



# STREET CAR MEN DEMANDS

## Arbitration Board Proves Swindle To Car Men

### Mayor Fuhrmann Betrays Trust Placed in Him by Street Car Workers.

## Want to Grant Raise of One Cent an Hour

The street car men of Buffalo have been sold out by Mayor Fuhrmann. He has deliberately betrayed the trust of the men who hoped that at least he would be willing to make a stand for 22 cents an hour, which was the price they asked.

The Buffalo Socialist has repeatedly warned the men of what might be expected of the Mayor under the conditions, and he has fulfilled our prophecy, and worse. Mr. Fuhrmann is so generous to the workers on the street car lines that he is willing that they receive the large sum of one cent an hour increase in their wages.

Mr. Fuhrmann believes that only the motormen and conductors are entitled to that magnificent sum.

Mr. Fuhrmann does not believe that the other men working for the company deserve a raise.

Mr. Fuhrmann, like a good, faithful servant of the International, would tie the men up to the company for five years to this starvation wage.

Mr. Fuhrmann wishes to keep in existence the principle of the sliding scale which makes it an inducement for the company to fire its employees for the least excuse in order to keep down the pay roll.

In fact, Mr. Fuhrmann has been true to the capitalist class and against the working class. Mr. Fuhrmann has taught the workers

## JACKSON'S MINORITY REPORT

### In Matter of Award of Arbitration Board Regarding Wages and Overtime Conditions Between the International Street Railway Company and the Employees.

I have to respectfully dissent in the following particulars to the decision of the majority of the Board, composed of His Honor, Mayor L. P. Fuhrmann and Mr. Bert L. Jones.

First—Section 3. I dissent from the majority opinion for the reason that I think the scale decided upon to be inadequate and not in accordance with the evidence.

In my opinion the wages in a certain locality should in a great measure be regulated upon the cost of living and the conditions of labor in such locality. In the latter I hold that this should be based largely upon the increase in wages of workmen obtained through collective rather than individual source. Sufficient evidence was presented from the side of the employes as to the advanced prices at retail of the necessary commodities that go into a workman's home. The evidence on the part of the company attempted to show from the viewpoint of wholesale dealers that increase in cost of living had not been noticeable within the past few years.

I firmly believe that this evidence should be disregarded, as the test of the matter is in the charge which the retailer makes to the consumer. It needs no documentary evidence to prove that this increase has aggregated from fifteen to twenty-five per cent within the past three years.

The evidence shows that different craftsmen in this locality have received increases ranging from twelve to twenty per cent within this period.

For these reasons I hold that the motormen and conductors should be advanced at least fifteen per cent.

I believe also that the employes in the interurban service should be paid a higher rate than city service on account of added responsibilities attached to their duties.

Second—Section 3. I contend that the employes who are assigned for extra work over and above their regular day's work should be paid at the rate of time and one-half.

I believe that an employe, after the strain of his regular day's

## JACKSON WITHDRAWS FROM ARBITRATION BOARD

The Board of Arbitration was composed of three men. Who and what did they represent.

Mr. Jackson represented the union and as such had to do and did as the men wished. He fought to get all he could for the men.

Mr. Jones represented the International Railway Company. Naturally he was antagonistic to everything Mr. Jackson proposed.

The third arbitrator and the deciding factor was "His Honor" Mr. Fuhrmann supposed to represent the public and to see that justice is done to all.

The third arbitrator and the deciding factor was "His Honor" Mr. Fuhrmann supposed to represent the public and to see that justice is done to all.

The Mayor apparently believes that about 23 cents an hour is enough for a man to receive for his work. No man can live and support a family on 23 cents an hour. The street car men receive five thousand dollars per year as Mayor of Buffalo. A great deal more than 23 cents per hour.

The whole thing is that the Mayor is a capitalist politician and his interests are the same as that of other capitalists.

He stood with his class, the capitalist class. It is to the workers to stand together as a class, The Working Class.

## FUHRMANN CONTROLLED BY CAPITALISTS

Whoever furnishes the finances for any political party during a campaign will dictate what the candidates of that political party shall do to elect.

The Socialists say that the old parties are capitalist parties because their campaign funds come almost entirely from members of the employing class. Corporations and men contribute money only when they expect to receive some return for their investment.

The Democrat campaign fund that elected Fuhrmann was not furnished by the Socialists. It was furnished almost entirely by anti-wage workers and they are now receiving the return on their investment.

No capitalists contribute to the campaign funds of the Socialists.

Tomorrow, Sunday afternoon, the Socialist Party of this city, will nominate its candidates. They will be the candidates of the Working Class. The workers will contribute their nickels and dimes to the Socialist campaign fund, and if the candidates of the Socialist Party are elected they will be as faithful to the workers who furnished their finances as is Mayor Fuhrmann faithful to the capitalists who furnished the funds to elect him.

Keep this under your hat. Whoever furnishes the funds dictates what the candidates shall do after election.

## BUFFALO'S CAR MEN RECEIVE LOW WAGES

Buffalo's street car men get the lowest wages paid on the North American continent. Cleveland pays much more with a city owned railway and three cent fares. Toronto operates a line with a three-cent fare and pays much higher wages.

And nowhere is the revenue of the street railway as great as is the International's. Everywhere else night and morning three-cent fares have been forced for the benefit of the workers. It's five cents straight here. In fact, no single occasion has been forced from the International by the pre-election friends of labor who have guided the destinies of the city.

## MAYOR FUHRMANN'S GENEROUS PROPOSITION

Truly Mayor Fuhrmann is a generous man. In his anxiety to serve the interests of the International Railway he has gone to great trouble to draw up a proposition of his own which he is kind enough to offer as a finality.

For the benefit of our readers we reprint a few of the good things which the generous Louis wishes to bestow on the street car men. If Louis keeps on he will die poor.

The following are extracts from Mr. Fuhrmann's kind offer:

### SECTION 9.

No increase in wages shall be granted to men having charge of



WILLIAM B. FITZGERALD Organizer of Amalgamated Street Car Men Who Will Fight the Decision of the Board of Arbitration

boilers or fire engines at car houses and shops or to men working in the building department.

### SECTION 10.

Shop men shall be allowed time and one-half for overtime and for work on Sundays and holidays.

Men who are promoted to positions in shops and barns shall receive such compensation as their qualifications, efficiency and length of service may warrant, all of which shall be determined by the company. The demand for a horizontal advance in wages of 25 per cent is denied, because it is unreasonable and the method illogical and unjust, as there are doubtless many men employed in the shops who are receiving as much as they should be paid for the services rendered, while there may be some who are not receiving as much as they should receive. We therefore determine that the matter of increase of wages of shopmen shall be a matter of adjustment by the company in individual cases.

### SECTION 11.

No increase of wages shall be granted to switch tenders, curve greasers and electric house men. We therefore determine that the matter of increase of wages of the above men be a matter of adjustment by the company in individual cases.

### SECTION 3.

Regular men shall perform work as necessary to take care of traffic exigencies and to provide adequate service to the public when extra men for any reason are not available.

All regular men assigned for extra work over and above their regular day's work, shall be paid at the regular rates for all overtime worked beyond their regular day's work.

Wages for all motormen and conductors in passenger service, both city and interurban line, shall be as follows: From May 1st, 1913, to May 1st, 1914, 23 cents per hour; 2nd year, 24 cents per hour; 3rd year, 25 cents per hour.

## WHAT THE MEN SAY ABOUT "GOLD BRICK AWARD"

On learning of the decision reached by Mr. Jones of the International Railway Co. and Mayor Fuhrmann, faithful friend of the International Socialist, a reporter for the Buffalo Socialist at once began to interview various conductors, motormen and other employees of the Street Railway Company to learn what they think of the "award" handed them by a corporation lawyer and a Mayor who is himself a capitalist and who could not, therefore, be expected to "award" the working class anything else than a "gold brick."

A conductor on the Seneca line when asked how he liked the "award" had this to say:

"To look as though we had been legally snubbed, I, for one, am not in favor of standing for any such flim-flamming arrangement. The International is playing a foolish and dangerous game. We thought at one time that the company was inclined to act fairly with us but it is now evident that they have been playing us for a lot of suckers."

A motorman on the same line said:

"We have been betrayed into the hands of the railway company. That is as plain as day. Will we stand for this arrangement? Whether we will or not may be demonstrated within a few days. We are not in the proper mood to put up with any monkey work on the part of the company of Louis Fuhrmann either."

Said a Main line conductor:

"I do not consider that we have reached any agreement with the company nor do I believe the findings of a company lawyer and a city hall politician relative to the conditions under which we must live for the next five years will be accepted by the men."

A Seneca line motorman said:

"When we went out on strike last April we had the support of the people of Buffalo because they knew we had a just cause. Mayor Fuhrmann evidently thinks differently and in making his decision favors us as a lemon and deliberately gives the people of this city a kick in the face. I wonder if he will have the nerve to ask for our votes come election."

The foregoing indicates the general feeling among the carmen who clearly realize that they have been handled a raw deal.

The International Railway Co. is plainly looking for trouble and from all indications is about to have it's desire in this direction gratified.

It is safe to say, however, that they will be able to pull off any flim-flam arbitration stunts on the carmen in the event of a fresh revolt.

## AGREEMENT VOID

There can be no agreement made by Mr. Jones and Mayor Fuhrmann that will be binding on the men and their union. Mr. Edward D. Jackson, who represented the union in the arbitration proceedings, has withdrawn from the arbitration board. Thus the findings of Mr. Jones and his co-worker, the Mayor, are null and void in so far as the men are concerned.

The next question that arises is what are the men to do. That is up to the men and their union. If they decide to strike again and that's about the only thing left for them to do, they should decide as an organization and strike as a union. The street car men went into the strike of a few months ago with practically no organization and soon had the International on the run. If the car men strike again, and strike they may, they have an organization comprising almost every man employed on the entire International System and not only that but Buffalo only a few months ago was known as a scrub town. Since the car men's strike a new spirit has been instilled into the workers of this city and another strike of the street railroad employes may soon result in a general strike of all the workers in this city.

## FUMFLAMMED

### Arbitration Agreement of Street Car Men and International Railway VOID

Once more it has been demonstrated that the much lauded game of arbitration in labor disputes is nothing but a flimflam. It is playing with the cards marked and the dice loaded against the workers. The pot-house politician in the Mayor's office was on the job to make political capital out of the street railroad strike. He invited the appointment of chief arbitrator of the matters in dispute between the men and the company.

Since June 24th last star chamber methods have been at work at the City Hall, and now it appears that as a result of all the "deliberation" that the demagogue in the Mayor's office, has, for some reason or other, favored the company by denying all of the demands of the men; and the fellow has the gall to say that his decision shall be binding for five years. He might as well have made it binding for life, and be done with it. No such power was given this little would-be Czar. He thinks a raise of one cent per hour for the conductors and motormen, and nothing for the remainder of the street car company's employes, an ample and magnificent "award." That just about gives the measure of the man.

This so-called raise of a very small fraction of the street car men amounts to less than 5 per cent for them only, and it is to be binding for five years if the impish "award" is accepted.

The figures furnished by the Bureau of Labor Statistics at Washington, in Bulletin No. 113, show that the cost of living in only one year, from 1911 to 1912, went up 11.2 per cent and that in five years, namely 1908-1912, the cost of living went up 24.1 per cent.

The street car men, in words and in form, struck for an increase of pay. In truth and in fact, they were not striking for an increase of pay at all, but were striking against a reduction in pay. A man's pay is not to be measured by money terms or huddling tokens that are stuck into envelopes. The true measure of his pay is the amount of living necessities that he can buy with what he gets.

The street car men had, in five years, suffered a reduction in their pay, by the reduction of the purchasing power of it, so that it required at least 24 per cent more of the stuff called money if they wanted to live on the basis of five years ago, and the price of things was, and is, still going up. The men's demand for the flat increase of 25 per cent was eminently fair, just and modest. The arbitrary arbitrator has simply played at battledoor and shutecock with the living necessities of the street car men and their families; he has trifled with bread, he has not treated them seriously; he has used them to make political capital for himself.

The men and their representatives were flummied by the arbitration agreement. The agreement was not entered into in good faith by the railroad company. The obligation to arbitrate was not entered upon in good faith by the chief arbitrator. The obligation was assumed by him with the sinister motive of making the opportunity serve him as a stepping stone. The agreement to arbitrate is not now of any binding force or effect upon the men whatsoever. It has no moral support, it has no claim or any support, and is not enforceable in any way if the men choose to disregard it. There must, however, be a unity of purpose. It is up to the street car men's union to act with firmness and determination.

## DEMANDS OF STREET CAR MEN

Section 3. The wages for all motormen and conductors shall be thirty-two cents per hour, flat rate on city lines, and on all interurban lines they shall receive thirty-four cents per hour, flat rate.

All men who consent to and are assigned for extra work over and above their regular day's work, shall be paid at the rate of time and one-half.

Overtime to commence from the finishing time of their regular day's work, and continue until the completion of such overtime work.

It shall be optional with men laying off from their regular runs as to whether or not they desire to perform such extra trips or work. Overtime mentioned in this section will not apply to Snow-plow or Sweeper work.

Section 4. The rate of pay for all engineers for hauling freight, or operating freight motors, shall be forty cents per hour; conductors to be paid at the rate of thirty-six cents per hour; and all brakemen to be paid at the rate of twenty-nine cents per hour. All the regular freight runs shall pay ten (10) hours' time and shall be completed within the least number of hours possible. All regular freight men called for work other than their regular work shall receive not less than five (5) hours' pay.

The company will meet with the committee from time to time on the question of runs and where adjustments for improvement can be made, the same will be complied with.

Section 5. All telegraph operators, dispatchers, agents, baggage-men and clerks at all stations or on all divisions shall receive an increase of wages, amounting to twenty per cent over the rate of wages paid on April 5th, 1913.

The first paragraph of Section 6 is agreed to. The point we urge shall receive no less than 9 hours' pay, and shall be paid time and one-half for all time worked over 9 hours. In other words, to get that clearly before the Board. The real intent of section 6 would probably be better if we should read the whole section. The paragraph agreed to in section 6 is:

Men having no Sunday runs will not be required to show up





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H. O. HOFFMAN Cigars, Confectionery, Baked Goods, Shell Groceries...

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Women's Column

Address all Communications to Women's Column, Buffalo Socialist

OLD AGE "This work is really too hard for you; you had better get another job."

This man had formerly been a bookkeeper for the concern, but falling sick had rendered him incapable of continuing that work...

We do not place any particular blame on the members of the firm. This man had served them; he had been paid the customary wage, and was no longer physically able to do the work that was required...

There are many who think that every man who has arrived at the age of 45 and has not provided himself with a home and a modest income...

NATIONAL OFFICE THE LAND OF MILK AND HONEY

Many have asked why the National Office employs so large a force...

Prior to 1908 the whole office force consisted of a few persons. The pay roll amounted to only about \$500.

The Lyceum has immense possibilities, and you may be sure that if we do not run a Lyceum Bureau the other fellow will, and as this is truly a cooperative enterprise...

Then there is the Women's department. This is surely essential. The necessity for the political education of women...

The information Department has justified itself in less than a year's time. Even in that short period its possibilities for usefulness have been shown to be unlimited.

Then there is one tremendous department doing a work which had never before been done. I refer to the Translator-Secretaries. There are ten of them now employed in the National Office...

Modern Philanthropy

Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth, says the man of Narbonne. Not so, says the man of the Socialist. Let thy hand advertise what thy right hand doeth...

SALONERS ON SINKING SHIP

On February 17, 1912, the steamer Mount Oswald left Baltimore for Hamburg, and was never heard from again.

Socialist Party News

Address all Communications to Party News, Buffalo Socialist

IMPORTANT NOTICE THE ATTENTION OF EVERY PARTY MEMBER IS CALLED TO THE GENERAL PARTY MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE HEAD-QUARTERS...

YOUR DUES ARE A DEBT OF HONOR Your dues to the Socialist party are a debt you owe to yourself and your family...

LOST AT TEUTONIA PARK PICNIC Lost at Teutonia Park, July 20th, a lady's gold watch and fob. Finder please notify the Buffalo Socialist or Secretary Joseph Ball...

INCREASE IN SIZE OF THE PARTY BUILDER The current issue of the Party Builder, No. 38, marks its third step forward...

PICNIC TICKETS All readers of the Buffalo Socialist who have outstanding tickets for the Teutonia Park picnic are urged to settle for same as soon as possible.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY. Comrades: The National Committee, by vote, has called for a twenty-five cent contribution from every member...

The Trades Council of Portland, Oregon, writes as follows: "The Panama Exposition is drawing to a close. It is in 1914. The Pacific Coast States of North America are threatened, as the result of same, with a great flood of artificially induced immigration."

These steamship companies are actuated, of course, by the most selfish motives. They want passengers and profits. What becomes of the people once they are dumped upon the Pacific Coast States is no concern of theirs.

Let every member willingly do his share in lifting the burden. By acting in one mass we will prove to our solidarity and our strength. We will prove that we can do big things. We will show that the Socialist Party of America has reached manhood's estate.

By order of the National Committee. WALTER LANFERNSEK, Executive Secretary.

BIG MEETING IN 21ST WARD. On July 23, Mrs. Ella Beeve Bloore lectured at the corner of Briggs avenue and Twenty-first street, under the auspices of Branch 5, and considering the fact that it was a drizzly, rainy night...

BRANCH FIVE Branch Five held an important meeting at Franklin Hall last Sunday afternoon. Nominations were made for aldermen, supervisors and constables in the 25th, 26th and 27th wards.

Joseph Wutz SAMPLE ROOM Casino Wines, Liquors and Cigars 1686 Bailey Avenue.

Queen City Candy Co. WHOLESALE CANDIES 808 WILLIAM STREET FRONTIER 96501 Bell, Howd. 1828-W

August Kluge THIRST PARLOR FURNISHED ROOMS 1271 Genesee Street

Bailey Farm Orders Delivered Bell, Oxford 914-W Dealers in High Grade BUTTER and EGGS DRESSED POULTRY TO ORDER 2900 Bailey Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.

John Ruskin... Canadian Club... Buffalo... Young People's Socialist League... On the 24th of August the League will gather a couple of cars and take a trip out to Seneca Park...

ATTENTION!

MEMBERS OF LOCAL BUFFALO, SOCIALIST PARTY

GENERAL PARTY MEETING

Franklin Hall, 52 W. Eagle St. Sunday Afternoon, Aug. 3rd

Candidates for City and County offices will be nominated. Municipal platform will be adopted. Bring your due card with you. Only members in good standing will be admitted.

BACK TO NATURE BASKET PICNIC

A most beautiful spot about a mile and a half this side of Hamburg UNDER AUSPICES OF

Branches 2, 4 and 8, Local Buffalo S. P. Sunday, August 24th GAMES

PHILIP H. GALLERY OF SCHENECTADY WILL SPEAK Take B. & L. E. Cars at Washington and Clinton Streets NO ADMISSION

The Street Car Men's Union

ARE HAVING THEIR FIRST ANNUAL FIELD DAY AT CARNIVAL COURT

Wednesday, August 27th TICKETS, 10 CENTS EACH

Buy your tickets from any motorman or conductor. Every Union man in Buffalo ought to patronize the Street Car Men.

SOCIALIST DAY

CRYSTAL BEACH Saturday, Aug. 30th

ATHLETIC GAMES SPECIAL ATTRACTION Hannes Kolehmainen, champion amateur long distance runner of the world, will compete against four men - running in relays - against the world's record.

UNDER AUSPICES OF LOCAL BUFFALO, SOCIALIST PARTY

Agitate and subscribe for the Arbeiter-Beitung. The only German newspaper in the state outside of New York City, representing the interest of the Working Class. - 80 cents for 8 months. Office, 315-317 Genesee Street, - Buffalo, N. Y.

CRYSTAL BEACH

BEST FRESH WATER BATHING BEACH IN STATE Buffalo's Favorite Summer Resort - 25 Miles Lake Erie 35c. Children 15c. Admission 10c. No Liquor Sold on Beaches or Hotels on Beach.

FROM MANUFACTURER TO CONSUMER High grade Ladies' and Gents' Trunks. Quality of goods wanted and best material to be used. When making your order, state your check number, grade of leather, and the color. Send for price list.

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When making your order, state your check number, grade of leather, and the color. Send for price list. GUSTAV SCHUBERT, 17 W. Ferry Street, Buffalo, N. Y. 1-24



NOT AS CRAFTS BUT AS A CLASS

(From The Labor Argus, Charleston, W. Va.)

Through the evolution of the labor movement it becomes more apparent every day that localCrafts...

West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, in fact, the mining interests of the nation.

Capitalism has developed until its interest is so woven and interwoven in the various industries...

The coal operators can stand the strike until next spring and the mine workers with their 400,000...

Morals and Business

Modern standards are not meant to be mere ornaments or holiday adornments. They are the expressions of the most vigorous...

Comrades

(By William Barsard.) Over the parting oceans, O'er the dividing lands, O'er the parting oceans...

The Lilies of the Field

"Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin."

Freedom

The freedom of man depends as much on his mastery of his intellect as on his moral powers...

Emotion and Interest

Socialism in most cases begins in the heart. It then conquers the head, and finally moves the whole individual...

The Problem of Criminality

Killing criminals is one way of dealing with crime, another, rational one is to study the causes of crime.

ORGANIZE TO WIN

Gradually the labor movement in this country is evolving into a fighting organization which will meet the conditions brought about by what is called big business.

FREE SPEECH IN MICHIGAN

An appeal to the Circuit Court has been taken by Edward J. McGurty, Chicago, and four local Socialist speakers of Nagsavage, who were convicted of disorderly conduct for holding a street meeting in the business district.

THOSE MILWAUKEE SOCIALISTS

The Milwaukee Socialists are demanding that the municipality engage in the manufacture and sale of ice. The people are with the Socialists...

OSIOL INDIVIDUATED

Some weeks ago articles appearing in several Socialist papers accused Comrade Osiol of being a traitor to the cause. It was alleged that while acting in Socialist circles in Russia...

GENERAL STRIKE IN GERMANY?

A great general strike of the German workers may occur in the near future for complete universal suffrage. The French workers led by the Boulangier class is so bogged about with restrictions that a revolt is inevitable...

SEEVANS AND BULGARIANS

While the Servians and Bulgarians are still murdering each other in the Balkan war, the Serbs and other Balkan countries are raising funds to send their comrades in the Balkans to assist in restoring their organizations, which have been more or less shattered by the war...

Socialist News

BAR SOCIALIST TEACHER FROM SCHOOLS. EVERETT, Wash.—The Snohomish County Superintendent of Schools has refused to approve the employment of the Arlington (Wash.) school board of J. E. Sinclair...

STREET RAILWAY MEN

Organized almost over night and going on strike without delay the Lexington (Ky.) street car men were an increase in wages and recognition of the union in a stormy contest of four days.

ASSIST AGED SOCIALISTS

With the growth of the Socialist movement a problem has arisen which must be solved. It is the fate of aged members. The movement demands so much of its adherents, the struggle for better conditions, for the members of the working class...

A BULL MOOSE GOVERNOR

California Socialists and the workers of that state generally are bemoaning the Bull Moose governor, Hiram Johnson. He is being flooded with letters and telegrams protesting against the suppression of free speech in San Diego...

HUNGARIAN SOCIALISTS

The Hungarian Socialist Party is reported to have made a splendid showing at the recent elections. The conference of the organization must be held behind closed doors. The premier is Count Tizsa. He is reported to have been very anxious...

SCHECHENADY

In Schechenady the old parties and the capitalist press are making strenuous efforts to head off the rising tide of Socialism and prevent the election of the Socialist ticket this fall. It is a settled fact that all the old parties will combine to defeat the "Reds."

WILL HAVE GOOD TIME

The good steamer Pretoria sailed for Germany a few days ago having as its passengers about a hundred members of the Socialist Seawanderer of New York. The party, including a goodly number of women, will travel around the old country, visit the Socialist centers and have a good time generally.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL LETTISH ORGANIZATION

The Executive Committee of the National Lettish organization of the Socialist Party of America has received the following telegram from Brussels, Belgium, July 11, 1913. "Osio! absolutely innocent. Accusations against him unfounded. Calumny emanated from Lettish reactionary papers."

DUOCE SOCIALISTS REPULSE

Pietro-Jules Trotsky and other Duoce Socialists declined to accept the invitation to join the new cabinet now being formed under the leadership of the Liberal Democratic Deputy, Dr. Rizk Bos.

BOHEMIAN SOCIALISTS ACTIVE

Gustav Haberman, a member of the Austrian parliament, will start on a tour under the auspices of the Bohemian Section of the Socialist Party beginning early in September.

BY MERKEL, SECRETARY

By Merkel, Secretary. A great general strike of the German workers may occur in the near future for complete universal suffrage. The French workers led by the Boulangier class is so bogged about with restrictions that a revolt is inevitable...

BUFFALO SOCIALIST

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 2, 1913

ANOTHER DISASTER--MORE INVESTIGATION

Hardly have the people of this state recovered from the shock of the Hotel mill disaster when another equally terrible holocaust is thrust before us in the case of the fire at the Binghamton Clothing Company's plant...

It appears that there were no automatic sprinklers in the building and only six pairs of water on each floor, no standpipes and no fire hose. The stairs and stairways were made of wood, of which there was only one set. Fire escapes were placed directly in front of the windows...

It is claimed by the company that fire drills were conducted frequently, and that the girls thought that it was a drill and took their places.

The Buffalo Socialist has frequently called the attention of the Fire Marshal to buildings in this city that are not sufficiently protected against fire, and where such an incident is possible at any time...

What do they care for the lives of their employees? Their business is insured and a new and larger building can soon be put up and plenty more workers can be procured, and they will be sorry, when their lawyers will see to it that no harm will come to them?

In investigating such cases as this, efforts are made to place the blame on someone in the employ of the concern, such as the engineer, but you never hear of any of the proprietors being sent down for criminally sacrificing the lives of the workers, that wouldn't do you know.

The workers will never receive proper protection until they learn that the men they have been electing to office represent the class that own the factories, and naturally they will not put the proprietors to any test that would be avoided, even though it sacrifice the lives of thousands of workers.

The lesson to be learned from such disasters is that if the workers expect men elected to office to protect their interests they must be elected on a platform and by a party that represents the working class. No man can serve two masters. The Socialist Party today elects on capitalist political party tickets are working for the capitalist class to the detriment of the working class.

The capitalist class recognizes the class struggle and fights for its class. When the working class learn to do the same then there will be some hope of relief.

With the Perry celebration, the Hygiene Congress, building club houses for golfers, etc., no wonder there is no money left to build and repair schools.

If the working class ever expect to get anything they will have to go into politics. The capitalist class have made a great success at it. So much so that it will be no easy task taking back what they have secured in this manner!

ORGANIZE TO WIN

Gradually the labor movement in this country is evolving into a fighting organization which will meet the conditions brought about by what is called big business. On the side of the capitalist class can be seen everywhere the annihilation of every man by the exploiters to make more profit than ever before. That means that the workers must get less for their labor and pay more for the means of existence. Large corporations are not only growing larger, but the large corporations are even being organized to meet the needs of the workers and ease of labor trouble of any kind they stand united against the workers, and when one concern is fighting the union all the others supply the necessary products to enable their allies to supply customers. Going a step farther, all kinds of business concerns and their associations are members of the Manufacturers' Association, which has branches in every city and town of importance throughout the United States. This association has national officers always on the alert to set aside any legislation that might be detrimental to the capitalist class, and believe us, the recent exposures of Mr. Mulhall at the Washington investigation has shown how far this gang of respectable highwaymen will go to "make an honest dollar." To members of labor organizations these conditions mean that in order to advance, or even to hold their own, they must be organized to meet the enemy. Unions of kindred crafts must be organized that if trouble arises, or demands are to be made, sufficient numbers must be involved to tie up, not only one branch of the trade, but every man connected with the industry, making it impossible for the manufacturers to turn a profit. The time has passed when a few men of one trade in a shop can tie up a business by going out on strike. With all the strike-breaking agencies at hand ready to supply thugs and scabs and receiving the backing of so much money for every man on strike from the Manufacturers' Association, and other union men forced to work with the scabs because they have agreements which prevent them from aiding their fellow-workers, such a strike must be a failure from the start. Most every union now has national and international officers, but the national officers become so wrapped up in the affairs of their own individual union that the importance of mass action is either forgotten or neglected at critical times, and fellow-workers are allowed to suffer defeat through lack of solidarity on the part of organized labor. This condition of affairs must be changed, and soon if the workers of this country expect to make headway in the struggle. We believe that most of the rank and file of the membership of the labor unions understand the necessity for organization along these lines, and that there is a strong tendency in that direction, but in order to bring it about individual members must agree to aid and abet their fellow-workers to a proper understanding of the true meaning of the solidarity of labor. It is just as necessary to have a union of unions, organized to present a solid front, as it is to have individuals organized into a union. Organize to win!