

In The Threshold of Liberty.

(Extracts from the Spanish section.)
Who is he who does not feel the proximity of a catastrophe that is about to write in letters of blood a new chapter in the history of human progress?

He must be deaf who does not hear the rumble of discontent grow until it threatens to turn into the tempestuous roar of a sea, lashed by the winds; he must be blind who fails to observe in the multitudes the thousand and one gestures of pain, of desperation and of rage. No one fails to perceive the fast strides of the Revolution on its way; no one fails to feel in his brow the burning breath of protest and rebellion.

The proximity of the cataclysm that has to remove to its very foundations the social, economic and political structure that until now has formed the mode of life of human beings, is foreseen by all, by the oppressed as well as by the oppressors, by the victims as well as by the executioners. It means that at last the peoples have convinced themselves that the present institutions are not only incapable of assuring liberty and well-being, but that they are obnoxious to the harmonious development of the human species as a whole, for if truly within them a few individuals are benefited, the majority, the immense majority suffer misery and oppression.

Constitutional monarchy, central republic and federal republic, restricted suffrage and universal suffrage, all have been tried by human beings in their eagerness to conquer liberty and well-being, and in all those experiments they have failed for government, no matter what its form, has ever proved to be the powerful and decided auxiliary of the strong to oppress the weak. No government of any sort has ever satisfied the longing for liberty and well-being cherished by man, hence the existence of a desire for a change in the manner of social life in human societies, of attaining a form of life more in harmony with the modern sense of justice and the new conceptions of liberty.

It is not a particular people of the earth alone who aspire to a change, but all the peoples. The Revolution stretches its arm calling at every door, for the same misery is suffered by all the peoples, the same tyranny and identical wretchedness reign in all latitudes, under all the skies, all the climes, under autocracy, as well as under democracy, and so we find that at this moment, all the peoples who until yesterday were long-suffering and submissive, shake their indolence, open their eyes and clench their fists.

All indicates that this great social revolution which advances at great strides, shall not be limited to dethrone a king or to put a president in his place, or to depose a president to replace him with a new one. Humanity is tired of such changes; no one believes any longer that Peter is better than John as a ruler, since experience has taught that all rulers are equally obnoxious; that governments have no other mission than to guarantee the rich the safe enjoyment of the wealth they have usurped at the sacrifice of the poor. The people having at last found that their ills lie in the unequal distribution of wealth, Capitalism is the first institution that is destined to perish.

Mexico and Russia form the vanguard of the great insurrection. In Mexico, as in Russia, audacious hands wrest the land from the hands of the bourgeois-

The southern part of Mexico is in the hands of the proletariat, and in Russia, two million five hundred thousand acres of land have been taken by the peasants, without waiting for a congress to deign itself decree the expropriation of the Land. What happens in Mexico and in Russia shall happen all over the world, for everywhere the land is usurped by a few, and to the usurpation of that natural source of wealth the misery of the popular masses is due.

In Mexico the Revolution follows its course. In Russia it is formidable. Petrograd is the scene of encounters between the rebel forces and those of the provisional government. The forces of the reaction hang their heads upon seeing the rebels parade the streets with such signs as: "Anarchist Group of Kronstadt;" "Down with authority;" "Hail the Commune."

The Russian bourgeoisie sees with horror the proximity of the moment in which, by consent or force, it has to turn to the people the wealth it has usurped, and to retard that moment, even if it be by a few instants, before settling its accounts with popular justice, it resorts to terrorism, which has ever been the last recourse of all despots that plunge to the abyss, it orders the extermination of all agitation that might endanger the life of the capitalist regime.

The United States cannot escape the tornado that is about to cut loose all over the world. The generating cause of the catastrophe of the old institutions, exists here as everywhere, and it seems that the bourgeoisie in this country has a particular interest in precipitating, with the assaults committed by her government, the Revolution which, until not long ago, appeared to be something with a very obscure future, if not altogether impossible. At the beginning of the Mexican Revolution, Americans looked upon it with disgust, and regarded the rebels who overthrew government after government as idiots and bandits.

But things have changed. Misery and tyranny have gone to extremes in this country, and more than one American longs to have a gun with a good dotation of ammunition in his hands.

Economic unrest is aggravated by governmental tyranny. Contagion has wrought consternation and carried woe to millions of proletarian homes. The bourgeoisie needs men with a gun to multiply its millions, and millions of young workers shall be snatched from their homes to be dragged to the European sham-bles or to serve as food for the social revolution which advances sharks in mid ocean.

The Revolution has reached such proportions in this country, that its approach is not only seen by those who suffer the rigors of the capitalist system, but it is the high-ranking officials of the government themselves who predict its triumph. The bourgeois paper, "Los Angeles Record," in its edition of the 21st of July publishes an editorial from which we call the following paragraphs: "Muzzle not the ox that grinds out the corn."

"This nation is going to speedily learn that the laborer is worthy of his hire, or it is going to see a reign of terror, a reign that martial law will hardly put down."

"The man who cannot see all about him the signs of revolution, right here in this country, is blind."

"The newspaper who fails to

speak out in a time of crisis like this is a newspaper that lets cowardice dictate; and the newspaper that seeks to blame the I. W. W. or the German secret agents is an ass.

"The I. W. W. did not cause the Arizona strikes."

"The German agents did not start our nation-wide labor troubles."

"The greed of predatory business made fertile the soil where the cancer-like roots of anarchy and rebellion thrive."

"... when the worker faces an empty flour bin, when he cannot buy shoes for his children, nor sugar for his cakes, nor milk for his babies, tho he work seven days a week at top speed; and when he reads of the billions of war profits that his bosses have piled up, then he is ready for revolt, riot or any other thing that will fill his belly or strike at his oppressors."

"Property rights are most respectable and are duly upheld by law (Don't forget that it is a bourgeois paper talking), but the right of a human being to eat is considerably more fundamental than some would admit."

"The average wage increase in this country does not represent one-tenth the increase in the cost of living; either the cost comes down, or the wage goes up, or we have revolution."

"It is impossible to magnify the seriousness of this revolt; it is silly to consider it a mere flash in the pan; it is idiotic to attempt to stop it by clapping a few I. W. W. leaders in jail."

"The workers of the nation, of the world, are awake today, and they are not going to be skinned much longer. It may be hard on the skimmers, but it can't be helped."

"The way to stop a hunger riot is to have a barbecue."

Thus speaks the bourgeois press, and on so speaking does not do it of its own choice, but because environment forces it to occasionally tell the truth. Our surroundings are saturated with rebellion. A spark, and then conflagration.

We are, therefore, witnessing the last gasps of a system that agonizes.

The bourgeois institutions have given all that they could give: more bad than good, and the eyes of the human species search for new horizons.

The Revolution knocks at the doors of the peoples.

RICARDO FLORES MAGON.

The Strike in Arizona

(Translated from the Spanish section.)

Forming a solid falanx of resistance, more than 5000 miners of different nationalities, slavs, italians, americans, mexicans, fins, germans, etc., united in a wonderful bond of class solidarity, have managed to hold out on strike for two round months in the copper mines of Arizona.

Wonderful indeed, is the spirit of solidarity that dwells in the breasts of that cosmopolitan mass of workers on strike. All of them stand firm, all determined not to go back, all disposed to go to the end, even to revolution itself, if they are forced to it by the persecutions and brutalities to which they are being subjected, as it is natural, by the exploiters and their watch dog, the eternal procurer of the rich, Madam Authority.

"More, and more," say those striking miners in their Strike Bulletin of August 17, "the workers learn the lesson that in the class struggle the masters know no law but that of brute force, and that the workers have no protection but that which is developed from their solidarity and economic strength. The capitalists are sowing the dragon's teeth that in the future shall rend them to pieces."

And how could the strikers fail to learn that lesson when they are being subjected

to the most brutal assaults? How could they fail to learn it when they see that to force them back to slavery the local authorities arm and give power of life and death over them to hundreds of ruffians extracted from the human dregs, such as dives, saloons and gambling dens, and are made Deputy-Sheriffs, with unlimited power? How can't they learn it when they see that the government allows the masters to arm hundreds more of these hounds of the same stripe, as their special police, while that same government prohibits the sale of arms to the strikers, that they may be at their mercy? How can they fail to learn it when the state government sends troops to harass the strikers and the federal government does as much, instead of sending those troops to force the capitalist buccanniers to give the strikers at least what little they ask out of the much they are robbed from the product of their labor? The government, to justify its wish of forcing the workers back into the mines, points out the necessity in which the "Country," not to say Morgan, finds itself to have co-operate on the war against Germany, to save the billions of that rapacious monster and of the others from the Wall Street snake den, with the lure that it is to go and fight for Liberty and Democracy.

"If the government needs the copper from this district," say the sensible miners in their Bulletin, "let it develop pressure upon the greedy pirates of the mining corporations, who have made fortunes from the labor of their employees. Let the government compel the copper barons to concede our reasonable and just demands."

But, the government, does not act that way; because the mission of all governments is not to protect the poor, the workers, the slaves, but the masters, the interests and institutions of the masters, for which it has been created from time immemorial. This lesson is also being learned in a practical way by the Arizona strikers, for besides the armed horde that has invaded them, aside from the fact that the perpetrators of countless assaults made upon the strikers and their sympathizers in Bisbee are at large, in the other cities a wreckless persecution has been carried against the workers who for their activity or in any other way have distinguished themselves during this strike, arresting them and charging them with inciting riots, that a scoundrel prosecutor may manufacture testimony against them and a vengeful judge and jury may send them to the pen, to please their masters. Among these victims is found the I. W. W. organizer, Joe Oates and our comrades Jose Maria Gardea, Tomas Martinez, Jose Lavandero, Porfirio Maya, Ignacio Somoza, Francisco Miranda, Felipe Miranda, Crescencio Vazquez, Refugio Oropeza and Adolfo Paredes.

In Bisbee, even the wives of some strikers have been beaten and several strikers have been murdered with impunity. The bandits who compose the so-called Loyalty League, framed by the masters, have decreed the extermination of the strikers.

Verily, as the Bulletin of the strikers says, "The capitalists are sowing the dragon's teeth that in the future shall rend them to pieces," for they, with their brutal excesses, are hastening the Social Revolution, that great leveller and justice maker.

ENRIQUE FLORES MAGON.

"If you don't like it in this country, why don't you get out?"—Average "patriot's" taunt to "foreigners." Old Diaz, Nicholas and their brood used to say the same thing, but they had to "scat" themselves. And so will have good many others of their stripe. The pickings are getting mighty lean, boys. Crool world, this!

"There are times when the jail is the only place for honest, self-respecting men."—Thoreau. How awfully true of these coscription times:

AN APPEAL

From our fellow-slaves in strike in Arizona we have received the following appeal for aid that we heartily indorse:

The Metal Mine Workers' Industrial Unions of Miami and Globe, Arizona, are engaged in a life and death struggle with the copper corporations for a living wage and for decent working conditions. Over 5,000 mine, mill and smelter workers have been on strike since July 1st, and will continue to fight as long as they are able to do so. Men, women and little children need assistance immediately.

It is a far cry to Belgium when Arizona, in this so-called land of freedom, presents a battle ground well worthy of your earnest consideration.

Shall we perish that plutocracy may survive?

Send contributions to F. Mori, P. O. Box 445, Miami, Arizona, Treasurer Defense Committee, Miami and Globe Branches Metal Mine Workers' Industrial Union, No. 800, I. W. W.

In The American Bastiles.

(Translated from the Spanish section.)

After two weeks of confinement in the Jefferson City, Mo., penitentiary, Emma Goldman, the bizarre amazon of anarchism in North America, was released on bail of \$25,000 pending the review of her and Alexander Berkman's cases in the Supreme Court.

Alexander, with Morris Becker and Louis Kramer, is in the Tombs prison, New York, pending his appeal, and at the same time, with amazing cold blood, there conspires against his life the arch-criminal Fickert, prosecutor of San Francisco and of the Chamber of Commerce, composed of the capitalists of that port, framing false evidence to secure the extradition of Berkman to that city, where they expect a picked jury from the human cesspool to march him to the gallows for having been the first one to raise his voice exposing the crime of which the Mooneys, Billings, Weinberg and Nolan are the object, accusing him also of complicity in the bomb explosion of San Francisco, which, according to all indications, was caused to explode by order of the bourgeoisie itself and its lackeys of authority that they may have a pretext to persecute the labor unions, and the most devoted propagandists and organizers in the ranks.

Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman are two fighters that for over 27 years have propagated and defended the anarchist principles in this Country of the Dollar. Both of them, for so long a time, and suffering persecution and imprisonment, have ever stood firm; and both, in these moments of great danger, have had the courage to measure up to the situation and regardless of the dangers and consequences, they have undertaken the anti-militarist campaign which is fraught with perils in these times when all efforts are being directed to the prussianization of the United States in order to save the billions of dollars invested by the american bankers on the side of the allies.

Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman are two comrades most worthy of the support of us all. Alexander's life is in peril if he falls in the claws of the San Francisco Assassins; Emma, altho out on bail now, is also in danger.

For the defense of both, aid can be sent to comrade M. E. Fitzgerald, 226 Lafayette St., Room 204, New York.

In the San Francisco bastille, Rena Mooney, in spite of being found innocent by a jury, continues imprisoned. Fickert, misusing his power as ever, thanks to human indolence, and the other petty judges and lackeys of the locality have denied her her liberty even under bail, notwithstanding that she should be unconditionally free.

This is because the canaille of that place hate Rena Mooney to death; and now that she and Tom Mooney's wife is bearing fruit, hence it is due to their efforts that the street car men's union was organized, and which has made possible the present strike which is being so effectively executed against their exploiters, the hatred against Rena and Tom Mooney has intensified.

As a desperate effort to twist public opinion and confuse the masses with the silly prejudice created among the ignorant against the sublime anarchist ideal, Fickert tries to implicate Berkman in this case, even tho his life be thus imperilled. Fickert and the bourgeois cabals of the C. of C. are no exceptions, hence their search for more victims on whom to satiate their blood lust.

We have information of countless cases where Mexican comrades all over the country are serving prison sentences for daring to expound their libertarian ideals and for refusing to be trampled under foot. Among the latest ones are comrade Tomas Farrel Cordero, now in the Florence, Ariz., penitentiary, Agustin Diaz, at Canton, Ohio and Diego Peña at Waco, Tex.

The number of assaults, injuries and crimes that the Kereniskies of this country commit every day is appalling and impossible to enumerate in these columns; but the cases mentioned are enough to show that we live at present under the most odious autocratic regime, that the excesses of those in power have trespassed the limit, that so-called justice is a myth, the much vaunted "Democracy" another lie and that so-called Order is the most dreadful disorder.

Such political conditions, already unbearable in themselves, added to the social and economic conditions, also created by the greed of the rich and the despotism of their lackeys of authority, have formed a wrestless and oppressive atmosphere, generator of promising popular discontent and

conscious rebellion that have come to throw the door wide-open to the armed uprising of those below against those above, of the hungry against the gluttons, of the oppressed against the oppressors, towards which we have predicted that the american people are being forced. An insignificant, unexpected incident shall be the spark that eventually will light the powder that the Romanoffs and plutocrats of this country have scattered broadcast.

Let the power-drunk overlords continue their excesses; so much the better for the cause of human liberty; so much quicker shall the proletariat decide to take justice and all that belongs to him with his own hands.

ENRIQUE FLORES MAGON

The Magon Appeal.

The hearing of the Magon appeal was again postponed until the early part of this month. These dates have been set and changed with tedious regularity, but more delays could hardly be expected. Since there is no hope of success in the Appellate Court, the case will have to go to the Supreme Court, for which change \$500 will be necessary. The Defense League has \$100 on hand and the balance is to be raised. Those wishing to help, send contributions to Mrs. Georgia Kotsch, Box 935, Los Angeles, Cal.

IN FREE AMERICA!!

(Translated from the Spanish section.)

Frank H. Little, member of the executive board of the I. W. W., was dragged from his bed in the dead of night, in Butte, Montana, by six hired ruffians of Capitalism and hanged in the outskirts of the city.

Little had been extremely active in the late strikes of the miners, and that was his crime.

Had he helped the bourgeoisie in soothing the spirit of the workers, preaching resignation and humility to them, his would have been a very different fate. He would have probably become a Congressman, a Senator, a Minister and even President of the Republic.

He didn't do so: that is why he was lynched.

He tried to be useful to his class brothers; he tried to wrest some advantages from the parasitic class for the workers, and the parasitic class did not forgive him for that crime. Six masked ruffians dragged him from the bed where he reposed, and while the population slept, his life was snuffed out.

Fruitless exploit! Feeble crime! Alive, Frank little inspired courage and life to certain groups of men. Dead, his martyrdom sets aflame all honest breasts.

Stupid error of a maddened bourgeoisie! The death of an agitator does not put an end to discontent. Misery and tyranny did not go down to the tomb with Frank Little, these have remained on foot, remember that, you lords, nourishing the fist that shall strangle you.

Naturally, the assassins have not been arrested. They promade the streets of Butte undisturbed, squandering in dens and dives the money they received for their exploit. Let those who do not believe that Authority is the bawd of the rich bear this in mind. Let those open their eyes who are still so obstinate and so stupid as to believe that Authority is necessary to protect the weak.

RICARDO FLORES MAGON.

The Mexican Situation.

(Translated from the Spanish section.)

The despoliation of the communal lands of the people to whom these had been returned by Carranza, in order to quite them down and disarm them, continues unabated by the wholesale. The last news received in this respect, is to the effect that 27 communities in the State of Michoacan are now complaining of having suffered that despoliation at the hands of the carranzista governor of that State, who belongs to the privileged castes, and goes arm in arm with

the landlords of the State, whom he aids in the usurpation of the common heritage of the inhabitants of that region.

The inhabitants of several communities in the State of Hidalgo, after whom the carranzista soldiers were sent to depolish them of their lands, to hand them back to the lords, now complain that the protection of the government to the exploiters goes to the extent of making the soldiers themselves grub and farm the lands that were taken from the people.

This powerful cause for popular discontent comes in addition to the pact effected by Carranza against the workers, whereby he prevents his Congress from putting into effect the article relating to the labor Act which was inserted in the patched-up carranzista Constitution, promulgated in Queretaro, to humbug and attract the heedless labor majorities and, after having them in his grasp, deny them the paly sops granted by the said article.

Such frauds, added to the dreadful economic situation created by the rapacity of the carranzista dignitaries and their allied bourgeoisie, to the extent that, for instance, a "carga" (6 bushels) of corn already costs forty pesos (\$28 U. S. currency), as a result of which many workers fall dead of starvation in the public thoroughfares, have further intensified popular feeling against Carranza, and caused the number of rebels to be increasing more and more every day, notwithstanding that Carranza, in his vain efforts to hold his power, suspends the constitutional guarantees all over the Republic.

A New York paper, speaking last month about the Mexican situation, gives a more or less approximate summary of the number of men with each one of the better known rebel leaders and the region in which they operate, details which are in accordance with ours, except for some omissions, such as that of Juan F. Montero, in Sonora, at the head of an important yaquiguerrilla, and that of Sibalaume, who directs the activities of all the yaqui guerrillas which have in their ranks some 2000 combatants. The summary in question is as follows:

"In the State of Tamaulipas, the Torres brothers operate with 400 men; between Tamaulipas and Veracruz, Manuel Pelaez, with 3,000 men; between Veracruz and Puebla, the Marquez brothers, with 500; between Puebla and Tlaxcala, Lauro Cejudo, with 200; South of Veracruz, Higinio Aguilar, Guadencio de la Llave and Carballo, with about 2,000 men; in Tabasco, Antonio Escoto, with 400; in Chiapas, General Felix Diaz, with 4,000 under his orders and numerous groups more that recognize and support him; in Oaxaca, Jose Inez Davila and Guillermo Meixueiro, with 6,000 mountaineers; in the State of Guerrero, Jesus M. Salgado, with 3,000 men; in Morelos, Emiliano Zapata and his chiefs, with 10,000 men; in Jalisco, Juan and Jose Magaña, with 200; Francisco Alvarez, in Zapotlan, with 600; Francisco Barajas, at the same place, with 150; Roberto Moreno, in Nautla, with 300; Julian Medina, in Tulquiquila, with 500; Pedro Zamora in Ameca, with 600; Mariano Cardenas, in Mazamitla, with 150; Jose Bueno, in Zapotlan, with 300; in Michoacan, Jose Figueroa, with 800; Gordiano Guzman, in the coast with 3,000; Jose Cincor, with 500, and Inez Garcia Chavez, between Guanajuato and Michoacan, with 2,000 men; between Zatecas, San Luis Potosi and Queretaro, the Cedillo brothers with 500; in La Laguna, Caraveo, with 3,000; in Chihuahua, Francisco Villa and Martin Lopez, with 6,000; in Sonora, Urbalejo, with 300 yaquis, besides numerous small bands that actively oppose the Carranza forces, and who constantly attack towns, cut railroad lines and burn telegraph posts."

In the above summary are not comprised the numerous independent guerrilla bands that without leaders nor gods nor masters, operate all over the Republic.

The rule of Carranza, in fact, only extends to the large cities and towns, where most of his troops are engaged in guarding them.

From the painful lessons learned during this seven years of armed struggle, together with the experience acquired during the long years of slavery, endured by the mexican proletariat, come the determination of the rebels not to lay down their arms so long as the land and all the rest of the social riches be held in the hands of a few, the same way as the proletariat of this country shall have to do, where, according to a noted writer, Byron W. Holt, there are 400,000,000 (four hundred million) acres of uncultivated land, usurped by the bourgeoisie, while millions and millions of human beings die of misery and hunger in this marvelous Country of the Dollar.

The fall of Carranza is inevitable, as I have predicted it before, as is the fall of all anxious seekers of the seat of power. As we have so often repeated it, there shall be no peace in Mexico, as there shall be no peace anywhere in the world, so long as there continues to exist this odious social, economic and political iniquity which is the top roof of the present capitalist system, based upon the exploitation of man by man.

ENRIQUE FLORES MAGON.