

Regeneración English Section

Published by voluntary
Subscription.
Single copy 5c.

No. 252
Saturday Jan. 13, 1917

Send money payable to the Editor
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Will You Hear Us Now?

(Translated from the Spanish section.)

BROTHERS OF MISERY.

GREETINGS:

One by one, like soap bubbles, the beautiful promises that Carranza made last year in Veracruz, when he yelled himself hoarse crying that with his revolt the Social Revolution had begun, have been vanishing.

The biggest of those soap bubbles, the most pleasant, attractive and beautiful for you, was the promise to give you the land; the land that Carranza promised to expropriate from the rich, to give to the disinherited. That soap bubble has for some time disappeared from the carranzista political horizon, but there are those among you who still believe that such promises will be fulfilled.

For the benefit of those. I translate the following dispatch which appeared the 14th of this month in the "Times", of this city:

"WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—

A decree ordering that various PROPERTIES TAKEN OVER BY THE MEXICAN DE FACTO GOVERNMENT BE RETURNED TO THE OWNERS, since "the reasons which compelled the government to exercise its power of intervention no longer exist," was announced in semi-official dispatches reaching Washington today from the Mexican capital. The message said THE PROPERTY TO BE RESTORED INCLUDED sixty-seven city tracts, mostly in Mexico City; NUMEROUS RANCHES IN THE STATES OF PUEBLA, VERACRUZ, HIDALGO, TLAXCALA AND COAHUILA."

Altho the above dispatch speaks for itself, let me explain it still better: Carranza promised to expropriate the land from the rich to deliver it to its rightful owners, the workers, when he needed your moral and personal help so that his revolt might prosper to the extent that he could enter into agreements with the capitalists of this country and be heard by them, to the end that his support, which he considers superior to yours, might give him supremacy in the Mexican conflict and in that way assure the coveted power.

But now that "the reasons which compelled Carranza to exercise his power of intervention upon the properties of the rich, no longer exist," that is, now that Carranza has already succeeded in being the favored one of the american capitalists and that they are now helping him retain his power, there no longer exists any reason for Carranza continuing to represent himself as a friend of yours, whose help he no longer considers necessary, so it is very natural that he now return the lands to the rich which he had taken away from them to use as a bait for you, that you might go to shed your blood for his benefit in the belief that you were doing it for your own good, to conquer the land for all.

What a curse, what numberless crimes are confined in the black heart of Carranza! Like the cat with the mouse, Carranza has played with you, allowing you to go about dreaming yourself free, to then descend upon you, sinking his claws unmercifully until causing you to bleed with the decree of the 1st of August and those that have followed, apportioning the death penalty right and left among you, even for petty theft, in his anxiety to protect the interests of the rich.

So you see, mexican proletarian brothers, what sort of a monster you have placed upon your backs, expecting to achieve by means of government what no government shall ever give you: the land; that is absolute liberty and the right to live; because the mission of the

government, as the fabrication that it is of the rich, is to watch for their interests; and the interests of the rich are that we the poor never be free.

Brothers: it is over a year now since we have been telling you not to support Carranza because he is as false as Madero, as false and brutal as Huerta and Porfirio Diaz, and as every man you lift has to be, no matter how good, honest and sincere he may be while on a level with you, and how beautiful his promises may be. A man, every man, all men, become perverted in as much as they feel themselves with power, with authority.

Carranza appeared to be a good man, honest, sincere, and you allowed yourself to be deceived by him, without lending an ear to our disinterested advice; and today you suffer the consequences. Today you see that, as we told you, you went in vain to risk your life in the battles for him; today you see that, as we have told you since then, he does not give you the land but returns it to the rich, and that, as we also told you he would do, he also has cast aside the mask of libertarian that he used to deceive you, and now appears just as he is, a brutal tyrant that orders you shot even because you use your just right to declare yourselves on strike to better your conditions.

Open your eyes, brothers! Let this terrible and painful deception cause you to comprehend that we are right in telling you that if you want to be free and happy, do not overthrow a government to put another in its place, but to fight against all governments, since it is the government that with the bayonets of its soldiers helps the rich to keep us in slavery, and that you also, fight against the Church, because she, with her preachments of docility, of resignation and of terror to a hell that does not exist, impedes that you think and act against the masters; with which she rivets your chains of slaves.

Proletarian mexican brothers: We act in good faith with you, because we are not so miserable of spirit as to want to be your rulers; we do not aspire to any power over you. Our only aspiration is that we all be free; and to achieve this, that we all be the owners in common of the earth, of the houses, the factories, the machines, instruments of work, and of all the means of production, of transportation and communication. In a few words, we want all to be equally for all, and that we all be workers, honest producers, without having any longer the parasites of Capital, Government and Church to support and to suck our blood.

So, then, we have no bastard interest when we again give you this advice that, if you take it, shall redound to the benefit of all of us who are poor. Always fight against the rich, against all government and against the clergy, and making yours the ideals embraced by our Manifesto of the 23rd of September, 1911, which I recommend you to read, put them into practice before long.

If you do so, we shall all soon be brothers, equal and free.

Your brother for Land and Liberty.

ENRIQUE FLORES MAGON.

COBWEBS

(Translated from the Spanish section.)

The people are flies; but stupid flies that fall by the thousands in the cobwebs. The ruler, the bourgeois and the priest need do nothing else than to lay their cobwebs and the human flies immediately fall into them.

The flies, the real flies, flee from

the cobweb; the human flies seek it. What a stupid fly the human fly is!

Listen to that sound: it is the buzz of the human flies who make haste to fall in the cobweb. They go to bed thinking of the cobweb, they dream of the cobweb and dress up in a hurry to go in search of the cobweb.

The cobweb of the ruler is a great cobweb to which all the flies are attracted. They know that the governmental spider shall devour them. But they come anyway, and one fly rings all her blood for the Administration of Rents, so that the spider may sustain itself; another signs an electoral ballot to name a new spider, when the old one has sucked enough, for, justice above all, there are some lean spiders, and it is necessary for them to get fat; that spider sweats building walls to lock up the unruly flies who grumble at the spider; another patches the old cobweb over and over again, reforming it, that it may not rot with old age, for, as the flies say, what could we do without a cobweb? And the flies all buzz, sacrificing themselves for the spider.

And here, another cobweb: the cobweb of the bourgeois. The flies trample upon each other to fall in it. They even rise early to reach the cobweb-factory quicker, that the spider may suck their blood! And once squeezed, they return toward the cobweb-movies and toward the cobweb-theater to leave what juice they have left and where they learn to respect the spiders of all sizes and denominations, and if they still have a little blood left, they return buzzing toward the cobweb-stores where they lose the last particle of vital juice; but, say the imbecile flies, what could we the flies do without the spider and his cobweb? And the flies sweat, toil and die to give life to the spider.

This cobweb is the priest's. The hairy and big-bellied spider that inhabits it, like the juice as well as the brains of the flies. To leave the flies without brains, is, however, his greatest delight, because, stupefied that way, they shall meekly allow the spiders to suck their blood. The human flies are attracted like real flies to this cobweb, and while the spider sucks them, they dream of a greater cobweb suspended from the stars, and inhabited by a greater spider that contents itself with eating from the flies the chaff cast to him by the spiders of the Earth; but as the idiotic insects say, what would become of us without the spider? And there they go, buzzing, on their way to the cobweb-temple, the stunned flies, to sacrifice themselves for the spider.

Oh, you broom! It is time for you to shake your indolence and clean the cobwebs from this old Earth.

RICARDO FLORES MAGON.

TRESCA AND COMRADES FREE.

The news of the release of Carlo Tresca, Sam Scarlett, Joe Schmidt, Mrs. Masonovich and John Orlandich, have come as a most unexpected and pleasant surprise. From SOLIDARITY of December 23 we take the following extracts:

"In open court before Judge Cant at Duluth last Friday the 15th, a settlement proposed by the state and previously ratified by all the defendant prisoners as the best that could probably be obtained even after a long and expensive trial, the state made a complete surrender on murder charges against all 8 defendants; releasing Tresca, Scarlett, Mrs. Masonovich, Schmidt and Orlandich; and substituting a charge of manslaughter against Masonovich, Cernogorovich and

Nickich, to which these three pleaded guilty.

"Readers will understand that the defendants, familiar with the situation, were the best fitted to decide whether any proposed settlement should be considered. The matter was fully discussed with Tresca, Scarlett and Schmidt. After careful inquiry as to details, all three were of the opinion that importance of the matter suggested a submission of the entire plan to the other defendants, Masonovich, Orlandich, Cernogorovich and Nickich for their sole decision as to what action should finally be taken.

Speaking to them thru Nickich, Gilday said: "Now, boys, this is a matter in which you have the entire say, nothing has been decided upon, nothing will be done without your thoro consent and approval; if it meets with your approval we will treat with the other side, if not—we shall go to trial." After the details had been given them they all with one accord shouted their approval; Phillip saying: "I be glad to take three years even, if these men"—pointing to Scarlett, Schmidt and Tresca—"could be freed, because they can do more good than we can. Gilday says my family be taken care of, so what do I care?" Orlandich when told he would be free, protested and insisted that he be allowed to go to prison with the others. All agreed finally that he should go out and care for the Masonovich family until Phillip be released; then—while all present, already deeply moved by the spirit of solidarity shown—strove vainly to conceal their emotions, Cernogorovich and Nickich begged that each be privileged to assume the sentence of Phillip Masonovich and have it added to their own so that Phillip might go free. The impossibility of this being explained, they gave a cordial and unqualified assent to the plans.

"An agreement being reached, next morning in open court with the approval of the court, Masonovich, Cernogorovich and Nickich were sentenced to an indeterminate term in the penitentiary and so eligible under the rule to parole at the end of one year, and the defendants of the second group—Tresca, Scarlett and Schmidt—released upon an indefinite postponement of their case without bond of recognizance for their return and with the expressed understanding with counsel ratified by the court, that they were to go from the Range only when their convenience permitted and were so disposed. No exaction of any kind was made as to the limitation of activity on the part of any of these organizers on or off the Range.

"Tresca, Scarlett and Schmidt left Saturday for the Range where they spoke before immense audiences."

The surrender of the mercenary court shows that it had an unpleasant job in its hands; the frame-up against Tresca and his comrades was so clumsy and raw and the resentment and widespread agitation was proving so menacing to the interests of the masters, that they sought a way out of the situation. A very gratifying and inspiring feature of the strike and the case in general, was the solidarity shown by the workers, and especially by the prisoners who actually begged to serve the terms of those whom they thought more useful to the cause.

With the end of this case all the energies that were to be used in that fight will now evidently be concentrated upon the I. W. W. fight at Everett and Seattle which is in sore and just need of support.

R. G. COX.

"The Social War"

It is with much delight that we have received the following communication from Theodore Appel, Secretary of the International

Propaganda Group, of Chicago: "As you know that "Revolt" and "The Alarm" have been suppressed by the federal authorities, a few months ago, here is our answer: THE SOCIAL WAR; organ of Revolutionary outcasts, will make its appearance on the 1st of January. Hippolyte Havel will edit the new publication. Subscription fifty cents a year."

Those who had the good fortune to read "The Alarm" and "Revolt" know the mettle and spirit that characterized them. They also know that these clarions of the Revolution were short-lived because they never bowed to Authority, and went down fighting to the very last.

So, we can rest assured that THE SOCIAL WAR, which now rises where "Revolt" and "The Alarm" fell, will be a most worthy successor to its gallant progenitors. We are sorely in need of those voices that will call things by their naked names and arouse the slumbering mass from their present torpor.

Subscribe and boost for THE SOCIAL WAR, and see that it will not fail for lack of support.

R. G. C.

RICARDO SICK.

For the first time in his literary career, RICARDO FLORES MAGON has been forced by his bad health to lay his pen aside while out of prison. In consequence, the last two issues of REGENERACION have come out without any of his contributions.

The terrible strain of years and years of persecution, imprisonment and privations have begun to tell, and Ricardo is today in a real bad way. While suffering these ailments for a long time, he has always managed to brush them aside and stick to his work day and night. Not so now.

As time passes his condition grows worse, and of late he has been mostly confined, going about with much effort, and only in the hope of improving with the outside exercise and fresh air.

While Ricardo's condition is really serious, doctors have said that he can recover his health with the proper care and nutrition. But who has ever heard of such a thing being possible for social rebels! The work of keeping REGENERACION afloat alone is more than trying enough, and under such circumstances it only takes some very small figures to mean a great deal, especially in times like the present.

We would hate like all the Dickens to see REGENERACION go. And we would hate none the less to see Ricardo go. Still, they both must be saved. After all, the treatment to assure Ricardo's health does not entail a big expense, but it is a great thing to us, and we cannot save the paper and Ricardo at the same time.

Under the circumstances we can do nothing else but leave the matter in the hands of those who think that REGENERACION is doing a good work, and that Ricardo's life is necessary to continue that work. However, this is a critical moment, and if something is to be done, it must be done NOW, or soon it will be too late.

R. G. COX.

CAPLAN SENTENCED.

After being found "guilty of manslaughter" without ever having been connected in any way with such crime during his trial, comrade David Caplan was sentenced to ten years imprisonment in San Quintin Penitentiary.

Ten years is the maximum penalty in this particular case, and the stone age dignity that acted as judge not content with seeing Caplan convicted without evidence gave him the limit because "the charges against him were of a most serious nature, and the other dynamiters had been convicted of the crime of taking

twenty one lives." (Words to that effect.)

Some justice this; and if the Law and Order brigands think that everything is well and everybody is satisfied with their brazen effrontery, they are sadly mistaken, for, while they are blindly abusing their power the groans of an oppressed and outraged mass become louder and louder, and the rumble of something that impends grows more and more pronounced all the time.

A motion for a new trial by Caplan's attorneys was denied by the court, as well as an application to admit him to bail pending appeal.

Worn out with the long confinement, Caplan preferred to begin serving his term at once in the hope that the more open environs of the penitentiary will prove better for his health than the close confinement of the jail. Besides, in this way his time begins to count from the start, which is not so while in jail. Comrade Caplan was taken to San Quintin Tuesday night (Jan. 9) and despite the suffering of his long incarceration, his spirit is unbroken; in fact, his demeanor on the day of his departure was that of one on a pleasure trip to Europe.

The Defense League will continue raising funds for Caplan's appeal while he is serving time, and these can be sent as before, to Katherine L. Schmidt, P. O. Box 935, Los Angeles, Cal.

R. G. COX.

THE DRAMA.

In spite of the countless adversities met with, the play, "Land and Liberty", produced for the first time at T. M. A. Hall on Dec. 30, was a complete success in every respect. The task of presenting a four act drama with seven changes of scenery and a diversity of costumes by amateurs, is not an easy one. but it was done.

While a full house had been expected, the inclement weather of a week forbade this; however, over 500 people attended. Numerous requests for a repetition of the play have been received, and April 7 has been set as the date for the next production.

Blast Office Raided.

The Law and Order hounds of the Chamber of Commerce in San Francisco having failed miserably in their efforts to hang Billings and connect his associates with the charges against them, are now in desperate straits to do better in their anxiety to send Thomas J. Mooney, whose trial has just begun, to the gallows.

Besides all this, eversion the explosion of the 22nd of July, the judicial cutthroats have fairly been itching to get hold of an anarchist, or anybody who looks like one, to hang a hair-raising story on him and snuff his life out, since their apache cry to drive every anarchist out of San Francisco, at the time of the explosion, did not stick at all.

With all these fiascos, and more staring them in the face, and with the added thorn under their hides in the form of the exposure that THE BLAST has made of their dirty work from the very start, they never could forget all this, and decided to end by complimenting THE BLAST with a second raid, in approved Law and Order fashion. Of this we are only informed by the press reports, and knowing that capitalist papers do not exaggerate the excesses of Authority, are not inclined to disbelieve what details are given.

The ruffians who assaulted the office of THE BLAST were led by the sneaky Cunha, Assistant Prosecutor in the Mooney case, and very characteristic of their "law-and-orderliness," they pounced upon comrade Eleanor Fitzgerald, associate editor of THE BLAST, pretending to have a search warrant, but without showing one. The lackeys took everything they considered of importance, carrying with them the mailing lists, letter files, manuscripts and even comrade Fitzgerald's private mail.

The gangsters are desperate to get hold of the moving spirits that have made the defense of Billings, the Mooneys, Nolan and Weinberg possible; and knowing that Alexander Berkman has been one of the most active workers in the Defense League, they are working overtime to fix a frame-

up on him also. Hence the raid upon THE BLAST.

It appears that the papers of most consequence taken by the minions were some unimportant (to them) letters, dating back many months and having no connection with the Mooney case whatever. Nevertheless, they have made a furore about them, spreading their publicity far and wide.

R. G. COX.

REPORT

OF MONEY RECEIVED BY THE INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DEFENSE LEAGUE FOR MAGON DEFENSE.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED \$1,444.24

RECEIPTS FROM SEPT. 1ST TO DEC. 12:

G. Cores and E. Lawrence, London, Eng., \$1.12; Workmen's Circle, 488, New Kensington, Pa., 50c; W. S. D. B. Fund, 3, Yonkers, N. Y., \$2; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn, Mass., \$32.50; W. S. and D. B. F., 280, Van Ness, N. Y., \$1; Cigar Makers Union, 3, Paterson, N. J., \$1; Brwy. Wkrs. 63, Kingston, N. Y., \$1; Book Bdrs. U. 87, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Louis Scharstein Jr., New Port, Ky., 50c; Ella A. Findeisen, Methuen, Mass., 75c; Katherine A. Howard, Methuen, Mass., 75c; Mrs. M. S. Rose, Methuen, Mass., 75c; O. Campbell, West Branch, Ia., \$2; Workmen's Circle Br. 312, Memphis Tenn., \$1; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn, Mass., \$2; A. K. & S. K. Br. 99, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$2; Victor Cravell, Los Angeles, 50c; Mrs. Rigotto, Los Angeles, 25c; Geo. Fusco, Los Angeles, 50c; Mrs. Ruth J. Clark, Tulare, Cal., 50c; A. K. & S. K. 217, Rochele Park, N. J., \$1; Clarissa A. Kneeland, Prather, Cal., \$1; Sarah J. Starks, Alameda, \$1; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn, Mass., \$1; R. W. Browder, Independence, Mo., \$1; C. C. Everson, Palmyra, N. Y., \$1; Dr. Wesley Van Nette, Clyde, Ohio, \$1; "The Rebel", Hallettsville, Texas, \$1; W. S. & D. B. Fund 44, Woodside, L. I., \$1; Workmen's Circle 136, New York City, 50c; Jewish Garment Workers, Los Angeles, \$20; No NAME, Santa Barbara, Cal., \$2; L. A. Mc Fadden, Orcutt Cal., \$2.50; Daniel Kiefer, Cincinnati, Ohio, \$5; Jno. M. Killough, Waco, Texas, 50c; Mr. Leshar, Seattle, Wash., \$1; Clyde R. Kennedy, Nampa, Idaho, \$1; Metzlow, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$1; C. Lind, Bronx, N. Y., 50c; Manuel Pereira, Carmel Cal., \$5; Joe Schroeder, Cos Cob, Conn., \$5; Joe Tosca et al, Bear Creek, Mont., \$10.45; A Tynico, San Francisco, \$1; Socialist Party, Upland Cal., \$2; Springfield Central Trades Labor Assembly, Springfield, Mo., \$2; S. T. Rablen, Sonora, Cal., \$1.25; Steven T. Byington, Ballard Vale, Mass., \$1; Edith Barringer, St. Louis, Mo., \$1; Defense League for Social and Dance, Los Angeles, \$34.45; Mr. Lerner, Los Angeles, \$5.75; Mr. Rosen, Los Angeles, 25c; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn, Mass., \$3; Mrs. Arthur P. Lee, San Francisco, \$3; J. B. Phinney, Springfield, Mo., \$2; John H. Grigsby, Louisville, Ky., \$1; Frank Pece, Los Angeles, \$6.25; Clement Anastasoff, Portland, Ore., \$2; Samuel Solomon, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$1; B. Gordon et al, Detroit, Mich., \$6.45; W. S. & D. B. Fund 210, Allentown, Pa., \$2; R. P. Brownson, Upland Cal., \$5; NO NAME, Anacortes, Wash., \$1; Workmen's Circle 127, Chicago, \$1; Frank Capitola, Indianapolis Ind., \$1; Becky R. Snellenberg, Seattle, Wash., \$8; Fritz A. Hohn, Seattle Wash., \$2; W. S. & D. B. Fund 306, Brooklyn N. Y., \$1; Louis Gath, Arb. Ring 274, Syracuse, N. Y., \$1; V. Myron et al, New York City, \$3.50; Ladies Garment Workers 52, Los Angeles, \$5; Mrs. Cynthia Kneffer, Los Angeles, \$31.10; Mrs. Forrester Sr., Los Angeles, \$3; R. J. Robinson, St. Louis Mo., \$1; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn Mass., \$2; Katherine L. Schmidt, Los Angeles, \$1; Comitato Difesa, Chicago, Ill., \$9.15; W. S. & D. B. Fund 247, Irvington, N. J., \$1; J. B. Phinney, Springfield Mo., \$1; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn, Mass., \$7; Antonio D. Russi, New York City, \$5; Mrs. Reishauer, Los Angeles, \$2; Rose Rogin, New York City, \$10; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn Mass., \$5; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn Mass., \$11; Mr. Lerner, Los Angeles, \$1.50; J. D. Kaufman, Los Angeles, \$1.25; Mr. Cravell, Los Angeles, \$1; Mr. Flinholz, Los Angeles, \$1.50; Mr. Baffa, Los Angeles, 25c; Jose Pereira et al, Barry Docks England, \$19.01; Cronaca Sovversiva, Lynn, Mass., \$1; Charles Weil, Seattle Wash., \$1; A. V. Azura, Edmonton Can., \$1; L'Era Nuova Patterson N. J. \$36.01. TOTAL: \$1,814.98.

KATHERINE L. SCHMIDT.

GEN. AND FIN. SEC'Y.

(Caplan's report in next issue.)