

Regeneracion.

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Let Us Realize Ferrer's Work

Asked as to the purposes for which the Mexican Liberal Party existed, Ricardo Magon, giving his evidence in the Pryce trial, replied: "It was to seize the property of the rich in Mexico and divide it up among the poor who needed it." This frank and truthful expression of the intentions of the Mexican Liberal Party, as of the labor movement throughout the world, has thrown the "Los Angeles Times" into hysterics. Did it expect Magon to lie? The entire international labor movement is an economic revolution and has as its object the abolition of millionarism and pauperism; it being thoroughly understood that the former is the creator of the latter. There is much difference of opinion as to the methods by which this expropriation should be effected, but as to the necessity of effecting it there is no difference whatever. The Henry George folks claim their Single Tax will do it; the Socialist and the Socialist Labor Parties declare it will be accomplished by their victory at the polls; the hosts of organized labor maintain that with the perfecting of their organization the robbery of labor by capital will be stopped. Magon has simply put into a nutshell the philosophy of that economic revolution with which the modern world is reeling. He has done it with the frankness peculiar to himself and the movement he represents. In Mexico Mother Earth—our Mother, from whose breasts, by the law of our existence, we must draw our daily nourishment—has been kidnapped from the people; kidnapped by money and officialdom with a bold unscrupulousness that must make the ghost of Capt Kidd turn green with jealousy. Now the people are rescuing their Mother from the brigands. They had to. There was nothing else to do. Ferrer Day, Oct 13, is approaching. The murder of Ferrer, less than two years ago, was the one touch needed to start the avalanche, and it has been moving ever since. Checked for the moment at one point it has broken out promptly at another, gathering strength from the very opposition it has met. Consequently, although anniversaries are far too often mere excuses for idle oratory, it seems fitting to observe the date of Ferrer's execution, and it will be observed throughout the civilized world. We ourselves have taken Burbank Hall for the occasion, but we trust other meetings may be held. In Spain the revolutionary situation has reached a critical stage, as is known to all observers. Inasmuch as Ferrer was a Spaniard who devoted his life to the mental and economic emancipation of his nation, the Ferrer speakers inevitably will deal largely with the present struggles of the Spanish proletariat; will explain the magnificent heroism it is displaying and the clerical and governmental obstacles it has to overcome. That assuredly is what Ferrer himself would have wished rather than empty eulogies of his own personality. And in doing this the Ferrer speakers will not wish to ignore the Mexican Revolution, for the Spanish and the Mexican movements, linked closely by blood-ties, move hand in hand. For the benefit of Ferrer speakers throughout the world I think it timely to give the following synopsis, that there may be no doubt as to the position occupied from the first by the Mexican Liberal

Party and "Regeneracion."

"Here we are again in the field, the torch of revolution in the one hand and the program of the Liberal Party in the other, announcing war. We are not whining messengers of peace, we are revolutionists. Our electoral ballots will be the bullets from our rifles. And now, to work. Let towards hold themselves aloof, we do not want them. For the Revolution only the brave should enlist." The foregoing paragraph fixes the character of "Regeneracion" and of the movement of which it is the official organ. I pick the quotation because it is as straight and uncompromising a declaration as pen could frame. I call attention to the fact that it is from the salutatory editorial in "Regeneracion" of Sept. 3, 1910—issued almost immediately after the release of Ricardo Flores Magon, Antonio I Villarron and Librado Rivera from United States penitentiary. It announced, in terms that leave no room for doubt, the course the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party intended to pursue; it proves conclusively that those who charge the Junta with deceit, claiming that the movement was represented as one of peaceful evolution, are themselves deceiving. They were not the ones betrayed. The would-be traitors were those who sought to chase with the hounds and run with the hare, to participate in a purely revolutionary movement, the character of which was explained to them most clearly, and to swerve it into politics. Of late the Socialist Party Congressman, Victor Berger, has found it prudent to denounce the Mexican Revolutionists as "bandits" and draw aside his skirts. But for months Berger and his party knew most precisely what the Mexican Liberal Party was bent on doing and the methods it intended to adopt. For months the "Appeal to Reason" and other Socialist party organs urged the Mexican Liberal Party on with all the eloquence their scribes could muster and published illustrated articles by men of the John Kenneth Turner stripe, showing our forces in action and calling on the world to applaud the men behind the guns. It is a record too voluminous for reproduction, but one from which no escape is possible. Pulling for Madero Examination of files shows Socialist Party influences at work in the very first number of the resurrected "Regeneracion," the editorship of the English section having been entrusted—in fact though not in name—to a gentleman who held a subordinate position on the Los Angeles Socialist organ. He immediately began pulling for Madero, as is shown by the following, clipped from the first article he wrote: "Certain elements work hard to connect Mr. Madero with the uprisings in Yucatan and San Luis Potosi, to get rid of a man whom Diaz actually fears, because that man always was a man of peace and lawfulness." Need one remark that the uprisings of the slaves in Yucatan, for which the English editor apologized and from which he sought to exonerate Madero, were hailed with exuberant delight by the members of the Junta? Unfortunately the Mexicans are not very familiar with English, and for the editorship of their English page a man who could translate, at least, from the Spanish was a necessity. Things drifted along, as is their habit, until in "Regeneracion's" issue of Dec. 10, 1910, the editor of the English section reproduced Madero's proclamation and commented: "It makes it also clear why the Mexican Liberals join hands with the middle class revolutionists." This brought matters to a focus and next week's English section contained the following: "The editors of Regeneracion wish to correct a mistake as to the policy of the Liberal Party which unfortunately was made last week by a contributor to the English section. Under the heading 'A Political Document' it was said that the Mexican Liberals had joined hands with the middle class revolutionists who are now operating against the Diaz government. We wish to say that had we known the contents of this article we would not have permitted it to be printed. The Liberal Party has not joined hands with the Maderists. It has not indorsed and will not indorse either Madero or his program. The Liberal Party is a working class movement. If it triumphs it will proceed at once to returning the stolen lands of the people to their rightful owners. The Maderist Party would merely restore the republican constitution. It would not break up the big haciendas which are one of the chief bulwarks of the slavery and peonage under which at least one-third of our people are living. We believe that the time has passed for middle class

revolutions. The revolution of the Liberal Party will be a working class revolution." Clear as to Ends and Means Those who read the foregoing will concede that "Regeneracion" has a talent for exact expression. It has. So far as its Spanish editors are concerned the paper, like the party it represents, always has known exactly what it wanted and how it proposed to get it; the first requirement being the land and the method—forcible expropriation. On the publication of this "correction" the offender resigned and for two weeks "Regeneracion" was without an English section. Then, Dec. 31, 1910, it was announced that Mrs. Ethel Duffy Turner, wife of the author of "Barbarous Mexico," would assume the position, which she did the following week. The same issue stated that "Barbarous Mexico" would be given as a premium to all subscribers, a policy that proved expensive financially but paid in other ways, since the book has been a most powerful agent for the exposure of Mexican conditions. From other points of view the selection of Mrs. Turner was most unfortunate. Turner himself had written a work that, as an exposure, did an infinity of good. But his training and affiliations had been with Socialists, and apparently he could not see beyond Madero and the overthrow of Diaz. That the Mexican Revolution was destined to play a leading role in the world-wide struggle for economic emancipation, to be achieved solely through direct revolutionary action, was either beyond his mental grasp or outside his sympathies. There was much denunciation of Diaz and Wall Street, but no exposition of the fundamental principles that make the Mexican movement the close ally of revolutionary parties in Spain and other countries. If anything the English page leaned toward the political propaganda, and thus placed itself in opposition to the views urged unceasingly by the Spanish editors. All this was most unsatisfactory. All Bridges Burned. The moment it had been erroneously announced that the Mexican Liberal Party was in accord with Madero and the middle-class revolutionists, the Spanish editors of "Regeneracion" set themselves diligently to work to remove the misapprehension; the Magons, in particular, writing more and more strongly with every issue. The Spanish-reading world, therefore, was not surprised when, Feb. 25, 1911, Ricardo Flores Magon burned every possible bridge and drew an absolutely decisive line in a seven-column, front-page article headed "Francisco I. Madero is a traitor to the cause of Liberty." It was the one thing needed; it brought matters to an immediate head, showed who was who and set the Mexican revolution firmly on the road it has traveled since without a sign of faltering. Above all, it brought the political Socialists to time and forced their hand. I visited the offices of the Los Angeles Socialist paper just after the publication of Magon's article and found intense excitement. All those who put their faith in Madero were certain that Magon had killed his party, and it soon became evident that Turner shared their view. Before long he was urging me to assume the editorship of the English section—which I did, April 15, 1911—and shortly afterwards a statement that he had retired from all connection with the Mexican Revolution appeared in an evening daily. [To be continued]

Don't Forget

The Social at Italian Hall, corner N. Main and Macy, Sunday evening, Oct. 1. A good program has been arranged, there will be dancing and the profits will go to "Regeneracion's" propaganda. Also don't put off making preparations for the observance of Ferrer Day, Oct. 13, at Burbank Hall. Send to "Regeneracion" for literature and learn what the Ferrer movement means. I. W. W. PLEDGES SUPPORT. J. R. Mosby and his fellow political prisoners in the county jail are in receipt of a telegram sent by the Sixth Annual Convention of the I. W. W. promising all possible support. Bravo! Bravissimo! "Cultura Proletaria" (New York), "Tierra y Libertad," (Barcelona, Spain) and "Tierra" (Havana, Cuba) continue a most active propaganda on behalf of the Mexican Revolution. In all three subscription lists for the support of our struggle are kept standing. The same applies to "Le Voz del Pueblo," (Tarrasa, Spain), "Il Libertario," (La Spezia, Italy) "L' Agitatore," (Bologna, Italy)

What does Reyes' Departure Mean?

Madero Leaders Scent Danger of Another Revolution Landowners are finding it impossible to Collect Rents

According to the "Los Angeles Times" of Sept. 28 "Pascual Orozco has been ordered to proceed to Morelos with a strong force to check anti-Madero demonstrations, expected on Sunday, election day." That same day Gen. Bernardo Reyes, candidate for president in opposition to Madero, sailed from Veracruz for New York. This was an unexpected move and opinions as to its meaning are necessarily divided, some considering that it removes the last obstacle to Madero's triumph at the polls and others that it is the prelude to another armed revolution, in which Reyes will have all possible support from the propertied class, many of whom, according to the "Times," "have not collected a cent since the fall of Juarez." We can well understand that the owners of the big haciendas, and such men as Limantour, who has large property interests in Mexico City itself, find themselves between the devil and the sea. Madero was apparently their man, but Madero has shown himself everything to everybody, and what they want, above all else, is the mailed hand to bring about a peace of Warsaw. They may try another experiment, but it will be full of peril; for continued agitation serves merely to bring the economic question more clearly to the fore, encouraging the disinherited in their determination to take possession of the land as the key to industrial freedom. Perusal of the Mexico City exchanges makes one appreciate how powerful is the tie of common language; for they have been greatly wrought up over the news from Spain, and from them one can glean much information not vouchsafed by our own press. According to "El Pais," of Sept. 21, there had been then about one thousand arrests in the Spanish kingdom. That bodes ill for the future of Alfonso's throne; since, whatever may be the fate of the captured, we may be sure their friends and relatives have memories. Events are the true educators, and the universal judgment of mankind, which always has awarded the palm to doers rather than to talkers, is correct. "Troops have been despatched." It is the phrase one runs across perpetually nowadays in the Mexican papers, as in those of European countries, and I take the following from "El Pais," of Sept. 20, as suggestive: "In the States of Zacatecas, San Luis Potosi, Coahuila, Durango, Sinaloa, Tamaulipas and Oaxaca there are six thousand ex-revolutionists who are now without regular commissions. Two thousand of these will be utilized in the formation of rural forces." Can the government rely on them? Already there are loud complaints that no provision has been made for the families of those who lost their lives during the Maderist revolution, though the treaty of Juarez had an express stipulation that such provision should be made. Madero has carried his point and the elections will not be postponed. His principal lieutenants, Orozco and Blanco, are reported as actively at work organizing the rurales forces in Chihuahua and Morelos, "in order that there may be no obstacle in the way of Madero at election time," as the "El Paso Herald" puts it. One imagines that they will have their hands full, from the reports of the growing activity of the Zapata-Alamazan combination now operating in Morelos, Puebla, Mexico, Oaxaca and Guerrero, in which unnamed State Alamazan enjoys great popularity. No less than 15,000 federal soldiers were despatched against Zapata and it was supposed that they had surrounded him. He broke through the ring and is now more active than ever. "The war of classes has broken out in Chiapas" is the way "El Imparcial" puts it in a seven-column head, the additional information being that 5000 "Chamulas" are in arms against the government. It is a by no means insignificant number for a single State. "Correo de la Tarde" reports that the natives of Santa Maria, Maloya, Otitan and Matatan, State of Sinaloa, have retaken possession of their old communal lands. Notices of similar action taken by three Indian tribes in the

same state had come to our attention within the past week. There was much talk of sending government troops to Sinaloa, but it appears that the authorities shrank from a step that would have precipitated an immediate and general conflict. The "Los Angeles Times" of Sept. 26 plays up the fact that 150 Yaquis, armed with modern Mausers, are acting as government police in Sonora, having been detailed to hunt down Isidoro Escobaza, a noted bandit. It represents these old-time enemies of the Mexican authorities as having been conciliated by Madero, who, according to its story, has given them back their lands. As we understand it that is a very one-sided account, the truth being that these 150 are a small band headed by Chlot Bull, with whom Madero has made terms. On the other hand, there are fully 2000 Yaquis in open rebellion in this one State of Sonora. They are headed by Chlot Salnabani, and are said to have hoisted the red flag. The slightest acquaintance with the history of Mexico will convince any one that if privilege has to rely on the Yaquis for its protection it may as well prepare immediately to die. Despatches sent East from Los Angeles declare that Mexico is organizing the "greatest secret service system in the world." A certain Bernardo Garcia, now quartered in Los Angeles, is represented as having the task in charge and as being supplied with unlimited funds. He has informed reporters that a law will be passed shortly making death and confiscation of property the penalty for armed revolt. There will be nothing new in that. The district attorney at San Diego has appealed to the State department at Washington asking it to procure the extradition of Jesus Burroia, charged with having kidnaped Ambrosio Ruiz, a constable of El Cajon. Ruiz succeeded in escaping what would have been certain death. We are informed that Alberto Jimenez, Canuto Peres, one Manuelo and three other Mexicans whose names are unknown to us, were taken from Mexico to Ensenada, leaving the former, Sept. 23. Their alleged crime was that they were Liberals, and it is safe betting that by this time they have been shot. Conditions in Lower California in this respect are said to be nothing short of infernal, and it is sincerely to be hoped that Burroia will be brought back to San Diego. As yet the Mexican officials have done all in their power to prevent it. Movement of Solidarity From England we get news that fills us with delight, the Forty-fourth Annual Congress of the Trades' Unions of Great Britain having ordered the distribution of a splendid appeal on behalf of the Mexican Revolutionists drawn up by Honora J. Jaxon, of Chicago, who has been visiting Great Britain as our special representative. The appeal, which is published in most attractive form, begins by reminding members that the first step to industrial slavery is taken when the worker allows himself to be "cut off from free access to the land and from the opportunity to employ himself"—a basic economic truth dignified with capitals. Members are then reminded that the result of this deprivation of opportunity for self-employment is the creation of a "surplus supply of unemployed and therefore starving men," whom the employers hold as a whip over organized labor. Having thus cleared the ground by clear exposition of fundamental truths the writer shows that the Mexicans are performing invaluable service to labor by "their unprecedented and determined movement to seize back the lands and utilities of Mexico," and demonstrates that "this wonderful movement is the first instance in modern history of a disinherited class boldly taking back the land that had been taken away from them by the tricks of the law." Mr. Jaxon writes us that he has been received with the greatest courtesy by British organized labor, and has been granted invariably a most attentive hearing. We much regret that his engagements force him to return to the United States sooner than anticipated. Mr. A. A. Graham, a well-known attorney of Topeka, Kan., and writer on Mexican questions, sends us a letter packed with intensity of feeling respecting the wrongs inflicted on the masses by the stealing of their lands. He gives instances of estates so large that their size has never been computed accurately, on which dwell thousands of people absolutely at the mercy of a single landlord; and draws a forcible comparison between such conditions and those which rendered the great French Revolution a necessity. His closing sentences run: "These great tracts of land belong, by every divine, every natural, every human and every legal right, to these

thousands of people living on them; because these lands, taken by force from them or their ancestors, from whom they rightfully inherit, are now held wrongfully, and wrongfully withheld from them; so that we have here a case to which should be applied that maxim of the law recognized by all nations, all civilized nations, at all times—'A wrong long continued can never become a right.' How are those people to have their rights? How are they to get their lands? The only possible answer is: 'By taking them.' They should take them and answer questions later; because they have no time for discussion now." Our view, precisely; but we cannot get the Henry George men to take it, and in the eyes of Victor Berger Mr. Graham must be a bandit. Accompanying a contribution of \$28.50 is a most encouraging letter from Pierre Martin, of "Lo Libertario," Paris, in which Ch. Malato has been writing so strongly on the Mexican question. It congratulates the Junta on having had the good sense to understand that the way to interest the masses in the revolution is to make them immediate participants in the benefits that accrue from it; throwing the lands open to the people and allowing them to reap the fruits of their industry instead of feeding them on promises. Another Mr. Graham, who writes from Virden, Ill., and encloses a money order for \$3.10, congratulates us on our "very becoming contempt for statesmanship." He concludes some caustic comments on noted American labor leaders with these words: "If they would follow after the Mexican Liberal Insurrectos for awhile they might acquire spirit, independence and aggressiveness enough to compel the respect of the bourgeois class and its lackeys, the statesmen." Alas, Mr. Graham, it requires wisdom to understand that the one personality who always commands respect is the unflinching fighter." The working class, unfortunately, does not possess wisdom; otherwise it would not be where it is today. Mr. Bolton Hall, well-known as a writer on the land question, has sent back our article, "What about the Single Taxers?" with marginal comments which, as it seems to us, disclose a terrible weakness. His reply to our complaint that Single Taxers take no interest in the Mexican land struggle is: "Naturally, because we think their method ineffective." His answer to the charge that Henry George had no more right to encourage land speculation than Garrison had to countenance dealing in slaves is this: "You could free your nigger; you can't free your land." The first reply is tantamount to saying "we have the one and only emancipation patent." The second is, to the present writer, ridiculous. George was never tired of insisting that the earth was meant for the free use of every child of man. Mr. Bolton Hall's argument is that we can't carry out nature's intent. I have understood that Tolstoy gave those who were formerly his tenants free access to the soil, and what Tolstoy gave the Mexicans are re-taking. Surely that is the finer way. Referring to the meetings being held on behalf of the Mexican Revolution, a New York City correspondent writes: "I wish you could have been to the Jewish meeting held in Brooklyn and seen a large number of East-Side Russian Jews glow with enthusiasm when they were told about the heroic struggle the Mexicans are making; and after these poor Jews had paid an admission fee they gave most generously in the collection. Surely, if the Mexican Revolution does nothing else but solidify the proletarians of the world, that, in itself, is worth while. It was a most wonderful meeting and it has helped the Jew to see that revolutions are international. As a rule, they have their eyes focused on Russia. The demonstration in Union Square was a tremendous success morally. It is no simple thing to get several thousand people together and have them remain two hours on a rainy night to listen to speakers in six different languages. The most enthusiastic meeting, though, that I attended was the one held by 'Solidaridad Obrera,' the Spanish freemen, at 'Cultura Proletaria.'"

Pryce Acquitted Triumphantly

Prosecution of Liberal Commander proves Utter Fiasco

Gen. Caryl Rhys Pryce, late in command of the Mexican Liberal Party forces in Lower California, has been declared innocent of the charges of robbery made against him at the instigation of the Mexican authorities, United States Commissioner William Van Dyke expressing himself thus: "It is needless to dwell at length on the testimony that has been adduced in this case. I am satisfied a state of war existed in Lower California at the time of the alleged crime, and that the movements of the defendant were a part of the general campaign waged against the old administration. The defendant is discharged." Frank Stewart, formerly assistant prosecuting attorney for the United States government but now retained by the Mexican authorities, thereupon moved that the charges of murder and arson be dismissed. Attorney Holston and Smysor are to be congratulated on the success with which they broke down completely the network of alleged evidence in which the Mexican authorities endeavored to entangle the defendant, and the action of the prosecution in putting the Mexican consul on the stand seems worthy of special notice. Under cross-examination he refused to answer questions, asserting that his correspondence was privileged, and Commissioner Van Dyke remarked pointedly that to bring out apparently damaging evidence on direct examination and then decline to submit to cross-examination was indefensible. Two indictments charging Gen. Pryce with violation of the neutrality laws are still pending and he has been returned to the county jail, but it is hoped that the \$2500 bonds necessary for his release may be forthcoming without delay. The Mexican authorities are still seeking the extradition of Jack R. Mosby, J. B. Ladin and Samuel L. Reed, and we are justified in reminding our readers that such extradition will be tantamount to death. Efforts to bring about results similar to that which happily has attended the prosecution of Gen. Pryce should not be relaxed for a single instant. We are satisfied that their counsel and the large section of the public which is in full sympathy with the accused will not abate their vigilance. ABOVE ALL, BE PRACTICAL. While the Spanish and Italian press has run over with long and enthusiastic accounts of the Mexican Revolution we have felt some disappointment at the comparatively scanty notices given in the Parisian press, even those in "Les Temps Nouveux" and "La Guerre Sociale" being often brief. "Le Libertaire," however, is proving a notable exception, its comments and descriptive articles being all that could be wished. Our well-tried comrade Ch. Malato has been devoting his eloquent and thoughtful pen to the elucidation of the principles at stake in Mexico's struggle for economic freedom, treating the entire question in his habitual uncompromising style. Malato calls special attention to the fact that here, at last, is a movement that is neither losing itself in politics nor in sectarian and sterile metaphysics; that has a program at once profound and severely practical; that caters to the prime necessities of the people not in a distant future but in the immediate present. "Our Mexican comrades," he says, "are giving us a lesson in facts. While they are renewing the Garibaldi epoch of heroism that aroused the enthusiasm of our fathers, they are concerning themselves no longer with the fatherland, nationalism or race conflicts. It is the social revolution that is raging on the other side of the Atlantic." bonded indebtedness permit."—Los Angeles Herald. Precisely; and every one of these vaunted Municipal Socialism improvements has been accompanied by a rise in real estate, rendering it harder to get a home, harder to pay rent, harder to purchase the necessities without which we cannot live. It has gone, every cent of it, into the landlord's pocket, and the gamble in land has grown fiercer and more unscrupulous.