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A "Good" Government In Action

For some time we have taken pains to expose and explain the Carranza myth. The proposition is not a very comely one, for as pointed out before, Carranza has succeeded to a very fair degree, in convincing many people that he is a "good" man and that for once he would demonstrate what a "good" government can do for the people, and especially for labor.

But recent news from Mexico bring such accounts of developments and happenings in the Carranza "government" that are astounding even to his most severe critics. Notwithstanding the rigid censorship upon news coming from Mexico, the daily press published dispatches from Mexico City some days ago to the effect that the city was in a state of disorder as the result of a general strike that had been declared in that place.

The dispatches also stated that the death penalty had been declared by Carranza as the punishment for any workers who dared go on strike. And also for anyone who dared inform the American government of the state of affairs prevailing then in Mexico.

This looked a little far-fetched even to those who do not see such things as strange in any government, but a few days later the Mexican press (Carranza's press, for there is no other press in Mexico at the present time) brought full confirmation of the reports in question and even more amazing than the ones appearing in the American press.

"El Pueblo," (The People) of August 3, from Mexico City, the leading Carranza organ, gives details of the trouble there and of the attitude of Carranza towards the workers. The paper says that on August 1st "The General Confederation of Syndicates" of the Federal District, among this including the employees of the light power and water works systems, went on strike, paralyzing all the great industries, the street car system, throwing the city into darkness and stopping the water supply; this, while the strike lasted, which was three days, when Carranza turned the city into an armed camp, declaring martial law and using the militia to drive the strikers to work, at the same time issuing his decree that made it punishable by death to go or remain on strike or even to advocate such measures.

The censorship of news from Mexico is so rigid that no more accounts of the situation have appeared in the American press, and those in the Mexican papers are only such as favor the Carranza ring. But even the papers coming from Mexico admit that the jails are packed with prisoners, even women, and that they were to be court-martialed on the 10th of August; but no papers from Mexico after that date have come to our notice.

To justify his action Carranza dug out a musty law of 1862, which considers as a traitor anyone inimical to the government, but which not being broad enough, Carranza stretched to include working men on strike. This done, Carranza ordered the militia to parade the streets, led by bugles and drums and followed by automobile loads of public and military functionaries who, from the principal corners of the city read the law to the assembled people, which reads as follows:

Venustiano Carranza,

za, First Chief of the Constitutional Army, Charged with the Executive Power of the Nation, in use of the extraordinary faculties with which I am invested, and—
CONSIDERING:

"That the dispositions that have been dictated by the Constitutional Authorities to relieve the economic situation of the working classes and the effective aid that has been lent to them in multitudinous cases, far from determining to lend cooperation willingly to the Government to solve the difficulties with which it has struggled to implant order and prepare the establishment of the Constitutional Regime, they have led the said classes to believe that the existence of society depends exclusively on them, and that it is them, therefore, who are in a position to impose as many demands as they may consider convenient to their interests, even if by this all those of the community suffer sacrifice and damage and even if the existence of the Government is imperiled;

"That to remove this evil not very long ago the Military Authorities of the Federal District made it known to the laboring class that if the Revolution had held as one of its principal ends the destruction of capitalist tyranny it should not permit another one to arise that would be as harmful to the well-being of the Republic, as the tyranny of the workers would be;

"That notwithstanding the suspension of work at the Electric Light Plant and the others that are allied with them, and that have just been declared struck by the Labor Syndicate, is demonstrating in a very clear way that the workers have not decided to persuade themselves that they are only a small part of society, and that this does not exist only for them, that there are other classes whose interests is not lawful for them to violate, because their rights are as much to be respected as theirs;

"That if the suspension of work is the means the workers have to compel the employers to increase their wages when these are considered low in proportion to the benefits of the latter, such means become unlawful, since they are not only used to exercise pressure on the employer, but it results injurious to society in general, who is deprived of even such imperious necessities as water, light and the means of transportation; (did you get that? And is not this "first chief" the real mad wag? Is not his brightness really grand? His nibs, the bearded chief, has just said that the workers "have not decided to convince themselves that they are only a small part of society and that this does not exist only for them", but in the next breath this genius not only admits that the laboring rabble are a little more than a "small part of society" but that without their society is helpless and even deprived of such imperious necessities as water, light and the means of transportation", to say nothing of food; clothing, shelter and, well—Life itself. Some first chief this.)

"That the conduct of the Labor Syndicate is anti-patriotic, as it is determined by the Government's enemies who are trying to lead it into international difficulties, and make it impossible to secure munitions from abroad or even manufacture them at home, depriving the factories of electric power.

"That in view of this it is necessary to dictate without delay the measures that the situation requires, since public service cannot continue paralyzed, and such example may be the cause for trouble to spread to other parts

of the Republic;
"That the conduct of the Labor Syndicate constitutes an attack on peace and makes it impossible to re-establish order, this makes it necessary to amplify the Law of January, 1862 that perhaps does not cover these cases and persons who are the promoters of actual the suspension.

"In consideration of all the afore mentioned I have seen fit to decree the following:

"Article 1. The death penalty shall be meted, besides of the disturbers of public order that is marked by the Law of January 25, 1862.

"First: To those who incite to the suspension of work in the factories or enterprises destined to lend public service or who propagate it; to those who preside over meetings in which suspension of work is proposed, discussed or approved; to those who defend and sustain it; to those who approve or subscribe to it; to those who attend such meetings or do not leave them as soon as they know their object; and to those who try to make it effective once a strike has been declared.

"Second: To those who on account of the suspension of work in the factories, mentioned enterprises or any other, and taking advantage of the occasion disorder to aggravate it or impose it should destroy or deteriorate the contents of the property or enterprises to which the workers belong who are interested in the suspension of other places whose employees may be wanted to be included in the strike, and those who with the same object provoke public disorders, be it against public functionaries or civilians, or use force in the person or property of any citizen, or to those who appropriate, destroy or deteriorate public or private property; and

"Third: to those who by threats or force impede that other persons execute the services that the workers lend in the enterprises against which the suspension of work has been declared.

"Article 2. The transgressions of which this Law speaks shall be of the incumbency of the Military Authorities to whom correspond to know those who are defined and punished by the Law of January 25, 1862, and they shall be pursued, investigated and punished in the terms and under the proceedings marked by decree N^o 14 of the 12th of December 1913.

"Therefore, I order that this be printed and circulated for its fulfillment and consequent effects.
"Given at Mexico City, August 1st, 1916.—V. Carranza."

There you have Government in its true colors; fulfilling its mission, its duty of protecting privilege and plunder and punishing with death those who refuse to be plundered. There you have Authority in action; using with eloquent and telling logic the power conferred upon it by the masses. There you have a "good" Government and a "good" man in full bloom; presenting a glaring example of what can be expected from a clown who vows to serve the people while pledged to protect the thieves that are looting them all the time.

Space forbids comment but there is much more to say and quote about this that will appear in our next issue.

R. G. COX.

TO OUR READERS

Having no copy from comrade Owen for the English section of this issue of **REGENERACION**, we are compelled to go to press this time without any article from his pen. So we hope our readers will be patient and bear the monotony of our not continue paralyzed, and such best efforts we can put forth.
Reg. Group.

Address By Enrique Flores Magon Suppressed

By The Federal Court Of Los Angeles, June 22, 1916.

[NOTE—This speech was prepared by Enrique Flores Magon to be pronounced when asked by the Court if he had something to say as to why sentence should not be imposed upon them. But when the proper time arrived the Judge did not allow Enrique to address the Court, altho he demanded such right, granted to them by the same laws that the Court pretends to uphold.]

(Continued from last issue).

Against the outrageous conditions that I have here roughly outlined, we Mexicans revolted; and now two of us, Ricardo and myself, are facing sentence here for our activity in that rebellion and for striving to gain our political, social and economic emancipation.

We, therefore, think that as a principle of Justice, this Court should not impose a sentence on us, for such a sentence would mean a flat denial that the Mexican people have a right to fight their own battles and to fight them in their own way and to their own satisfaction. Our revolutionary methods may not meet with the approval of the "peace-at-any-price" gentlemen but have the sanction of Thomas Jefferson, who said: "We cannot expect to pass from Despotism to Liberty on a feather bed."

Perhaps these "peace-at-any-price" gentlemen know and can explain how it is that the men who have openly backed revolutions which have for their purpose the continuance of slavery for the Mexican people—I am speaking now of such men as Chandler and his associates—have never been brought to the bar of this Court to answer for their actions; nor does anyone very seriously believe that they ever will be.

We have found with Proudhon that Private Property—the corner stone of the present institutions—is ROBBERY. When Humanity sprung into existence there was no such thing as Private Property. It was only when some avaricious man wielding a club beat his fellow-man into submission and confiscated his portions of the common heritage and

forced this man to work for him, that Private Property first sprung into existence. You see how Private Property comes from violence and robbery. These avaricious men, too, were the first slave-drivers and the first votaries of Authority. They soon learned that man is superstitious directly in proportion to his ignorance, and it was to control their fellow-men through their superstitions that the Church and Clergy were instituted. And all these institutions have been the very scourge of mankind since that time.

These Institutions springing from Private Property are the source and cause of all slavery, vice and crime. It is on account of Private Property that a large majority of human beings are slaves; producing all wealth while they go destitute. It is on account of Private Property, which deprives men and women of the just reward of their labor, that our women prostitute themselves, our children grow weak and consumptive in the mills of Capitalism, our men become drunkards, dope-fiends, thieves, insane and murderers. Of the last, as a fine specimen of the product of Private Property, I should like to cite the example of Dr. Waite, of New York; (1)

That is why we hate Private Property and fight for its abolition, and strive to implant Communist Anarchism wherein the land, the machinery and all the means of production and transportation shall be our own in common, so that all may have an equal chance for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; so that all being supplied in their needs and on an equal social, political and economic standing, ignorance, vice and crime shall vanish; naturally and automatically, for their source, Private Property, will have been doomed for ever.

(1) This man, in order to come into possession of the sum of \$500,000.00, poisoned his mother in law and later on his father in law; and was discovered when he attempted to murder his wife, that he might remain the sole heir to that money

(To be continued.)

The Real Carranza

In former articles about Carranza, his fallacies, his deceit and his treachery to the working class have been pointed out in brief, and this shall be continued so, as our limited space forbids a detailed outline. It has been our endeavor to show the easiness with which Carranza has succeeded in deluding, even "renegades", into expecting great things, and even the Millennium, from a "good" man.

The tragedy of it is that the same old crime of the mercenary press of agrandizing and boosting a fake is ever repeated; and it sticks. When old Diaz had full sway in Mexico the prostituted press worked overtime trying to make out that the monster was a blessing and a hero of his time. But every dog has his day and even Diaz was no exception. However, the nauseating farce continues, and the awful spectacle is repeated with Carranza. The worst of it is that those who do the dirty work for the capitalist press, the most telling work, are the "radicals" or even anarchists, as illustrated by the writers that have been sent by the American press to Mexico to boost and make a god of Carranza.

In order that the reader may have a little conception of this mushroom hero and of what can be expected of him, a brief summary of his career and standing may not be amiss.

Carranza, the same as Madero, has ever been a very wealthy land owner, holding great extensions of land in the State of Chihuahua,

therefore radical. He saw his chance and played the game making a strong bid for the laboring and radical support. This was about the time when he was chased out of Mexico City for trying to put down the workers by shooting some of their leaders while on strike, and when realizing his mistake he made his memorable declaration upon finishing his flight at Veracruz, that "today the Social Revolution has started."

That jolt certainly set the beard ed hero wise, for he immediately hired a force of pliat agitators to preach the radical gospel to the workers, and it had its effect, for they did it to a T. But it is well to bear in mind the causes, for in doing so the workers were not wholly deluded, but only chose what they that the lesser of two evils that confronted them. One was Carranza and the other was Huerta, and as the latter represented the abominable Diaz ring coupled with the horrible catholic church thought had accursed them for so long, and that still was a menace, they decided to join Carranza in order to insure the elimination of the hideous old dynasty.

(To be continued.)

R. G. COX.

From Emma Goldman

Proceeds from social at San Francisco, and \$1.00 donated by Mrs. Van Herrick, \$21.35. This, as the former remittance, is for the medical treatment of the Magons.

From The Blast

We insert below a circular that has reached us from "The Blast", signed by Alexander Berkman and Emma Goldman. It speaks for itself and needs no comment. THE BLAST is the only paper in that locality now, or in any locality, for that matter, that has dared to come out boldly in defense of the splendid comrades that are being dragged to the gallows by the "Law and Order" crew of San Francisco.

All those who want the facts, the naked facts, about the bomb conspiracy of the San Francisco Business Bandits cannot be without THE BLAST. The "Law and Order" gang are "Planning Another 11th of November", as THE BLAST well says; they are planning to crush the freedom of expression, the strangling of labor agitation, and The Blast, single-handed has undertaken to raise a WAR FUND of \$1,000 to fight and expose the GANG, to endeavor to preserve what spark of liberty we retain, as shown by the following circular:

San Francisco, Aug. 15th, 1916.

Dear Friend:

No doubt you have read in the press about the bomb explosion that took place in San Francisco on July 22nd, during the Preparedness Parade. The reaction immediately raised the cry of "Anarchists!" and the Hearst papers and the Chamber of Commerce are now exerting every effort to "clear the city" of revolutionists and Anarchists.

"The Blast" office has been raided by the police, and the Editor and his associate worker, M. Eleanor Fitzgerald, have been repeatedly haled to "headquarters", and there subjected to vile insult and abuse by the District Attorney's staff and actually threatened with hanging.

The authorities and the self-constituted "Law and Order" Committee of the Chamber of Commerce are bent on a repetition of the 11th of November 1887, when five of the noblest and bravest men of our time—the Chicago Anarchists—were judicially murdered for their devotion to an ideal. But surely we have not labored thirty years in vain? Surely there are enough fair-minded and liberty-loving men and women in these United States to prevent the repetition of that

terrible judicial crime.

The first step the enemy is planning is to kill "The Blast" and to stifle every voice of protest in this city. Never before in the history of the Coast was there such need of a fearless revolutionary paper like "The Blast". It is the only local publication that has dared to raise its voice in behalf of Ed. Nolan, Tom Mooney and his wife, Israel Weinberg and Warren Billings whom the authorities are now conspiring to hang as those responsible for the bomb, entirely innocent though they are.

Are you interested in the fate of those who have been picked as victims in bitter warfare against labor? Do you want to uphold a free press and the revolutionary propaganda? Are you in sympathy with "The Blast" and the work it is doing? Do you want to express your protest against the vicious forces of reaction that threaten to erect in San Francisco the Chicago gallows of 1887?

If so, we count on your help to prevent the strangling of "The Blast" and the driving of the Anarchists out of San Francisco. We are not afraid for ourselves, but we are eager to keep up the fight against oppression and injustice, and we need your assistance to continue this work. For this purpose we have opened a War Fund of \$1000 for "The Blast". A friend has already contributed \$100 toward the maintenance of the paper, and Emma Goldman has donated \$25. This is the critical moment. Now is the time to show on what side we are aligned. May we count on YOU?

Fraternally,

ALEXANDER BERKMAN

EMMA GOLDMAN.

We need not tell you what to do; if nothing else, we recognize a good fight when we see one. THE BLAST has ONE in its hands NOW. It needs the support of every REBEL, that hates to be trampled down and be stripped of his manhood. And, mind you, it needs this help NOW.

Neither need we say that the victims in the hands of the enemy in San Francisco are our Fellow-Workers. Their guilt or innocence does not concern us, even if we know well that they are innocent. They belong to our class, the Working Class. The master class never cared, and never cares, for the guilt or innocence of the Butcher and archfiend of Ludlow, Rockefeller; it never cared for the guilt or innocence of the Triangle factory murderers; it never cares for the wholesale butchery by the Ruling Class today of millions of men, women and children, by slave-driving, exploitation and starvation and by actual and deliberate cold murder.

The San Francisco tragedy very likely could have been the work of some stool of the "Law and Order" gang to blame it on the radicals. It is not a new game at all.

The comrades (even if they are not Anarchists) in the clutches of the master class in San Francisco, happen to be excellent types of devotedness to the cause of Labor, most, or all of them. Tom Mooney and Ed Nolan are well known for their unceasing and tireless activity in the radical movement. Mrs. Rena Mooney is an artist and musician, and an excellent teacher. When the Ferrer School was in session for some time in San Francisco she was a constant volunteer of her services to the children, and her work was an inspiration. It is said that all the other men implicated have been active in the labor movement, so, it is little wonder that they are marked for the gibbet by the master class.

Now, to work, THE BLAST has a FIGHT in its hands and its address is P. O. Box 661, San Francisco, Cal.

R. G. COX.