

What Is Your Idea Of Revolution?

The article that follows was written, by request, for Malatesta's paper, "Volonta," which, we think, is the most influential of all the Italian revolutionary organs. Having done my best to explain why ALL the proletariat of ALL the world should feel deeply interested in the Mexican Revolution, I do not find myself able to better it. Accordingly, I reproduce it here, being anxious also thereby to explain our methods. From the very first we have regarded the Mexican Revolution as an essential part of the international revolutionary movement, and accordingly we have spared no pains in the cultivation of our foreign correspondence. Examination of our books shows that our ordinary monthly bill for postage stamps in this connection averages seventy-five dollars. In other words, we are decentralizationists, in the fullest acceptance of the word. We do not seek to hog the work. We ourselves write a few articles, but we expend far more energy in trying to induce others to write wherever there are papers to be reached and means of publication available.

Revolution; the instinctive effort made by life to throw off the burden that is crushing it and enlarge its functions by obtaining larger liberties that seem to be the inevitable course of evolution and a natural development in which I cannot but believe. On the other hand, the attempt to dominate and get the upper hand, whether it is made, for example, by Anarchists with whom I sympathize, or by commercial, military and clerical governments, with whom I certainly do not sympathize, inspires me with no confidence.

I understand that there came a time when French life could endure no longer the burdens the feudal nobility had laid on it, and revolted successfully. It was a genuine revolution. I understand that the Russian peasant, a little more than ten years ago, found life no longer bearable, and revolted unsuccessfully. Nevertheless it was a genuine revolution. I understand that the Mexican peasant reached the point at which he could stand it no longer, and, three years ago, started the present revolution. Whether he succeeds or not in his great aim, the recovery of that free access to natural resources he formerly enjoyed, does not affect the character of his uprising. It is a genuine revolution; a genuine self-assertion on the part of life; a spontaneous struggle to throw off the burden.

Anarchism, in its strict interpretation of "without rule," I understand; it is the declaration that life prospers most under free conditions; it is not the statement of a dogma but of a biological law from which, by the constitution of our being, we cannot escape. Whatever may be my guesses as to the lines along which the society of the future may choose to organize itself, I cannot give such guesses, or wishes, the weight that an inevitable law necessarily carries with it. Indeed, when a man tells me he is a Socialist-Anarchist, a Communist-Anarchist, an Individual-Anarchist, etc., I think he is trying to bring together elements that will not fuse, and to impose on the society that is yet to be his conception of what that society should be. For many years I have held the conviction that we progress only by that constant experiment which involves repeated failures, the result being that we learn by our mistakes and finally adopt the best method, which survives by reason of its fitness.

Such were my individual ideas when I accepted the editorship of the English section of "Regeneracion," two and a half years ago. I only know that they were then, and are still, my individual ideas. I have no right to proclaim myself infallible by declaring that they are correct. Nevertheless I feel very strongly that if such ideas had been held generally by those who call themselves Revolutionists and Anarchists, the Mexican Revolution would have received a unanimous and whole-hearted support which, thus far, it has not received. In fact, among the abusive letters which naturally have come to me in the course of an extensive correspondence, the most abusive have been usually from those who have labeled themselves as belonging distinctively to some special wing of the revolutionary army. Similarly, the most violent newspaper attacks have come from special revolutionary organs, which condemned the Mexican Revolution as political, as not truly Anarchistic, as not truly Communist, as seeking redress by force instead of at the ballot box, and so forth. The herd breaks for freedom and, instead of helping it, to throw down the fences, such people as I describe get busy with their brandings.

My philosophy is the philosophy of struggle, and my contention is that life's struggle to climb out of the mire should be assisted. My further contention is that life, struggling for release, fights like a guerrilla, using every weapon, and that only pedants and victims of that doctrinaireism in to which so many would-be revolutionists unfortunately fall, would expect it to move by rule and compass, like a German soldier on parade.

Within a little more than thirty years, under the dictatorship of Diaz, Mexico passed from the condition of a country in which the masses were able to lead a secure and easy-going life, simple though that life may seem to us, into the condition of a country in which life became utterly slavish and insupportably insecure; the chief element of insecurity being the inability to get work, except on execrably low wages, and often not even then. Within that

short period work, in the form of a job, had become necessary to the Mexicans, as it is necessary to most of us Americans and Europeans. It had become so because the Mexican masses had lost that control of their natural resources which they formerly enjoyed; because, by a series of the most corrupt official deals, on record, the land had been swept from beneath their feet; because they had thenceforth to depend on employment doled out, at their pleasure, by absentee Rothschilds and Rockefeller, or by native monopolists who had gone into partnership with and modelled after the foreign exploiter.

They, they say, get used to being skinned. In Europe and America the process whereby the masses have been reduced to wage-slavery has been slow, and we have finally become, most unfortunately, used to that particular form of slavery. It seems to me, at least, the worst slavery of all, since it is far the most insecure and, therefore, harries the masses with ceaseless mental anxiety. In Mexico the transition has been most sudden, and only within the last few years has the Mexican become vividly aware of what has happened. Moreover, the new condition was made incomparably worse by the fact that huge, colossal landholdings acquired by foreign syndicates were thrown out of occupation, being held largely for future speculation. So far as supporting Mexican life was concerned they might as well have been transplanted to the moon. This has not been the case in Europe, nor so largely the case in the United States, since there the transition has been more gradual, and industry, which has come to mean the providing the masses with work, has had time to adjust itself to new conditions.

A few facts and I have done. In "Regeneracion" of August 16, 1913, I quoted the following from a series of articles on the land question in Mexico, by Sr. Francisco Bulnes. He is a recognized conservative authority, and the articles were published in "El Pais," Mexico's leading Roman Catholic paper. Sr. Bulnes said, in part: "As regards the national lands, we Mexicans possess today only a worthless residuum, inasmuch as, by virtue of our miserable laws relating to unoccupied lands, Porfirio Diaz gave away, to twenty-eight personal and political friends, territory as large as France. This wrong, so immoral, so stupid, so anti-patriotic, was committed before the so-called Cientificos made their appearance, for it took place during the first half of Diaz' dictatorship."

I remark that the "miserable laws" were nothing more or less than the dictator's whim, backed by the sword, and that the "Cientificos," who came along later and taught Diaz how to combine with the Rothschilds, etc., and play the game of modern finance in accordance with the latest and most fatal rules, completed the job in a most workmanlike manner.

Do you not think that with the giving away of that huge territory, to TWENTY-EIGHT favorites, an economic and also a political problem arose immediately? Do you not think that hundreds of thousands of Mexicans, suddenly driven from the homes they and their ancestors had possessed from time immemorial, saw a great light as to the enormous power which the possession of the governmental machine bestows on the unscrupulous. They came trooping into the United States, looking for work, ignorant of the language spoken; utterly unadapted, by reason of their time-honored traditions and habits, to the industrial methods of the country; fish out of water. Was a long course in political economy necessary to awaken such people's thought?

Another fact, of more recent date, October 16, 1913, Winston Churchill, First Lord of the British Admiralty, rose in the House of Commons and stated that the British navy must be able to rely on a regular supply of oil, and that it was imperative that the contracts with the Pearson Oil Company should be renewed. Porfirio Diaz made Pearson and Pearson brought him the alliance of the Rothschilds, whose agent he is. Mexico has the good or evil fortune to contain within her borders what are apparently by far the richest oil deposits yet discovered, and in the modern industrial world oil is king. Those oil deposits, therefore, are the prize in a Titanic struggle between American and European capitalists. Is not that calculated to make Mexicans think; to make them long to own their own country; to make them comprehend that, instead of working for themselves as in the olden days, when they had free land and wood and water, they are now slaving to supply the wants, often to them inexplicable and highly irrational, of foreign masters?

Why should not these people have been thinking, during the last twenty-five years, and thinking most bitterly? Why should not that thought have ripened finally into revolution? How dare you rise to denounce it as not an economic revolution, because, forsooth, it does not square precisely with your particular conception of the brand of economics an enlightened nation should adopt? Who gave you the right to discourage and weaken, by your indifference and hostile criticism, this great effort to obtain relief, put forth by some fifteen millions of your fellow human beings? The robbery to which the Mexican people, hitherto easy-going and almost invincibly pacific, have been subjected is so clear, and is admitted so universally by all impartial minds, that I am tired of piling proof on proof. The uprisings in Mexico have been on so large a scale, and have continued, in the face of extraordinary difficulties, so long, that it seems to me idle to emphasize them; for those who do not want to see will not see. For years American troops have lined the international border, that they may prevent the revolutionists from getting those arms without which they cannot overthrow the government which is the one thing that saves the foreign

tribute-gatherer from extinction. For years diplomats and statesmen have been holding solemn councils as to how best to suppress the spontaneous attack made by an outraged people on the privileges which it is the special business of those diplomats and statesmen to protect. The conflict between Money, eager for rich virgin resources and cheap labor wherewith to work them, and the Mexican disinherited is so clear, that it seems a waste of words to call attention to it. That alleged revolutionists still shrug their shoulders indifferently is, I think, due to the confusion of thought criticized in the earlier portion of this article. On that, therefore, I lay the greatest emphasis and to that I have devoted the major portion of my space.

WM. C. OWEN.

THE REAL FIGHT IS TO COME LATER, WHEN THE STATE IS GOING TO TRY AND GIVE THE DEATH PENALTY TO CLINE, RANGEL AND FOUR OTHERS.

(Extract from letter by Judge R. W. Hudson, counsel for the defense, dated Pearsall, Texas, October 18, 1913.)

Well; the foregoing, and the fact that one of the prisoners, a mere lad, has been given twenty-five years, give the heart of the stern task that lies before us. The question we have been putting to ourselves is how this English section can best help, and how it can best induce others, all over this country and abroad, to help intelligently, energetically, in the manner most calculated to insure results.

Personally we ourselves can write letters, and are doing so, to widely scattered points, urging friends to take up the case and make themselves masters of its simple details by writing us for information. Through these columns we will explain as clearly as we can the different points involved; the partiality with which the neutrality laws have been enforced; the notorious injustice which has brought Texas, with her lynchings, her convict camps, her fee system, her race hatreds and other unspeakable abominations, so unenviable a reputation. There is a terrific indictment ready to be drawn against her and it must be presented in the most public manner and with all the ability we can command.

All this, with information as to the great cause for which our imprisoned comrades are now suffering, we will do our best to supply; sparing no pains to put into the hands of every willing worker the weapons with which this fight must be won. Write us and we will answer promptly.

It must be understood quite clearly that individual effort has to win this battle. We of "Regeneracion" should not be left to do it single-handed, or in conjunction only with the I. W. W. It cannot be done by one centralized machine. It must be the task of countless groups, each working with that enthusiasm which springs from consciousness that it individually is expected to make good.

Already we have hopes of active centers being started in different cities to which we have written. Vincent St. John, in Chicago, is asking for subscriptions; our Texas comrades are showing great activity at numerous points; "The Voice of the People" and J. W. W. papers are speaking straight out; other organizations must be induced to do their share, and it is earnestly hoped that all readers of "Regeneracion" will feel called on to resolve themselves into individual committees. We have had good men killed, and over the heads of others, who have fine self-sacrificing records, the shadow of the gallows already hangs. We cannot, at this late day, have a repetition of the Haymarket tragedy.

The question of the handling of moneys collected should not be difficult to arrange in a thoroughly satisfactory, businesslike way, where all are inspired with honesty. Nothing shakes public confidence so much as doubt on this head, and what we want is perfect security coupled with a clear method which all can understand. One imagines that there will be no difficulty in getting banks to act as treasurers.

The first great thing, however, is to start the ball rolling, and we think it is already fairly started. Give it the most vigorous push you can, and do not be shy about urging others to do likewise.

Nothing could be better than the exhaustive article published in "Le Libertaire," of Paris, under date of Sept. 27. It reviews impartially the whole revolutionary movement in Mexico, which it describes as belonging to the "order of agrarian revolts and almost unique, being such as the world has not yet seen."

"Le Libertaire" explains at considerable length the efforts of the Mexican politicians of all shades to divert the peons, from their one great aim, the recovery of the land, and dwells on the anxiety of the moneyed class in the United States, to aid the Mexican politicians in that work. It considers that the Government of the United States would gladly invade Mexico, but that it naturally hesitates, knowing the task will be far more formidable than that which Great Britain undertook in the Transvaal. Quoting "Regeneracion" the writer expresses the opinion that the Northern tier of States excites the special cupidity of American speculators and will be the first point of attack.

Direct Action? Who teaches Direct Action? We should like to know, if not the Government, with its bayonets, its clubs, its jails and scaffolds?

They talk of force. Who uses force if not the Government? Who is spilling all this blood in Mexico if not the Government, or those who seek to seize the Government?

Mexican Notes

"The peon has nothing to lose and everything to gain by revolution." (Address to President Wilson by American memorialists.)

"Workingmen of the world, unite! You have only your chains to lose; you have a world to gain." (Karl Marx.)

Revolution in Mexico is Revolution. It is not a question of philosophizing or of parlor symposiums on the beauties of some Utopia. Such philosophizing and such symposiums were common in the literary sets of Rome during the Empire's decay, and form a large part of that classical literature which, through its intrinsic beauty, survives today. Doubtless it was most instructive and uplifting to the few who studied it, but it altered nothing. The barbarians, under Attila and other exceedingly rude leaders, did the altering.

Similarly, for years before the actual outbreak of the Great French Revolution, the fashionable salons discussed sociology in much the same manner as do many of our modern revolutionists, but they too altered nothing. The French peasant did the altering; driving the monopolists into exile, burning their old title deeds and taking possession of the estates on which he had worked for centuries as a serf.

For at least two generations the bored drawing rooms of St. Petersburg revelled in radicalism, debating the most risky questions with a freedom that would give an American capitalist fits. The debates altered nothing, for they were not meant to alter anything. When the Russian peasant began to put certain of the theories into practice and took possession of the estates, things assumed a different hue. Unfortunately the Russian peasant is peace-loving incarnate, and still more unfortunately, he had allowed the revolutionary princes and dukes to accumulate an enormous army, that their theories about the rights of man might remain mere theories. So, for the moment, that revolution failed.

Our Whited Sepulchres.

Today Americans in Mexico—men who pride themselves on the revolutionary stock from which they sprang; men who take off their hats, hypocritically to the statement that all men are created free and equal, and that governments derive their powers only from the consent of the governed—are acting precisely as did the ancient Roman patrician, the French noble and the Russian grandee. The old professions go for nothing, as proved by Major Gillette, formerly of the United States army, and twenty other Americans, "most of them of long residence in Mexico." In a memorial addressed to President Wilson and the United States Congress they protest against free elections in Mexico, on the ground that it would place the country at the mercy of the peons. They say that it would fasten on Mexico all the evils of negro rule in the Southern States, and they specify their fears in the following paragraph:

"The peons constitute 75 per cent of the population. Not 2 per cent of them can read or write. Millions of them have no home save a blanket. They have no foundation upon which to found an effective patriotism. They will take patriotism and then use it to join any kind of a rebellion that comes along. Dimly conscious of a grievance against society, their only idea of a remedy is to grab anything they can grab in safety. Of the possibilities of the franchise to make an orderly amelioration of political and social conditions they have not the vaguest conception."

These gentlemen remind President Wilson further that the Mexican peon has everything to gain and nothing to lose by revolution; they declare that he is having the time of his history at present, since the looting is good, and, "if pursued by the government forces, his troops scatter to the mountains in practical safety." They are afraid that this is the element that would be placed in power, and they ask: "Why should the United States try to force upon Mexico a full and free election, with all the horrors of peon government?" They add that under a weak government, like that of Madero, the revolution spread like wildfire. Therefore they want, above everything else, dictatorship.

Ugly Questions Raised.

On many points we agree with the statement in this memorial. In the United States the free and equal ballot has not put the workers in the saddle, but quite the contrary. In Mexico, on the other hand, the workers, without the ballot, are coming very near putting themselves into the saddle; and, if the ballot were used to register what they actually want, it might go hard with monopoly. Ask the peon WIQM, he wants for ruler and he will remain coldly indifferent, since all rulers look alike to him. Ask him, on the other hand, WHAT he wants, and he will answer, with a unanimous shout, "The Land."

The memorialists desire a strong government. The peon has the good sense to know that these famous, strong governments mean fine times for the exploiters, whom they nourish and protect, but starvation for him. To harry the government perpetually and reduce it to impotence is obviously his proper play, as all revolutionists should understand.

But, why is it that "millions of them have no home save a blanket"? Why is it that they are "dimly conscious of a grievance against society"? These are the questions a revolution brings sternly to the front, with a force no verbal eloquence can command. It calls our civilization's universal bluff; puts our vaunted democracy to the test under which it shivers all to pieces; shows us what hypocrites we are. We shout to all the world that suffrage should be universal. When the property of a few monopolists is endangered we eat all our fine declarations and smack our lips over the meal.

The Mexican Revolution is destined to drive home to us, with the necessary ax, a number of vastly-needed lessons. One of them is the paramount importance of the land question, which forms the basis of all political economy. Another is the unquestionable fact that the stronger the government the more difficult it is for the disinherited to recover their basic rights. Another is the futility of trusting the fine words with which Privilege fills its month. There are many other lessons which, as just remarked, are being driven home with that ax which unfortunately our unwillingness to go to the trouble of thought still renders necessary.

International War.

Jay Fox, well known as a revolutionary publicist, who can handle large questions with the breadth of thought that they demand, writes us from Butte, Mont.: "I am inclined to think this Mexican matter is only in its early stages, that the end is far off, and that it may even involve international war." We agree entirely. When the present writer took the editorship of this section, two and a half years ago, he started with the statement that the Mexican upheaval would prove fully as important as that great French Revolution which ushered in an entirely new regime, and after fighting its way through the Napoleonic wars, altered not only the whole map of Europe but daily human life throughout the world. He added the statement that, in all probability, it would prove still more important, since it has come at one of the most critical periods of history. All reflective men agree that our existing civilization is sailing stormy seas in a boat which a very little rocking may upset. Humble, despised, but exceedingly rich, Mexico has started to rock the boat.

Note how constantly mention of Japan hobb up. For example, a Tokio despatch of Oct 20 informs the world that "a Japanese war fleet is held in instant readiness to rush to Mexico." This is admitted today, and the Japanese government gives as its reason that it believes the United States cannot long delay armed intervention in Mexico." This may be a fake, and probably is, since the Hearst papers played it up. There may be nothing in the repeated stories that Huerta has done his utmost, as would be entirely natural, to play off Japan against the United States. The important fact is that these rumors respecting Japan keep bobbing up all the time, and it is generally safe to calculate that where there is a lot of smoke there is sure to be some fire. If we think Japan has any reason to love us we should go back to the cradle and pray the Gods to give us another chance of acquiring an education.

The Japanese recognizes that we are much the richer country; but he knows that he has an army and navy drilled to perfection, that they are manned by State Socialists, who think that life's noblest aim is self-sacrifice to the State and are burning for a chance to die for it. He knows very well also that this country is not peopled by that sort of gentlemen, but, on the one hand, by money-grabbers who value only one thing more than their pocketbooks, viz., their skins, and, on the other hand, by a most discontented proletariat which, far from fighting for plutocracy, will do its utmost to stab it in the back. We try desperately to manufacture patriotism by spreading eagle orations and forcing little children to carry the Stars and Stripes and sing national airs. It is a hot-house plant, and, like all hot-house plants, will wither to its roots the moment the icy wind of conflict strikes it. Our Government is doing its utmost to encourage State Socialism and call into existence that archaic thought which still dominates the Japanese and makes them a most formidable warlike power. Unfortunately the tide of Anarchist sentiment, which exalts the individual and denounces all attempt to sacrifice him to that vague abstraction, the general welfare, is bringing all our Government's efforts to naught. Gen. Otis, of Los Angeles, typifies, perhaps more completely than any other prominent man who could be named, that old Tory thought which would discipline every one of us to military obedience to authority. Come to Los Angeles and see how popular he is—among the masses.

Another Little Cloud.

Great Britain! What about that little cloud, now beginning to peep over the horizon? In our editorial we call attention to Winston's Churchill's statement in the House of Commons. We give here the head published in the Los Angeles "Daily Tribune," October 21, as summarizing the story. It runs: "U. S. protests against acts of England in Mexico. Britain's Minister presents his credentials to Huerta day following ruler proclaimed himself dictator. Americans amazed; explanation sought. Ambassador Page calls on British Foreign Office; Lord Cowdray, power in South country, Minister's friend." We should think so, indeed. The new British Minister, Sir Lionel Carden, is distinctly Lord Cowdray's man, and Lord Cowdray, described by the "Tribune" as having "vast holdings, individually and through corporations, in Mexico," is even more distinctly the Rothschild's man, and the Rothschilds are even more distinctly for the oil deposits of Tampico, first, last and all the time. According to despatches, Carden, being approached for the independence of his action in recognizing Huerta immediately after the latter had proclaimed himself dictator, replied that Great Britain had enormous interests in Mexico which it was his business to protect.

In short, the revolution in Mexico is an international affair; a fight between the propertied and propertiless into which the entire world is being dragged. Just as Turkey, condemned to banishment generations ago, still holds the fort, thanks to divisions among the Powers, so Mexico today has a fine hand to play as against intervention. If she cannot set the would-be intruders by the ears it will be only because she does not

understand the game. Huerta appears to understand it. There are five presidential candidates in the field, to be voted on—the irony of it!—Oct. 26. Under the constitution some one of them must get more votes than all the others combined, which is obviously improbable. So, quite legally and constitutionally, you understand, Huerta will continue President. We think it possible that Mr. Lind's visit to Mexico may enable him to give his fellow-politicians of the United States a new pointer or two.

Carranza is quite clear that Huerta has to be displaced by arms, and has given the "Los Angeles Examiner" an outspoken interview to that effect. He declares that after he has got through with Huerta he will tackle the bandits. He also seems to us to have his work cut out for him. According to his photographs he is a mild and scholarly-looking type of man, but photographs often deceive.

Will He Resign? No, Indeed!

As was of course inevitable, Huerta, forced into a corner, has announced, in very forthright terms, that he has not the slightest intention of resigning. He has emphasized his statement by throwing into prison at Monterey 300 alleged conspirators and issuing an edict that throughout the nation no quarter be shown to rebels. Various United States senators now express themselves for publication as in favor of allowing rebels to import arms, that they may have an equal chance. If that just condition prevailed today we should not have six good men in imminent danger of the scaffold in Texas, and eight others condemned, or likely to be condemned, to long terms of penitentiary hell.

The Constitutionalist are showing renewed activity, and once more there comes along the apparently reliable statement that in Sonora they have put themselves on record as favoring an independent Republic, composed of the States of Sonora, Sinaloa, Chihuahua, Durango, Coahuila and Lower California. Also there comes along the anticipated statement that Carranza denies the report.

Great Britain refuses to commit herself as to her policy after the elections of Oct. 26. Her ambassador is reported as saying that he expects present conditions to continue for an indefinite time, because "there is such a lack of accord between the government and the people, and such a diversity of aspirations among the revolutionists, that no one element could be expected to dominate the situation." That seems to us a sensible criticism. That there is no accord between government and people is certain. That the people themselves, harassed by the armed hand of privilege and beset on every side by scheming politicians, have not yet been able to come to a common and workable understanding, is also certain. As time passes, however, they are getting a firmer grasp of fundamental facts and learning as no other nation today is learning, since their very survival depends on clear, unflinchingly courageous thought. When that condition arises in the United States and other plutocracy-ridden countries, good-bye to Privilege.

The landing of Felix Diaz at Santa Cruz has given rise to most sensational rumors.

TEXAS TRIALS' FUNDS.

The collection of, accumulating for and distribution of the funds for the defense of our Texas comrades is a most important problem, for we are exceedingly anxious that there shall be no leakages, disputes or uncertainties connected with this branch of the question.

Naturally, funds collected by individuals, or individual organizations or groups, at different points must be accounted for by them individually, they being held individually responsible to those from whom they collect. This is inevitable, since the trials are of general interest and we have neither the right nor the power to say who shall and who shall not collect money.

Probably it will be necessary to arrange ultimately for disbursement of funds through some central body which will act as a general clearing-house, and it seems to us that such central body should be in Texas, where the trials are being conducted. As yet the appointment of such a body appears untimely, because definite arrangements for the defense, the amount to be paid to lawyers, etc., are still to be made.

At present our Mexican comrades, who are exhibiting a most generous spirit, are sending money both to Eugenio Alzalde, care of Judge Hudson, Pearsall, Tex., or direct to "Regeneracion." The moneys received by "Regeneracion" are placed to a separate account, published in its columns, and remitted to Jose Angel Hernandez, 908 Durango street, San Antonio, Tex., as being on the scene of action and able, therefore, to judge what immediate payments are necessary. He has made a special journey to Pearsall, and may be there now.

For the moneys realized from the two mass meetings to be held in Los Angeles, Oct. 25 and 26, Mr. Oscar Sautter, of the I. W. W. local, will act as treasurer.

We hope to be able to announce in our next issue the appointment of an independent Los Angeles group, composed of a number of workers well known in the Labor and Revolutionary movement, which will interest itself actively on behalf of the defense, depositing with and making remittances through a responsible local bank.

Don't forget the two mass meetings at Mammoth Hall, 517 S. Broadway, Saturday and Sunday nights, Oct. 25 and 26. Jaime Vidal, Rafael Adams, M. Fasa, no, Bill Cook, Wm. C. Owen and other speakers. Admission free. Tell everybody that these meetings are to save Labor advocates from the gallows.

I. W. W. To The Rescue!

I. W. W.'s to the defense! It is true; that these fourteen men were not in the service of the I. W. W. when they were seized by the Huertistas of Texas, but it is true that they were in the army of the dawn age, the age of free labor, and therefore it is our bounden duty to go to their defense. As we tried the scartlet hands of Huertistas, as of Dixie, off the throats of Emerson and his comrades, let us pry them off the throats of Charlie Cline and his endangered companions, Louisiana and Texas Rebels! Remember the good work that Charlie Cline did in defense of Emerson and your kinsmen; remember that it is partly for this work he is now in danger of worse than a living death, and that he and his companions are facing terms in the black-holes of Texas, where men are smothered to death, where boys are beaten on the feet till the flesh falls off, and the living tendons show through, and, in this condition, they are forced to work barefooted in the fields, where men with great heavy chains around their necks, as wild beasts chained, are guarded and driven by four and two-footed bloodhounds. Remember! and, if you have a drop of Rebel blood flowing in your veins, arise and rescue Cline, Rangel and their companions from the scartlet hands of the Huertistas of Texas!

Fellow-editors of the Rebel Press! I appeal to you to join me once again in a battle against the Dixies of the South! I appeal to you to turn your flaming pens and mighty batteries upon the Huertistas of Texas! And there is no time to lose.

You, whose duty it is to help, gather, immediately, all the funds you can and send them to Eugenio Alzalde, Chairman Defense Committee, care Judge R. W. Hudson, Pearsall, Tex. And be sure to register all letters containing funds. In writing Cline, Rangel or any of the other prisoners, address them care of Judge Hudson, who is their leading counsel. The committee elected by the prisoners to oversee and account for the defense fund are: Eugenio Alzalde, Chas. Cline and J. M. Rangel. A full accounting will be made. The prisoners are: Pedro Peralas, Luis R. Ortiz, Domingo R. Rosas, Leonardo L. Vasquez, Louis Mendoza, Bernardino Menozco, Eugenio Alzalde, Luis Gonzalez, Miguel P. Martinez, Chas. Cline, Jose Serrano, Jesus Gonzalez, Abraham Cisneros and J. M. Rangel. Their lawyers are Judge R. W. Hudson and Messrs. J. L. Pranglin and Magnus Smith.

These are the fourteen who have asked me, Covington Hall, to appeal to you, the Militants of Labor, throughout the world, to defend them from a doom that is worse than death—years of torture in the horrible penitentiaries of the Huertistas of Texas. You can free them all if you will, act, and act today.

Will you do it? Remember! It is the Industrial despotism clutching at the throat of Industrial Democracy. Rebels of the World, to the rescue! (Covington Hall, in "The Voice of the People," New Orleans.)

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RANGEL APPEALS TO WORKERS.

Your letter or better said, your answer to Charles Cline, has our approval. Again we protest against the false versions, against the lies published by the mercenary press, regarding us.

Huerta and his lot of yassals are fighting to gain power for their own personal ambition; we are fighting against his regime, his system, going toward liberty for humanity's sake, for the sake of our fellow-creatures, for our salvation.

Here, where it is our fault! We are not in the service of this or that government; our soul is not sold to anybody; we are pledged, we are engaged to our own cause.

We have had the misfortune to fall into the hands of our enemy, but we think, we firmly believe, that you and the working class, that our "unions," will not deny us their assistance.

We are accused by our persecutors of a crime we have not committed. Please address everything to Eugenio Alzalde, who has the charge of receiving funds and to notice our "Regeneracion" for the relative publication.

Yours in freedom's cause,
J. M. RANGEL,
(The "Voice of the People.")

FOR OUR TEXAS COMRADES.

Our excellent friend, Frank Ronney, of Alhambra, has written to all the ironworkers' unions in Texas, urging them to take up immediately the case of the fourteen men imprisoned at Pearsall. The letter he has addressed to them gives details and deals also most lucidly with those fundamental principles on which our appeal to lovers of justice throughout the world must be based. It says, in part:

"If a foreign country had assailed our country and the lives of our families and friends were in jeopardy, it would be our duty to assist them in all ways or stand branded before the world as cowards and poltroons. American land-grabbers have no more right to steal the lands of Mexican than has any other band of foreign land-grabbers, thus dooming the people to perpetual penance and ignorance; just as no land-grabbers, native or foreign, by perjury or otherwise, have the right to steal our lands, condemning millions of our people to lives of poverty and suffering. If it had been known that these Mexicans felt favorably to the interest of the Standard Oil Company and the other great land robbers in Mexico, they could have gone their way unmolested, and most likely would have been paid for their services. Being poor and honest and patriotic they must be killed or imprisoned. Is this fair? Is this our conception of American justice?"