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ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO—

"TRUTH"

DULUTH, MINN.

RED CROSS ASKED TO
BE BUTCHER IN NEXT WARProfiteering Murder Barons Shift Killing Job to
"Mother of The World"

By PAUL HANNA

WASHINGTON.—Delirious with the horrors of her imperialistic peace, Europe staggers again into the grogshop, and pleading with Uncle Sam for more money and soldiers cries out, in the words of Will Dyson: "For the love of Gawd, Mister, give me another go at that bottle!"

Just \$20,000,000 enough to transport Wrangel's soldiers of fortune from the Island of Lemnos to start another war in Armenia, will be enough this time. And if Congress hasn't the nerve to give it out of the public treasury, won't a few millionaires come across with it privately, for the sake of "humanity" and another round by the heavy artillery?

Lord Robert Cecil informs the reporters at Geneva that a special cablegram has been sent by the League of Nations assembly to the American Red Cross, asking for \$20,000,000 "to be used only to finance the expedition" of troops to Armenia.

Lord Robert cuts straight through all the nonsense about the Red Cross being a non-combatant "Mother of the World" whose business is solely to bandage the wounded and feed the hungry. He and the League ask for \$20,000,000 to move an army to the battle front.

Washington citizens subscribed only one-half their quota to the Red Cross appeal which concluded last week. How much more eagerly they would have given had they been told quite plainly that it is now the task of the Red Cross not merely to nurse a wounded world but to inflict fresh tortures upon it.

Stricken humanity must lift its

face from the ground to shout, if with its last breath: "All hail to the 'Mother of the World,' who by tact and diligence has risen from camp follower to be consort of the field marshal!"

And if that sounds too bitter, let us turn to the imperialistic Washington Post, which exclaims editorially on the very day that the League of Nations asked the Red Cross to finance another war:

"A still greater evil throughout Europe is the expenditure for war purposes. It is a crime against humanity. At the hour when the people are bowed down with sorrow, privation and hunger, the governments are taking the lions share of the revenues and spending it upon armaments, ships, guns, military airplanes, spy service, strategic roads and general military and naval equipment.

"Nations that have borrowed enormous sums from the United States are not even paying interest on the loans," the Post continues "and are using funds for armaments which should go to the United States. In the meantime the United States could reduce the tax upon its own citizens by nearly \$500,000,000 a year if foreign governments were keeping up their interest payments."

Incidentally, the Post omits to say that 60 per cent of all taxes collected in the United States is being spent directly for war purposes. But its complaint against Europe reveals how hopeless the financial mind has become of ever recovering the billions of dollars loaned to Europe. And it casts some light on the proposal of a new war to be financed by the Red Cross Society.

FRANCE AND
SOVIET RUSSIA

The French imperialists, with the usual gambler's instinct, are playing for an alliance with Turkey, according to the diplomatic correspondent of the London Daily Herald, instead of accepting the defeat of Venizelos, the Grecian premier, as a severe blow to their cause, they hail as a godsend.

The French aim at an alliance with Turkey, in their fight with Armenia. They hope to consummate this alliance, by tearing up the treaty of Sevres and handing Thrace and Smyrna to Turkey. This would teach the Greek government a lesson in "democracy", and at the same time regain the friendship of the Turkish nation.

The French scheme might be workable if the Turkish government was in a position to act for its people. But the fact remains that there is a conflict raging at the present time in Turkey, exactly similar to that going on in Ireland. The French government must reckon with the Turkish Nationalists. Already Soviet Russia has made terms with them, terms far more desirable than France can ever hope to make. The Turkish Nationalists have witnessed imperialism in all its sordid features and they will prefer to turn to a nation that has demonstrated to regards for small nations, rather than to a nation that has trampled underfoot every ideal that the small nations have adhered to.

Furthermore, the French manufacturers want raw materials and they are not prepared to wait for the possibility of another attack upon Soviet Russia bearing fruit. They have witnessed the downfall of Kolchak, Denikin, Yudenitch, and Wrangel. They are also witnessing the vast concessions that Vanderlip has secured. In the meantime they are in danger of being left behind in the scramble for world trade. The French manufacturers must act quickly if they desire to retrieve their fortunes. The process of consummating the Turkish-France alliance is too long and too uncertain.

We do not believe that an offensive alliance against Soviet Russia, between France and Turkey, will be consummated. The Turkish Nationalists have more to gain by an alliance with Soviet Russia, than they have with an imperialist nation like France. Let us assume that such an alliance is consummated, we feel sure that the Armenians will not be deceived by the nature of such an alliance. It is therefore safe to assume that in even to an attack upon Soviet Russia by the forces of the proposed Franco-Turkish alliance, they will be met with the united opposition of the Armenians. This opposition may be very small, but it will afford ample opportunity for Soviet Russia to mass its Red Army, and France has had sufficient experience to fully understand the nature of such an act.

The allied nations may as well forget their pipe-dreams and settle down to peace with Soviet Russia. They will never obtain the raw materials of Russia by the use of armed force. Study the following figures, and ask yourself, after reviewing the struggle of the Russian people for the last three years, whether the Russian people would allow these



CANNOT BE STOPPED!

ores to be taken from them, without engaging in one of the bloodiest struggles history has ever known:

District.	Reserves of ore in tons.	Iron content in tons.
European Russia—		
Urals	281,930,345	135,385,696
Central Russia	789,000,000	135,600,000
		(45 per cent.)
Poland	300,000,000	90,000,000
		(33 per cent.)
South Russia	536,000,000	233,320,000
		(62 and 40 pct.)
Caucasus	14,000,000	8,300,000
Total	1,920,930,345	791,575,696
Asiatic Russia—		
Kirgiz Steppe	7,000,000	4,200,000
East Siberia	14,000,000	7,600,000
Far East	6,000,000	400,000
Total	27,000,000	14,800,000
Total for Empire	1,947,930,345	806,375,696

The industrial life of the world is stagnant. Millions of workers are suffering from starvation and misery; women are flocking to join the "scarlet" army; children are dying for the lack of milk, etc. How much longer will the imperialists of the world play with the lives of its subject peoples? Must we forever witness their sordid scrambles for power, and watch humanity pay the price? Is death upon a foreign land our only ambition or are we resolved to assume control of the various governments of the world and usher in the new social order when mankind will work for the common good of the whole, instead of the enrichment of the few at the expense of the many?

The above editorial appeared in the Butte Daily Bulletin on Dec. 4.

The French government felt that it could make an alliance with Turkey. In the meantime an appeal was sent to President Wilson urging him to act as mediator between Armenia and Turkey. Wilson consented, as soon as favorable avenues of approach were obtained. But now Wilson's task is ended, before it was begun, to inject a little Irishism into it.

The Butte Daily Bulletin has received the following wire from its United Press correspondent in London:—

London, Dec. 6.—With the establishment of the Soviet Republic of Armenia, there is no occasion for Wilson to mediate in that country now, as through BOLSHEVISM peace between Armenia and the Turkish government has been established. "In one hour" stated the wireless, "age-long enmity between Armenia and the Mussulman was finished by the establishment of solidarity between the workers of Turkey and Azerbaijan. Neither Britain's assurances nor President's Wilson's promises for the league of nations could save Armenia from massacre and annihilation. On Wednesday, the soviet of Azerbaijan was announced, and handed over to Armenia the disputed provinces. The same day the Armenian Soviet received the greetings from Turkish command.

UNITED PRESS.

France cannot hope to break into Soviet Russia, through the medium of Turkey. With the establishment of the Soviets of Armenia and Azerbaijan, the soviet of Turkey may be daily expected. The triumph of the Soviet Republic of Russia become an accomplished fact. The allied nations must now trade with Russia. In their desire for trade they must respect Russian labor laws, and that means improved conditions for the people of those territories who have declared for Bolshevism. With the increased standard of comfort in one part of the world, the rest of the workers of the world will not be slow to follow.

All power to the workers!

JACK CARNEY.

BRITISH VETERANS LINE
UP WITH PEACE MAKERSEx-Soldiers Teach Workers to Refuse to Take up
Arms in Future Wars

The Federated Press.

London.—Three hundred thousand men and women who served under the British flag in the World War are now enlisted in the N. U. X (National Union of Ex-Service Men) whose members are pledged not to take up arms in case of another war; to refuse to manufacture or transport munitions; to refuse all payment of taxes in case of another war.

The N. U. X., to quote its General Secretary, A. Ernest Mander, "is essentially a fighting organization. No one should join the Union unless he is joining for a fight." If he does join he will have the satisfaction of doing his bit "in helping his broken comrades, and the widows and children of the fallen; in trying to save the peoples from being dragged again through the hell of the world war; and in working and fighting for the overthrow of the existing social system, and for setting up the Workers' Commonwealth."

The "four purposes" of the N. U. X. are:

- "1. To protect the special interests of the disabled and other ex-service men and of the dependants of the fallen comrades.
- "2. To defeat the "Divide and Conquer" tactics of the master class.
- "3. To stamp out militarism and abolish war.
- "4. To help in the destruction of capitalism."

Secretary Mander, in explaining

the second point, states that the employing and exploiting class is seeking to divide the workers by driving into their movement special organizations of ex-service men, and thus to set up the ex-service men against organized labor and organized labor against the ex-service men. The N. U. X. "recognizes that although its members are ex-service men, yet they are workers, too,—first, last and all the time. And so the members of the N. U. X. are sworn to loyalty to their own class: the N. U. X. stands solidly with Labor."

As for the "destruction of capitalism," Secretary Mander says that the ex-service men have come back with a new vision of what the world might be, and a new understanding of the existing, so-called "civilization." The National Union of Ex-Service Men is working, therefore, in close alliance with all other bodies which have a similar aim, for the setting up of the Social Commonwealth, for the making of the new world."

When there was a threat of war with Russia, in the summer of 1920, the N. U. X. co-operated with the Committee Against War and the Council of Action in arranging more than 9,000 meetings of protest. It is affiliated with the Ex-Soldiers' International, and in company with the ex-service men in all of the leading countries of Europe is carrying on an aggressive campaign against war and in favor of a new social order.

REACTIONARY
GOVERNMENT AIDS
DECAY IN GERMANY

The London Daily Herald.

BERLIN.—The recent discussion in the Reichstag of the catastrophic deficit revealed by the German budget developed some startling statements. "The fact that 20,000,000 Germans are systematically underfed," declared Dittmann for the Left, "is the result of the anarchy of a dying order." Dittmann declared his knowledge of the existence of a secret organization or counter-revolution on an international scale.

The Communist member Levy created an equal sensation by referring to a report of the recent German bankers' conference, which showed that the bankers were interested in and working for the depreciation of German currency, because thereby they could make gigantic profits by export.

FOUR MILLION
KILLED IN IRELAND

MILWAUKEE.—Asserting that British persecution had decreased the Irish population from 8,000,000 to 4,000,000 persons, Dr. Owen R. Lovejoy, New York, chairman, executive committee, Protestant Friends of Ireland, and former president of the National Conference of Social Workers, said that the outrages against Erin cry out for vengeance to the whole world.

Said Dr. Lovejoy, "The world is undergoing a political revolution. In Russia a new nation is being born out of a titanic struggle; so is it in South America, Egypt, China and Japan. The world is in the springtime of its birth into political independence. We ought to consider it a new world and not to attempt to pour it back into the shell out of which it was split in 1914.

"I am less interested in Irish freedom than in human freedom in general. But human freedom is absolutely impossible where the yoke of political dependence, as in Ireland, is fettered with iron chains to Great Britain's throne. She is a prisoner in her own home."

The New Scabbery

New Methods Versus Old.

New methods of industry are more effective than old. By means of the donkey engine, the railroad and the modern sawmill, vastly more lumber is produced than could formerly be done by the old, simple, crude hand methods of a century ago. New methods of industry produced new conditions. To suit these new conditions, it became necessary for the workers to devise new forms of organization—new tactics and new methods of fighting the boss. Industrial unionism as represented by the I. W. W. is incomparably more effective than the out-of-date craft unionism. When the lumber barons felt the power of this new unionism they were at a loss to meet it. They found their old methods of strike-breaking ineffective. New methods had to be devised. The principal weapon that the capitalists had relied on was the SCAB. When only the workers in one craft went to strike at a time, it was not hard to recruit enough scabs to take their places. But when all the workers in an industry struck together, it became impossible to recruit enough scabs to break the strike. A new form or scabbery had to be invented. To meet the situation, the piece-work or gypo system was introduced. Just as machine production is more efficient than handicraft; as industrial unionism is more efficient than the Gompers system of organized scabbery, so gyping is a more effective way of breaking strikes and destroying unionism, than the old form of scabbing by taking a striker's job.

The Old Fashioned Scab.

The old fashioned scab is seen at once in his true colors. He cannot cover up his disgrace by posing as a "good union man." He is an object of hatred and contempt. He is shunned and despised by all decent men. He meets with a degree of social ostracism that few care to face. Even children at school and on the street refuse to play with the children of scabs. Often a scab is black-balled by the fraternal society to which he belongs. Scabs are pointed out on the street, and made the butt of ridicule and abuse. In many other ways the life of a scab is made miserable, and he richly deserves it, for he is guilty of one of the most contemptible actions it is possible for a human being to commit. He sells himself to the masters to be used against his own class. He deprives sincere and courageous men of the fruits of victory. He takes the bread out of the mouths of women and children. He reduces wages, lengthens hours and makes conditions worse for himself and his class. He fastens the chains of slavery more firmly about the necks of the workers. Small wonder a scab is hated.

The Gypo.

But how about the gypo? The effects of gyping are the same as those of scabbing. The only difference is that they are worse. Yet we find gypoes carrying union cards, associating with union men, and even taking part in union meetings and conventions. Why is this? Simply because the nature of these animals is not yet thoroughly understood. There are even many gypoes who do not fully realize the injurious results of their work. The object of this leaflet is to tear the mask from the face of the gypo and show him up in his true colors, both to himself and others. Gyping or piece-work is the most effective speed-up system ever devised by a profit-hungry employer, or ever put into practice by a bone-headed, work-crazy slave, who, for the sake of a few dollars, allows himself to be used to increase profits by speeding up production, cutting wages and destroying unionism.

By doing the work of two or three men, the gypo may, for a time, make more money than a day worker. But in reality he is working cheaper.

Suppose two men are sawing logs at a city wage of six dollars a piece. Together they average 12,000 feet per day. That is at the rate of \$1.00 per thousand. Along come a couple of gypsos, who take the job at 75 cents per thousand. By working twice as hard as the day men, they cut 12,000 per day, for which they receive \$12.00 or \$9.00 a piece. They get \$6.00 a day more than the day workers, but they get 25 cents per thousand less. They are working cheaper. To make \$12.00—the combined wages of the two day men—they would have to cut 16,000 feet instead of 12,000. They do one-fourth more work for the same money. They get a smaller percentage of the wealth they produce, and so make a higher profit for the boss. They are subject to a greater degree of exploitation.

Let us look at the proposition from another angle. If those two said gypsos only sawed as much as the two day men—12,000 feet—they would only get \$9.00, that is \$4.50 a piece. Suppose these two gypsos had gone to work by the day for \$4.50 each. They would have cut the wages \$1.50 per day. That would have been scabbing, but their action in that case would have been less injurious than their action as gypsos. In the latter case they would only have cut the wages directly, by working cheaper. In the former case they not only cut the wages directly by doing the work cheaper, but they also cut them indirectly by doing two days work in one, and so throwing two other men out of a job, thus increasing the army of unemployed. Does not this show gyping to be the worst form of scabbery?

How Gyping Affects the Gypo.

By doing two days work in one, the gypo overtaxes his strength and endurance, breaks down his health and in a few years finds himself a prematurely broken down old man, condemned to drag out the few remaining years of his existence, a burden on his friends, or to live on watery soup at some poor-farm or mission—an object of ridicule and contempt to all his former fellow workers. It must be a consoling thought to such a poor wretch, that when he was able to work he did what he could to increase the wealth of his worst enemy—the greedy and thymannical Lumber Trust, and in so doing put himself on the bum.

As a rule the gypo does not stay long on a job. His exhausted vitality demands rest, and he goes to town to recuperate. Physical exhaustion creates a craving for stimulants, and he usually falls an easy victim to the boot leggers, blows in his stake for poisonous rotgut, and in a few days he is back on the job, broke and looking for another "contract."

The average gypo wears out twice as many clothes as a day man. Aside from his stiff legs and bent back, one of these birds can usually be recognized in a bunk-house by his ragged appearance. From supper time until bed time he is busy sewing and patching. At the present high prices of clothing this is an item not to be sneezed at.

A gypo must either furnish his own tools or rent them from the company. In this way additional profit is wrung out of his foolish hide.

The psychological effect of gyping is to make a man a capitalistic minded "scissor-bill," and to cause him to lose interest in the union.

How Gyping Affects Other Workers.

By speeding up the average gypo does at least twice as much as the day worker, and so throws another man out of a job. If all workers in the lumber industry doubled their output, only half the number would be required. The other half would be unemployed. This would double the supply of labor and reduce the demand by half. The inevitable result would be to decrease wages. But this is only one way by which piece-work operates to reduce wages. By speeding up to the limit a gypo makes \$15.00 a day. The bosses say, "That man is making too much. The rates are too high. Ten dollars a day is enough for any working-man." So the rates are cut one-third. The unfortunate gypo then tries to speed up still more to get his former "big money." If he succeeds, the result is another cut. Taking a short-sighted view, it appears that the harder a gypo works, the more money he makes. This may be true for a short time, but in the long run the exact opposite is true, for the harder he works the quicker his pay is cut, and he soon finds himself working for less than he formerly made by the day, and working twice as hard.

Spurred on by his greed for "big money," the gypo is willing—even anxious—to work long hours. Hypnotized by the glitter of the illusive dollar, he forgets all about his union principles. Many cases on record where bunches of gypsos kicked to get breakfast earlier, so they could put in longer hours. So intent is the gypo on getting rich quick, that he is willing to put up with any kind of camp conditions. He thinks, "It will only be for a short time. Soon I will have enough money to buy a farm, or go into some kind of business." But the poor boob is only dreaming. Soon he will go on a drunk, or break from over-work, and the boot-legger, or the doctor—or perhaps the undertaker—will get his hard earned coin. The effect of gyping is to speed up the job, lengthen hours, cut wages, make camp conditions worse than they are, and throw men out of employment. Gyping is one of the greatest union busting schemes ever devised. The slow-down strike on the job is one of the most powerful weapons workers can use in fighting the boss; but the gypo puts himself in a position where it is impossible to use it. Everything the union man builds up, the gypo tears down. When I see men doing piece-work, it makes me wonder at the high price of ivory.

Results of Gyping in Other Places.

Some years ago the lumber workers of Louisiana formed a union. It was first known as "The Brotherhood of Timber Workers," but it afterwards affiliated with the I. W. W. To break up this union the lumber barons of that state declared a lock-out, shutting down every camp and mill for a period of two years. But this failed to bust the union or break the spirit of the workers. When they returned to the camps and mills they brought the union with them. In 1913 a great strike broke out in Merryville, La., and lasted for many weeks. To break this strike, the Lumber Trust used the same methods as it used against the striking lumber workers of the Northwest. The usual government by gunmen was instituted, and a reign of terror held sway. Strikers were jailed, beaten up and murdered. But this failed to break the strike, or cow the workers. They held the union together, and the strike was partly successful. Soon after this strike the gypo system was introduced, and by this means the Lumber Trust accomplished its purpose of breaking up the union. Today there is not a trace of a lumber workers union in the entire South.

Piece-work has proved equally disastrous to unionism in other places and other industries. In 1912 the construction workers' strikes on the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific railroads were rendered to a great extent ineffective by a system of "station work."

Many other cases could be cited to show the disastrous effect of piece-work on unionism. Even conservative craft unions do all in their power to discourage this system, for they have learned by experience that it lowers wages, lengthens hours and throws men out of employment.

The Modern Scab.

The gypo is not only a scab, but he is the most dangerous of all scabs. He is the modern, up-to-date, efficient scab. The fact that he sometimes carries a union card, makes him all the more dangerous, for he brings disgrace and discredit on the union, and makes it an object of ridicule even among the unorganized. Sometimes a herd of these animals carrying union cards will horn their way into a union business meeting of education and demonstrate their scabby character by voting against scabbing or for progressive measures that may be proposed.

The Gypo a Traitor.

There are many men in the lumber industry who are doing their utmost to build up the union. But the gypo to a great extent renders their efforts futile. Some have even sacrificed their lives in the cause of unionism, and many more are serving long sentences behind prison bars. The gypo is the man in the back, for the only hope of getting them out of jail is in the economic power of a strong union, and the gypo constitutes the greatest obstacle to the growth of the union. Let no gypo try to save his conscience by buying defence stamps, or contributing a few dollars to the union. He will only offer a head-ache powder to a man, after having put him in the hospital with an axe. A great successful fight was waged in the 1912-13 strike, but it is gyping is allowed to continue, everything gained will be lost.

The Gypo a Prostitute.

A gypo is a prostitute, who for a few measly dollars sells himself to do the dirty work of the boss—to lengthen hours out wages bust the

union and put his fellow workers on the bum. He is a traitor for he sells his own wages out, and his work done. Oh! You gypso! If there is a single spark of manhood left in your over-worked carcasses, or a grain of intelligence in your blue-moulded minds, pay attention to these words! Let this idea penetrate your thick skulls, and let the realization be brought home to your calloused brains that you are doing something despicable—something contemptible—something that rightfully deprives you of the friendship and respect of all men worthy of the name. Let this fact sink into your brains, and make up your minds that you will gypo no more. Don't wait until you make a little more money. Right NOW is the time to quit. Don't be a gypo; be a MAN.

If you want to make "big money," then do your bit to build up the union. With a strong union you would get more by the day than you now can make by the piece; and you would not have to do two days work in one to get it.—I. W. W. Leaflet.

WHEN A GIRL IS YOUNG

By Miriam Allen De Ford.

Here is a letter which I received recently from one of you, and which I am printing just as it was written except that by request I am omitting the writer's name:—

"You are always telling about working girls, and the working-class, and about other people as if they were our enemies. Now I do not consider myself a working girl; I am just a girl who happens to be working. And I have always been taught that though there are classes in Europe, there are none in America, but we are all just people. Some of us are good people and good citizens, and some are not, but any of us can be that want to. Nearly all the rich people in this country used to be poor, and any honest, hard-working man can get along. We should all be friends together, and not envy people because they have more money than we have, or want them to divide up with us. How about it?"

Well, there is so much about it, little friend, that I am afraid I can never begin to answer all your objections in the space I have allotted to me. But let us take them one by one, and say at least something about each of them.

It is true that in America—except for an insignificant number of idle heritors of riches—we have no class that corresponds to the ancient leisure-class and nobility of Europe. But we have very marked and distinct class divisions just the same. Ours are based primarily on wealth, though "family" and even culture enter into them in some of the older Eastern cities. Whether we acknowledge it or not, it is a fact that a man who works with his hands or brains is in the working-class; and a man who merely works with other people's hands and brains is in the leisure—or exploiting or capitalist class.

There are all sorts of gradations and shadings off, but that is the essence of it. The reason you do not recognize it is because nearly all the books and magazines and newspapers you ever read were written

or subsidized by members of the last-named class, and it is to their interests to have you believe such things.

In other words, America, just as much as any European country, or any country in the world that is highly developed industrially, is living under what we call the capitalist system, which followed feudalism and which, though tottering, is still the dominant system today. The whole basis of the capitalist system is that mankind should be divided into the producers and those who live off the things they produce.

Undoubtedly, since we are all human, there are fundamental characteristics and interests we have in common; but in anything that pertains to the problem of getting a living, or in any of the ordinary daily affairs of life, there can be no more community of interest between these classes than between a dog and a muttchop. The middle-class is an anomaly that has grown up in the past hundred years. It is being crushed now between the upper and nether millstones, and those members of it who cannot climb up among the exploiters will eventually settle down where they belong with the producers.

We do not envy people because they have more money than we have; we ask why they have more money, and how much of that money rightfully belongs to the people who produced the goods it was exchanged for. And we have no desire to "divide up" property; all we want to divide up is work, equally all around; and then everybody will be a producer, and every producer will obtain his full product of his toil. "He who will not work, neither shall he eat" is a pretty sound maxim; but under our present system it is more likely to be, "He that must work, he shall not have enough to eat."

Well, as you said, How about it? Are you glad to be a worker, and do you want a world of workers; or would you rather be a shirker, and live on the over-work of your brothers and sisters?

CAN USE THEM TO FILE SOLDIERS' BONUS CORRESPONDENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—"What do you want us to do with these three carloads of freight?" said a voice over the telephone.

"We never ordered three carloads of freight," retorted the bureau chief of the U. S. Public Health Service.

"Well, it's down here waiting for you, and your better come and get it," the freight agent concluded, and hung up the receiver.

So another "investigation" got under way. A clerk went down to the freight yards and found three cars loaded with boxes addressed to the Public Health Service. He broke open a sample box in each car. Every box was loaded to the brim with little brass clips used in filing papers.

There ensued a lot of telephoning; telegraphing to the factory and

back, letter writing, personal interviewing and scolding. Then the mystery was solved.

Several weeks ago some one in the Public Health service put in a requisition for 28 boxes of "paper clips." But we are still in a "state of war" at Washington and the official mind runs to big figures. So that request for 28 boxes of paper clips gathered such momentum in the clerical handling that an order was put in for 28,000,000 paper clips!

And 28,000,000 clips is the number the factory supplied. How many of them the factory will take back, or what Uncle Sam will do with them if he can't send them back, has not been worked out yet. And of course the Government can't dispose of them wholesale and get the money back, for, as Secretary Baker said about the army meats, "That would unsettle the market."

BRITAIN'S WAR VETS HAVE OPINIONS ON FUTURE KILLINGS

LONDON.—Americans, familiar with the position taken by the American Legion, will feel a certain astonishment when they pick up the September number of the "Bulletin of the International of Ex-Soldiers and Victims of the War" and read the statement of general principles and of objectives toward which the International is working.

The declarations of principles is very brief:

"In view of the fact:
"1. That war is a fatal consequence of the capitalist regime;
"2. That neither an offensive nor a defensive war is justified;
"3. That any attack on war, to be effective, must attack its cause namely the capitalist regime.

"It follows the ex-soldiers must undertake before all else a widespread activity against war in company with the workers and socialist organizations that are carrying on the same combat.

"The ex-soldiers recognize nevertheless—that in this general struggle against capitalism from which they dare not separate themselves they have a particular role and particular tasks."

Following this declaration of general principles the Bulletin gives the objects which the organization has in view under nine heads of which the first four are the most significant:

"1. To struggle against war, the consequence of the capitalist regime, by the general revolutionary strike in the case of mobilization.

"2. To create an anti-war spirit by anti-militarist and pacifist propaganda;

"3. To harmonize the objective of the Ex-soldiers with the ultimate purposes of the working class;

"4. To protect the ex-soldiers and the victims of the war by internationalizing their activities."

Affiliated with this International are ex-soldiers organizations in Great Britain, Germany, France, Austria, Italy and Roumania. The total membership is approximately one million. Henri Barbusse, the General Secretary, is at the present moment busy himself in establishing connections with other organizations of ex-service men in the various warring countries whose objectives are similar to those of the International.

The first test of the effectiveness of this organization came in the recent crisis over the Russo-Polish situation. In all of the countries the local organizations played a leading role in agitating against the proposed war.

COMMUNISTS GAIN IN BULGARIA

WIENNA.—Reports of the results of the municipal elections held in Bulgaria early this month show that the Communist Party made another remarkable gain, despite the bitter opposition of the Government forces.

The Communists polled a majority of votes and will take over the city administration in Kuestendil, Dupniza, Lompelank and Pasch. makli, and they captured 11 of the 24 seats in the municipal council of Bulgaria's second city, Philippopolis. Their vote grew in the country towns, at the expense of the Agrarians—the Government Party.

SPEAKING OF SPEED
"Where's the other paltheater?" asked the undertaker of the five in sight.

"He's upstairs proposing to the widow."

Sympathy Strike By Street Car Workers

AUCKLAND, N. Z.—For two weeks this city has been without street railway service and without light due to a strike of employes in those departments in sympathy with the coal miners of Huntley and the West Coast who have stopped work because of non-fulfillment by the mine-owners of the national agreement entered into some months ago. The miners have also demanded reduced railway fare to and from work.

"Are the rooms in your flat small?"
"Small! Why, my dog has to wag his tail up and down in 'em"—Boys' Life.

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Notice!! Checks and Time
Checks Cashed.



Schoolmasters Want "Soviet" For France

PARIS, Dec. 4.—Thirteen thousand schoolmasters employed in French public schools are in favor of a soviet for France.

This fact was discovered when a census was taken recently of members of the extremist wing of the labor party which recently urged adhesion to Lenin's Third International.

Most of the tutors give as their reason their underpay.

"The schoolmaster is the most important personage in any country and he is paid as though he counted for nothing at all," they state. "Under the communist system we could get our just dues."

A surprisingly large number of "intellectuals" in France are subscribers to the Third International.

THE OFFENSIVE AGAINST LABOR

Rochester, N. Y. Seventy-five per cent of the clothing factories here will be shut down within a week or ten days for an indefinite period, according to men closely in touch with the clothing market here.

New Bedford, Mass. Curtailment of production in the cotton mills of this city has reached a point where it is no longer a question of running on a two or three day basis, but of complete shut-down of the factories. It is reported.

Chepachet, Mass. Following the refusal of the workers to accept a 20 per cent wage cut and a return from the 48 to the 54 hour week, the owner of the Blackstone Woolen Mill here closed it indefinitely.

Ware, Mass. Thirteen hundred workers will be affected by the recent decision of the George H. Gilbert Manufacturing Company to run on a three-day basis.

Philadelphia, Pa. Getting back to the pre-war basis, Goldsmith, Zander and Miller have substituted the 48-hour week for the 44 hours previously the rule.

Harrisburg, Pa. One thousand maintenance of way and shop employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad have been laid off permanently due to a "slump in business."

Albany.—The Cohoes Bait and Shoddy Manufacturers' Association has announced that, beginning January 1, their plants would operate on an open-shop basis. The order affects about 2,500 employers.

Utica, N. Y.—Several mills of the Augusta Knitting Company have adopted a full time schedule with a decrease in wages of from 15 to 20 per cent.

Philadelphia.—More than one thousand employees of the Philadelphia Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad have been laid off.

Albany.—The Boston and Albany Railroad has posted a notice that 10 per cent of its 750 employees would be laid off at once.

Worcester, Mass.—Norton Company, manufacturers of abrasives, has started a forty-hour week for its employees.

Springfield, Mass.—The Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company has cut from 54 to 43 hours a week in its working schedule, affecting 300 employees; at the same time the Moore Drop Forge Company abolished its eight-hour night shift, laying off between 700 and 750 men.

Tampa, Florida.—A flat 25 per cent cut in the wages of lumber men has been decided upon by lumber manufacturers here.

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A. L. SUGARMAN

Who has just finished a three year term in the Leavenworth Federal Prison will speak

Next Sunday WORKERS HALL, 8 P. M.

Sugarman will tell some startling things.
Good program. Everybody come.
Admission 15 and 35 cents.

LABOR WANTS TRADE WITH RUSSIA

NEW YORK.—An intensive national campaign to educate the masses of labor in the necessity of establishing trade with Soviet Russia, was planned at the first meeting of the executive committee of 25 elected by a trade union meeting here on Nov. 2, attended by delegates representing 600,000 organized workers.

The name of the new body will be the American Labor Alliance for Trade Relations with Russia. Timothy Healy, international president of the Stationary Engineers and Firemen, who was elected chairman, announced that the organization would at once begin a two months' campaign throughout the eastern and middle western states. Two organizers will be sent out at once.

Abraham Baroff, general secretary of the International Ladies Garment Workers, was elected treasurer, and Alexander Trachtenberg of the Associated Teachers' Union, secretary.

Russian Industries Opening While Other Countries Shut Down

By The Federated Press.
MOSCOW.—After standing idle for two years the Martin furnaces of the Ijorski works in Petrograd have recommenced work. Within one month 900,000 pounds of steel tubes were produced.

Tanneries situated in Petrograd have considerably extended their production within the last month. They are at present employing 5000 additional workers.

The supply of grain in the Kuban provinces has exceeded all expectations. According to the latest reports Kuban cossacks are carrying to the grain depots more grain than it is possible to load on the wagons.

"There's a story in this paper of a woman that used a telephone for the first time in 83 years."

"She must be on a party line."—Notre Dame Juggler.

RETURNED PRISON GIVEN WELCOME BY LABOR UNION

SEATTLE, WASH.—Hulet M. Wells, former President of the Seattle Labor Council, who served a year and a half in federal prisons on the charge that he opposed the draft law before it became effective, was given a warm reception on his return from Leavenworth penitentiary by labor union officials and members.

James A. Duncan, secretary of the Central Labor Council, who extended a welcome on behalf of the Central Labor Council, at a dinner given for Wells, said:

"Things have come to such a pass in this country that it is almost an indictment against a man to say, you have not been in jail."

Wells said: "I was born in America and came of old American stock, the kind of people who believed in and took part in patriotic events. I believed the country of Jefferson, of Webster and Lincoln was founded on an anti-militaristic basis. I have believed that we thought human life the most valuable thing on earth and have lived to see that same human life made the cheapest thing on earth."

"When I have thought of these things, I have become depressed with the idea that the moral forces of the world have broken down and have wondered if this life was really worth the living. And then when I get back and find you living those ideals, I regain some of my old enthusiasm and am ready to go into the fight to liberate those hundreds of others who are now confined for their beliefs."

BASE BALL BATS AND GUNS URGED BY EDUCATOR

Riverside, Cal., Nov. 11.—A demand for law and order and galling guns and baseball bats to use against teachers who join trade unions were features of a harangue by Jerome O. Cross, before a meeting of city superintendents of California public schools.

Gross is head of the Fresno public school system and today to the two-by-four autocrats and cheap wage employers who are opposing trade unionism among teachers in Fresno, Oakland and other cities in the state.

Cross attempted to take the sting out of his anarchistic utterances by approving "some things" that organized labor has done.

"This is a problem that we cannot settle through conferences or counsel," he shrieked. "It looks to me that a baseball bat or a galling gun is needed."

Then the "educator" urged law and order, demanded respect for authority and scored the "insinuating influences that are at work endeavoring to undermine constituted authority."

After the meeting destroyed the teachers' unions, it took up the questions of conducting school bonds campaigns. One superintendent, who joined with the rest in their high regard for public opinion, doubted the wisdom of holding public meetings to discuss bond issues. He said public meetings provided "an opportunity for hecklers from the opposing side to get in their damaging work."

Page Minneapolis

SEATTLE, Wash. — After being on the unfair list four months, during the strike of Musicians and other unions, four theatres of Seattle have been put on the fair list by the Central Labor Council. The strike was won through economic pressure brought through a boycott of the unfair houses.

ABOLITION OF WAGE SYSTEM AIM OF I. W. W. SAYS HAYWOOD

New York.—In a talk devoted to I. W. theory and practice, William D. Haywood, secretary of the I. W. W. General Defense Committee speaking at the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum recently said:

The I. W. W. is a labor organization but it is also something more. It is strongest radical organization in the United States. It has in mind the abolition of the wage system and hopes eventually to establish a society where one man will not have to ask another for a job.

In referring to the circumstances of the Chicago I. W. W. trials, Haywood explained that only those counts still stand which charge violation of the war time draft and espionage laws.

I SAW DEBS

I saw "Gene Debs" Behind martyr bars in Atlanta, U. S. A.

His eyes flash a friendly greeting. He smiled graciously—we were comrades.

Under his smile I read suffering—He was paying the prices The tyrants toll for class loyalty. And I thought:

"He is Christ—alive. Yet in living death—prisoned! The reward of the ages—Duncheon!"

His friends sympathized: "You should not be here. We shall endeavor to release you." And in his self-sacrificing way, he replied:

"I can bear it. There are others—I can wait."

In Atlanta! "Gene Debs!" —Hal Brommels.

CHICAGO

"Fancy your getting married again, Mrs. Smale. I hope you have done wisely."

"Yes, mum; I reckon. Yew see, I have so much washing to take home now, if I ain't got to I should have been forced to buy a donkey, sure 'nough."—London Tatler.

Lumber Barons Mob Western Unionist

San Francisco.—The California State Federation of Labor has taken up the case of S. H. Wood, vice-president of the International Timber Workers' union, who was mobbed at Susanville, this state, and barely escaped with his life.

Wood went to Susanville to organize a union of timber workers. The day after his arrival he was arrested by the town marshal "on suspicion of being an I. W. W." He was placed in jail and no one was informed of his whereabouts. He finally secured a message to local unionists by calling through a window.

The marshal had no warrant and on releasing the prisoner he was seized by a mob who drove to the jail in four automobiles. A sack was placed over his head and it was tied with a rope. The mob rushed to a bridge and after a whispered consultation they drove into the country several miles and released Wood with orders to "beat it." Later the mob returned and began a search for their intended victim, who hid in heavy timber lands. He remained there during a rainy night and was rescued in the morning when almost exhausted.

Susanville is a lumber district and is controlled by the Westwood Lumber company. In Westwood there are signs with this inscription:

"This street and all others in this town are private property. The right to use them is revocable at any time."

The 10-hour day prevails there. Room rents range from \$1.25 to \$1.75 a day and from \$2.00 to \$3.50 a day in hotels. Living costs are higher than in almost any other section of the state and in the mills there is a labor turnover of 75 per cent.

It is stated that on the day of the mobbing the man who lights the streets was ordered not to turn on the lights until he was notified, because "there was something doing that evening."

Six Months In Jail by Unconstitutional Law

Kansas City, Mo.—After a legal battle lasting over six months the vagrancy ordinance passed about a year ago by the council of this city, has been declared void.

Last May six members of the Agricultural Workers Industrial Union of the Industrial Workers of the World, J. Taft, Arthur Limm, J. Walsh, Albert Bare, James Morgan and James Kelly, were arrested when passing through Kansas City on their way to the harvest field. Supplies of literature were found upon them. They were held before the police magistrate and sentenced to one year's imprisonment at the city workhouse and to pay \$500 fine under the municipal vagrancy ordinance.

An appeal was taken to the circuit court, which affirmed the sentence and denied an application for a writ of habeas corpus. Months elapsed, during which the six men were serving their sentence at the city workhouse. Basing his plea upon the contention that the Municipal Ordinance, defining the offense of vagrancy and providing punishment therefor, was in violation of the thirteenth constitutional amendment, attorney Harold Mulks argued the case before the Missouri Supreme Court. The court has just handed down a decision declaring unconstitutional the Kansas City municipal vagrancy ordinance, thereby freeing the six men.

It is expected that Taft and his companions will start suit against the city for unlawful arrest and imprisonment.

Rescued From Exile

Rescued from exile by half an hour, Aaro Suhonen, member of the executive board of the Finnish I. W. W. publication Industrialist, who was brought east from Duluth last week for deportation, returned to Ellis Island when his lawyers sued for a writ of habeas corpus.

After serving a year in the penitentiary for failing to register, Suhonen was taken in custody on July 28 and ordered deported as an undesirable radical alien.

CONFLICT UNIVERSAL

WASHINGTON.—Andrew Furuseth, president of the International Seamen's Union of America, who was in Europe during the past summer as a delegate to the convention of the International Seafarers' Federation, is convinced that the present drive against freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly and freedom of political asylum in the United States is only part of a general campaign by "the triumphant ruling power, which is 'money', to abolish these civil liberties in all parts of the world."

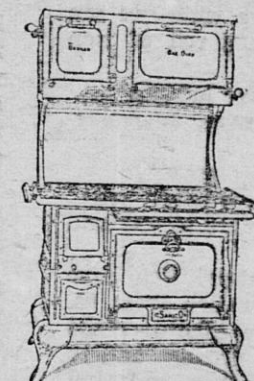
"This ruling power in industrial civilization," says Furuseth, "arose with the French Revolution. It established these liberties as the machinery of its own conquest of the earlier ruling powers. With the Great War the power of money as the governing force in modern society seemed to the rulers of money to have culminated. Hereditary nobility was dead. The church was no longer contending for temporal power as it had in the past centuries. The Holy Alliance which was fought by means of freedom of speech, press, assembly and political asylum, was gone. Hence the need for these weapons, which might be used by others was ended. Destroy the civil liberties, and capitalist society would crystallize."

"But just as industrial capitalism arose to destroy the hereditary nobility, so now the masses have shown signs of trying to destroy the ruling power of money. Russia is the first to act. We would be blind to evident facts if we denied that other countries in Europe and Asia are sympathetic with the Russian example. The forces making for a new change in the social structure need freedom of speech, press, assembly and the right of political asylum. The forces opposing any change want to save themselves by destroying these liberties. That is the whole story of the struggle going on today."

"It affects American labor because it affects the right of labor to meet and discuss its grievances in order to stimulate organization. You do not have to agree with the Russian remedy, to be determined to criticize existing conditions in industry in this or any other country. The so-called open shop drive in the United States is simply a part of the world-wide movement that denies the necessity for any important change. It is no more intense or bitter in one country than in another. It hits at one element of labor here, another there. We are at a parting of the ways in the theory of human government, just as when the hereditary nobility were challenged by the middle class in 1789."

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J. O. BENTALL, Editor.

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MORE PRODUCTION

We have heard your cry, O Masters! We have heard it long and often.

You have cried and cried — and again you have cried. "Production" you have cried. More production — increased production — speeding up production. All ways you have cried for faster and greater production.

Your remedy for all ills was production. Cost of living was to come down by rapid production. Hard times were to be chased away by fast production. Unrest was to become restful thru much production.

We listened to your cry, O Masters! We listened to your cry and went to work. We worked hard — as hard as we always work. We worked harder. We produced more. We did it for the same wage. We did it at a cut wage.

To us it seemed reasonable that greater production would mean greater comfort. It seemed reasonable that if we produced more food we would have more to eat. It seemed reasonable to us that if we produced more clothing we would have more to wear. If we produced more houses we would have more homes — if we produced more coal we would be warmer. —

And now you throw us out, O Masters! Now you close your shops. Now you make us wander thru the land in search of jobs. Now you laugh at us. You frown upon us and call us names. You say it serves us right. You think it is good for our stomach to be empty and for our children to be cold and naked.

You remind us of the time when all had jobs — when it was hard for you to fire us — when you had to treat us like humans. You hate us because we could demand our rights.

You have fooled us, O Masters. Your words and promises were false and empty. You have squandered our product. You have used it as an avalanche of destruction. You have consumed it in the consuming fire of war and waste. What is left you have packed away in storehouses and barred the doors. Our product is withheld from us. You hold it for higher prices. You expect to squeeze more blood out of us while we are starving. You want to smite us with a rod of iron and bind us in fetters of steel.

For more production you gave us more hunger.

For more production you gave us more unemployment.

For more production you gave us mere poverty.

For more production you gave us more nakedness.

For more production you gave us more misery and want.

You have been false to us, O Masters! You have forfeited your right to further consideration from us. You have planted within us a desire to take over the shops and go on with production. To produce much and refuse to give you our product. To produce much and keep all that we produce. To use all that we produce and let our production be the means to keep us in comfort. To let the food we produce feed us. To let the clothes we produce keep us warm. To let the houses that we build shelter us.

More production, O Masters! But it shall not be for your caprice. It shall be for our use and comfort.

OUR "SOCIALIST" CONGRESSMAN

Let's not make a long story out of it. It is simply that the other night in Chicago Meyer London the "socialist" congressman from New York made a speech. It seems to have been for the purpose of joining the capitalists in condemning the workers government of Russia. May be it was for that reason the papers reported a crowd of 3,000 people.

Anyhow, some of the workers who knew that London was several billion miles away from the truth asked for the privilege of putting a question to the honorable gent. Such impudence threw the dignified congressman into a rage and this gave the press the excuse for reporting another "riot by the reds", not by the sleek congressman, of course.

To cut it short, as we promised, the capitalist press is now singing the praises of London just as it sang the praises of Spargo, Simons, Russell and Benson when they turned traitors to the workers during the war.

One thing is sure: the capitalists never make a mistake when they classify their bunch. The long editorials they ooze out about the splendid London are not based on guesses. They have his number all right.

You see there is a new babe over in Russia. It is the new working class government. This babe must be killed at all cost. It is a dangerous being to let live. It is destined to become strong and powerful. It is destined to take the place of the present tottering tyrant of capitalism in the world. Capitalism must kill it. Like Herod, Capitalism must take no chances even if it has to kill all the first born in Judea. Already "in Rama there is a voice heard, lamentation and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and will not be comforted." For the slaughter is going on.

Of course the kid was born like all other kids, there was a lot of pain at birth. To some of us that seems natural. But London thinks that was not necessary. It was foolish that there should be any pain at the birth of the Russian babe. If he could have been the doctor there would have been no pain. No, no.

And now the youngster is fumbling around to find himself. He was thrown out into a dark corner of an old alley before daybreak. Hardly a rag to cover himself with, hardly a slab over his head, hardly a crumb of food within reach. Poor little fellow. He is starting to crawl. He is cold and hungry. He gropes around and tries to reach for some food — and some clothes — and a shelter. Proud passes — by sneer at him, slap him, kick him about, kick him on his legs and knock him down. Proud congressmen kick him about, and kick him on his legs.

As much as to say:

"Why weren't you born fullgrown, like Adam and Eve, you brat, you?"

That's the way London is going to have his youngster born. Born fullgrown—that's it.

Why didn't the Russian babe think of that? It was a serious oversight. The capitalists have that of

it—and Congressman London. Most of the preachers and some of the Wobs have that of it. There must be something the matter with the Russian kid.

But the little fellow is growing.
Mebbe it's because he is kicked about by cornfed capitalists and "Socialist" congressmen.

WHY WE GO HUNGRY

It is much more comfortable to go hungry if you know the reason why. You can almost die from hunger without feeling it if you only know exactly the why and the wherefore.

Being of a most sympathetic nature the capitalists are anxious that we should be as happy as possible while we are growing skinny and while our stomachs are empty.

The Bartlett Frazier Company of Minneapolis has therefore come out with the balsam from Gilead and placed before a starving world the facts in the case.

Just now while the Salvation Army and the Red Cross and the relief commissions and the Churches and the Literary Digest and all the humanitarian agencies in Christendom are straining their efforts to ease the horrible sufferings of the people all over the world, including the vast masses in this country, this Bartlett, Frazier Company which has the full facts regarding food at its fingers tips given exceedingly important information.

Of course its main object is to give the reason for the decline in wheat prices and comfort the farmer who is rapidly going bankrupt, but the statement will also comfort the millions of hungry mothers and their children. It says:

The United States raised 250,000,000 bushels more wheat than it needs.

Canada has 180,000,000 bushels more than it needs.

Argentina 110,000,000 bushels more than it needs.

Australia has 90,000,000 bushels more than it needs.

India has 75,000,000 bushels more than it needs.

So that after filling all their own needs and the needs of the other countries that are short a total of about 560,000,000 we will still have 145,000,000 bushels of wheat left that there is no possible chance to get rid of.

This is the statement of the great Milling and grain company of Minneapolis. We are taking it from their column in the Duluth News Tribune of Dec. 4, 1920.

"What Russia will do", says the Bartlett Frazier Company, "no one knows, and we will not count them in at all." (Company's grammar)

For the information of the Company, and incidentally for the information of all the rest of the bewildered food controllers, we will state that we know exactly what Russia will do with the wheat she has. It is very simple. Russia will let the people eat the wheat. That may be a crime and it may be Bolshevism and murder and anarchy and nationalization of woman and all that, but there is not a great deal of a likelihood that Russia will mind that. Her people will go on and eat the food that is raised and raise more as it is needed.

In the rest of the world where there is enuf wheat to feed every man, woman and child, and 145,000,000 bushels too much and left over there is need and hunger and starvation.

From the latest reliable reports from Russia we find that the people there are better fed than the people of any other European country. This in spite of the blockade and in spite of the attacks by the Allies which necessitates a great defense expense.

But we of the great civilized countries must feel pretty fine and comfortable and happy when we know that the cause of our starvation lies in the fact that we have a clean surplus of 145,000,000 bushels of wheat that is anxious to get into our stomachs if the food controllers would only be allowed to go to heaven and leave us common people to use what we produce.

Just as they do in Russia.

THE MUSE OF LABOR

By Edwin Markham.

I come, O heroes, to the world gone wrong;
I bring the hope of nations; and I bear
The faint first light of morning on my hair.

I look upon the ages from a tower;
I am the Muse of the Fraternal State;
No hand can hold me from my crowning hour;
My song is Freedom and my step is Fate.

I come to overthrow the ancient wrong,
To let the joy of nations rise again;
I am Unselfish Service; I am Song;
I am the Hope that feeds the hearts of men.

I am the maker of the People's bread,
I bear the little burdens of the day;
Yet in the Mystery of Song I tread
The endless heav'ns and show the stars their way.

Jonh Reed, Martyr To Liberty

By W. F. Haycock.

The following editorial appeared in the Columbus Citizen, one of the Scripps-McRae league of newspapers.
"A dispatch from Moscow by way of London announces the death of John Reed in that city. He died of typhus fever.

Graduated from Harvard, launched on a splendid career, married to a beautiful and congenial wife from his native state of Oregon, living in a charming little country home on the Hudson, with friends, and every reason for following the easy road, Reed left the United States and literally gave himself to the cause of freedom, as he conceived it, and as he thought it embodied in the new Russian movement.

He became an exile on the other side of the earth in a foreign country—a country ravaged by war and reduced to wretchedness and famine.

A few months ago the dispatches brought the news that John Reed was in prison in Finland. He had attempted to carry dispatches and jewels between Lenin and Lenin's America representative and was arrested while working as a stoker and thrown into a Finnish prison. He remained there for many months. When finally released, instead of returning to the easy and comfortable life of his native land he returned to Moscow.

For many months Louise Bryant, his wife, tried in vain to induce our State Department to give her passports which would enable her to join her husband. Finally she decided to go with or without them and is now in Russia.

It is not necessary to endorse the economic heresies of

THE LUMBERJACK

This is the conversation we had with a Lumberjack the other day:

"Come in! Come on right in! Here is a good chair—be comfortable."

"My name is Anderson—Carl Anderson, and I am just back from the woods."

"Back so soon?—Got all the timber cut already?"

"No, but I could not stand it any longer out there."

"What's the matter?"

"I shot I would try it down here for a winter. I come from Montana. But I won't put up with the conditions in this neck of the woods."

"Where?"

"Oh, up here about fifty miles north—a camp near Wales —the Killen camp."

"How long were you there?"

"Six days—six days too many?"

"How so?"

"Couldn't sleep."

"Tell me all about it. What kind of a bunk house did you have?"

"The bunk house is about 30x50—made of logs and plastered with clay on the outside. Rough boards for floor. Double bunks, two tiers, upper and lower. Two have to sleep in each."

"Springs?"

"Springs nothing. Slabs—rough slabs for bottom."

"Mattress?"

"Mattresses nothing. Old hay and brush, yes, for mattress."

"Pillows?"

"Pillows nothing. We used jackets or overcoats for pillows. Some of the fellows put hay in gunnysacks for pillows, and we called them Vanderbills and DuPonts. They had to hide their pillows in the daytime so no one would steal them and get a good night's rest."

"Did you have any stove—more than one?"

"One stove—in the middle of the camp. There were lines length ways to hang our clothes on to dry. Near the stove it was too hot and the clothes would steam all night. At the ends we were cold and the clothes would be frozen stiff by morning."

"How did you get them on?"

"Thaw them out. Every body was coughing in the morning from the steam and stink of the clothes."

"Any bath?"

"Sure—if you could wait till next Summer. Then you could walk a few miles to a lake and take a bath whether you needed it or not. Or if you could scrape up the old tub that they feed the pigs in—for most camps have pigs to feed the waste to from the dining car."

"Eats? How were they?"

"Punk. Tough stuff. Just manufactured to put into the stomach—just as you mix cement to put into the forms."

"What are you going to do now?"

"Find another job. May have to go back to Montana or Washington."

"Any better there?"

"Some. The Wobs have forced the Western camps to put in single bunks with springs and mattresses and pillows. We also have baths and better eats—and the eight hour day."

"That helps some."

"You bet it does. It makes a big difference to the fellows who have to be on the job all the time. And we are going to get more improvements yet. This sleeping on slab bunks gets my goat."

"It gets my gizzard."

A QUESTION FOR POLITICAL ECONOMISTS

It is but a little while ago that all the "economists" and wiseacres generally were preaching to the wageworkers that the first step in reconstruction must be increased production. Now, for once, we have no quarrel with the "economists". The doctrine is rational, or, at least would be in a rational society. But now those controlling the means of production instead of using labor to produce to the utmost so as to replace what has been destroyed in the fearful war and to create new utilities—these masters of industry, we say, are closing their factories and consigning the workers to idleness. And there is not a whimper from the "economists".

Yet it is obvious that a world suffering from the lack of food and clothes, houses and furniture, cannot be improved by idleness. True enough; but the controllers of industry do not seek product but profits; and the profits they hope to keep at the inordinate wartime rates by artificially adding to the prevailing scarcity.

Surely, we are a wise, advanced, civilized and democratic people—Irish World.

Capitalism automatically promotes the survival of the unfit; thus the fit remain with the Workers.

A GREAT SATISFACTION, INDEED

"It will be a satisfaction to the citizens of the United States," says the Washington Post, "to learn that their government does not propose to be left behind other nations in the race of preparedness for gas warfare. The announcement recently made by the head of the chemical warfare service shows that experiments begun during hostilities and continued since the armistice have resulted in the production of gases surpassing in destructive effect anything used during the World war."

This will, indeed, be a great satisfaction. To know that no matter how cunningly another nation may devise its murder-gas, we shall have one more cunningly devised; that no matter if another nation gets up a gas that will kill at appalling wholesale with fearful death agonies for the victims, our government will have a gas that will kill still more at wholesale, and make the dying agonies of the victims still more dreadful.

It will be an interesting competition, this, to see which government can get up a gas that will kill more people in a wider area, and kill them more awfully, than any other government; and since we are in it, we have confidence enough in the genius of our chemists to believe that we can more than hold our own in it.

And it makes possible, too, very interesting speculations, about the nature of the next war—if the present policy of sitting back and letting the next war breed under our very noses is to continue. Perhaps it will be a gas war, with many chemists and relatively few soldiers, with the attacks chiefly upon civilian populations and the aim to wipe out as much as possible of the enemy's civilization. It would greatly simplify war, and save money too, if it were made so that a bomb or two dropped from an airplane upon a capital or metropolis would release gases that would in an hour wipe out the whole population. And from all one hears of the gases our chemists have devised, we are not far from the possibility of that now—if it isn't, indeed, within our grasp now.

Yet, it must be a great satisfaction indeed—to some people—to know that this pleasant competition in gases that will deal out horrible death in prodigiously wholesale doses is still going merrily on, when the world has before it a chance to organize to protect itself against war and the burden of preparedness for war. — Duluth Herald.

WHAT FOR?

The keel of the superdreadnaught, Massachusetts, will be laid soon after New Year's day at the Fore River plant of the Bethlehem Shipbuilding corporation. The Massachusetts will be larger than any vessel now in the United States navy. Of 660 feet length over all, and 106 foot beam, her displacement will be 43,000 tons. She will have electric-driven engines of 60,000 horsepower, and her speed is to be 23 knots. The armament will comprise 12 16-inch guns and a secondary battery of 16 6-inch guns.

The keel of the Lexington, a battle cruiser, will be laid soon after. She will have nearly the same beam, but her length over all is to be 380 feet and displacement of 43,500 tons. The Lexington's engines of 180,000 horsepower, will yield a speed of 35 knots, under electric-drive. She will mount eight 16-inch guns and 16 6-inch guns and also will have eight torpedo tubes.

Two unnamed scout cruisers with 90,000 horsepower engines and a speed of 35 knots also will be built at Fore River.

What for?

Were we not promised that the last war was to do away with all war? And are we now going to have another one worse than any that has preceded it?

How long are we going to fall for the capitalist lies and their murder plots? From now on we should get ready to meet the war mongering holdup gang with an organized force of workers that can hold it back long enuf to remind itself of its loud and generous promises.

Wilson kept us out of war.

Harding kept us out of the League of Nations.

A big army a big navy will insure peace.

Bah!

Bah again!

RUINS OF EMPIRES.

People—"Why are you not of our number?"

Privileged Class—"We are a privileged class with rights peculiar to our selves."

People—"And what labor do you perform for society?"

Privileged class—"None, we are not made to work."

People—"How then have you acquired these riches?"

Privileged Class—"By taking the pains to govern you."

People—"What is your call governing? We toil and you enjoy; we produce and you dissipate; we proceed from us and are not of the people, you are the nation apart and yourselves."

The discussion proceeds. The protests of the people rise above the arguments of the privileged class until the latter invokes the aid of the civil governors.

Civil Governors—"The law commands you to be submissive."

People—"The law is the general will, and we will a new order of things."

Civil Governors—"You are then a rebel people."

People—"A nation cannot revolt; tyrants only are rebels."

Then the military governors came forward, saying, "We must threaten the people; they will submit only to force; soldiers, chastise this insolent multitude."

People—"Soldiers, you are of our blood; will you strike your brothers, your relatives?"

And the soldiers grounding their arms said to their chiefs, "We are likewise the people, show us the enemy."

Then the little group said, "We are lost, the people are enlightened", and the People answered, "You are safe; since we are enlightened, we will commit no violence; we were slaves; we are free and liberty is but justice."—From "Volney's Ruins of Empires."

The great world war had settled no rows—

While the "Leaders" were typing their vows.

The Russians made bold;

The whole truth they told—

Then the Leaders? stole Germany's cows.

There was an old "Red" from Redville,

Who met an old friend from Leadville;

The two sat up late

Discussing the hate

Of the piffle and pomp of Deadville.

When a big fat capitalist attends church he is prompted, no doubt, to do so by the same impulse that compels the ostrich to stick his head in the sand.