

Regeneración

English Section
Edited by WM. C. OWEN

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Who Is Right? Wilson Or The Indicted?

(Continued from last issue)
I do not imagine for a moment that President Wilson is a man who loves bloodshed, but I do say emphatically that he is of just that type which, with its endless shifting of the canvas to every wind, eventually upsets the boat and lands us in war's whirlpool. I do say that if Wilson had kept his fingers out of the Mexican pie, instead of starting war on Huerta, things would have been a hundred times better than they are today; and I have not the slightest hesitation in declaring that, in my estimation, he and his cowardly policies are at this very moment deluging the world with blood. At this point I link the Mexican revolution with the European war, and I bespeak attention.
When, in August 1914, Germany made her sudden spring, invading France and Belgium, an inexpressibly-important fact took place. What was that fact? It was that the world at large found itself confronted with an intensely vital query; one that searched the very vitals of its conscience; one that it should have answered then and there; one that eventually it will be forced to answer, and answer unequivocally. That imperative question was: "Which do you believe in and stand up for—Right or Wrong?"

I say "the world at large," but I believe that, on reflection, you will acknowledge that the United States, above all, was called on imperiously to answer that query, and answer straight. For, not only had we pledged ourselves most solemnly to uphold the perpetual neutrality of Belgium, but, which is much more important, we were regarded by all men as the world's great democratic power; as the great rapidly-growing nation that was endeavoring to establish the rule of Right; to bring justice into human affairs; to work toward that great end pointed by Emerson—Wilson's favorite author, I am told—when he sang: "God said, I am tired of Kings; I suffer them no more." That was the position; and I said then that the man who would condone the invasion of innocent Belgium would surely wink at that of Mexico and probably foment it. I am not, on these subjects at any rate, a lazy man. I make it my business to talk to every one I consider worth talking to, and I have asked hundreds of men and women whether toleration of the invasion of Belgium would not imply equal toleration of the invasion of Mexico or any other weaker nation. I cannot think of a single person who failed to agree with me, although I have met many who declared that it was the fate of weaker nations to be swallowed by the strong. That is a cannibalist creed in which I do not believe.

What actually happened? What happened was this. The influential element in the United States—that element which has the say and is able to make its say go—was doing well enough; saw, in many instances, war profits ahead; had the prize-pig philosophy and was content to let the whole world go to the devil so long as its own trough was full. And Wilson, instead of leading, followed; Wilson, the great moralizer, instead of boldly denouncing obvious wrong, deliberately indorsed it by keeping silent; or, when events ultimately forced his tongue, by babbling that we were "too proud to fight" and that he would be as much ashamed of being rash as coward-

ly. In my judgment, and I have considered it my duty as a journalist to express it frankly, Wilson was a coward; a moral coward; the sort of moral coward who dares not speak when it is likely to lose a vote or jeopardise a chance of being elected to an office. In my opinion, at that moment prompt, outspoken, denunciation of the great crime German militarism had committed would have brought Germany to her senses, and would have saved the lives of many, many honest Germans now rotting in the grave. In my opinion, such a repudiation would have established the United States, once and for all, as a nation of character; a nation true to itself and to its destiny; a nation unafraid. Today there is none, absolutely none, "so poor as do it reverence."

What I say is true. The French, for example, are a really great people, with a character of steel. I do not believe that, for generations to come, you will find a self-respecting Frenchman willing to honor the United States. I could quote any amount of leading American publicists who, writing in our most representative publications, are now testifying to that effect. And as the French go the great Latin family of nations goes. From the Rio Grande to Cape Horn you will find not a single nation that today has the slightest confidence in the honor or integrity of the United States. I am a student of papers published in the Spanish tongue; am familiar with their cartoons; know that their dominating conviction is that this country intends, with suave smiles and under cover of much talk about humanity, to gobble Mexico and extend its sway to the Panama Canal, and farther. That universal conviction means infinite trouble ahead; foreshadows much bloodshed; will be, to put it on the lowest basis, exceedingly bad for business, since it will lose us markets that properly belong to us. It is bad all round; and, in my opinion, the real fountainhead of all this badness is Woodrow Wilson's lack of virility; his incapacity to take a stand; his slavishness to what, as he conceived, would bring him popularity.

The English, to whom I myself belong, are a powerful people, and none but an ignorant fool doubts it. Their battle-line of influence is far-flung. I know my people, for I read their literature attentively and have talked with many most thoughtful Englishmen since this war began. Universally they think this administration which Wilson heads cowardly beyond expression, and Englishmen despise a coward. Occasionally an opportunist will shrug his shoulders and say: "Well, after all Wilson is playing our game." That is the best that can be got out of them, and it is a damned poor best. I should hate to be thought of in that way. I should hate to find myself as distrusted and isolated as the United States has become under the leadership of Wilson. That others differ from you in opinion is nothing, because honest differences bring respect. But when a nation no longer has the respect of others it quickly loses its own self-respect. Then it becomes truly a mob, a milling herd of cattle. Then it is ripe either for violent revolution from within or for still more violent invasion from without; and one or the other is perfectly certain to come along.
I say all this to point a definite moral; to say a thing that, however unpleasant it may sound, has to be said. The United States today is not to be trusted, just as Woodrow Wilson is not to be trusted. The world today re-

gards the United States as ready to do anything for the sake of money, and any nation that has earned that reputation is booked for amash. It is not to be trusted in the matter of Mexico, and it is not trusted. The entire Latin world distrusts it, as does all the British world. And, which is more important still, that great cosmopolitan force, which ultimately shapes all public opinion, viz. the world's thinkers and observers, distrusts it utterly. All the well-informed and reflective know that the trouble in Mexico is the great landed monopolies; and that the United States cannot summon up the pluck and honesty to acknowledge it. Every scholar knows that Mexico is passing out of just that phase of feudalism which rendered the French Revolution inevitable, and they are astonished that a professed historian, such as President Wilson is, dare not open his lips to give the masses that information scholars and historians are expected to impart. They say to themselves, "Ah! If he were not a politician he could speak out." And they say rightly.

Is all this lese majesté? I do not care. I have been a writer all my life. It has been my business to tell the truth as near as I could place it. That has been my life-job, and at this late hour I shall not quit it.

This article was not written for that purpose, but it seems to me that it may indicate the line which, in my judgment, all friends of the Magons should take. They should not lean on the treacherous reed of legal technicalities or eloquence; they should take the firm ground that the Magons have been nobly right and President Wilson most ignominiously wrong. They should point out that, just as events have shown us right in our distrust of Villa, so events will justify our distrust of Carranza. As this is a political prosecution, and as the Mexican question has become the center of this presidential-election storm, they should throw themselves boldly into that storm. As Wilson has seen fit to indict us before the federal courts, they should indict him before the bar of public opinion, by whose decision he must stand or fall for ever. And they should indict him boldly as a man who, with peace ever on his lips; has led us steadily into the paths of war; as a man who, with moral saws always at his tongue's end, has brought a great nation into deep dishonor. I do not write all this because I love the Magons so much, but because I love the true, and because I wish well for the country in which not only I myself but my descendants have to forge their lives. In an atmosphere of lies neither I nor they can breathe with comfort.

WM. C. OWEN.

Be on Your Guard You Labor Papers!

The blow is well aimed. At the same time that the government is useful to the loyal watchdog of Wall Street in Mexico, Venustiano Carranza, to put his enemies out of the way, by persecuting the Magon brothers, is preparing the ground to suppress and persecute the other labor papers and its editors in this country.
The blow is well aimed. To attempt against free thought and a free press, making some editor of American birth the first victim, would arouse the indignation of the good American patriots, it would cause a storm

of protest to arise, and the blow would fail; the authorities would have to retreat and fight a running battle, without obtaining the establishment of a legal precedent by means of which, be able to legally persecute at will any editors, radical, labor and even simple independent papers that bother or be on the way of the privileged classes.

Therefore, the American authorities look for the weakest point of the press in this country to effect the first attack, and one that will guarantee the safest and easiest triumph.
That accounts for their choosing "Regeneracion" and its editors to be the first victims of the muzzle they intend to apply to all the labor papers of this American Russia.

Wilson and his minions have aimed well the blow.
The Magon brothers being of Mexican nationality, despised "greasers", to the American masses, these, thanks to race prejudice, would care very little what was done to our prisoners the members of the jury, thanks to the same race prejudice, would easily, and even gladly, return a condemnatory verdict against our prisoners.

The Magon brothers being anarchists, the American masses, prejudiced against anarchy, and its propagators, would be glad to see our prisoners convicted and even hung. The jury, thru the same prejudices would harbor the same wishes and would convict the Magon brothers.

And the legal precedent, a powerful weapon that is required by the American authorities to legally muzzle the press, would be established; the jail doors would be thrown wide-open to the honest press.

Be on your guard, you labor papers! Think of the danger you are in if the Magon brothers are sentenced.
Be on your guard! Consult any lawyer in this matter and you will see that I am right. Your danger is imminent if with your silence you will help to convict the Magons.

Therefore, to save the fundamental principle of free thought and its derivative, free press, and to avoid future and easy persecutions, it is necessary, it is urgent, that all papers, without quibbling about vile personalities, or differences in ideas, agitate by all possible means, with diligence and perseverance, for the release of the brothers Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon.

Proper conservation and freedom of thought demand action.
Up and ahead, you labor papers!

JUANITA ARTEAGA.

THE BLAST

And now it is "The Blast" that has drawn the fire of the enemy and brought the wrath of the gods upon its head.

The last two issues of our contemporary, published weekly in San Francisco, have been denied admission to the mails notwithstanding its right to the second class privileges. Undoubtedly "The Blast" in its short but lively career, has proven a very unruly and stubborn youngster to the delicate tastes of madam Authority. The main points of objection by the postal authorities are several articles on birth control and one headed "Villa or Wilson—Which is the Bandit" that appeared recently in "The Blast".

But of course what caused the real crack was the pertinent cartoon printed on the front page of No. 10 of "The Blast" under the title: "General \$ in Command" and which depicts Uncle Sam's army crossing into Mexico under the stars and stripes emblazoned with the inseparable dollar mark and going to the rescue of the plunderbund who is in imminent danger of a peon who is in the

act of breaking his chains.
The Wilson dynasty seems to be well determined to crush anything that interferes with Wall Street and Carranza, and expects to do so by strangling free expression.

If the Labor and radical press does not look around it is headed for a rude awakening.

NOTE.—The BLAST has asked us to announce that the forbidden issues are numbers 9 and 10, and that it shall go right on blasting as long as those interested in its work will supply the necessary ammunition.
The suppressed numbers (they are a gem) can be had by mailing 10cts. postage to THE BLAST, Box 661, San Francisco, Calif.

EMMA GOLDMAN

In "Mother Earth" for April we see that Emma Goldman, was to appear for trial on the 10th of this month, but up to this date we have not heard more about her case.

Most of our readers may know that she is under indictment for advocating birth control.

The holly brigade still seems to be fuming at their unenviable experience with Margaret Sanger, and seem to be desperate to recoup for their fiasco, but we fear they have got hold of the wrong battery again.

Those who are interested (or even if they are not), in the Birth Control Movement could do no better than to read Mother Earth for April, which is specially dedicated to this work; it is a masterpiece on this most important subject. A copy may be had for 10c. to Mother Earth, 20-125th St., New York, N. Y.

Lucy Parsons To Take Tour.

By No. 9 of "The Alarm" for April we see that comrade Lucy E. Parsons contemplates a tour of the East on a three-fold purpose which is explained in the reproduction we make below from "The Alarm". We need not say that our old and true comrade Lucy E. Parsons has our full confidence and any aid we may be able to offer.

"To Comrades:

I am contemplating making a tour in April. I intend going east, providing comrades will arrange meetings.

My object in making this trip is threefold. I want to try to raise money for the defense of our Comrades, the Magon brothers. I also wish to discuss the Mexican situation from "the other side", showing that there is an economic question. As I read Spanish, I can show what has been accomplished in Mexico, I think.

Lastly, I shall try to increase the subscription list of "The Alarm", thus making it possible to enlarge and improve the paper.

Comrades, in New York and other eastern cities, will you arrange meetings? Address me at 3130 N. Troy St, Chicago, Ill.

Lucy E. Parsons."

The State Attacks Free Speech And Press.

On Feb. 18, in Los Angeles, Cal., occurred the arrest of Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon, Mexican Liberals, and the indictment of William C. Owen, anarchist. They were jointly charged with using the mails to incite murder, arson and treason, thru the columns of REGENERACION.
Enrique Magon was severely beaten by the arresting deputies. Wm. C. Owen, who was at the time in Home Colony, Wash., the federal officers and is still at eluded liberty.

The particular "crime" of these

three rebels against State, Church and Authority, is in showing the direct connection between the political rulers of the United States and the plunderers of Mexico. They preached armed resistance against all who would withhold the land from the peons.

In each of these cases the principle is the same: the mailed fist of the master class is used to maintain the existing order. In both cases the duty of the workers is plain; they must fight, not for the persons who are persecuted, but for their own self interests by resisting every attempt to suppress freedom of speech and press.

Resistance to tyranny is an I. W. W. duty.

"Industrial Worker"
Seattle, Wash.

Telegram To Wilson.

The "Libertarian Juvenile" Group of this city, sends us for publication the following communication that the same Group received from New York:

"Mr. Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States.

Washington, D. C.
"We demand the unconditional release of the Magon brothers, and if denied we make you responsible for the consequences.

Briat Group"
"Comrades of 'Libertarian Juvenile' Group: Greetings.

"As you may see by the heading, we send you the authentic copy of the telegram sent to the American tyrant; our mission is to defend the comrades, that fall in the clutches of historical justice for daring to defend their rights; so you can unconditionally count on our support, in everything within our reach.
"We have united to become more powerful and help to overthrow the present damnable social system, and we shall not cease on our work so long as we retain an atom of life.

"Greetings and Anarchy, our best wishes.
"By Briat Group,
D. Freijomil.
New York, 3 22 1916."

Another Magon Meeting

We are making preparations for another Magon protest meeting to be held Saturday April 29, 8 p. m. at Symphony Hall, back of Blanchard Hall, on 11th St. The meeting will be under the auspices of the Spanish and Latin Groups, but there will also be speakers in English. It will have the cooperation of The Workers International Defense League.

Announcements later.

P. D. Noel,
Financial Secy.

To Save Both, Freedom of Thought And The Magon Brothers.

Through the present persecution of "Regeneracion" and Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon, of its editorial staff, the American authorities contemplate to set a legal precedent with the already fixed conviction of the Magons, that afterwards might be used to persecute all the labor papers and, therefore, suppress freedom of thought and freedom of press. All the comrades, sympathizers and liberty-loving people must avoid that such crime be committed, for it shall drag North America back to chattel slavery. We invite all of them to sign the following Coupon of Protest, to get many others to sign it, and to mail it to Woodrow Wilson.

COUPON OF PROTEST

Woodrow Wilson.
Washington, D. C.
Considering as a vicious attack on freedom of thought, and as an unprecedented and tyrannical attempt to muzzle the press, the arrest and persecution again initiated against Ricardo and Enrique Flores Magon, now in jail in Los Angeles, California, and branding such procedure of your Administration as a shameful effort to help your Mexican pet Venustiano Carranza to reestablish the Diaz regime, with which you create among the Mexicans ill feelings against the American people that should not exist, I protest against the said persecution to the Magon brothers and demand their immediate release from jail.
Signed.....
Address.....
Dated.....