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THE WORKING MAN'S PAPER

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## Socialist Comments On One Day's News

(See Post-Intelligencer, Monday, March 18.)

The Law and Order League of Seattle is struggling with Mayor Humes again to make him be "good," shut up the various dens and stamp out vice. . . . A churchly committee visited him last week to urge him to enforce the law.

He told them plainly: "When I was a candidate for election I promised not to enforce the laws, and I never told a lie and never will."

That's the exact situation in Seattle. This man actually said from the stump a year ago, "This is a seaport town vice is profitable, miners demand it, I will do just as I have done for the last two years, let her go wide open. Now you know what to expect if you elect me." And they elected him, a stalwart Republican, a host of good church people and Republicans voting for him in the secrecy of the Australian ballot.

Now, friends, hear the Socialist explanation, the rational reason, for this state of things.

Thousands of men and women have come to Seattle, and they must get a living somehow. Life is the easiest way, almost, the only way left to many of them.

What keeps up the saloons? The host of unemployed that must get a living somehow, and saloon keeping is one of the easiest ways.

The same cause that overworks every profession, lawyers, doctors, preachers, engineers, clerks—the great reserve army thrown out of employment by modern inventions—this furnishes your saloon keepers, gamblers, prostitutes, burglars, hold-ups and the rest. . . . This class of men keep their money flying, the merchants get hold of it, and so they, Christians and all, elected Humes to do their bidding—and he's doing it.

And he's another of the great tramp army seeking a precarious existence. Don't blame him or them.

But find a means to let everybody earn an honest living and above all, to get what he earns.

### AN INSTANCE.

A French girl tells how she was saved from the wrecked Rio de Janeiro.

That recalls the question, Why such a loss of life on that Pacific steamer?

The U. S. inspectors' investigation brought it out plainly enough. The employment of a cheap and inefficient Chinese crew was the reason boats were not ready and not well manned.

But why a Chinese crew? The agent of the line answered frankly, "Our competitors employ them, and we must also or go out of business."

Cheap and old vessels—for profits. A cheap crew for profits. Capital demands its dividends. Therefore reduce the cost of labor and thereby increase the returns of capital.

Remedy: Abolish profits. Abolish a system which regards property before human life.

### ANOTHER VICTIM.

William Miller and his fellow line-men were victims of a live wire. The intense heat melted the network of wires running in every direction, and one of them, in falling, struck a trolley wire, the other end crossing the brass nozzle of the hose, held by Miller and Snyder. . . . Both men fell as though they had been shot. Sheekler and Griffith, in going to the rescue.

we also caught and both were badly burned. When the prostrate men were reached Miller was dead and two of the others unconscious.

Why not have the wires buried? Costs too much. Diminishes profits and dividends. Life no account.

### AND ANOTHER.

Factory girls consumed by fire. Only one fire-escape from the seventh floor and 25 girls employed there.

Why not two fire escapes? Costs too much. Diminishes profits.

Capital is a juggernaut. It demands victims. It compels victims.

The owner of the factory had to get on with one fire escape and cheapen in every direction in order to sell on the market at all against his competitors. Therefore he must sacrifice life or lose his own. It is the very nature of this Beast of Capitalism to demand sacrifices of human flesh and blood.

### FROM JAPAN, TOO.

YOKOHAMA, Feb. 26.—A curious paradox exists. Owing to its habits of economy Japan is relatively one of the richest nations, but now it is in the depth of poverty, with its efforts at industry brought to almost a complete standstill. The remarkable steadiness of foreign stocks in the treaty ports, in spite of general depression, is very noticeable. Dividends of from 8 to 12 per cent. are steadily up to the mark, while Japanese investment enterprises divide still larger profits.

The correspondent calls this a "paradox." The constant paradox of Capitalism is this: "A rich country in the depths of poverty." Just so. Always so. "Its efforts at industry almost at a complete standstill." But why? Our correspondent unconsciously gets the explanation close to his paradox. "Stocks" are steady, yielding "dividends of from 8 to 12 per cent." while Japanese investments yield even more. So are the laborers robbed into poverty, spite of their natural energy and frugality. They have nothing to buy with. The dividends that keep the stocks steady—going both to foreign investors and to Japanese capitalists—these are the riches which the laborers created, but did not get. Japan is indeed copying the western nations—and hence, too, Socialists are appearing in there.

The new primary law proposed for the state of Washington has been defeated, thanks to the vigilance and energetic action of the Socialist under the leadership of The Socialist of Seattle. This is a real victory for labor, and when understood, our bustling and esteemed contemporary will receive the full measure of the people's gratitude—Public Ownership, Erie, Pa.

Next Monday night a special meeting of Local Seattle is called to discuss a subject of greatest importance to all. Every member should attend. 8 p. m. Be on hand promptly, if possible.

It is an easy way for you to support this paper by supporting our advertisers. You have to spend your money somewhere.

### WHAT TO DO.

Letter From Dallas, Texas—Word H. Mills Says Good Things of The Socialist; and The Socialist Has a Few Words to Say About Unity.

Dallas, Tex., March 8.  
Editor The Socialist:—Thanks for copy of your paper. I like it. It teaches Socialism, not "Socialism." You folks evidently do not come under the category of that class of propaganda journals I have been denouncing so vigorously in my "Letters to Texas Workingmen," in Farmer's Review. Your propaganda shines out against the hazy background of the S. D. P. press brilliantly. You people have been studying the ethics of Socialism from the class-conscious working-class standpoint, and are "clear" on the class struggle. You have reached the plane upon which the entire movement must stand before Socialism can become a fact.

If the S. D. P. press at large were as clear as The Socialist, the S. D. P. might not have so large a membership, but it would be an educated and disciplined one, and there would be no controversy over "Unity." Unity would be accomplished.

I appreciate that education is the thing needful. When workmen become educated in economics, the settlement of the question of Socialist unity will become spontaneous. As long as the Middle Class interests sway the movement through its propaganda press, so long will there be division, not over alleged "tactics," but even over fundamentals.

The Marxian propaganda is the safe one; it's the one that ultimately must triumph. Hence, while we are educating the people at large destined under the inexorable system of Capitalist expropriation to eventually become proletarians, let's educate correctly. Yours fraternally,

WORD H. MILLS.

P. S. Enclosed stamps for subscription.

Of course we appreciate Comrade Mills' appreciation of The Socialist; though there are numerous other S. D. P. papers just as clear as The Socialist.

But we are not so sure as he is that agreement on fundamentals will bring unity. The De Leon S. L. P. is too vivid a contradiction of such unity. If any set of men are agreed on the straightest doctrine—and the Marxian doctrine too—it the Spartan band that polled 3,000 votes last fall. Yet they are constantly dividing. Here in Seattle is a conspicuous illustration. One of the strongest De Leon sections in the country is now reduced to a handful by a disaffection which is mainly personal. At any rate, there is no disagreement as to fundamentals. They are all scientific Socialists.

Read The Weekly People, the De Leon paper. It is full of personalities, recriminations, imputations, suspicion, epithets and abuse—directed toward men who fully agree with De Leon as to the fundamentals of Socialism—but who do not choose to belong to his organization.

No. Unity of insight does not insure unity of organization.

But this remains true. There will never be unity of action without unity of view and purpose. To that end we educate. To that end, it is vitally necessary that the swarm of Utopian papers calling themselves Socialists, should be taught the scientific fundamentals.

There is no hurry about organic unity, if such unity is to include the uneducated and aimless. There must be education before organization, there is no doubt as to that, Brother Mills.

But there is Tertium Quid, a third equally essential something before unity of action can be secured, and that

## Snapshot at Capitalism

(FROM PUCK.)



### TENEMENT HOUSE ANGELS.

This is a Typical Product of Capitalism, portrayed by one of its own artists.

The Tenement House, home of the Workingman and his Poverty. What Else do you expect of him? Man is the product of his conditions.

We Socialists agree with you, but of this hell come the aged child, the idiot, the maniac, the hag, the thug, the gambler, the baron, the "drunk" and Death itself.

And what do you propose to do about it, you capitalist "philanthropists?" How will you cure Poverty?

Will you keep "The Stock Yards" of Chicago and abolish the "Back of the Yards?" You cannot. The "Back" is the inevitable product of the "Packingtown." Capital and Wage-Slavery cannot be separated.

But Socialism has its perfect remedy. Abolish the private ownership of those yards, conduct them no longer for the production of dividends, but solely for the production of meats for the millions, and your Tenement-House and its Angels will disappear.

Crime comes from the Tenement House. The Tenement House comes from Poverty. Poverty comes from Capital and Wages, the system that pays a man the least he can live on, the system that takes two-thirds of his product away from every laborer, that drives him to the Tenement House as his only chance for shelter—all for the benefit of overgrown Capital.

Capital is the source of every crime. CAPITAL IS CRIME.

is, a Human Spirit, a spirit of Personal Tolerance.

This does not mean "brotherly love," or anything angelic, but simple human decency in our dealings with one another. It means that Socialists shall have no such fundamental principle as hatred and animism. Prof. Heron recognizes the Class struggle just as clearly as Prof. De Leon, and he does so in a spirit infinitely more human.

We may not expect our party to be made up of such sensitive men as Heron, but neither can it ever be constituted of such brutal ones as De Leon.

Socialists among themselves must be personally tolerant and co-operative, while absolutely and inflexibly devoted to the fundamental truths of Socialism.

There are plenty of men of this sort in our movement. And they will come to the front.

These will be the Statesmen of Socialism, as contrasted with the mere politicians.

Out of the present discussion and ferment, will arise a strong, clear-eyed, class-conscious Proletarian Party, that Capitalists can neither bribe nor outwit nor outvote.

Let us be patient, and meanwhile, Educate.

Have you entered the race for the ticket-selling prize for the benefit of The Socialist, March 30?

Advertisers will advertise when it pays to advertise. Make it pay.

# Thoughts by Your Uncle

"Run Up Against a Snag," announce our daily papers referring to the way the Russian government headed off a cork trust that was cornering prices. What was the snag? High tin? No. Gold standard? Not on your life. Free trade? I should say not. Free silver? Why, bless your foolish little Popolodemo heart, of course not. What was it? Oh, only what the Socialists have been telling you all along would alone head off the evils that flow from a privately-owned trust—the Russian government simply went into the trust business itself, and hereafter will make its own corks without the interference or hindrance of a private enterprise run for profit. See?

Once more has the present system rewarded a member of society for his years of toil and sacrifice, and once more may be seen the incentive that leads us to rush and hustle that we may ask today. Who the dickens is poor enough to care for tomorrow, anyway? Major Corwin, an old pioneer of Whatcom county, died at the poor farm there Feb. 17. He had been an honest and hard worker all his life and his labor had done a good deal toward developing that section (for the benefit of the eastern land shark, whose coming is gleefully awaited by a new crop of suckers). The major had been a member of a certain lodge for many years, but latterly had failed to keep his dues paid up, the funeral expenses were met by individual donations. So goes another worker, worn out, worked out, and of no more value to a faithless society.

"Yes, you Socialists are all right, but you ask too much. Why don't you ask for less, and you will be more likely to get it." My dear Nimcompop, you make me severely tired. The Socialists only ask for what is theirs—that the people shall have the wealth which the people have created. Is that too much? Suppose a highwayman knocked you down every Saturday night for years and took all the money you had. Suppose finally, you caught him and found on him wealth not quite equaling that which he had stolen from you? What would you do? Tell him to give you 50 cents on account, and some more the next time you caught him, or would you just make him fork it all over at once? Answer that and then have the Socialist answer to your drivelling, idiotic question.

"A rose by any other name," etc. Hence the Capitalist papers still call the imperial show at Washington, with its troops, its cannon, its decorated diplomats, and its gorgeous and costly trimmings, from all of which the common people without social or financial prestige were excluded, "inauguration of the president."

The anxiety with which the small fry politician of the Capitalist stripe is seeking Socialist votes in the coming city elections, has never been equalled in intensity save by the same politician's hatred of the Socialists last fall.

While noting the death of the aged Washington pioneer in a Whatcom poorhouse it might also be well to stow away in our think-tank the item that the daily papers of Feb. 28 printed columns of grief over the demise of a Mr. Everts, a man who never added a penny's worth to the wealth of happiness of the nation. He was a lawyer, living only upon the grief or troubles of others. That he was a "successful" one means nothing that ought to be a credit to any man.

The editor of an independent weekly paper in the state in King county is suffering mental collapse. It is not to be wondered at. Any man who will attempt to balance himself on the edge of a circular saw is going to get hurt. And a circular saw isn't in it with a competitive cut-throat system. He'd ought to have jumped off long ago either on the Capitalist or Socialist side. He wouldn't have been entirely free from danger of paresis on the Capitalist side, so strenuous is the struggle to keep the old thing going. On the Socialist side the only danger of a collapse is when your stomach occasion-

ally flaps up against your back bone. And that doesn't happen now so often as it did. In fact, that danger point is rapidly being passed. I simply drew out the above suggestion to worried county editors, who are trying to be "independent" when their very life depends upon the merchant, the type trust, the paper trust, and the thankless politician. It may be the means of saving some of them from Stella-coom when they begin to feel the wheels go round.

The clearing house returns in Seattle for last month were a little over eight millions of dollars. That reassures me. My clearings for last month were 7 cents, and as that showed a net loss over January of 4 cents, I was afraid that the era of prosperity had begun to shrink again. But happily it is not so, so Seattle clearings are \$130,000 larger than in January. So here goes bravely for another month of strenuous life.

A boiler explodes in a Chicago laundry, a dozen or so people are killed and many injured. A few years ago such an accident would have been held to be an act of God, but now it is beginning to be recognized that God has nothing to do with it at all. It generally proves to be due to an incompetent man, hired because he is cheap, or an unsafe boiler, risked up to the last moment so as to get all the profit out of it possible. Happily, the close approach of public ownership will soon forever abolish such catastrophes as are almost daily occurring in our crowded workshops and mines which are run under the private ownership scheme, of a maximum of production at a minimum cost as regards ordinary precautions and safeguards to protect the workers. They are cheaper than ever, you know, and the market places through with slaves seeking masters.

Note the papers have been full of pictures of the wives and daughters of the Olmsteads and Moneys and Morgans, "able lawyers and financiers," who attended the inaugural ball. I have looked in vain for a picture of the wives and daughters of the Smiths and Jones and Browns, "average workmen," who built the edifice, printed the music and raised the brands that supplied the tables they also made. It was eminently a feast of the drones from which the workers had been carefully excluded. They may as well enjoy themselves on their stolen sweets as best they may, for the handwriting "Socialism," is on the wall, so plain that even Hannia has read and translated to the unheeding, snivelling crowd.

I know where there's a nice two fellows as you'd wish to see, with some little money and far more brains, trying to run a diversified and democratic paper. It isn't proving such a snap as might be imagined, while the number of old subscribers who have come in to stop their paper because they "have got through with the old parties and are now looking for Socialism," is really astonishing. There is a tremendous leaven of which we know nothing, boys, that is working quietly but forcefully for public ownership. All it needs is crystallization, and that is to be done by catching every subscriber to a Socialist paper you can. "Agitate, organize, educate," used to be the watchword. Organization is now needed more than anything else.

There is much discussion in England as to whether the men of the King's guard shall wear pink uniforms with plumed hats, in the style of the familiar red and purple. Very little is said, however, as regards the large population in London, East, changing their costumes. It is presumed they will adhere to the same uniform to which they became attached during the Queen's reign. The pants may be worn slightly longer, while the patches on the seat will no doubt be a little more variegated in color and somewhat larger in size. The women will still cling to their threadbare gowns and brown and black shawls of simplest pattern and lowest price. Both the King's guard and his common people object to such sudden innovations as new uniforms and trimmings through-

out, as becomes "steadily old England," and will probably cling to theirs and queens until every mother's son is in the workhouse or potters' field.

About \$500,000,000 is to be invested in and near San Francisco in "public utilities." As upon a further reading of the paragraph I find that Eastern capitalists are doing the investing and will be hard to see why the public need take much interest in the affair. That kind of public utilities serve simply as a handle which private money-grabbers can utilize to bleed the public. Probably only that kind of opportunities is called "public utilities."

## UNCLE SAM

### A NEW LOCAL ORGANIZATION OF SOCIALISTS

**Their Attitude Toward Trade Unions.** Some sixty men last Monday night organized in Seattle "The Revolutionary Socialist League" for purposes of propaganda.

These are men who were lately expelled from the De Leon section here or who are in sympathy with them. They have no political affiliation at present, but devote themselves to hard work in teaching Socialism, mostly by means of public meetings on the streets.

Their attitude toward the Trades Unions is different from De Leon's in this: They regard the economic struggle represented by the unions as of little account and they consequently are rather disposed to oppose all such organizations, whether "pure and simple" or Socialist. They are equally opposed, therefore, to the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance of the De Leonites, and the ordinary labor unions.

Some of them deny that they are "opposed" at all to any Labor Unions. They declare they are simply not interested in them, since they can never accomplish the emancipation of the Working Class.

Others occupy the position of the S. D. P., believing that by allying themselves with the Unions they can guide their blind groping toward the light and thus develop their economic class-consciousness into political class-consciousness.

On one point these men are quite in accord with the S. D. P. "No Politics in Trades Unions" as such. Let the unions confine themselves to the economic struggle. We do not want any politics, Socialist, Democratic or Republican, in the unions. There may be discussion of politics galore, such as the American Federation of Labor counts. But no action as a body, by any labor union in the direction of politics.

This is also in substance what Marx said in 1849.

"The Trade Unions," said he, "should never be brought into an inner connection with a political organization, nor should they be made dependent on such, if their object is to be carried out. If that is done it is equivalent to rendering a Death Blow to the union."

The Trade Unions are schools for Socialism. In the Trade Unions, workmen are educated to Socialism because they are daily engaged in a struggle with capital."

(See Stone's "Attitude of the Socialists Toward The Trade Unions," Price 5 cents.)

It is a pity that the attitude of Socialists toward the Unions should be allowed to divide their ranks.

The S. D. P. occupies a rational position. Namely, Help them all you can, but tell them at the same time that a mere gain in wages and hours, will always leave them still the slaves of Capital. Teach them what the real struggle is, to abolish capitalism itself. Nothing short of that can deliver them from the bondage of wage-slavery.

"Labor Party," unless it has that platform, can never succeed. That is what you have to learn, Brothers Gordon Rice and others.

The Socialist will always oppose any "Labor Party" such as you advocate, unless it demands the total abolition of wages and its twin, capital.

And when you come to see that "Nigger in the woodpile" you will be Socialists and join the only "Working-man's Party." See?

Make the middle-class pay for this wage-class paper by buying your goods of our advertisers.

## CONTROLLED BY CAPITAL.

The Whatcom Blade goes for the editor of The Socialist wild-eyed because he said in a speech at Seattle that there was only one paper in this state not controlled by Capital. He was careful not to tell his readers that that paper was called The Socialist. All he did was to call the editor of The Socialist pet names, such as Damphool and Emptypate.

Now, Mr. Blade, I did not mean to say you were controlled by any "Capital" of your own, monetary or mental, but only that you are so dead poor that you dare not do anything to offend Capital in your neighborhood. You are one of the "Slaves of Capital" you can read about at the top of our first page.

If you are really independent and did not have to conduct your paper and write every "Squib" even with reference to the bread and butter problem, then you would reason and not sling epithets.

With Socialism here, my brother, you would be following your native bent and writing poetry instead of plodding like a drudge, not daring to speak the truth you know.

## \$1000 SAVED TO THE S. D. P.

At the least calculation the New Primary Law would have cost the Socialists in the State of Washington one thousand dollars in the next two years. The nominations for municipal elections in Whatcom, Fairhaven, Everett, Seattle, Tacoma, Buckley, Hoquiam, Spokane, to say nothing of state and national elections, would have been pretty expensive affairs for us.

There is no question this paper was instrumental in defeating the measure as proposed.

## Labor Column

Conducted by Charles L. De Motte

Now that a new star of great brilliancy has been discovered in the constellation of Persets, the astronomical writers have also discovered that a star of similar magnitude has appeared regularly in that part of the heavens about every 500 years, marking the greatest epochs of the last 2000 years. First, the coming of Christ; second, the appearance of Mohammed; third, William the Conqueror; fourth, Martin Luther. These events all produced radical social changes. Who knows but what this fifth appearance may be the writing on the wall, proclaiming the coming of social cataclysms that will sweep from existence the fallacies of indolence and ignorance, and shatter to dust and mingle with the sands of the sea that graven image, "Profits," that now stands, an object of worship, in every market place.

If the women of Kansas, who exhibit such vigorous muscular ability that they easily reduce to splinters, with small hatchets, the toughest and hardest woods that grow in the forests were called upon to split a few sticks of kindling at home, their pride would be humiliated, their dignity insulted, and their social status lost.

In looking over the work of the present legislature, it requires a very close analysis to discover wherein that body has done anything that materially benefits the people. All railroad questions were practically ignored. The direct

## One Thousand Tickets Must be Sold.

We are going to have a great entertainment March 30. There's no discounting that.

This affair will be the finest the Socialists have ever given in Seattle, and that's saying a great deal.

Lila Page Wilcox has won a high reputation throughout the city. You can hear it everywhere. She is a host in herself.

Instead of a prize cake walk, which is a little out of date, we have substituted a PRIZE CONTEST IN JUVENILE FANCY DANCING, including HIGHLAND FLING, the Spanish LA CA-CHUCHA and others, by Katie Hazelgrove, "Baby" Martyn and others.

Vocal and Instrumental numbers will be announced in full program, to be printed next week. To conclude with GRAND BALL, with Lueben's Orchestra for three hours. Every ticket for 25 cents gives all the above and a guess for a Ten Dollar Prize Besides.

There never was offered so much for so little. Push the sale of tickets—everybody.

If the vote in the lower house by which the bill was defeated, had not been less close, there might have been doubt, but the bill had 40 votes out of 80 members in the house. One single vote more would have carried the bill through.

We have reason to believe that more than one vote was cast against the bill because of its injustice to the Socialists as represented in The Socialist again and again by word and cartoon. Every legislator received The Socialist.

We therefore have good right to claim that this paper by this one fight alone, has saved the Socialists of this state more than the total expense of the paper since its foundation.

## SAN DIEGO SOCIALISTS ON THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The San Diego Social Democrats have nominated a city ticket for the first time.

Here is one plank from their platform:

"We hold that crime and drunkenness are necessary results of the capitalist system, and can only be eliminated by overthrowing that system. We maintain that private profit is the primary cause of the manufacture and sale of intoxicants and that all efforts to eliminate the evils of the liquor traffic without eliminating the element of profit will be futile. We therefore demand that, pending the time when the entire liquor traffic is nationalized, municipal dispensaries be established in San Diego and pure liquors sold at cost."

Legislatures that are enacting laws about cigarettes have at last got down to something of their size.

primary law met an accidental death, therefore the solons deserve no praise for that. Even that night nightmare, that was wont to stalk through the halls on three lame legs, the Compulsory Arbitration Law, was indefinitely postponed. Outside of the purchase of the Thurston county court house, wherein to hold their next biennial revival, it has been as harmless and tame a legislature as history will have to record.

The New York Court of Appeals has decided by a vote of five to two that the "rate of wages law" is unconstitutional. The labor organizations of that city spent much money and devoted much time in securing the passage of the law, and now it has been swept away by one stroke of the pen of a capitalist court. About the same time a California judge decides that the eight hour law, relating to state and municipal work, is unconstitutional. These judges are both republican and democrat. It does not matter which party the workmen votes for, they both serve the same master. So long as capital owns the country, labor laws will ever prove to be unconstitutional. The labor organizations of nearly every state in the Union have secured the passage of many good laws, only to see them declared unconstitutional as soon as they become effective. They hindered in some way the free exercise of capitalist privileges. It is time that the workman pulled himself together and fasten his vote for the agencies that will reverse this monkey and parrot game. Let us have the arena strewn with hair instead of feathers, it will prove a decision if nothing else.



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Remember every trade must be learned.

1. Go from house to house. Prefer the working people's homes, but don't overlook the others.

2. Always be good natured. Some people will try you and abuse you. But keep your temper.

3. Say, This is a Workingman's Paper. It stands for the only Workingman's Party.

4. Tell them they ought to learn about Socialism, the coming party in America.

5. Tell how cheap a paper it is, only 50 cents a year.

6. Carry plenty of sample copies with you.

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8. Use the subscription postal cards, if you can afford to buy them.

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March 30th

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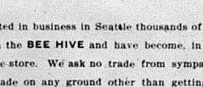
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