

Regeneracion.

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Saturday, April 1, 1911.

Bernardo Reyes as a successor to Diaz? Well, if anyone could be imagined who could out-Diaz Diaz in a genius for human butchery, that person is General Bernardo Reyes.

The Coming Nation has announced a story of Mexican revolutionists entitled "Osoro, Bandid," by John Kenneth Turner, to be published in this week's number.

In looking over the map of Mexico we cannot find a single state or territory in which there has not been some kind of uprising of armed bands against the government within the past six months.

We wonder how much Melville E. Stone got from the Mexican Government for ordering the Associated Press to print all this stuff about the Insurrectos seeking to bring about negotiations for peace.

Ramon Corral is going to Europe on April 1 for his health. Doubtless to rest his poor nerves, which have been on the jump ever since the people of Mexico rose up to shake the sword of vengeance in the face of governmental brigands such as he.

Dr. A. R. Schultz of Redondo, who recently made a trip throughout Imperial valley, estimates that fully 90 per cent of the residents there are in favor of the revolutionists.

La Follette will, when Congress meets, offer a resolution demanding an explanation of the army and navy mobilization on the border. As a result Taft is scared to death. He can't explain, and he knows it.

The recent torture of a Cocopah Indian boy by Mexican federals in Lower California is a thing to put the dark ages to shame. And yet the U. S. army is at the border to preserve the government which has fed itself on such brutality as this for thirty-four years!

An Associated Press dispatch of March 23 says that General Bliss has maps and all information at hand for an expedition to Ensenada, in case he should be ordered to march with his 1500 men. Do military maneuvers in the United States include the study of the topography of Mexico?

Everyone is talking about the Mexican revolution, but not everyone is well informed as to the causes which precipitated it. Read Barbarous Mexico and find out. You can get it for a limited time for \$1.00, or as a premium with a six months' subscription to Regeneracion for \$1.50 for both, or as a premium with a year's subscription to Regeneracion for \$2.00 for both. Order at once, as this offer will be closed by the first of May.

GOMPERS AND MAGON

A short time ago Ricardo Flores Magon, head of the Mexican liberal junta, sent a letter to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, asking the aid of the federation for the insurrecto movement.

Mr. Magon has just received the following letter from Mr. Gompers in reply:

American Federation of Labor. Washington, D. C., March 18, 1911. Mr. R. Flores Magon, Headquarters of the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party, 519 1/2 E. Fourth St., Los Angeles, Cal.:

Dear Sir—Your favor of the 11th instant to hand and contents noted. It is impossible to attempt to convey to you the intense interest I feel in the military movements now being conducted under direction of the president of the United States. It is difficult, and may be simply a matter of surmise of the ultimate purpose of these "maneuvers." Think-

ing, earnest Americans, who love our republic and the principles upon which it is founded, can only entertain the hope that your apprehensions may be unfounded. I say this not simply for the preservation of the rights of the people of Mexico to the government of their own affairs, but also for the integrity of the United States and the liberty of our people.

After receiving your letter with its request to me to enter protest, my first impulse was to refer the matter to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor for decision, but before so doing I should say to you that I have not seen concretely stated the principles and purposes for which the revolutionary movement in Mexico was begun. I do not refer to the negative side, but to the affirmative. I think the American people should be told by the authorized spokesman of the revolutionary movement of Mexico, what it aims to accomplish as a constructive power, if entrusted with the powers of government of Mexico. If the present regime is to be supplanted by another, without fundamentally changing the conditions which shall make for the improvement of the workers' opportunities, and a greater regard for their rights and their interests, then the American labor movement can look upon such a change with entire indifference.

If you will communicate to me the information which I seek, I shall in turn communicate it to my colleagues of the executive council of the A. F. of L. for their instructions in the premises. I assume that you are aware that it would be impossible for me to take any definite action upon so momentous a matter as the one under consideration without the approval of my colleagues.

I repeat, however, that it is my sincere hope that the military movements of the troops of the United States may have no further purpose than at first stated by President Taft, "maneuver and mobilization of the forces for educational purposes."

Hoping for an early reply, I am, Yours very truly, SAMUEL GOMPERS, President American Federation of Labor.

In answer to Mr. Gompers' reply, Mr. Magon sent the following letter, Wednesday:

Offices of the "Junta" of the Mexican Liberal Party, 519 1/2 E. Fourth St., Los Angeles, Cal., March 29, 1911. Mr. Saml. Gompers, President American Federation of Labor, 801 G St., N.W., Washington, D. C.:

Dear Sir—For the courtesy of your prompt reply to my appeal on behalf of the Mexican liberal party, I beg to thank you most sincerely. We felt that we should not appeal in vain. Certainly you, your organization and the American public, should be told exactly why Mexico is in revolt. It is because, as stated in our appeal, the Mexicans have been driven by the millions from their lands. Through corrupt political chicanery, infinitely more potent than, and fully as cruel, as any conquest by the sword, the money power has seized those lands. Thus, having rendered the people helpless, it has instituted a system of chattel and wage slavery, probably unparalleled for its atrocity. Against this we are in revolt.

You say that if we are fighting merely to supplant the present regime by another, "without fundamentally changing the conditions which shall make for the improvement of the workers' opportunities, and a greater regard for their rights and their interests, then the American labor movement can look upon such a change with entire indifference. Indeed, sir, you have expressed most concisely the exact position of our party.

From the first we have understood clearly that this is an economic war; one that goes directly to the heart of the labor question and proposes to give the worker the full product of his toil. We have understood from the very first that the labor movement of the world would, and should, remain entirely indifferent to any change of presidents or cabinets; that the substance and not the mere shadow is wanted.

Accordingly our party adopted at the outset "Land and Liberty" as its motto, and our brief declaration of principles states that we are struggling for "possession of the land, reduction of the hours of labor and increased wages."

If our people can win for themselves industrial liberty they will work out their own salvation. But if American labor stands idly by and permits them to be crushed by militarism, at the behest of the money power, they will drag with them, to the lowest depths, their immediate neighbors—the American workingmen.

Our cause is your cause, and you cannot be unaware that the brutality with which most righteous strikers have been suppressed in Mexico have encouraged incalculably the strike-breakers in the United States.

In "Barbarous Mexico" John Kenneth Turner ends his chapter entitled "Four Mexican Strikes," with the statement that the American capitalists "are looking to Mexican capitalists to help them break the back of organized labor in the United States, both by transferring part of their capital to Mexico and by importing a part of Mexico's laborers into this country." Those words are literally true. All along the southern border the pitiful wagos Mexican oxillos are forced to accept a lower standard of American labor. Again we say, "Our cause is yours."

We ourselves cannot doubt for one moment that American troops have been despatched to our borders by the tens of thousands solely because monopoly has felt itself in danger. We could cite instances by the score in which they have proved invaluable allies to the corrupt despotism against which we are in revolt.

Apart from humanitarian considerations it is to the direct personal interest of organized labor to stand shoulder to shoulder with us in this struggle, aiding us not merely with its sympathy, but as monopolists support monopolists, with substantial aid. The money power is solidly arrayed against us, and, although we are doing wonders with pitifully slender resources, without the aid of war we cannot bring this essentially labor struggle to a successful issue.

Again thanking you for your courteous and prompt reply, we reiterate our conviction that ours is a struggle in which you cannot, and will not wish, to stand neutral. Accordingly we look with confidence to early action by your council, at your sympathetic initiative.

Yours most sincerely, RICARDO FLORES MAGON.

Revolt Flames From Border to Yucatan

There are nearly four thousand federals in Lower California, and it is safe to predict that there will be some fierce fighting in the first half of April. The rebels, who have so far been cautious on account of shortage of ammunition, have now received a large supply and will proceed with aggressiveness and determination.

On March 27, in a sharp attack on the town of Alamo, about eighty miles from Ensenada, in which it is reported that the rush of insurgents was so fierce that it scared all the fight out of the federals, the rebels under Simon Berthold took that town. The capture was bloodless, except that Berthold received a wound in the leg. Berthold is reported by the United Press to have conducted himself very bravely, taking the lead of his men at every step.

It is said that Ensenada is not well enough defended now to warrant sending men to the relief of Alamo. Salinas has taken the place of Leyva as chief of the insurgents of Lower California. He is a man much feared by the federals because of his reputation as a fighter in the Yaqui wars. The Mexican government has placed a price of \$400 on his head, dead or alive. Salinas was formerly captain of the crack eighth federal regiment in Lower California.

Captain Stanley is ready to proceed on an aggressive campaign. He has 75 men, all well armed and equipped.

The United Press of March 29 reports that the Mexican federals have been ordered to evacuate Tecate and to march at once on Mexicali.

IN SONORA. It is reported that a fierce battle is raging at Ures, Sonora, in which a thousand men have already been killed.

Near Cananea, Sonora, close to the Chispas mine, a battle took place not long ago in which the rebels were victorious and in which thirty-one federals and only two rebels were killed. At La Colorado, Sonora, on March 23, Insurrectos won a decisive victory over the federals. They entrenched themselves on a hill and when the federals attempted to climb it the former wrought fearful execution. A dispatch of March says that mall advices from Alamos, Sonora, state that revolutionists led by Leyva took the town of Guazapapas, and all the federal officials were killed.

In Sonora, Florencio Jamarillo, a Liberal, has taken five towns, though

he has been in the field less than a month. He started in the Yaqui Valley and proceeded northward. Many of his recruits are Yaquis. Yaquis in several places in guerrilla bands are attacking hacendados. They are said to be well armed.

CHIHHUAHUA AND ADJACENT STATES.

In Chihuahua, several important towns, among them San Buenaventura, Galeana, Pearson and Moquel have recently been taken by the revolutionists.

The entire state of Coahuila is reported to be in incipient rebellion, according to an Associated Press dispatch of March. There is news of much guerrilla warfare about Torreon and throughout Durango, with details too numerous to mention.

An Associated Press dispatch from Laredo, Texas, says that bands of Insurrectos are reported to be in the vicinity of Monterrey, Nuevo Leon.

An Associated Press dispatch of March 25 says that Chihliapa, in the state of Guerrero, a town of 20,000, is in the hands of the rebels.

Revolt is breaking out around Mexico City, the stronghold of Diaz. At Taonabaya, a suburb, twenty-six rebels and two soldiers were arrested. They had been betrayed as they attempted to carry out a plan to get a battalion of soldiers to desert to their cause.

IN THE SOUTH. From Iguala, Guerrero, comes a dispatch that a band of 100 rebels entered the town of Buenavista de Cuella, and searched it for arms and ammunition.

At Puebla the people, armed with nothing more than stones, attacked a detachment of police. The soldiers charged and four were killed. At Tetela, state of Puebla, open revolt is reported.

How much is going on in Yucatan it is impossible to say, as news of revolt there is extremely hard to obtain. A Mexican paper, however, recently classed Chihuahua and Yucatan as the two places in which the revolt had grown greatest.

Recently the slaves in a certain place in Yucatan arose and killed two millionaire hacendados. In Chiapas, Campeche, Jalisco, San Luis Potosi and Aguascalientes recent uprisings are reported.

The Associated Press correspondent at Nogales, Arizona, says in an apparently serious vein that in the battle of La Colorado the fighters were so far away from each other that both sides amused themselves by catching the spent balls with their hands. This is quite in keeping with the other absurdities that the Associated Press sends out day after day about Mexico. One of the latest is that twenty men under command of Leyva were killed in a fight at Tecate, while as a matter of fact Leyva's command was not there at all.

DENOUNCES WAR MOVE

The Coming Nation of March 25 gives all its editorial comment over denouncing the action of the United States in sending troops to the border to crush the Mexican revolt. We should like to print all that Charles Edward Russell and A. M. Simons have to say on this all-important subject, but as that is impossible we have clipped what seems to us the most effective part.

Charles Edward Russell, in his well known virile style writes in part as follows:

No man can call himself an American or profess the slightest sympathy with the cause of human liberty who does not protest in every possible way against the monumental outrage now being committed by the administration in its war move.

No man can call himself a Socialist who fails to lift his voice vigorously and insistently against the most damnable and insolent aggression of international capitalism upon the spirit of democracy since the Boer war.

No man of any political cast can continue to acquiesce in the republican form of government under which we live without demanding instantly that this brutal, bare faced attempt to use the American Republic as the tool of tyranny and oppression shall stop.

This is the product of our subservience to capitalism; this is the reward for tolerating a pack of greedy wolves as our industrial and political masters; this is the logical outcome of conditions by which we permit popular government in our country to be made a sham and a mockery and allow cormorants, dictators and political harlots to rule us; this is the sure result of our fatal substitution of money power for man power, of plutocracy for democracy.

The United States is to suppress the effort of the Mexican people to overthrow a ferocious and bloody handed exarism. American bayonets are to bolster the tottering throne of a crime-rotten despot. The American nation, which itself wrosted independence from a tyrant and set a new mark in the progress of the race at the expense of so many lives, of so much suffering, is to take a wanker nation by the throat and thrust it back into the dark ages.

Why? By all that is good and holy—Why?

Because a few men have invested a pile of dirty dollars on Mexican soil.

Dirty dollars are at stake. And who must rescue them.

Is it so, my brethren?

Are we so abject, so helpless, so cowardly, so servile? Or do we so completely lost to national dignity and pride? Are we so wholly deprived of every sense of justice, of humanity, of fundamental right?

Now is the time to say: No. Now is the time to shout from the house tops: No.

Now is the time to cram down the throat of capitalism: No!

Such things do not come about by chance or impulse. Who demanded it? Who ordered it?

Three known elements, that between them direct the chess board of world politics with absolute assurance and certainty.

J. P. Morgan & Co. The Rothschilds. The Deutsche Bank.

The powers enumerated have absolute control of the sources of news, the news associations and practically the entire capitalistic press. They have usually done us the compliment of exercising this control in advance and working us into the mood where we would stand for their purpose, whatever it happened to be.

But we apparently have fallen in their estimation. Our long serfdom, our crawling legislators, our lackey presidents, our humble submission to the yoke of capitalism have sunk us to the level where they feel free to hustle us about as arrogantly as one of their own pet monarchies. They evidently believe that all vestige of democracy in this country is quite dead and that no concession need be made to the convictions or the inclinations of the people.

But a few years ago they would never have dared to proceed so ruthlessly. A few years ago they would not have dared to trust to shoddy excuses and transparent lies after they had thrust us into their combination. A few years ago we were still to be counted upon for a degree of self respect, of independence, of national dignity.

That time has passed. To repeat. This is our logical reward.

WHAT SIMONS SAYS

Simons, who also writes a strong editorial in this same issue, ends with this appeal:

The only thing that masters of the American government fear today is a threat at their own power. The only thing that will recall the troops from Mexico is a threatened political and economic uprising against capitalism on this side of the Rio Grande.

It is for the Socialist party to lead in such an uprising. Let every Socialist local, and every union, pass resolutions and forward them to Congressman Victor L. Berger to be presented at the extra session of Congress, which will take place in another week.

Let every Socialist circulate a petition demanding the recall of these watch dogs for Diaz and send it to the same address.

If this is done, and the first Socialist Congressman to enter the American Congress, can step upon that floor as the attested mouthpiece of a half million workers demanding that American troops shall not be used to round up the liberty-loving workers of another country for massacre, then these troops will be withdrawn the day that Congress meets.

Barbarous \$1 Mexico \$1

By John Kenneth Turner Explaining the Cause of the Mexican Revolution This Famous Book Retail \$1.50 For a Short Time ONE DOLLAR to "REGENERACION" readers Address: "Regeneracion," 519 1/2 E. 4th Street Los Angeles, Calif., U. S. A.

WITHDRAW THE TROOPS!

The National Executive Committee of the Socialist party of the United States has joined with labor unions and Socialist locals in demanding that the United States troops be withdrawn from the Mexican border.

The proclamation of the National Executive Committee reads in part as follows:

"NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, SOCIALIST PARTY, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. PROCLAMATION

"WITHDRAW THE TROOPS!"

"On the 7th day of March the startling news was flashed from one end of the country to the other that President Taft had ordered twenty thousand troops, one-fourth of the regular army of the country, to be mobilized and hurried to the Mexican border. At the same time several American warships were ordered to proceed at full speed to ports on both coasts of Mexico.

CONGRESS HAD ADJOURNED

"The order was issued immediately after the adjournment of Congress. It was sudden and unexpected, and caused deep apprehension among the masses of the American people.

"What is the object of this formidable military display? What is the meaning of this hurried movement of troops toward a friendly neighboring country?

"The earlier explanation that the extraordinary measure was intended as a mere war game was so clumsy and palpably insincere that it was speedily abandoned and the semi-official explanation now vouchsafed to the people is that our army and navy are to prevent the smuggling of arms to the Mexican insurrectionists and, in case of emergency, to protect the endangered American interests. The explanation is such as to cause every peace and liberty loving American to hang his head with shame.

"The mission of the American army at the Mexican border and the American warships at the Mexican coasts, is to save the reign of Diaz and to quell the rising of the Mexican people.

"Against this unspeakable outrage

the Socialist party of the United States, representing over six hundred thousand American citizens and voters, lodges its public and emphatic protest.

"In the name of America's revolutionary past and her best traditions of the present, we protest against the attempt to degrade our country by reducing it to the position of a cossack of a foreign tyrant.

PLEAD FOR LIBERTY

"In the name of liberty and progress, we protest against the use of the army of our republic to suppress and enslave the people of a sister republic fighting for their freedom and manhood.

"In the name of the workers of the United States we protest against the use of the men and money of this country for the protection of the so-called 'American' interests in Mexico. We assert that neither the government nor the people of the United States have any property interests in Mexico; that the speculative Mexican ventures of a ring of American industrial free-booters gives us no warrant to interfere with the political destinies of the country, which they have invaded upon their individual responsibility.

"And we call upon all local organizations of the Socialist party and all labor unions and other bodies of progressive citizens to hold public meetings and demonstrations of protest against the latest executive crime. Let the voice of the people resound from one end of the country to the other in loud and unmistakable tones: 'Withdraw the troops from the Mexican border!'

"NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST PARTY OF AMERICA.

- "VICTOR L. BERGER, "JAMES F. CAREY, "GEO. H. GOEBEL, "MORRIS HILLQUIT, "ROBERT HUNTER, "LENA MORROW LEWIS, "JOHN SPARGO, "J. MAHON BARNES, "National Secretary."

This "Peace" Talk

There has been much absurd talk in the newspapers lately about negotiations for peace, the rebels being quoted as aggressors in the effort to secure an understanding with the Mexican government. Again and again have the Madero brothers and other representatives of the Maderist party been indicated in newspaper columns as "pulling wires" to bring about a speedy end to the revolution. Because of the subsidized state of both the American and the Mexican press, it is difficult to determine how much of this is true and how much is made out of whole cloth, but it seems quite certain that the Maderist leaders are acting in a way which is calculated to win for them sooner or later the contempt of the rank and file. The people have nothing to expect from Limantour, from Ahumada, from de la Barra, from the new cabinet, or from any other henchmen of Diaz.

One trouble with the Maderist leaders and with Francisco Madero himself is that neither he nor they seem to realize the vast import of this revolution, that it is not their work, but that they have been merely incidental in its development, that the revolution would have come if Francisco Madero had never been heard of, that no matter what stand he may take, the revolution will go on till the people wrest their rights from the hands of their oppressors.

This revolution has been coming on for years and years. One might even trace its beginnings back to the early days of Diaz's reign, when the order "Matalos en caliente" brought about the massacre of Vera Cruz. This was the first big political murder in Diaz's long reign of bloodshed, and it brought the inevitable result of planting hatred and fierce rebellion in many a Mexican heart. That hatred and that rebellion have sought expression in many ways since, to be met by the merciless iron hand. For years the subtle struggle went on, bursting out at times into the open, to be crushed as swiftly and suddenly as ever a despot crushed a movement for freedom. It remained for the Liberal party to launch the first really formidable movement against the despot.

The Liberal party of Mexico has been in existence for about twelve years. Against odds almost inconceivable to Americans it managed to keep itself alive, and to rise again each time that the mailed fist crushed it to earth. Its members have suffered imprisonment, torture, hundreds of them death. Finally, so savage became the persecution that it was found necessary to es-

tablish its headquarters in the United States. There in the "land of the free" and with the aid of the American government the persecutions continued. The leaders were hounded, their papers wrecked, themselves thrown into prison. Yet all the time the work of the Liberal party in behalf of the people of Mexico was growing. It spread its propaganda throughout all Mexico. It was the bright light in those terrible hours of darkness, when the people waited, waited for the revolution that would free them from so monstrous a tyranny. Twice the Liberal party launched a revolution, to be twice betrayed and crushed at the start.

The revolution broke out last year nominally under Madero, but it was not the revolution of Madero, as the Maderists are apt to say, nor of any other one man. It was this movement which has been growing for years out of the unspeakable suffering of the people, the revolution of the people. It was the outcome of the work which for years the Liberal party has been doing. When the revolution came, Liberals everywhere rose in arms, they carried the ranks of Madero as well as elsewhere, spreading the "idea," teaching the people that it was their revolution, a revolution for freedom, not, as some Maderists say, a revolution because of the falsified election returns in favor of Diaz in the last campaign. It was a thousand times more than that—it was all the suffering and bitterness of thirty-four years turning against the tyrant.

No one man can control this revolution. No one man can say what shall be the terms of peace. It is a revolution of the people, a people who are determined to fight, though the war be long and the suffering intense, till the land is theirs and they shall be free.

ETHEL D. TURNER.

From "The Public"

Commenting on the appeal sent to Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, by Ricardo Flores Magon, the editor of "The Public," Louis F. Post, writes in his paper: "As an address to American workingmen, however,—and, for the matter of that, to the American people,—this address in behalf of the Liberals of Mexico should command the widest and deepest sympathy."

"The Public" has a large circulation among the most thoughtful and liberal-minded people in the country.