

For Land and Liberty

Before the gaze of the studios of this world there rises, like a formidable question-mark, the revolutionary movement known as the Mexican Revolution.

This movement is—one can say it without fear of being mistaken—the most emotional drama this old world has staged, for, in the bosom of this social cataclysm, at the bottom of this immense crucible full of substances in active ebullition a broad popular aspiration is assuming a clearly concrete form; the form of economic liberty, that is to say, of the possibility of obtaining by means of labor all that is necessary for the existence of the human being, without his being compelled to hire out his intelligence and muscles.

Carranza and Villa Are Not the Revolution.

Nevertheless of this movement, which, by its very nature, is a struggle of classes, nothing more is known than that which floats above it, there being complete, or almost complete, ignorance of that which it is nourishing in its bosom, just as in our contemplation of the ocean we see only the surface, calm or troubled, while knowing on exact note of the marvels of animal and vegetable life its depths reveal. So on the surface of the Mexican movement we see Carranza and Villa disputing with Huerta for the presidential chair, just as yesterday we saw Madero disputing with Porfirio Diaz. But, even as Madero was not the Revolution, for it kept on its course under the Maderist administration, so also will the Revolution continue if Carranza and Villa, or either of them, succeed in climbing to power, inasmuch as economic liberty will be still its aspiration and it can end only with the satisfaction of that aspiration.

Land and Liberty.

With admirable common sense the Mexican worker has come to understand that the fountain of all wealth is the land; the land from which are obtained the cereals and other grains and vegetables necessary for the sustenance of man and the useful animals; the land whose forests furnish fuel and building materials; the land which guards within its womb metals and quarries; the land which provides industry, directly and indirectly, with all its raw material; the land in which the foundations of the family dwelling must be laid; the land which, in its springs and rivers, seas and lakes, generates life, produces energy and light, and furnishes animal nourishment of the most varied kinds. Therefore the Mexican worker in his struggle for economic liberty seeks to make himself master of the land, resting assured that as such he will be master of everything and consequently free.

What Was Not Known.

This movement, purely economic, is the one that is not known, or very little known. In the press we read accounts of battles, skirmishes, ambushes, shootings, burnings of properties; and the general opinion is that in Mexico they are engaged in overthrowing Huerta that they may put Carranza or Villa in his place. Such an opinion is fundamentally erroneous. The Mexican worker has risen in arms because he is tired of having suffered during four hundred years oppression and misery; an oppression and misery which reached their climax under the administration of Porfirio Diaz.

Slavery.

It was during the administration of Porfirio Diaz that the Mexican worker lost the last shreds of liberty and well-being that he had succeeded in preserving in his four centuries of servitude. The few lands that still belonged to the towns and were the common patrimony of their inhabitants, were monopolized in diverse manners by the neighboring hacienda owners or by the government's favorites, and the town inhabitants thus dispossessed found themselves driven to the alternative of perishing by hunger or hiring out their labor, at a miserable wage, to work the very lands their fathers and grandfathers had watered with their sweat and they themselves had cultivated in common. The result of this monopolization of the lands was the enslavement of the country and city workers.

Worse Than Slaves.

The slave, by the very fact that he had cost his master money, was treated by him with, at least, the consid-

eration with which one treats a horse or cow. The Mexican worker had no such consideration. Inasmuch as there was an abundance of workers, and inasmuch as, moreover, his acquisition had not cost the hacienda owner a single cent, the country peons had to work from sunrise to sunset for wages that ran, according to locality, from eighteen to twenty-five, thirty-seven and fifty cents (Mexican) a day, and had to make his purchases at the hacienda store, where goods of poor quality cost the highest prices. If the peon fell sick he had to die like a dog, without receiving medical assistance of any kind, and as his pitifully small wages were not enough to keep him properly fed even on maize and beans he was always in debt to his master. This debt the son inherited on his father's death, and it was a common thing to find peons earning eighteen cents a day who owed the hacienda more than two hundred dollars. This debt bound them to the hacienda, and there was not a peon who was not in debt.

Complicity of the Authorities.

If the peon, despairing of his situation, left the hacienda in search of better-paid work, the master notified the authorities of the near-by towns, and they returned him to the hacienda where he was given a flogging that left him half dead, or he was tied to the spokes of a cart wheel in such a manner that throughout an entire day he had to turn as the wheel turned, or he was put in the stocks, or he was given the water torture, which consisted in letting water fall, drop by drop, on the back of the victim's hand. At first he laughs at the torture, but after a little while he cries to them to shoot him rather than to continue the acute pains this apparently inoffensive operation produces. All this was wont to be done as an example to the others, to prevent possible escapes.

Lords of the Scaffold and the Knife.

The hacienda owners, therefore, were lords of the scaffold and the knife; masters of life and of their haciendas. The peon considered the appearance in his family of a handsome woman as a misfortune, for he knew that she would have to be prostituted to the master or the master's son, and that if he did not consent to such prostitution he would be sent to the prison or the guardhouse, if he were not killed like a dog at some turn of the road by the rural police known as the "Acordada." Workers who did not take off their hats in the master's presence, or who dared to protest against injustices they witnessed, used to suffer the same penalties.

General Conditions.

The toilers in the mines, the factories and workshops were no less unfortunate than were their brothers of the country districts, for the wretched wages they earned served only to add to the tyranny of their employers and of the authorities. Misery was universal. Citizenship was dead so far as the poor were concerned. Children had to work from the time they were six or seven years old, to add a few cents to the family's earnings. He who had a piece of land, or a few head of cattle, or a little house, and refused to sell his modest belongings to the hacienda owner, became the victim of the Ley Fuga (Law of Flight), or, if he were lucky, was sent to the prison or garrison. To meet for the purpose of discussing matters of public interest was a crime, and it was equally a crime to express ideas by word of mouth or pen. Every class of infamy had to be borne in silence. One had to face every class of injustice with a heart of stone.

The Revolution.

Against this state of things, on which here I touch but lightly, the Mexican Liberal Party rose in arms, in the autumn of 1906 and the summer of 1908, it having been the first party with the audacity to confront the formidable power of Porfirio Diaz. These insurrectionary movements were crushed, in various manners, by the old dictator's army, but they served to stir the masses profoundly, injecting into them the spirit of revolt which at last broke out irresistibly in November, 1910, and which shows itself ever more and more full of life, giving promise that it will make an end once and for all of tyranny and injustice.

The Party's Influence.

The Mexican Liberal Party is a workingman's organization which ex-

tends throughout the territory and the States south of the United States. It is represented in this country by a committee of five, viz., Ricardo Flores Magon, Enrique Flores Magon, Librado Rivera, Anselmo L. Figueroa and Antonio de P. Arango, as secretary. Its official name is "The organizing Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party," and its postal address is P O Box 1236, Los Angeles, California. The Mexican Revolution may be said to be the result of the labors of this party, as has been recognized by impartial persons who have undertaken the study of the Mexican movement.

Why Is There No Stable Government?

The propaganda of this party's ideals has penetrated to the most hidden corners of the Mexican Republic, bringing hope to the tortured heart of the humble. Those ideals may be condensed thus: Every human being, by the very fact of his having been born, has a right to live. The right of private property, the natural effect of which is the monopolization by a few of the land, the machinery and the means of transportation, is an obstacle to the guaranteeing to every human being of the right to live, and, if the right of private property exists, it is because there exists the institution called Government, whose mission is to sustain it by force, and the institution called the Church, whose mission is to sustain Capital and Government by means of its moral influence.

The Movements.

These simple principles constitute what we may call the leaven of the Mexican Revolution. These principles work powerfully in conjunction with the tendencies manifesting themselves in the conflict known as the Mexican Revolution. To them is due the fact that extensive regions are to be found in the power of their inhabitants, who have taken possession of the lands that formerly were part of the haciendas, that they may cultivate them on their own account. To them is due the highly significant fact that judicial archives and property records have been reduced to ashes by the revolutionists, and that the burning of churches and governmental offices is a common thing. If you were to ask each of the militant revolutionists, no matter what the banner beneath which he may be fighting, why he had shouldered his gun, he would answer without hesitation: "To take the land out of the hands of the hacienda owners and make it the property of the poor." So great is the influence of the Mexican Liberal Party's principles that, to win adherents, all the parties now in arms are promising to repartition the lands when their respective movements triumph, and the President of the United States himself, Woodrow Wilson, has had to confess that there will be no peace in Mexico until the land has been handed over to the workers.

The Party's Action.

The Mexican Liberal Party's action is not confined to the publication of its own organ, "REGENERACION," written in Spanish and English, with P. O. Box 1236, Los Angeles, California, as its address, and the constant diffusion of revolutionary literature. In the field of action it numbers also phalanxes of combatants, chief among whom are those operating in the Yaqui district, State of Sonora; in the regions of Santa Rosalia and Casas Grandes, State of Chihuahua; in the central region of the State of Durango and in various portions of Michoacan, Mexico, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Oaxaca and other States, apart from guerrillas scattered throughout the remainder of the country. This will be proved very soon, when Carranza or Villa occupy the presidential chair and call on all the revolutionists to lay down their arms. Then it will be seen that the Revolution will continue and those who keep up the struggle, arms in hand, are the members of the Mexican Liberal Party, resolved to pursue this war to its end, which is no other than the annihilation of the capitalist system and the reorganization of society on the firm basis of true equality and true liberty.

Zapata and Salgado.

These sincere and valiant Southern revolutionists will continue in arms until the proletariat takes possession of the social wealth, or at least, so far as the agrarian movement of Zapata is concerned, until the poor become masters of the haciendas and can gain their living without having to hire out to others. Salgado has shown by

his public acts that he follows the principles of the Mexican Liberal Party, while Zapata gives every class of guarantees to the members of the Mexican Liberal Party who are operating in the territory he controls.

The Apostles.

No less important is the task many members of the Mexican Liberal Party have imposed on themselves, for many of them enter the ranks of the Carranzistas, Villistas and Huertistas to propagate among the soldiers the ideals of the economic, political and social emancipation of the proletariat. Others traverse the country in various directions, sowing the seed of good ideas in cities, towns, villages and on ranches and helping to kindle the popular aspiration toward the organization of a society in which there shall be no rich, no authorities and no priests.

A New Social System.

To the observer and the student the Mexican Revolution appears as being, at bottom, the gestation of a new social system. Carranza, Villa, Vazquez Gomez, Felix Diaz, are floating on the surface of a storm-tossed sea side by side with the corpses of Madero, Pino Suarez and Bernardo Reyes. In this formidable movement names mean nothing. The great battles, in which thousands of combatants are engaged and millions of cartridges expended, are not in themselves the Revolution. The Revolution is the determination of the worker to have done with a social system under which he has been a humbled slave, a despised pariah; and the struggle will continue until the present system has been reduced to ashes.

RICARDO FLORES MAGON

Rangel and Cline

Comrade Cline will be tried on December 1st., and Rangel on the 7th.

Do not forget them.

Agitate!

Send funds for their defence to

Victor Cravello, Room 108, Labor Temple, Los Angeles, Cal.

No. 203, Saturday, November 28, 1914. SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Single copy, 5c. One dollar a year.—Six months, 50c.—

- N. Y., \$2; Bro Painters, Dec. & P. H. Local 269, Spokane, Wash., \$2; Bro. Painters, Dec. & P. H. Local 467, Kankakee, Ill., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 110, Providence, R. I., \$1; U. H. Carpenters & Joiners, Local 1225, Edmonton, Alberta, \$2; Thomas Whitehead, for Paul Star, Rogers, Pa., \$1; C. J., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 60, New York City, N. Y., \$5; Socialist Local, Harrison, Ark., \$1; Amal. Sheet Metal Workers, Local 251, Houston, Tex., \$2; Friends, New York City, \$4; U. Assn. Plumbers & Steamfitters, 304, San Bernardino, Calif., \$1; J. B. Treasler, Chico, Texas, Local \$2; Pleasant View Local S. P., Gage, Okla., \$1.50; Int. Union of Plating Weavers, Local 21, Houlton, Wash., \$1; Printing Press Assn., Union No. 72, Oklahoma City, Okla., \$2; Local 61, I. W. W., Kansas City, Mo., \$3; Amal. Sheet Metal Workers, Local 319, Kansas City, Mo., \$2; Painters, Dec. & P. H., Local 894, Ft. Dodge, Iowa, \$1; Painters, Dec. & P. H., Local 8, Gary, Ind., \$1; Amal. Sheet Metal Workers, No. 98, Evansville, Ind., \$1; Socialist Party of Iowa, W. G. Baker, Norwoodville, Iowa, \$6; Bricklayers, & Masons Union No. 8, Youngstown, O., \$2; Int. Assn. of Machinists, No. 63, Rochester, N. Y., \$1; Bakery & Confectionery Workers, Local 70, Hammond, Ind., \$2; Bro. Painters, P. H. & Dec., Local 104, Lake Geneva, Wis., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 431, New York City, \$1; Workmen's Circle, Br. 84, Plainfield, N. J., \$1; A. K. & S. K., Br. 210, Allentown, Pa., \$1.50; U. Bro. Carpenters & Joiners, No. 627, Jacksonville, Fla., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 10, Bayonne, N. J., \$1; Bro. Painters, Dec. & P. H., Local 814, Bakersfield, Calif., \$2; Amal. Sheet Metal Workers, Local 349 St. Louis, Mo., \$10; Bro. Painters, Dec. & P. H., No. 104, Chicago, Ill., \$10; Int. Assn. of Bridge & Struct. Iron Workers, Local No. 5, San Francisco, \$50; I. B. E. W. Local 651, Medford, Ore., \$2; Socialist-Local & Mexican Comrades, Lvra, Texas, \$8; Workmen's Circle, Br. 32, Chicago, Ill., \$1; U. Bro. of Carpenters & Joiners, No. 171, Youngstown, O., \$2; A. K. & S. K., Br. 40, Detroit, Mich., \$3.15; South Slavic Socialist Org. 18, E. Youngstown, O., \$4.30; Shingleweavers' Union No. 30, Nahma, Mich., \$2; Int. Molders' Union, Local 197, Fort Chicago, Ill., \$2.50; A. K. & S. K., Br. 226, Columbus, O., \$1; Workmen's Circle, Br. 222, Trenton, N. J., \$4; Workmen's Circle, Br. 134, San Francisco, Calif., \$1; Workmen's Circle, Br. 515, Chicago, Ill., \$1; Sign & Elett. Painters No. 495, Seattle, Wash., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 260, St. Paul, Minn., \$1; Mrs. Berg, for May 17, Mass. Meeting, Los Angeles, Calif., \$20; Amal. Sheet Metal Workers, Coppersmiths Local 67, Baltimore, Md., \$1; Int. Molders' Union No. 222, Bayersford, Pa., \$1; Local N. B. Socialist Party, Washington, D. C., \$2; Bricklayers, M. & P. No. 22, Danbury, Conn., \$3; Boot & Shoe Workers' Union, No. 16, Cincinnati, O., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 49, New York City, \$1; Workmen's Circle, Br. 80, New York City, \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 77, Rochester, N. Y., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 140, Paterson, N. J., \$2; Collectors for Manuel Camarillo, Bridgeton, N. J., \$5.10; James A. Moore, Jenks, Okla., \$1; German Br. Socialist Party, Washington, D. C., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 79, Cleveland, O., \$2; Socialist Local, Merrick, Okla., \$1; Branch 178, Socialist Local, Omaha, Neb., \$1; Workmen's Circle, Br. 283, Savannah, Ga., \$1; Eugene V. Debs, Terre Haute, Ind., \$1; Bricklayers & Masons Union No. 10, Kansas City, Mo., \$1; Workmen's Circle, Farmers Alliance, Br. 625, Vineland, N. J., \$2; Workmen's Circle, Br. 414, New York City, \$1; Bro. Painters, Dec. & P. H., Local 800, Seattle, Wash., \$5; Socialist Local, Emmet, Idaho, \$60; Iron Molders' Union 229, Marion, Ind., \$1; Socialist Local, Des Moines, Iowa, \$2.10; South Slavic Socialist Org. 114, Detroit, Mich., \$2; Libreria De Fuerzas Conscientes, San Francisco, Calif., \$1; Workmen's Circle, Br. 38, Brooklyn, N. Y., \$3; (To be continued.)

ADMINISTRACION

(Viene de la 3a. plana.) mo. 60c; D. Camarillo, 50c; J. Z. Reyes, 15c. J. S. Duran, 10c. J. Segovia, \$2.30. I. B. Diaz, por libros, 50c.—Colecta por A. Pizana: Seia P. Vda de Gomez, 60c; F. Campos, 25c; y Adela P. de Garcia, 50c.—E. R. Garcia, 18c.—J. K. Aguilar, 13c.—Clara Castellanos, \$1; y Dolores Heredia, \$1.—F. de Leon, \$1.08.—Guernersinda M. Soto, por F. Baltierra, 20c.—E. Garcia, \$1.—J. S. Duran, 25c.—Colecta por A. Zepeda, el mismo, \$1.50; H. Zepeda, 50c.—Colecta G. Zepeda, 60c.—Hector Zepeda, 25c; Reynauda Sevalos, 25c; Buntifacia Z. Benavidez, 50c; J. A. Benavides, 50c; M. Zepeda, 50c; Y. Zepeda, 50c; Elena B. Zepeda, 25c; y A. C. Martinez, 25c.—R. Salinas, \$1.—Colecta por M. Herrera, el mismo, \$1; C. Hernandez, \$1; J. Felan, \$2.50; y S. Felan, \$2.50.—Colecta por A. Caballero, el mismo, \$1; N. S. Torres, \$1; B. E. Ornela, 50c; E. Lopez, 50c; C. Maldonado, 25c.—E. Lopez, 10c.—D. Est. Colecta, \$1.20.—E. Lopez, 10c.—E. Est. Colecta, \$1.20.—Gimera sinda M. Soto, 10c.—Colecta por M. Elizondo, el mismo, \$1; por libros, 80c; I. Elizondo, \$1.20; J. Martinez, \$1; V. Guerrero, \$1; y A. Elizondo, \$1.—R. Barajas, 8c. WASH. J. F. Anderson, \$1. WYO. H. Holstin, \$1. Total, \$114.80.

PARA CUBRIR EL DEFICIT. TEXAS. Colecta por M. R. Rojas, el mismo, 50c; M. Sola, 25c; G. Marquez, \$1.25; J. Benitez, 50c; M. Gonzalez, 50c; T. Hernandez, 25c; P. Hernandez, 25c; y de fondos de reserva, \$2.50. Total, \$6.

MONTO DE LOS GIROS POSTALES PERDIDOS. COLECTADOS HASTA ESTE FECHA. CALIF. T. Valencia, \$1.47; Maria Encinas, \$2.—TEXAS. G. M. Ruiz, \$20.—C. V. Martinez, \$1. Total, \$25.

GASTOS DE DOS SEMANAS. Del 12 al 25 de Noviembre de 1914. Tiro de 11,000 ejemplares del No. 202, \$54.80.—Envoltura, \$2.40.—Deposito al Correo, \$5.—Tranvia, \$6.30.—Estampillas, \$8.88.—Impresion de "La Voz del Yaqui," \$5.—Agua de la Oficina, 75c.—"Olivier," \$10.—Ricardo, \$8.—Librado, \$8.—Atanasio, \$8.—Enrique, \$10.—Anselmo, \$2.—Jose, \$2.—Owen, \$6.—Asistencia de Comp. \$11.—Ayuda a Comp., \$11.50.—Medicina para Teresa V. Magon, companera de Enrique, \$2.50.—Total, \$158.44.

RESUMEN. Gastos hasta Nov. 25 \$ 158.44 Deficit anterior 1372.69 Entradas de Cuotas, Donativos, Subv. \$ 114.68 Para cubrir el Deficit 6.00 Giros perdidos cobrados hasta la fecha 25.00 Deficit hasta Nov. 24, 1914 1386.28 Sumas Iguales \$1891.13 \$1891.13 ENRIQUE FLORES MAGON.

COLECTA PARA EL VIAJE DE UN COMPANERO. CALIF. J. Valdez, \$2.—F. Lucio, \$5; E. Benitez, \$2.50; y A. Hernandez, \$1.30.—A. Yela, \$1; R. Garcia, \$1; B. Ornela, 50c; R. de Leon, 50c; R. Correa, 50c; y F. Soto, 25c. Total, \$14.65.

PRO-FRESOS DE TEXAS. Suma anterior, \$899.62. CUBA. J. Pujal, 75c; J. Serra, 25c; y A. Lopez, 25c. Total en N. A. \$11.8. OKLA. J. N. Rebelde, 50c; y J. Hernandez, 50c.—Total, \$12.80.