

Wall Street Plots Brought To Light

In another column we publish Mary O'Reilly's editorial in the "Los Angeles Record" of March 3. In all essential features—in its clear exposition of the agrarian, economic character of the Mexican upheaval—it is but a repetition of the lesson "Regeneration" has been endeavoring to convey during the last two and a half years. We are in hopes that, while our statements have been distrusted even by those who call themselves revolutionists, the declarations of this well-known publicist, writing from Mexico City after long travel and full investigation, may carry an influence we ourselves have been unable to command. One even cherishes the hope that, at some remotely distant date, "The Public," nominally devoted to the extirpation of land monopoly, may understand that a land struggle is going on in Mexico. In its issue of Feb. 21 it played up a disgraceful poem by S. E. Kiser, a professional joker who has found a subterfuge for his wit in a saluinary that "greasers," as he calls them, fight for fun.

Of the varied correspondence received at this office, that which comes from alleged radicals and revolutionists of long standing is often most depressing. It confirms me in my conviction that propagandists are generally incapable of looking beyond their own special line of work. Whether they are Single Taxers, Socialists, Anarchists, I. W. W. men, or what not, they usually are that and nothing more. They have studied certain pamphlets, which are to them a bible. They belong to a certain group, which is to them a church. They attach themselves to certain lecturers who are their priests. They are busy hacking away at some particular tree that they forget the very existence of the forest. I go farther and declare that, in my opinion, not one out of a hundred of them really wants to clear away the forest. If their particular hobby seems to be acquiring popularity they are perfectly content. If their particular organization is winning an occasional victory they jubilate. But, as I understand it, such content and self-satisfaction merely stamp those who display them as not warriors but dilettantes; the very type the genuine fighter most despises. Slavery is a deadly Uptax tree, and while any one can make a hubbub by shaking its boughs, he may shake them to eternity without effect. It is the fellow digging sturdy at the roots, with no breath for idle talk, who does the work.

Part of each day I pass down town, and I talk to men in every walk of life. Many of them are rich, and their view of the Mexican Revolution usually strikes me as nearest to the right. Almost invariably such men regard it as a most serious affair, which is upsetting property values, bringing property in land—at least—into contempt, threatening to involve us in a war whose consequences no one can foresee, and swelling the tide of discontent immeasurably. They do not care about the details. They do not plague me for information as to the actual strength of this or the other faction. They do not care who would give a snap of the finger, whether Zapata was a follower of Kropotkin, or Orozco a member of the Mexican Liberal Party. They are practical, far-sighted men, and they recognize such trivialities as not worth a rush. What they say is that things in Mexico are in a nasty mess; that the peon is not working for his former masters and does not mean to work; that investments are going to the dogs; that there is a spirit of revolt aflame which may do inestimable harm. An astonishingly large percentage of such persons will tell you bluntly that, sooner or later, the peon must be given land; and I call special attention to the fact that an astonishingly large number of the papers representing this wealthy class now say that very thing, and say it clearly.

The labor papers are not saying that. The Socialists, as a body, are not saying that. Debs or Berger are not saying that; it is only a very occasional squeak to that effect which Haywood emits, and, as for Emma Goldman, she is silent as the grave. Generally, the professional-agitator class is full of "ifs and ans." "Do the guerrillas really know for what they are fighting?" it asks. "Does the Mexican Revolution exist outside of the columns of 'Regeneration'?" "Do the people really want the land?" "Why don't Magon, etc., who are in and out of prison, and the calling to the colors of the reserve militia for the conquest and subjugation of Mexico." The workers of the United States should not wait until intervention has been ordered by this government. Every Socialist Local and Branch, and every Trade Union in the land, should immediately serve notice on the capitalist class that intervention in Mexico will be immediately followed by a general strike in every industry where a strike is possible, and that a declaration of war will be answered by an insurrection at once. If the workers are compelled to shed blood, they should shed it in defense of their own interests and liberty, in preference to being poisoned by embalmers or being shot in promoting the interests of J. Pierpont Morgan, Rockefeller & Co. Every true patriot will answer this clamor for intervention and armed conquest by making "WAR AGAINST WAR" until the dogs of war are dead. ("The World," Oakland, Cal.)

poem, on the other hand, is presenting the United States government with its most serious problem, and the authorities believe that it will take about half a million professional soldiers to keep him quiet.

Armed invasion of Mexico by the United States still threatens, and would come tomorrow if Wall Street and the Big Interests could have their way. But the public does not enthrone, and this marks an enormous increase in public education, as compared with fifteen years ago. Today powerful journals are favoring the policy of hands off, and at least one Socialist organ has expressed itself in no ambiguous terms. The article which appeared in "The World," of Oakland, Cal., under date of March 1, could not be bettered, and is reproduced here entire.

WM. C. OWEN.

Would Loose The Dogs of War

During the past week the army and navy departments have been rushing troops and ships of war to the Mexican border.

The logical meaning of these military activities is the armed invasion of Mexico by the United States.

These facts bring us face to face with the question: What should the working-class of the United States do about the matter?

Every worker who understands the universal position of the organized labor movement will have no difficulty in answering this question.

All wars are declared by the capitalist class to promote the material interests of the dominant group of capitalists in control of the powers of government.

The trust magnates of the United States, with their headquarters in Wall Street and Broadway, own and control the present administration and will also own and control, in the same way, the incoming president, Woodrow Wilson, and the next senate and house of representatives.

All wars are fought by the working-class for the profit of the capitalist class. The workers fill the trenches with their dead bodies, while the capitalists fill their bank vaults with increased profits and dividends, as the result of war.

The Mexican people have their own troubles and must settle them in their own way. They do not want intervention and only ask that the United States and other countries keep hands off.

The trust magnates of this country have \$1,000,000,000 invested in Mexican industries. This vast sum represents the unpaid labor of the American working-class and has been invested in Mexican industries for the sole purpose of extracting still greater profits from the workers of Mexico.

It is to protect this capital and insure this harvest of profits from the labor of Mexican slaves that intervention is being urged, and the armies and war fleets of the United States are being massed on the Mexican border.

Armed intervention in Mexico means the armed invasion and the conquest of that country for the profit of American capitalists. It means that the American workers, whose unpaid labor has created the capital invested by American capitalists in Mexico, shall shoulder arms and go down to that unhappy country and leave their bones to bleach on the plains and in the mountain fastnesses south of the Rio Grande, to insure capitalist profits.

President Taft, in massing troops and war ships on the Mexican border, is stacking and dealing the cards and leaving them on the table for President Wilson to play, in the interest of their capitalist masters, when he takes office on March 4.

"Intervention" will be the entering wedge. It will require at least 500,000 men and five years of bloody war to subdue the Mexican people and complete this war of conquest, in case it is begun.

Under the Dick military law, every able-bodied man in this country between the ages of 18 and 45 years is a member of the reserve militia and subject to the call of the president of the United States for service in the army in case of war.

Armed intervention in Mexico by the United States will be resisted and resisted to the last ditch by the Mexican people; therefore, intervention must, in the nature of things, be followed immediately by a declaration of war and the calling to the colors of the reserve militia for the conquest and subjugation of Mexico.

The workers of the United States should not wait until intervention has been ordered by this government.

Every Socialist Local and Branch, and every Trade Union in the land, should immediately serve notice on the capitalist class that intervention in Mexico will be immediately followed by a general strike in every industry where a strike is possible, and that a declaration of war will be answered by an insurrection at once.

If the workers are compelled to shed blood, they should shed it in defense of their own interests and liberty, in preference to being poisoned by embalmers or being shot in promoting the interests of J. Pierpont Morgan, Rockefeller & Co.

Every true patriot will answer this clamor for intervention and armed conquest by making "WAR AGAINST WAR" until the dogs of war are dead. ("The World," Oakland, Cal.)

The Law condemns the man or woman Who steals the goose from off the common; But lets the greater felon loose Who steals the common from the goose.

Red Flag Their Standard.

The following leading article, by Mary Hoyle O'Reilly, appeared in the "Los Angeles Record" of March 3. It was written by one who bears a reputation second to none as an impartial critic of social phenomena, and was sent direct from Mexico City as the result of special investigation. Those familiar with the contents of this English section will recognize immediately that it endorses emphatically the view we have consistently endeavored to expound, viz.: that this is a struggle by the Mexican masses for land and bread.

Giant corporations, greedy and unscrupulous, are attempting to force American intervention in Mexico by a campaign that not only includes slander and treachery, but also the most desperate methods to keep the true situation—the true feelings of these aroused humans—from the American people.

Intervention in Mexico means war! An army of occupation means annexation.

In the devastated districts of Mexico, where labor is at a standstill, in the great camps of refugees where non-combatants share the fate of armed men, every word from Washington sows dragon-teeth of distrust.

They hate us. Why? Because every American—our people, our representatives, our institutions—are to them the force behind the heel of tyranny which has stolen their birthright, which has stolen their lands and their land's treasures, which has made their public men thieves and which now seeks to keep all in the condition they are in today—a nation of poverty-stricken peons little better than slaves.

This Mexican revolution is a logical result of national conditions—the peons' demands for the political recognition which Englishmen won by Magna Charta!

An Agrarian Problem. Mexico is an agricultural country 3000 miles long. Its weightiest problems are agrarian. Francisco Madero, the dead president, when revolting against the 30 years' czarism of Diaz, promised a fair distribution of lands which had been looted from public ownership. On that issue he achieved easy success and was later elected to the presidency of the republic.

"If you keep this oath," runs the inaugural pledge, "the nation will reward you; if you do not, the country will call you to an accounting."

But the Madero family, worth \$150,000,000, intrigued to nullify their kinsman's promise to the nation, schemed to acquire new millions through questionable war claims and corrupt commercial concessions. As a result the greater part of Madero's victorious soldiers turned to the standard of the rebel chief, Orozco—took up arms in a great peasants' war.

Denied the ballot, they determined to vote with bullets!

In a country where every movement is personified in its leader, the rebels of the north were not "Orozcoistas," but "Red Flaggers"—their standard a banner, not of anarchy, but of defiance against any government committed to enslave the many while gorging the few.

The Red Flaggers are fighting for the first principle of republican government—the protection of the poor. Their pronouncement of revolution declares their intention "to construct laws by means of which the problems of land and living in Mexico will be solved."

Confiscation Is Aim. In the south, in the Mexican states of Morales and Guerrero, the respectable Zapata is still carrying on, with 10,000 the most cruel of rebellions—an unconquerable revolt confessedly designed to wrest vast landed estates from great owners who acquired them dishonestly.

In northern Mexico, Orozco, Salazar, De La Fuente and Roque Gomez command the Red Flag forces that seek to SHARE THE SOIL.

The rebel chief, Orozco, is a peon—once a mail driver; Salazar a miner from the border, De La Fuente a man of the people educated in the military school of Chapultepec. Five thousand men of their commands are spread through the border states, hardy peons, intelligent and ambitious—miners and farmers, forced until now to work for 15 to 20 cents a day.

Soldiers under the Red Flag wear no uniform save a crimson ribbon on the arm. Often ragged, their feet in gunny sacks, few are without a startlingly modern gun!

Mustered from the mine and the farm, they are FAR superior, physically and intellectually, to the federal soldier forcibly recruited from the town jail and the convict camp.

Types of the two lie about Ciudad Juarez, battle-scarred village of a three-day fight.

The Red Flagger rides an unshorn horse, fast on supple thigh; keen faced and determined.

The federal slouches on the sunny side of the bull ring, lazily tossing cigarette butts at his jaded nag.

Both realize that the end of Madero brings the men of the old thieving, grafting regime into the saddle. But the federal recruit waits flaccidly to see what will happen while the Red Flag soldier, fearing and hating the palace-plotters and traitor Huerta, is all ready to carry on the peasants' war in eight Mexican states.

At Bingham Canyon four hundred and fifty workers were killed in the mines last year. There were no inquests, no investigations. They were interred huddled together. Moreover, the governor of Utah vetoed a bill passed by the Utah legislature, which provided for all mining fatalities being the subject of an inquest. And the governor stood in cold blood that it would subject the corporations to annoying and vexatious litigation upon the part of the deceased one's relatives. ("Daily Nome Industrial Worker.")

Mexican Notes

Following Madero's overthrow the American press has stuffed its columns with rumors of treaties between Huerta and Zapata, Orozco, Salazar, and every rebel chief whose name it could remember. As we stated last week, these can be nothing more than rumors; first, because the gentlemen in question are not telling American correspondents their inmost secrets; secondly, because, owing to the country's size and the lack of adequate communications, the people at large are only just beginning to understand what has taken place. It is the Mexican people, the individual rebel, who has to be consulted.

Apart from this, let the reader try to think himself into the position of these rebel chiefs, and ask himself what, under the given conditions, his own course would be. A new government comes into power and proposes to make peace; sending envoys and suggesting terms. What, in such circumstances, would you do? Would you consider it the decent or humane thing to refuse even to listen to a single word; to march on and continue the fight as if nothing had happened? Would you not enquire what the other side had to say; what terms they had to offer? Of course you would, and, after going through these swarms of conflicting rumors, that seems to be just about what Salazar, Orozco, Zapata and the others have been doing.

To which is to be added the remark that the first thing they invariably are reported as saying is—"How about the plan of San Luis Potosi? What do you propose to do respecting the restoration of the land to the people?"

According to the latest reports—March 6—Salazar and Orozco refuse to come to terms. The papers confess that they cannot tell what Zapata means to do. Governor Carranza of Coahuila is reported as having telegraphed United States Ambassador Wilson that he has 11,000 men who are "determined to fight the new administration to the end."

At a special meeting of the Sonora State Congress, Huerta's provisional government was repudiated officially and a general call to arms was issued. "Any attempt to bring government troops into Sonora will be resented," was the message sent to the party temporarily in power in Mexico City.

Repeated statements that Emilio Madero had been killed are laid to final rest by his arrival in San Antonio, Tex., accompanied by his brother Raoul. They had come on horseback from Torreón, 600 miles; having wisely decided not to trust themselves to the railway. The Maderos unquestionably have a following, and the dispatches declare that they will use Lower California as the basis for their first attack.

It is nothing but a guess that Emilio Vazquez Gomez refused to attend a proposed peace conference at El Paso.

If out of all this Ambassador Wilson, the "Los Angeles Daily Times" and other friends of the Huerta-Diaz autocracy can figure out good prospects for immediate peace, they must be optimists indeed. The one thing that stands out prominently from this mass of conflicting rumors is the Land Question. That demand grows more and more pronounced, and we add the reflection that time is all in favor of the rebels. There is chaos, but out of that chaos is coming a profound education which cannot be assimilated in a day. Naturally the hour of reckoning has to come, sooner or later, and the longer it is delayed the stiffer will be the price exacted by the people.

One Zapatista leader, Tuerto Morales, appears to have made his individual peace with Huerta, who is reported as having welcomed him with open arms to Mexico City and hugged him with joy. Morales claims that he has 600 men under his command. Madero had a fondness for trying experiments of that kind, but the rebel leaders who surrendered to him most generally were in the habit of scuttling off again as rapidly as possible, not forgetting to take with them the guns and ammunition kindly furnished by the government. Tuerto's namesake, Jesus Morales, made a most spectacular get-away of that description.

The shooting across the border by Mexican Federal troops of the Agua Prieta garrison has given rise to much excitement, and Gen. Ojeda has been loud in his condemnation of what he denounces as disobedience of orders. When gunpowder is lying around loose a little spark may start a conflagration, and it may be that some such trifling incident may set the whole intervention avalanche in motion. As in the past, however, we believe that everything hinges on the government. Tuerto's namesake, Jesus Morales, has to come, sooner or later, and the longer it is delayed the stiffer will be the price exacted by the people.

Inta Still in Jail. Meanwhile, our late President was condescending enough to direct that all Mexican prisoners held along the border for alleged complicity in revolution...

Denounce Intervention. The state convention of the Illinois coal miners has gone on record against intervention declaring a strike of all miners "in case the United States declares war on Mexico or any other country." This resolution will be placed before the United Mine Workers of America, and favorable action is expected by the national organization.

Let us hope that the obstacles in the way of Mexican invasion continue to overbalance the capitalists' demand for it. Any American worker who has a particle of class spirit will balk at the proposal to aid Wall Street pirates to subdue the Mexican peons. He would much prefer to be called a traitor to Wall Street than a traitor to his class. Killing Mexican peons in behalf of Guggenheim, Otis or Morgan would be treason to the working class. Don't be a traitor! Let the capitalists themselves protect the plunder they have stolen from the land and labor of the peons of Mexico! ("Solidarity.")

Plutocracy Cries For Blood

Gilson Gardner's special correspondence from Washington should make interesting reading for the dear, innocent public which fancies that the sole desire of the United States government, throughout these troublous times in Mexico, has been to act impartially while protecting American lives and property. Under date of March 6 he writes, in part:

The fall of the Madero government was decreed in the U. S. early last summer. It was decided that his government was not strong enough to protect investments in Mexico. Money support was withdrawn and secret financial aid was given those who were plotting against him.

Mexican politics are largely shaped by the speculative and investment interests held by powerful financiers in the U. S. and Great Britain. The Standard Oil Co., the Guggenheims and the Pierson Co. have more to say about what happens in Mexico City than any people in Mexico. Unless this fact is kept clearly in mind it is not possible to understand Mexican developments. Acting in harmony with these interests during the last two years has been the Taft family—Henry W. Taft in New York, as attorney and representative of the Pierson interests (an English company), President Taft in the White House, acting through the state department and ex-Secretary Knox, and Geo. W. Fletcher, former partner of Henry W. Taft and a stockholder and director in large Mexican enterprises.

Madero a Tool. Francisco I. Madero was the creature of these powers. His revolution was financed and received actual military aid from these sources and through these channels, while old Porfirio Diaz, charged with weakness and inability longer to cope with the beginnings of real revolution in Mexico, was being displaced. But Madero did not make good. He was not strong enough to hold things steady.

Gardner then gives full and interesting details of the deposition notice served on Madero by Knox, Sept. 17, and of the military plot—connected in Wall St.—which swept Felix Diaz and Huerta to the throne. His well-informed article, published in "The Los Angeles Record" of March 6, concludes:

As for the attitude of the U. S., this government has for the past three years been the cat's paw of Wall Street's Mexican intrigue. We have been assisting soldiers of fortune into dictatorships and mixing into the schemes of John Hays Hammond, Henry W. Taft, and the agents of revolution-promoting foreign syndicates. The great concern of our state, war and law departments has been to make things difficult for the little group of patriots who have been conducting the real revolution, and to make things easy for the Diaz politicians and military adventurers who were willing to give assurances that certain speculative values would be preserved.

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lutionary activities, or violation of the neutrality laws, should be released. The king condescended; exercised his royal prerogative of mercy when about to step down from the throne. The king who was himself steeped to the lips in these financial deals that have saturated Mexico with blood; that have corrupted all her public life, as they are rotting the civilization of our own United States!

Do you suppose the Magons, or other members of the Mexican Liberal Party, come within the scope of that royal pardon? Not much. Yet, why not? They are now wearing stripes for alleged violation of the neutrality laws; but who have been doing the real meddling in Mexico? Taft, Rockefeller, Morgan, the Southern Pacific, the Guggenheims, and all the pirate crew that sails this modern world of ours, with the skull and crossbones hoisted at the mizzen, in search of loot.

Huerta and Zapata. In a message to General Huerta, the dictator of Mexico, the rebel Zapata declares that "to avoid useless bloodshed it is an act of humanity on my part to try to assist the government to obtain peace." He then names the terms on which he will treat, i. e., "recognition of the plan of San Luis Potosi," which plan contemplates the distribution of small farms among the beggared peasantry.

The desire to end the bloodshed does Zapata credit. So much cannot be said for his credulity, although he may be wily enough not to accept a bond of honor toward his late chief Madero. How does Huerta match the humane sentiment of Zapata? By ordering that after a certain date all insurgents against his bloody regime be exterminated without mercy.

One Macpherson, an American capitalist in Mexico, describes the dictator as follows: "Huerta is a man of large means, a member of the Mexican gentry. He has a large ranch and many cattle, which he ships to the Swift and Armour people."

In Mexico the peons are attached to the land—are "leased" with it. Huerta and others who profit by the feudalism which gives them their labor for next to nothing will make no concessions that will free the slaves. Bloodshed that in other countries would be an economic loss is to them a gain, if it wipes out revolt. So it is clear why Zapata wants peace and Huerta is for extermination of the despised rebels, and why they will find no common ground on which to stand. ("Los Angeles Daily Tribune.")

WORKERS' HOME. The dance, held March 1, on behalf of the organization, passed off most successfully, netting more than thirty dollars. The Consultative Committee is about to draw up a program of lectures, and other entertainments, and it is hoped that one of the features will be a weekly dance.

The mass meeting against Intervention, held March 2, decided to continue the discussion, Sunday afternoon, March 9, at 3 p. m., in Central Hall.

Lessons in Spanish and English are given gratuitously every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evening, at 7 p. m. The attendance at these classes is already quite good, but more pupils are earnestly desired.

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RUSSIA'S MASSES WAKING. Russia is developing, as our commercial aristocracy understands the term; the people being driven more and more into city and factory life, where money-holders grind them into luxury-producers. Accordingly, there again the strike specter bobs up once more, and grave alarm is expressed over the fact that in 1912 these rebellions of the workers were six times more numerous than in 1911, and fifteen times more so than in 1910. That is going some, and 1913 seems to have started out still worse. In St. Petersburg alone no less than 90,000 workers laid down their tools, Jan. 22, as a protest against the shooting of their brothers, on "Red Sunday," eight years ago.

The long memories of the oppressed are a nuisance that should be blotted out, for eventually they lead to revolutions—events notoriously provocative of indigestion and troubled dreams. However, it is gratifying to read, in the "Los Angeles Daily Times"—this grey eagle of an Otis does not let much escape him—that "the Russian police are active in their efforts to check the agitation among the workmen, and arrests of agitators and workmen's committees are taking place as in the heyday of the revolution. Repressive measures against Russian newspapers have also been vigorously revived, and fines and imprisonments of editors of radical papers, and suppression of offensive periodicals, are matters of frequent occurrence."

Revolutions never die. For the moment they may fall into a doze, as seemed to be the case recently in Russia; as more than once, has been the case in Mexico. In reality the spirit of revolt goes on increasing, burrowing below the surface, awaiting the next opportunity for open action and gathering strength with every day that passes. As in Mexico, the trouble is just about beginning; the orchestra is tuning up.

HAYWOOD NOT WANTED. The Socialist Party does not want Haywood any longer on its National Executive Committee. If we remember rightly some 22,000 voted to expel him against 11,000 in favor of retaining him. We took no note at the time, the item seeming important merely as public testimony to the gigantic schism which notoriously splits the political Socialists from stem to stern.

Just a reflection. Haywood is expelled for being anxious to attack capitalism too strenuously. On the other hand, when you expect to hear of an expulsion for not attacking capitalism at all; for boosting it, in fact, by using the party to build up a legal practice, or by employing it as a pulpit from which to preach the Christian doctrine of submission, and gather in the dollars