

Mexican Notes

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CRAWLED TO THE WHIP.
Charles Edward Russell, fresh from his Australasian tour, wrote these words in the "International Socialist Review," of September, 1911: "A proletarian movement can have no politics, however slight, in the game of politics. The moment it takes a seat at that grubby board is the moment it dies within. After that it may for a time maintain a semblance of life and motion, but in truth it is only a corpse. This has been proved many times. It is proved today in Great Britain. It has been proved recently and most convincingly in the experience of Australia and New Zealand."
There followed a page packed with illustrations to support that statement and naturally it caused profound alarm in official Socialist Party circles. For Mr. Russell had been the party's candidate for governor of the Empire State and was one of its chief writers. Forthwith the whip was cracked, and on September 26, 1911, the "Chicago Daily Socialist" published a letter from Russell to Morris Hillquit, which began: "I am not opposed to political

In England, Lady Sackville is to get the \$2,500,000, or so, a deceased baronet left her. At the trial the lady haughtily reminded counsel that her country seat, Knole Park, was larger than Hampton Court Palace, and that she and her husband administered it as a trust for the British nation. We hope the British proletariat relishes this little joke. Let some of its members to take possession, and see what sort of a welcome they will get.

The intelligent observer quickly discovers that the majority is quite a often wrong as right. Being unable to believe in the enforcement of wrong he loses all faith in politics since politics devotes itself to ascertaining the will of the majority and enforcing it, right or wrong. The conclusion of reason agrees with the conclusion of experience, which is that of all human pursuits there is none so tyrannical, dishonest and treacherous as politics.

"The man," said Abraham Lincoln "who will not investigate both sides of a question is dishonest." For more than a generation past the Anarchists have confronted the Socialists with the objection that their whole philosophy rests on the assumption that the majority is always right. The Socialists refuse to investigate that objection. The Socialists are dishonest.

Constitutionalism: the spell of legal-

ism—these, of which his unfortunate training among American reformers had made him an idolater—cost Madero his life. "To feed a people hungry for bread with words; to seek to stave them off with legislative schemes, with slop about improving the machinery for getting out the vote by legislative limitations in terms of suffrage, and all the other fond imaginings with which the well-to-do hope to put off the day of reckoning—was there ever a program more foolish than this? Yet it is still the program of millions of Americans who have become uneasy at hearing the murmurs of the unemployed, and the mutterings that come from factories and mines.

Whatever the "Evening Post" editorial writer may think about his own country, he sees quite clearly the futility of verbal shams in the case of our sister Republic and immediate neighbor, Mexico. He expresses himself as thoroughly convinced that "no administration of the iron hand can hope for permanence" in Mexico, and he closes his article with these words: "The only element of cheer is that a permanent issue has emerged above the strife of parties and persons—the agrarian problem. Progress towards the solution of this problem may dispose of political unrest by removing the basic cause of popular discontent." The raising of the agrarian prob-

The "Post's" article was sent us by Dr. Coggeshall, of New York City, who is one of many of our readers who watch the daily press constantly for opinions on the Mexican Revolution. We wish all would do that, for, by noting where understanding is beginning to manifest itself they could exercise judicious pressure and thus wield a tremendous influence.

The people cannot afford to be enslaved for the sake of being insured.

On the same date Pancho Villa with 1200 rebel troops, was said to be waiting for field pieces before advancing on Juarez, where the federales have been putting in their time constructing barbed wire and electric fortifications.

The U. S. gunboat Annapolis has landed in San Diego twenty-one refugees from Sinaloa. They report general suffering and chaotic conditions "outside the small territory controlled by the federales."

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