

Regeneracion.

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Can Debs Champion Real Revolution?

As editor of the English section of "Regeneracion," it is my duty to aid the Mexican Liberal party to the utmost of my power. In my judgment this can be done best by appealing to the revolutionary feeling latent throughout the world and at present much stimulated by the stern events transpiring in Mexico, England and elsewhere.

"Regeneracion" itself is neither an Anarchist nor a Socialist paper; it is the organ of a set of men who are doing their best to overthrow the money power that has reduced Mexico to slavery, and are trying to do it in the quickest and most efficacious way.

The labor movement is essentially international, and no uprising in any country can be treated as a thing apart. Mexican politicians, of the Madero reforming type, adopt a certain line of ballot action which Socialists throughout the world approve.

It was not because we abused the Socialists—for we did not—that the Socialists opposed us. It was because we fought Madero, with whom they had formed what I myself regard as an entirely natural alliance.

For barren controversy I have no taste whatever, and if I notice Debs' article in the "Appeal to Reason" of August 19 it is only because I think it may assist the Mexican Liberal party by clarifying issues.

ation and organization was the plea most welcome to the money power. I repeat the charge and call attention to the fact that Debs has carefully sidestepped it.

Debs dwells, erroneously, as I think, on the ignorance of the average Mexican, and this he does to support his contention that without education and organization no nation can successfully assert its rights.

Debs writes that "in their manifestos the Mexican leaders denounced the advocates of working class political action as steeped in depravity, in the 'opium den of politics'."

Debs devotes some paragraphs to the Anarchists, whom he accuses of being themselves corrupt politicians. I have not the space to enter into a comparison of the individual merits of those who make up the mass of Socialists and Anarchists.

That the "Appeal to Reason" was the first to take up the Mexican question—an assertion Debs elaborates—is neither true nor to the point. It is not true, because Los Angeles Anarchists, myself among the number, were the first to call mass meetings of protest, some five years ago.

When Debs writes that "the 'Appeal to Reason' has only good will for the Mexican cause," does he mean thereby the Mexican Liberal party, the Junta and "Regeneracion"?

The important thing, however; the one important thing, beside which all else shrivels into insignificance, is this:

The Sarabias, the Villareals and the other peons and officeholders are urging day and night that the revolution shall not be put off; that the country be given time in which to readjust itself; which means, when you put it in plain words, that plutocracy be allowed a breathing spell in which to recover its seat and take a firmer hold upon the bridle.

Debs praises the personal character of the imprisoned members of the Junta, and I am glad, for the praise is well deserved. But I cannot forget that the paper in which he writes made it self busy calumniating Ricardo Magon, the man for whose apprehension Madero has offered \$50,000.

WM. C. OWEN

Revolutionary Notes

The following summary has been compiled almost exclusively from the columns of "El Diario," "El Imparcial" and "El Pais," the most conservative Mexico City dailies. The mechanics on the Mexican railroad, in Veracruz, remain on strike, despite the fact that their original demands were granted.

From an immense number of States the appearance of new guerrilla bands is reported, but in many instances they are spoken of as lacking arms and ammunition, and having no money with which to acquire them.

The "Los Angeles Times" has been exercised greatly over renewed activity on the part of the Magonistas, in the States of Durango and Coahuila. It reports three bodies, each composed of about 300 men, as in the mountains to the south of Panajolaro.

In the State of Tabasco, according to "El Imparcial," agriculture is suffering severely from the insubordination of the peons.

Commenting on the determined attitude of the workers at various points our Spanish reporter says: "The meek evolutionists will begin to see that centuries of scientific study are not required for the development of solidarity. The instinct of solidarity is innate; what is destroying it is the capitalist system."

Peeps beneath the Surface of Revolutionary Mexico

What the Peasant Wants and how He is Succeeding in getting It

Lines between Revolutionists and Politicians Clearly Drawn

The anti-re-electionists also held their convention on August 13. Their nominees are Emilio Vasquez Gomez and Jesus Flores Magon, brother of the notorious Ricardo Flores Magon, who was in jail in Los Angeles and Arizona for various crimes, and who cannot return, even now, to Mexico.

Magon's "crimes"—like those of his brother, Enrique, who still lies in jail,—consist solely of having worked for the overthrow of Diaz, and of having insisted furthermore that a mere change of dictators would amount to nothing, it being necessary to give the Mexican workers economic liberty, and, above all, access to the land.

The brother Jesus, now candidate for vice-president of the Republic was formerly with them in that work, and also suffered imprisonment. Whereupon he saw a light, practised law, rose to wealth and power, is now Under-secretary of Justice, and is highly honored by the "Los Angeles Times."

Jesus Magon took sides with Madero, and made a special journey to Los Angeles—in company with Juan Sarabia—that he might induce his brothers to make peace with the new dictatorship.

Madero recently saw fit to order that Emilio Vasquez Gomez, who had been his right-hand man during the struggle against Diaz and had been rewarded with the post of Minister of the Interior, should be discharged from office.

The defection of the Anti-re-electionists was a most serious blow to Madero and he immediately ordered the leaders under arrest, as already related in this English section. According to the "Times," which writes intelligently on the subject, those leaders controlled 20,000 troops still under arms in the States of Mexico, Morelos, Guerrero, Jalisco, Michoacan, Veracruz, Tamaulipas, Sinaloa, Chiapas, Tabasco, Puebla, Tlaxcala, Durango, Oaxaca and the Territory of Tepic.

One should not rely exclusively on the press for information, and the writer recently interviewed at great length a Los Angeles visitor whom he considers a real authority on conditions in Mexico. The gentleman in question was born and raised there, but has been in England and Europe many years, having passed through several universities.

Madero may be elected, because he was first in the field, seized the strategic points and is holding them with some 26,000 soldiers. He may be able, therefore, to secure his election by force and fraud, for the masses are innocent in the matter of political tricks.

Readers of "Regeneracion," and of the daily papers even, must have noted that the name of Gen. Emiliano Zapata was cropping up continually. One sees that Madero is now making desperate efforts to effect a reconciliation with Zapata, but Zapata is a hard case.

Morelos is a small State, but very centrally located, being within striking distance of the City of Mexico. Its population is given in the latest guidebook as 212,000, which was that of Southern California only a few years ago.

This seems likely to make it hard for Madero, to whom I now return; and my informant expressed the strongest opinion that, even if Madero forced his election through, he could not hold the job.

That was my informant's opinion, and, as he backed it up with much apparent proof and was seemingly impartial, it impressed me greatly. By the way, he added that the cattle kings were suffering heavily from Indian

Rally to Aid of Revolutionists in Jail

Mass Meeting Scores Course Adopted by Mexican Officials

At a mass meeting held in Mammoth Hall, Sunday last, the following resolutions condemnatory of the action of the Mexican government in attempting to procure the extradition of Gons. Pryce, Mosby, Reed, Laffin and others, and the imprisonment of members of the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party, were adopted:

"We, the people of Los Angeles, in mass meeting assembled at Mammoth Hall, this 20th day of August, 1911, for the purpose of expressing our feeling of indignation, and protest against the unwarranted efforts of the bloodthirsty and tyrannical officials of barbarous Mexico to secure the extradition of J. R. Mosby, J. Reed, D. B. Laffin, Rhys Pryce and Pedro Soils, for the purpose of satisfying the spirit of revenge which such officials feel toward these men because of their active participation in the recent military uprising and political revolution in Mexico, do hereby resolve—

"That we condemn the Mexican Government and officials for attempting to secure the extradition of these men on sham and perjured charges of murder, arson and other crimes pretended to have been committed in Mexico when said Mexican officials know and all the world knows that any acts they may have done were done and performed as soldiers in the Liberal Army and in the regular line of their duty.

"We declare our firm and full belief in the honesty and good faith of these men and firmly believe that whatever part they took in the recent war in Mexico was done solely as men who were willing to risk their lives on the battlefield for the sole purpose of destroying and overthrowing a tyrannical

degradations, and that the Indians defended such degradations on MORAL grounds; saying that for one man to own thousands of head of cattle was unnatural, and, therefore, wrong. They can argue, I am told, quite intelligently on that subject; and, reflecting on Madero's position as one of Mexico's landed grandes, I do not wonder that he dislikes Ricardo and Enrique Magon, with their bandit undesirables. Accidentally I have couched the Berger-Roosevelt epithets, but we will let it go. Hard words break no bones and win no battles.

SCORING HIS BROTHER.

Let us return to the Magons. Inasmuch as a candidate for vice-president must have his organ, a paper has been started in Mexico City with the title of "Regeneracion," and if any one who thinks Ricardo Magon would spare that paper because of his brother's interest in it he does not know Ricardo. His review appeared in our last week's issue and, after remarking that the Jesus Magon's representative was "without color, taste or smell," despite the appalling number of learned men advertised as writing for it, and after stating that its proper name should be "Degeneracion," it proceeded thus: "An honest journal should speak frankly, but this the journal in question cannot do BECAUSE ITS EXPENSES ARE DEFRAYED BY THE UNDERSECRETARY OF JUSTICE, Jesus Flores Magon."

The previous careers of the editors will not be of interest to the American public, but those who have been endeavoring to follow the course of the Socialist Party may like to know that the editor in chief is Juan Sarabia, whose brother, Manuel Sarabia, has been a voluminous contributor to radical papers since he jumped his bail in Arizona some four years ago, and fled to France. He is the only Mexican I know who has jumped his bail, and I said at the time that his action would make it hard for other Mexicans who got into trouble with the authorities. It has.

Manuel Sarabia's arguments, repeated with excessive tediousness in various radical papers, are those of Eugene V. Debs: "Let us have peace; give the country time in which to develop its wealth; trust to the slow processes of education and organization." They are his brother's arguments in "Regeneracion" of Mexico City, which is the paid organ of Jesus Flores Magon, formerly of the Madero faction and now candidate for vice-president on the Anti-re-electionist ticket, with a fair chance of pulling off the prize. His brother, Ricardo Flores Magon, of the Los Angeles "Regeneracion," now out on bail, makes mincemeat of their sophistry as follows:

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

"They come out, at this hour, in an article entitled, 'Strikes and Organization,' with the statement that the workers ought to be prudent; say that they ought to wait until the much-to-be-pitied rich masters have stocked their warehouses with goods they cannot sell; claim that to declare strikes under the present circumstances is to jeopardize generous enterprises that are sacrificing themselves for the welfare of the disinherited, and declare, to quote their own actual words, that 'the strikes result in illegal assaults on the national welfare'—that 'first we should have peace'—that 'we should stimulate the development of national wealth'—that 'then, when everything is flourishing, we should call the workers out on strike.' But what they really want is a long period of 'education' and 'organization,' during which the parasites will fill their bellies. Comrades, if you make peace the bourgeoisie and authority will strengthen themselves, and then you will not have the opportunity of declaring even a strike—which is but a game for children—much less of taking possession of the different industries of Mexico to work them for your own benefit."

By such a review as this I believe the play of conflicting philosophies and interests is shown at work far more forcibly than it could be by any catalogue of the thousand and one conflicts that are rending Mexico at a thousand and one points. We see a nation in the throes of what is always the real revolution—the bitter struggle between conservatism, which cannot tear itself away from the old, and that iconoclastic radicalism which would sweep the boards clean that the new order may have a chance of life. In the past conservatism has invariably won, for invariably it has had the support of the pretended revolutionists; always pleading for delay; always checking the natural instinct of the masses; always sickly of the native hue of resolution with the pale cast of timid thought. In this present contest stand, on the one side, the Sarabias, the Jesus Magons, the Debs, Bergers and other paid spokesmen of the Socialist party. On the other side stand the Ricardo and Enrique Magons, with the stalwart following the Mexican Liberal Party has gathered to itself. Which will win? W. C. O.

cal regime and to give liberty and justice to the downtrodden, robbed and plundered people of Mexico and for no other reason whatever.

"That all their acts were of a purely political nature and not extraditable under our treaty with Mexico. "We call upon our government and its officials to refuse in this instance, as we have always done in the past, to grant the extradition of any person for political offenses.

"We demand that the United States shall ever be in the future as it has always been in the past, a haven of refuge for all liberty-loving people who come within its borders seeking protection from the tyrants and oppressors of any and every foreign land.

"We further condemn the Mexican officials and detectives for their pernicious activity in securing indictments against these men, together with R. F. Magon and E. F. Magon, A. L. Figueroa, Librado Rivera, A. P. Traujo, and F. G. Peterson for pretended violation of the neutrality law. It is our solemn belief that all these charges are based on fabricated testimony and made for the purpose of persecution and from motives of hate and revenge only.

"We urge all liberty-loving people to come to the rescue of these men and hold meetings of protest everywhere and aid these deserving men with your sympathy and give them such financial assistance as they may need and such as you are able to render."

Job Harriman, A. R. Holston, W. B. Cook and E. E. Klirk were the speakers. C. T. Spradling acted as chairman, and George W. Downing, 4608 Central avenue, was appointed treasurer.

CASES AGAIN POSTPONED

U. S. Commissioner Van Dyke, at the hearing last Tuesday afternoon, denied the motion to dismiss the complaint charging Gen. Mosby, Reed and Laffin with robbery in Lower California. The case against Gen. C. Rhys Pryce may lead to international complications, the United States District attorney having been notified that if Pryce is held for extradition the British Ambassador, James Bryce, will be represented at the hearing before Secretary of State Knox. The cases of the accused members of the Mexican Liberal Party Junta were postponed to August 31.

degradations, and that the Indians defended such degradations on MORAL grounds; saying that for one man to own thousands of head of cattle was unnatural, and, therefore, wrong. They can argue, I am told, quite intelligently on that subject; and, reflecting on Madero's position as one of Mexico's landed grandes, I do not wonder that he dislikes Ricardo and Enrique Magon, with their bandit undesirables. Accidentally I have couched the Berger-Roosevelt epithets, but we will let it go. Hard words break no bones and win no battles.