Regeneración

English Section

Edited by WM. C. OWEN

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The Prosecution of "REGENERACION"

The prosecution against REGENERACION constitutes the greatest attack that ever has been committed in this so-called "Land of the Free," against the right to think and that of publishing the thought through the press. This prosecution is nothing else but the prosecution of the Anarchist ideal because it is the Anarchist ideal the one about which REGENERACION makes propaganda.

Our comrades Ricardo Flores Magon, Enrique Flores Magon and William C Owen are charged in the indictment with inciting to murder, arson and treason through the U. S. Mail by medium of REGENERACION.

In the said indictment in order to have a basis, there are quoted writings from the pen of Ricardo and Enrique Magon, but there is not quoted a single word written by comrade Own, although he is made the victim of the same charges that are made against the Magons. That fact makes one suspect that the government has in mind to suppress REGENERACION for lack of literary cooperation, which never will be accomplished, because there are very many of us ready to continue to the very best of our ability the Anarchist propaganda that our persecuted comrades were doing.

In the fragments of their writings that we printed in the last issue of REGENERACION while quoting "The Los Angeles Tribune" of February 19th, the government makes its stronghold to hurl against our comrades Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon the charges of inciting to murder, arson and treason to the United States.

The charges are ridiculous, and above them the one of treason to the United States, because our comrades are not American citizens and, therefore, could not commit that crime. Ricardo and Enrique are internationalists. They do not recognize any particular country as their Home, but the Universal Home. Their Country is the Earth, and their countrymen the human beings that inhabit the world.

The United States government should reward the Magon brothers instead of throwing then in jail, because with the paragraph quoted by the prosecutur and in which it is made reference to the crimes commited by the Texas "rangers" on innocent people, there is done nothing else but to incite that justice be done by executing the real criminals, the "rangers". The government has not executed the criminal "rangers," but has thrown to jail those who asked for justice, instead. Is there any treason commited when it is demanded most vehemently that there be justice in the United States?

Everyvbody will remember how the Texas "rangers," under the pretext that they were pursuing the revolutionists from that State, they would arrest innocent people and kill them by the hundreds, being the "rangers" assisted by civilians of sanguinary instincts. Those crimes of the "rangers" became so scandalous that the very government, although needing individuals of ruffianly character for myrmidons, it had to order ihat the "rangers" stop their persecuting the revolutionists, imposing that task on the militia. And now they indict those who condemned such crimes! To those who with their writings were doing their very best to have justice done in order that the American people would not be dishonored. If there would be an honest government our imprisoned comrades should be rewarded instead of being punished.

In the editorial to which belongs the fragment that we are refering to, it is explained that if the Texas revolution was increasing it was due to the brutality of the "rangers," assassinating innocents, that many, to save themselves from the criminal butchery, would become revolutionists. For that reason it was said that justice and not bullets, was needed in Texas. May such sane advice constitute the crime of treason? Is it not a ridiculous charge?

On the other hand, we find that there is not any incitation to murder, arson and treason, but that what there is, is a very strong appeal for justice; and those who want justice done do not deserve to be in jail but free,

Another of the fragments on which the indicment is based, refers to the fact that Wilson helps Carranza because this old sharper has promised to tie up the Mexican people hand and foot, so that the American burgeoisie may exploit them to their hearts content. That is the truth; the condition on which the carrancista government was recognized by the U. S., and which are known by everybody implicate the restoration of Porfirio Diaz system and all that it had of spoliator and tyrannical. To tell the truth is to incite to murder, arson and treason? To tell the truth, here and anywhere else where there migth be sane brains, is honest and worthy. Therefore, our comrades should be set free in order that they may continue telling the truth, because truth is the source of moral and material progress. The truth is never obnoxious but for those who do wrong, for the bourgeois, for the priests and for the rulers.

As to the advices given to the carrancista soldiers, it should be agreed from the start that Mexico is in a state of war, of revolution, within which different factions exert themselves to have their ideals predominate. The factions are in active fight, with their arms in their hands, and in such case the triunph of a faction upon the others cannot be hoped to depend on any other thing but violence. In a revolution, each party tries to annihilate the opponent party, by any means, good or crooked, as Ricardo says. What of extraordinary has, then, that the carrancista soldiers be adviced that they shoot their officers and their chiefs? Would not those from the North, during the secession War, would have liked that the soldiers from the South kill their chiefs and Officials, and, reciprocally, those from the South would have not felt satisfaction if the soldiers from the North had done any similar thing?

Come on, Madam Authority; take aside such a gross hypocrecy! If the United State would engage in war with Germany or Japan, would you dare to throw into Jail those who would advise the German or japanese soldiers to shoot down their chiefs and Officials?

No; the true motive of the indictment is the ill-will with which all the exploiters, all the rulers and all the priests look upon the propaganda that our imprisoned comrades do of our Anarchist principles. It is Anarchism that you indict, dominating gentlmen; it is Anarchist Ideals that you want to keep bihind prison bars, and amidst you madness you trample on the Law of which you pretend to be such jealous supporters, the Law that grants the right to think and to write.....but in the way that it might serve best your class interests.

Venustiano Carranza is falling down and you want to save him by locking up in jail his enemies. How you dishonor the American people by serving a foreign tyrant!

CELSO MARQUINA.

SHOULD I EVER BE A SOLDIER.

Tune. "Colleen Bawn."

We're spending billions every [year
For guns and ammunition,
"Our Army" and "our Navy" are [dear,
To keep in good condition.
While millions live in misery
And millions died before us,
Don't sing "My Country' tis of [thee."
But sing this little chorus.

Chorus—

Should I ever be a soldier,
'Neath the Red Flag I would [fight;
Should the gun I ever shoulder,
It's to crush the tyrant's might.
Join the army of the toilers,
Men and Women fall in line,
Wage slaves of the world! [Arouse!
Do your duty for the cause,
For Land and Liberty.

And many a maiden, pure and [fair,
Her love and pride must offer
On Mammon's alter in despair,
To fill the masters's doffer.
The gold that pays the mighty [fleet,
From tender youth esqueezes,
While brawny men must walk the [street
And face the winter breezes.

Chorus—should I ever etc.

Why do they mount their gatling [gun
A thousand miles from ocean,
Where hostile fleet could never [run—
Ain't that a funny notion?
If you dont't know the reason [why,
Just strike for better wages,
And then, my friends—if you [don't die—
You'll sing this song for ages.

Chorus—should I ever, etc.

* * *

Words by Joe Hillstrom, who was assassinated last year at Salt Lake City, Utha, by the governor of that State.

TO OUR READERS.

Our readers noted of course, the badly gotten up shape of REGENERACION last week, and no doubt will observe the same in this issue. Orthographic as well as typographical errors were much in evidence. We hope they will realize that this is due to our new condition consequent upon the arrest of our comrades, and to which we have not been able to adopt ourselves as yet. Besides the taking away of our comrades has been a bad blow, and some of us remaining to continue the work have laid aside a pick and shovel to push a pencil which is quite a contrast.

However, it was most inspiring and refreshing to see a host of friends rush to our aid as soon as Ricardo and Enrique had been dragged away, enabling us to pull out the paper on regular time.

As to the case of our comraders Ricardo and Enrique, they are still in jail as no bail has yet been arranged. They will appear in court for preliminary hearing on Monday, March 13.

R. B. GARCIA.

"LAND AND LIBERTY. Mexico's Battle for Economic Freedom and its Relation to Labor's World-Wide Struggle." Selected from writings of Ricardo Flores Magon, Antonio de P. Araujo and Wm. C. Owen.—10c a copy. In orders of over 25 copies, 7c. per copy.

WILSON

THE LACKEY OF CARRANZA

Under the avove caption "The Blast," published in San Francisco by Alexander Berkman, has the following to say about the Magon case:

On February 18 agents of the Federal Government forced their way into the office of REGENERACION, the Revolutionary weekly of the mexican Liberal Party, published in Los Angeles, and brutally beat up and arrested the editors of the paper, Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon.

I know Ricardo and Enrique, and I am proud to call them my comrades and friends. They are men of that rare type seldom produced outside of Russia and Mexico: Men who have sacrificed social position, confort and safety for the cause of the people. Men big enough to live in the direst poverty in order to devote their time, ability and means to further revolution and liberty. Present-day America has failed to evolve such superior types of social consciousness. Indeed, it has not even learned to appreciate them. Their fate is misunderstanding, persecution and prison.

In spite of tremendous obstacles the Magons and their co-workers have for years been carrying on their great work. A double task faced them: to educate and organize the Mexican people into an effective weapon of revolution and, still more important—and more difficult—to enlighten the American people to the real issues involved i the Mexican uprising. It is due to a great extent to the efforts of REGENERACION and the Mexican Liberal Party in this country that Roosevelt and his presidential successors did not dare to interfere in Mexico.

No wonder that the activity of the Brothers Magon has proven a thorn in the flesh of the American exploiters and native oppressors of Mexico. The cry of Land and Liberty has been finding a thousand-fold echo in the bleeding hearts of the peons. Now Carranza and his henchmen have determined to stifle this rebel voice.

Repeatedly these bloodsuckers of Mexico have attempted to suppress these brave comrades. Roosevelt then President of these free United States, used the whole power of the Federal Government to aid Perfidious Diaz in in stamping out the revolutionary agitation of the Mexican Liberal Junta. Many of our brave Mexican comrades were railroaded to prison.

And now it is the learned academician in the White House who is hastening to the aid of Carranza and Wall Street, to suppress the work of REGENERACION. They will again try to send the Magons to the penitentiary. We call on all rebels and fair-minded people not to permit this outrage.

An Appeal

Our readers are no dout aware of the arrest of our comrades Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon on February 18, by the Federal authorities.

It would seem that the age of political persecution was long past, but unfortunatley it is not so, as shown by this latest outrage upon Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon.

When the monstruous Diaz had full sway in Mexico, all he had to do was to stretch his long arm across the border and drag any political refugee from American soil to be stood between a stone wall and a firing squad and shot like a dog. This barbarous and nouseating spectable finally aroused such storm of indignation that when the tyrant was hurled into oblivion by a downtrodden and outraged people, a sigh of relief went up with the satisfaction that such stone-age methods would never be heard of again. But tyrants come and go and Capitalism remains enthroned using the same old tools.

It comes with singularly poor and humiliating grace for 'free'America to prosecute our comrades for inciting the Mexican soldiers to shoot their officers, as pointed out in one of the counts of the indictment, when we call to mind that at the outset of the European war George Bernards Shaw called upon the British soldiers to shoot their officers and go home, without as much as being molested. But then, this is not England.

Most well informed radicals know that the Magons are marked for persecution because they have given their energies, time and life to the agitation of a cause that teachs the workers that if they must fight and sacrifice themselves, for somthing, to do it for absolute Emancipation and not handouts, crumbs and charity.

But in particular they are persecuted because they have shouldered the task of urging the Meixcan laboring masses that if they must shed their blood in the present Revolution, to do it for the absolute FREE POSSESSION OF THE LAND with ALL that is in it and never to lay down their arms until every exploiter and traficker in human blood has been driven out or put to work.

These are things we are forced to repeat in order to make them emphatic, and this is the crime of our oomrades, the Magons.

The highways are bleached with the bones and soaked with the blood of our forefathers who suffered tortures and gave their lives to secure whatever little liberties we have, and in particular the right of every human to think and express himself as he pleases, and now come the 20th century barbarians, in this age of the wireless and aeroplane to crush the misorly political liberties conquered in the long and dark past.

We appeal to the red-blooded rebels who are tired of this sickening spectacle; to those who realiaze that apathy and submission mean the stripping of whatever meager wrights we retain; to those who aspire and strive for a world without masters or slaves, to come to the aid of our comrades Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon, and do all in their power to save them from this latest outrage of the masters who threaten to railroad them to prison again.

A defence Committee has been organized in connection with the International Workers Defence League, to raise funds for the defence of Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon.

The following officers have been named to represent this branch:

Luke North, President.
Egecumb Pinchon, General Secretary,
P. D. Noel, Financial Secretary.
Dr. Percival T. Gerson, Treasurer.

All moneys for the defence should be sent as follows:

P. D. Noel,
621 American National Bank Bldg.
Los Angeles, Cal.

REGENERACION GROUP.

Such Is Life

Of course the Latin-Americans —Mexicans, Chileans, Argentines, and all that sort of people— are vastly inferior to us, beimg way behind in economic development. Nevertheless they seem able occasionally to hit a nail on the head. A report to the Congress on Christian Work in Latin-America, rendered by the Commission on Survey and Occupation, is an illustration. It says:

Nothing is more deep-seated in the Latin-American mind than doubt concerning the unselfishness of the United States in her foreign policies in the western hemisphere. No ammount of venevolent protestations, no meritorious service of the Monroe doctrine, efface the moral effect of the annexation of mexican territory as a result of the war of 1848, the permanent occupation of Porto Rico, even though acceptsle to a majorrity of Porto Ricans. and circumstances of acquiring the Panama Canal Zone strip. The United States and her people suffer from these causes in Latin America, the disability from which they are exempt in Asia. There, all Europeans are under suspicion because of many instances of territorial aggression."

Roosevelt, the impatient, grew weary of Congressional investigations, wanted anyhow to have the glory of fathering the Panama Canal, and took the law into his hands, as is the way of gentlemen born in the purple. His methods were characteristic of the man. First he got up a revolution in Colombia, which was so engineered as to include a threatened attack on United states interests. Under that pretext he swiped the Panama sripe, and ever since that theft it has been made the excuse for militarism, with all the endless expenditures and pork-barrell steals militarism involves. First, the navy had to be enlarged; then stupendous fortifications had to be erected; now an army of 25,000 is demanded, to fortify the fortifications. And so it goes. What a lucrative game is invasion, theft, militarism, the gospel that might makes right!

Now we have passed into the repentant stage, but, like true hucksters, we are haggliug over the dollars we should pay as penance. Colombia demands an apology, just as we demanded an apology from Huerta. Over that we boggle. Colombia demands an indemnity of $25,000,000 but the Foreing Relations Committee of the United States thinks——— $15,000,000 ought to be enough. That we have been thieves is now frankly admited, you understand. How dignified is our position!

Put such facts as these in your pipes, you who think us brutes for not melting into tears when Mr. Wilson speechifies on the benevolence of Uncle Sam; his determination that he will never grab for others' territory, as do the wicked European Powers; his truly philanthropic yearnings to head an international league that shall act as policeman throughout this hemisphere and put down nefarious malcontents. It is a fine net these ambitious politicians, led by the soft-voiced Woodrow Wilson, are weaving; a net to catch the sucker. A net that, unless we tear it to shreds immediatly, will grow and grow, until it tangles in its fatal meshes every nation that dares to strike for freedom, and every man or woman who has the audacity to think a rebel thought. Politicians, drunk with the insolence of office will hold its strings, and the authority the Roman Catholic church once wielded, to the paralysis of human thought, will be as nothing to it. Socialists should vote and work and pray for Wilson, because he, of all men at this moment, typifies most completely that worship of what Hugo Munsterberg calls "Over-Individual;" that is to say, the State. He, of all men, represents most faithfully that "Trust the politicians" which is the cornerstone of Socialism. Vote and work for him, you Socialists and Socilistic Anachrists. Join hands witn the Roman Catholics, as Ernest Renan, that great because truly philosophic historian, always said you would. Come off the fence and plump frankly for Government, as necessary to man's salvation. "Look to the State" was the motto, taken from Mathew Arnold, which the late Laurence Gronlund put on the title page of his " Co-operative Commonwealth," I can remember when it was your favorite textbook. Live up to it.

John Bagot, editor of the "Midleton Guardian," a large and influential English daily, has been a stalwart champion of Mexico's disinherited for he is a devoted follower of Henry George and hates land monopoly most bitterly. He wrote me recently that things in Mexico appeared to him most disapointing. Why? Simply because, in the turmoil of the European war, he has lost track of Mexican development. I pay him the compliment of assuming, as of course, that he is not one of the rabble that expect a nation to work out its emancipation betwen night and morning, or in strict accordance with the plans and specifications of doctrinaires. He is too intelligent for that; too well read in history; knows, for example, what a long and stony path the French Revolutionists had to tread in order to effect even the comparatively small changes they actually effected. In reality things in Mexico are moving with a rapidity that seems to me almost incredible. Too fast for solid permanence, I fear.

First, as to the land. I take the following from a leading editorial in the "Christian Science Monitor," the editorial being headed "Down to a Fundamental:"—"To employ familiar phraseology, the land oy Yucatan is now being nationalized. Land monopoly in that state is undergoing abolition. The single-tax idea is being enforced. There are numerous details, but, simplified, the law garantees to every Mexican or foreigner, more than seventeen years old, living in the state, the right (always provided that he intends personally to cultivate it) to a piece of land where, by means of his labor, he may obtain what is necessary to maintain his family, thus acquiring economic idependence and the comforts necessary for living quietly according to his social condition. This means more than a declaration of economic freedom; it can be made possible only through spiritual and intellectual liberation." I need not tell Mr. Bagot, but unfortunately it is still necessary to explain to the general public, that Single Tax is not land nationalization, the latter being a system of State Ownership which Henry George vehemently exposed and condemned.

Again, Washington despaches of Feb. 9 informed us that the United States government was protesting against a decree issued by the Governor of Aguascalientes which cancels various concessions held by American Smelting Companies and other foreign interests; and, yet again, the paper of the following day brought a terrific howl to the effect that Pastor Rouaix, the Minister in charge of the departments of Public Works, Commerce, Manufacture and Agriculture, had recommended to Carranza the nulification of oil concessions on which the petroleum companies, chiefly American and British, claim to have invested fully $200,000,000.

I select at random because I merely wish to indicate the general trend, and that is always the important thing. Is it not also eminently suggestive of the revolutionary fever now permeating Mexico that in Vera Cruz, and with the sanction of the authorities, it has been decided to keep the anniversary of the execution of the Chicago Anarchists as an annual holiday and a newly-opened plaza there has been christened after Francisco Herrer Vera Cruz is an important city, the Liverpool of Mexico.

The "Appeal to Reason" denounces in bitter terms the attack on John Kenneth Turner recently made in the "Los Angeles Daily Times," and prints a reply by himself, in which he shows how he denounced Huerta in New York magazines and specifically denies that he ever received money for his writings from either Madero or Carranza. As the charges were exceedingly definite I regret that neither the "Appeal to Reason" nor Turner himself seems to think of suing the "Times" for libel and collecting swinging damages.

WM. C. OWEN.