

# The Public

A National Journal of Fundamental Democracy, and  
a Weekly Narrative of History in the Making.

Vol. XVII.

CHICAGO, FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1914.

No. 841.

EDITORS, 1898-1913: LOUIS F. POST AND ALICE THACHER POST

SAMUEL DANZIGER, MANAGING EDITOR.  
STOUGHTON COOLEY, } ASSOCIATE EDITORS.  
ANGELINE L. GRAVES, }  
STANLEY BOWMAR, BUSINESS MANAGER.

ADVISORY AND CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

JAMES H. DILLARD, Virginia	LINCOLN STEFFENS, New York
HENRY F. RING, Texas	HENRY GEORGE, JR., New York
HERBERT S. BIGELOW, Ohio	FREDERIC C. HOWE, New York
HERBERT QUICK, West Virginia	ROBERT BAKER, New York
MRS. HARRIET TAYLOR UPTON, Ohio	GRACE ISABEL COLLESON, New York
BRAND WHITLOCK, Ohio	W. G. EGGLESTON, California
JOHN Z. WYRE, Illinois	C. E. S. WOOD, Oregon
LLEWELYN JONES, Illinois	F. F. FETTERBERG, South Dakota
MRS. LONA INGRAM ROBINSON, Calif.	J. W. S. CALLEN, England
L. F. C. GARVIN, Rhode Island	JOHN PAUL, England
S. A. STOCKWELL, Minnesota	ERNEST BRAY, Australia
WILLIAM P. HILL, Missouri	GEORGE FOWLES, New Zealand

Published by STANLEY BOWMAR, Manager  
Ellsworth Building, 537 South Dearborn Street, Chicago

Single Copy, Five Cents      Yearly Subscription, One Dollar  
Canadian and Foreign, \$1.50

Entered as Second-Class Matter April 16, 1898, at the Post Office at Chicago,  
Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

## CONTENTS.

### EDITORIAL:

Easy to Die, But Hard to Live.....	457
More Barbarism in Mexico.....	457
A Forgotten Hero.....	458
Roosevelt's Unwise Friends.....	458
Justly Rebuked.....	458
What Mexico Needs.....	458
A New Kind of Real Estate Advertisement.....	459
A Better Way.....	459
Senator Penrose and the Singletax.....	459
Getting Nearer to the Truth.....	460
Proof Against Experience.....	460
East is East and West is West.....	460
Cheap Education.....	461
How News is Manufactured.....	461
Editorial Management at Its Best.....	462
A Noble Woman's Heroism.....	462
The Gompers Decision.....	462

### EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE:

The Colorado Tragedy—P. H. Smith.....	463
Philadelphia Court Protects Tax-Dodging—Samuel Milliken.....	463

### NEWS NARRATIVE:

Mexico and the United States.....	464
Federal Woman Suffrage Parade.....	464
Washington Happenings.....	465
Home Rule and Taxation Endorsed.....	465
Municipal Ownership News.....	465
English Politics.....	465
German Constitutionalism.....	466
The Labor War.....	466
News Notes.....	467
Press Opinions.....	469

### RELATED THINGS:

The Holiest Thing on Earth—Charles Johnson Post.....	470
Service—Woodrow Wilson.....	471
Shall We Slay Our Neighbors—and be Slain?—Wil- liam Kent.....	471
Capital Punishment and Boys—Harry L. Hopkins.....	472
And You?—Bolton Hall.....	473
Where Extremes Meet—Harry W. Olney.....	473
In Harmony With the Laws of Nature—Francis W. Garrison.....	473
The Desert—William Otis Brown.....	474

### BOOKS:

As Others See Us.....	475
Books Received.....	475

## EDITORIAL

### Easy to Die, but Hard to Live.

A fastidious visitor to Sparta exclaimed, upon seeing the Spartans eat their hard fare, "No wonder they fight so well; death is preferable to such a life." Does the same rule still hold? Are we to attribute the valor of the nation-acclaimed hero to the poverty of the Ghetto? And speaking of Ghettos, is it not passing strange that a nation stands uncovered in the presence of one who has come out of the Ghetto to die, while so few, so very few, will give heed to the host that die of want within the Ghetto?      s. c.



### More Barbarism in Mexico.

Already stories are coming from Vera Cruz giving the lie to the hypocritical cant about bringing civilization and order into Mexico. It is not surprising. Sherman's description of war implies that among those who engage in it there must be some fitted for diabolical deeds. A letter from Sergeant John F. Ryan, marine detachment U. S. S. Vermont, which was published on May 2 in the Winsted, Connecticut Evening Citizen, contains the following hint of what is going on:

Some bluejackets just had a scrap about a half hour ago and killed six more Mexicans. All of the murders that are being committed on Mexicans are being done by the bluejackets and not the marines; so if you read about them in the paper, do not think that I am implicated in any of them as we only shoot the Mexicans who try to kill us.

It is evident that Sergeant Ryan is ashamed of what some of his comrades have done. That is creditable to him. But here is a letter of a different nature published in the Chicago Tribune of May 8, from William A. Loehrl, described as first class gunner aboard the battleship Utah. In describing the battle at Vera Cruz Gunner Loehrl writes, in part, as follows:

We more than got peppered by the Mexicans. All those beasts are good for is pot shooting. By pot shooting is meant climbing up high buildings and then firing down on us out of windows. We no

sooner had our battalion together than we started in. It did not take long when—bang—down goes one of our fellows with a bullet clear through his head. Death was instantaneous. That worked us fellows up to a savage mood. Kill? Right and left. We put the field guns in the middle of the streets and let fly. We had mercy on nobody, which was proper. Nobody showed a bit of cowardice. Murder and plunder was all we wanted, and we more than gave it to them. For every one of our fellows killed we shot down like dogs about ten Mexicans. It was rather hard for me to kill at the start, but when the fellow next to me was shot through the chest I became as savage as the rest. The fellow that was shot next to me let out a piercing cry and died in about thirty seconds. . . . Firing ceased at about 10:15 p. m. on Tuesday. We had about 150 prisoners, of which we court-martialed about eighty and shot them the same night. That's biz. Show no mercy is our policy now. We took the prisoners and made them dig trenches for us around the entire city. Made them clear the streets of the dead and pull around our three inches, etc. But we never torture them. We kill them just as fast as they show themselves, but never torture them. They would torture us if they were given the chance. We have plenty of grub, as we get a fresh supply from the ship every day. You have no idea how fast we kill them off. Perhaps you would like to know what we do with the dead ones. We take a horse and wagon and fill the wagon with bodies and drive to the outskirts of the city. There we go to an oil tank, sprinkle crude oil on them, and put a match to the pile. Up goes the whole works. What the flames do not consume the buzzards do.

It is due Mr. Loehrl to say that he probably would not have developed the kind of disposition displayed in this letter had he not gone to war. Had he stayed at home he would perhaps not have been the kind of citizen that looks so lightly on the killing of fellow-men. It is well indeed that hostilities have not yet been officially recognized as war, and that withdrawal without further fighting does not yet require the formality of a treaty of peace. That in case of war savagery and atrocities would not be confined to the Mexican side is painfully evident. Not national honor but deep national disgrace will surely be the result of even the most successful war we might wage in Mexico.

S. D.



### A Forgotten Hero.

One searches the war news in vain for mention of the man who precipitated the present crisis in Mexican affairs. Whether this neglect be due to a studied policy on the part of President Wilson, whose hand was forced by an indiscreet action of a blundering subordinate, or to the fates that sometimes adjust reward to merit, it is most fitting. If we are to have a new batch of military heroes as a result of this trouble, it is to be hoped

that among them will not appear the name of the hair-trigger admiral who issued the ultimatum.

S. C.



### Roosevelt's Unwise Friends.

Many Progressive party papers are showing how little they know about progress by positively claiming that had Roosevelt been elected President, Mexico would by this time have been a conquered subject province of the United States. They are paying Colonel Roosevelt a very poor compliment. In effect their statements mean that he would have put a foreign war ahead of all his promises of social justice, and have taken up the cause of the Hearsts, Otises, Rockefellers, Terrazas, and other monopolizers of Mexico's resources. Instead of devoting his administration to relief of Americans from oppression, he would have put it at the service of interests that oppress Americans and Mexicans alike. True friends of Colonel Roosevelt can not but hope that he is being misrepresented. Unless such is the case what a blessing to humanity was his defeat.

S. D.



### Justly Rebuked.

A proper answer was returned by Secretary of the Navy Daniels to the complaint of a delegation of American refugees from Tampico. It was not enough that their lives were saved, was the substance of their complaint, but lives of others should have been endangered or sacrificed in order to protect their property in a foreign country. Secretary Daniels left nothing to the imagination in answering. If it is true that the complainants thereupon declared themselves ashamed of their citizenship, they have surely given their fellow citizens good cause to be ashamed of them.

S. D.



### What Mexico Needs.

The officers and directors of the New York Peace Society show a thorough understanding of the fundamental cause of the trouble in Mexico in resolutions adopted on acceptance by the Administration of mediation. The following part of the resolutions points out the cause although it is faulty in its suggestion of a remedy.

Our country will have a clear right, also, in the conference, to use friendly influence for the settlement of the main issue between the warring factions in Mexico, namely, the problem of land and its ownership. It is well understood that the peons have been deprived of rights which they formerly held and that vast tracts of land have been irregularly acquired by a few individuals. The peons are now contending