

Regeneration.

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Roosevelt Attacks;
Timid Folk Defend

Roosevelt is distinctly the man of the hour; the bull in the china shop at a moment when china needs smashing, right and left. Absolutely unafraid and unhampered by any of those nice scruples which hold the ordinary man in check, he is dragging everything to the front and forcing us to see our society as it actually is. His own official scandals, dark financial deals supposed to have been put through in impenetrable secrecy—everything is thrust into public view under his heading charge. He himself suffers as deeply as any of his foes. No matter. He is a fighter, who gives and expects to take. By that very fact he is the prince of agitators; a Napoleon who understands the virtue of attack and swift attack. It may be that from him a revolutionary movement which stands eternally on the defensive, afraid to play the winning cards of which his hand is full, will learn a lesson. Hitherto, however, the teachings of the tiger have been wasted on the sheep.

If there is a man in these United States who doubts that Roosevelt fired the fat out of the Harrimans and other plutocrats, that man is either astoundingly ignorant or a natural fool. In the face of overwhelming evidence Roosevelt denied it with an indignant heat that cowed his enemies, cowed them on the very eve of the election that carried him again to power! Did they venture to retaliate? Did they hit back? Did Alton B. Parker step out into the open with his proofs, or Democratic editors blare out to the world the ugly fact that the newly-elected president of the United States had been caught red-handed in a preposterous lie? Not they. They were held back by etiquette. They shrank from branding the first magistrate of our great Republic. They would bide their time, and Roosevelt went on and on, ruling the White House as it never had been ruled before, wheeling here and forcing there; over-riding Congress when it pleased his whim, and stepping for the moment from the throne only to play the more fascinating role of king-maker and put his own self-selected puppet in his place. Today he shouts exultingly to his audiences that he was acting while others were pottering about in idle talk.

Here we have a man who, standing in the limelight, and knowing that his every word will be registered and commented on by a thousand scribes, is not in the least afraid to lie. Face him with facts and he counters instantly with the statement that you are another; yelling it so loud that all further argument is ended. Here we have an Imperialist, if ever there was one, who is not afraid to pose as a Democrat, in a country and in an age that boasts of being at least democratic, whatever else it may or may not be. Here we have a champion of authority as staunch as any Pope can be, who dashes boldly into the enemy's camp, steals the armor that will suit his purpose and rides into the lists clamorously announcing himself the People's Friend. Vainly do the victims protest that the suit belongs to them. He slaps his chest and calls the mob to witness that it fits him to a dot, as in truth it does. Roosevelt, the Imperialist, can wear the garb of Social Democracy, imported from Germany and patented in this country by the Socialist Party, with ease and grace. Why not? To him government is the all-in-all, and so it is to the Social Democrats. To him the one remedy for monopoly by the private citizen is monopoly by the government—and so it is to them. To him every glittering palliative that will gather a following is to be used or thrown aside as time and circumstances may serve. So it is to them. But while they mask their imperialism under a cloud of soothing phrases, Roosevelt tosses aside his sheep-skin without a tremor and shows us the autocratic wolf that grins behind it. In his apparent frankness lies his strength, and he has the political genius to understand it.

Wherever he goes this man stirs the country to its depths, and the stirring is most healthy. He forces it to think, and the process is most beneficial. He blurs out that the day has come for increasing incalculably the powers of government, and in the next breath he says that he has not stolen the Socialist's cloak since he and the Socialists virtually think alike. Thereby the public is compelled to revise its view of Socialism; a view that hitherto has been half guesswork and half hysteria. As President he issues a special message condemning Anarchism, and those who are beginning to shiver at the prospect of the man on horseback, look into that grossly misunderstood philosophy. The result is educational, and I hold that every man can teach the wisest of us something, if only he will be honest and tell exactly what is in his mind. This the timid Jesuits of political Socialism never will do. Roosevelt, on the other hand, is not afraid, and therein lies the secret of his hold upon the masses, whose instinct in this matter runs entirely true.

In politics one has to gain the adherence of the mob. It is a situation that fills the philosopher with dismay, for he knows that the mob is thoughtless and, therefore, the inevitable prey of smooth-tongued or feather-lunged spellbinders. Roosevelt, as it seems to me, captures the mob, because apart from the reasons previously stated, he is a little of everything that the ordinary man would like to be. He shoots, rides, boxes, is an all-round athlete, and thereby conveys that impression of virility which is universal and properly admired. He has established a skeleton of a military reputation, and he is essentially a jingo, as is the ordinary man. He declares that he is a jingo because he is prepared for war to insure peace, and on that pretext he was actually awarded the Nobel prize. That just suits the ordinary man, who feels the necessity of excusing his natural thirst for fight. He is the author of voluminous works, at which, it is true, experts on the subjects treated sneer. That makes no difference. The ordinary man likes to think he is attaching himself to somebody who has left his mark on the world of thought. And so it goes. In politics one must suit all tastes, and Roosevelt's career has been so varied that some responsible note he is always sure to touch. That counts at the polls and the political managers know it.

Whether Republican, Democrat or Socialist, those who pull the strings have always been afraid of Roosevelt; and here he is today, having jumped suddenly into the arena, without time in which to form that elaborate machinery regarded hitherto as indispensable, yet with a following that makes every one of them shiver in his boots. A personality abhorrent to all genuine radicals; a figure full of blackest omen to all true lovers of liberty; yet unquestionably a powerful personality and a commanding figure. Powerful because he is bold and open; commanding because he is always on the attack and attacking on the broadest lines. For the petty sophistries on which so-called revolutionaries exhaust their time and strength he has no taste, but he thinks, tensely, and makes up his mind decisively on central issues, which they cannot. If he becomes president he will pour troops instantly into Mexico, because there government is under fire. To this moment our so-called American Revolutionists cannot understand that they are called on imperatively to take the opposite stand. They pitter over legalities; are not sure whether the Mexicans are or are not good comrades; do not see their way quite clear, and make a thousand excuses for the inaction that suits their sloth and cowardice. So, when a Roosevelt comes along, he cuts through them as a knife through butter, upsetting in the twinkling of an eye the cautious plans they have been maturing timidly for years.

For the benefit of the future historian I reproduce the following from this month's "Current Literature," which is ostensibly impartial. The passage describes the convention at which Roosevelt was nominated, and runs: "The singing of hymns was a feature of the gathering—the 'Battle Hymn of the Republic,' 'Onward, Christian Soldiers,' 'America,' and others. The extent to which the members were swept off their feet appears from the change made, with no apparent sense of its incongruity, in the revival song: 'Follow, follow. We will follow Jesus; Anywhere, everywhere, We will follow on.'"

The name of Roosevelt was substituted for that of Jesus! Started by Michigan delegates, the crowd caught up by the other delegations until practically the entire floor was singing. Can you beat that? Let us all now join in singing, "My Country, 'tis of Thee."

WM. C. OWEN.

BEAUTIES OF GOVERNMENT.

Assuredly we are no admirers of Mr. Taft, but we expect that the statement he has published respecting the increased expenditures under the Roosevelt regime is correct, for he would not dare to falsify the record. We stand in that the cost of running the federal government increased FORTY PER CENT during the seven years in which Roosevelt was president.

It means that officialdom multiplied at every point; that more and more parasites were manufactured, to feed on the producer. It means that more lawyers, more detectives, more soldiers and sailors, more hirelings of a hundred different kinds, were engaged to defend the existing social structure. It means that Roosevelt, the State Socialist, did everything in his power to strengthen and enlarge the governmental machine. This he did not because he was Roosevelt, but because he believed, in direct opposition to Jefferson, that the government which governs most is best. Berger, with his everlasting palliatives, would do just as Roosevelt did, and so would Debs. One and all they believe that the dear people must be governed; one and all they are doing their utmost to multiply governors.

Luminous is the spectacle presented by the leading bourgeois press of all political shades in the land with their "news" from Mexico. When Roosevelt slapped Congress in the face and spat upon international decency by helping to create a revolution in Panama, he attained the popular sentiment to his liking by flooding the public with false reports about Panama. And now the very papers that pretend abhorrence for Roosevelt's methods are deliberately endeavoring to deceive the public with lying reports of "outrages" in southern Mexico to justify Taft's proposed military invasion of that section of Mexico, as part of the finance scheme against Nicaragua. ("Weekly People.")

Taft Sends Sharp
Ultimatum To
Madero

Washington, Sept. 10.—The American state department was denounced as a "Creature of Wall Street conspirators and financial pirates in Mexico" today by Juan Pedro Didapp, Washington representative of the Mexican revolutionists. He formally protested against the United States government in its campaign against the rebels. In a statement today he said: "The Speyer, Morgan and Harriman interests control the Mexican railroads; Henry Clay Pierce and the Standard Oil Company possess a monopoly of Mexican oil lands; the big business interests in Mexico are John Hays Hammond and Charles P. Taft. These are the powers which are forcing the state department openly to assist Madero. 'If the state department grants belligerent rights to the revolutionists they will guarantee to protect all American lives and property in the republic and all friction along the border with Americans will cease.'"

"News from the southern States infected with the germ of rebellion," says the "Los Angeles Daily Times," under date of Sept. 9, "indicates that the real problem of restoring order will center in the south instead of in the north. The movement headed by Zapata has resolved itself into a struggle between classes, with the majority of fighting men in full sympathy with Zapata to partition the great land holdings among the workers."

"President Madero and his Cabinet are giving much attention to the details of a plan to break up the big haciendas, but his hands are tied by the resistance offered by the rebels themselves." It was expected that law suspending guarantees would cause a large number of rebels to give up their arms, but so far the government has been disappointed.

"That the revolution is slowly spreading and the conditions in Mexico gradually are becoming worse, if such were possible, is admitted by everyone familiar with the facts, and the question is whether or not the government will be able to stem the tide in time to save the country from utter ruin and anarchy."

Of course it will be self-apparent to our readers that Mexico will be ruined irretrievably if her natural resources are taken out of the hands of the few and given to those who actually work them, and we do not wonder that the United States government at Washington intends to intervene. Think of the chaos that would ensue in this country if the Astors or Truities Church were no longer permitted to levy their monthly—or, for that matter, hourly and minutely—tribute on the tenement house workers of New York City! Fancy the awful confusion that would follow our own national determination to stop this business of allowing Mr. Verelstuyver to bottle up thirty-one million acres for our choicest timber! Picture to yourself the thunders of the pulpit if Americans were to fly in the face of Providence by declaring that their own country was intended for the use and enjoyment of those who make it their home.

Let us be thankful that we have a government in Washington that knows its duty when it sees it, just as England knew its duty when it formed the European coalition that undertook to put down the French Revolution. What duty could have been more sacred than that of flying to the succor of the "delicately-scented seigneurs lounging in the Ode de Boeni," and rescuing them from the "robbers and cut-throats" who had grown tired of being broken on the wheel and hung at the chateau gates when they no longer could pay their taxes? What charge is there more incumbent on our own civilized government than that of restoring Chihuahua to Terrazas, or seeing that the tobacco planters of the Valle Nacional are protected and the benighted plantations of Yucatan adequately policed? As the "Times" so nobly puts it: "Police duty has none of the glory and all of the suffering of a military campaign. Intervention means policing Mexico with Uncle Sam's soldiers. But no thought of loss or sacrifice can deter us from doing our duty." When the call comes we should always be ready to sacrifice even the very nearest and dearest of our wife's relatives; from the painful necessity of sending the American workmen down into the hot lands of Mexico our bankers and Wall Street brokers should not flinch.

Ultimatum Sent.

Friday, September 6, brought what is really the news of the week, viz. that Senator Manuel Caldera, of Texas, had left for Mexico City, bearing an ultimatum from President Taft. It was to the effect that, unless Americans and their property were protected, United States troops "would go across Mexico both ways and stop the revolution." We quote the "Times" despatch:

All subsequent news has been little more than an elaboration on that main theme. Madero has been reported as declaring—for about the twentieth time—that his government is making magnificent headway in the suppression of the revolution. On the other hand, Salazar has come much to the front, the papers writing screaming headlines to convey the assurance that he intends to massacre every American on whom he can lay hands. Here is what he actually said, under date of September 9:

"We will move slowly westward to a point about five miles south of Agua Prieta, or thereabouts. We expect to be joined there by General Campa's command, and we will then march on Agua Prieta, which we should take without serious resistance."

"Once in possession of Agua Prieta, we will have entire control of Sonora state within a week. Cananea and Nacozari must fall within that time. We will use the Nacozari railroad to transport our troops south."

"We will endeavor to observe the rights of non-combatants, but Americans and other foreigners who fight us will be treated just the same as federal soldiers—they will be shot like dogs."

Twenty-five Thousand Ready. The general situation, especially as regards preparations made by the United States, may be shown by the following Washington telegram which we take from the "Los Angeles Evening Herald" of September 9: "Orders have been issued to the entire regular army of the United States to be in readiness for an instant move on Mexico. Only the word of President Taft, declaring intervention, is now needed and the long threatened invasion of northern Mexico by United States troops will become a reality."

So tense was the situation along the Mexican border today, and so keen the interest felt in every branch of Washington's official family, that the heads of the bureau of the war and state departments arrived at their desks several minutes before the usual hour for opening this morning.

"Major General Leonard Wood, chief of staff, announced that his forces were ready for any presidential order. 'We can put 25,000 men into Mexico or at the border on 48 hours' notice,' he said. 'Within a week we could have twice that number at the front and still retain a substantial 'home guard.'"

President Taft has announced that he will not take final action until a special session of Congress has been called, but opinions differ as to when that will be done. Meanwhile he has done his best to assist Madero's cause by permitting the passage of Mexican troops, bound for Sonora, across American soil. This has been done despite hundreds of telegrams of protest from influential citizens in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, who fear that such a step will invite immediate reprisals by the rebels.

Must Protect Property. The following statement by U. S. Senator Carron, of New Mexico, has been given out: "Are we going to intervene in Mexico? Why, that's the only thing we can do. If soon will be necessary to send troops to Mexico to save American lives. The Mexicans are more hostile to Americans than to any other people. American interests already have been jeopardized to the extent of a half billion dollars. If I had \$1000 invested in Mexico, I would not consider it worth more than \$50. That's why intervention is absolutely necessary. I believe troops will be sent there soon, how persistently the property of Americans is struck. American investments have gone to smash, and that is the whole trouble. According to the despatches of September 10, Salazar's force, which has been burning railway bridges, etc., destroyed \$1,000,000 worth of American property within twenty-four hours."

According to telegrams of Sept. 11, the Southern Pacific Railway has appealed to Washington for protection of its Mexican properties, the chairman of the executive board having given out a public announcement that "the United States would be expected to guarantee such protection, inasmuch as the Mexican government seemed absolutely powerless." It was stated that in Sonora alone the company had sustained losses amounting to several million dollars.

Desert and Join Rebels.

Gen. Steever, in command of the United States frontier forces, has been calling formally for more men, and at this writing has about 6000, guarding a line 2000 miles long. Orders have been issued to points as distant as Chicago that preparations for moving troops at a moment's notice should be made, and not a day has passed without news to a similar effect. On the other hand, the American papers complain that Madero has been sending no troops North, and give ominous accounts of rebels and federalists making common cause already, anticipating the intervention they consider certain. It was reported most definitely, Sept. 6, that Gen. Jose de la Cruz Sanchez, who always has been regarded as staunch supporter of Madero and has been entrusted with the recruiting of volunteers, had deserted to Orozco, at Ojinaga, taking with him 3000 rifles, half a million rounds of ammunition and 200 men. The military reports from the frontier have been to the effect that the revolutionists have been busy collecting arms and provisions, with, as is supposed, the intention of falling back on Central Mexico when intervention actually comes. It is safe to prophesy that they will pursue guerrilla tactics, at which they are experts, and that they will put their intimate knowledge of the country to the best account. It will be no orthodox, old-fashioned campaign in which the Mexicans inferentially kindly make themselves targets for the enemy's artillery. This is the day of the repeating rifle, with which the Mexicans are well supplied, and of individual warfare.

According to Washington despatches transports have been engaged at ports on both seaboard, and necessary supplies are packed and waiting at convenient points.

It appears to be now beyond doubt that a definite plot to seize Mexico City was discovered and frustrated by the police. Four executions have taken place in connection therewith. Inspectors of Police Cuernavaca is quoted as stating that 1500 armed recruits were within the city gates, waiting for the signal. "El Diario" ventures the statement that the Zapatistas themselves are not so great a danger as are "the thousands of half-starved people who would welcome an opportunity to loot the rich commercial houses."

The "Times" exclusive Washington despatch of September 12 runs: "President Taft has given President Madero thirty days in which to protect American property and lives in Mexico. If Madero fails to do this, the United States will require that he immediately resign. If Madero should refuse to resign, intervention will be followed. This statement was made here today by a high official of the Department of State to Juan Pedro Didapp, representative of the Mexican revolution in Washington. Though the name of the official is withheld, credence is given the statement here in view of recent events in the Mexican situation."

NICARAGUA AND HONDURAS.

"The Senate has not looked kindly upon the policy of the state department with reference to Nicaragua and Honduras," writes John Callan O'Laughlin, in the "Chicago Tribune." He continues: "A year and a half ago Mr. Knox signed a treaty with the minister of Honduras, and six months later a treaty with the minister of Nicaragua, under which this government agreed to aid the countries named in making a loan for the refunding of their debts, those countries consenting to an administration of their customs like that which has been conducted so successfully in the Republic of Santo Domingo. Unfortunately, the treaties were so drawn as to be open to charges that the state department was serving as the agent of Wall Street. A contract was made with the Honduras government and a group of New York bankers, headed by J. Pierpont Morgan & Co., which, it was alleged, was less in the interest of the Central American Republic than in that of the American financiers. Moreover, the treaty with Honduras placed in the hands of these financiers the selection of the collector-general of customs and practically bound the United States to back him up. The same consideration was shown whatever bankers undertook the Nicaraguan loan."

The article concludes with the statement that "what the Senate wants above everything is to develop a broad policy under which Mexico and Central America may have peace and orderly development. This is essential to the United States, because foreign governments look to this country to protect their interests."

Note how Morgan dominates the situation, and reflect that, if it were not Morgan, it would be some other financial king. Note also the last sentence, which gives the one reason why intervention in Mexico by the United States is inevitable. The revolution is inevitable. The people's blood and treasure shall not be poured forth to protect the financial interests of absentee landlords and insurers. The capitalist position is that what calls itself "property," however acquired, must be protected at any cost. The issue is clear-cut, and sooner or later, on one or the other side every one must take a stand.

We are indebted for the above quotations to "The Public," official organ of the Single Tax. In itself, the Single Tax is most revolutionary, for, through unflinchingly, it would swallow up the profits of land monopoly. The trouble is that "The Public" and most of those who figure in the Single Tax movement, are not revolutionary. The Mexican upheaval, which is putting so many to the test, shows that conclusively. In the case stated "The Public" takes the capitalist position, and is obviously in favor of intervention, though it does not say so openly. The late Voltairine de Cleyre wrote us from Chicago, more than a year ago, that such was its position.

TO CHICAGO COMRADES.

It appears that the death of Voltairine has caused much consternation among the various elements that compose the "Regeneration" group in this city. For my part, it is with true sorrow that I find we are so impressionable as to be overwhelmed with the fact that the laws of nature have been fulfilled. Especially when I consider the nature of this struggle, in which there are needed an immense quantity of self-denial, of character and of conviction, if we are to reach the glorious end we have set before ourselves. Are we to be paralyzed by the loss of a companion who was active in the struggle, and to abandon ourselves to sleep in the arms of negligence? What shall we prove thereby? Simply that we are idolaters; that we are a band of sheep needing the guidance of a pastor; that we ourselves are nothing.

I cannot deny that I myself feel, in the depths of my heart, a great sorrow for the loss of our dear friend. Nevertheless, I feel also a great and exasperating desire for liberty, and to the conquest of that liberty I dedicate all my energies. And in doing this I believe, that the most fervently sympathetic testimony we can offer the martyrs of liberty and right is to follow the path they trod until we gain the glowing summit of our aspirations.

Dear comrades of Chicago, like you, I feel that we have suffered an incalculable loss. Nevertheless, I believe that, if she could contemplate us from her tomb, nothing would be so pleasing to her as the sight of us struggling unitedly for the consummation of our ideal, with the same enthusiasm and the same interest that she, whose heart beat eagerly for liberty, displayed.

Let us remain united, and let none permit his love for the cause of liberty to grow lukewarm. Let us lend our most decided aid to the most magnificent struggle recorded in the history of the world's working class.

Fraternally,
G. M. SANTANA.

We are requested to state that the collection taken up by Mr. Lissner for Voltairine de Cleyre's works has realized \$28.75, and that books have been delivered to S. Konioff, 344 S. Spring St., Mrs. K. Podolsky, 1755 E. 43rd St., and Mrs. Raines.

SOCIALISM AND ANARCHY.

The increasing number of registered voters who abstain from voting is arousing the attention of the California press. Generally it is attributed to the extraordinary multiplication of elections, and editorial writers are pointing out that such a tendency, if continued, will mean the wreck of representative institutions. One hopes so, for our representative system is founded on preposterous fallacies and rotten to the core. Its foundation is the fallacy that others will defend rights that the individual himself, by the first law of nature, must defend. Its foundation is the fallacy that the count of noses can make wrong right. Its foundation is the fallacy that the minority should acquiesce in every idiosyncrasy to which the majority may pledge it. Its foundation is the fallacy—but this page has a scant seven columns.

Socialism can see clearly that our economic system results in frightful robbery of the masses, but it cannot see that our representative system has anything the matter with it. Socialism thinks it can use that ill-considered scheme for the emancipation of the masses, and has such a lofty conception of its virtues that it would clothe it with omnipotence. Pretending that its mission is to overthrow the wage system, Socialism would hand over the labor of the country to the ignorant and, therefore, cruel mercies of representatives elected at the ballot box, who would attempt to run the nation's industries, attempt to dictate the manner and terms on which each individual should work, and attempt to distribute the rewards for work. This is what they call "Socialism." This is what they call the abolition of the wage system. It is the most unscientific scheme conceivable, and obviously, instead of abolishing wage slavery, it would make it universal.

The pretense that such an omnipotent government would be run directly by the workers alters nothing, being a palpable evasion of the question and resorted to only because the impossibility of State Socialism has been exposed so overwhelmingly.

Nothing can be farther from the Anarchist program than, by the overthrow of land, money and other monopolies, the individual should be given full opportunity of taking care of himself, without interference by Government, which, under the pretext of protection, always has crowned the few with power and reduced the many to impotence.

We have been pursuing the Socialist program in this country for generations; trusting that the Government will protect the poor, and finding that it only made them poorer. We have been crawling on our knees to politicians, begging them to pass laws and laws and laws, to take care of us. As a result, lawyers run the country; the United States is the most atrociously cursed nation in existence, and, despite our enormous natural advantages, a veritable volcano of discontent is on the point of breaking into action. It is time for us to try another tack and get back to simple truths. It is time for us to understand that man is, naturally, the most capable of beings; that if he can get the opportunity of taking care of himself he will do so, to his own great benefit and the incomparable benefit of all of us. We do not need to give him the opportunity, as if we were ladling out charity soup. All we need is to allow him to take it. We only need to say: "We will no longer support this great governmental machine which upholds monopoly and stands between the individual and his opportunities."

To work, as reformers work, for the purification of government and the improvement of the representative system, is merely to give the present unnatural disorder a longer lease of life. It is to demand immortality it will be found to be the most anti-revolutionary task to which any one could set his hand. It is the work at which Socialists have been ignorantly busy for fully fifty years, and they, of all people, have the least taste to style themselves revolutionists.

Government always has been, and always must be the main prop of slavery, for without the help of Government slavery would fall at the first assault. See how our own Government is upholding money monopoly in Mexico! See how the very weakness of Madero's government has enabled the peon to take back his land and free himself from slavery to an alien and absent boss! Take away the support of Government and Rockefeller's fifty million dollar income could vanish as the ocean foam vanishes beneath our Southern California sun.

Understand, at least, that the programs of Socialism and Anarchism have not one thing in common; that the former seeks to make Government universal and the latter to sweep it from the earth.

ANOTHER DEBS LIE.

Debs is going up and down the country telling his audiences—at fifty cents and a dollar a head—that the Socialist Party was never so harmless as it is today. Lots of people take that as a tremendous joke, but we ourselves do not joke about lies relative to the true condition of the American Revolutionary movement.

Debs' statement is a lie; as brazen a lie as any Shaf ever got off, with Debs' full complicity, in the "Appeal to Reason." If you want to understand how enormous is the lie, look at conditions in Los Angeles, or run through the last issue of the "International Socialist Review." Millquitt, Barnes, Berger, Debs, Haywood, they are all at loggerheads, and while the controversies are as fiery as on previous occasions, the real differences are on questions of policy; deep philosophical questions as to which the quarrelers can find no common ground.

Within the party the split over direct action is beyond repair, the directables being on one side, the disreputables on the other and Debs balancing on the fence. Outside the party

there is a profound conviction that alleged revolutionists who went back on such a struggle as Mexico is making are, of necessity, only a pack of political schemers.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Ten thousand cheered the speech delivered on Boston Common by Roosevelt, Aug. 18; a speech in which he boasted that he ignored Congress in his annexation of Panama and conversion of the canal, as it is now claimed into private property of the United States. Here is part of what he actually said:

"If I had wanted to avoid trouble—I never hunt trouble, but I don't avoid it if it comes my way (applause)—I could have done one of two things: I had wished to avoid trouble I would have made a masterly report to Congress and Congress would have held a series of able debates on the masterly report and we would have had half a century of more conversation. (Applause and laughter.) And the canal would be 50 years off now."

"Instead of doing that I took the zone and started the canal. (Applause.) And I allowed Congress, instead of debating the canal, which would have been a misfortune, to debate me (laughter), which didn't make any difference to anybody, and least of all to me. (Laughter.) And in consequence of that we came to a fair working compromise."

"We got the canal and Congress got the debate. (Laughter.) And the debate about me is still going fitfully on, and I think it won't close until long after I am dead (laughter) and the canal will be finished in another year! (Applause and cheers.)"

Ten thousand persons cheered that nauseating brag. Ten thousand patriotic and intelligent, and all-the-rest-of-it, American citizens yelled their heads off when a former President explained to them that Congress was merely a useless talking shop, and that he, as dictator, had snatched his fingers at it. He had assumed the infallible authority that the Pope assumes in matters of religion, and his audience went wild with delight over the avowal. He served notice on the American people that its whole representative system is a farce, and it jumped with joy.

We ourselves have no quarrel with that notice, for it is the very soul of truth. We simply note the speech and its reception as unspeakably significant, adding the reflection that this so-called Republic is already far down the toboggan that ends in the man on horseback.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

It is as impossible to cure the American police of the disease from which they are suffering as to sweep away the ocean with a broom. Many futile attempts have been made to purify American politics, but they have been hopeless. The evil is in the very blood of the nation. It manifests itself in the same ways as breathing, eating, and sleeping—in the normal life. If the American Union had not had gigantic natural resources, of treasures which are ever renewing its power at command, it would long ago have been destroyed by moral blood-poisoning. Today it is a question among thoughtful Americans as to how long the sap of the nation will be able to withstand the ever-increasing poison of political corruption. The police in many American cities are not only corrupt, but they are absolutely criminal in the worst sense.

The worst criminals of all are the New York police, who love to call themselves "the finest." ("Morgenpost"—Berlin.)

We learn, with regret and indignation, that "Luz," of Mexico City, was raided by the authorities, Sept. 1. According to a private letter, boxes and lockers were broken open, and J. J. Moncalcano, F. Gonzalez, and three visitors who happened to be in the office at the moment, were taken to prison. The life of "Luz" has been short, but it made its mark at once by the straight and uncompromising articles it published, and two issues of that character are worth a century of cowardly twaddle that, being afraid to state facts, simply mis-educates the public. "Luz" will have set many a wicker thinking, and the light it has been allowed to shed so briefly will not have been in vain.

MODERN MORALITY.

What is your ideal? Show me the man you honor, and I will show you the value of your morality. The hero of today is the successful cheat, the tradesman who has made \$1 million by selling rotten food to the poor or to your own soldiers in South Africa; the bandit of the Stock Exchange; the monopolist who has broken the hearts and ruined the lives of a hundred struggling rivals, and who three hundred years ago would have been hanged as an engrosser. That is the man to whom you kneel, for whom all the doors of all the churches are thrown open, in whose name I am ordered to reform my ways. ("Lord Alibair's Rebellion.")

"Look!" cried the patriots. "The country is in danger. Pray put your shoulders to the wheel and save it." The plain people did as they were bidden, after which they examined, with more attention, the mechanism of the wheel and its peculiar construction.

"Why, it's only the wheel of a hand-wagon!" they exclaimed, in considerable disgust, while the laughter of the patriots, muffled only by their sleeves, could be heard in the distance.—Puck.

INTERNATIONAL BALL.

Don't forget the ball at Burbank Hall, Saturday, September 21. The objects are excellent and the attendance should be good. Tickets only twenty-five cents.

SEND US NAMES.

You can assist greatly by sending us the names and addresses of those to whom it may be worth while to mail sample papers and other propaganda matter.