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Estela Arteaga
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1916

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Anarchists Who Are All Talk?

Estela Arteaga

1916

As the liberated persons who inhabit these old lands, we would be crazy if we believed that the realization of our adored anarchist ideals, their implementation, is easy to achieve by means of evolution, without any unrest.

The anarchist idea, in my humble view, can never be accepted by the ruling classes, by the privileged classes in general.

One or another isolated individuals representing one of these satisfied classes, may accept and may even devote his entire life to it, but considered as a whole, the parasitic class is not the one that will evolve along with the working masses (taking into account the possibility that all workers in general will evolve, even if it is thousands of years from now).

With such an impossibility, which I do not believe it is right to hold up as the truth, what should liberated workers do? Cross their arms? Wait until our masters, our tyrants and the robe-wearing vultures have the kindness to suppress themselves and leave the countryside free for us, or until they have the generosity to divest themselves of their property, their privileges and their power, for our benefit?

We are not crazy enough to believe it.

The terrible experiences that the proletarian class has suffered for so long, must convince all proletarians, if we ourselves haven't, that to liberate ourselves there is no other recourse than violence.

It is for this reason that we work for the armed revolution, in all parts of the world where we find ourselves, not precisely to make the revolution ourselves, because we anarchists are convinced that revolutions are not made by individuals, but by circumstances, by the prevailing conditions that force the individual to become enraged and to take up a gun and go out into the street.

When we work for the revolution, what we are really doing is preparing the ground so that when the revolution arrives, the individual who takes to the streets knows what he must fight for. The more the human being can precipitate the awakening of the proletariat, the sooner will discomfort be felt and the closer the beautiful day of the Revolution will approach, within which our duty is to strive, to do whatever we can to direct this popular movement to a noble goal: freedom, the liberation of the poor and the disinherited.

The latter, I believe, is the duty of all men and women who consider themselves liberated.

That is why I am surprised that now that there is an armed revolution in México, (whether or not it is social or economic or agrarian or only political), very few anarchists from other nations are interested in putting it on the path, or helping to put it on the path to Anarchy.

Almost all the efforts towards that end are made only by us Mexican anarchists, who have been awakened by *Regeneración* and now seek to awaken others.

Why don't the anarchists of other regions do their duty? Have they renounced their duty of solidarity? Or are they nothing more than anarchists of words and convenience? Or are they afraid?