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EDITORIAL

“EL PROLETARIO.”

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EL PASO, TEX., members of the Socialist Labor Party are gathering the necessary funds to set up an S.L.P. paper in the Spanish language, the name of which is to be *El Proletario* (The Proletarian). The first advance and salutatory pages have already been struck off; the expectation is to have the paper become a weekly on solid basis.

The endeavor is one deserving loud applause—and something more than applause, support.

Whatever the reason—whether because of the country’s recent close connection with Cuba and Porto Rico; or because of our Panama Canal venture; or perhaps of the virtual annexation of the Republic of Costa Rica by the Fruit Trust, and the conversion of the same into a plantation for the Trust’s magnates; or because of the more recent ominous performances of our Government in other Central American Republics; or perhaps because of our Philippine domains; or perhaps because of the “flow of American capital” into Mexico;—whatever the reason, the Spanish language is looming up big in the land. Again, whatever the reason, the growing prominence of the Spanish language in the land has been accompanied with a mushroom crop of Spanish Anarchist sheets, East, South and West.

As recently expressed in these columns, the difference between Non-Latin and Latin Anarchist reasoning is that, while both are alike in incoherence, the former sounds like a shaken keg with loose nails, the latter sounds like a shaken keg with loose peas. The beautiful resonance of the Spanish language is the very source of danger to the writer in Spanish. The writer in Spanish, unless well ballasted with facts and drilled in reasoning, is prone to yield to sound. Hence, on the one hand, the marvelous power of good Spanish and its relatively small quantity; and, on the other hand, the plentifulness of trash in Spanish. Whether it be that the getters-up

of the Spanish Anarchist sheets start as full fledged Anarchists, or whether they simply start with insufficient “cargo,” and, yielding to the allurements of Spanish resonance, degenerate into Anarchist puffers of rodomontades, we know not. That as it may, fact is the Spanish Anarchist sheets are a positive menace to the mental discipline of the Spanish speaking proletariat whom American capitalism is suctioning into the vortex of the class struggle.

Capitalist papers, notably in this country the *Illinois Staats-Zeitung*, have recommended that “the State cultivate and rear Anarchists in the principal nests of Socialism” as a sure means of effectively destroying the Socialists. The recipe is correct in the sense that the surest means to destroy human life would be to cultivate and rear cholera, yellow fever and other such death spreading microbes. Fortunately for the human race, man’s intelligence can turn on the pestilential microbes and destroy them. Likewise with the microbe of Anarchy: its toxine can not survive the anti-toxine of Socialist Labor Party sense.

There is work for *El Proletario*—the lofty double work of drilling the Spanish speaking wage slaves of America into intelligent and worthy divisions of the intelligent and worthy Army that alone is to dethrone capitalism; and the work of rendering these Spanish speaking wage slaves immune to the tangle foot of Anarchy, and redeeming those who already may have succumbed to the affliction.

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