

Regeneracion.

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Attack Poverty But Foster It

Scattered throughout Los Angeles are huge billboards which read: "Los Angeles' population will be one million in 1920. Read this again. We like to bear the numbers." One of these signs thrusts itself daily on my attention...

First, I wish to remark that the thought suggested by the sign is that large cities are a blessing. This our Pillars of Society are constantly in the habit of refuting; for, whenever the unemployed begin to make themselves obnoxious these oracles proclaim that the rural districts are starving for labor they cannot get.

In the case of Los Angeles the corruption is worse because hidden under a cloak of sickening hypocrisy. None knows better than do our leading citizens that, from the summit of Mt. Wilson to the edge of the Pacific, everything was gobbled up long ago...

Apart from the pulpit this hypocrisy finds its most convenient mouthpiece in politics, and especially in that of the "reform" brand, which consequently has become abhorrent to straight-thinking men and women.

All thinking persons recognize that in our civilization the penitence are slaves. No educator is worth his salt who does not understand that it is necessary to make the poor see their slavery as it is, and comprehend quite clearly the methods by which that slavery is accomplished.

memorial, but never more assiduously and subtly than it is today. In this city of Los Angeles every device imaginable is employed to keep the masses from understanding how complete is their subjection to the wealthy few, and how hopeless is their case until they regain possession of the opportunities for supporting life.

Under a shameful play of furthering the welfare of the masses the one real object of our municipal campaign is to make this city more safe and comfortable for the well-to-do; safe by a resurrection of Puritanism as the world has seldom seen; profitably comfortable by an enormous extension of that municipal Socialism which fills the pocketbooks of the possessing class without any effort on their part.

Los Angeles calls itself intelligent and is hounded habitually by such palpable thimble-rigging; erects monuments to soldiers alleged to have distinguished themselves by bravery, but cannot produce a leading citizen with courage sufficient to acknowledge facts known to all business men.

A man may be a drunkard; he may be a petty thief; he may be so foolish as to waste his health and faculties and substance in all sorts of dissipation, and he may be at bottom a good fellow, full of the milk of human kindness...

This is Los Angeles as it actually is; a city of schemers, of real estate gamblers, plying their unholy traffic under the mask of religion, morality, reform and even Socialism.

With such conditions it is preposterous to talk of Los Angeles as revolutionary, for it is reactionary to the very core. We are dominated by the real estate interests, and not one speaker among the army of candidates in this campaign has dared to face them.

Nero Fiddles While Imperial Rome is Burning

Zapata's Forces Hammer at the Gates of Mexico City

Meanwhile Madero Takes Vacation to Study Anti-Trust Laws

So much has appeared during the last few days in the daily papers respecting the doings of Zapata that one need give them comparatively little space. The general situation may be gleaned from the following dispatch which appeared in the "Los Angeles Record" of October 28:

"MEXICO CITY, Oct. 26.—With the Zapatista rebel army within four miles of the capital, three states already controlled by them, and others on the verge of rebellion, Mexico, Thursday, is facing the greatest crisis since the Diaz resignation.

"Practically defenseless, with the federal troops either fighting to prevent Guatemalan invasion or scattered over the republic engaging Zapatista rebels, subjugation of the capital is imminent.

"News of the expected battle between 500 federals, who have advanced to check 2000 rebels, is awaited momentarily. The battle is believed to be progressing, and the crowds assembled in the streets apparently hope for a Zapatista victory, as they are gathered about the city hall, hissing the Maderista officials and yelling 'vivas' for the rebels.

The burning of two railroad bridges and two other encounters between the Zapatistas and Federals had been reported October 23, and other "Times" headlines read: "Another revolt in Sinaloa State. Five uprisings in Mexico now."

From the very first I have treated the Mexican Revolution as the most important event this side of the Atlantic since the civil war; as being probably more important than the Abolition movement, and as ranking, by reason of the influence it will exercise, with the great French Revolution of the eighteenth century.

age of Mexico's population is fighting desperately to gain possession of the land as the key to economic freedom. That in itself constitutes a revolution of a most important type; a struggle all revolutionists are bound, in honor, to support.

Tied to Limantour Gomez has given out a long interview in which he declares that his quarrel with Madero arose solely from the fact that he insisted that with Diaz went Limantour, the head of the "Cientificos."

"El Diario," of Mexico City, publishes a long interview with Almanzan—at one time in alliance with Zapata—in the course of which he says: "Zapata is more than a mere individual; he is the symbol of the people of Morelos; the symbol of the Socialism that has awakened in that region."

Madero's Promised Freedom Privilege is fighting in Mexico, as it always has fought everywhere and always will fight. Under Madero, as under Diaz, it is putting all objectionable editors in jail, and we have noticed previously that Madero's special pet, Pino Suarez—his candidate for vice-president—is the greatest sinner.

HURRAH FOR LIBERTY "Brown October Ale," the delightful song in "Robin Hood," is under the ban, by decree of a W. C. T. U. in Ohio. They want something inspiring written around root beer, opines an exchange.

Support of Madero Fundamentally Decisive

Plutocracy, Playing for Time, is Using Socialism as Its Catspaw

For several weeks there has been lying on my desk a letter from Manuel Sarabia, published in the "New York Call." I had made up my mind not to comment on it because our space is limited, because the public is not interested in minor figures, and because Sarabia and those he is championing long ago, in my opinion, put themselves out of court.

Manuel Sarabia, Villareal, De Lara and others unnecessary to mention took their sides long ago, and are merely using the Socialist press to cover up their desertion to Madero under a cloud of pseudo-economic verbiage, prattling about the wisdom of slow educational methods, and so forth.

De Lara and Sarabia joined the reaction long ago, when, through some people call fortunate marriages they became financially independent. Since then Sarabia has traveled about writing articles which, veiled by radical phrases, carry always the moral that the Mexican people are not fit to be entrusted with their rights.

"Mother Jones" visited the Junta twice last week, on just the same mission. I was not present at either interview, but I am assured that, coming straight from an interview with Madero, she promised safety and many other good things if the Magons would go to Mexico, join hands in the work of organizing the Mexicans into union connected with the American Federation of Labor, etc., etc. That is the game.

Politicians' Puppets. In some cases it is being played directly for money, furnished by that astute politician, Madero. In other cases it is being played voluntarily by simpletons; by men of the fanatic type, who cannot see an inch beyond their labor-union or Socialist hobbies to which they are perfectly willing to sacrifice the freedom of a nation.

This is the one important point. Madero has been endeavoring to accomplish by guile, under the cloak of a pretended radicalism, what Diaz vainly tried to carry out by sheer brutality. Diaz was the cruel soldier; Madero is the far more dangerous Jesuit, and in his Jesuitry he has the support of Socialist politicians and professed radicals of the "labor leader" stamp.

The personal charges made by Manuel Sarabia do not interest me because, as compared with the one great central issue—the diversion of the Mexican masses from their revolutionary activity—they cut no figure. I am assured, however, that the accusations against Villareal are absolutely true, and I know that Ricardo Magon has challenged their denial, promising thereupon to publish the officially recorded proof.

all my heart that we could wring from him anything like the sum he himself squeezed out of the financiers; for whom he is the agent. We are revolutionists not socialists; we know that the Mexican masses are still exploited because their poverty keeps them unarmed; we know that if they had the money with which to purchase arms they would make short work of their oppressors.

Gross Misrepresentation. In his "Statement of Explanation" Mr. Menke—who was in New York City as the Junta's agent when the "New York Call" published a terrific attack on Ricardo Magon—denies emphatically having told Sarabia that "before leaving Los Angeles Enrique Flores Magon said to me that they were working in agreement with Madero."

Menke states farther that "during the war Magon did not wish to attack Madero in 'Regeneracion,' until Madero provoked such an attack when he arrested a general and soldiers of the Magon faction. That statement is entirely in accord with the proved facts.

Much opposition was shown by the De Laras, Villareal and John Kenneth Turner; Mrs. De Lara objecting to Menke paying over money to an "Anarchist" such as Ricardo Magon; Villareal denouncing Magon as a tyrant, and Turner deprecating the exposure of Madero. All were professed Socialists.

Furthermore, Menke states that he received expressions of sympathy and financial assistance from several congressmen, but from Victor Berger only the declaration that he objected to "armed revolt." I remember that when the "Appeal to Reason" denounced the Mexican Revolution at an end it also remarked that the day of armed revolutions had passed.

At present plutocracy is safer in the United States than in almost any country, for such bodies as the American Federation of Labor and the Socialist Party—the latter officered mainly by ex-preachers, lawyers and professional office-seekers—have drilled the workers out of all effective protest.

Mexico itself furnishes the incontrovertible proof of the justice of my charge. There, for the moment, plutocracy has been reeling in the saddle, and who have been so eager to come to its support as the leaders of the Socialist Party; who so indifferent to the struggle of the Mexican proletariat as the officials of the American Federation of Labor?

Remember Nov. 11 Burbank Hall has been taken for a mass meeting in commemoration of the judicial murder of the Chicago Anarchists, Nov. 11, 1888. The date falls on a Saturday, but, because of the difficulty of obtaining a hall for that evening and in order to avoid conflict with similar celebrations, we have engaged the hall for Friday evening, Nov. 10.

At present the great press is saying little of the chaos in the Mexican situation, though for the last few days, since as news purveyors they cannot keep entirely silent, small hinting editorials are creeping in, pointing interventionwards, "in case disturbances are not pacified." No doubt the United States Government would prefer to preserve its hypocritical pretense of abstinent impartiality. It hopes its catspaw will safely pull the chestnuts out of the fire.

Land and Liberty Its Message to Mankind

Mexican Revolution has Erected Landmark for Oppressed of every Nation

The following article by Voltairine de Cleyre, of Chicago, appeared in the August number of "Mother Earth." Its value has not been diminished by the events that have taken place since its first publication, and could not be, for it voices eternal truths. We are about to imitate the example set us by New York and publish it as a pamphlet.

At last we see a genuine awakening of a people, not to political demands alone, but to economic ones.—fundamentally economic ones. And in the brief period of a few months, some millions of human beings have sprung to a full consciousness of a system of wrong, beginning where all slaveries begin, in the sources of life. They have struck for Land and Liberty. And even if their revolt shall be crushed by the mailed hand of the United States Government (for I do not believe the present nondescript thing calling itself a government, in Mexico, has craft or power to pacify or crush all the seething elements of rebellion), yet it has set a foremost mark upon the record of human demand, from which hereafter there will be no retreat.

"Events are the true schoolmasters," I hear the justified voice of my dead Comrade Lum calling triumphantly from his grave. For years and years the brothers Magon and their co-workers in and out of Mexico have been voices crying in the wilderness which some few thousands at best have heard. But in the storm-wind of popular revolt, rising, no prophet could have foretold when, nor gazer at the aftermath just why it was the chosen hour, in that strong cleansing-sweeping of the psychic atmosphere, millions of unlettered and otherwise ignorant people saw, as with lightning sharpness cutting a black night, the foundation of all their wrongs, and heard the slogan "Land and Liberty" to which their ears were so long deaf—heard it raised it, acted on it, are acting on it. With that clear and direct perception of the needful thing to do which lettered men, men of complex lives, nearly always lack, being befogged by too many lights, they move straight upon their purpose, hew down the landmarks, burn the records of the little deeds.

So do the plain people, Temporalizing men, sophisticated men, men of books and theories, men made timid with much mind, Hamlets all,—they devise solemn indroctions; they figure on compensation schemes, on taxation fooleries, on how-to-do and how-not-to-do at the same time. The simple man says, "No; you have told us, and truly, that this land was fleeced away from us by a paper-title scheme. Its power lay in our admitting its right. Well, we no longer admit it; we destroy it. The land is ours; we take it." And they have driven off the paper-title men, and are working the ground on hundreds of ranches.

Great Landmark Established It is true there were other millions asleep in the storm; true that many of the awakened have been quieted with political hocus-pocus; true that a hundred and one reactionary forces are battling on the same ground. It is true that the world at large, outside of Mexico, is but little informed as to the real struggle. But that does not alter or diminish the truth that the Slaves of Our Times, in a nation-wide revolt, have smitten the Beast of Property in Land. And once a great human demand is so made, it is never let go again. Future revolts will go on from there; they will never fall behind it.

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To be Continued