

The Washington Socialist

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS. YOU HAVE A WORLD TO WIN.

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EVERETT, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1914.

No. 192.

The Truth About Everett's Water Supply

Disinterested Citizens Visit Boulder Creek and the Sultan River

ALSO THE PRESENT FROG POND

The very first important move made by the two newly elected city commissioners, Comrade J. M. Salter, commissioner of public works, and Mr. W. H. Clay, commissioner of finance, was to invite a number of disinterested citizens to visit with them the two places that have been championed by various persons and organizations as suitable sources for Everett's water supply.

Commissioner Salter invited Comrade R. D. Hodgins to accompany the three commissioners, and a party of citizens representing various business interests in Everett, on a tour of investigation, visiting Boulder creek, the Sultan river and the pond that now serves as a source of drinking water for the people of this city.

As Comrade Hodgins has had some years of experience in engineering work, and is acquainted with the seasonal flow of water in the rivers of this region, considerable weight attaches to his opinion in this matter.

It may be added that the gentleman who accompanied the three commissioners to the proposed power sites can not justly be suspected of having any undue bias in favor of one or the other sources of water supply. Their report may be accepted as fair and unprejudiced, as each member of the visiting party has exactly the same interest in securing an abundance of pure water for Everett as has any other citizen who will be obliged to drink it. Also, they each have an equal interest in seeing to it that the water secured shall be sufficiently abundant to furnish adequate power for a municipal electric plant.

It will be seen that Comrades Salter and Hodgins are in perfect agreement with the entire visiting party. An unanimous report from such a body of men, representative of such varied interests, cannot but be accepted as conclusive.

With Germany's declaration of war against Russia the bloodiest war ever fought on earth and the least justified of all wars since man emerged from barbarism has apparently begun.—New York Evening Post.

WAGE LABOR A COMMODITY

Is for Sale on Open Market.

The recent discussions in congress of the Clayton anti-trust bill brought prominently the long disputed question, "Is labor a commodity?"

Properly put, the question would be, "Is labor-power a commodity?"

The Marxian economist unhesitatingly declares that labor, or rather labor-power, is a commodity, to be bought in the open labor market, just as the merchant buys electric power, potatoes, sugar, or what not. And the price of labor-power is determined in the same way as is the price of other commodities.

The wage-worker is the owner of a certain vital force called ENERGY, his own body being both water power (motor power), dynamo, and transmitting system. He is also the machinery of manufacture; or at least an important adjunct to the whirling steel wheels, turners, saws, planers, etc., by which saleable products are manufactured.

But if labor-power is a commodity it is also PROPERTY, and if it is property, it is subject to the provisions of the Sherman anti-trust law, which it is the purpose of the Clayton amendments to clearly define and limit. If labor, or, properly speaking, labor-power, is merchandise, a commodity, then a labor union is an association or monopoly in restraint of trade, and the Sherman anti-trust law can be invoked by the capitalist class, purchasers of labor-power, to "forbid the existence and operation" of both labor unions and farmers' unions, as "illegal combinations or conspiracies" in restraint of trade. Hence the revival of interest in what formerly was considered a mere academic question, of interest to political economists and Socialist students only.

Mr. Gompers and his labor unions, backed up by many influential utopians and conciliators (harmonizers of

Representative Citizens and City Commissioners Report on Selection of Source of Water Supply.

Everett, Wash., Sept. 8, 1914.

To the Citizens of Everett:

We, the undersigned residents and taxpayers of Everett, desire to make public the results of our tour of investigation to Boulder creek, the Sultan river, and the present source of water supply to the city of Everett.

On invitation of the city commissioners, we left Everett for Boulder creek on the morning of August 26, and visited the Boulder creek region advocated by some as a suitable source of water supply for the city of Everett, both for ordinary uses and for an electric power plant.

Upon investigation we found that while the flow of water at this season would be ample for ordinary uses for a city of some 50,000 inhabitants, it would be wholly inadequate for a power plant even for Everett's present population. Moreover, the supply would be much diminished during the months of September and October, and practically dries up during December and January of some years.

On August 29, we visited the Sultan river, and found there a superabundance of pure water, capable of supplying an adequate supply, for both ordinary and power purposes, for a city of several hundred thousand inhabitants, or more. In fact, the natural features of the canyon are of such a character that a dam could be built, at a relatively low cost, which would increase the reserve supply almost indefinitely.

The committee also visited the source of the present supply (Wood's creek), and found the conditions very unsatisfactory, both as to quality and quantity of water. One of the visitors aptly characterized the dammed-up water as a frog-pond, owing to the green skum which has gathered at the outlet.

Any citizen of Everett who should visit Wood's creek will become fully convinced of the imperative need of immediate action in this matter of securing a pure water supply for the city of Everett.

All things considered, we confidently recommend the Sultan river in preference to Boulder creek as a source of water supply to this growing city.

Respectfully submitted by,
B. R. STONEHOUSE,
JOHN J. CLARK,
R. D. HODGINS,
For the Committee.

"Belgium's Queen Visits Wounded."

"Grand Duke's Marble Palace in St. Petersburg to Become Hospital." "But, oh, it's Mr. Atkins' when the band begins to play."—New York World.

"God of our fatherland!"—Nicholas. "God of our dear fatherland!"—Wilhelm. "God of all French!"—Poincaré. "God our defense and bulwark!"—Franz Josef. "God of our race!"—George. "God our right arm!"—Albert. And from the cockpit of Europe comes the fighting slogan of Serbia, "We can take care of ourselves."—Philadelphia North American.

"Capital and labor", have urged with a great show of reason that the theory of labor as a commodity is obsolete, and "has been utterly abandoned," etc. The Clayton anti-trust bill passed both houses of congress on this contention. As a matter of fact, however, labor-power is a commodity, and no argument or facts were brought forth during the recent discussion to refute this fundamental fact of Marxian economics.

What was brought out during the controversy was simply this: (1) That certain elements of the capitalist class needed some curb put upon their rapacity and despotism; (2) and that if it were publicly admitted that labor-power is a commodity, to be purchased in the labor market just as one buys spuds or cord wood, then it becomes at once apparent to even an ivory-headed old-party voter that the wage-laborer is a wage-slave, just as the truculent Socialists contend.

So labor had to be cajoled, dignified, appeased a little, a la First Monday in September—a la Civic Federation. And the Clayton bill became law, permitting laborers and farmers to organize in unions without being subject to the Sherman anti-trust law.

Next week we shall attempt to prove

NATIONAL COMMITTEE DEMANDS SEIZURE OF INDUSTRIES RESPONSIBLE FOR HIGH PRICES

TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE:

A desperate situation confronts the people of America. Unscrupulous capitalists, using the European war as a pretext, are increasing the cost of food so that millions are threatened with starvation.

The president of the United States has ordered an investigation of the increase in food prices, and the prosecution of those responsible for it. Such investigations and prosecutions have brought no results whatsoever in the past and are not likely to do so now.

European governments, when confronted with a similar situation, realized that there is only one measure that can be depended upon to bring relief—the seizure of all plants and industries responsible for the increase in prices and their operation by the government for the benefit of the people.

We demand that the same action be taken immediately in the United States. We demand that the government, as an emergency measure, seize the packing houses, cold storage warehouses, granaries, flour mills, and such other plants and industries as may be necessary to safeguard the food of the people.

Such seizure will not only benefit the people of the United States, but also the people of Europe.

When the government controls the industries, the exportation of foods to Europe can be prevented. The rulers of Europe, unable to secure food for their armies, will be forced to call off their soldiers.

We also demand that the exportation of money and of munitions of war to European nations be prohibited. The United States must not aid the powers of Europe to continue their fratricidal strife. We call upon the people everywhere to hold mass meetings and to send resolutions to the president and congress demanding immediate and decisive action.

The need is urgent. We must act.

By order of the National Committee on Immediate Action.

WALTER LANFERSIEK,
Executive Secretary.

HYSTERIA MAKES POOR HISTORY.

(By A. M. Simons.)

Socialism is the antithesis of sensationalism.

Socialism is evolutionary and constructive. Its work is the building of a new society in the midst of the old, the organization of an army drilled and disciplined, ready not only to invade and capture but to reconstruct.

For seven years there has been a tendency to make of the Socialist party a salvation mob rushing to the rescue of the latest victim of capitalist outrage. We have protested over much and propagated Socialism too little.

Capitalism may be depended upon to furnish the outrages just as long as Socialists will spend their energies in protesting, and by one of those paradoxes frequent in social evolution, the more energy spent in denunciation of abuses the less protection built up against the system that produces abuses.

Colorado is calling for more screaming denunciation today than seven years ago. But if the energy expended in screaming at Colorado horrors had been spent in educating Colorado voters and in organizing an effective Socialist party such horrors would be impossible.

Getting hysterical over each separate outrage is falling into the capitalist trap. It is accepting the capitalist philosophy of many separate social problems. It is admitting that the point of attack is upon the countless horrors of capitalism and not upon the horror of capitalism itself.

Capitalism will not be transformed into Socialism in spots. The place to fight the class struggle is here and now, wherever "here and now" may be for each group of workers.

Organizing a Socialist local and drilling its members in the technique of fighting the battles of their class puts fewer heroes on the front pages of the capitalist press than street riots, shrieking speeches and proclamations of defiance, but helps much more in building up an effective resistance to the things against which riotings, shrieking and proclamations are directed.

The Socialist movement is not a gathering of "sob sisters" but an army of fighters and workers. It is not organized to keep individuals out of jail but to take the whole working class out of an industrial hell.

Other nations learned this lesson

the Marxian thesis to be correct, that labor, or labor-power, is a commodity; or rather we shall summarize the argument as made by Marx himself.

Permit us to add, more or less indulgent reader, that this paper, and all other Socialist papers, should contain more short articles dealing with the fundamental principles of Socialist philosophy as taught by that trio of great thinkers and economists, Karl Marx, Frederick Engels and Karl Kautsky. The question is, Do our subscribers want such lessons given?

SUCCESSFUL PICNICS.

The Socialists of Snohomish county

added one more to their list of successful picnics on Labor Day, September 7, at Edmonds. The two boats chartered carried capacity crowds. The weather which in the morning was rainy and threatening, became ideal about 10:30, and during the day remained beautiful. The crowd was enthusiastic and happy. The Edmonds comrades having made every preparation, there was little to be done beside dispose of the refreshments, all of which were used up. The speakers were Comrades McCullough, Olinger, Flora Bartlett, Cort, Husby, Crosby, Mary McNamara, Coburn, Thompson, Jensen, Keller, Shipley, Leister, Larsen and Katterfeld. A strong anti-war spirit prevailed and the war situation was analyzed and thoroughly discussed. A strong anti-war resolution was offered and unanimously adopted.

Much propaganda work was done, and the crowd went home at night thoroughly satisfied with the day.

A HINT FOR ALL READERS OF THE WASHINGTON SOCIALIST.

Comrade Illman recently invested twenty-five cents in a three months' subscription card for H. Weaver of Coeur de Alene, Idaho. Since then he has received word that the Washington Socialist is highly appreciated, and that one hundred signatures for a local had been secured. The Washington Socialist wishes the new organization success. Comrades, take a hint from this and put your friends on the trial list.

In case of invasion, a few long ladders are all Switzerland needs.—Columbia State.

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE.

1. Starve the war by forbidding the shipment of any food products to Europe. This will keep in this country the food with which to feed America.

2. Feed America by seizing on the food and distributing it through government channels at cost of production and handling. This will bring food within the reach of all who have an income.

3. Provide employment and money for all by using the deposits in the postal savings banks, to a safe banking margin, in paying for needed public improvements. This would provide means for all for buying the food.

The military aviator can go into action with that serene confidence that comes from the reflection that his profession is no more dangerous in war than it is in peace.—Boston Transcript.

Among other people who will be inconvenienced by the war, just think of the job Baedeker will have getting up to date again.—New York Evening Sun.

This European war suggests that maybe the white man's burden is the white man himself.—Buffalo Courier.

"My Side Is Losing: My Side---Humanity!"

(By Oscar Ameringer.)

"A glorious victory has been won by the Belgian forces," says a report from London.

"Alsace is invaded and our troops gained a glorious victory at Muehlhausen." Such is the news from Paris.

"Liege has fallen and the German army made a victorious entry into the city." So says a cable from Berlin.

Ah! We all are victorious these days. We Germans, we English, we Russians and we Austrians.

"Our heroic soldiers have mowed down the enemy by the thousands. The fields of mines exploded with wonderful precision. Battalions of infantry soared in the sky, and for minutes after it rained hands and feet, bleeding trunks and crimson gore.

"The machine guns cut wide swaths into the attacking cavalry, even as the reaper cuts through the golden grain."

"For three days the dead laid unburied in the field."

Happy dead. Your broken eyes no longer see the comrade crawling toward the sheltering ditch, his entrails dragging in the bloody mire.

Your ears heed not the dying prayers, the crys of pain, the moans and curses, the raving of the fever-tortured, the shrieks of maniacs around the field of carnage.

You did not feel the worms that bore in festering wounds. You did not smell the sickening reek that rose from the battle ground.

You won a glorious victory, indeed. "Our East Sea squadron sunk a German submarine."

A huge cylinder sinks slowly in the deep and frantic men tear their nails on iron walls. Darker and darker grows the watery night. Faster and faster come the gasps for air. The vessel settles in the slime. The creatures of the deep return and stare with greedy eyes at the silent grey behind the little plate glass window.

Have patience, denizens of the deep, prosperity is coming.

Victoria, a British cruiser, struck a floating mine and sunk with man and mouse.

SOCIALISTS TAKE LITTLE INTEREST IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS—VOTE LIGHT.

As we go to press the Socialist vote in Everett is not yet compiled, but it is known to have been very light. One vote in each precinct is sufficient to put our candidates on the ticket in November, and as we have but one man or woman up for each office, the comrades stayed in out of the rain after their hard day's work in mill, shop, store, etc. They were wise.

Vacation note: Mlle. Alsace Lorraine is preparing to return to her home in France after a long stay in Germany.—Boston Transcript.

The Monte Carlo Casino succeeded in running several days longer than the London and New York Stock Exchanges.—New York World.

It will take centuries to recover from this blow to civilization, but doubtless our prominent optimists are reflecting in their cheery way that there will be plenty of centuries.—Ohio State Journal.

The most important question in orthography today is the spelling Elsass or Alsace.—Springfield Republican.

If there are any naturalized Belgians in the country, this ought to be a good year for them to run for political office.—Springfield Republican.

SOCIALIST STATE TICKET

United States Senator.
ADAM H. BARTH.

Representatives in Congress.
First District—GLENN H. HOOVER.

Second District—GEORGE E. BOOMER.

Third District—L. E. ALLER

Fourth District—JOHN STORLAND.

Fifth District—J. C. HARKNESS.

These are the candidates selected through State Referendum "G," in which both organizations participated.

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Open Revolt Rather than War! State Executive Committee Adopts Strong Resolutions Against Collective Murder

SOCIALIST PARTY OF WASHINGTON TO MAKE WAR ON WAR.

WAR AGAINST WAR.

The following stirring resolutions were adopted at the last meeting of the state executive committee:

"Workers of the World, Unite."

"Whereas, we, the state executive committee of the Socialist Party of Washington, deplore the fact that the wage class of Europe have allowed themselves to be lured to the battlefield to be slaughtered for the benefit of the master class; and

"Whereas, we recognize the fact that the economic basis for the present war is a commercial one that concerns only the masters of the countries involved—it being due to a desire to find a market for the wealth exploited (in times of peace) from the very people whom they now call to slaughter in the name of 'patriotism,' love of country, honor of the flag, etc.; and

"Whereas, we are conscious of the fact that the proletariat have no country, but are and should be citizens of the world, and that they have therefore but ONE enemy, the capitalist class;

"Therefore, be it resolved, that we call upon the working class of the state of Washington, through the Socialist party locals, to hold anti-war mass meetings and be it further

"Resolved, that as class-conscious members of the working class we call upon our fellow workers to refuse to take up arms against each other, even to the extent of open revolt should an attempt be made to force us to arms.

"Workers of the world, unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains. You have a world to win."

ORGANIZATION NEWS

NEWS AND NOTES—SNOHOMISH COUNTY.

Carl Ulonska, Secy.-Treas.

This is Red Week! Let every member of the party get at least one new member to join. It's an easy matter; just get after them. And in order to encourage your "getting after them" the county committee has decided to give free a copy of A. M. Simon's famous booklet, "Wasting Human Life," a terrific indictment of the capitalist system by facts and figures by their own representatives. "Wasting Human Life" will be given free to every Socialist in Snohomish county who gets one or more Red Card members. Get busy, build up the local and get a copy of "Wasting Human Life."

For the first time I believe in the history of the Snohomish county organization is every live local paid up and reported—18 in all. Every one alive, too.

Mass meetings throughout the county are now being arranged. These meetings will be addressed by one or more of the county candidates besides regular organization speakers. If you can arrange a meeting in your locality let us know.

There is not a stronger nor more eloquent plea for organization than Ludlow, Calumet and West Virginia. Let this sink in when you pay your dues.

Comrades complain about being unable to get attendance at local meetings. Where does the fault lie? Partly with you. Make local meetings interesting. Mix a little music, refreshments, have a speaker whenever possible to take away the dull monotony of a business. Remember when you joined. Well, it's the same with the other fellow. All economies and no play makes Jack or Bill disinterested, see!

Comrade John DeQuer has just completed his tour in Snohomish county. From a propaganda standpoint the tour was a success but from a financial standpoint DeQuer was on a "fast." Locals were all very pleased with him and report good work done. Vigilance is the price of liberty, and so is work the price of organization. Get busy.

JUST FOR A SMILE.

In London they tell of a certain distinguished statesman who is an optimist on all points save marriage.

One afternoon this statesman was proceeding along a country road when he saw a cottager eating his supper alone in the road before his dwelling. "Why, Henry," asked the statesman, "why are you eating out here alone?"

"Well, sir, er—" the man stammered, "the—er—chimney smokes."

"That's too bad," said the statesman, his philanthropic sentiments at once being aroused. "I'll have it fixed for you. Let's have a look at it."

And before the cottager could stay him the statesman proceeded to enter the cottage. As soon as he had opened the door a broomstick fell upon his shoulders and a woman's voice exclaimed:

"Back here again, are you, you old rascal! Clear out with you, or I'll—"

The statesman retired precipitately. The cottager sat in the road shaking his head in sorrow and embarrassment. The statesman bent over him, and laid his hand in kindly fashion on his arm.

"Never mind, Henry," said he, consolingly, "my chimney smokes sometimes, too."—Harper's Magazine.

TOO WEAK FOR STONE.

Senator Stone, of Missouri, is a lover of coffee, and unless it is both strong and good the waiter at restaurant or hotel soon hears from him. Recently he took a little trip to Baton Rouge and went into a restaurant for dinner. On raising his cup to his lips he made a wry face and then beckoned to the proprietor.

"What do you call this stuff?" he asked.

"Coffee," meekly replied the man, somewhat surprised.

"Coffee!" repeated Stone with scorn.

"I could put a coffee-bean into my mouth, dive into the Mississippi river from the end of this street, swim 'way up to Vicksburg, and I'll guarantee that any one could bail up much better coffee than this over the entire route!" —New York Tribune.

The building formerly occupied by Court & Co. as a real estate office is being renovated for the occupation of Ross Sharpless with a confectionery and tobacco emporium. The genial Ross will make you welcome. Don't forget the number, 1908 Hewitt.

RARER.

Willie—Paw, is truth stranger than fiction?

Paw—Well, it is more of a stranger than fiction, my son.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

PICNIC AT MT. VERNON.

The picnic and rally held at Mt. Vernon, Sept. 6 under the auspices of the county campaign committee, was a success. About 150 comrades from all over the county turned out. The day was fair and the eats brought by the comrades were simply grand.

An invitation had been extended to the representatives of the capitalist parties, but all failed to appear to put their views before the Socialist audience.

The county candidates made a short speech, after which W. H. Kingery explained the eight-hour law. The principle lecture of the day was given by Comrade Geo. E. Boomer, congressional candidate, which was enthusiastically received.

A strong anti-war resolution was unanimously adopted by all present.

Several pieces of literature were distributed, and several copies of "War, What For?" sold.

ARTHUR H. HANSON.

Labor's solidarity means the union of many peoples now weakened and divided.—Peter E. Burrows.

To New Readers

TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE A SAMPLE COPY OF THIS PAPER

This paper is paid for. Read it very carefully. If you like it, subscribe now.

Send in twenty-five cents for a three months' trial subscription.

Whether you agree with all contained in the Washington Socialist or not, you cannot afford to ignore the facts it weekly presents for your consideration; least of all can you afford to ignore the world-wide movement of which it is one of thousands of spokesmen—a movement whose press is printed in fifty different languages. "Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom; and with all thy getting, get understanding."

Send in one-cent stamps, or money order, to No. 1612 California street, Everett, Wash.

Here They Are—The Reliable Ones

Do you want the "merchants" of Everett to help pay for the printing of the Washington Socialist? Or would you rather dig deep in your own pocket and use your own money to pay the expense of running your paper?

You have no money to waste and the easiest way is the best way. Buy your food, clothing and shelter and pleasures from the list of advertisers below. They are helping to pay the cost of running the Washington Socialist.

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Men's Union Suits

Men's extra quality wool Union Suits, always sell at \$2.50. Sale price, suit. \$1.98

Boys' Union Suits

Boys' heavy fleece lined Union Suits, cream color; regular 75c. Sale price, suit. 50c

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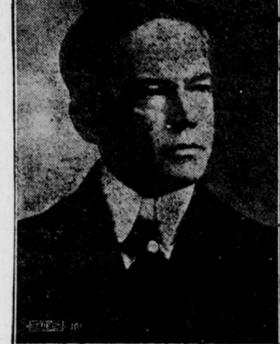
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 Finest Meats at Lowest Prices
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 Everett's Reliable Jeweler
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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIALIST PARTY
 I, the undersigned, recognizing the class struggle between the capitalist and the working class, and the necessity of the working class constituting themselves into a political party distinct from and opposed to all parties formed by the capitalist class, hereby declare that I have severed my relations with all other parties, that I endorse the platform and constitution of the Socialist party, including the principle of political action, and hereby apply for admission to said party.
 Name _____
 Occupation _____
 (If a member of a labor organization give name and number)
 Street Address _____ Ward _____
 City _____ State _____ County _____
 Proposed by _____ Age _____
 Date _____ 191__ Citizen (Yes or No) _____

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FREE LEGAL DEPARTMENT OF THE WASHINGTON SOCIALIST
 Address all questions to Attorney Peter Husby, 215-16 Stokes Bldg., Everett, Wash.

Editor's Note: Free legal advice on any subject is given in this column to Washington Socialist subscribers. Are not fifty-two copies of this paper and a legal adviser for a year worth \$1.00? Tell your neighbors about this great offer?

"HORRORS OF WAR."
 Pronunciation of Names Made Prominent by War

- Aix La Chapelle—Aks-La-Sha-Pell.
- Bonhomme—Bon-Hom.
- Cettinje—Che-Teen-Ya.
- Charleroi—Shar-Leh-Roi.
- Dierst—Deest.
- Gemboux—Zhom-Bloo.
- Hassel—Has-Selt.
- Helligoland—Hel-Go-Land.
- Herzegovina—Her-Seh-Go-Vee-Na.
- Louvain—Loo-Van.
- Montenegro—Mon-Ta-Na-Gro.
- Salle—Za-Leh.
- St. Trond—San-Tron.
- Shiermonnik Ogg—Sheer-Mon-Ik-Og.
- Vosges—Vosh.

As further evidence that war is what General Sherman said it was, these are submitted. The accented syllable is printed in capital letters.

- Alsace—AL-sass.
- Biamont—Bla-MON.
- Chalons—Chah-LON.
- Esemael (Flemish)—EZ-mahl.
- Hablville—Hab-lan-VEEL.
- Huy—Hoi.
- La Fere—La-FAIR.
- Landen—LAHN-den.
- Liege—Lee-AZH.
- Lille—Leel.
- Loinguyon—Lon-VEE.
- Marville—Mah-VEEL.
- Mulhausen—Mul-How-sen.
- Meurthe-et-Moselle—Mert-a-Mo-SELLE.
- Meuse—Moirs.
- Moncel—MON-cel.
- Morhange—Mor-ANZH.
- Monovillers—Mo-non-VEE-ay.
- Montmedy—Mon-MEED-ay.
- Namur—Nah-MOOR.
- Nesbaya—NEZ-bay.
- Rogersvillers—Rozher-VEE-ay.
- St. Trond—San Tron.
- Thionville—TY-on-Veel.
- Tirlemont—TEERL-mon.
- Tongress—Tongre.

VERY DIFFERENT.
 "Thirty cents a word for this stuff!" exclaimed the editor. "I wouldn't think of it."
 "Sir, I am a famous author."
 "That's just it. You are a famous author, not a famous pugilist or a successful baseball pitcher."—Washington Herald.

ILL AT EASE.
 "Is Boozer still on the water wagon?"
 "No, very restless."—Boston Transcript.

The best Coffee for the money is our Favorite Blend, 3 lbs. for \$1.00 or 1 1/2 lbs. for 50 cents. M. H. Clausen, 2812 Rockefeller. Telephone 581.

JOIN THE PARTY.
 Ever think how inconsistent you are, you Socialists who preach co-operation and call upon the working class to get together, and yet as far as your own actions are concerned, you are nothing but a petty individual bushwacker in this class struggle unless you are a member in good standing in the great world-wide Socialist party?
 Sign the appended blank TODAY and take it to the next meeting of the Socialist local in your city. If you do not know where it meets, mail the blank to the state secretary of the Socialist party, L. E. Katterfeld, Box 491, Everett, Wash., together with 25 cents for your first month's dues, or as much more as you like.

ORATORY.
 A comrade who was selected to preside, desiring to do the job with credit to himself and the local, committed to memory his introductory remarks, and dressed as he deemed proper for the occasion, in a long Prince Albert coat, with hand thrust in his breast, he struck what he considered a dramatic attitude and began:
 "Friends and fellow citizens: Were I gifted with the oratory of a Demosthenes; had I the wit and satire of a Henry Clay, the magnetism and logic of an Abraham Lincoln, 'I'd—I'd—I'd!' Horrors! He had forgotten his speech. During the pause after the fourth 'I'd' a little squeaky voice out in the middle of the great audience piped up: "You'd raise hell, wouldn't you?"—Appeal to Reason.

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What Is Capital?

Land, tools, raw materials and articles of consumption may be capital, provided they perform two functions. First, they must be used to rob the worker of his product. Second, the product must be sold at a profit. Unless social conditions are developed to the point where things perform these two functions, they are no more capital than the bow and arrow of the Indian or the stored-up honey of the bee.

Bearing in mind that a thing cannot be capital unless it exploits the worker by separating him from the product of his toil, we can readily understand that capital could not exist until conditions were ripe for exploitation to take place. To talk about capital during primitive days is mere buncombe. In the savage tribe, land, tools, weapons, etc., were simply means of production, not capital. Caves, tents and huts were used for shelter, not to exact rent. Nuts, tubers, etc., were articles of use, not objects for sale. These things were not used to exploit any class and therefore they could not be capital.

In the days of antiquity, when commerce began to be developed, we see a form of capital known as financial or money lenders' capital. This capital was used by the merchants and consisted in buying as cheaply as possible and selling as dearly as possible, thereby making a profit. No other capital existed. Neither was this merchants' capital used to exploit the labor of free workers, as all labor then was slave labor. The small land owners, to whom a failure of crops, the death of a horse or cow or a war meant a great loss, soon became the prey of the money lenders. Money, as a commodity, was used to make a profit in buying and selling, and to realize more money by loaning to those in need. In short, in those days commerce ruled industry just as today industry rules commerce.

During feudal days, the serfs and craftsmen owned their means of production. The serfs owned the soil they tilled and the craftsmen the tools and materials of their respective trades. Thus they could not be as mercilessly exploited as the "free" laborer of today.

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 We would amend the word equal in the first sentence of the above to equitable. That is more like it. Wilson strikes us as a sincere fellow. He recognizes the relation between drink and overwork; he wants a national information bureau on the unemployed; he sees that even under present conditions, owners of a factory and land hold the title through social consent, and have, therefore, social obligations which, through a mistaken notion of full ownership, they disregard. He warns employers against procuring strikebreakers under false pretenses.
 Workingmen, take Wilson's advice. Look into Socialism and you will find it just what you have been needing all these long, weary years.—The Leader (Mass.).
THREE.
 Professor at Agricultural School—What kinds of farming are there?
 New Student—Extensive, intensive, and pretensive.—Indianapolis Star.
 A full line of staple groceries and Scandinavian specialties, new goods just arrived, at Eidem's Grocery, 2709 Lombard. Phone 477X.

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THE WASHINGTON SOCIALIST

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ABOUT FEEDING AMERICA AND STARVING EUROPE.

When the matter was first brought forward by the national executive committee relating to a Socialist party demand on the president and congress for immediate legislation prohibiting the export of food stuffs to foreign nations (belligerent nations only would not serve the end in view), the editor of this paper looked upon the suggestion as rather utopian, spectacular rather than practicable.

Further consideration of the plan, however, has led him to a change of opinion. For it comes to about this, adopt the plan suggested or fold hands and take it out in commenting on the horrors of war.

We Socialists pride ourselves upon being practicable. And we are. We were not so utopian as they of capitalist persuasion who believed the present profit-mongering, plunderbund system could continue without a world-wide catastrophe. And we're not so impracticable as to believe that the war will terminate without leaving monarchies and republican grafting machines behind, along with the rest of the debris.

BUT! In the meantime, many of the industries of the U. S. will be closed down; thousands upon thousands of men, women and (sad to say) children will be thrown upon the world jobless, penniless, homeless, starving, freezing to death. MILLIONS OF THEM!

Now then: what will the U. S. government do for these millions of citizens who are denied the right to earn a living? Will it call upon congress to appropriate \$50,000,000 to set them up in farming on some of the millions of acres of unused land in this vast country? Will it lease them sufficient implements, stock, seed, etc., to begin creating "two blades of grass where one grew before?"

Will "our" government loan money to its common citizens who created the nation's colossal wealth of \$135,000,000,000?

Not while "our best citizens" need the money to buy ships to carry off the food products for which their producers are starving at home.

No, "our" government is not interested in the production of things to USE. It is concerned only in aiding the profit-mongers who have things to SELL.

The profit-mongers ARE the government.

In the language of one of them, "The public be damned!"

Why Should We Starve?

In consideration of the fact that our agricultural wealth this year is greater than ever before, well may we ask, "Why should we starve?" Examine this table:

The crops of the United States: (Preliminary estimate issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, August 7, 1914:

Table with 3 columns: Crop, 1914 Bushels, 1913 Bushels. Includes Wheat, Corn, Oats, Barley, Rye, Buckwheat, White potatoes, Sweet potatoes, All potatoes, Rice.

Now, Mr. Hardheaded Citizen, do you see anything to be alarmed over? No?

Well, you have another guess coming.

These vast crops are not for the use of those who sowed and harvested them. They are the "private property" of men who neither toil nor spin, nor sow nor—well, yes, they do some reaping, all right, "the GOLDEN harvest" for them! They will sell this grain crop to the nations of Europe, thus starving the "patriots" at home and aiding and abetting in the continuance of the human slaughter pens abroad.

A glance at the table below will give you some idea of "where they get theirs:"

THE NEEDS OF THE NATIONS.

The following approximate figures will give some idea of the imports and exports of cereals of the European countries involved in the conflict. All will have to rely upon the United States for sustenance:

Table with 3 columns: Country, Imports, Exports. Lists Germany, Austria-Hungary, Great Britain, Belgium, France, Russia.

Now sign that letter-form and send it to the president, at once! OR STARVE!!!

Cut Out This Letter, Sign It and Mail the President.

To the President, Washington, D. C.: I respectfully and most emphatically urge you to advise congress to enact a law prohibiting, until further notice, all exportation of food from the United States. I am opposed to feeding fighting Europe at the expense of peaceful America. I believe that the exportation of all foodstuffs from the United States should be prohibited at the earliest possible moment, and, as the urgency is great I request you to advise congress as to this matter forthwith.

Name _____
Street and Number _____
City _____ State _____

STARVE THE WAR AND FEED AMERICA

America can stop the war. War in Europe can continue only if fed by America. To feed that war, the workers of America must starve. While the war lords of Europe are leading the workers to slaughter, the money and food lords of America seek to profit by that slaughter by increasing the cost of food.

To curb the war in Europe and to curb the monopolists in this country, and also to keep this nation from being drawn into the conflict, two things are necessary:

- 1. We must starve the war by cutting off supplies.
2. We must feed our own people by seizing the sources of supplies.

We must stop the shipping of all supplies to the war zone. Not a penny for loans, not an ounce of food should leave these shores to prolong this terrible shedding of blood.

This is the only honest and complete neutrality. In no other way can we be sure of keeping this nation out of that fearful whirlpool.

Bread and meat and money are as necessary as men and guns and bullets for the killing of men in war.

Keeping food and cash here will save lives on both sides of the Atlantic.

To carry on the war and to continue the wholesale slaughter, the governments of Europe have seized the stores of food and money, sources of credit, railroads and telegraphs.

Certainly this government is justified in taking similar measures to stop the war and save lives at home.

The government should at once seize the stores of food supplies, the sources of credit, the railroads and all the means of transportation and communication and use them to break the grip of the trusts and speculators.

The packing plants, the cold storage houses, the grain elevators and flour mills, and all else necessary to supply the food of the nation should be seized and operated for the good of all.

Congress should prohibit the shipping to the war zone of any article that will help to keep the warring armies at this murderous work.

It should also forbid the lending of money to any government that has plunged its subjects into war.

The Socialists of America call upon every man and woman who hates war and wishes the welfare of the people to join in this effort to check this war and to safeguard the lives of American workers.

The Socialists of Europe fought against war to the last. Now that war has been forced upon the world by the lust of rulers and ruling classes, Socialists everywhere will fight with energy to shorten its duration and reduce its horrors.

A tremendous responsibility rests upon you—the people of this nation. By the power of your voice and vote you can stop the ravages of the war abroad and poverty at home.

You can so use that voice and vote in the midst of the turmoil of war today as to lay the foundations of a society in which the government of America will be truly a government of the people, and the industries of America shall bring peace and plenty to those who labor in those industries.

To this the Socialist movement summons you today. Starve the war and save America.

The above has been issued as the expression of the national campaign committee of the Socialist party in the present crisis. It has been published as a leaflet and can be obtained of the Socialist party national headquarters, 803 Dearborn Street, Chicago. The price, prepaid, is 50 cents a thousand east of the Rocky mountains and 75 cents west.

Is The Capitalist System All Right?

(From an article by Allan L. Benson in the Appeal to Reason.) NOW, there are only two opinions as to this sort of a system. One is that the system is right and the other is that it is wrong. If you are not a Socialist, you are one of those who contend that the present system is all right. If the present system is all right, the hard times that we have been having for the last seven years are all right, and the national hunger that may sweep over the country next winter will be all right.

If the present system is all right, everything in this country is all right from Rockefeller to the price of meat. Poverty is all right and political corruption is all right. All of the facts must be above criticism or complaint because all of them are the natural products of a system that compels millions of workers to give up their products to a handful of capitalists and then fight to get back enough to keep from starving.

We Socialists believe none of these facts are right. We regard it as stupid for a great nation of a hundred millions to permit a few men to own the industrial machinery of the nation. Without this industrial machinery we cannot live. We cannot produce the material things upon which the lives of our hundred millions depend.

BUT we do not need to indict the capitalist system. It indicts itself. It never permits all of the people to work at the same time. It never feeds all that are willing to work. It never gives a decent living to those who work. Flour mills are shut down when the people need both work and flour. Shoe factories are shut down when the people need both work and the shoes. Railroads are running at half speed when the people need the goods that the railroads could carry. Nothing is permitted to run unless it pays a profit to the capitalist owner. Unless he can graft off the workers he will not permit them to work. The people may ever so much need what the workers can produce—they may not work. They are told to go away until profits are in sight.

We are an exceedingly foolish people to endure these things. We are especially foolish to endure them because of the capitalistic assurance that each of these things is right. We forget that the capitalists are interested parties. The capitalist system is doing for the capitalists what they want it to do. They have every reason to favor it. But since the capitalist system is not doing for us what we want it to do, we have every reason to oppose it. Capitalists do not take the word of the working class for anything, why should the working class take the word of the capitalist class for anything.

At present, the working class is about to be starved pale by the capitalist class. The starving, if it shall be done, will be strictly according to the constitution and the statutes. Which way would you prefer to be starved, constitutionally or unconstitutionally? Would you feel any better if you were certain that whatever might befall you, it would be in perfect harmony with the federal constitution?

Men and women who object to being starved in any fashion would do well to act at once. Sign the letter on this page and send it to the president. Let him know that America emphatically objects to being starved for the benefit of European kings and American grafters.

DON'T EXPECT GEORGE TO DO IT ALL.

George Crosby, our genial advertising hustler, is a great and good man. But he is only human. He can't make the advertiser "come through" merely by telling him what a great "pull" the Washington Socialist has. YOU must give the "pull" yourself, gentle reader.

Get behind Crosby on this proposition. Help him to make good, and that will help make the paper good. Patronize those who patronize you, and TELL THEM ABOUT IT!

Many Europeans who ridiculed Wilson's handling of the Mexican problem are beginning to wish they lived in Mexico.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

LEST WE FORGET

As we eagerly scan the bulletin boards, or the newspapers, for news from the bloody battlefield of Europe, and read of hundreds of thousands of men and boys being killed or wounded, of art centers and priceless cities being annihilated forever, let us not forget that it was stupid, stubborn opposition to all-beneficent, humane, ennobling Socialism that made the present horrible abattoir possible.

More deplorable yet, most of the youths and men who have been hurled in winnows on the crimsoned earth by screeching shot and bursting shell have deliberately voted for the very capitalist system that inevitably brought them to their agonizing deaths in fratricidal strife.

And why did they not vote for Socialism, and join in the ranks of the Reds who oppose war and robbery, poverty and ignorance, folly and wickedness in all its forms?

Why did these thousands of young men—fathers, sons, brothers, lovers—oppose the only political party in the world that aims to do away with the conditions, and the vicious ideals, that make war inevitable?

Ignorance.

There you have it in one word. Add to this one word "stupidity," if you will. But ignorance was by far the predominant factor in bringing on this all but universal catastrophe to the human race. Let us not forget this as we grow excited over the war news.

And let us not forget that we have an urgent duty at this very moment: the duty of helping to remove this dangerous ignorance from our very midst; right here at home. It is just as dangerous and combustible here in Washington as it is in Germany, Austria, or elsewhere.

The Socialist press was a powerful factor, in Europe, in averting war on several occasions during the past decade. Given a little more time and it would have been largely instrumental in preventing the present awful conflagration.

It can do as much for America if given the earnest support of the knowing ones.

Are you doing ALL that you can for the Washington Socialist?

It's your most valuable ally as an educator, brother, sister, mother.

Ah, more than all MOTHER! For, after all, it is the wife and mother left husbandless at home, or bereaved of son or sons, who suffer most by war. Let the mothers of this nation begin seriously the study of Socialism, and WARS WILL BE ABOLISHED FOREVER, BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD!

BEFORE SEDAN

(By Austin Dodson.) "The dead hand clasped a letter." Here in this leafy place, quiet he lies, Cold, with his sightless eyes turned to the skies; 'Tis but another dead, all you say is said.

Carry his body hence—kings must have slaves; Kings climb to eminence over men's graves. So this man's eye is dim; throw the earth over him.

What was the white you touched, there at his side? Paper in his hand and clutched tight ere he died; Message or wish, may be—smooth out the folds and see.

Hardly the worst of us here could have smiled— Only the tremulous words of a child— Prattle, that had for stops just a few ruddy drops.

Look; she is sad, to miss, morning and night, His—her dead father's—kiss; tries to be bright. Good to mamma, and sweet—That is all, Marguerite."

Ah, if beside the dead slumbered the pain! Ah, if the hearts that bled slept with the slain! If the grief died! But no—Death will not have it so.

REMEMBER THIS!

Don't destroy or burn this paper when YOU have read it through. It contains valuable propaganda. Mark some article with a blue pencil and pass it to a friend or a stranger whom you meet on the way. Remember that a chance meeting with a Socialist paper has started many a man or woman on the road to Socialism.

From all appearances, Austria-Hungary now bitterly repents having thrown that stone.—New York World.

The custom of kissing when they meet has been suspended among most European monarchs.—Washington Star.

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Daniel Frohman presents the distinguished American actress, Virginia Pearson, in "THE AFTERMATH"

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