

Regeneracion.

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"Intervention!" Is Wall Street's Cry

Once more the sword of the United States is suspended over the Mexican people's neck. "The Mexicans are incapable of self-government," say all the adventurers who wish to make millions by exploiting the labor and natural wealth of Mexico.

Madero has promised to hand over to Americans the liberties of Mexico; and, in addition, the land, the woods, the mines, the waters, all Mexico itself. Naturally the Americans are on Madero's side.

The Mexican people are taking possession of their own country's natural wealth, and this fact, coupled with the revolutionary effervescence now clearly observable, has caused the American speculator to cry to heaven and proclaim that Mexico should be acquired by the United States, at any price.

Madero being internally weak, as Diaz was, is seeking the aid of the American government, that he may maintain himself in power. To this end it has been necessary for him to agree to the American bourgeoisie's demand for slavery in Mexico. And the compact has been made! To the conscience of the criminal what are the sufferings, the despair and the blood of fifteen millions? Did he not, at the very first, sell out the revolution for \$20,000,000? He longs to rule—the miserable wretch! and he has been manacled with chains of gold the hands of whoever had it in his power to raise a revolutionary force and stuff with gold the snout of every man who had the ability to shout a protest. He has been tearing out the hearts of all who, some day, might have unheated the dagger of a Brutus.

The promises Madero has made to the American speculator can be realized only under a bourgeois peace; a peace of the bayonet and the dungeon; a peace guaranteed by the judge and by the hangman.

Capital needs peace to make its profits and it sees, with the sinking heart of a usurer unable to get his claws into his neighbor's pockets, that peace is more distant than it ever was. Madero is impotent to bring into submission all the elements opposing him. He would play the dictator, the strong man with the hand of iron, and the result is that he is a nutshell floating aimlessly upon a storm-tossed sea. In his despair, in his utter dejection, he begs from the Colossus of the North what the Mexican people will not give him—its support. He does as Diaz did.

The people are not rebelling for the pleasure of rebelling. The revolutionist is not tearing the life out of his enemies for the satisfaction of witnessing a spectacle of bloodshed. The revolutionist applies the torch, but not, as did the Roman emperor, for the sake of enjoying the shifting colors of the flames and following with his eye the black spirals of smoke as they are blown hither and thither by the wind.

The Mexican people are in arms because they must play the game to the finish in order to save themselves and future generations from that economic slavery whence spring all tyrannies. Neither Madero nor any other man can give the people what they need—Bread. They can decree liberty of speech, liberty of assembly, liberty of conscience, etc. etc.; but who can decree the abolition of misery? No one. No one; because it would be a decree at which the rich would laugh. The abolition of misery means the abolition of the rich man's right to retain in his possession the land, the machinery of production and the means of transportation. All this the rich man will not let go of from kind-heartedness but only through being forced.

The people of Mexico, with a judiciousness that does them honor, have come to realize that their salvation—that is to say, the death of misery and the conquest of liberty—does not depend on the establishing a government, but, purely and simply, on laying hands on what the rich withhold and on making the property of a few the property of all.

In rising in arms the people of Mexico are exercising a legitimate right; the right of rebelling against all that oppresses them, against all that makes them suffer, against all that is opposed to their development and progress. What right has the American

government to intervene in matters that are not its own?

This threat of intervention is by no means the isolated utterance of some patriotic American journal. It is a collective threat by the country's entire bourgeois press, which speaks without reserve of the "necessity of intervention in the affairs of Mexico by the American government with a view to the establishment of a protectorate that shall endure until the Mexican people know how to govern themselves."

In the name of what is it proposed to commit this crime? In the name of civilization? If that were so the Mexican people would be left at full liberty to bring to its close a revolution which has had as its basis not the ambition of Madero, of Reyes, of Vasquez Gomez or any other man, but the worst possible political and economic conditions. Those conditions were the facts that made the Mexicans rebel against their governmental oppressors and money tyrants.

And, inasmuch as there are a thousand millions of American capital now invested in Mexico, and thousands upon thousands of millions more waiting for investment since Madero has offered all kinds of privileges to the capitalist class—the boa constrictors of high finance, the money lenders, the bank-note vultures and the dividend tricksters desire peace above all else. They care nothing for the sufferings and woes, the agonies and despair of fifteen millions of the poor, the disinherited and the oppressed, who are not willing that their blood should have been shed solely to put in power a new master who guarantees to the money-vampires the peaceful exploitation of the Mexican race.

The question, then, is one of war being levied against Mexico for the sake of saving the interests of foreigners—interests that have grown up there thanks to governmental compliance and complicity with adventurers of all classes who, under the pretext of developing the wealth of Mexico, cast anchor on that lovely country's fertile shores. It is for this that the American bourgeoisie sets its dogs on the government; that it may revoke it into intervening in Mexican affairs.

We long for liberty and well-being; we have no desire to be slaves; we wish to be free, and free in an effective manner; and, inasmuch as it is because of this the Revolution is prolonging itself—since a true Revolution cannot be brought to a termination within a single year—Mexico's exploiters are now urging their government to hurl itself against human beings who are struggling and sacrificing themselves solely for the betterment and advancement of their lot.—From the Spanish of Richard Flores Magon.

PLYING THE GOAD.

According to the "El Paso Morning Times," Manuel M. Alegre hopes to be elected governor of Veracruz and is busily booming Mexican real estate. He declares that foreigners are investing eagerly, and mentions, in particular, the purchase of one property comprising 222,000 acres, situate on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. His interview concludes: "Should I be elected governor of Veracruz I will extend a most cordial invitation to all Americans."

It is an invasion by the moneyed power that this recreant invites; it is to Wall Street's purse that this politician advertises himself as willing to sell what, by courtesy, is called his soul; it is the poison of absentee landlordism that this traitor would inject into his country's veins. But why abuse him? Unwittingly he is of the true revolutionary type; a fanner of the flames needed to purge the world; one of the great army of goaders necessary for the awakening of Labor.

LABOR SPENT IN VAIN.

Seeing a succulent-looking lamb standing in the river the wolf bore down on him to pick a quarrel. "I came to take a drink," he exclaimed angrily, "and you have muddled all the water." "But," pleaded the frightened lamb, "you were standing farther up the stream, and you know very well that water runs down hill." "Don't argue with me," retorted the wolf, and pounced upon him.

One is reminded of this ancient fable by reading the asseverations of the real estate speculators that it is they who have developed Los Angeles. Men who insist that by cornering the earth they encouraged population are impervious to argument.

Foreigners Arming in Fear of Intervention

Cry of "Mexico for Mexicans" causes Wide-Spread Consternation

Oaxaca Secedes—Gomez Comes to Front as Madero's Nemesis

"Specter of intervention looms large in Mexico. Vital fear has seized both foreigners and natives of Southern Republic. Thousands of Americans in the City of Mexico are reported to be holding secret meetings and arming themselves for dreaded eventualities, and in the meantime are sending their families away."

It is the double-column, first-page head of the "Los Angeles Times," of Nov. 27, that we are quoting—a paper that takes second place to none in the United States as a judge of the comparative strength and importance of social movements. For its very intolerance, its Bourbonism, its invincible obstinacy as upholder of a barbarism that is crumbling into decay, enables it to scent the true foe with the certainty of genius. Like the war horse it sniffs the battle from afar.

Where its contemporaries saw in the arrest of Reyes merely a dramatic incident, affording opportunity for sensational cuts, the "Times" instinctively sensed a crisis; the hustling to one side of Madero and the advance of another actor to the center of the stage. The two-column article that follows the heading quoted sums up with a masterly hand the really potent factors in the situation as it actually stands, and the summing-up is not to be dismissed with the criticism that the "Times" is palpably pro-intervention. What it says is true. It dwells on Reyes' following among the military, couples it with the universal hatred of the foreign exploiter, and urges that Reyes' strength lies precisely in the fact that he and his followers are believed by many to represent the idea of Mexico for the Mexicans.

Wall Street Hated

That is true, and it is true because the Revolution in Mexico is first, and above all, an economic revolution. It is the hatred of economic exploitation that is the backbone of the Revolution, and that hatred takes concrete and effective shape in bitter hostility toward the foreigner as arch-exploiter. Above all, hatred of the Gringo; the conscienceless American who cares nothing as to how his dividends are earned so long as they are earned; the Wall Street coupon-cutter who is the financial vulture, the grinning hyena that has fattened on Mexican liberty and happiness. He, in the opinion of the masses, is the author of their misery; in his hand has swung the whip that has driven them by the tens of thousands into exile; that has hunted the Yaquis, and countless other tribes unknown to the stranger, from their lands; that has furnished the henequen plantations with their martyrs and has thrust untold thousands into the torture chambers of the Valle Nacional. In the opinion of the masses it is the American speculator who is responsible for the hanging of Cananea strikers, for the wholesale slaughter of the unfortunates who dared to rebel against their thirteen-hour-a-day task in the Rio Blanco mills, for the appalling cruelty with which strikes have been suppressed. It is a veritable hell of modern industrial slavery against which Mexico has risen in revolt, and in the popular conviction the master demon in that hell is the canting American, with his mouth ever full of unctuous moralisings as to the blessings of capitalist "progress." This is the conviction with which all Mexico is seething, and the exploiting Gringo is hated with a hatred no language can express. In Mexico, above all other countries in the world, the capitalistic chickens have come home to roost.

Foreigners Not Wanted

From the first "Regeneracion's" position has been that Madero is weak incompetent; a pedant of phrases and half-cooked theories; a semi-demi Socialist flirt who smiles on all and has the confidence of none; a Cater-to-the-Rich and crocodile weeper over the sorrows of the poor—in a word, a wind-bag. We think that we, of "Regeneracion," know our Mexico; and we knew the moment he opened his mouth to welcome foreign

capital, that the trouble that spells his death warrant had begun. Says the "Times," describing the feeling in Mexico City—the seat of Madero's power:

"These mobs are particularly bitter against foreigners, and it is unsafe for any man or woman not Mexican to pass near where one of these 'bolas' is going on. Parades and manifestations in honor of various politicians and officials are of nightly occurrence and no foreigner ever goes on the street when one of these parades is in progress. Their present attitude is taken as but a forerunner of what their actions will be should intervention come, and the Americans, as well as all the Anglo-Saxons, are taking time by the forelock and providing themselves with organization and arms and ammunition."

"The British government has ordered all its Consuls to advise the British subjects living in all parts of Mexico to demand arms of the Mexican government. Failing to receive these, an application to the British legation here results in immediate shipment of arms to the persons requesting them, under the seal of the legation, which even the Madero secret service agents dare not violate."

"Not the less terrified are the better-class Mexicans at the mere mention of intervention. Nine out of ten native business men and property owners would like to see the Stars and Stripes floating over Mexico, but they are afraid of the atrocities they know will come with the period of transition."

Millionaires Appalled

"Said a Mexican business man, who is rated at something like \$60,000,000 to your correspondent yesterday: 'I own a hacienda which is worth 400,000 pesos; if the Americans took over this country it would be worth a million dollars, but I fear that if the army of occupation ever comes in from the north, I should not live to see my property increase in value. The United States would do for Mexico what she is doing for Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, but in the interim not only you Americans, but we Mexicans who do not support Madero would be slaughtered like rats in a trap.'

"Every newspaper in Mexico, except the Mexican Herald, which is published in English, and the Nueva Era, which is the organ of Madero, is calling openly on the government to restore peace immediately, 'lest the great white-headed eagle of the North swoop down upon us.' But the government cannot restore peace in a moment, especially with five well-developed revolts in full swing in as many different parts of the country."

We quote thus extensively from the "Times" not because we love it but because our business is to present our readers with the truth about the Mexican Revolution; and, in the opinion of "Regeneracion," the "Times" in this instance tells the truth. Of course it errs prodigiously in imputing Madero's troubles to the activity of Reyes, of Vasquez Gomez, of Zapata, or of the Mexican Liberal Party. Each and every one of these are potent merely as they represent the nation's aspiration; and the nation's aspiration is, distinctly and essentially, freedom from the capitalist yoke. To that yoke our own factory "hands" have grown with time and habit, meekly submissive, so that the American workman thinks always of his "job." The Mexican does not want a job, and the jobbers are his greatest detestation. It is a different view of life.

All Rebels Executed

"Mexico seethes as rebels are executed by Maderists" is the heading we clip from the "Los Angeles Herald," and the text below it runs: "It is said that Madero deliberated some time before he finally yielded to the wishes of his military commanders and sanctioned the adoption of Diaz methods in dealing with all who plotted against his regime. He knew at the time that it would prob-

ably mean the shooting of opponents all over Mexico, and that the action would either put the enemy to flight or lend greater force to the revolt."

The force is being lent all right. Everywhere in the Mexican daily press one finds crushing parallels of the treatment accorded by the United States government to Madero, during the period that preluded his successful coup, and that now moted out to Reyes, as it had been previously to the Junta of the Mexican Liberal Party. "El Pais" expresses itself thus: "As soon as Madero arrived in Texas after escaping from San Luis, he issued a species of proclamation manifestly revolutionary. There was no tribunal to call him to account for this act. Later he introduced arms, ammunition and other warlike material, all that he wanted, without hindrance on the part of the American government. Reyes has published no proclamation; he has not declared himself an enemy of the government of Mexico, and yet he is arrested and subjected to judicial procedure; and the first contraband of war is caught and seized. Is not the partiality clear? And it is possible to conceive of Yankee partiality, with some mercantile or interested motive and without an equivalent."

El Diario says: "The bird of evil omen hovers over the frontiers of Mexico, and its name is intervention." "El Imparcial" adds: "From the north will come these barbarians with the elements which civilization and the art of war have placed in their hands. They are not dressed in the skins of beasts, nor do they dance around the bonfire in their forest, but in their pride of race they will, like vampires, suck the blood of our traditions; they will merge in the sea of their conquests the crystal lymph of national importance; a new constellation will be displayed to heaven where once floated the green, white and red."

Wilson Would Explain These editorial expressions do not spring from any love of Reyes. They are the instant and spontaneous outbursts of hatred against the foreigner—the American above all—engendered by the threat of intervention, which bids fair to unite warring factions against the common foe. The American ambassador has felt himself compelled to attempt a modification of the prevailing hostility and has declared that the United States is guarding the frontier today "more carefully than during Madero's rebellion because it had not the benefit of experience in guarding the frontier which it has acquired during the events of the last year." To which he adds: "Then, too, it had not learned how expensive and disastrous revolutions are, not only to Mexico but to the United States, whose material interests here are very great." The explanation will confirm the conviction that we care only for the almighty dollar.

Gomez a Potent Factor

The United States press is discovering that Vasquez Gomez is a power, and that, to all intents and purposes, he is joining hands with Reyes. It will be remembered that Gomez was considered the right hand of Madero's revolution, notwithstanding which the Dictator coldly thrust him from his cabinet. Since that date Gomez has been conducting a most extensive and unquestionably effective propaganda; pointing out in a series of most striking manifestoes that Madero has violated every fundamental principle of the Potosi agreement, entered into with much solemnity immediately after the fall of Juarez; that his election to the presidency was a carnival of force and fraud, and that his present cabinet is composed almost entirely of members of his own family. Gomez' recent letter to Orozco, Madero's commander-in-chief in the northern provinces, has given rise to widespread rumors and alarm. Speaking of Juarez it is to be noted that Col. Juan N. Medina, a former Madero commander and recently elected mayor of the city, has been placed beneath the ban. He is suspected of rebellious inclinations and is to be impeached.

Benito Juarez' State

The rich and populous State of Oaxaca has practically seceded from the central government—a new development that we hail with the profoundest joy, since we know that the weakening of the central power means a corresponding strengthening of the people's hands. It is the State of Benito Juarez, son of the great Liberator, and he is in open revolt against Madero. Severe fighting is reported from Guadalajara; numerous arrests have been made at Cananea; rurales have been rushed to the Galeana district, near Monterey, to protect the rich mining properties for which that district is notorious, and increased activity all along the northern border is reported, despite the vigilance of the United States troops.

W. C. O.

Zapata Represents Aspirations of the Masses

Fight for Land is based on Ancient Usage and Primal Instinct

Continued from last week

In my judgment we all try, by an unconquerable law of our being, to do what pleases us; being, at bottom, the playthings of our convictions, our tastes, our passions and our uncontrollable instincts. I chose my language carefully, for my argument hinges on it. It is certain, for example, that I myself have an intellectual conviction of the truth and wisdom of Anarchy, as the most practical road to human happiness. I believe I have also a natural taste, and even passion, for liberty. But it is certain that I, child of England, have not that primal, uncontrollable instinct for Anarchism and Communism the Mexican Indian has. He has drunk it in with his mother's milk; it has come down to him in the habits and traditions of forefathers whose history reaches back to a period of which he has no record. It is practically uncontrollable; and Diaz, who comes of the same tribe as the Magons, knew that modern "civilization," as we call it—meaning thereby an elaborate hierarchy of superiors and inferiors—could be maintained in Mexico only by the mailed hand, first symptom of revolt. Let me give you a striking example. The Magons have a brother who is a most distinguished lawyer in Mexico and was the candidate for vice-president on one of the tickets for which the unsophisticated Indian was invited to cast his vote last month. As a lawyer he writes much on public questions, and, as all lawyers do, with profound respect for vested rights. Yet this man, whom his brothers have repudiated—recently rejecting with scorn the offers he visited, Los Angeles to make them in his capacity of emissary from Madero—this very man twice got into trouble through his communistic writings and has served therefor his time in jail. In other words, his primal, inherited instincts ran away with him, getting the better of his interests and special legal training.

Their Dominating Instinct

These all-powerful, primary instincts are the forces in revolt throughout the nation; for it must be understood that from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 of the Mexican nation are practically pure Indian, and that everywhere the strain of Indian blood is much in evidence. It hates commercialism; loathes the factory, the plantation chaingang and the discipline of the mine; cares nothing about the gaudy pleasures that unfortunately appeal so strongly to our city proletariat; wants to live its own simple life, on its own land, practicing its Russian-Mir-like communism its own way. Quite naturally, with all the indomitable power of racial instinct, it is in revolt. For my part I should have expected that Socialism, with its barracks, army-discipline proclivities, derived so largely from German sources, would neither have understood nor sympathized with this Mexican Revolution. And this unquestionably has been the case. Men of the Debs-Berger type seem to me not to have comprehended the movement in the least, and to have antagonized it the moment it passed beyond the stage of sentiment. Nothing, for instance, could have shown more complete ignorance than the centering of attention on the exceedingly subsidiary movement in Lower California, coupled with such childish fairy tales as that which the "Appeal to Reason" was guilty of when it gravely stated that the bottom of this question was the struggle between the Mexican Liberal Party Junta and the steel trust for the possession of iron deposits in Lower California!

Unearned Increment

Excellent; but there is something more to be said, most emphatically, and it is this. For years the editor of this section tried to get a hearing at Socialist meetings for just such views as those expressed above. Time and again he was derided; time and again he was told that the land question was a minor issue. And always he said to himself that the Socialists were afraid to attack the one great Los Angeles piracy, on which all the minor piracies are based. Now the Socialists are admitting this palpable and overwhelming truth. But why? Because in this struggle they have found the large landowners—the syndicates that hold their installment debtors in the hollow of their hands—by far the most formidable of all their foes. They are learning by experience what Mexico has learned, viz. that the greatest of all exploiters is the land monopolist.

Of course they gave their indignation voice. Of course they proclaimed far and wide that they had been deceived; and of course in so doing they deceived others, though quite unwittingly. It is to correct this misapprehension, which has done much grievous damage, that "Regeneracion" has found itself compelled to start an Italian supplement; saddling itself with much extra expense at the very time it could afford it least. But propaganda must be made at all and every cost. No matter what the sacrifice the outside world must be instructed as to the true import of this second, and hitherto most successful, French Revolution. Above all, the Italian element must be disabused of all misunderstanding, since between the Latin race and the Mexicans there is a community of native thought that forms the strongest of all ties.

Worse than Diaz

EL PASO, Tex., Nov. 24.—(Tribune Leased Wire)—The Reyistas, captured near San Lorenzo, down the river from Juarez, were executed Wednesday night by a detachment of soldiers from the garrison in Juarez. The orders of the troops are to execute every man guilty of fomenting a rebellion. At the time they were captured the men were returning from a ranch, where they had just butchered a beef for food, and were en route to their rendezvous near Guadalupe. Four other Mexicans, suspected of having been active with the Reyistas cause in the vicinity of Casas Grandes, also were shot by the soldiers of Madero at the Janos ranch, near Casas Grandes, Tuesday night, according to American ranchers from that section. The execution of the Reyistas is the beginning of the "iron hand" policy which Madero has decided to pursue in dealing with the counter revolutionists; a plan which he openly announced in an interview in Mexico City last week.