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ENRIQUE FLORES MAGON.
P. O. Box 1236, Los Angeles, Cal.

Benevolence on a Rampage.

In our last issue we gave accounts of Carranza's "good" government in action; of how Carranza went on a rampage with a decree that made it a crime punishable by the death penalty for any workers who dared go or remain on strike, and how the leading spirits of that strike at Mexico City, 12 in number, among them two women, and countless accomplices had been thrown into jail at the mercy of a court-martial, and how the city had been turned into an armed camp in an effort to show the damned rabble where to lead in and to give them a chance to learn who was God around there.

It is quite singular that since the strike in Mexico City it is a very hard matter to get any papers from there and it is only by some Mexican papers from this side of the line that developments of the strike and the fate of the strikers has been known.

Through "El Paso del Norte", of El Paso, Texas, we learn that such a storm of indignation and protest went up at the outrageous tactics of Carranza, that he did not dare hold the strikers as guilty of treason, and after a preliminary hearing by the court-martial they were turned over to the civil authorities with the following decision: "All of the accused are found not guilty of rebellion, which would mean obstruction or treason to the Government; two of the prisoners (giving names) are found guilty of contempt to the First Chief, charged with the Executive Power of the Union; all the accused are found guilty of having made use of the moral force implied in the strike to alter the wages of the workers. The prisoners are hereby consigned to the civil authorities."

Why Carranza underwent such a marked change of heart can be surmised from the following excerpt taken from the "El Paso del Norte": "A few moments before the hour appointed for the trial, the twelve accused prisoners made their appearance in the Palace of Justice, under the vigilance of a heavy guard that surrounded them on the way from the Penitentiary to the aforementioned place, also, the counsel for the defense, members of the court-martial and an immense throng, a throng which predominated the labor element that attended with intense avidity of witnessing the trial."

This explains the whole matter. Carranza thought he could play the "iron heel" game and had the best of intentions to do so, but he had reckoned without his host. His insolence was so brutal and raw that the workers, in multitudes, arose in their might, defying death in the face of martial law and the rath of the petty tyrant, with such a wave of indignation that they soon had him slaking in his boots with suggestive visions of the guillotine before him.

However, all of this does not lessen the criminal purpose and brutality of Carranza a bit. That he did not massacre the workers as he intended, is not his fault, and it was only their audacity and quick action that saved them from wholesale slaughter. Neither does this lessen in any way the ends to which Authority and a "good" government will go to fulfill their logical mission of crushing the exploited to protect the exploiters.

Think of any monarch, (to say nothing of a "good" man) even in mad Europe today; think of any government in this age, punishing men with death for going on strike, nay, for sympathizing with a strike. And yet this is only the natural and logical result that sooner or later has to come from such a travesty as that

of any people trusting or conferring all their power to a man or a machine.

But undoubtedly it will seem inconceivable to the MAJORITY that such a well-meaning man as Carranza and such a model government as his could ever be capable of such monstrosity. Well, if the herd will not learn by such tragic and vivid experiences then we certainly are hopeless.

The accounts given in the papers coming from Mexico about the present trouble there are ghastly enough even when they appear in the Carranza press itself, which of course tries to cover the worst of it but wonder what the real facts and what the reports would be if we had a chance to see the real situation exposed in a labor or independent paper. However, such a thing is a misnomer in Mexico at the present time. While there are a few "labor" papers coming from Mexico at present, their tone is such that they would make a Sunday school sheet look rabid in comparison.

Diaz at his worst was infinitely better than the arch-hypocrite Carranza, for he was ever the panther at the throat of the workers, consistently smiting them at every turn, whereas Carranza indulges in a melody of siren songs and alluring promises to the despoiled mass, promising them the land and economic freedom only to shoot them like dogs when they demand what they have won at the price of their blood.

In our last issue the causes of the strike in Mexico City were not mentioned for lack of space. It happens that some three months ago Carranza issued a batch of his periodical paper money. This money has no acceptance in trade and is received by the merchants at an enormous discount, with the result that it was becoming an impossibility for the laboring masses to buy back even the most common necessities with their wages, this in the face of the fact that the said money was depreciating more and more all the time until their money could not insure them even the most miserable existence.

Finding themselves in this predicament, the Labor Syndicates of the Federal District made a demand on the employers to be paid on the basis of national currency, plus a fifty per cent. increase in wages in view of the famine that reigns there at the present time.

The employers refused to comply with the demands of the syndicates and the strike was declared. Carranza immediately demonstrated who was his boss and for whom he stood by coming to the rescue of the masters at break-neck speed. Speaking of this "El Pueblo" says: "When the First Chief of the Constitutional Army, charged with the Executive Power of the Nation, learned that the strike had been declared, he immediately started on foot towards the National Palace. He was accompanied by General Hill, Military Commander of the City, and several members of his staff. On his way several groups of people, and especially strikers joined him.

"Once in the National Palace, a delegation of strikers tried to talk to señor Carranza, who determined not to receive them, but instead talk to a multitude that stood in front of the National Palace, and which was mostly composed of the striking element. Standing in the balcony, the First Chief condemned the attitude of strikers with vibrant words.

"He said he had just learned that a general strike had been declared asking an increase in wages, an attitude entirely opposed to that of the constitutionalist soldiers who have had to

fight two powerful enemies, beating both, and that they have asked for nothing, not withstanding that they had more right to do it than the majority of the workers who without aiding the Revolution now expect everything from it.

"The First Chief also added that the attitude of the workers was due to the instigations of north American syndicates, and that he was not disposed to tolerate that the strikers become the tools of the enemies of Mexico. He also said that all instigators would be regarded as traitors.

"He closed by censuring the attitude of the strikers in the most energetic terms.

Among the arrested, but later dismissed, was an American, Graham Fulton, Supt. of the light and power plant, for instigating the workers to strike. Also an Englishman by the name of Harris, for the same offense.

In his anxiety to protect his class, the exploiting and parasitic class, Carranza gives himself away by branding the workers as traitors for asking from their masters a little more of what they have produced. But what can be expected from a slave driver and would-be ruler?

Unquestionably mankind requires some awful jarrs to wise up. May this Carranza jolts be not in vain. R. G. COX.

The Real Carranza.

continued from last issue

At this time an era of libertarian thought and agitation arose and developed that unquestionably has never yet been seen in the annals of history. It was really a wonderful spectacle, making it almost small wonder that so many workers went head over heels, over the Carranza swindle. The voice of the agitators preaching from Socialism to Anarchy made it a beautiful hum. Papers by the hundreds and thousands, radical papers, arose between night and day, making it almost a mystery how such a thing could be observed in a country that was supposed to be so ignorant. And their chant was certainly an inspiring and encouraging one.

As a sample of the general tone of the Mexican press at that time, I quote a few excerpts from one of the then Carranza organs called "The Voice of the Revolution", published in the worst slave-ridden State under Diaz, Yucatan, in an editorial it said in part: "Humanity abhors the reign of falsehood and force; it wants the advent, of Truth and Loye.

"It throws the gauntlet to the gods and kings. It is because it seeks its corresponding place in Nature. No more faithful or serfs. Humanity is atheist: it prays no more. It is because Man has not been born to kneel before idols, or bow, before masters.

"In Mythology it is known as Prometheus and in History as Spartacus.

"Neither god or king
"No more masters, no more executors.

"With Comte, Progress shall destroy the last gods.

"With Kropotkin it shall dethrone the last kings."

And this was a Carranza organ, many others were by far ahead. This was only a part of Carranza's program, and he had other varieties of bait that were just as alluring, and the workers being in a state of desperation just simply snapped at them. Among these was his encouragement of the workers to organize radical unions, and they were protected, and even abetted, in such a way that strikes were won hand over fist and concessions, such as the 8 hour day and double pay secured with an easiness that was proverbial.

"La Casa del Obrero Mundial" (Workers of the World's Home, or rather Labor Temple) with branches all over the country, was established. As mentioned in a former article, "The Jockey Club", the club house of the aristocracy of Mexico City, was cleared of all its drones and parasites by Carranza and turned into a Labor Temple.

The workers there, and in all its branches were armed and organized into "Batallones Rojos" (Red Battalions) and enthused with the prospect of crushing the Huerta ring to establish an era of social and economic freedom, they marched by the thousands, many thousands, under the red flag to the battle field in the belief that they were to fight for their true emancipation.

But a very rude awakening was in store for them, for Carranza had only used his ruse to gain the upper hand; and he succeeded. His real plan was disclosed. All he wanted was the support of the workers to save himself from Villa, Zapata and other opponents, to overthrow the Cientificos—the Diaz-Huerta-Catholic Church-Aristocracy—and establish his own ring in power. He had won his point and proceeded to show it by serying his real masters, the capitalists that had supported him—his class. The time had come to pay favors.

R. G. COX.
(To be continued.)

The Mesaba Strike.

What is unquestionably the greatest and bitterest industrial conflict in the history of the labor movement of this country is raging now between the miners and the Steel Trust in the Mesaba Range of Minnesota.

As is well known, the Steel Trust is the most arrogant, powerful and brutal machine of slavery that ever existed and that exists today. It has ever combated labor organization with a ruthless hand, with the result that such a condition of abject slavery and penury has been reached by the workers in that industry, that in desperation they defied the steel lords and went on strike with the determination of putting a stop to the infamous outrage and securing a change of conditions.

Besides being one of the greatest conflicts ever staged by labor, it is also accompanied by some encouraging features. The call for a strike had a very unanimous response, and it was not long before 20,000 miners had quit work with more and more joining them all the time. Most of the strikers are foreigners and they have proved true to their traditional spirit of solidarity and loyalty to their class. They are composed of people who speak many languages and while not understanding each other by word they understand their common class interests.

The first thing the miners did after striking was to look about for aid from the most advanced element in labor organization. They had not far to go or difficulty in choosing, for soon the I. W. W. was with them and some of its old veterans in the thick of the fight. It was not long before Carlo Tresca, F. H. Little, Schmit and other of the militant rebels of the I. W. W. were on the scene, and it was not long either, of course, before they all were behind the bars, some of them are now marked for the gallows in the same way that Ettore and Giovanetti were, only in a more outrageous manner. A pack of company gunmen assaulted a miner's house, a woman struck one of the brutes, this caused them to start a fusillade of shots killing one of their own yellow curs. Tresca and his fellow workers who were miles away at the time were arrested for it, charged with murder.

In desperation at the solidarity shown by the miners, the Steel Trust is resorting to unusually brutal and savage methods of

which little is known, as the mercenary press not finding it convenient to vilify the strikers, is in a conspiracy of criminal silence as to what is going on.

F. H. Little, who with others was released, was soon after seized by a mob of vigilantes, composed of "respectable" business Christians, and after being kidnaped was tortured almost to death and only spared from the noose when they discovered that he was not a foreigner. Foreigners must be getting dangerous.

To relate the reign of terror

Address By Enrique Flores Magon Suppressed

by The Federal Court Of Los Angeles, June 22, 1916.

[NOTE]—This speech was prepared by Enrique Flores Magon to be pronounced when asked by the Court if he had something to say as to why sentence should not be imposed upon them. But when the proper time arrived the Judge did not allow Enrique to address the Court, altho he demanded such right, granted to them by the same laws that the Court pretends to uphold.]

(Continued from last issue.)

We are opposed to the Church for the reason heretofore given; for it upholds the evil called Private Property and keeps submerged in ignorance and superstition the human mind.

We are opposed to Government because it is the staunch upholder of Private Property and because Government means imposition, tyranny and oppression and violence. We agree with Thomas Jefferson when he says: "History in general informs us how bad government is." While quoting Jefferson, I should like to remark that he was twice President of the United States, and, therefore, he knew what he was talking about. And on the 12th of this month, this Court agreed with us when it said, "it is the duty of the Government to preserve itself." That means that Government is not "of the people, by the people and for the people," but that it is in fact an institution alien to the people, and against whose interests it shall preserve itself. And we are duly grateful to this Court for that acknowledgement.

Striving as we are through our revolutionary activities to gain Justice, Freedom, Plenty and Happiness for all Human beings, we believe that, in Justice, this Court has no right to impose a sentence on us. You may have the power, but you have not the right to do so.

The prosecution stated in its closing arguments to the jury that we ought to be convicted because our Ideals tend to incite to murder, arson and assassination, and because we aim to start a revolution in this country similar to the one in Mexico. Such a charge is most untrue and unjust, nor is it based on logic.

We were to preach murder of specific individuals for personal gain, then we might justly be charged with inciting to murder, arson and assassination. It is not even claimed that we did this. We urged our brothers not to lay down their arms until they have gained their freedom and come again into their own. If this be inciting to murder arson and assassination, then, Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Paine and Lincoln, and in fact all of the American Patriots, and Irish Rebels as well, were nothing but common murderers and brigands, whose blood would have been loudly clamored for by our prosecutor, had they been unfortunate enough to fall into his hands. (*)

The charge that we, Anarchists, caused the Revolution in Mexico and that we would start another one in this country unless we were imprisoned and our paper suppressed, can only find lodgement in a microcephalous individual. Even half-witted

(*)—The District Attorney, M. G. Gallaher is Irish; hence Enrique's hint.

and barbarity that has been instituted by the steel barons is not necessary for this has become a matter of course, but the fight of the miners is very worthy of the support of all rebels who have the interest of the working class at heart and appreciate a good fight.

Wm. D. Haywood, Room 307, 164 W. Washington St., Chicago, Ill. is in charge of receiving funds from those willing to help the strikers and the comrades in jail.

R. G. COX.

men know that Revolutions are brought about by conditions and not by a certain set of men or women.

(To be continued.)

GRAND SOCIAL AND DANCE

Saturday, September 23, 8 P. M. at BURBANK HALL, 542 S. Main St. by International Workers Defense League, for the benefit of the Magon Bros. Defense. Refreshments at popular prices.

Admission 25 cents.

Report of the money received by Los Angeles Branch Workers' International Defense League for MAGON defense:

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED \$1,048.81

RECEIPTS FROM JULY 20 TO SEPT. 1ST:

Anna Levy, Phila., Pa., 2.00; Chas. Tombrido, Cardiff, Okla., 3.20; Carl Heritz, Berkeley, Cal., 50c; Arb. K. Sterbecasse, No. 125, 5.00; Workmen's Circle No. 199, Birmingham, Ala., \$1; Wm. Liddell, Livingston, Mont., \$1; W. S. & D. No. 316, Belleville, Ill., \$1; do. No. 1, New York City, \$2; Jos. Gordon, Chicago, Ill., \$1; Socialist Party, Oatman, Ariz., \$5; Fritz Stadlerberger, San Francisco, Cal., \$3; Sedalia Federation of Labor, Sedalia, Mo., \$2; B. Warbajo, Winnipeg, Manitoba, \$1; Bohemian Socialist Loc., Omaha, Neb., \$1; Electric Wks. No. 11, Fitchburg, Mass., \$1; Lotie M. Matsier, Jacksonville, Fla., \$1; J. Hasten, Duquesne, Pa., \$1; F. Everett, Chicago, \$1; E. V. Debs, Terre Haute, Ind., \$1; C. L. Janke, Davenport, Iowa, \$1.50; F. Braganza, do. \$1.50; Frank P. Walsh, Kansas City, Mo., \$2.5; Prince E. Hopkins, Santa Barbara, Cal., \$5; "Cronaca Sovversiva", Lynn, Mass., \$1.70; F. Aeren, Chicago, \$2; C. Taraboi, Arma, Kans., \$1.50; S. T. Byington, Ballard Vale, Mass., \$1; M. Greenburg, Seattle, Wash., \$2; Workmen's Circle No. 169, Winnipeg, Man., \$2; D. Massimo, Sharon Pa., \$10; I. Güne, Salt Lake City, Utah, \$2.50; A. Schneider, St. Louis, Mo., \$20; Charlotte G. Hurberte, Santa Barbara, Cal., 10c; Fay Lewis, Rockford, Ill., \$1; E. D. Hunt, Los Angeles, 50c; J. P. Phinney, Springfield, Mo., \$1; Cloud City Miners, Leadville, Colo., \$1; E. Kugler, New Orleans, La., \$1; F. Calzolari, Boulder Creek, Colo., \$1; Chris. Ihling, Newark, N. J., \$1; C. S. Deeney, Eeasr Park, Fla., \$1; Chas. Weil, Seattle, Wash. \$1; J. Cairns, So. Manchester, Conn., \$2; Mrs. Edelman, Los Angeles, 50c; Mrs. Kiesshauer, do. \$1; Maud Huller, Omaha, Neb., \$1; C. Anastasoff, Portland, Ore., \$2; H. Boland, Phila., Pa., \$2.50; S. Danielewitz, Los Angeles, 25c; A. Reinhardt, Jersey City, N. J., \$2; P. Pecarovich, Los Angeles, 50c; Russian Workers, San Francisco, Cal., \$5; Miss Sunshine, San Francisco, \$1; J.B. Runherford, Long Beach, Cal., \$1; Agnes Inglis, Ann Arbor, Mich., \$2; J. Filigueria, Algiers, La., 50c; F. Rascher, St. Louis, Mo., \$1; Annie B.C. Sterre, Washington, D.C., \$2; R.N. Baldwin, St. Louis, Mo., \$2; L. Emerick, Jacksonville, Ill., \$1; J.H. Meyer, Fresno, Cal., 50c; W. Van Nette M.D., Clyde, O., \$1; NO NAME, Pittsburgh, Pa., \$1; T. Hoec, Chicago, Ill., \$2; Soc. Party, Sheboygan, Wis., \$1; W. N. Patterson, Zanesville, Ohio, \$1; Soc. Local, Zanesville, O., \$1; Amgid, Metl. Wks., Derby, Conn., \$2; Arb. K.S.K. No. 241, Charleroi, Pa., \$1; Mrs. S.J. Starks, Oakland, Cal., \$2; "Golos Truda", New York City, \$4; J. Hallenbeck, New York City, \$5; G. A. Ryan, New Orleans, \$2; A. J. Stuart, Nampa, Idaho, \$1; A. Tome, South Range, Mich., \$2; J. Meyers, Sec'y, Int. Wks. Def. Lge., Cleveland, O., \$3.75, Jr. Brd. Cloak-Skirt Mfks. U., Phila., Pa., \$5; Bry. Wks. U. No. 2, New Ark., N.J., \$2;

Y. P. S. J., C. Benovitz, Sec., \$2.50; Workmen's Circle 156, Detroit, Mich., \$1; D. Levinson, New London, Conn., \$2; Jack Myers, Cleveland, O., \$16.20; Int. Bro. Elec. Wkrs. 125, Portland, Ore., \$2; Cloak-Skirt Mfks. Locals 13 and 61, Montreal, Can., \$4; Pueblo Smltrn, Local 43, Pueblo, Colo., \$2; M. McQuig, Chicago, \$2; Union of Russ Wks., Hamtramok, Mich., \$13.35; Workmen's Cir. No. 127, Chicago, \$1; W. Cir. 344, N. Y. (Bronx) \$1; W. Cir. 385, Chicago, \$1; Soc. Party, Elk Grove, Cal., \$1; Ben Capes, St. Louis, Mo., \$2; Amalg. Sht. Met. Wkrs. 319, Kansas City, Mo., \$2; Ladies Waist and Dressmakers U. 25, N. Y. City, \$5; W. S. and D.B.F. 316, St. Louis, Mo., \$3; J. P. Pearson, Auconda, Mont., \$1; John Reed, Provincetown, Mass., \$5; L. Scharestein Jr., New Port Ky. 50c; M. Schwager, N. Y. City, \$1; Arb. K. & S. K. No. 208, Jeannette, Pa., \$2; Workmens Circle 457, Grand Rapids, Mich., \$1; Thomas Powis, Chicago, Ill., \$1; Workmens Circle No. 320, Albany, N. Y., \$1.50; Anna Levy, Philadelphia, Pa., \$1.50; Journeymen Tailors Union No. 131, Pittsburg, Pa., \$2; W. S. & D. B. Fund No. 177, Springfield, Ill., \$2; Socialist League, Rockaway, N. J., 50c; W. Fu-erst, Bronx, N. Y., \$1; Int. Bwry. Wks. Loc. 153, Evansville, Ind., \$1; C. M. Raymond, Norwalk Conn., 25c; F. Blossom, M. D., Cleveland, O., \$1; Miss. Ora Sturtevant, do. \$1; Dance Proceeds, Los Angeles, \$89.13; A. & K. S. K. No. 210, Allenton, Pa., \$1; J. W. Hill, Peoria, Ill., \$2; A. & K. S. K. No. 244, Linden, N. J., \$1; A. Steinhauser, New Ulm, Minn., \$2; Cornelia Boecklin, Congress, N. Y., \$2; Sophia Hornstein, London, Ontario, \$1. 75

September 1st., TOTAL—\$1,444.74

Caplan Fund.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED \$205.87

Workmens Circle No. 23, Newark, N. J., \$1; Jos. Gordon, Chicago, Ill., \$1; N. Stillman, New Haven, Conn., \$2; V. Coffman, Los Angeles, \$1; Russian Workers, San Francisco, Cal., \$5; Miss. Sunshine, do. \$1; Anna Levy, Philadelphia, Pa., \$1.50
Up to Sept. 1st. TOTAL: \$217.87

Catherine L. Schmid, Gen. and Fin. Sec.

NOT EVEN COVERED

A THIRD OF THE EXPENSES. The raffle which Wm. Gerke conducted for the Magon brothers did not meet with the results anticipated; the sale of the tickets July 4th, at the "Blast" Picnic, amounted to \$1.75; and the sale of tickets at Emma Goldman's lectures, where the raffle took place Saturday night, August 5th, amounted to \$6.15.

BARBAROUS TEXAS.

We have just learned by letter from Texas that Eugenio Alzalde, one of our comrades imprisoned with Rangel and Cline, has been murdered by a prison guard. The communication is very laconic but it states that the guard struck comrade Alzalde on the head with an iron bar when the latter was unable to continue working, killing him outright. Prison rule in Texas is notoriously infamous and such outrages are of frequent occurrence. This is not the first of our prisoners that has been murdered that way, for about a year ago Lucio R. Ortiz, another of the comrades in prison with Rangel and Cline was similarly assassinated. Ortiz had the audacity to look a guard squarely in the face and this was enough for the brute to raise his rifle and kill him on the spot.

Space forbids more details but this matter will be treated later on.

R. G. COX.

BAND AND LIBERTY. Mexico's Battle for Economic Freedom and its Relation to Latin World-Wide Struggle. Selected from letters of Ricardo Flores Magon, founder of Regeneración and Wm. C. Owen—10c a copy. In stock every 25 copies, 7c per copy.