

Regeneracion.

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SOCIALISTS AND THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION

A Socialist of international reputation has written me on the subject of the Mexican revolution. Unfortunately he has not authorized me to publish his name, but I reproduce the essential part of his letter...

It must not be imagined that the action of certain leaders and a portion of the Socialist press is endorsed by the membership. On the contrary, the general tendency of the party membership is towards a recognition of the value of the work of the Liberal Party...

Both by his own position as an extremely wealthy man and one of the largest landowners in a country of huge estates, and also by virtue of his financial alliances, Madero cannot be anything but a political reformer. Economically he is pledged to out-Diaz Diaz in the encouragement of foreign capital...

What are his prospects of success? My individual judgment is that they are absolutely "nil," unless he adopts the autocratic and physical force methods of Diaz, as already he is doing. My judgment rests on the following grounds:

First, and above all, these—more than semi-Indian Mexicans demand the return of their lands, given away in huge slices to adventurers. They have a passionate longing for their old, free-from-care life.

Secondly, these Mexicans are utilizing to the full the opportunity afforded by the fact that the central government has become greatly weakened, and they are retaking possession of the lands from which they have been ousted by one of the most indefensible combinations of force and fraud on record.

Will they succeed? It appears to me that they are making excellent progress; and that, if they do not permit themselves to be bamboozled into getting off the trail, their success is only a question of time, and of short time at that.

These people are not looking, and cannot be induced to look, toward politics for relief. Politics may be an interesting amusement for the upper classes, but the Mexican peasant and workingman knows nothing about them and does not want to know.

Let me say at the outset that there is no comprehending the true situation in Mexico until you recognize that the Mexicans have in their veins approximately three-fourths of Indian to one-fourth of Spanish blood...

thing he wants to get away from. You will notice that the press is acknowledging, with pious regret, that hatred of the foreigner—always a marked feature of Mexican life—is growing more pronounced.

Let me now turn to the vista all this opens up: to its direct connection with our own future. Instead of the revolution being over, as the "Appeal to Reason" claimed, I am satisfied that it is only now beginning, and that it will proceed from confiscation to confiscation.

General Wood reported to the U. S. government recently that he would require an army of 300,000 for successful intervention, and British military authorities laughed at the estimate, saying the subjugation of Mexico would be a far harder task than was that of the Transvaal.

No wonder the American and European governments hesitate to intervene, although confiscation of property is going on all the time. What they have done is to adopt a far safer, more diplomatic and more economical course.

It seems to me that every opponent of wage slavery—every man and woman who understands that it is monstrous to allow absentee landlords and money lenders to suck the marrow out of a nation's bones—should join us in urging the people of Mexico not to surrender their newly acquired strength...

The revolutionary party is now split into two factions, the Maderistas and the Vasquequistas, the latter being the followers of the deposed minister, for the retirement of Vasquez Gomez is rather a dismissal than a voluntary resignation.

Sooner or later this business of "tying the world in a tether and buying out God with a fee" has to be stopped, and I can see no time or opportunity better than the present. That certain of our fellow creatures should be allowed to corner the earth, thereby reducing millions to the choice of starving for them or dying of starvation, appears to me the most monstrous proposition ever submitted to what calls itself the human intellect.

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Let me point out further that hatred of wage slavery is not a peculiarity of the Magons, or of the movement represented by the Mexican Liberal Party. It is the national tradition. President Benito Juarez—the idol of Mexican Liberals—and his successor, President Lerdo, were saturated with and based all their policies on that national hatred.

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Army of Liberation Called on To Restore Order

Mexican Government Deplores Riot of Revolt Consequent on Recent Political Revolution

Masses, Having Obtained Liberty, Must Learn To Control Their Passions and Respect Property

OFFICIAL WARNING BY MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR. "The lamentable excesses recorded at various points in the republic compromise the people's tranquility and make us appear, to foreigners, incapable of ruling our own exalted passions.

The foregoing circular, speaks for itself and gives the direct lie to the government's recent official declarations that peace has been restored. Observe the expressions used.

Leaders Repudiate Madero. Since the above was written the Minister of the Interior has resigned, and the political situation has become still more acute.

The resignation of Emilio Vasquez Gomez, Minister of the Interior, which had been discounted for weeks and taken for granted by all political groups, now that it has occurred has given rise to a grave situation.

This is stated by Vasquez Gomez himself in his note of resignation, in which he declares that he had been ordered by President De la Barra to resign, their views being irreconcilably divergent.

"Mexican strikers storm prison and troops kill nine. Four thousand miners at El Oro abandon work and release comrades." The account goes on to state that President De la Barra, Madero's man, has promised the mine owners protection.

More Violence Than Ever. The "Los Angeles Times," which represents heavy investments in Mexico, grows more and more alarmed.

But a group of Maderist leaders is strongly opposed to the retirement of Emilio Vasquez Gomez, and after an interview this morning with President De la Barra, in which the latter displayed a firmness with which he had not been credited...

There have been more engagements between armed forces of men since the peace compact was signed than during the entire period that Madero conducted his revolution.

Naturally it is not the "Times" one to suggest that nearly all this trouble would cease automatically if the people were given land, as promised. But Madero prefers the preaching of frugality to parting with his acres.

Here is a suggestive extract from "Diario del Hogar," Mexico City, July 28: "In Chihuahua, Durango, Hidalgo, and above all, in Southern Puebla and in Morelos, numerous estates have been invaded by a multitude of proletarians and occupied by force.

Apparently this does not hold good with the country generally, for the economic revolution is being aided enormously by the fact that the well-to-do class is rent asunder by political dissensions.

We forgot to mention the cartoon in which Madero, as a naked Cupid, is being bitterly reproached by the prostrate Miss Democracy for the unfortunate condition into which he has brought her.

WE WILL INVESTIGATE. The secretary of the "Liberal League for Mexican Freedom" has sent the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party a letter, the gist of which is that "Revolt," a San Francisco Socialist paper, has prevented Haywood from accepting the invitation of the "Open Forum" to address it on the subject of the Mexican Revolution.

The letter, with three somewhat lengthy enclosures, comes when our space is already more than full; but, apart from that, we wish to get, if possible, "Revolt's" side to the dispute before noticing or commenting in detail.

It will be understood that we know nothing, and care less, about what is called the "local situation" in San Francisco or elsewhere. All we know is that the economic uprising of 15,000,000 people is an event that every radical and working man in the United States ought to be discussing and assisting.

Responsible Mexicans of every faction, says "Current Literature," are just now united by a common hostility to the European, according to the London "Standard." No sooner did it become evident that Diaz would be driven from power, the London daily understands, than old and preposterous financial claims; disallowed during the days of Juarez, were revived and presented at the Mexican capital as if they had "a leg to stand on."

Every Frenchman whose grandfather lost money in a silver mine when Maximilian was parading the Mexican roads with his troops has, it seems, hurried to the Quai d'Orsay with a complaint. The French foreign office does not seem to have scrutinized these claims very closely.

Once More Trials are Postponed

I. W. W. Displays great Activity on behalf of Accused

The trial of Ricardo and Enrique Magon, Rhyora and Figueroa (of the Mexican Liberal Party Junta), Gen. Pryce and Mosby, and Laffin and Reed, on charges of having violated the neutrality laws, has been postponed again to Monday next.

Attorney E. B. Kirk has procured the dismissal of the charges of murder and arson against Pryce, Mosby, Laffin and Reed, but charges of robbery, which also is an extraditable offense, still stand against them.

The Mosby Defense Committee of the Los Angeles I. W. W. locals held two protest meetings this week, the first being in the open air and the second at Mammoth Hall.

It seems to us that the energy displayed by the I. W. W. should enlist the sympathy and support of all Los Angeles radicals, and that a start having been made, we may look forward to the holding of many more and larger meetings.

WHERE IS THE DIFFERENCE? If you can see the "Industrial Worker" of July 27 you will enjoy the cartoon entitled "The New Rurales," and will understand at a glance what it has taken us columns to explain.

The cartoon is supported by a powerful article, from which we quote; the passage selected referring to Ghent's letter to Roland D. Sawyer, which we gave and commented on last week. Here is the quotation:

"Blanket men," "hoboes," "direct actionists!" How is that, you slave, coming from your representative, and the first and only one to hold a seat in the United States congress? Can you discover any difference between this language and the language used by the capitalist press?"

BUT THEY ARE NOT PACIFIED. "And so the band of Wall Street looters dropped their flag, which was Diaz, and the Mexican people cheered because they thought that when Diaz was out of sight their troubles were over."

"Children, all of them, or, more truly, puppets! Madero's army, made up of Mexicans ready to die if that might shake off the thrall of tyranny, was converted into a puppet in Wall Street's game; it was used as a bugaboo, a jack-in-the-box, by Wall Street to frighten Diaz out of the land and prevent a revolution that would destroy Wall Street's wealth in Mexico."