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AMERICAN SOCIALIST

Have You Responded To The Call For \$50,000 Organization Fund?

VOL. III. No. 29.

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Fraud Or Force?

"Misleading statements which would shame a quack doctor", is the way the jingo Chicago Tribune lambasts the falsehoods being spread broadcast by the government in its frantic efforts to secure recruits for the army and navy.

The Tribune in its campaign for universal military service doesn't believe in hiding anything. It believes in forcing at available cannon fodder into the army and navy and then forcing the victims to like it, never questioning whether this method will succeed or not. It is positive that the present lying, gumshoe, lure-on campaign has not met with success in gaining recruits for the killing division of the American government.

The Tribune points out that, "The United States is party to an attempted fraud against its citizens", especially when its recruiting sergeants, in their newest appeal ask prospective soldiers to "Enlist for one year and then return home, fit to defend your country and fit to enter civil life".

While people will discount all of the other rosy things said about army life, The Tribune points out, they will believe such a statement as that about enlisting for one year.

"The minimum enlistment is not for one year, but seven years, three of which are to be spent in active service except by special favor", confesses this jingo mouthpiece.

"If a man in honorable standing is reported by his commander as sufficiently trained, and if the secretary of war agrees, he may be furloughed into the reserve after one year. That is the one year enlistment advertised."

"Just now men who have served three years are still serving with the colors. Many reservists who had established themselves in civil life were called to service when Mexico threatened and are still along the border. The army needs men and it keeps them when it gets them. There is no indication that it will cease to keep them."

This frankness is refreshing when compared to another kind of jingo fraud, this time perpetrated by The New York World in behalf of military service in the schools.

The World puts the velvet gloves on the mailed fists of war by declaring that military service in the public schools consists merely of indulging in "setting up" exercises, the kind the "fat people take to reduce their waist lines". It says nothing about real guns, to be furnished by the government, and regulation uniforms which in time the students will be forced to buy themselves. The double-dealing World seeks to meet all arguments with ridicule as it denounces "The conscientious objectors in knee breeches".

Here are the two ways in which the government may introduce universal military service, FRAUD AND FORCE. Every possible fraud has been perpetrated by the government during the past two years to create a jingo spirit in this country. But without avail. The American working class has often shown itself to be docile in the extreme. We predict, however, that if force is attempted in the campaign to make soldiers for capitalism out of the toilers of the land, the result will be disastrous to the war breeding capitalist system of society.

THE DRIFT.

The Sioux Falls, S. D., Press joins the New York Evening Post in getting excited over "the drift" toward Socialism in Europe as well as in the United States.

It declares that, "War has encouraged state Socialism in Europe undoubtedly; but such encouragement as it has had in America has been altogether due to the abuses of the old system".

The Sioux Falls Press does not go on, like most capitalist newspapers, and claim that the "old system" will change itself to meet new demands upon it.

The Press voices a real fear that the Nonpartisan League, in North Dakota, will get somewhere, claiming it was inspired by Socialists and that it is out to get state Socialism thru state ownership of flour mills, packing houses, elevators, canneries, and possibly its stores.

It reviews the drift towards state control in the belligerent as well as neutral countries of Europe and points out the tendencies toward government ownership of a merchant marine, telephones, telegraphs and railroads in this country.

Everyone admits that we are drifting. It is the duty of the Socialist Party, nationally and internationally, to see that this drift is in the right direction. No more important subject can come before the proposed International Socialist Congress than this "drift" toward state control, and if a national convention is held this year in this country, this matter should be of prime importance.

War and discontent are shaking old institutions to their foundations and we are drifting. Let us force the drift in the right direction—toward ultimate victory in the common struggle for a real social democracy and a real and lasting peace.

BUILDING LABOR'S PRESS.

That labor stands in great need of a press of its own was given added emphasis by a conference just held in New York City. This gathering was made up of 125 delegates representing 50 labor organizations in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. The advisability of organizing a group of newspapers, under the control of the working class, and which would reflect the attitude of labor was thoroughly discussed.

The labor press of this country is admittedly weak. All of the labor dailies are owned or controlled by the Socialist Party. Few of the non-Socialist labor weeklies are being conducted in the interests of labor. They are usually the mouthpieces of old party politicians in labor's ranks. When labor stands in real need of publicity it must come to the Socialist press for support.

The need now is not more labor newspapers, but better support for those publications already in the field. Put the papers that we have now out of the reach of the sheriff and then it will be time to talk about establishing additional publications.

Battle To Kill "Bloody Five" Militarist Laws

The people of the state of New York, thru one of their real representatives, Abraham J. Shiplacoff, Socialist, have demanded that the Legislature lift the yoke of potential militarism from their necks by repealing the three most vicious measures of the "bloody five" laws passed at the last session.

Shiplacoff's bill to repeal the Slater military training law was referred to the committee on military affairs. His measure to repeal the Welsh and Slater laws providing for physical training and military discipline in schools was referred to the committee on education.

"Let those who want to make our country a shining example before the nations of the world rally to the support of the members of the Legislature who are for the repeal of the 'bloody five laws,'" Shiplacoff declared, after he had introduced his repeal bills, amid dead silence in the House.

Where Wall Street Stands. "Wall Street surely will be on the other side of the question. The more smell of raw human flesh in the atmosphere, the higher the stocks. But all other elements of the citizenship of this state will, I am confident, help us stamp militarism and conscription out of the Empire state."

It was not because he believed the people of the state had changed their minds on the "bloody five" laws that he moved for their repeal, Shiplacoff said. He declared they had never had any mind in the matter.

"At the eleventh hour of the session, when about 2,000 bills had still to be considered, it was not possible to 'put it over' without a public hearing, but it was quite natural that the majority of the members of the house should know nothing about it. It was passed two days before adjournment. During that week sessions were held until two and three in the morning. The intermissions were orgies of amateur vaudeville and hilarious rough-house."

How Bills Were Put Across. "The Welsh bill for military training for school children did have a so-called public hearing. But the peculiar feature of that hearing was that but one anti-militarist 'got wind' of it, while the chamber was packed with people representing the class engaged in the work of extermination and destruction and a few so-called patriotic societies."

"I was the only one who had an opportunity to argue against the bill, simply because I happened to be in the chamber while the sham hearing was being held. Now, that the people of this state have gotten accustomed to the frothings of the jingo editors and other preachers of the 'Golden Rule' of 'Train and prepare to kill,' it is time that all true liberty-loving humanitarians awake and carry on a relentless fight against those laws on our statute books which have contributed to the Russification of our state."

"The laws could not have been passed under ordinary circumstances. It required an unusual time, with the minds of many of the people run amuck with fear as a result of the European war and the efforts of the American jingoes to keep them in this state. The reactionary forces of our government saw their opportunity and made use of it."

Introduce Important Labor Bills. Two other bills introduced in the New York Assembly by Assemblyman Whitehorn, one of the two Socialist representatives in the Legislature, are of vital interest and importance to labor.

One of the bills defines conspiracy so that ordinary acts done by strike committees or strikers in furtherance of their struggle with capital shall not be construed as conspiracy or indictable offenses. Assemblyman Whitehorn declared that the law should be passed so that when laboring men strike for better wages or working conditions they shall not be classed by law in the same category as criminals.

The other bill introduced by Whitehorn would make it compulsory for persons or corporations advertising for labor or strikers in further progress to state what sort of labor trouble exists at the place where the men are wanted.

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THEY CAN DO IT. "Can a family get along on \$2 a day?"

"Yes," says Chief Probation Officer Puls, of Milwaukee, "providing that it lives in basement or tenement lodgings, wears second-hand clothing, eats the cheapest food, and doesn't worry over its inability to save a cent."

Vigorous condemnation of the suppression of free speech by the University of Wisconsin has been voiced by the Milwaukee Wis. Federated Trades council. Resolutions protesting against the action of President Van Hise in denying the use of a university building for a lecture by Max Eastman, editor of "The Masses," were adopted without a dissenting vote. Cheers greeted the reading of the resolutions.

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Replies From Belgium And Britain On Peace Congress

AS THIS issue of The American Socialist was going to press replies were received from the British Independent Labor Party and the Belgian Labor Party in response to the call issued by the American Socialist Party for an International Socialist Congress to be held at The Hague, June 3.

The reply from the British Independent Labor Party is signed by the party secretary, Johnson, and reads as follows:

"Independent Labor Party always favored meeting of International Socialist Bureau."

The cablegram received from the Belgians is signed by Vandervelde and De Brouckere, representing the Belgian Labor Party, and is as follows:

"We have sent you the resolutions recently adopted by the Belgian Labor Party, declaring itself hostile to the idea of a meeting of the international bureau or congress until the evacuation of Belgium and France."

"A conference of the Socialists of allied countries will necessarily have to deliberate on your proposal."

It is expected that the Socialists of other countries will be heard from at any moment. The cablegram originally sent by the American Socialist Party to the Socialists of the belligerent and neutral countries of Europe was as follows:

"Convinced that the time is ripe for a revival of the Socialist International on the basis of a concerted working class movement for an immediate, just and lasting peace, the Socialist Party of the United States requests that an International Congress be called June 3, 1917, at The Hague. Unless by March 1, the Bureau takes steps to call such a congress, our party will consider itself justified in taking direct initiative."

Outrageous Attempt Made To Curb Free Press Is Defeated

AN outrageous attempt to curb a free press has just been averted for the time being in Chicago. Perhaps the most astounding communication ever sent out by the postal authorities of the nation, is that just received by the editors of the Radnicka Straza, a publication issued by the South Slavic Federation of the Socialist Party, from the Chicago postmaster, D. A. Campbell. It is as follows:

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE,

Chicago, Ill.

January 16, 1917.

Publisher, Radnicka Straza, 1944 So. Racine Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Sir:—The Department advises that the January 3rd, 1917, issue of your publication is unmailable under the provision of Section 211 of the Criminal Code of the United States, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1911. (Section 480, P. L. & R.)

In the future you will be required to file with the Superintendent of Pilsen Station at which Station your publication is mailed, a true translation in English of so much of the contents of your publication as are believed to be unmailable under the above section, and to certify the same as a true translation of said contents, before the publication will be accepted for transmission in the mails.

Respectfully,

D. A. CAMPBELL, Postmaster.

The editors immediately called on the postal officials and it was pointed out to them that the objectionable matter was part of an editorial, reading as follows:

"Ah, how the workers like their chains!... And if they do not like them, why do they not rebel, why do they not protest, why do they not organize and struggle against those who fasten the chains about their neck?"

The suspicious and ignorant postal authorities immediately scented a plot to organize a rebellion against the United States. They backed water after they had been received a lecture on the aims and principles of the Socialist Party. They finally permitted the suppressed edition to go thru the mails but issued orders that translations of matter appearing in future issues be presented for inspection.

Socialism And Religion

By JOHN M. WORK.

AM asked, "Can a person be a Socialist and be religious at the same time?"

Of course he can. One of the best proofs of this—a proof which, at any rate, is irrefutable—lies in the fact that thousands of religious people are constantly working for Socialism. They are Socialists and they are religious at the same time. This proves it, does it not?

THE Socialists believe in surplus value. They believe that the capitalists, by virtue of their ownership of the exploiting industries and properties, are gouging the rest of the people out of most of their earnings. Certainly a religious person can believe this.

The Socialists also believe in the class struggle. They believe that there is a conflict of interests between the capitalist class and the working class, a struggle which is going on before our eyes all the time. Certainly a religious person can believe this.

The Socialists likewise believe in the economic interpretation, or what I call the economic urge. They believe that the mode of making a living is the main factor in determining the nature of social institutions, the course of events, and the character and opinions of the people. Certainly a religious person can believe this.

ONE reason why some people be-

lieve that there is antagonism between Socialism and religion is because the enemies of Socialism persistently lie about it. They constantly assert that there is.

Another reason is because some people confuse the economic urge with the materialistic philosophy. The economic urge is sometimes called the materialistic conception of history, and it is also sometimes called historical materialism. The use of the words "materialistic" and "materialism" are unfortunate. They have no doubt caused the confusion. They have caused people to think that the economic urge and the philosophy of materialism are one and the same thing. But there is no connection between them. It is of course true that the philosophy of materialism is opposed to religion. But the philosophy of materialism has nothing to do with Socialism.

WHEN WE come right down to brass tacks, all you need do is to ask yourself this question, "Can a person be religious and at the same time believe in the collective ownership and control of the industries and properties which are now used for the purpose of exploiting the people out of most their earnings?"

Of course he can.

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Women Demand Ballot To Improve Their Conditions

By LOUIS A. ARNOLD, Wisconsin Socialist Senator.

Woman demands the ballot as a political weapon. She wants this weapon to improve her social and economic condition to enjoy absolute freedom. Her object is justice, not selfishness. She feels that to accomplish this, the ballot is important. The ballot is to be used to attain industrial justice. The ballot is simply a means, not an end.

After this is acquired, the struggle will continue to better her economic conditions, with the ultimate object of absolute freedom.

No liberties were ever handed down from above voluntarily. Those who would be free must win their freedom the hard way. Rivers of blood were shed before suffrage was granted to men. The struggle for religious freedom was long and bloody.

History Repeats Itself. In woman's fight, history repeats itself. The right will not be granted from above without a struggle. Fortunately it will not be a bloody struggle. We have advanced sufficiently to settle most of our questions without recourse to the sword.

But it will require considerable education before legislators and the people will recognize justice of your demand. Powerful interests will resist to the utmost. The duty to strike the blow, therefore, devolves upon the women themselves. But again you are fortunate to have the assistance of powerful organizations. The American Federation of Labor, with a membership of more than 3,000,000, has for years indorsed equal suffrage. This great body is gradually coming to realize that political action is vital in its fight against capitalism.

Socialists For Suffrage. Recognizing that thru political power they have obtained much needed legislation, they know that extension of suffrage will enable them to obtain greater results.

The Socialist parties of all nations indorsed suffrage for a half century. Every one of its party platforms, national or state, contain a plank for equal suffrage. The Socialist is the first political party to stand for full enfranchisement of women.

Big business is class conscious. It sees the movement for equal suffrage is a part of the class struggle. It recognizes that with this weapon in hands of women, labor legislation will be enacted which will interfere with the profit system. Capitalism, therefore, takes a stand against suffrage. It took a stand against manhood suffrage, and at all times in all lands fought extension of this right.

To oppose capitalism the Socialist party was organized. This party represents the political expression of the economic interests of the working class. Because it recognizes the class struggle, it follows the Socialist party must give its indorsement to equal suffrage.

Other Parties See Light. Some other political parties are beginning to make concessions to demands of women. They see the strength of the movement. It is a matter of political expediency, expecting to share the votes that may be cast by women. Such is not the case with the Socialist party. The fact is women do not vote this ticket to the extent in proportion that men do. We expect woman suffrage will retard the growth of the Socialist party, although it is the pioneer party sponsor for this cause.

But this shall not deter us. We look on this question, not as one of political advantages, but as economic justice.

Can Handle Many Questions. Some of the subjects more nearly within the province of women, and which may be actively tackled by them after they get the ballot, are: Better and more stringent labor laws, hours of labor for women workers, night work by women, safety appliances on machinery, sanitary regulations in factories, stores, etc.; pure food laws, minimum wage laws, servant girl problem, penny lunches for school children, playgrounds and parks, social centers, better housing conditions, mothers' pensions.

After woman has obtained the vote her real life work for civic and economic betterment is about to begin. It is fundamental that the ballot is an instrument of progress.

Full economic justice and industrial freedom will not exist so long as the means necessary for their welfare are in possession of a small class. The Socialist party proposes that the means of production and distribution shall be democratically owned and controlled. The Socialist party represents the political expression of the economic interests of the working class. As such, it demands full suffrage for women, and calls upon all men and women, to wield this political weapon for freedom from economic slavery.

Plans for conducting a state Socialist party paper in Kansas will be formulated by the state secretary in accordance with instructions given by the state convention held recently. The plan will be submitted to a referendum of the party in the state. Resolutions were adopted declaring opposition to any form of militarism, recommending the Rand School of Social Science and urging upon Socialists the need of a more thorough understanding of the fundamental principles of Socialism.

The Struggle For Social Justice

By EUGENE V. DEBS.

THE FUNDAMENTAL wrong in the present social system is that one man has to depend upon another for a chance to work and therefore to live. As long as this is true some men will be the masters of others, control their very lives, and this economic relation between man and man is the positive denial of individual freedom or social justice.

The true concept of social justice is not that the greatest good shall come to the greatest number but that the greatest good shall come to ALL. To make this possible there must be a radical reorganization of society and this great change, wide as the civilized world, is now being wrought in the impending industrial and social revolution.

In the present outgrown social order a few men, relatively speaking, owe as their private property the sources, means and instruments upon which the masses of mankind depend for their livelihood. This means industrial mastery for the few, industrial slavery for the many, and social injustice for all.

In the evolution of society industrial democracy will inevitably supplant the present industrial despotism. The collective people will own and control the collective means of life and wealth will be freely produced, not for the profit of the few, but for the common use of all. Then will men and women be economically free, enjoy equal rights and opportunities, and then will social justice dawn upon an emancipated world.

"SPREADEAGLING"

Private Max Kellerman, of Battery E, 2nd Field Artillery, New York, got a taste of real army life the other day when he was "spreadeagled" as punishment for being absent from duty without leave, a minor offense. "Spreadeagling" consists of being tied up, with arms outstretched, to the wheel of a gun carriage. The regular army straps, since this incident became public, are falling over themselves in their efforts to have the entire matter hushed up. "Spreadeagling" doesn't sound good to the ears of freemen in this day and age.

Let that is just what is taking place with the entire working class as the victim. Labor is being "spreadeagled" on the giant wheels of the military machine that is being built up in this country. The workers have a chance to protest in New York State, where one of the Socialist assemblies has started a move to repeal the infamous "Bloody Five" military laws. There is an opportunity to register opposition to militarism in every state in the nation for the jingoes are busy everywhere.

Will the working class silently submit to being "spreadeagled"? The immediate future will bring the reply.

THEY SPAT ON A MAN.

And so at last Pat Quinlan is free. But the he was in prison, he has always been free in soul than they who accomplished his suffering that there might be slavery. He comes from the prison a martyr and hero. He is not disgraced. But they who sent him there are disgraced. Pat Quinlan is a man among men, and takes his place with the millions who "wandered in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute and afflicted—of whom the world is not worthy." His lips that were silenced by prison bars have spoken words that echo thru the land. He was an agitator of New York City. His traducers have made of him an international character. He was an agitator whose voice had limited carrying power. The masters have made it to flash around the world and fill other ages. It was hard for you, Pat. But you bore your cross like the true worker you are. You will be remembered while the conspirators who railroaded you to prison in the interest of slavery and profits will be remembered only because they shamed themselves by spitting on a man.

FARMERS FOR SUFFRAGE.

That the farmer-legislature recently elected in North Dakota is interested in other questions besides those having to do exclusively with the tillers of the land is shown in the rapid passage of the two woman suffrage measures presented to it. One of these, modeled after the Illinois law, grants the vote to women on all offices but those provided by the constitution. The other provides for a constitutional amendment giving full suffrage. Support is also pledged by the farmers to measures being presented by the industrial workers of the state.

The Socialist who lays down now is sure going to get run over by the oncoming revolution.

The miners get about three cents a ton more for mining coal than they did a year ago. The people pay about two dollars more. Great system.

The farmers get about fifty cents a bushel more for wheat than they did two years ago. The people pay about \$2 a hundred more for flour.

Wages have increased about fifteen per cent. The cost of living has increased about 125 per cent. What did you gain?

The men in the trenches have jobs as long as they live. But if they live thru the war, they won't. Capitalism is so humane and practical.

If the Carpenter of Galilee was told that flour was one dollar a pound in Palestine, do you suppose he would say that the remedy lay in censoring the movies?

The railroads were permitted to raise their rates and now boast about cleaning up two billion dollars last year. But you do want private ownership of roads, don't you?

More than two billion dollars were made by speculators on the cotton crop of the south after it left the hands of the raisers. But it is what the cotton farmers of the South voted for.

Not only did the effort to provoke war with Mexico fail to arouse the American people to the fighting pitch and increase enlistments, but it also disgusted nearly all the soldiers who went, with the whole shooting match. How are we to maintain murder under such conditions?

It looks like the Credit Mobilier scandal was about to be repeated. You remember that it got the vice-president and several members of congress, and even Grant did not come out unscathed. Now it is the president's brother-in-law, his private secretary, a member of his cabinet and Lord knows how many members of congress.

Flood The Country With Social Literature! NEW LEAFLET EVERY MONTH—January leaflet, "Organize Or Pay!" By Adolph Germer. February leaflet, "The Recent Election", By John M. Work. 10c per 100; 75c per 1000. Order from Nat'l Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago. Wake Up The Slumbering Giant Of Labor NOW!

View Of Frisco Courtroom Where Labor Faces Enemies

By CAROLINE A. LOWE.

It was at the close of the noon recess in Judge Griffin's court, at the first of the labor persecution trials in San Francisco, and the prospective jurors were gathered in groups conversing in low tones. I was reading the afternoon paper, and one group sat back of me whose conversation I could not help overhearing.

When the officers brought in the prisoners, one of the men remarked: "It's a cinch they're not booze fighters, if we can judge at all by their appearance." "I've been thinking the same thing," responded another, "in fact they look to me like a pretty decent set of fellows. I've been sizing them up for the past three days and I'll be d— if there's one in the bunch that looks like a wild-eyed dynamiter to me."

I smiled to myself for the same thought had struck me most forcibly several times during these three trying days.

Like Other Workers.

Any four honest young working men whom you might meet on the street look as much like criminals as do the men accused of this terrible crime of wholesale slaughter. One of them, Billings, is a mere boy—a boy with blue eyes and light hair, very slight in stature, tho he carries himself so well that the first impression leads you to think him much larger than he really is. It is easy to understand how a mother might love such a son,—and easy to understand that he would make every effort to keep this mother in ignorance of the fact that he has been convicted of such a crime. I am told that up to the present time he has managed to keep this knowledge from his mother. Israel Weinberg is another one of the prisoners, and possessed of all the warmth and impetuosity of his race. Each day when court adjourns and the friends of the boys gather around, his face is illumined with a smile that is positively joyous in its delight at meeting them after the confinement for six months in jail. I happened to witness a touching little scene on the first day of the trial when his little wife hurried up to greet him and, apparently forgetful of all about them, he eagerly clasped both of her hands in his, and as he whispered and laughed, he patted her hands all the while and crowded as much as possible into the few moments allowed them before the officer

should lead him back into confinement.

Edward Nolan's face is that of a student and a thinker,—clear-cut and intellectual. Nothing seems too trivial to escape his notice, and many times during the day he leans forward quickly to speak to Mooney—or to one of the attorneys. A bond of close sympathy and understanding seems to exist between these two labor leaders and both of them are on the job every minute of the time, taking an active part in the conduct of the case that may mean life or death to all five of these young people.

Mooney Faces Prosecution.

With Attorney Cockran on his left and Attorney McNutt on his right, Tom Mooney sits facing his prosecutors and the talesmen as the questions are asked and answered which determine who shall constitute the jury to try his case. To one who has even the slightest understanding of the bitterness of the fight now on between capital and labor, it is easy to see why Tom Mooney sits in the prisoner's chair. He typifies the struggle. His entire make-up, his broad shoulders, square jaw, deep-set eyes under heavy black eye brows—is that of a man of force and determination. His moneyer consult him frequently and appears to rely upon his judgment regarding the fitness of a talesman to serve on the jury. It was an interesting sight the other day to see the noted New York attorney, Burke Cockran, seated in the prisoners' dock with all five of the accused crowded about him, their heads close together deliberating over the question as to which men should be excused under the peremptory challenge of the defense and which should be retained. Over half an hour they whispered together while the crowded court room waited. There seems to be nothing of the autocrat about Attorney Cockran, and his ready wit is a source of enjoyment to all,—with the exception, of course, of the discomfited District Attorney and his assistant.

Any person who has ever met Mrs. Rena Hermann-Mooney could not, even by the wildest stretch of the imagination, conceive of her as a murderer. And yet it is of complicity in this crime that she is accused and for which she may soon be brought to trial. A typical, sunny-faced American girl, unaffected and unafraid. No hint of wrong-doing of any character attaches itself to her. As she talks to you, she looks into your eyes in frank sincerity,—a sincerity that calls forth from every honest heart an answering confidence and respect.

Mrs. Mooney At Trial.

All day she sits in the courtroom near her husband, whose trial is now in progress. She scans closely the face of each talesman as he is being questioned, and pen and note book in hand, she jots down all memoranda that she thinks may be useful to the defense. The loyalty and devotion that exists between her and her husband has been proved more than once during the past week when he has called her into a conference with his attorneys, apparently asking for her opinion or advice.

As the talesman declared so emphatically, these accused certainly look like a "pretty decent set." If they were stood in line with every other occupant of the court room and passed upon for self-evident honesty and integrity and lack of all criminal propensities, there is many a man who would be called upon to step out of the line before these boys and some of them might be found to be among the number who represent the prosecution.

The law holds that a man is innocent until he is proved guilty and certainly every thoughtful man and woman should do the same—especially in these days of industrial conflict when all over the nation, members of organized labor are being made to feel the iron heel of organized capital.

APPEAL CLASSICS BIG SOURCE OF SOCIALIST INFORMATION.

"The Appeal Classics," a series of twelve paper-bound pamphlets containing much good socialist thought by the best of socialist thinkers, represent an education in themselves. They are true to their titles and in compiling them W. J. Ghent has done the movement a better service than by writing half a hundred books of the ordinary kind. These will serve for the time being as a socialist encyclopedia. They contain the best that is to be found in many books and while the editor's verdict upon all matters of tactics and controversy cannot be taken as final, his compilation of the material on hand will prove of great benefit and help to students.

Not one of the twelve volumes could well have been spared and justice done to the subject and its plan. Volume eight, "Socialism and the Farmer" will probably be found most useful in those parts dealing with the conditions peculiar to the southwestern states of Oklahoma and Texas, for the descriptions here are those who best know the true conditions. And in Volume twelve it will be regretted by some that among the collection of fine verse there is none of light humor or satire to liven up the pages. We are not all of us serious all of the time, nor is our movement quite a morgue.

On the whole the work is well worth while and the publishers are to be congratulated for giving this work to the movement. For the sake of their contents if not for their covers, "The Appeal Classics" are not to be snubbed by any comrade's book-shelf.—William F. Kruse.

Published by Appeal Book Dept., Grand, Kans.; 25 cents, single pamphlets; set of 12, \$2.

Two hundred more marines have been dispatched to Haiti to aid in "pacifying" that island. Yes, they are U. S. soldiers and they left the Philadelphia Navy Yard on the U. S. S. Hancock.

WHAT ABOUT DANISH WOMEN?

The purchase of the Danish West Indies by the United States has brought about a peculiar question. While these islands belonged to Denmark the women inhabitants possessed the right of suffrage. Under a monarchy they were free citizens enjoying equal rights with men. Will the United States as the new sovereign power over these women deprive them of rights and reduce them to the ignominy of the disfranchised? The specially cited classes who may not vote are idiots, insane, convicts, Indians and women. Wonder if Danish women will accept this stigmatizing enrollment? Some American women are content, but the majority of self-respecting, educated women resent the classification.

This Navy Officer Will Not Let His Boy Enlist

By LUCIEN SAINT.

Washington, D. C.—Lack of democracy in the army was bitterly scored by Major W. G. Harlee, United States Marine Corps, before the Senate Military Committee, the other day.

"There are two classes of men in the army," said Harlee, "officers and enlisted men. They are absolutely separate. I do not want to say unkind things, but here is an instance. Under the law, if you wish to drink and be sociable with another officer, you may do so, and it is all right. But if you go out and drink with an enlisted man and you get caught drinking with him, you will be court-martialed for conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman. This is done frequently, and from time to time. It is not an isolated case. There are many such cases."

The caste system in the army was also scored by Harlee as un-American and undemocratic. "You hire a man under an oath of enlistment for four years," he said. "An officer, on the other hand is commissioned, and his period of service depends on how long he wishes to stay. He can resign at any time. The two classes are hired on an entirely separate basis. Different laws apply to the different kinds of soldiers. I have been an enlisted man, and I know the feeling that comes in the voluntary army, and I would not let my boy enlist in the marine corps."

He would not let his boy be a soldier. This from a Major in the armed force of the United States. Remarkable testimony. Something is rotten.

Harlee proposes to pay a soldier \$30 a month and let him resign his job if he doesn't like it. He proposes to do away with barrack life. He proposes to cut down training to a month and keep no large standing army and expensive military establishments. He declared that he would form a fine fighting army out of the men rejected by the army physicians for fatfoot or other troubles.

Harlee has been thirteen years in the military service of the United States. He has fought in China, the Philippines, Mexico, and Haiti. He knows what he is talking about. His is expert testimony. It shows what is off in the military program.

But there is little chance that Congress will do anything about it. Congress is too busy following the lead of the army.

WOMEN FIGHT WAR TRAINING.

Three women representatives of the Women's Peace Party appeared before the Senate Committee on Military Affairs to argue against the proposed plan of compulsory military service. Mrs. Lucia Ames Mead of Boston urged that a national referendum be first issued on the matter before further action is taken. The other speakers were Mrs. Elly Flagg Young, former Superintendent of Schools in Chicago, and Mrs. Ames Pinchot who told the committee that the proposed military training would take young men at a critical age and develop in them destructive rather than constructive ideas. She held that militarism would obliterate the individual contribution to society of all young men who came within its activity.

The second session of the Illinois Woman's Legislative Congress has just been held for the purpose of informing the incoming Legislature of Illinois what kind of laws the women would like to see put upon the statute books. Two years ago the first meeting of its kind ever held in the United States was called at the invitation of Lieut. Gov. O'Hara and this is a good continuation of this work. They decided against military training in the schools but were in favor of the minimum wage, eight-hour day, and many other progressive measures.

FORCED BACK TO WORK.

The Liberal Party has made some important gains at the recent elections held in Australia. A number of them were at the expense of the Labor Party. Premier Sir Hughes Laborie, who put himself out of sympathy with the workers by advocating conscription, is reported to be organizing a new National Party. Prominent Liberal politicians refuse to have anything to do with Hughes' new movement.

The threatened strike of the coal miners has been forcibly settled by Governmental arbitration. The miners refused even to ballot on the Government's terms for settlement so Prime Minister Hughes called a second compulsory conference of the miners and operators. At their meeting in Melbourne another deadlock ensued and the Prime Minister uses his power to compel representatives from both sides to meet with Judge Edmunds of New South Wales as final arbitrator. The miners were granted an eight-hour bank-to-bank workday, and were ordered back to work pending the settlement of the rest of the demands. The judge also promised that the operators would be compensated for any pecuniary loss incurred by delay in resuming work.

Maurer Voices Workers' Views On Conscription

"The working class of the United States will not consent to be sent to the war by the capitalist class to find a foreign market for the surplus commodities produced by the American workers, but owned by the capitalists," declared James H. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania State Federation of Labor, and member of the Pennsylvania legislature, recently at the hearing held by the U. S. Senate Committee on military affairs at Washington, D. C., to consider the Chamberlain compulsory military service and training bill.

"Moreover, they will not consent to shoot up the workers of other countries in order to help the American investors collect the interest and principal on their investments," continued Maurer. "The working people simply will not stand for your compulsory military service, and it is time to call a halt in this rush toward militarism."

People Will Refuse To Serve.

You can't make them stand for it, even if Congress passes this conscription bill. It is against every tradition of the American people, and the whole propaganda for conscription, military service and conscriptive military instruction for the boys is fanned by the financiers and capitalists of the United States to enable them to have a big military establishment to shoot the surplus of the American working people into the foreign markets of the world and collect the amount of their investments placed in foreign countries.

"During the European war the American capitalists have appropriated large slices of foreign markets of the world hitherto dominated by the belligerent powers. After the war those governments will fight to regain their markets, and the American capitalists will undertake by conscription to compel the working people to slaughter the German workmen or the French, or the Austrian, with whom they have no quarrel, in order to forward the economic interests of the American capitalists. We shall decline it."

He Presents Plan.

Asked by Senator Chamberlain if he had any plan by which the rich people could be compelled to go to the front in time of war, Maurer replied that he had a plan that would work like a charm, adding that he would guarantee it.

"When the investors in Mexican property, for instance," said Maurer, "insist that their properties must be protected by the government, get the names of the stockholders and bondholders and send them to the firing line first, old and young. After they have manifested their sincerity and patriotism right up next to the trenches and in close proximity to the machine guns, then, perhaps, the rest of them will consider the advisability of helping them out. But let those whose economic interests are at stake go first."

Charging that the preparedness propaganda was initiated by the National Security League, with their parades and demonstrations, to whip up public opinion so that it would stand for the extreme legislation found in the national defense act and military and naval appropriation bills passed at the last session of Congress, Maurer pointed out that in the days of preparedness talk little if anything was heard about conscription. The defense act provided the machinery for the surplus products marketing, debt collecting military and naval establishments, but the militarists struck an unexpected snag when it came to getting the men to man the machine guns and the battleships. The working people refused to be lured into the recruiting stations. Then the militarists came along with their demand for conscription.

"I shall be plain and blunt with you," Maurer told the committee. "This conscription bill is aimed at the working class. The parent who has money will be able to keep his sons out of military service. The working class parents, without means, will be helpless."

Questioned as to his explanation of the refusal of the American boys to join the army, Maurer stated that the \$20 to \$25 a month which the government pays its soldiers is such small remuneration that few self-respecting workmen will accept it. When to the low wages paid the soldiers there is added that "curse of the army, the caste system," it was no wonder that the working men of America refused to recruit, he said. He felt that, so long as it is a crime for an officer to sit in walking on the street with a private, the working people would never join the army to any extent.

Maurer warned the committee in closing that Congress has no moral right to pass a conscription law without a national referendum upon the question, and he was confident that the American working people would defeat the conscription idea just as emphatically as did the working people of Australia on the 28th of last October, when Prime Minister Hughes' conscription proposal was snuffed under by an anti-conscription vote of 200,000.

Workers Ended War.

Stinging indictments of compulsory military training and service in Russia, Switzerland and Roumania were also outstanding features of the assault upon the Chamberlain compulsory training bill before the Senate committee on military affairs.

Alexander Trachtenberg, of New York city, who served as a volunteer officer in the Russian army during the Russo-Japanese war, declared that the war was not ended by Roosevelt's conferences, but by a general strike of the Russian soldiers, 15,000 of them having refused to fight at the battle of Mukden.

Compulsory military service had transformed the Russian workers, he said, so that they would fire on their own parents at the word of the military commander. The Russian army was used to smother the aspirations of the Russian people for political and industrial liberty, and it is the tool of the Russian capitalists to ruthlessly shoot down working people

on strike to better their economic conditions.

Roumanians Used As Strikebreakers.

"In Roumania the army recruited by conscription is used constantly in labor struggles on the side of the employers," declared Carl Aronovici, of Philadelphia, driven out of Roumania 15 years ago for having translated an anti-military book from French into the Roumanian language.

Aronovici, who is now engaged in local service work, cited numerous instances where the working people in Roumania had been killed by the army because they refused to return to work after strikes had been declared or because they persisted in holding public labor meetings.

He asserted that the hotbed of vice and social evils in Roumania is found in military circles, and added that in his researches at Portsmouth and Newport, the military and naval social centers in this country, he found that drunkenness, divorce and illegitimate childbearing increase in those cities as the army-navy colonies increase.

Philip Schafer, of Chicago, a native Swiss, who had seen compulsory military service in Switzerland, asserted that the Swiss capitalists "winked at the use of the much-vaunted citizen army of Switzerland to break strikes and defeat the workers of Switzerland in their struggle for higher wages and better conditions of labor."

MEHRING DENIED ALL RIGHTS.

Dr. Franz Mehring, veteran Socialist publicist, is being held in preventive arrest by the military authorities of Berlin so that, as Dr. Helfferich himself admitted in the Reichstag, he may not have an opportunity to commit any offense under the martial law. His trial is to take place shortly at Duesseldorf and it is charged that the Berlin military authorities have ordained that Mehring shall be allowed to speak with his counsel only in the presence of officials from a political department of the police force. Upon his counsel's complaint that this was contrary to the law the authorities replied that in view of the fact that the trial was to take place within six days time that applicant might have a private interview of 30 minutes during the week following that in which permission was given.

But the authorities knew before the letter was sent that it would be impossible for this interview to be held at any time during that week. Altho it is also contrary to the law the military authorities have insisted upon censoring the private correspondence between Mehring and his attorney, and when the latter appealed to the court at Duesseldorf he was told that it was the Berlin military authorities that must be approached in the matter.

This is the substance of the charges made in the Reichstag by Dr. Cohn, and he intends to bring the matters to the attention of the Chancellor to find out whether or not that worthy knows of them, and whether he will call upon military authorities to observe the law of the land.

These two great bodies of American working people are everlastingly against any course that helps to throw the working people of Europe at each other's throats.

Professors, preachers, politicians and plutocrats may take this or that side of the question, but whatever they do can make little difference in the long run. Labor, organized industrially and politically, holds the key to the situation. As it decides, so will the question be decided, provided its decision be reinforced by prompt, intelligent action.

Fitting Men For Murder

By EDMUND R. BRUMBAUGH.

A movement has begun for compulsory military training in the University of Nebraska. Needless to say, it will meet with the approval of every friend of militarism, open enemy of militarism in Nebraska and elsewhere should oppose the movement with all the force at his command. It is only part of an insidious militaristic program that is being promoted in every nook and corner of the land.

Compulsory military training is incompatible with the ideals on which a university should be founded and by which its activities should be determined. It is undemocratic. It is the starting point of strife. It stifles mental and moral stamina if indulged in for a very long period, and is thoroughly destructive of character in the highest and most complete sense of that word. Desire to take military training is itself regrettable. To enforce such training is an outrage. The students objecting to compulsory military training are displaying independence of spirit and clearness of mind conferring great credit on themselves, their state and the institution with which they are connected. The fact that their kind exists constitutes the first hope for the future that we possess.

Compulsory military training, despite all the influence behind it, is not going to have smooth sailing, whether it be meant for state universities or the entire male citizenship.

The American Federation of Labor is opposed to it.

The Socialist Party is opposed to it.

To show what the rank and file of the Australian Labor party think of their leaders when wrong, it is only necessary to point to the fact that in the State of South Australia the 26 members of the Cabinet, 3 of the 8 members of the House and 6 of the 8 Senators supported conscription at the recent referendum. And when the votes were all in it was shown that a substantial majority had been thrown against this gang of "lead-ers." In New South Wales three more Labor Cabinet members and a member of the Legislature were kicked out of the party for refusing to vote for the resignation of the Holman government. Holman is trying to force thru a bill to prolong the life of his Cabinet another year and the Labor party is opposed to it.

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J. L. ENGDALH, Editor.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1917.

HOW TO END THE WAR.

The young colored recruit fled at the first fire. His captain, wishing to infuse him with courage and patriotism, began thusly, in a scornful tone:

"Yes, sah, and I'd a-run sooner if I'd aknowned it was a-comin'!"

"Have you no regard for your reputation?"

"Ah, reppation ain't nuffin' to me 'tall, sah, 'longside o' mah life, sah."

"But even if you should lose your life, you'd feel the satisfaction of knowing, that you died for your country."

"No, sah, if Ah done los' mah life, sah, Ah wouldn't have no satisfaction. Ah wouldn't have no feelin' 'tall. Ah wouldn't have nuffin', sah. Ah'd be daid, sah!"

Does patriotism mean nothing to you?"

"Nuffin' at all, sah! Ah wouldn't put mah life in de scales agin no government, sah, 'cause if the guvment went undah an' Ah lived, Ah'd be live anyway, an' if the guvment lived on an' Ah was killed, de los' to me 'tall. Why, if all the soldiers were like you every government in the world would go to pieces."

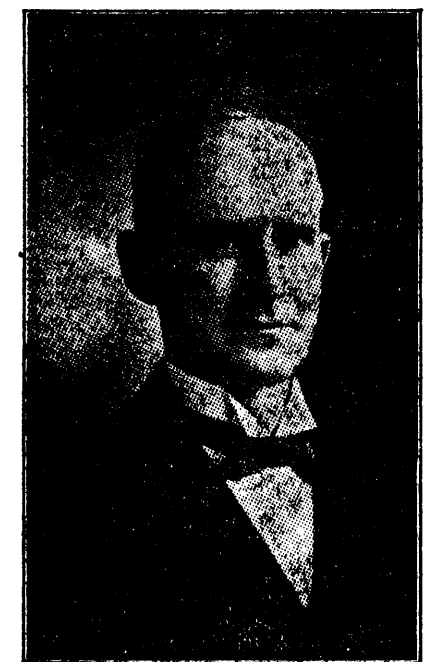
"No, sah, on de contrary, sah. Dey'd last forever, lessen folks changed 'em by votin', sah. Ef all soldiers was like me dere couldn't be no fightin' 'tall, sah."

Then read this carefully. I promise to get rich quick—sell your old or new money. This is a right for business proposition, but if you are making more than \$150 a month—your work will be increased. I want only wide-awake men and women who are willing to work with me and give a reasonable amount of their time to a business paying \$6 Per Day.

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W. H. Feltman, Sales Man, 7518 2nd St., Cincinnati, O.

DEBS TO WRITE FOR PEARSON'S



First article March number (on sale February 10th).

Subject—Personal reminiscences of JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY

PEARSON'S invited Debs to become a contributor as follows: "We want to introduce you to our readers in a series of personal reminiscences after which you may choose your own subjects."

DEBS' second article will be ROBERT INGERSOLL

THE NEW PEARSON'S PEARSON'S is conducted and managed by radicals. Those who feared that the introduction of a new editor would bring a change of policy have been agreeably surprised.

FRANK HARRIS THE EDITOR

Robert Blatchford (author of Merrie England) once said of Harris to a friend: "There goes the greatest living writer."

OUR LABOR SERIES

Three months ago PEARSON'S engaged A. M. Simons to write the history in series of the American Labor Movement. Three articles have appeared and have attracted wide attention: The Printers in December. The Cigar Makers in January. The Miners in February.

The Telegraphers will come in March; other trades from month to month.

We have arranged for a special clubbing rate with PEARSON'S for 30 days only. If your subscription to this paper has not expired, we will set your subscription ahead. Make your remittance direct to this office and your subscription will be promptly forwarded to PEARSON'S.

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J. C. Lewis, of Kansas, says: "I have sold one hundred Sharpener in four days." Hobart Kerr, of Md., writes: "The workman is simply perfect. By who sells them." Herbert Cain, of Ky., sold nine after supper. At the end of his first day, J. W. Gordon, of Pa., writes: "I have sold two dozen, and I sold to everyone I saw." Wm. G. Hall, of N. J., says: "I think it is great. I sold six in about one-half hour. The machine is a mighty fine proposition. I am a mechanic, and I know what I am talking about." Peter Courtland, of Mich., writes: "I received your sharpener and opened it in a barber shop. I ground his shears, and I got an order for one right on the spot." H. A. Henkel, of Va., says: "I have examined it and find it a wonderful little machine. The workmanship is simply perfect." King, Colo., says: "Sample received Saturday. Sold ten today. Sell to most every house." Forest, of Pa., says: "Went out Monday afternoon for about three hours and sold one dozen. Profit \$12.00." H. Tillery, of Tenn., writes: "Took three orders first day. Sold a sharpener an old-knick knife. Got a box, in less than a minute, they set up and took." Ray Carter, of Mass., writes: "I went out two days and have orders for thirty sharpeners." "I sold five first five days." John Durr, of Wis., also says: "I have sold thirty in two days."

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Organization Column.

NOTE.—We want the best brains in the Socialist movement to contribute ideas to this Organization Column. We feel that the best organization ideas come from those who really do the work of organization, the rank and file of the membership who are always on the job. Let us hear from you. Send all communications to the Organization Column Editor, The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

THE FIGHT IS ON!

Do you know that the exploiters of labor are gloating over the decline in the Socialist vote? Do you know that they look upon it as the disintegration of the Socialist Movement, i. e. working class political movement?

Even many in the ranks of the workers who are woefully misinformed on the Socialists' aims and objects and whose minds have been poisoned by a lying press and cunning and unscrupulous politicians, innocently join in the chorus and sing the requiem to their own disaster.

We must answer those songs of gloe. We must demonstrate the fact that so long as Capitalism prevails there will be a virile Socialist Movement. It can be done. It must be done.

Every member of the Socialist party can join in the answer. You are willing and eager to do it, I know. All you want is the assurance that others are doing their part.

You ask, "how can and shall it be done?" In several ways. You, perhaps, cannot mount a platform and talk to a multitude. You can, however, talk to one. Or if not that, you can hand out some literature. You can do more than that. You can ask your neighbor, friend or fellow worker to dismiss his prejudice and at least subscribe to a socialist paper—The American Socialist.

When you have succeeded in doing that and he has received several copies, you can ask him how he likes the ideas it advocates and if they appeal to him—you can ask him to become a member of the Party. And when you have secured his membership, and get him to a meeting, don't disgust him with party squabbles that get us into confusion and lead to inactivity. Make the meetings interesting and instructive. It is far more interesting, instructive and important to discuss ways and means of getting some immediate relief from the pressure of capitalism than it is to organize a group with the avowed ridiculous purpose of setting the Socialist Party on its feet. Constructive work alone builds up an organization. Meddlesome work supported by high sounding phrases consumes the vitality of the Party and leaves us the prostrate victims of our exploiters.

The most decisive answer you can give to those who glory in the decline of the Socialist vote is to get members into the Party and increase the circulation of The American Socialist. Here is the proposition: Our average membership for 1916 was 83,000. Send it up to 100,000 by March 1st. Verily it should be possible for 83,000 to get 17,000 recruits in five weeks. There were 600,000 Socialist votes. Out of these we must get 100,000 members by March 1st. Then we will set a new mark.

The present circulation of The American Socialist is 65,000. Send that up to at least 100,000 by March 1st. That can easily be done. Surely, out of 65,000 subscribers there should be 35,000 who can get one subscription in five weeks. If you are unable to get a subscriber, you can send in fifty cents for one year or twenty-five cents for a six month's subscription for someone who is either too poor, too prejudiced or too indifferent to subscribe. Then, too, remember this, the greater the circulation of the paper, the more interest there will be aroused and the easier it will be to get members.

Capitalism is in full growth. We want to banish it and all its horrors. There is no time to quibble over trifles. The comrades from various sections of the country are writing to the National Office saying they will take hold of building up the Party with new hope and courage. Your response with new members and subscribers will inspire them and will answer the enemy.

Let us hear from you!

Have you responded to the call issued by the National Executive Committee for a \$50,000 Organization Fund? If not, get busy!

Three Historical Documents FREE!

Every Socialist should possess a copy of the proceedings, of the 1904, 1908 and 1910 conventions of the Socialist Party. These three volumes are printed on good book paper, durably bound and contain a mine of information, useful for reference, on party tactics, problems and achievements.

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"We appeal to every member of the party, and every sympathizer, to contribute as liberally as possible. Send in your dollars and your dimes, comrades, so that we may be able to make effective use of the opportunities which lie open before us."—From the call issued by the Socialist Party National Executive Committee for a \$50,000 Organization Fund to prepare for the campaigns of 1918 and 1920. Send all contributions to National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

THE CALL OF THE WILD

By JACK LONDON. Copyright by Jack London.

(Continued from last week.)

CHAPTER III.

The Dominant Primordial Beast.

The dominant primordial beast was strong in Buck, and under the fierce conditions of trail life it grew and grew. Yet it was a secret growth. His newborn cunning gave him poise and control. He was too busy adjusting himself to the new life to feel at ease, and not only did he not pick fights, but he avoided them whenever possible. A certain deliberateness characterized his attitude. He was not prone to rashness and precipitate action; and in the bitter hatred between him and Spitz he betrayed no impatience, shunned all offensive acts. On the other hand, possibly because he divined in Buck a dangerous rival, Spitz never lost an opportunity of showing his teeth. He even went out of his way to bully Buck, striving constantly to start the fight which could end only in the death of one or the other.

Early in the trip this might have taken place had it not been for an untoward accident. At the end of the day they made a bleak and miserable camp on the shore of Lake Le Barge. Driving snow, a wind that cut like a white-hot knife, and darkness, had forced them to grope for a camping place. They could hardly have fared worse. At their backs rose a perpendicular wall of rocks, and Perrault and Francois were compelled to make their fire and spread their sleeping robes on the ice of the lake itself. The tent they had discarded at Dyea in order to travel light. A few sticks of driftwood furnished them with a fire that thawed down through the ice and left them to eat supper in the dark.

Beast In Him Roars.

Close under the sheltering rock Buck made his nest. So snug and warm was it, that he was loath to leave it when Francois distributed the fish which he had first thawed over the fire. But when Buck finished his ration and returned, he found his nest occupied. A warning snarl told him that the trespasser was Spitz. Till now Buck had avoided trouble with his enemy, but this was too much. The beast in him roared. He sprang upon Spitz with a snarl of pain, surprised them both, and Spitz particularly, for his whole experience with Buck had gone to teach him that his rival was an unusually timid dog, who managed to hold his own only because of his great weight and size. Francois was surprised, too, when they shot out in a tangle from the disrupted nest and he divined the cause of the trouble. "A-a-ah!" he cried to Buck. "Gif it to heem, by Gar! Gif it to heem, the dirty 'feeler!" Spitz was actually willing. He was crying with sheer rage and eagerness as he circled back and forth for a chance to spring in. Buck was no less eager, and no less cautious, as he likewise circled back and forth for the advantage. "But it was then that the unexpected happened, the thing which projected their struggle for supremacy far into the future, past many a weary mile of trail and toil.

An oath from Perrault, the resounding impact of a club upon a bony frame, and a shrill yell of pain, heralded the breaking forth of pandemonium. The camp was suddenly discovered to be alive with skulking furry forms,—starving huskies, four or five of them, who had scented the camp from some Indian village. They had crept in while Buck and Spitz were fighting, and when the two men sprang among them with stout clubs they showed their teeth and fought back. They were crazed by the smell of the fire, and the shrill yell of pain, and had buried in the grub-box. His club landed heavily on the gaunt ribs, and the grub-box was capsized on the ground. On the instant a score of the famished brutes were scrambling for the bread and bacon. The clubs fell upon them unheeded. They yelped and howled under the rain of blows, but struggled none the less madly till the last crumb had been devoured.

Irresistible Hunger Madness.

In the meantime the astonished team-dogs had burst out of their nests only to be set upon by the fierce invaders. Never had Buck seen such dogs. It seemed as if their bones would burst thru their skins. They were mere skeletons, draped loosely in dragged hides, with blazing eyes and slavered fangs. But the hunger-madness made them terrifying, irresistible. There was no opposing them. The team-dogs were swept back against the cliff at the first onset. Buck was beset by three huskies, and in a trice his head and shoulders were ripped and slashed. The din was frightful. Billee was crying as usual. Dave and Sol-leks, dripping blood from a score of wounds, were fighting bravely side by side. Joe was snapping like a demon. One, his teeth closed on the fore leg of a husky, and he crunched down thru the bone. Pike, the malingering, leaped upon the crippled animal, breaking its neck with a quick flash of teeth and a jerk. Buck got a frothing adversary by the throat, and was sprayed with blood when his teeth sank thru the jugular. The warm taste of it in his mouth goaded him to greater ferocity. He flung himself upon another, and at the same time felt teeth sink into his own throat. It was Spitz, treacherously attacking him from the side.

Perrault and Francois, having cleaned out their part of the camp, hurried to save their sled-dogs. The wild wave of famished beasts rolled back before them, and Buck shook himself free. But it was only for a

moment. The two men were compelled to run back to save the grub; upon which the huskies returned to the attack on the team. Billee, terrified into bravery, sprang thru the savage circle and fled away over the ice. Pike and Dub followed on his heels, with the rest of the team behind. As Buck drew himself together to spring after them, out of the tail of his eye he saw Spitz rush upon him with the evident intention of overthrowing him. Once off his feet and under that mass of huskies, there was no hope for him. But he braced himself to the shock of Spitz's charge, then joined the fight out on the lake.

Later, the nine team-dogs gathered together and sought shelter in the forest. They unperceivedly were in a sorry plight. There was not one who was not wounded in four or five places, while some were wounded grievously. Dub was badly injured in a hind leg; Dolly, the last husky added to the team at Dyea, had a badly torn throat; Joe had lost an eye; while Billee, the good-natured, with an ear chewed and rent to ribbons, cried and whimpered thruout the night. At daybreak they limped warily back to camp, to find the marauders gone and the two men in bad tempers. Fully half their grub supply was gone. The huskies had chewed thru the sled lashings and canvas coverings. In fact, nothing, no matter how remotely eatable, had escaped them. They had eaten a pair of Perrault's moose-hide moccasins, chunks out of the leather traces, and even two feet of lash from the end of Francois's whip. He broke from a mournful contemplation of it to look over his wounded dogs.

"Ah, mu friends," he said softly, "mebbe it mek you mad dog, dose many bites. Mebbe all mad dog, sacre! What you think eh, Perrault?" The courier shook his head dubiously. With four hundred miles of trail still between him and Dawson, he could ill afford to have madness break out among his dogs. Two hours of cursing and exertion got the harness team was under way, struggling painfully over the hardest part of the trail they had yet encountered, and for that matter, the hardest between them and Dawson.

The Thirty Mile River was wide open. Its wild water defied the frost, and it was in the eddies only and in the quiet places that the ice held at all. Six days of exhausting toil were required to cover those thirty terrible miles. And terrible they were, for every foot of them was accomplished at the risk of life to dog and man. A dozen times, Perrault, nosing the way, broke thru the ice bridges, being saved by the long pole he carried, which he so held that it fell each time across the hole made by his body. But a cold snap was on, the thermometer registering fifty below zero, and each time he broke thru he was compelled for very life to build a fire and dry his garments.

Nothing daunted him. It was because nothing daunted him that he had been chosen for government courier. He took all manner of risks, resolutely thrusting his little weakened face into the frost and struggling on from dim dawn to dark. He skirted the frowning shores on rim ice that bent and cracked under foot and upon which they dared not halt. Once, the sled broke thru, with Dave and Buck, and they were half-frozen and all but drowned by the time they were dragged out. The usual fire was necessary to save them. They were coated solidly with ice, and the two men kept them on the run around the fire, sweating and thawing, so close that they were singed by the flames.

At another time Spitz went thru dragging the whole team after him up to Buck, who strained backward with all his strength, his fore paws on the slippery edge and the ice quivering and snapping all around. But behind him was Dave, likewise straining backward, and behind the sled was Francois, pulling till his tendons cracked.

Again, the rim ice broke away before and behind, and there was no escape except up the cliff. Perrault scaled it by a miracle, and with every thong and sled lash and the last bit of harness rove into a long rope, the dogs were hoisted, one by one, to the cliff crests and hoisted up last, after the sled and load. Then came the search for a place to descend, which descent was ultimately made by the aid of the rope, and night found them back on the river with a quarter of a mile to the day's credit.

By the time they made the Hootalinqua and good ice, Buck was played out. The rest of the dogs were in like condition; but Perrault, to make up lost time, pushed them late and early. The first day they covered thirty-five miles to the Big Salmon; the next day thirty-five miles to the Little Salmon; the third day forty miles, which brought them well up toward the Five Fingers.

His Feet Had Softened.

Buck's feet were not so compact and hard as the feet of the hikers. He had softened during the many generations since the day his last wild ancestor was tamed by a cave-dweller or river man. All day long he limped in agony, and camp once made, lay down like a dead dog. Hungry as he was, he would not move to receive his ration of fish, which Francois had to bring to him. Also, the dog-driver rubbed Buck's feet for half an hour each night after supper, and sacrificed the tops of his own moccasins to make four moccasins for Buck. This was a great relief, and Buck caused even the weakened face of Perrault to twist itself into a grin one morning, when Francois forgot the moccasins and Buck lay on his back, his four feet waving appealingly in the air, and refused to budge without them. Later his feet grew hard to the trail, and

the worn-out foot-gear was thrown away.

At the Pelly one morning, as they were harnessing up, Dolly, who had never been conspicuous for anything, great was her madness. She announced her condition by a long, heart-breaking wof howl that sent every dog bristling with fear, then sprang straight for Buck. He had never seen a dog go mad, nor did he have any reason to fear madness; yet he knew that here was horror, and fled away from it in a panic. Straight away he raced, with Dolly, panting and frothing, one leap behind; nor could she gain on him, so great was his terror, nor could he leave her, so great was her madness. He plunged thru the wooded breast of the island, flew down to the lower end, crossed a back channel filled with rough ice to another island, gained a third island, curved back to the main river, and in desperation started to cross it. And all the time, he did not look, he could hear her snarling just one leap behind. Francois called to him a quarter of a mile away and he doubled back, still one leap ahead, gasping painfully for air and putting all his faith in that Francois would save him. The dog-driver held the axe poised in his hand, and as Buck shot past him the axe crashed down upon mad Dolly's head.

Buck staggered over against the sled, exhausted, sobbing for breath, helpless. This was Spitz's opportunity. He sprang upon Buck, and twice his teeth sank into his unresisting flesh and ripped and tore the flesh to the bone. Then Francois's lash descended, and Buck had the satisfaction of watching Spitz receive the worst whipping as yet administered to any of the team.

"One devil, dat Spitz," remarked Perrault. "Some dam day heem keel dat Buck!"

"Dat Buck two devils," was Francois's rejoinder. "All de tam I watch dat Buck, I know for sure. Listen: some dam fine day heem get mad lak hell an' den heem chew dat Spitz all up an' spit heem out de snow. Sure. I know."

War Between Dogs.

From then on it was war between them. Spitz, as lead-dog and acknowledged master of the team, felt his supremacy threatened by this strange Southland dog. And strange Buck was to him, for of the many Southland dogs he had known, not one had shown up worthily in camp and on trail. They were all too soft, dying under the toil, the frost, and starvation. Buck was the exception. He alone endured and prospered, matching the husky in strength, savagery, and cunning. Then he was a masterful dog, and what made him dangerous was the fact that the club of the man in the red sweater had knocked all blind pluck and rashness out of his desire for mastery. He was pre-eminently cunning, and could bid his time with a patience that was nothing less than primitive.

It was inevitable that the clash for leadership should come. Buck wanted it. He wanted it because it was his nature, because he had been gripped tight by that nameless, incomprehensible pride of the trail and trace—that pride which holds dogs in the toil to the last gasp, which lures them to die joyfully in the harness, and breaks their hearts if they are cut out of the harness. This was the pride of Dave as wheel-dog, of Loleks as he pulled with all his strength; the pride that laid hold of them at break of camp, transfusing them from sour and sultry brutes into straining, eager, ambitious creatures; the pride that spurred them on all day and dropped them at pitch of camp at night, letting them fall back into gloomy unrest and discontent. This was the pride that bore up Spitz and made him thrash the sled-dogs who blundered and shirked in the traces or hid away at harness-up time in the morning. Likewise it was this pride that made him rear Buck as a possible rival dog. And this was Buck's pride, too.

He openly threatened the other's leadership. He came between him and the shirks he should have punished. And he did it deliberately. One night there was a heavy snowfall, and in the morning Pike, the malingering, did not appear. He was securely hidden in his nest under a foot of snow. Francois called him and sought him in vain. Spitz was wild with wrath. He raged thru the camp, smelling and digging in every likely place, snarling so frightfully that Pike heard and shivered in his hiding-place.

But when he was at last unearthed, and Spitz flew at him to punish him, Buck flew, with equal rage, in between. So unexpected was it, and so shrewdly managed, that Spitz was hurled backward and off his feet. Pike, who had been trembling abjectly, took heart at this open mutiny, and sprang upon his overthrown leader. Buck, to whom fairness was a forgotten code, likewise sprang upon Spitz. But Francois chucking at the incident while unswerving in the administration of justice, brought his lash down upon Buck with all his might. This failed to drive Buck from his prostrate rival, and the butt of the whip was brought into play. Half-stunned by the blow, Buck was knocked backward and the lash laid upon him again and again, while Spitz soundly punished the many times offending Pike.

Struggle Is Coming.

In the days that followed, as Dawson grew closer and closer, Buck still continued to interfere between Spitz and the culprits; but he did it craftily, when Francois was not around. With the covert mutiny of Buck, a general insubordination sprang up and increased. Dave and Sol-leks were unaffected, but the rest of the team went from bad to worse. Things no

longer went right. There was continual bickering and jangling. Trouble was always afoot, and at the bottom of it was Buck. He kept Francois busy, for the dog-driver was in constant apprehension of the life-and-death struggle between the two which he knew must take place sooner or later; and on more than one night the sounds of quarrelling and strife among the other dogs turned him out of his sleeping robe, fearful that Buck and Spitz were at it.

(To be continued.)

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPT.

Organization — Education — Solidarity.

WILLIAM Z. KRUSE — Director

To reach the nation's youth with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement through Young People's Social Leagues. Address all communications to: Socialist Party Young People's Dept., 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

YIPSEL NEWS.

A new league has been organized at Troy, N. Y., with 21 charter members. A second Lithuanian Circle has also been formed at Cicero, Ill. Another league is about to be formed in the Ninth Ward, Chicago, strong socialist territory.

Marxian Y. P. S. L., of Milwaukee, Wis., recently held an installation of officers at which considerable oratorical power was shown by both outgoing and incoming workers. They have also entered the National Champs.

Moline, Ill., writes: "We now have 31 members and have had a large number of meetings and entertainments. In this hall we have a piano, dining room, cloak rooms and everything that makes an ideal headquarters. We made \$25 on our New Year's Watch Party and we sure are BOOMING!"

East Side, Cleveland, O., also comes in on the New Year's list. The members, most of whom have already done good service for the movement. They held big monthly lectures and at a recent Literary Evening \$60 was cleared to help pay off some old debts. They have formed a Junior Y. P. S. L. 20 strong. Their big annual Yipsel Ball, a socialist dance, was furthered this year at Mt. Olive Dancing Academy, on Feb. 3rd.

Do you know that thirty miles of distance separate Chicago's southernmost league from the furthest north of the league faith. It makes the joy of meeting that much sweeter.

The National Champs.

The announcement of the National Y. P. S. L. Championship Contest is hardly a week old and there are already ten entries. Most of these have sent in their names each and all who get their applications and membership lists in before Feb. 1st will make the same. There is time for credit on the membership list until Feb. 1st. Better points for entry closes on the first. Better rush along to get in your entries, if you want to start ahead of the crowd.

LETTER FROM THE RANKS.

This letter does not come from among the high and mighty. It comes from the ranks of those that do the hardest work, that carry the cost, that bear the burdens, and that pay the penalties. It is written by Comrade Blum to myself as a personal letter but I am sure that he will not object to having his sentiments toward the Yipsel faith and league membership serve as inspiration for further loyalty on their part.

Yes, this is the same Blum who is in danger of spending year after year in the penitentiary because of his part in the recent Westinghouse strike. And it is the same Blum who has all the strains and dangers of the past half year still serving his sentence fully as Secretary. Blum is a good scout, he has worked himself a hero, and he does not mind having that kind of sport, pleasure and work that ordinary Yipsels enjoy. He is grateful for your support and does not mind telling you so.

DEAR COMRADE KRUSE:

The Westinghouse Defense Committee has received the Yipsel donation of \$125, and I am now taking this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the attitude of our young rebels are taking toward this case. The amount, \$125, is a large one and will help considerably, but with that \$125 comes a spirit of comradeship, sympathy and consoling encouragement that, in this hour of threatening danger, surpasses by far in worth and value all the bloody gold of capitalism.

I am not writing this letter as a matter of formality. Behind these lines is the genuine human feeling of appreciation. At this time we are daily expecting the decision of the Superior Court, we are facing the possibility of returning to prison again. If under these circumstances one is assured, as I am, of the moral support of an organization like the Y. P. S. L., then all the bars and bolts of prisons, all the courts and police and blacklists are powerless even to mar the courage of one who dares to go into the field of industry to fight the battles of the workers.

We are but social animals and can stand only about so much. There is a limit to human endurance. A man may brave the prison walls, he may face a prosecution unflinchingly in their courts, he can buck up under the black-list that drives him helplessly from factory door to factory door, he can endure somehow the keen pangs of hunger and may even stare unmoved into the gallows noose—but when friend or comrade questions the motives that underlie the cause of the persecution, when the hirelings of Capital are justified, when sarcasm and mockery is heard in place of comradeship and sympathy—the breaking point has just about been reached.

Yet when you wrote me some time ago that you had almost \$100 in the Yipsel Defense Fund and that the Yipsel comrades were behind me in the fight things brightened up a good deal. I valued those letters. And if the court says that we have to go back behind the bars, just keep writing me, for a letter there means a great deal more even than it does out here. Your comrade, RUDOLPH BLUM.

For The New Year

By EDMUND R. BRUMBAUGH.

This is the New Year. It behooves us to make resolutions not only out of thought for the improvement of individual character, but of social character as well. Individual righteousness and social righteousness are two different things, but they are closely related and should not be separated. Each reinforces the other. The present principles should guide the making of our resolutions for greater social righteousness. More than these is impossible and less than these unthinkable to those with big hearts, broad minds and the Great Socialist Vision.

Caste and class and hide-bound creed are hateful things, for they shackle the bodies and minds and souls of men. An intelligent, faithful following of social righteousness demands a program that will banish them from the earth.

Greatness does not consist in political preferment or ability to lead men to murder on fields of battle. Social righteousness holds up for admiration and emulation those who in prominent or obscure activities add to the fulness and happiness of human life, and it has only scorn and contempt for those who thrum lust for gold or glory or both empty life of its joy and usefulness and possibilities.

More money getting should not be considered a sign of merit nor luck and cunning and trickery titles to public esteem. Few will dispute this—with their lips and pens, but equally few prove their approval by their lives and works. An industrial system that exalts money getting and lust for principles, trickery, rewarding a few rich great riches and condemning many to great poverty, embodies the height of social iniquity.

And finally, of the Socialist movement, must preserve its purity and integrity, allowing neither defeat nor triumph to lead us astray. We must beware of compromise and political trading. We have mighty principles to maintain, and must not prove false to them either thru ignorance or indolence or deliberate disruptive intent. Much depends upon it. Infinite improvement is at stake. Here is the final, most vital feature of social righteousness.

The old year has gone, and the new has come. Likewise will go the old industrial system and a new system take its place. The character of social righteousness involved in the change will be determined by the intelligence of our resolution and the extent to which we keep them.

STATE SOCIALISM IN SPAIN.

Now Spain has followed the plans of other countries in Europe and introduced a condition of State Socialism to prevent the people from starving to death. By royal decree plans are announced designed to conserve Spain's output and to regulate its distribution thru a central commission, under the supervision of the Spanish Ministry of Finance. The full text of the decree empowers the government to suspend or reduce temporarily import duties on products of prime necessity and on raw materials when exceptional circumstances require the maintenance of industries or agriculture in the interests of the national food supply. The Spanish government, it is set forth, hereafter will be authorized to purchase supplies of foodstuffs and raw materials, with a view to selling them at fixed prices. Private contracts relating to cereals, fuels, etc., will be suspended, and the government is empowered to take over the coal mines and other like properties and operate them for the public good, if other methods fail to bring about normal quotations for such products. This move on the part of the government was forced largely by threats of a general strike. And think of it, the government ignoring, demolishing and smashing into smithereens that grand, old, sacred and divine right of contract.—The Cleveland Citizen.

Another Socialist-smashing aggregation is out for the money. A so-called National Business Men's Federation, of New York City, is asking merchants and manufacturers to subscribe \$250 for this year's activities in fighting Socialism and labor legislation. In a letter sent to business men asking for this subscription, Frederic E. Kip, textile manufacturer, of Bridgeport, Conn., the federation's general board's chairman, says: "Many of our college professors are teaching their students the fallacious doctrine of free trade as a fundamental economic truth, and often Socialist tendencies among the students are encouraged. The boy of today is the man of tomorrow, and the results of the teaching of free trade and Socialism in our colleges are and will be most detrimental to the interests of this country. This federation intends to present every few months to each college student in this country and to the principals and teachers of our public schools a short, crisp argument, setting forth business truths and tariff facts, and at least once a year Governor Shaw, president of the federation, will expect to give a lecture in each of the principal colleges. The importance and desirability of this work can well be estimated when you consider that we have in our colleges alone over 100,000 students. The federation will also carry on, as it has been doing in the past two years, additional campaigns of education of a nature calculated to induce the people to elect more congressmen and United States Senators having the business man's viewpoint."

Have you responded to the call issued by the National Executive Committee for a \$50,000 Organization Fund? If not, get busy!

Scholarship Contest News

Table with columns: Name, Address, Points. Lists names like M. K. Friedman, Mae Garber, Miss E. W. Holyoke, etc., with their respective points.

Comrade Weiss, writes as follows: "For two years I attended classes at the Rand School, part time, and can heartily endorse the work that is now being carried on by the Rand School. The Rand School is the working-man's university, and I am only sorry that the Socialist Party is not able to send a hundred of the younger comrades there, each season. Education and more education is the one great and crying need of the party to-day. We have the members and we have the organization, but we lack the leaders that will weld these members together into a solid and unified fighting organization. We lack education, and we are not to blame for this, because most of us are unable to go beyond the grammar school, not so much as dream of attending a college. Comrade Weiss was in the position, I would send at least one hundred ambitious young comrades to the Rand School. The Rand School is doing remarkable work, it is filling up a gap that has retarded the growth of Socialism in this country. Success to your RAND SCHOOL CONTEST."

LIKE GUST OF FRESH AIR. "The inaugural address of Minneapolis' first Socialist mayor was like a gust of fresh air sweeping thru a foggy room," says The New Times, Minneapolis weekly, in speaking of Van Lear's address, a summary of which was published in The American Socialist last week. "It set up new standards for the conduct of the city's administrations. It brought a new point of view to bear on city problems. It gave notice in no uncertain terms that henceforth the interests of the working people would receive that consideration in the conduct of the city's administration which their position as a majority of the people of Minneapolis entitles them. "The difference in attitude is due exclusively to the fact that all previous mayors have represented the capitalist class, while the new Socialist mayor represents the working class."

The Brisbane (Australia) Worker knows something about handling language when it refers to some of the old party organs that are still bemoaning the referendum defeat of conscription. Comments the Worker: "What a stinking fish publication is the Brisbane Daily Mail. Even the Bulletin must be ashamed of its association in the camp of the conscriptionists with such a miserable decryer of a big percentage of the inhabitants of Queensland. In a most remarkable leading article the other day, in which the pitiable apology for a newspaper tried to prove that white was black and Queensland's 'No' was 'Yes'—the editorial figure-faker, legerdemain, thimble-rigger and three-card manipulator says, etc.... Such a miserable whiner, dastardly slanderer, and sophistical shicer as the Mail, which, 'for ways that are dark and tricks that are vain,' can run rings round any heathen Chinese that ever was born."

YOU WANT TO SEE a final report on the Dime Fund, don't you? This cannot be done until all outstanding banks are in. Return yours today and ask hat friend of your to return his.

HIGH COST OF LIVING ON THE CANAL ZONE.

W. J. Donaldson, Bellaire, Texas, who was for seven years a foreman on The Panama Canal, has had printed a pamphlet on The High Cost of Living in the Panama Canal Zone. Every one should read this booklet which is a strong practical argument for Socialism and Government ownership, concerning alike the housewife and the student of economics. Sent for 10 cents and postage from National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St.

"The State is Dead—But Its Ghost Appears," is the title of the leading article in The New World, Lincoln Plifer's Paper-Magazine, for February. Fred Warren writes of the effects of the war, a "Scientist" presents an entirely new contribution to the thought of evolution, while the most virile of modern publications, his hot one purporting to be from the living soul of J. W. Wayland. The paper is 60c a year, 5c a copy. Address, The New World, Girard, Kans.