

BE ONE OF THE 5,000

AMERICAN SOCIALIST

No. 120 If No. 123 appears on your address label, your subscription expires next week. Do not fail to renew.

VOL. I. No. 32 CHICAGO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1915

FAILURE to provide employment is by far the greatest of the many crimes of the national democratic administration. The nation-wide protest on Lincoln's Birthday failed to affect the plutocrats at Washington. President Wilson was "out" when the messages of protest came. His secretary, Joe Tumulty, saw that this protest of the workers was safely and even so much as an insignificant and murdered strikers failed to at least succor the workers of the nation. The hour to redouble his efforts to bring the great toiling mass of humanity to Socialism. This must soon result in everywhere dethroning the power of greed and gold. Start in now to win your neighbor and fellow-worker to the Socialist cause. That is the best way to abolish the menace of unemployment forever.

THEY CHALLENGE YOU! NATION IDLY FACES CALAMITY

THE POWERFUL press built up by the members of the American Socialist Party who speak foreign languages stands as a challenge to English speaking Socialists. Many of you English speaking Socialists, who read The American Socialist, do not know that there are three more language Socialist dailies in Chicago; that there are three more in New York City; while the Finnish Socialists alone have three more.

WATCH THESE FIGURES FROM WEEK TO WEEK What We Want -- \$5,000 Total Received --- \$106 Still Waiting For -- \$4,894

at Fitchburg, Mass.; Superior, Wis., and Astoria, Oregon. Every one of them is a monument to the sacrifice and working class spirit of these Socialists who speak foreign languages.

They have caught the infection and want to help boost the circulation of The American Socialist and help wipe out the party debt. Each one of them has bought a dollar's worth of "sub" cards in The American Socialist's campaign to raise \$5,000 by selling 20,000 forty-week sub cards.

KNOW PARTY PRESS NECESSITY NONE realize more than the foreign-born Socialists that the party press is essential to party existence.

- A. DREIFUSS, GERMAN FEDERATION. J. F. MAKI, FINNISH FEDERATION. N. J. CHRISTENSEN, SCANDINAVIAN FEDERATION. L. GLUSKI, POLISH FEDERATION. PAUL BRUCHTEL, SLOVAK FEDERATION. JOSEPH CORTI, ITALIAN FEDERATION. ARMIN LOEWY, HUNGARIAN FEDERATION. JOSEF NOVAK, BOHEMIAN FEDERATION. FRANK PETRICH, SOUTH SLAVIC FEDERATION. I. B. BALIN, JEWISH FEDERATION.

OLD CRUSADER SPIRIT AWAKENED!

THIS campaign of The American Socialist has awakened all the old crusader spirit in the comrades of the American Socialist movement. Every day brings its bundle of highly encouraging letters. From all over the country the "Volunteers" are sending in their dollars. Some of the comments made by enthusiastic volunteers are as follows:

AMERICAN SOCIALIST VOLUNTEER SUB-BLANK. The American Socialist, 425 W. Madison Street, Chicago, Ill. Enclosed find \$1, for which please send me four American Socialist sub-cards. I am an AMERICAN SOCIALIST VOLUNTEER. I want no premium but I want to see the Party Paper big and strong and the party out of debt.

By MEYER LONDON

HERE is no social conscience, no spirit of social responsibility; there is a lack of social viewpoint all over the country, and that is one of the causes of the great unemployment which stalks through the nation. It is more than that—it is one of the most discouraging obstacles in the path of a solution of the problem.

WHAT THE CITY CAN DO. I'll tell you what the city can do. If a determined stand were made by the people that their chosen officials should face the problem the administration would soon find an enormous latent power for good.

CYNICISM IS WORST FEATURE

THE worst phase of the situation is the cynicism of the people and the officials. The extraordinary situation becomes the ordinary in time and we are soon led to judge life by inferior standards.

CONGRESS IS DEAF TO PLEA OF JOBLESS

Special to The American Socialist. Washington, D. C.—Legislation to alleviate the suffering of the millions of unemployed men and women in the United States will not come from the present session of Congress.

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"If you are out of work and hungry, if you are having a hard time getting something to eat for your wife and little ones, go over to Higgins' Wharf or to the beach near the C. & N. Y. House and learn what a land of plenty this is," says the San Francisco Bulletin.

THIS TELLS HOW MAN PAID FOR PRIVILEGE TO BE EXPLOITED.

Capitalism at its worst is to be seen in all its horrors about the big plants of the steel trust. Here the conditions of the exploited workers is hardly less pitiful than that of the starving unemployed.

THE ROCKEFELLER-BELMONT CONFESSION

THE testimony of the Rockefellers, senior and junior, and of August Belmont before the Federal Commission of Industrial Relations is conclusive. Not a shadow of doubt remains. By their own confession they and their class are leeches upon labor and parasites upon society.

WORKED FOR SOCIALISM; LOSES FEDERAL JOB

But Politically Active Democrats and Republicans Are Not Discharged From Federal Civil Service at Wichita, Kansas. A NOTHER Socialist, John H. Miller, for five years a postal clerk at Wichita, Kansas, has been discharged from the postal service on the charge of "political activity."

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The American Socialist

Editor: J. L. ENDALL. Business Manager: WALTER LANGFERRIEK. Circulation Manager: RALPH KORNWOLD. Correspondent: RYAN WALKER.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK

Twenty-one coal miners drowned by a rock of water at North Wallington, British Columbia, on Feb. 20.

President Wilson's effort to invade Mexico has been abandoned.

Senator Jones and Senator McCumber have introduced a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act.

The Illinois Legislature has passed a bill to amend the State Constitution.

The United States has agreed to purchase 100,000 tons of wheat from the Government of Canada.

The British Government has announced that it will send a fleet to the Mediterranean.

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MASTERS WINED AND DINED---WORKERS LANGUISH IN FILTHY DUNGEON

By FRED W. HOLT

MASTERS and comrades are doing the very best we can under the surrounding conditions. They have all one of us in one cell, and the only thing that keeps us from going mad is the fact that we are all here together.

I presume I might have been permitted to go free with the payment of a heavy fine but for the fact of taking advantage of the opportunity of putting a Federal Judge square up against the class struggle, which I was unable to resist.

WHOLESALE ARRESTS followed and indictments by the score. Descriptive stories surrounded hundreds of our comrades with the possibility of terms in prison, backed by a hostile court. This forced some of us to make the sacrifice to save scores of our innocent brothers from doing terms in prison.

There never was, nor ever will be, a finer illustration of true class solidarity than was demonstrated when this band of brave hearts was called upon by Counsel for the miners and informed that eleven men would be required to take sentence, or all go to trial in the face of a prejudicial court.

When the names of us who were called on to go were read aloud a stillness swept over that audience that was only broken by whispers of regret from those who were fortunate, each sorry that the burden of the lot had fallen upon him. Many of them begged that they might be permitted to take the place of some of us who were taken from our families.

Shots At The Enemy

By DUNCAN H. SMITH

Bill Johnson was a working man who tried to live in peace. He bought himself a little car, although it started him in debt. One day the boss came round and said, "The work is getting down."

HERE IS A message to the working class of America from a dark cell in the county jail at Fort Smith, Ark., where nine members of the United Mine Workers of America are confined because they resisted against the system that oppresses them.

WHILE STANDING before this corporation tool, waiting for him to ask me that last question—"Have you anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon you?"—I could not resist the temptation of putting one Federal Judge square up against the class struggle.

THE COURT was packed to suffocation. The fact that I had done nothing that this same court had not permitted the Coal Operator to do was burning deep into my revolutionary soul.

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WORKED FOR SOCIALISM; LOSES GOVERNMENT JOB

(Continued From Page Page.)

Postmaster Shields reading as follows: "In the interest of the bearer, J. H. Miller, I will state that while Mr. Miller has violated the rules of the classified service which prohibit political activity on the part of civil service employees, yet he has at no time, so far as my knowledge goes, permitted his political beliefs or activities to interfere with the proper performance of his duties as a postoffice clerk during his five years service in this office."

These gag rulings affect hundreds of thousands of civil service workers in the employ of the government. The American Socialist has enlisted the support of the 31 Socialists in the 13 state legislatures in the fight to force the federal civil service commission to recall its anti-political rulings.

Mayer Blankenburg, of Philadelphia, recently received a visit from two Socialists, representing the Philadelphia Socialist Party. They were Charles W. Ervin, member of the Socialist Party national committee, and Henry John Nelson, counsel for the party, and they demanded that Blankenburg recommend to the city council an appropriation of \$2,000,000 for the immediate relief of the unemployed.

THE LIBRARY censor has been very busy lately in Germany. One Socialist daily, The Gothaer Volksblatt, has been suppressed entirely. Two others, The Weimarer Volkszeitung and The Eisenacher Volkszeitung, have been suppressed for several days.

THE NINTH Annual Conference of the Christian Socialist Fellowship of America will be held at Baltimore, Md., beginning Feb. 23. The speaker will be W. E. Kirkpatrick of Granite City, Ill., who has been renominated and local Socialists are making plans to again sweep the city.

YOUR CHILD will like The Adventures of Henry Dubb

JUST OUT: Women Of The Future

WORKMEN'S SICK & DEATH BENEFIT FUND OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

THE COMEDY OF CAPITALISM

By CHARLES W. ERVIN

THEY ARE trying to talk the Shipping Bill to death in the Senate. The enemies of the measure have organized a talking team that's some pumping. One member talked for nine hours, another for seven hours and any team-mate that gives out in less than five is in danger of getting his release.

What's the matter with the same argument being used to justify the people of the United States in taking over all the industries to protect themselves from the "merciless combination" called capitalism, Senator Reed?

LIE-VY LEE is smooth, very smooth but he slipped up on his own grease the other day. Scene: Industrial Commission. Lambkins Rockefeller Jr., in charge of the new Publicity nurse whom papa Rockefeller had bought for him.

CANNIE CARNEGIE WAS on the stand before the Industrial Commission the other day. He escaped by his usual trick of doing a monologue stunt. He made everybody laugh by laughing at every damning incident in his career. He even laughed away the infamous Homestead massacre.

THE STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE

By WALTER THOMAS MILLS, M. A.

Walter Thomas Mills

YOU CAN make good wages and make Socialists at the same time by procuring a picture machine outfit with picture lectures on some of the many red hot subjects as put out by Dr. E. E. Bonnanstine of Girard, Kan. Write him for particulars.

Executive Department

WALTER LANFARSKY, Secretary
National Executive Committee
VICTOR L. BERGER, 505 West 2d St.

GOOD NEWS IN FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JANUARY

SOME OF OUR friends noticed with some apprehension the falling off in dues in December. We are glad to show the receipts for January. Total receipts for January were \$4,262.44 against \$4,472.25 for December, and the dues for January were \$4,262.44 against \$4,262.44 for December.

The assets total \$14,434.24 and the total liabilities are \$7,881.41. Last month the total assets were \$14,434.24 and the liabilities were \$7,881.41. So we have gained \$6,551.71 in assets and have decreased the liabilities \$2,572.44 or a gain of \$3,979.27 for the month.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JANUARY. NATIONAL DUES. Table with columns for State, No., Dues, Reg. stamps, Total. Lists dues from various states like Ala., Ark., Cal., etc.

Table with columns for Name, Amount. Lists various individuals and organizations contributing to the fund, such as A. B. Dick and Co., R. W. Huxford, etc.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS. REFERRED. By Local L. O. Green, Wis. WHEREAS: The National Executive Committee in its recent session...

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 8. The Women's National Committee is hereby authorized to meet on the 21st of the next annual meeting of the National Committee...

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DUES. Table with columns for State, No., Dues, Total. Lists dues from various states like Ala., Ark., Cal., etc.

Table with columns for Name, Amount. Lists various individuals and organizations contributing to the fund, such as A. B. Dick and Co., R. W. Huxford, etc.

REVENUE ACCOUNTS. American Socialist Advertising, National Dues, National Executive Department, etc.

LIABILITIES. Speakers and Committees, National Executive Department, etc.

STATEMENT BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. Comrade Bell's motion was received within 15 days after the publication of the minutes of the December meeting of the Executive Committee...

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTION NO. 6. QUERY: Shall the ruling of the Executive Committee be sustained? Kindly use the enclosed voting card.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTION NO. 7. QUERY: Shall the ruling of the Executive Committee be sustained? Kindly use the enclosed voting card.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MOTION NO. 8. QUERY: Shall the ruling of the Executive Committee be sustained? Kindly use the enclosed voting card.

"LETTERS COLUMN" OMITTED. NOTE:—Owing to the great amount of official business this week the Editor was forced to omit the "Letters Column" from this issue.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 8. The vote on Motion No. 8 closed Feb. 10 with the following result: AYE: 121. NAY: 10. ABSENT: 10.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 9. The vote on Motion No. 9 closed Feb. 10 with the following result: AYE: 121. NAY: 10. ABSENT: 10.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 10. The vote on Motion No. 10 closed Feb. 10 with the following result: AYE: 121. NAY: 10. ABSENT: 10.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 11. The vote on Motion No. 11 closed Feb. 10 with the following result: AYE: 121. NAY: 10. ABSENT: 10.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 12. The vote on Motion No. 12 closed Feb. 10 with the following result: AYE: 121. NAY: 10. ABSENT: 10.

REPORT ON MOTION NO. 13. The vote on Motion No. 13 closed Feb. 10 with the following result: AYE: 121. NAY: 10. ABSENT: 10.

Young People's Dept. A. A. ROSSER, Jr., Director. 505 W. Madison St., Chicago.

Beginning Saturday, Feb. 20, and continuing through Feb. 21, the Young People's League in the city of San Francisco will hold a convention in San Francisco.

The following program of events has been prepared: Saturday afternoon, Feb. 20, the organization committee will hold its work in the city of San Francisco.

J. B. Goode, one of the active Socialists at Dallas, Texas, has been hauled into the federal court and charged with mailing a letter on the unemployment situation to Mayer Holland that was more forcible than polite.

Get Ahead I Will Help You LAW Is Your Big Opportunity. I have helped thousands of other men to obtain success, and I will do for you.

I Now Personally Offer You the Greatest Educational Opportunity Ever Concocted. The successful man is the legally trained man. I will help you because I train you to go out and fight life's battles.

THIS COLUMN RECORDS THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR SUB-HUSTLERS FROM WEEK TO WEEK

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes names like ESTER WYCK, ON, and amounts like \$1.21, \$1.93, \$1.17.

The gain this week was not quite as satisfactory as it has been for the past few weeks. It is, however, a gain, nevertheless.

Since the American Socialist was started, the circulation has gone back only one week. It quickly recovered itself and went on climbing. We are expecting great results from our campaign to get 5,000 hustlers to take four sub-card cards.

ROLL OF HONOR

Hilda F. Mills sends us a list of names that she has been able to secure. The list consists of 43 names which were secured by a small group of social workers in the central district of California.

"I am very much pleased with the progress that has been made in the campaign. Oklahoma comrades find the campaign on the activities of our six main branches in the Oklahoma territory very interesting."

"The American Socialist is very much appreciated by the local comrades and is being read by a large number of people."

"I have missed one or two numbers of the American Socialist but I could not find it as I had to wait for it to come."

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SOCIALISTS IN GERMANY WANT PEACE

Socialists in Europe, as has been pointed out in a new and stronger anti-war note. Following the reports that the Socialists in the Prussian diet had taken a strong position for peace, came the report that the International Socialist Bureau has summoned delegates from both belligerent and neutral nations to meet at The Hague.

One can be arranged. In conservative, capitalist press reports dealing with the German Socialists, while not desirous of taking any partisan issue or of taking any other action during the present crisis which might militate against the harmonious co-operation of all parties, have surrendered none of their views.

This is shown by the attitude of the socialist members of the Prussian diet. Herr Hirsch, a socialist delegate, read on behalf of his party a declaration which in part follows:

"The Socialist party maintains its opposition, based on principle, to the former government policy, which policy has remained in all material things unchanged. The party, however, refrains in this critical time from introducing discussions of a polemical nature into the consideration of the budget on its first reading."

Make Demands on Rulers. Herr Hirsch added that his party would call attention to complaints concerning the provisions for soldiers and for dependents, the food supply for the nation and restrictions on the free expression of thought.

He would not permit the occasion to pass, he continued, without giving expression to the demand of his party that the government, in consequence of the situation brought about by the war, should concede certain measures desired by the great masses of the people.

These included the demand that the police cease their battle against the labor movement in general and in particular against the Socialist Party and other socialist organizations.

He was opposed to political oppression and contended that the basis of all political reforms must be their equal application to all minorities as in the case of the Danes and Poles.

Volens Desire For Peace. His party had hoped, Herr Hirsch continued, that the government would, at the session of Oct. 20, 1914, fulfill its duty by granting uniform suffrage, with the secret ballot, as was mentioned in the desire of the socialists for an honorable peace and concluded:

"We know that this war is desired by the people in none of the belligerent lands; that its end is everywhere longed for by the people. We cherish the confidence that the voices demanding peace will grow more numerous in all belligerent lands, will make themselves heard in influential quarters and that under the influence of this desire for peace, especially of the laboring classes of all lands, an assured peace will come speedily to the well being of the German people and of all humanity."

Herr von Heydebrand replied to Herr Hirsch on behalf of the non-socialist parties. He said that the present moment was not a suitable one for advancing special wishes or complaints. The situation, he said, was one which demanded that the entire Prussian people show itself united as its soldiers on the battle field were united.

Liebknecht Again Heard. At this juncture Karl Liebknecht and contended that the basis of all political reforms must be their equal application to all minorities as in the case of the Danes and Poles.

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PEACE CRY OF GERMAN SOCIALISTS HEARD IN PRUSSIAN DIET

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for peace, especially of the laboring classes of all lands, an assured peace will come speedily, to the well being of the German people and of all humanity.—Statement by Herr Hirsch, Socialist member of the Prussian diet, read in the diet on behalf of the Socialist Party.

or in that of complete independence and that throughout, from Alsace-Lorraine to the Balkans, those populations that have been annexed by force shall receive the right freely to dispose of themselves."

The resolutions also declared that the allied Socialists had resolved "to resist any attempt to transfer this defensive war into a war of conquest."

CONGRESS HEARS AMERICA IS STARVING TO FEED EUROPE. Even the capitalist press is beginning to recognize the "Starve the War—Feed America" campaign started in The American Socialist during the dark days last August when the bloody war in Europe first broke out.

The Chicago Tribune's staff correspondent recently sent a story to his paper that the congressmen are being told that Americans will starve while Europe is being fed. The report states:

"The exportation of foodstuffs to Europe, with the concurrent rise in prices in the United States, are coming in with such rapidity that Democratic leaders in congress are now giving serious thought to the advisability of taking some action with respect to an embargo or the limitation of shipments."

"During the last few days thousands of petitions and letters have been poured in on congressmen demanding that something be done, and done immediately, to preserve the American food supply for the American people."

The sentiment expressed in all of these letters and petitions is practically the same—that it is all well to be charitable and to feed starving Europe, but that charity begins at home and some attention should be given to starving Americans, who are rapidly growing in number.

"Customs reports show almost unprecedented exportations of wheat and other grains, as well as animal products and foodstuffs, since the beginning of the war in Europe. For several years prior to the outbreak of hostilities the American exports of these commodities amounted to practically nothing, because of the demand for them at home."

"Although the wheat crop last year was a record breaker in the annals of American production, the surplus over normal years and millions of bushels in addition have already been shipped to Europe."

The "Food Petition" circulated by the Socialist Party is now ready for shipment to Washington. Unfortunately the war in Europe. For several years prior to the outbreak of hostilities the American exports of these commodities amounted to practically nothing, because of the demand for them at home."

STARVE THE WAR RESOLUTIONS TOO STRONG FOR PENNSYLVANIA. The American Socialist's "Starve the War—Feed America" resolutions proved too strong for the Pennsylvania state legislators who are content, evidently, to see the workers of America starve while the workers in Europe are slaughtering each other.

A copy of the resolution introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature by Socialist Representative James H. Maurer, known as "House Resolution No. 3," has just been received from Maurer. He says:

"The enclosed resolution proved itself too strong for those ridden with conservatism in Pennsylvania. It was defeated by a safe majority."

Indorsement of the anti-war attitude of the National Administrative Council of the Independent Labor Party and criticism of the recruiting work of the National Labor Party were expressed at the annual conference of the London and Home Counties Federation of the Independent Labor Party.

James H. Warner, Socialist member of the Pennsylvania legislature, has introduced a bill providing for the appropriation of \$2,000,000 for mothers' pensions.

Socialists at Peoria, Ill., where the movement is making great headway, have nominated a full ticket and expect to do big things at the spring election.

INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

Purpose.—To collect, classify and make available for the membership of the Socialist Party and other data and information on economic, political and social problems. To assist elected officials with such information as they may need in the discharge of their duties.

Address all communications to Socialist Party Information Department, 808 West Madison Street, Chicago.

UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG LABOR UNIONS IN NEW YORK CITY. The percentage of idle wage earners in representative trade unions in New York State from January to June, 1914, was 27.2 per cent, which is higher than for any similar period since 1908, when it was 24.7 per cent. The percentage for 1913 was one half per cent lower, 26.7.

This percentage for 1914 is based on returns from 36 different localities and represents approximately 100 different trades and 25 per cent of the total union membership in the state of New York.

The trade to suffer the most was the building, in which idleness averaged 42 per cent. Woodworking and furniture making were 34.2 per cent, with clothing and textiles at 33.3 per cent. The other trades each show a percentage of idleness of 20 per cent or less.

QUESTION AND ANSWER. Families in the United States. Q.—How many families, and the size of families, are there in the United States, according to the census of 1910?

A.—The Census Reports of 1910 Abstract, page 253, give the following: 29,255,555 families; 45 persons to a family. A special note says that the above applies to what they term "economical" families, meaning the number of persons living in one household.

AMONG BOOKS. "Why the Capitalist?" By Frederick Haller. Published by the author, 210 Pearl St., Buffalo, N. Y. 1914. 277 pp. \$1.50.

The examining economic data in this book the author inevitably reaches the same conclusions as were reached by Karl Marx in his three volumes of "Das Kapital," except that where Marx adduces voluminous proofs of his contentions, drawn from facts which are largely or wholly outside the range of the lay mind, Haller adduces merely sufficient proof for the purpose at hand.

The class struggle of the ages following the establishment of private property are skillfully pictured. The chapters on value are particularly noteworthy. In these chapters the Marxian theory of "surplus value" is treated in an altogether new and interesting way. The conclusions reached are the same as the conclusions reached by Marx; but the argument is greatly simplified.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP PAYS. Pasadena has a municipal light plant. It also has a management that believes in municipal ownership.

As a result the rate for electricity has been reduced from 15c. per k. w. h. to 5c., thus saving the people of that city over \$700,000.

Municipal Engineering, a technical municipal magazine, quotes from the annual report of the Pasadena plant, as follows:

The operation of the municipal lighting plant in Pasadena, has broken all records for economy, according to the annual report.

Turn on away. Be warned this day. Look at us, eye to eye. Work! give us work. Think not to shirk; We will not starve and die!

Boast not ye hold Great hoards of gold Within your easy clutch; The empty bags Through all earth's land: Prove that ye boast too much.

Nay, be not vain O'er all your gains, With silent voice and pen; But hark the moans, The wailing of the poor, Of a world of hapless men.

Nay, tell not here Of feast and cheer With which ye grace your lives; See these that mourn, And mark their scorn, — Wild mothers, maddened wives.

Nay, show us dower Of wealth and power, Nor prate of all your ease; Hear these instead: They beg for bread, — Our children, on their knees.

Nay, tell us not You mourn our lot, And would relieve our woe; But hark the moans, The wailing of the poor, Of a world of hapless men.

Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare

CRY FOR BREAD GROWING LOUDER IN BRITISH ISLES

BY SHAW DESMOND. If you're got anything to do on the other side of the Atlantic than the British "food plot," I should be glad to have a look at him.

Now, I'll tell you what is happening in England. The Liberal government with its Tory friends doesn't get a move on food and deal with the hoards that is robbing the British workers, the British workmen are going to kick and kick hard.

Already, the postoffice employees and miners are on the raw edge of revolt. The textile workers are "making questions." The average man who in ordinary times looks upon the workman as a sort of "poor brother" with a turn for rebelliousness, is even sneering around asking for blood—the blood of the "food pirates."

These are the "they" who believe in "individualism" and the "destruction of the home" by Socialism. "Individualism" means 500 per cent in dividends.

Nobody would believe how these fellows "got away with it." The Liberal government, "friends of the workers" as they are called, has saved the bankers and the financiers. They have put the "big bosses" on velvet. They have lowered to the capitalists of industry. Now they have put the "food pirates" in charge of the situation by giving 4,000,000 tons of German shipping from the sea, and by commandeering a large number of vessels for transport of troops. So the seas are free to the shipowners, who are making money while the blood flows in France. Not content with that, these precious workmen's friends have actually secured the shipowners against 50 per cent of any possible losses by a scheme of state insurance at a ridiculously low fee.

But, you see, the shipping interests have their representatives in parliament, who see that they don't get the worst of any deal. But the crews of the whole dirty business is that these "pirates" are actually being safeguarded by the British navy! The broom of the navy has swept the seas clean of commerce destroyers, and the only result is that the "black-flag" men show up the freight rate, up goes the price of bread, and down goes the British workman's life. It is so simple.

Chant Of The Unemployed. By William Francis Barnard.

Boast not ye hold Great hoards of gold Within your easy clutch; The empty bags Through all earth's land: Prove that ye boast too much.

Nay, be not vain O'er all your gains, With silent voice and pen; But hark the moans, The wailing of the poor, Of a world of hapless men.

Nay, tell not here Of feast and cheer With which ye grace your lives; See these that mourn, And mark their scorn, — Wild mothers, maddened wives.

Nay, show us dower Of wealth and power, Nor prate of all your ease; Hear these instead: They beg for bread, — Our children, on their knees.

Nay, tell us not You mourn our lot, And would relieve our woe; But hark the moans, The wailing of the poor, Of a world of hapless men.

Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare Nay, do not dare

Nay, name no laws To make us pause, Nor rattle justice scales, Your prison pen Will more than crowd your jails.

Nay, bring no might Of guns to fright, Nor march your steel-armed men; With bosoms bared That power we've dared, And will dare it once again.

Nay, scoff no more, As ye have before, At a world that tells and deives; Shall the lions help The lion's whelp; And men not help themselves!

Turn on away. Be warned this day. Look at us, eye to eye. Work! give us work. Think not to shirk; We will not starve and die!

Boast not ye hold Great hoards of gold Within your easy clutch; The empty bags Through all earth's land: Prove that ye boast too much.

Nay, be not vain O'er all your gains, With silent voice and pen; But hark the moans, The wailing of the poor, Of a world of hapless men.

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"SOCIALISM! CRIES ROOT. IT IS REAL SOCIALISM!"

(Our Washington Letter) "SOCIALISM!" roars out Root of New York, in an almost frenzied language to the Senate against the shipping bill. "It is real socialism—the latest and most insidious of the many great strikes that have been taken by this government in the direction of state socialism in recent years."

Root—be of the much-touted brains—makes no distinction between real socialism and state socialism. He is not interested in the genuineness of the socialization of the shipping industry. To him the deal is just as wicked if the sailors are exploited or well treated by their public employer; it is enough for Root that the Morgan family is not to draw the profit from their labor. Anything that puts an industrial profit into any but a privileged investor's palm is socialism.

So a shudder ran through the Senate, as the lean wolfish face of the New York lawyer grimaced his fears of government ownership. Everybody was impressed. The galleries that he filled with anxious folks who looked around to see the spectre of red anarchy stalking in from "most anywhere."

DULL-WITTED SOUTHERN Democrats on the red upholstered chairs down below nodded vaguely. They were tied up to the bill by party discipline and hopes of patronage, but in soul they were one with Root. They were afraid of this government ownership game; they were still more disturbed by the venture into government operation of ships, forced upon them by Norris of Nebraska and La Follette of Wisconsin as the price of saving the bill. They wished the administration had not monkeyed with this socialistic deal.

The thing got so serious that Jim Ham Lewis of Illinois, sleek machine politician and lawyer, champion word-spinner for the Democrats when occasions are dramatic, decided to answer Root. He boldly asserted that the Democrats were going to undertake government ownership. He explained that the shipping trusts was a particularly wicked trust, that the shippers of the United States were being outrageously treated, and that Uncle Sam would have the help of the self-sacrificing Democratic patriots in giving "justice to the people."

Lewis was brief on government ownership, which he hastily covered over with an attack on Root's personal record and on the rebellion of the seven Democrats who went over to the standpat Republicans to save this wicked shipping combine.

FROM THAT POINT he got off to a tearful plea to the seven to "remember the wrongs of the Old South, and come back, for the honor of the Democracy," and more of the same bunk. By the time he had wipit over seven desks and streaked his red whiskers his audience had forgotten their sad thoughts on government ownership.

But folks who watch and listen to this debate, in all its imbecility, day by day, are struck by the deep insistent note of "Government ownership, government operation," running like an eternal theme through every serious utterance made upon the bill.

Mark Hanna predicted a date, now passing, when Republicans and Socialists should be fighting out the political snails in this country. The preliminaries are well advanced, it would appear from this shipping debate. The Wilson administration has become the helpless bystander, knocked about by the real combatants. Behind the shipping bill is only one issue just now—government entrance into profitable industry. The unconscious socialists are working for it; the anti-socialists are all against it.

Under existing circumstances in American politics it would be too much to expect a triumph for the principle in this Congress.

AMONG the measures of interest to the workers of the country that are apparently to be smothered by the Republican filibuster in the Senate are the conference report on the LaFollette seamen's bill (still incomplete) and the conference bill prohibiting the employment of grumblers in industry. The latter measure has not been reported from committee, and will not be reported during this session because public attention has carefully been led away from its neighborhood.

The conference report on the seamen's bill hangs fire in the conference room because Rep. Alexander of Missouri, chairman of the House Committee on merchant marine, is trying to kill it. He has joined with Sen. Wm. Alden Smith of Michigan in asking for a lot of "information and data" from the real combatants in order that he may make up his mind on the treatment to be given the Great Lakes shipowners.

Alexander is tender hearted toward these Great Lakes shipping magnates since a delegation of them has spent a social six weeks in Washington. Alexander can be counted on, with Sen. Smith, to die in the last ditch in opposition to the "Sailors' Magna Charta."

CONSERVATION LEGISLATION, which is every proposal the process of saving the "unearned increment" of developed natural resources to the people, is of course killed for this year. So is every attempt to grant retirement pensions to old civil service employes, and to better the conditions of government employment generally.

Incidentally it may be noted that Postmaster General Burleson, through his first assistant, Roper, is instructing postmasters to dismiss their aged clerks when the latter become too infirm to compete with younger men. He insists that the government shall not take any care of its older employes after working them a lifetime at low salaries.

Jolt That Brain!

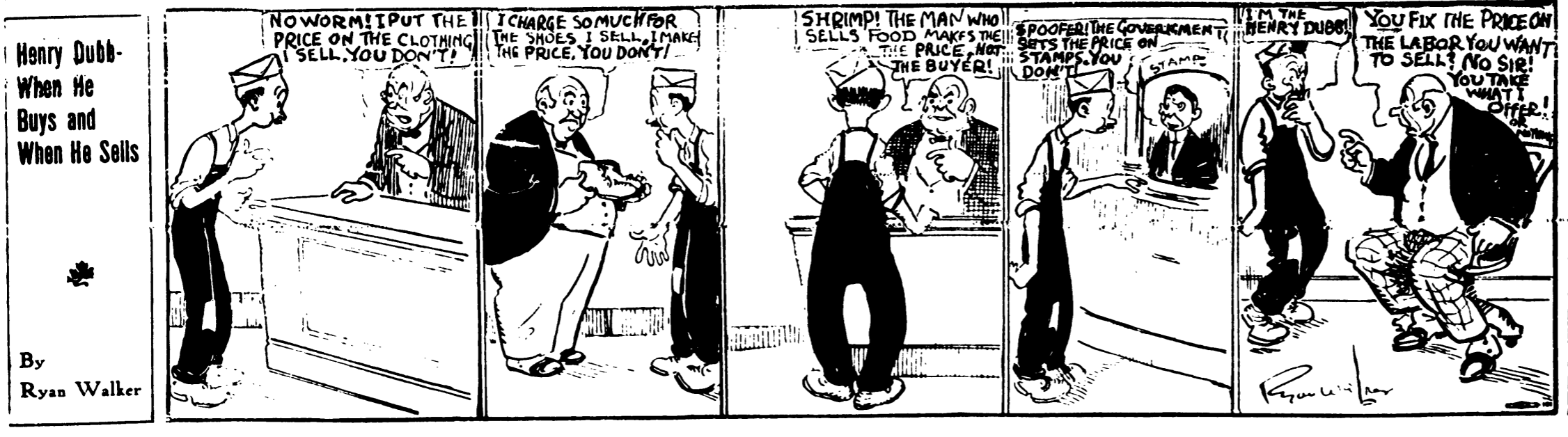
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