with steamship agents who are using every artifice to flood Southern California, in particular, with the cheapest labor procurable. We are endeavoring to forestall the situation Los Angeles workers will then be compelled to face.

PROTEST EMPHATICALLY.

"We, the undersigned, protest against the denial of the right of parole to Ricardo Flores Magon, Enrique Flores Magon, Librado Rivera and Anselmo L. Figueroa, now serving a sentence of twenty-three months in the U. S. penitentiary at McNeil's Island, for alleged violation of the neutrality laws. It is matter of common knowledge that these men are merely political prisoners, found guilty only of having done what their consciences dictated to them as necessary to be done for the liberation of their country from slavery in its grossest form. They cannot be classed as ordinary criminals, and we protest against the right accorded to them of having their sentence commuted to a mass meeting held Sunday, Feb. 16, in one of the large halls of the International Workers' Home, 809 Yale St. Fully five hundred must have been present, and the room having become uncomfortably crowded, the meeting adjourned to the Home's grounds, where numerous speeches were delivered. The strongest feeling prevailed, the addresses of Moncaleano, Lara and others being interrupted by continuous applause. The protest received more than four hundred signatures, and has been forwarded to the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Labor has been organized to protect the worker in the face of the efforts of Organized Capital to crush him down to the level of bare, sordid existence. Wouldn't it be well, Mr. Drew, for the Steel Trust and other great combinations of capital to set their own houses in order? Wouldn't it be well for them to probe their own organizations, to develop a higher sense of justice and eradicate selfish conditions which have led to the war between capital and labor? How about it, Mr. Drew? Are the Steel Trust and the National Erectors' Association and the murderous methods they have pursued so life-white that they can assume a sanctimonious attitude and tell Labor what it should do?—(San Francisco Daily News.)

Socialists Denounce Intervention

By a unanimous show of hands, to the accompaniment of tumultuous applause, resolutions condemning intervention by the United States in Mexico were adopted this week at Solomons' Pavilion, Ninth St. and Grand Ave. The resolutions were drawn and presented by Frank E. Wolfe, who made a most earnest and telling speech on their behalf. We reproduce them verbatim, both on account of the genuine pleasure with which we greet this manifestation of international solidarity, and for their own intrinsic worth. They will stand as permanent proof that the truly agrarian and proletarian character of the Mexican Revolution has sunk into the consciousness of those who, though often differing from us in tactics, are at one with us in our attack on the Money Power and that plutocratic philosophy which would fence off this earth for the enjoyment of the few. The resolutions follow:

WHEREAS, the people of Mexico have for several years been in revolt against intolerable conditions, under which they were robbed of their lands, deprived from their homes, sold into slavery and denied every liberty; a land where no right or freedom remained for the workers, where the great mass of the people lived in peonage and hundreds of thousands were in actual chattel slavery; and

WHEREAS, these people arose in righteous revolution and have fought bravely and heroically against frightful odds and amid appalling surroundings of poverty, sickness and death—have shown such marvellous courage and determination, and such keen discrimination against a score of military tyrants who have sought from time to time to lead them from the paths they know so well; the path they followed because they have the firm conviction that it leads to the goal—LAND AND LIBERTY; and

WHEREAS, under the grasp of Mexican land monopolists, from the Southern to the Northern boundaries, and from sea to sea, the rightful holders have been mercilessly dispossessed of their lands and forced into peonage, whereby they were compelled to toil in semi-slavery upon the very soil they had for generations peacefully possessed; and

WHEREAS, the Standard Oil Company and the Guggenheim interests are moving all the vast power and machinery of legislation and publicity that they command to the end of forcing intervention, and the war which must unavoidably follow, for the purpose of protecting their illegal and unjust holdings on the sources of life of the Mexican people; and

WHEREAS, American capitalists entered into a conspiracy with the tyrant Diaz to seize millions of acres of land to which no one save those who actually occupied it could, in human justice, have title or claim, and, under this and other conspiracies, countless thousands were deported, slain or sold into slavery; thousands of Mexicans being driven from their homes wherein their ancestors had lived for many generations, and forced into exile because of foreign and local exploiters of land, oil and mineral resources; and

WHEREAS, American capitalists are now using every means in their power to cause the United States government to intervene by sending troops and warships to Mexico, thereby forcing the gravest crisis in American affairs since the Civil war; and capitalists are using the American press to print wildly distorted and grossly exaggerated stories of rioting, that they may inflame the minds and arouse the people to the point of demanding intervention, under the false and unfounded pretext of saving American lives; and

WHEREAS, the world-wide international Socialist movement is unalterably opposed to all strife, violence and bloodshed, murder by individuals or organized slaughter under the name of war; and

WHEREAS, intervention inevitably means a prolonged and devastating war with the peaceful and friendly powers of Latin America, which unerringly will rally to the support of the Mexican people, because of their unswerving belief that the struggle will be to preserve their own national integrity and independence; and

WHEREAS, the military mutiny and fighting in the streets of the city of Mexico is not a part of the revolt of the people, and has no direct bearing upon the real revolution, which is a nation-wide and well-organized struggle to abolish serfdom and feudalism to the end that an agrarian and industrial democracy, which will be a splendid example to the civilized world, may be established in Mexico; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that we, the Socialists of Los Angeles, representing the political expression of the working class and of all liberty-loving and right-minded people of this community, in mass-meeting assembled, do most vehemently express our abhorrence of the idea of American intervention in Mexico at the time when our brothers are in the gravest crisis of their great struggle for liberty from the oppression of the exploiting class; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we urge President Taft and Congress to stand firm at the hour when an ill-advised move would cost hundreds of thousands of human lives and plunge the country into a war with an oppressed people who are now struggling for life and liberty. It was ordered that copies of the resolutions should be forwarded to President Taft, to Congressman Victor Berger and to the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party; with instructions that the latter should take immediate steps to lay before all party locals the necessity of opposing intervention, as threatened solely in the interests of the Wall Street domination.

How Funny!

"Isn't it funny? Why, the peons want our land!" exclaimed a young lady, headdress to a million acres in Mexico, when speaking to a lady friend in Los Angeles not long since. And she described in excellent English the land hunger of the dispossessed of all nations and times.

"Put down the beggars! Shoot them! Hang them!" Such has been the cry in Mexico and is likely to be again under a new Diaz regime, as it was under that of the old tyrant. Will "blood and iron" cure unrest? Well, hardly. Nothing will bring peace in Mexico, or in any other nation henceforth and forever, but the rule of social and industrial justice.

If Taft had intervened in behalf of Madero a year ago, W. H. would have been re-elected as president and Uncle Sam would now be doing the "benevolent assimilation" act in the process of absorption of the tail and backbone of the dog. Along the backbone of the continent lie most of the rich mines of silver, copper and gold, where John Hays Hammond and the Guggenheims might amass wealth to join with Morcan buccaners in buying enough ordnance and ammunition to reduce the continent to wage slavery. Taft was too slow.

After the civil war had freed 3,000,000 colored people they cried out for "forty acres and a mule." It was funny! "The negroes want our land." It would have been the cheapest as well as the best way out, just as it would have been cheaper and better to pay for the slaves and had no war, as Lincoln desired. He was wiser than his generation, and his words on the relations between capital and labor—now repeated by Bryan, Roosevelt, Wilson and others, must be heeded—now even on a promise to divide and subdivide them so the poor need not starve or be exiled and exploited by foreigners at home and abroad, notably in our grand, glorious, golden state of California by Huntington and others, who, paying them scarcely a living wage in good times, left them stranded when Wall Street forced a needless panic upon the nation, in order to gobble up the strongest competitor of the tariff-protected Steel Trust, working the lowest grade of ignorant foreigners 12 to 14 hours a day at low wages.

Madero was too slow and so was Taft. Just as the slaveholders demanded more territory for their "peculiar institutions," so the Trusts are demanding not only Alaska, Hawaii and the Philippines but also Mexico, Central and South America for "development" and "American (!) enterprise." The people need for Alaska, Hawaii, the Philippines, etc. Who gets the benefit? A firm is advertising here to sell stock in a company to strip the Philippines of its most valuable timber, costing them (they say) about \$20 a thousand feet and selling here for \$130. Is Uncle Sam an ass or only a goat, like Los Angeles in the aqueduct, enriching San Fernando land grabbers while the city is as poor as Job's turkey, and its women and children by the thousand forced to work for \$3 to \$6 per week.

Mexico's middle will continue for some time yet. Diaz and Madero represent Aldrich and Roosevelt—the aristocratic and the bourgeois or middle class. "A plague on both your houses," said Marcato as he expired. One is distinctly better than the other, but only as a compromise. The better, in Mexico who work must eat. They must have land on which to work. Their toil entitles them to its full rewards. (Los Angeles "News.")

HARD PLOWING.

The Social Reformer set out blithely upon his self-appointed task of abolishing poverty. He came upon a politician and asked his aid.

"You have a lot to learn," replied the politician, "show me like to oblige you, but poverty is not an issue just now. I'm afraid you will have to move on."

The Social Reformer went on a bit farther and met a physician. He asked the physician to help.

"Really, good sir," replied the physician, "you will have to excuse me. Without poverty I should have to go out of business, for it is the cause of many of the diseases I am called upon to treat."

The Social Reformer went on a bit farther and met a manufacturer, who said he solicited.

"I can do it all, sir," declared the manufacturer, "I would be ruinous to my business. Without poverty I could not hire little children or secure adults at such low wages. You will have to move on, sir."

The Social Reformer moved on farther and came upon a Charity Worker, whose help he requested.

"I cannot deny that it would be a good thing in a way," replied the Charity Worker, "but I cannot assist you. You see, there is a vast quantity of capital invested in this and other charity organizations. Also they employ a great many people and give a great many others an opportunity to ease their consciences through contributions. Without poverty, of course, all this effort would be wasted."

The Social Reformer moved on farther, and, meeting a Pauper, asked him to help abolish poverty.

"A splendid idea," declared the Pauper, "and I should be delighted to help, but as I have neither job, money nor influence, there is nothing I can do."

The Social Reformer moved on and at last accounts was still moving—"Life."

USEFUL PERIODICALS.

Have you been looking for "Mother Earth," or Kropotkin and Bakunin's writings? You will find them and other Revolutionary works at W. A. Sampson's newsstand, 1205 East Fifth street.