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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

Look For Big Rand School Scholarship Announcement Next Week

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304

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1917

25 CENTS FOR SIX MONTHS; 50 CENTS PER YEAR; \$1 PER YEAR OUTSIDE UNITED STATES

Let The Plutes Rule!

By MAX SHEROVER.

Blood Money.

U. S. Steel Corporation net earnings for the final quarter of 1916 approximate \$110,000,000 (one hundred and ten million dollars) or an average of over \$1,200,000 net profit PER DAY! Perhaps this is the reason why the steel trust's Messaba range slaves were driven into the industrial trenches. Let the Plutes Rule!

Economic Determinism?

The New York Medical Society by a vote of 210 to 72 defeated a resolution to urge the repeal of anti-birth-control laws. Illegal operations must spell good biz for the medics.

The Poor Railroad!

Statistics of the Interstate Commerce Commission show the net income of railroads of the United States for 1916 increased more than 52% over the fiscal year of 1915; 59% over 1914 and 34% over 1913.

A Nation of Henry Dubbs.

Complete election returns indicate that 17,663,770 voted to Let the Plutes Rule!

Flowers from the Plute Garden.

(Continued from Last Week)

Wife of insane workman, clerks in store for \$5 per week to support five children, but has serious case of tuberculosis.

Mrs. W. slaved three years at the washtub but now strength has failed and there are five to feed.

Insane father at home, with five children, while frail mother seeks work. Family income \$1.50 a week.

Dominic, aged 15, earns \$7 a week and supports a decrepit mother and six brothers and sisters, while his father is dying from an industrial disease. Two sisters have tuberculosis.

In Prosperous Free America!

Deserted family of four hungry children eat from garbage cans.

Home Sweet Home!

Paralytic mother dies, father dangerously ill, baby consumptive and three others starving.

Why Girls Leave Home.

Marie, aged 14, is sole support of aged parents. Earns \$5 a week in candy factory, but is discontented, and the old folks are worried that unless help comes the bright lights may claim her.

Socialism Will Bust Up This Home.

Plasterer's helper supports ten on \$2 a day when he gets work, but now ragged children can't go to school because others "won't sit by them." No furniture. Need two beds and bed clothing, or must sleep on floor.

Great world, isn't it? Let the Plutes Rule!

Coming Events Cast Their Shadows, etc.

The Wheel Cannot Move Back Again.

Speculation has already been made here as to the attitude of soldiers toward each other and towards society after the war, and it has been suggested that they will scarcely be content to return to humdrum existence. That they are already thinking of this future state is shown by a letter from one at the front printed in part by the London Times. He tells how they hate the war itself, but he adds that it has put a new hope into all. "Everybody," he continues, "is beginning to have a purpose in life. The wheel cannot move back again. Everybody who has been out here, whether he wanted to or not, has been obliged to think. He has got some definite ideas on certain principles of life, and has made for himself, unconsciously, perhaps, a certain code of morals which he will follow. Let not all this be in vain. Let the public mind at home be opened and prepared for the soldiers when they come home. After this life, will they be contented to return to the slums again? O, no."—Chicago Herald.

It May not be a Good Slogan but it Rhymes.

A comrade in writing to the office signs his letter "Yours for the 8 hour day and 24 hours pay."

Did A Few Drops Get Into Their Buckets?

It is understood in Washington that the Democrat members of both Houses are not going to permit an investigation of the Washington-Wall Street leak, thru which, according to Thomas W. Lawson, \$60,000,000 was raked in by Washingtonians who had the "inside track."

WANTED—A stock broker who will open an office and quotation room next door to the House of Representatives. Good business assured.

A \$40,000,000 pork raid on the national treasury is in full swing. Hamlets with \$17 a day post office receipts are to have \$250,000 buildings to do business in, and then the old gag of rivers and harbors and bank accounts. Let the Plutes Rule!

\$3.60 per Head.

The new naval bill carries an appropriation for \$360,000,000 for battleships alone. If there are five in your family this item alone costs you \$18,000, but that is hardly enough to worry about in these days of unparalleled prosperity. Let the Plutes Rule!

Strange, It Never Occurred to the Church to Speak Thus Twenty Years Ago.

Denouncing plute bonuses as a hypocritical cloak for their robbery of the workers Rev. John F. O'Rourke, a Jesuit orator, in the Christmas day sermon at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York uttered the following scathing arraignment of the bonus scheme:

"If employers paid an honest wage, there would be no need of bonuses. If they had paid honest wages for years there would have been no labor troubles. The hard treatment of labor by grasping employers has given such strength to the labor movement that employers now vie with one another in giving bonuses, and are anxious to arbitrate. The question of arbitration never occurred to them twenty years ago, when labor was the under dog. But now they will arbitrate, now that the workman has realized his power and holds the whip hand."

No Wonder.

A U. S. Army Corporal in sending to a friend a picture of himself astride a jacksass writes: "If you don't recognize me I'll tell you that I'm the one on the top, also sometimes I get mixed up a bit myself."

"The Blessings of Poverty."

"Poverty is a blessing in disguise" says the apologist for Capitalism, "look how much healthier the poor are." The public health committee of the Milwaukee City Club reports that the poor folks are seriously ill three times as often as the rich, that less than one-fourth of those sick have prompt medical attention, and that the greatest proportion of sickness is always found in the poorest quarter of the city, and the least proportion in the wealthiest. Therefore, verily we say unto you, Let the Plutes Rule!

Let the Wealth Producers Rule!

London's Food Bill Hits Cost Of Living Problem

Socialist Congressman Meyer London's bill to create a commission to provide for government control of the food supply has been referred to the House committee on interstate and foreign commerce. In view of the fact that Congress adjourned for its usual Christmas vacation, the committee will take no action regarding the bill until Congress reconvenes. It is understood that the committee, of which Representative William C. Adamson of Georgia is the chairman, will then hold hearings on London's bill, as well as on the other "food" bills now in the custody of the committee.

It is quite generally recognized that London's bill goes to the crux of the cost-of-living question and proposes the only adequate solution in its declaration for government control of the transportation and distribution of the food necessities, eliminating the speculative and profit-mongering horde of middlemen.

What Provisions Are.

Section 1 of the bill creates the federal food commission and names its personnel.

Section 2 instructs the commission to make an immediate investigation into the food supply and outlines the procedure that the commission shall take in case the supply is found insufficient, making it mandatory upon the president to proclaim an embargo on the exportation of such products.

Section 3 instructs the commission to recommend additional legislation, if required, to make the embargo effective.

Section 4 provides that the embargo shall be raised when the commission is satisfied that the export of food products will not materially injure the people thru boosted prices for home consumption.

Section 5 instructs the commission to recommend to Congress such legislation as will permit the federal government to "exercise complete control over the supply and distribution of food."

Section 6 instructs the commission to recommend plans for the cooperation of the state and local governments with the federal government in the food supply control, and makes it the duty of the commission to report to Congress not later than February 1, 1917.

Section 7 confers upon the commission the usual power to hold hearings and summon witnesses.

Section 8 appropriates \$50,000 for the use of the commission.

Section 9 limits the effect of the act to two years from the date of its enactment into law.

The national executive committee of the Socialist Party, which meets in Chicago, Saturday, Jan. 6, will plan a national campaign to support London's bill.

OUR 1916 VOTE.

With Idaho, Louisiana, Texas and Washington still to be heard from the Socialist presidential vote for the remaining states now totals 540,944. The vote by states, 1916, compared to 1912, is as follows:

State	Debs 1912	Benson 1912	Other 1912	Obtainable
Alabama	3,029	1,916		
Arizona	3,163	3,172	2,827*	
Arkansas	8,153	6,999	9,780*	
California	79,201	43,263	49,341*	
Colorado	16,418	9,963	12,421*	
Connecticut	10,056	5,179	5,279*	
Delaware	566	486	490*	
Florida	4,806	7,894		
Georgia	1,028	966		
Idaho	81,249	61,394	52,816*	
Illinois	12,289	11,058	10,582*	
Indiana	36,931	21,855	22,156*	
Iowa	16,967	10,976		
Kansas	26,779	24,885	22,552*	
Kentucky	11,647	4,734		
Louisiana	5,249			
Maine	2,541	2,186	1,558*	
Maryland	3,996	2,674	2,590*	
Massachusetts	12,622	11,058	10,582*	
Michigan	23,211	16,120	15,614*	
Minnesota	27,505	20,117	26,306*	
Mississippi	2,061	1,484		
Missouri	28,468	14,612	14,654*	
Montana	1,185	9,594	11,342*	
Nebraska	3,185	7,143	7,425*	
Nevada	3,313	3,065	9,572*	
N. Hampshire	1,980	1,319	1,199*	
New Jersey	15,928	10,405	13,358*	
New Mexico	2,859	1,997		
New York	63,381	45,985		
N. Carolina	1,025	490	490*	
N. Dakota	6,966	5,716	8,472*	
Ohio	89,930	38,092	38,187*	
Oklahoma	42,262	45,190		
Oregon	13,343	9,767	7,243*	
Pennsylvania	83,614	42,637		
Rhode Island	2,049	1,914	2,167*	
S. Carolina	1,164	135		
So. Dakota	4,662	3,480	3,566*	
Tennessee	3,504	2,542	2,187*	
Texas	24,896			
Utah	9,023	4,460	4,497*	
Vermont	928	798		
Virginia	820	1,062		
Washington	40,134			
W. Virginia	15,336	6,150	4,881*	
Wisconsin	33,481	27,846	30,649*	
Wyoming	2,760	1,453	1,334*	

* Legislature; † U. S. Senator; ‡ Governor.

Complete returns on the presidential election show Wilson received 9,116,296 votes and Hughes 8,547,474, a plurality of 568,822 for Wilson. In 1912 Wilson received 6,297,099 votes. Hanly, prohibitionist, received 225,101, against 207,928 for Chafin in 1912. The total popular vote for the four candidates was 18,638,871, against 15,045,322 in 1912, accounted for by increased population and the woman vote in new suffrage states.

We will do better in the spring. Socialists lost; Socialism did not lose. We are closer to an age of darkness than we are to civilization.

Woe to America the day the European war ends. On that day the panic will begin.

Now that Mr. Wilson got your vote we shall see what you get.

If half the people were starving, the food trust would be all the more prosperous.

While labor may produce wealth, it is evident that labor doesn't use all wealth.

Dreams are great things, if dreams do not take up all one's time.

The things that people reject as foolish their children accept as wisdom.

Josh Wise aptly remarks that nothing has such poor health as the goose that lays the golden egg.

Capitalist civilization has put the whole world in want. What is it that you want?

The women hit John Barleycorn at the late election. They will yet learn to strike at the high cost of living with a Socialist ballot.

Socialism was not hit by the election, but many who voted against it are going to get smashed square in the mouth by the high cost of living.

The capitalist system leaves men so insecure that even John D. is afraid to give away a nickle lest he starve.

Soldiers have died on the battlefield and martyrs at the stake. Both were victims of nonsense, one willingly, the other unwillingly.

A Socialist is an individual who didn't vote for Wilson, the one who voted for Wilson may be a Socialist some day.

The ignorant man is the fellow who doesn't know what you do. And there are usually things he knows which you do not.

How superior a man is to a monkey! A monkey must be taught to act like a man, but a man can make a monkey of himself without instruction.

Did you ever make a million? Well, others have made millions off the likes of you, and you never saw the millions, either.

By the way, What is Pershing doing in Mexico? Hadn't we better get the boys out of the trenches by Christmas?

The high cost of living is going to make the contributions to Santa Claus light. Small merchants will soon see what the system is costing them.

And now enforced starvation is hailed as a blessing by the capitalist class. We are told we have been eating too much. They who have been eating too much are not the fellows who are doing the starving.

Now that the capitalists have got a strangle hold on all governments and enough people have been killed to satisfy the Malthusian theory, we ought to have peace.

The real meaning of the President's note was that the armament trust wants another appropriation of \$750,000,000, and a scare was necessary in order to put it thru.

LONDON DEFENDS LABOR DEPARTMENT.

Meyer London, the lone Socialist in congress, put up an energetic fight in congress the other day for additional support for the Department of Labor, pointing out the increasing necessity of such a department and denouncing those who would strip it of power. He said:

"I fear that there is a failure to appreciate the importance of the work of the Department of Labor, and particularly of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Department of Labor is one of the most important departments.

"There is not the slightest doubt but that the next Congress will be concerned with labor legislation to a greater extent than any other kind of legislation. With the growing intelligence of the great industrial masses the Congress of the United States will be compelled to take up one labor measure after another.

"The preparation and systematizing of knowledge on all subjects relating to labor must precede intelligent legislation. The Bureau of Labor Statistics asks for an increased appropriation so that it may continue the study of collective bargaining, so that it may improve the method of collating industrial accident statistics, and make a study of the condition of labor in the coal-mining industry.

"Take the list of contemplated publications. Additional publications in course of preparation at the end of the fiscal year include the following: Wholesale prices; retail prices; wages and hours of labor in the cotton, woolen, boot and shoe, lumber, and iron and steel industries, and special studies of occupations and processes in these industries; studies of the productivity of labor by occupations in the lumber industry, the boot and shoe industry, and the cotton and woolen industries; union scale of wages; trade schools for girls in Massachusetts; workmen's compensation laws and their administration; accidents and accident prevention in the machine, building, and iron and steel industries; causes of death in cotton-mill occupations; causes of death in industrial employment, as shown by experience of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.; hygiene of the printing trades; mortality from consumption in dusty trades; labor laws and court decisions; administration of labor laws in various States; standards of safety and hygiene in industry required by law or regulation in the different States; foreign labor legislation; wages and working conditions of street railway labor in the United States; profit sharing; what establishment bureaus of employment are doing to reduce the labor turnover and increase regularity of employment; employers' welfare work; work of State and municipal employment bureaus; sick-benefit funds of trade-unions and of established unions; proceedings of annual meetings of international associations of industrial accident boards and commissions and of the American Association of Public Employment Offices; effect of workmen's compensation laws in connection with fatal industrial accidents in minimizing the necessity of the industrial employment of women and children; coal-mine labor legislation in Pennsylvania; protection of the health of workers engaged in the manufacture of high explosives and of coal-tar dyest; housing of working people by employers in the United States; report of the President's board for standardization of first-aid methods; handbook of occupational diseases; purposes and work of the Bureau of Labor Statistics; vocational experience by young people in Boston; a study of the work of State boards of arbitration and conciliation; and the beginning of a series of reports on the history of American trade-unions.

"The work of the bureau should not be thwarted. Congress should be more liberal in appropriating funds for the study of those vital problems, so that we may all know more about those things than we know now."



OLD YEAR: Comrade, if you go the way that sign post points, you will put fear in the heart of capitalism.

THE CALL OF THE WILD

By JACK LONDON.

Copyright By Jack London.

Chapter I. INTO THE PRIMITIVE.

"Old longings nomadic leap, Chafing at custom's chain; Again from its brumal sleep Wakens the ferine strain."

Buck did not read the newspapers, or he would have known that trouble was brewing, not alone for himself, but for every tide-water dog, strong of muscle and with warm, long hair, from Puget Sound to San Diego. Because men, groping in the Arctic darkness, had found a yellow metal, and because steamship and transportation companies were booming the find, thousands of men were rushing into the Northland. These men wanted dogs, and the dogs they wanted were heavy dogs, with strong muscles by which to toil, and furry coats to protect them from the frost.

Buck lived in a big house in the sun-kissed Santa Clara Valley. Judge Miller's place, it was called. It stood back from the road, half hidden among the trees, thru which glimpses could be caught of the wide cool veranda that ran around its four sides. The house was approached by gravelled drive-ways which wound about thru wide-spreading lawns and under the interlacing boughs of tall poplars. At the rear things were on even a more spacious scale than at the front. There were great stables, where a dozen grooms and boys held forth, rows of vine-clad servants' cottages, an endless and orderly array of outhouses, long grape berry patches. Then there was the pumping plant for the artesian well, and the big cement tank where Judge Miller's boys took their morning plunge and kept cool in the hot afternoon.

And over this great demesne Buck ruled. Here he was born, and here he had lived the four years of his life. It was true, there were other dogs. There could not but be other dogs on so vast a place, but they did not count. They came and went, resided in the populous kennels, or lived obscurely in the recesses of the house after the fashion of Toots, the Japanese pug, or Ysabel, the Mexican hairless—strange creatures that rarely put nose out of doors or set foot to ground. On the other hand, there were the fox terriers, a score of them at least, who yelped fearful promises at Toots and Ysabel looking out of the windows at them and protected by a legion of housemaids armed with brooms and mops.

But Buck was neither house-dog nor kennel-dog. The whole realm was his. He plunged into the swimming tank or went hunting with the Judge's sons; he escorted Mollie and Alice, the Judge's daughters, on long twilight or early morning rambles; on wintry nights he lay at the Judge's feet before the roaring library fire; he carried the Judge's grandsons on his back, or rolled them in the grass, and guarded their footsteps thru

wild adventures down to the fountain in the stable yard, and even beyond, where the paddocks were, and the berry patches. Among the terriers he stalked imperiously, and Toots and Ysabel he utterly ignored, for he was king,—king over all creeping, crawling, flying things of Judge Miller's place, humans included.

His father, Elmo, a huge St. Bernard, had been the Judge's inseparable companion, and Buck bid fair to follow in the way of his father. He was not so large,—he weighed only one hundred and forty pounds,—for his mother, Shep, had been a Scotch shepherd dog. Nevertheless, one hundred and forty pounds, to which was added the dignity that comes of good living and universal respect, enabled him to carry himself in right royal fashion. During the four years since his puppyhood he had lived the life of a sated aristocrat; he had a fine pride in himself, was ever a trifle epigrammatic, as country gentlemen sometimes become because of their insular situation. But he had saved himself by not becoming a mere pampered house-dog. Hunting and kindred outdoor delights had kept down the fat and hardened his muscles; and to him, as to the cold-tubbing races, the love of water had been a tonic and a health preserver.

And this was the manner of dog Buck was in the fall of 1897, when the Klondike strike dragged men from all the world into the frozen North. But Buck did not read the newspapers, and he did not know that Manuel, one of the gardener's helpers, was an undesirable acquaintance. Manuel had one besetting sin. He loved to play Chinese lottery. Also, in his gambling, he had one besetting weakness—faith in a system; and this made his damnation certain. For to play a system requires money, while the wages of a gardener's helper or do not lap over the needs of a wife and numerous progeny.

The Judge was at a meeting of the Raisin Growers' Association, and the boys were busy organizing an athletic club, on the memorable night of Manuel's treachery. No one saw Manuel, and Buck, who was on guard on what Buck imagined was merely a stroll. And with the exception of a solitary man, no one saw them arrive at the little flag station known as College Park. This man talked with Manuel, and money chinked between them.

"You might wrap up the goods before you deliver 'em," the stranger said gruffly, and Manuel doubled a piece of stout rope around Buck's neck under the collar.

"Twist it, an' you'll choke 'm plenty," said Manuel, and the stranger granted a ready affirmative.

Buck had accepted the rope with quiet dignity. To be sure, it was an unwanted performance; but he had learned to trust in men he knew, and to give them credit for a wisdom that outreached his own. But when the ends of the rope were placed in the stranger's hands, he growled menacingly.

(Continued On The Last Page)

Going Up!

With this issue, The American Socialist's subscription price takes a slight increase as announced in our issue of Saturday, December 23.

Owing to the increasing price of paper we have been compelled to cease selling, at least for the time being, 40 week cards for 25 cents, and to abolish the commission to agents, speakers, organizers or local secretaries.

The problem confronting The American Socialist, due to the increasing prices of everything that goes into the making of a paper, will be considered by the party national executive committee at its meeting in Chicago, Saturday, January 6.

Following this meeting we shall have an important announcement to make regarding the future of the paper.

In the meantime every Socialist and sympathizer should strive to get as many new subs as possible at the regular rate of 25 cents for six months and 50 cents for one year.

This week we start an interesting feature of the paper by publishing "The Call Of The Wild", probably the greatest work of the late Jack London. This story will run thru numerous issues until completed. It should attract many non-Socialists to the paper and get them to read the propaganda articles on Socialism and other features dealing with the working class struggle in the United States.

Start the new year by getting a bunch of new subscribers for your party's paper.

February Leaflet

The Recent Election

By JOHN M. WORK.

ALL THINGS work together for Socialism. The Socialist movement is like the rock of Gibraltar, whose base is planted deep in the earth and whose majestic head rises serene thru sun and rain, zephyr and tempest.

AT THE recent election thousands of voters who are on the verge of Socialism thought it was best to pass by the Socialist party temporarily and vote for what they believed to be the lesser of two evils.

In this they were deplorably mistaken. The way to get concessions from the two old parties is by voting against them. The republican and democratic parties both stand for the continuation of the present private ownership of the industries—capitalism—which enables the few to rob the many.

Yet those two parties sometimes make concessions which ease up the strain at least a little. They make these concessions only when the Socialist vote becomes so large that they are scared into concessions lest they should lose the next election.

IT IS therefore a certainty that an immense Socialist vote at the recent election would have meant that the party in power—no matter whether it were the democratic or the republican party—would make important concessions in the way of favorable laws.

But there is no use regretting the past. The invincible Socialist movement tosses all these things aside and faces the future with the victorious confidence of a master. We know that the future is ours. We know that Socialism is the next stage of civilization.

LISTEN, THEN, and let me tell you the truth. All of the social evils by which we are surrounded—widespread poverty in the midst of plenty, the high cost of living, overwork, the menace of unemployment, the fear of want, the degradation of charity, the curses of crime, drunkenness, insanity, suicide and prostitution, the threat of war, the reign of graft and corruption—these and all the other social evils have one basic cause.

Under the present capitalist system of industry, nearly all of the manufacturing, transporting and mercantile industries are owned by private corporations or private individuals. So are the rented houses, flats, stores and office buildings.

The private owners use all of these industries and properties for the purpose of enriching themselves. The wage workers are dependent upon them for a chance to earn a living. Therefore, they have the power to pay the wage workers only a fraction of the value of their labor, and they unhesitatingly do so.

FOR THIS reason, the incomes of the masses of the people are so small, and the prices and rents so high, that the people live a mere hand to mouth existence. They work unremittingly for a bare living. They are barred out of the higher things of life, because they have neither the time nor the money to take advantage of them.

LET THE industries and buildings now used for the purpose of exploiting the people be collectively owned and controlled. Owned by the public. Owned by the people in their sovereign capacity.

Then the people will get the benefit. The wage workers will receive their full earnings. The prices will be put down to the actual cost of production. Thus the parasites will be thrown off and the useful people will get the benefit.

WE INVITE you to make the most searching investigation of Socialism. You will find it exactly as represented. And you will then join forces with us to bring it about.

This is the February Leaflet in the series now being issued by the National Socialist Party.

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Two Busy Socialists

Abraham I. Shipplacoff and Joseph A. Whitehorn, the two Socialists in the New York state assembly, are going to be very busy during the coming session. Here are some of the measures they will introduce and push for approval:

- 1. Prohibiting employment of children under 18.
2. General compulsory eight-hour work day bill.
3. Increase in the number of state factory inspectors.
4. State insurance against old age, sickness, disability and unemployment.
5. Extension of the workmen's compensation act to include all workers, and to provide compensation equal to the full loss in wages.
6. Maternity insurance.
7. Pensions for widows, which will be mandatory upon all municipalities in the state.
8. Exemption of labor union funds from liability to employers.
9. Prohibiting injunctions in labor disputes.
10. Trial by jury in cases of contempt of court.
11. Prohibiting importation of strike-breakers.
12. Suppression of private police and strikebreaking agencies.
13. Prohibition of home work.

Political Measures.
1. Repeal of the Walsh, Slater and Stivers "Bloody Five" Militarist laws.

2. Extension of the suffrage to all who have declared their intention to become citizens and who have resided in the country for three years and in the state for thirty days.

3. Initiative, referendum and proportional representation.

4. Home rule for municipalities.

5. Direct election of city magistrates and trial by jury in all offenses punishable by imprisonment.

6. Abolition of the right of the courts to declare unconstitutional any act passed by the Legislature.

7. Compulsory school attendance of all children under 18.

8. Abolition of the death penalty.

9. Prohibition of discrimination against any publication.

General Measures.
1. Permission to municipalities to engage in any industries or business relating to foodstuffs or farm products they may deem necessary.

2. Acquisition and maintenance of pasteurization plants, milk stations and dairy farms.

3. State ownership and operation of market terminals for the marketing of farm products, coal and ice.

4. State owned and operated cold-storage plants.

5. Creation of a commission to regulate food prices.

It is a reflection on the intelligence of the working class that a strong group of Socialists was not elected to every state legislature in the nation to push similar measures.

Have You Read

The Debaters' Manual

by J. O. Welday.

This is a book that we have been waiting for. The old style High School text books had to do for our teachers on public speaking and debating until something better was found, but we have that "something better" right now in this book by Comrade Welday.

There is no dead wood here. Fifty live, up-to-the-minute subjects are presented both in the affirmative and in the negative, and it is a monument to the fairness of the author that he did not allow his very evident inclination toward one side of the argument blind him to the strength and justice of the other side's position.

THE red-hot political row in Australia over the issue of conscription didn't seem to hurt the labor press much, despite the censorship imposed by the renegade Labor Premier Hughes and the boycotts of Big Biz. The Echo, a new labor daily established in Victoria during the conscription fight, sold its first edition of 15,000 in two hours and now has a daily circulation of 50,000.

Among other up-to-date subjects are: Compulsory arbitration, Compulsory Vaccination, Preparedness, Political Party for Organized Labor, Sabotage, State Constabulary, Vivisection, etc.

The introduction contains a fine up-to-date statement on means and methods of arranging a debate, preparation, choice of judges, etc. And this is sure to be found of value to many of our organizations who desire to arrange debates.

Altogether, it is the best book yet out on this subject written for the use of earnest students of modern affairs. Every local of the Socialist Party and of the Young Peoples' Socialist League should own and make constant use of a copy of this book. Mr. Welday was instructor of Public Speaking and Debating in the Oklahoma City High School for six years and is well qualified to speak with authority on the subject. W. F. K. Debaters' Manual, by J. O. Welday. Pub. by Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kans. Price \$1.50.

The official announcement of the vote received by Eugene V. Debs in the Fifth Congressional District of Indiana has been announced. Comrade Debs received 8,866; Moss, Democrat 20,285; Sanders, Republican 20,977; Howorth, Progressive, 1,536. As was to be expected the two exclusively agricultural counties in the district gave Debs the smallest vote while the mining and industrial counties gave him the largest vote. Vigo, Debs's home county gave him 4,998.

IN THE WORLD OF LABOR.

By Max S. Hayes.

OVER 800 newspapers have been forced to suspend publication during the present year on account of the unparalleled increase in the cost of white paper.

Hundreds more are struggling desperately to keep afloat and are living on hope that "something will be done," whatever that may be, to rescue them from their sorry plight.

On top of this calamitous condition, the politicians at Washington, instead of taking some sane action to relieve the situation, are discussing a proposition to raise second class postal rates, thus adding still further to the cost of printing newspapers and magazines, and, on the other hand, to reduce the income of those publications by enacting a law prohibiting the printing and circulating of liquor advertisements.

The old-party organs that have been yielding for the election of those politicians are now being given brilliant examples of incompetence and positive viciousness of their pets—those same organs would doubtless support insane men for office if the bosses ordered them to do so.

Unfortunately, newspapers entirely innocent of supporting the fakirs who pose as statesmen are forced to suffer with those that are guilty.

Pile it on! Most of the publishers are only intellectual prostitutes or yellow-streaked cowards, anyhow. They talk big occasionally, but they take their orders from the unbridled plutocracy just the same, and in confidence a lot of them admit it.

SOME WELL-KNOWN citizens of Milwaukee held a meeting to discuss health insurance a few evenings ago.

"Health insurance will prove a big factor in the prevention of disease," said Dr. Louis Jermain. "Just as the workmen's compensation act tends to lessen industrial accidents, so will health insurance lessen industrial sickness, because the workman will be directly benefitted. Medical men are not afraid of the law; their attitude is one of studious interest and cooperation." That 85 per cent of the dependent cases which come to the attention of the Associated Charities was the contention of the Rev. W. H. Greenman. "The hiring and firing idea is costly and must give way to the method of holding employees," he said. Hornell Hart, civic secretary of the City Club, quoted statistics to show that the larger percentage of sickness is among the poorer class.

He said that 40,000 persons were sick in various degrees in Milwaukee in a single day, and that the compensation paid to workers totals about \$3,000,000 a year in Milwaukee. This indicates, that there is a general awakening all along the line to replace charity with something better.

A LEGAL test that is probably second only in importance to that of the United Hatters famous case will soon be decided by the United States Supreme Court. The United Mine Workers and the American Flint Glass Workers are defendants. In arguments in Washington this week the Hatcher and Coke Co. and Engle's Manufacturing Co., of West Virginia, seek permanent injunctions against the respective unions to prevent solicitation of members among their employees who are under specific contract not to join the unions. Such solicitation, the companies contend, violate constitutional liberty of contract. The West Virginia corporations' attorneys told the court that the unions operate in restraint of trade, while the unions' counsel declared that the non-union employment contracts restrain trade by barring out all union workmen. There are several other damage suits pending against the miners in Pennsylvania and Arkansas that will be more or less affected by the decision rendered in the case now before the Supreme Court.

THE red-hot political row in Australia over the issue of conscription didn't seem to hurt the labor press much, despite the censorship imposed by the renegade Labor Premier Hughes and the boycotts of Big Biz. The Echo, a new labor daily established in Victoria during the conscription fight, sold its first edition of 15,000 in two hours and now has a daily circulation of 50,000.

Other newspapers also note large increases in their subscriptions and are more popular and eagerly read than at any time in the country's history.

BERGOFF Bros. & Waddell, "labor adjusters," 120 Liberty street, New York, are such no more. They're just an ordinary strikebreaking agency. The State of New York has taken from them their license to operate as "private detectives," under which they masked their operations. The Bergoffs & Waddell have become known for their part in furnishing strikebreakers and professional gangsters in strikes and threatened labor upheavals. The Colorado, West Virginia and Michigan mine strikes, the oil workers' upheavals in Bayonne, and the car strike in New York all give testimony to their activities. On the complaint of two strikebreakers that the agency withheld their pay for car strike work, State Controller Eugene M. Travis late in September temporarily suspended the agency's "detective" license. Controller Travis then ordered an examination of the company's books. Rather than submit to this scrutiny of their business methods, the firm voluntarily relinquished all title to the license and have since operated as a simple strike breaking center. The "explanation" given by the firm for refusal to permit examination of its books was that it didn't find the "detective" license of much value, anyway, and could get along without it.

Peace Editorials

SHOULD NOT TALK OF GOD.

From The New York Call.

For his nose was sharp as a pen, and he babbled of green fields. 'How, now, Sir John?' quoth I. "What, man! Be of good cheer!" So he cried out. "God! God! God!" three or four times; now, I, to comfort him, bid him he should not think of God; I hoped there was no reason to trouble himself with any such thoughts yet. —Henry V, Act 2, Scene 3.

Now, that peace is the subject of discussion in Europe, it is natural, perhaps, that men's tongues should babble about God when faced with the unknown, with the chances of peace or war in the balance.

And so we have the Kaiser, apparently in a somewhat chastened spirit, declaring to his troops that whether his enemies will accept his peace proffer or not, he does not know. The pious monarch continued, according to the press reports:

The act is in God's hands, as is our whole struggle. He will decide upon it, and we will leave it to Him. We must not argue with what He orders.

There is a note of Christian resignation in this utterance which is largely missing in previous royal announcements from the same source. It may seem more pious to many, but there is much more reason for believing that it is inspired by a growing sense of uncertainty, which did not exist at the beginning of the struggle.

Not to be outdone in piety, however, Mr. Lloyd George, in his comments on the peace offer, remarks in a somewhat more confident tone that

We accepted this war for an object, and a world object, and the war will end when the object is attained, under God. I hope it will never end until that time.

And this pronouncement sounds something like an anticipated triumph of faith, in contrast to the uncertainty of the other. But what God really thinks of both utterances is problematical. There is certainly some apparent reason for believing that He would much rather these bloody-handed gentlemen would leave Him out of the gory mess; that they "should not think of God; that there is no reason to trouble themselves with any such thoughts yet," as poor old Dame Quickly observed to the dying Falstaff.

It is possible of this type that do more to dishonor God and banish the idea of His existence from among men than all the materialistic atheists Germany and England ever produced. Their apparent solicitude about God, whom they transform into a petty national deity—German or British, as the case may be—is irresistibly provoked the thought that their respective "gods" are really fiends supplanting the slaughter of mankind. Compared with their horrible conceptions of deity, the alleged Socialist indifference to God becomes a tribute of the highest possible respect.

The Scottish poet, Robert Burns, who was never popularly accounted as a "religious" person himself, well voiced this resentment of decent-thinking people when, on the occasion of a Te Deum for some bloody victory, he wrote: "Ye hypocrites, be these your pranks; To murder men and give God thanks! For shame! Give o'er! Proceed no further! God won't accept your thanks for murder."

AMERICA AND PEACE.

From The Milwaukee Leader.

If the allied governments should refuse to peace negotiations, Germany will be bound by the obligation upon it to use every means at its disposal to strike its enemies to employ its submarines to the limit in destroying Great Britain's merchant ships and in preventing munitions and food supplies from reaching English ports.

If no other reason existed, if there were no demands of humanity upon it, the United States should feel the need to help in promoting peace to avoid the complications that may arise when its commerce with the allies shall be cut off its ports virtually closed and its industries paralyzed thru the British navy on the one hand shutting out commerce with Germany and its allies and the German submarines preventing shipments to the ports of Great Britain, France and Russia.

If it shall come to a war of extermination—if it shall come to a war to the knife and the knife to the hilt—the United States is bound to be kept in a turmoil and threatened with embroilment with Germany, if it shall undertake the impossible task of refereeing the war according to the rules which President Wilson has prescribed.

Self-interest, we should think, if other reasons are to be ignored, should move the government at Washington to cast its influence in the scales at this time for peace—not for a victorious peace as the Kaiser boasts to his army, or a peace as the allied statesmen have dreamed of with Germany crushed and the world divided between the conquerors, but a peace that will avoid planting the seeds of future wars.

If the nations should bind themselves to disarm, if they should agree to throw off the crushing burdens of great navies and large armies, they could soon recover from the destruction of wealth which the war has caused. The lives lost can not be restored. The maimed and the cripples can not be made whole. But if the nations shall be united, if they shall band themselves in a league of peace, if they shall cease to erect discriminating tariff walls, if they shall seek to remove the causes of war, all of the agony and waste and destruction will not have been made in vain.

In the work of regeneration, the United States should lead. Europe is its mother country. Its people have sprung from every nation and tribe within the warring countries. Living at peace among themselves, they, more than any other people, should be able to serve the war-worn peoples of Europe who long for a way out, yet who can find no path leading to peace.

The Glad Tidings Of Socialism

WHEN one first becomes a Socialist, it seems to him that everybody ought to be able to see the truth and rejoice in it. He knows that if the race would accept and act upon these glad tidings, all the monstrous evils of society would vanish, and peace and happiness would take their places. This is perfectly plain to him, and he expects it to be equally plain to others. He is therefore puzzled and disappointed when most of them reject his glad tidings and look upon him as being more or less dippy. He has reckoned without one of the big factors in human life.

MOSE PEOPLE are governed more by tradition and emotion than by reason.

Only a small percentage of the people have such thoro control of themselves that they can calmly look a proposition in the face, decide whether or not it is the truth, and, if it is the truth, espouse it.

The vast majority of the people have to first get rid of the opposing traditions and emotions before their intellects can act.

THEY ARE governed, not by their consciousness, but by their subconsciousness.

In their subconsciousness, by which they are governed, are stored up all the prejudices, traditions and instincts of past generations and ages, except such as have already been replaced by more recent substitutes.

Place a new idea before them, and they examine it, not with their intellects, but with these old prejudices, traditions and instincts.

Consequently, before they can accept a new idea, they have to have time to get rid of these spooks of the past.

THIS IS a gradual process. It takes time. But it is a sure process. This is proved by the fact that the total number of Socialists constantly increases, and by the further fact that the prejudice against Socialism constantly becomes less and less.

The glad tidings of Socialism will indeed bring salvation to a stricken world.

But we must reconcile ourselves to the fact that, in order to get the world to accept and act upon these glad tidings, it is necessary for us to press the truth upon the people with patient, persistent, sustained effort.

IT CANNOT be done with one big burst of enthusiasm. We have to wear away, the old prejudices little by little. It is like the constant dropping which wears away the rock. It is slow. But it is sure.

Therefore, you impatient ones who have deserted because you could not get Socialism at one fell swoop, get back in line and go to work for the cause.

Score Of Socialists In Dozen Legislatures

THIS MONTH marks the opening of the state legislatures in nearly all the states of the union.

The Socialists will be there. This time we will have a score of representatives in a dozen states.

Thus the opening of the state legislatures this year marks the opening of another advance for the cause of labor and Socialism.

A number of features will characterize the legislative work of the Socialists this winter. In the first place, the Socialist program is stronger, its measures more carefully drawn and its defense more complete and effective than ever before.

Great Problems.

Great problems confront the people of the nation. The unprecedented distress, the high cost of living and, most of all, the tragic effects and menace of the European war, with its threat of a militaristic stampede, make the present a real crisis in the affairs of the nation.

Our Socialist congressman is dealing with these matters in the national legislature.

State Problems.

In the state legislatures, the problems of the state and municipality will be met. The bills introduced will offer the Socialist solution of the economic and civic problems involved.

Some Of The Measures.

Among the big problems to which special attention will be given this winter, are the following:

1. The unemployed, concerning which it is proposed to develop a program combining the best of all proposals and measures that have been advanced.

2. Workmen's compensation, to which a great amount of attention is now being given everywhere.

3. General labor measures which cover hours of labor, wages, conditions, etc.

4. Proportional representation will be urged everywhere.

5. Public defender, in order to bring justice within the reach of the poor.

6. High cost of living will be attacked by a whole series of socialistic measures that will really bring it down.

7. State ownership of grain elevators, cold storage plants and distributing centers, for bringing producers and consumers together, thus helping both farmer and wage earners.

8. Peace program, as outlined by the manifesto of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Party, the 1916 national platform.

and resolutions against increase of armaments and favoring world peace.

9. Loans to farmers and other agricultural measures.

10. Public ownership of flour mills, creameries, state farms and other public utilities.

11. Woman suffrage measures to be introduced in every state where they are not yet in force.

12. Universal eight hour laws.

13. Full crew laws for the trainmen.

14. Double platoon system for firemen.

15. Home rule for cities.

16. Federal employes—resolutions calling for the repeal of the rulings of the Civil Service Commission, which are destroying the political and personal liberties of the employes of the federal government.

17. Poll tax laws to be repealed, where they still exist.

All these and many other measures which it is not necessary to enumerate here, but which constitute a part of the constructive program of the Socialist party, will be carefully drawn and adequately briefed and thus urged upon the legislatures.

We look forward with confidence, believing that a fair proportion of our measures will be successful. It has been so in the past. So rational, so logical and so necessary are these measures that they cannot be long delayed.

As we have pointed out before, in our pamphlet on "The Legislative Program of the Socialist Party," thus far 141 of the measures introduced by socialists in various state legislatures have been enacted into law.

It is reasonable to expect, with our strong representation and the growing acuteness of our social and industrial conditions, that more and ever more of our measures must go thru.

MAYOR-ELECT Thomas Van Lear, of Minneapolis, has been advising some of the Eastern workers what he believes should be their policy. More knowledge of "practical politics" is needed by the Socialist party, according to Van Lear. "What the Socialist party needs now," says Van Lear, "is a school in practical politics. A great many persons object to the phrase 'practical politics.' However, if we don't find some way to meet the old-time politicians on their own battleground and overcome them, the Socialist party will never amount to very much. Because of this lack of knowledge of practical politics the party lost the last two Mayoralty elections preceding my election. One was stolen. The other was taken from me by a piece of political trickery. We knew so little then that we thought all we had to do was to convince the people that they ought to vote for us, and then we could go home and go to bed."

ARE YOU ON TO TRICKS

OF THE CAPITALIST PRESS?

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POISONING NEWS?

Do You Know How They Lie About You and Your Class?

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Parable Of The Hunter

By OSCAR AMERINGER. Once upon a time there lived in the Land of Stars and Stripes, a mighty hunter, by the name of Eagle-eye.

Eagle-eye thought these things were good to eat and was made happy again.

Works For Many Years. Thus he worked for many years, until his eyes became too dull and his legs too wobbly to shoot birds.

Holyman preached the funeral sermon and spoke much of Providence, dust and being called home to the mansion above the clouds.

Wilson Forced To Listen. The preparedness movement had to fight its way to a hearing with the present Democratic Administration.

Heart And Soul Of Capitalism. The heart and soul of capitalism is the separation of ownership and labor and the resultant division of mankind in two classes.

This arrangement allows a few people to live without work and forces the many to work without getting a living.

The principal means of life are controlled by great aggregations of capital, commonly called trusts.

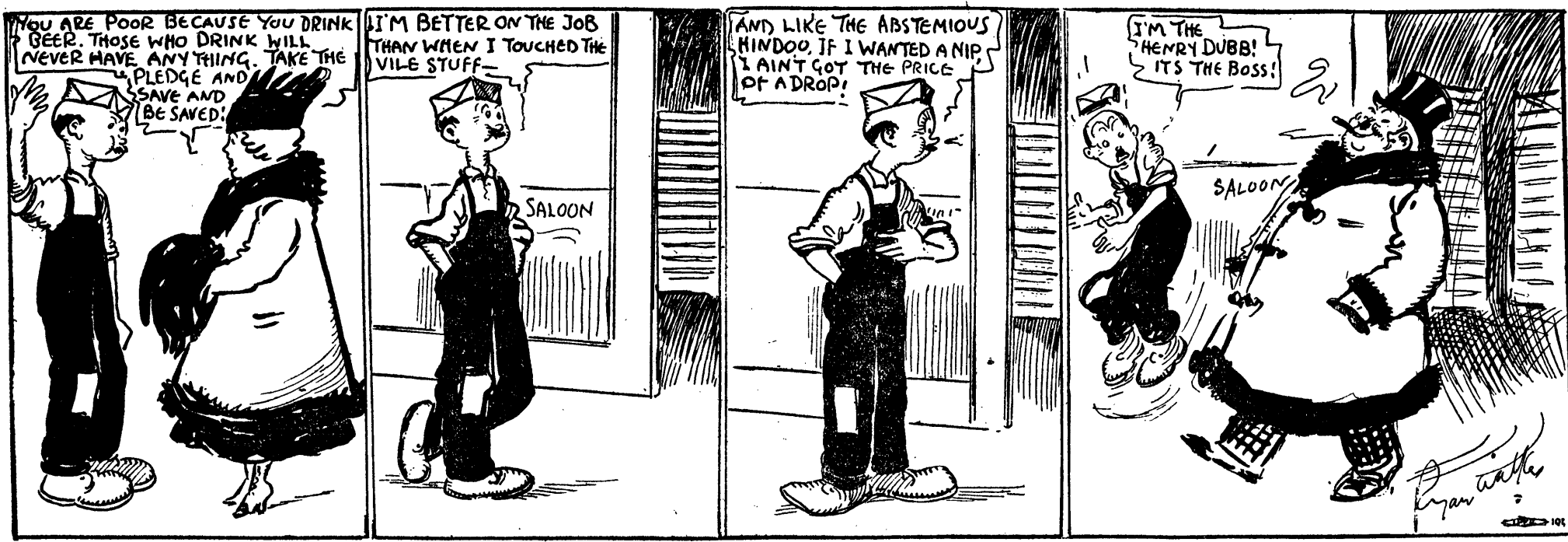
Opinions of various prominent European Socialists, among others, as to whether the peace proposals of the central powers should be accepted or rejected by the entente and their constructive suggestions for a proposed peace have been gathered by the bureau at The Hague of the Neutral Conference for Continuous Mediation.

Hjalmar Branting, the Swedish Socialist leader, said: "Germany, by continuing the Belgian deportations, has shown the unbroken power of her militaristic spirit.

Carl Lindbergh, Socialist mayor of Stockholm, declared that impartial judges must be uneasy with regard to peace making as proposed by Germany.

The latest statistics of the French Labor Department show that by the close of the war there will be at least 1,750,000 more women than men in the Republic.

Henry Dubb Takes The Pledge To Please Mrs. Grab-it-all



By RYAN WALKER

Universal Military Training To Be Forced On United States

By LUCIEN SAINT. Special Correspondence. Washington.—Universal military training is coming. It is demanded by the preparedness crowd, and the Government is very nearly ready to obey.

Today the working class of the United States is the working class of the only first rate world power untrained and unaccustomed to arms.

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Preacher Speaks Out

Nashville, Tenn.—A mental "bomb" was hurled into the camp of Methodist ministers at their regular meeting this week.

Let the people own their government, and throw preparedness into the scrap heap if they find that they do not need it, but if they do need it, they will know how to use it for the advantage of the people, not for the advantage of the capitalists.

From The Wall Street Tattler A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY

In view of so much talk concerning the high cost of living and the attempt to incite a spirit of envy in the minds of the moneyless and propertyless riffraff toward the elite of the world, the Tattler felicitates its readers upon a discovery that promises to solve the food problem in a way that will forever set at rest the plaint eternally dinned into our ears about hunger and want among the plebeians.

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An Open Letter Urging Peace

Charles P. Trevelyan, the famous writer and statesman of Great Britain, has sent to this country by hand-messenger a remarkable open letter which has been given to the American Neutral Conference Committee.

Let the people own their government, and throw preparedness into the scrap heap if they find that they do not need it, but if they do need it, they will know how to use it for the advantage of the people, not for the advantage of the capitalists.

Horror Right At Home

"We have occasional forestays of its horrors right here at home. Troops sheltered in armored trains shoot down striking miners; hired soldiers set fire to strikers' huts and burn to death innocent women and children.

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High Cost Of Living

As a remedy for the high cost of living, people in various sections of the county are proposing to boost foodstuffs. But such action would be sheer folly and utterly futile as a means of accomplishing the desired end.

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Trust The Common Folk

This indeed asks the American President to risk his possible value as a backstab diplomat. But American Presidents are apt to believe that the common sense of common men can make better judgments on vast issues than even well-meaning rulers.

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Men Or Murderers?

And ever since historian writ, And ever since a bard could sing, Doth each exult with all his wit The noble art of murdering.

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Hope In Socialism

"Where is the remedy? Will the competitive order cure its own ills, or will they not rather grow worse and worse? Shall we raise wages by a high protective tariff? What use, when the very same tariff raises the cost of living in corresponding or greater degree? Shall we lower the cost of living by free trade? If so, then down go wages to match. Shall we enact anti-trust laws? Whenever was one effective?"

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ments. Its meaning was distorted by the European press. It seemed to be seed-falling on hard ground. Only those of us who in these dark days had our eyes on the international picture are fully grateful yet for that pronouncement which at once gave us hope.

We know that the better desires of our own British statesmen had presented international co-operation as the hope of the world at the end of the war. Mr. Asquith and Lord Grey, if fallen had mentioned it. It had been left to us to preach it incessantly in these war days.

Laboring In Heavy Waters. We regretted that there was no immediate recognition of this policy by the British Government. But they are laboring in heavy waters.

But Mr. Lloyd George's declaration in his interview against the mediation of America or any other neutral nation was so direct a rejection (perhaps unintended) of the American offer that discussion began.

Great Britain is now aware of the hope offered to the world by the President's speech and by the acceptance of the policy by both parties in the Presidential struggle.

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