Regeneracion.

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McNamara Case and Socialism

If the capitalist and socialist press can have its way the invaluable les- tied by the appeal to arms son the McNamara case should teach us will be wasted. One may have the deepest reverence for human life and out-Tolstoy Tolstoy in abhorring violence, but the fact remains that fundamental truths are necessary to the very existence of the face and special individuals are not. To cheat the publie of the education a powerful tragedy should convey is to obscure thought, block progress, prolong the savage reign of poverty and thereby inflict misery a thousandfold vaster than did the tragedy itself. At this moment the world has a chance of learning all-important truths. To rob it of that chance is the most hideous and contemptible of crimes.

For the capitalist press it may be

said that most of its writers know little of the social question, and voice their hopes of a better understanding between capital and labor largely through honest ignorance. They do not understand that the "Times" explosion was merely an incident in the war between the Have-Nots and the Haves; a war that will end only when the latter have conquered possession. They imagine, therefore, that if employers would be more considerate and employes more dutiful the quarrel would die out, a view directly opposite to that which all revolutionists-whether they call themselves Anarchists, Socialists, Single Taxers or what not-are bound to hold they wish to be even decently honest with themselves All revolutionists are forced logically to recognize that the brutalities of the Legrees brought chattel slavery to its death, and that, on the other hand, the kindly conduct of many of the Southern slaveholders merely prolonged its agonies. All revolutionists recognize that the inhumanities of the nobility brought about the overthrow of feudalism in France, just as the tyranny of Diaz roused Mexico into revolt. My Lord and Lady Bountiful, who visit the sick and see that none of their dependents falls into actual want, keep feudalism alive today in England and are everywhere the bulwark of land monopoly. On the other hand, it is Gen. Otis who has transformed Los | Angeles from a sleepy, semi-tropical sanitarium into a nucleus of the revolutionary movement.

C P. Connolly's article on "Protest by Dynamite," in "Collier's" of able to flay them mercilessly as pea-Jan. 13, is an excellent illustration of nut politicians, and all organized labor the mistaken benevolence we deplore. Mr. Connolly writes with exceptionally large information on the war between capital and labor and does not hesitate to say that, in Colorado and elsewhere, the capitalists fought more unscrupulously and, therefore, more i effectively than did the workingmen. He says frankly that as "malefactors of violence" the capitalists have been much the greater criminals, and he prints in italies a recent editorial from the "Los Angeles Times," which we reproduce in another column, to show that the situation stands unaltered. Having elucidated which he ends his article thus: "What we ought to do is to point out that both sides have gone far enough. There are some Americans who still see the emblem of their country above these embittered and warring factions. The miserable shibboleths of both sides should be put away, and reason permitted to resume its sway Torch and bomb are twin brothers to the rack and thumbscrew We have travelled too far afield in the search for light to parley with them for a single moment now" Oh! Vain and inpotent conclusion!

If we are to get any good out of the McNamara case we must face the ! not for peace but war. On one side or the other we must take our stand. acknowledging that we believe or do not believe in the maintenance of institutions which doom the masses to the factory, the poorhouse, the brothel and the penitentiary, that the palaces may stand unshaken We musi believe in the justice and propriety committing the gravest of all crimes tion.")

of allowing those whose purse is by misleading those who look to it long enough to buy up the earth, for light. It is feeding them with thereby reducing the rest of us to practically the same pap as the cap-

Writers for the capitalist press, I have said, are largely ignorant, but the leaders of the Socialist party are not All I have written about wornout institutions is what Socialism has been teaching for a century, and they hold, as I hold, that our present social system is in the throes of dissolution Why cannot they seize this opportunity, throw the whole weight of their party strength into the balance and do something really worth while by making this the propaganda of the century? Why cannot they speak up boldly, saying: "These are the natural fruits of the deadly Upas ree you insist on maintaining, though you know it is poisoning all our social life?" Why cannot they go farther still and say: "The longer you keep it standing the worse it will be or you, and we shall shed no tears when you yourselves are victims?" That would be the truth, the vital truth. That would be the brave and honest thing to do, and for that reason it would be the paying policy. As it is, Gompers, for example, is (applauds the flaying.

Socialism has not risen to its opportunity. On the contrary, it has sunk incalculably in the estimation of all carnest and thoughtful persons, for they recognize—as organized labor recognizes-that it has run up the white flag and is using the "Times" tragedy as a bait to catch the voter, What the whole world knows is that Washington despatches state explicit- the initiative calls for the suspension tion at the distribution of swords to and rendering it hopelessly bourgeois. ", guilty by a jury and hung, the Socialist Party would have instantancously added them to its alleged calendar of Socialist martyrs, as it has added the Chicago Anarchists, Toku and his Japanese comrades, Ferrer and others whom it pilloried incessantly until death crowned them with its halo and it became profitable to claim relationship. What the whole world knows is that it left no stone unturned to make the McNamara case its own, using it as the cornerstone May 12, 1911, the telegram ended of the railways and their operation." and that 7,000 troops would be put ture but with out-of-date institutions that go with industrial action, and structing so laboriously, as it used the case of Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone. Now it is attacking Haywood, and the first act of its California state organ, when the McNamara confessions were still warm in type, was to declare that the case had not been, even remotely, an issue in the Los Angeles campaign It was a situation as it is and admit honestly brazen he and all the world knew it that our entire social structure makes But the leaders thought they were playing politics of the smartest sort just as they thought they were displaying statesmanship when they threw the Mexican revolutionists overboard.

decide whether we believe or do not than miss its opportunity, for it is Edward Russell in "The Coming Na- the course of an attack on a town, and it is to be noted that some of conditions."—(Henry George, Jr., the mills will be the noise of the lash

* * *

slavery We must make up our minds italist press is doling out, merely subas to where we stand on the subject stituting the "Join our Party" shibof land monopoly. We must deter- boleth for the milk-of-human-kindmine for ourselves whether we do or ness rubbish. Precisely as the capdo not regard the relation of master italist press is striving to allay the and servant as an unalterable fact in tising storm by declaring that with social life, and whether, now that more gentleness on either side our production far outstrips consumption, troubles will be righted, so is the we consider poverty a curse that can-Socialist Party playing its siren harp Madero healthy mind can occupy middle of membership will put bread into the It must be one thing or the empty belly of the starveling, furnish other. Institutions fitted to the wood- the homeless tramp with shelter, resen plow, the armored knight, the ig- cue the prostitute from the brothel norance that deemed the earth flat and the convicted burglar from the and motionless, should be continued penitentiary, and usher in the millenindefinitely or they should not. There ium There is not one solitary fact is no middle ground, just as there was to warrant that conclusion, and "Renone when feudalism came up for generacion" has chronicled no more trial or when chattel slavery was set- blood-curdling horrors than those now being enacted in the municipal shelters of Berlin, the metropolis of Strikes, lock-outs, the never-ending the bayonet-ridden empire in which skirmishes between monopoly and la- Socialism has scored its most specbor, the Haymarket tragedy, the tacular triumphs "By your fruits ye Homestead slaughter, the Cripple shall know them" By the McNa-Creek war, the destruction of the mara cases our present institutions "Times"—all these bid us listen to must be judged, for they have evolved the striking of the clock. But the such cases as naturally as fire prowriters I am criticising will not lis- duces heat. By the slavish helplessten. Another revolution of the earth ness of the German masses, who are has taken place, the tide has turned, among the poorest of the European and all they do is to anothematise poor and cower more timidly than the driftwood for not travelling as it any of them beneath the lash of ariswas travelling before Faced by ap- tocracy and militaryism, must the palling facts they are either too indo- juggling of Socialist politics stand lent or cowardly to analyse them, ruthlessly condemned in the eyes of How comes it, Mr Connolly, that every keen observer. Germany is tomen, whom you know as being decent | day the bulwark of conservatism, and fellows in private life, buy courts and in these United States the Socialist legislatures, hatch vile conspiracies politicians may always be calculated and commit about every deviltry in on to draw the red herring of politics the catalogue of crime? How comes across the trail the moment the it that workingmen, whom you know masses begin to show their teeth. In as being paragons of virtue in their Mexico they were the first to worship private lives, when their union is con- at the feet of that prince of charlacerned will stick at nothing? These tans, Madero; in this country the are intensely practical questions and "New York Sun" welcomes their petthey call loudly for an answer. I am ty municipal victories, purchased at told that Gen Otis' hobbies are birds the expense of all honest attack on and flowers, and that J J McNa- institutions that have to be attacked mara's favorite author is the peaceful Wall Street knows its own, and the Tolstoy. It is up to those who pose masses should be sufficiently intelli as educators to explain these contra- gent to size up the true value of allies who have reduced to a science the trick of blowing hot and cold. WM. C. OWEN.

report.) "News of threatened inter-life, honor, and individual property, Juchita rebels who took part in the vention by the United States in Cu- now threatened. The Executive hopes uprising headed by the late Che Goban affairs, which was published in to realize not only the interesting ob- mez are compromised in this new the late editions of the Havana after- ject just mentioned, but also to care movement for the taking of Tenoon papers, caused great excitement scrupulously for the good name of huacan."-terference were mingled with general rebellion and turmoil is sufficient in and I take the following from "El incredulity."

perhaps the last time," because what curity of person and patrimony. is known as the "Veteran Organization" is trying to nullify the law prosuccessful armed resistance."

pendencies" shall enjoy perfect lib- the law." servative regime. No matter.

colonial wars. tuous code that guides his govern- ner.

the latest example.

Be Given Special Powers

Conscription Census Postponed Until Further Notice

they are as follows:

has the honor to propose the follow- mentably, are prospering!" "Agrarian ing mitiative of the suspension of in-|communism!" Within how many days dividual guarantees, in conformity after the flight of Diaz, and again gentlemen. They won't be blown up; with the terms of article 29 of the within how many days after his in-General Constitution of the Republic, auguration was it that Madero prom-Executive to form an initiative which What about the prophecies made, by restricts the cardinal rights of man, Zapata among others, that Madero

accord with the Council of Ministers,

but he finds himself obliged to do so would prove a more ruthless repressor by imperious and unavoidable social of liberties than was Diaz? Either

mentably, are prospering in the State inclined to it will proceed to the exof Morelos, and which have been tremity, knowing that summary death propagated in the State of Guerrero awaits their most trifling breach of and the Districts co-terminous with the new legal code. Which will it be, the States of Mexico and Puebla, do you think? The new legislation is oblige him to ask for a means of so- to apply to the large area in which cial salvation, which is supreme. The Zapata is operating with, as reported, Executive does not pretend to convert a constantly increasing force of folhimself by this initiative, even pro- lowers. Will they at once lay down visionally, into a dictatorial power, their arms? but to provide measures for deciding the fate of those who fall beneath the jurisdiction of the authorities as ["El Pais" reports that inhabitants determined by the present initiative of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec are of the law, in conformity with the greatly alarmed at "the revolutionary legitimate demands of public opinion agitation, which is at its apex in that as the echo and genuine revealer of rich region. The revolutionary agithe instinct of social conservation.

Havana, Jan. 15. (Associated Press the primordial necessity of securing number 1,500." It adds that "the law. A pretty picture!

Agrarian Communism.

hibiting the interference of the mil- will be a speedy cessation of the in- ly are a peril to social peace." Fur- States," says "Collier's Weekly," is notes history who affirms such a itary in Cuban political affairs. They tranquillity in the Republic which has ther on it remarks: "The peril will merely the desire to nourish virtues thing. War never arouses the revoalso state that several thousand Unit- given rise to a brigandage that, under assume larger proportions unless surely old-fashioned enough to be lutionary spirit. It destroys -it. ed States troops are ready to march the form of an agrarian communism, the government re-establishes har safe-honesty, unselfishness, justice-| Sometimes war might be the imat a moment's notice, and that "prac- has caused certain persons to rise in mony between capital and labor." tically the whole Atlantic fleet, which arms in the Southern portion of the is now based on Guantanamo, on the Republic. But, while he deems that It is a most significant fact that the hope." It was written in praise of pre-existed, alert and combative. But south side of the island, would spread this severe evil will be terminated taking of the military census, with a the Socialist movement; to assure the in no way whatever can colonial war out and envelope Cuba so completely promptly, he considers that he ought view to conscription, which had been public that it is safe and sane. In favor the cause of the revolution, that there could not be a thought of to solicit from the Permanent Depu-set for Jan. 14, has been postponed reality it is the severest condemnation even indirectly, unless by ending in a This is part of our "spirited" for- initiative in order that, without any Democrata Mexicano," to "the enor- That is precisely what is the matcign policy; of our "colonial expan- delay, the Republic may be able to mous difficulties." It adds that the ter with the Socialist Party; precisesion;" of our solemn assurances that, enjoy peace anew and take up the ac- government hopes to have ultimately by what is filling it with preachers, so long as they behave themselves, celerated march toward progress and at its disposal a force of 350,000 men. sentimentalists and perhaps the (delightfully vague phrase) our "De-'prosperity, based on liberty within The leading dailies run over with greatest aggregation of religious

erty. In the present instance the Such is the preamble. Article I of and Madero recently delivered an ora- robbing it of all revolutionary virility by that, as the result of the warning of the existing legal guarantees in the the cadets of the military school. All these people regard the social given, "it is expected there will be a case of those who shall be found—as "Nueva Era" of Jan. 8 selects for the problem as they do the crime queslecided abatement of the raid of stated in much detail in section 1 of seven-column head it spreads across tion, as to which they think human would-be office-holders upon places Article II-guilty of any interference its front page the following sentence depravity is at the bottom of the now filled by Conservatives." Per- with the railway traffic or the free op- from his address: "Arm yourselves trouble. They imagine, therefore, haps the Cubans do not like the Con-eration of trains, it being stated ex-in the name of the Fatherland." The that by the election of honest mayplicitly that those who discharge fire- same paper in its next day's issue re- ors and councilmen, the passing of only pure and simpledom, but also of Read what a noted writer has to arms or throw stones or other ob- ported an interview with the Minister prohibition measures—using the word syndicalism, direct action, sabotage say, in another column, respecting jects at the trains shall come within of Government in which he said that "prohibition" in its widest sense- and other forms of anarchism." the scope of the initiative. The clos- the time had come for an active cam- and other artificial schemes for forc-When the State Department tele- ing words of the section run: "And, paign against rebels in the districts ing people to be good, they can solve fession is going to cause the working graphed instructions to the United in general, those who perform any wherein constitutional guaranties the social riddle. States Ambassador at Mexico City, act against the security and integrity have been suspended, as related above, The trouble is not with human na- economic field, and all the weapons with the statement that the govern- The punishment provided is death into the field. The government is now that do not give human nature a turn solely to the Bergers and other ment 'demands nothing but the re- without other restriction than the de- trying to locate Vasquez Gomez, who chance. The trouble is not that the old age pension politicians for their spect and protection of American life cisson of "the chief of the force mak- was formerly Madero's right hand man is naturally bad, but that pre- immediate and ultimate salvation!-. and property in the neighboring re- ing the arrest." The question of man and a member of the cabinet. It posterous property arrangements (Exchange.) public." That sentence sounds inno- whether anyone was killed or injured asserts that he is in alliance with Za- force him to be hostile to our social cent enough to the ordinary citizen, shall cut no figure Kidnaping is pata, and has so informed the am- system since it is fatally hostile to

"El Imparcial" of Jan. 11 gives the, This suspension of the usual guarall text of President Madero's pro- antees shall last four months from posals for the suspension of constitu- the date of promulgation and shall tional guarantees in two states and apply to the States of Morelos and numerous districts, as they have been Guerrero, to the districts of Acatlan, submitted by him to the recently-ap- de Matamoros Izucar, Atlixco, Chopointed Permanent Commission. Lit- Iula and Huejotzingo, in the State of erally translated from the Spanish Puebla, and to the districts of Chalco and Tenancingo, in the State of Mex-"The President of the Republic, in 1co.

"Anarchist fomentations which, la "It is a sad and bitter thing for the ised peace throughout the Republic? violence of all kinds will cease in the "Anarchist fomentations which, la- States and Districts named, or those

From Neighboring States.

"This initiative seeks to satisfy only | ing rebels, who, in one guerrilla alone,

in the clubs and cases. Astonishment our fatherland abroad, since unfor- Strikes, often attended with vioand resentment against American in- tunately even the smallest focus of lence, appear to continue unabated, the eyes of foreigners to cause them Diario" of Jan. 9, the sentence quoted Washington despatches say that to ignore the true situation of our being that with which its special ar-Secretary Knox has served notice on fatherland, so long as there appears ticle on the subject begins. It says: President Gomez, for the second "and to exist an exceptional menace to se- "These manifestations of discontent on the part of the working classes continue throughout the industrial re-"The Executive hopes that there gions of the Republic and undoubted-

Conscription Postponed.

cuts of various phases of military life cranks on record; precisely what is who even hails it as proof of the vir- also to be punished in a similar man- bassador at Washington. This item him He HAS to destroy that social are threatening our country with a comes from "El Imparcial" of Jan. 9. system, and when he comes to think worse slavery than that which our

which the powers march in their ing to interfere with the operation of between the dates of Jan. 8 and Jan. his greatest enemies are those who said United States District Attorney troops whenever a raid is deemed ad- telegraph and telephone systems, and 13 shows accounts of sixteen fights seek to patch it up. visable. Persia, with her heaps of provides a penalty of from five to between Zapatists and Federal forces, Seeking to boom the Socialist the Beef Trust, before the Illinois St. dead, rotting under a tropical sun, is twelve years' imprisonment. But, if and of forty-five towns taken by the movement "Collier's" has written its Andrew Society, according to Chicago the crime be committed on a public former during that brief time. It epitaph. highway the penalty shall be death, must be understood that the Zapatists "No, we do not threaten violence. as in the case of interference with always pursue the same guerrilla tac- Throughout the union labor field ful, those resources will be our un-But history does, and that is infinitely railroad property. This also shall be tics, occupying a place, taking what leaders are coming up, who are con- doing. The mines will be our slave more important than anything that the fate of those guilty of highway they need or can find and moving on. vinced that peaceful means no longer pits, the railroads will be the bonds The Socialist Party has done more can be said by feeble man."—(Charles robbery with violence, or robbery in I also find reports of fifteen strikes, avail to secure relief from present of our slavery, the whirl and clang of country estate or industrial concern. these cover not a single place but an Congressman.)

entire district. Thus, for example, the peons in the district of San Juan Depicts de los Llanes, in the State of Puebla, are all on strike. Reports of guerrilla activity throughout the country are still exceedingly numerous. Unfortunately lack of space renders it impossible to give details.

W. C. O.

There are many things of which the Angeles Times" should be ashamed, but one doubts if it ever did than in its editorial of Nov. 2, 1911—à date at which there had been no McNamara confessions. Read the quotation and ask yourself if it is not a direct incitation to kidnaping and murder. Many a poor man has lost his liberty, if not his life, for pression of the commercial cupidity saying less. Here is the editorial: "And soon-it has begun to happen

already—the plain citizens of every country will form a combine. Its object will be the suppression of sedition and anarchy in the persons of professional agitators. Theirs will be a big, powerful, effective, but very unostentatious revolt. It will work quickly, surely, silently. The first thing the Plain Citizen Combine will accomplish is the quiet removal of these they will just quietly disappear from human ken. There will be a little in. quiry at first, but it will die down ever so quickly, for of all the people in the world the professional agitator depends entirely upon his presence and ing confessions - entire villages his glib tongue to maintain any sort of burned, with their inhabitants, at the interest or influence in his followers. His impassioned rhetoric is his only

"The idea of the Plain Citizen Combine is not being mouthed abroad and it is not seeking members or subscriptions. But it is growing rapidly nevertheless, and it is a real and tangible thing. With the itch removed, the great disease of unrest will soon be cured, and the world will settle down for another half a century."

Fifteen thousand cotton and woolen operatives in Lawrence, Mass., on strike, and at least 15,000 more rendered idle. Eight companies of militators go from town to town recruit- tia, with a battery, ordered to the conquest can develop a nation ecoscene, bayonet charges and martial

But why this strike? Simply because the legislature compelled the masters to shorten the hours of work, mentary illusion of wealth, but if, and the masters, being in absolute like every act of piracy, it brings profeconomic control and able to do ex- it to a minority, it cannot transform actly what they pleased, retaliated by shortening the pay.

How childish to suppose that relief can come from such Socialistic legislation! How absurd to imagine that it hurts the monopolist!

WRITING ITS EPITAPH.

"Most Socialism in the United yes, even that love which St. Paul mediate cause of a revolution, but called greater even than faith and only when the revolutionary spirit

ment. In reality it is the gate by Article II deals with all acts tend- Examination of the leading papers about it seriously he discovers that fathers have driven from the land,"

Horrors of Colonial Conquest

"L'Internacionale," of Parma, Italy, recently published an interview with the noted writer, Octave Mirbeau, on the subject of the invasion of Tripoli. Through the kindness of De Ambris, to whom the interview was given, we are able to publish the following ex-

"And colonial wars? Ah! That indeed! National wars can still hide themselves behind some excuses, but colonial wars-No. These cannot hide their evident character of armed aggression, with plunder as the object. They are the most complete exof our epoch, turned cynically assas-

"For all that, we have in Italy, and think you have also in France, writers who maintain that war is beneficial, because it awakens the heroic sentiments and serves as a reaction against the general cowardice, which is a product of long periods of peace."

"It is an unspeakable lie. War has never roused any but the worst passions, and colonial war debases even the best. It familiarises men with pillage, assassination and theft. It develops the most obscene desires of ferocious cowardice. I have received from men who have taken part in colonial expeditions the most revolt-

simple caprice of some uniformed russian. Men slain because they did not seem sufficiently diligent in carrying out some order. Women cut open after being violated, and even before it. Acts of cannibalism-yes, even

acts of cannibalism. All the world remembers the name of that Lieut. Lothaire, if I am not mistaken, who in the Belgian Congo, had sever or eight children brought before him, weighed them carefully, chose the fattest and consigned it to the pot that he might devour it. All the na-Of the neighboring State of Oaxaca KINDERGARTEN LEGISLATION tions who have perpetrated these colonial conquests have committed the same atrocities, always and everywhere. Colonial war is a school of brigandage."

> "Do you not admit that colonial nomically and politically?"

> "No people whatever has ever become great or rich by colonial conquest. It may give sometimes a moitself into effective and permanent welfare for the whole nation. Colonial war does not even bring with it what is called glory. It brings with it, on the contrary, shame and dis-

> But they also say-listen well to this-that war will teach the people to make the revolution.".

> "What an absurd sophism! He igcatastrophe."

GEE WHIZ!

Victor Berger, like his private secretary, Benevolent Feudal Ghent, has apparently been having bad dreams lately. He awoke from his troubled sleep on the morning after the Mc-Namara confession, and hastened to have himself interviewed in part as

"On the other hand this fearful case must result in opening the eyes of millions to the ineffectiveness of not

Gee whiz! So the McNamara conclass the world over to abandon the

James H. Wilkerson, prosecutor of despatches. "We boast of our enormous resources. If we are not careand clanking of our chains."