

# BUT ONE BLOW OF YOUR MIGHTY ARM, OH, LABOR!

—VICTOR HUGO.

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# TRUTH

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FIVE CENTS

# TO SET AT LIBERTY THOSE WHO ARE BRUISED

—JESUS.

Many men are in prison today — many good and innocent men, the best men in our country. Debs is in prison today. Tom Mooney and Warren K. Billings are in prison today. Ben Gitlow and Jim Larkin and I. E. Ferguson and C. E. Ruthenberg and Carl Ahlteen and Edgar Hoover and G. J. Bourg and hundreds of other political and class war offenders are in prison to day.

These men have not stolen or robbed or raped. They haven't embezzled or defrauded or murdered. They have committed no crime against their fellowmen. Nay, instead they have served their fellows and done well by their country. They have lived upright and industrious lives. They have spread light and hope. They have urged justice and truth. They have taught righteousness and intelligence.

Then why are they in prison? By what juggling of justice have they been incarcerated and held behind cold walls of stone and massive bars of steel? Have they offended none? Is none their enemy?

In this they have offended: They have preached the gospel of deliverance from the doom of labor's mad exploiters. They have preached a new and wagefree order of society. They have helped to organize the workers for a better fight against their masters. They have held the light to show the way from want and drudgery and hunger and disease into the paradise of plenty, ease, enjoyment, pleasure, health and work and happiness for all.

In this they have offended: They have been disloyal to the master class. They have been disloyal to the greedy profiteers. They have openly and boastfully defied the robber class and pirate gang. They have hurled their opposition to the brigand crew that has looted the people and raped the country. But they have been loyal to the workers. They have been loyal to the slaves, both men and women. They have been loyal to the children of our land. They have been loyal to truth and justice and to all their high ideals. They have been loyal to the present generation and to generations yet unborn.

Now we must get them out. Now we must show our might. Our call must come loud and clear. The right to get them out is ours. In solemn words we call upon the rulers of our land to hear the voice of justice. We call upon the government to heed the nation's firm demand to set our comrades free. We threaten not. Not now. We come this time to place this matter well before the president and those in power. We shall wait in patience and in hope. We shall show our faith once more in the final victory. We beg not for mercy and ask not for pardon. We retract nothing and regret nothing. We only ask for fairness and justice.

Fairness and justice demand that all political and class war prisoners be set free.

## CROOKS AND CRIMINALS PROSPERED UNDER WILSON

### Farce President Pardoned 639 Bank Robbers, Rapists, Burglars, Bootleggers and Murderers While Jailing Workers

The crowning glory of the Wilson Administration seems to have been the pardoning of the greatest aggregation of riffraff gathered in the prisons of our country.

But while pardoning the crooks and criminals he has made it very clear that the man who dared to differ with him in matters of political opinion must serve the full time in the dungeon.

The Department of Justice has made its report showing that during the year ending June 30, 1920, Wilson had pardoned 639 out of the 664 brought before him.

The crimes for which pardons were granted included:

Murder, Embezzlement, Larceny, Seditious utterances, Violation of the Mann act, Conspiracy to transport opium, Perjury, Liquor running, Using mails to defraud, Making false entries in the books of national banks, Concealing assets in bankruptcy, Burglary, Bribery, Illicit distilling, Attempt to cause insubordination in the military forces of the United States, Prostitution within zone of army camps, Rape, Counterfeiting, Serving colored oleomargarine.

Bankers have had much better luck in getting pardons than political prisoners like Debs. A few

cases reported by the department of justice are as follows:

Thomas E. Stephenson, Georgia.

Embezzling postoffice funds. Sentenced for one year and one day and pay a fine of \$1,061.15.

Sentence midified to imprisonment for six months.

The amount of his embezzlement was made good. Sentence was commuted to expire at the end of five months.

Charles Dworkowitz, New York.

Embezzling funds of a national bank and making false entries in the books of the bank.

Sentenced to five years in the State reformatory.

Sentence commuted to 18 months, with allowance for good behavior.

John W. Lynch, Alabama.

Embezzling funds of a national bank.

Sentenced two years at Atlanta penitentiary.

Because of service in the army, unconditionally pardoned.

William T. Dougherty, Florida.

Embezzling funds of a national bank.

Five years in Atlanta penitentiary.

Sentence reduced to one year and one day.

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## FOR GENERAL AMNESTY

By FRANCES M. WITHERSPOON.

Testimony of Frances M. Witherspoon before a Sub Committee of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, on Senator France's bill for general amnesty.

STATEMENT OF MISS FRANCES WITHERSPOON, OF NEW YORK CITY.

Miss Witherspoon. Mr. Chairman, I am no here to add anything to the facts regarding the cases of the four or five hundred men and women who are still in jail today, more than two years after the practical cessation of the war, nor to add anything to the argument for their release. That has been done by one of my colleagues here, and will be completed by the other gentlemen.

I am not here to make any appeal for mercy for these men and women. They are strong in the conviction that they were right in what they did apparently, and there is no appeal for clemency coming from them.

I agree with you entirely that it is a question of policy, of what is the best thing for the country to do, and as soon as you yourself grant that point, I think it is of some concern to the members of this committee possibly to try to mirror to you how this thing strikes a person of my mind.

I am not a European agitator. I am an American, with a long line of American-born ancestry. Here in the city of Washington there is a statue of an old Scotch domestic, John Witherspoon, who was called from the kirk of Scotland to the first presidency of Princeton University. He was not content, like some gentlemen, to stay in academic halls, but he answered to the revolutionary spirit of his country. He was a member of the Continental Congress. I am proud to say that my family name is among the 44 signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that the thing we have always encouraged in America is thought, and not only thought but social thought. We have always given our meed of praise and respect to men and women who tried to speak out in a better way for human beings, to make this a better world for human beings to live in. I wonder if it ever occurred to you gentlemen here that you were sent to Washington for precisely the same thing that these 400 men and women were sent to jail for, because you showed some capacity and some tendency to want to think out a better regime, a better world for people to live in. These people have done precisely the same thing, and I believe have been actuated by motives just as high as yours.

The only difference was that you had a big majority of men and women acquiescing in your kind of thought, while they had a very small and humble minority acquiescing in their ideas. You landed in different places. Some landed in Washington and some landed in jail.

Senator STERLING: Suppose, however, instead of being in the minority, they had been in the majority. What might have happened so far as American freedom and resistance to Germany is concerned?

Miss WITHERSPOON: I think that question answers itself.

Senator STERLING: Do you think there would have been no war? Is that your idea?

Miss WITHERSPOON: That might have been, I am not sure.

Senator STERLING: We would not have resisted German aggression, however cruel it was and

(Continued on page 4)

## BUILDERS EXCHANGE RIP RESTRAINT OF TRADE LAW

### U. S. District Attorney Given Fine Chance to Show What He's Made of.

By SPARTACUS.

The Citizens Alliance is on the war path. The great Moses Luther C. Harris has sent out a letter to all business men of the city to stop all building activity till such time as the workers of the city are willing to accept a lower scale of wages. The letter printed below is a mineograph copy on Citizens Alliance stationery and bears Mr. L. C. Harris signature. Some one attempted to have the letter appear in the Duluth Herald, but was thrown in the waste basket.

It is alleged, that members of the Bricklayers Union chipped in and wanted to buy space in the Herald, pay for it in good American dollars in advance, but this Christian (?) capitalist sheet has reduced to bring such a criminal letter before the bar of public opinion.

Let us reverse the entire affair. Say, some labor union had sent out such a letter stating therein that Seth Marshall, Kenneth S. Cant, Mr. Nolte, of the firm of Little & Nolte, Bridgeman, of Bridgeman & Russell and some other real estate sharks are exploiting the public and urging upon the public not to do business with these gentlemen, and assuming that a copy of such a letter would have fallen into the hands of Brainy Bingham, what a tirade of denunciation would he not have let loose on those responsible for such a letter. The office of the federal district attorney would have been busy rounding up vry one connected with such an organization, thrown in jail for some federal offense. Judge Page Morris would have issued bench warrants for the arrest of every official of an organization that would have dared to send out a letter which is so clearly in Restraint of Trade.

That would have been the case if a labor union had done such an act. But in capitalist America, a capitalist controlled press must not expose, a capitalist district attorney must not apprehend, a capitalist court must issue no warrants to arrest and no capitalist court will convict any capitalist law violators. You can not expect justice from the devil when the court houses is in hell.

The letter is as follows:

(Continued under Realms of Labor Page 4.)

## NOT SENTIMENT BUT RIGHT

By ROBERT M. LaFOLLETTE.

Debs' release should not be considered on grounds of sentiment. The American people ought to see that Debs is released as matter of right. To do otherwise is to permit a precedent which is dangerous to every person in the country. Free speech is one of the things that differentiates a people's government from a czardom. Until a couple of years ago we had free speech in this country. It was one of the liberties for which our fathers fought and which was handed down to us as a sacred inheritance safeguarded by constitutions, laws and courts. It is a shocking thing to have to face the fact that democracy has been so far impaired that our jails house political prisoners.

I hope our newly elected President will realize the public sentiment which is daily protesting against this sinister exhibition of tyranny.

## HARDING SHOULD ATONE WILSON'S SINS

By SARA BARD FIELD.

The Harding administration should release Eugene V. Debs because the Wilson administration did not. A safe deduction to draw from the overwhelming defeat of the Democratic party is this: That the Wilson sins of omission may very well become Mr. Harding's affirmative course of action and the Wilson sins of commission his negative course. So much for concrete, calculating expediency based on the nation's reaction to the history of the past four years. But there are other reasons why Mr. Harding should free this old man, beloved by thousands on both sides of the Atlantic. Slowly and painfully idealism is sending out wan but living shoots after the bitter winter of war. The blindness of hate, the hysteria of fear, is giving way to a certain shamefaced admission that we have been doing things unworthy of our high calling in republican ideals. Even though we yet see through a glass darkly, we recognize that there is something enacting in our national morality when we keep in high office men who betray the people with honeyed words and jail the men who tell the stern truth a the risk of life and liberty

## MUST NOT ASK RETRACTION

By ALBERT DELIER.

It is unnecessary to point out that to keep men and women in prison because they are unwilling to retract social, political, or religious opinions expressed by them, is in itself the essence of political persecution. Such conduct is the modern expression of the spirit and philosophy which underlay the religious persecutions of the seventeenth century. It has been until this time the pride of every American that our fore fathers once and for all put an end to this spirit of intolerance. The opportunity is now before the Congress of the United States, by adopting a resolution declaring a General Amnesty for political offenders, again to reaffirm the spirit of political tolerance which has thus been suspended.

It is the duty of every American citizen, interested in the restoration of American liberties, to urge Congress, by every possible means, to pass a General Amnesty Resolution at the present session.



# A TRIP THROUGH THE WISCONSIN WOODS

By M. DE WAL.

(The man without a country)

During the days of depression, brought about by the present master class to cow the workers into submission and incidentally to lower the wages to the American standard of living, fellow-worker James Patton and myself decided to leave Minneapolis for the woods, on February the eighth, this being the last resort to keep body and soul together.

We procured a job from an employment shark for two dollars. As usual all jobs gotten from these gentry are rotten. This one was no exception to the rule.

We arrived in Warsaw the next morning at 2 a. m. From there to Merrill by automobile stage and from the latter place eighteen miles on a logging train to Camp Eighteen of the Union Land Co.

After an all night's travel we naturally did not feel like working that day and started the next. Our grips were held in the office till such time as we had our fare, which amounted to eight dollars, worked out. We were only allowed to take out our working clothes.

The conditions in this camp were a little above the average, which is not saying much for general conditions in this neck of the woods. The bunk-houses were overcrowded, badly ventilated and poorly lighted. Reading or writing was impossible unless one had the eyesight of a cat. Single lower and top bunks were ranged along the walls, the center occupied by a large box heater and piles of firewood. Suspended from the roof were three rows of poles for drying wet clothing. During the night, the dirty socks and steaming wet clothes drying, the perspiration from the hundred odd unwashed human bodies, filled the atmosphere with a stench indescribable especially with the hot fires burning all night. The two ludicrously small ventilators in the roof were only a sad apology and thoroughly inadequate to take away the sweet aroma prevalent.

The food consisted mostly of boiled beans, potatoes, bread and boiled beef. Day in and day out the same menu was repeated with slight variations. One had to have the stomach of a horse to digest it, because the cook, an old timer and company-man, was not the least particular how it was cooked. Mulligan-mixtures and mystery dishes were his long suit.

The foreman of this camp, a certain half deaf individual by the name of Post, acted as the main slavedriver. How many strawboses, mostly consisting of home guards, functioned under the supervision of this deaf foreman, is still a mystery to us, as every second man had or pretended to have something to say.

We were sawing but not being willing slaves enough or foolish enough, to take orders from these numerous strawboses, we were fired on the 8th day. We also committed the heinous crime of trying to educate our fellow men.

We were paid off at the rate \$3.25 per day. \$1.00 per day for

board not including Sunday. We received time checks stating days worked and amount due, payable at Merrill, which necessitated a hike through the snow of 18 miles along the railroad track. The going wages last summer were \$75 to \$80 a month and board, but seeing that the American standard of living had to be upheld at all costs the wages were systematically reduced by this arm of the Lumber Trust to meet all requirements to this effect.

After an exceedingly tiring tramp thru the snow we at last arrived at Merrill, weighted down by our necessary belongings.

After getting our time checks cashed without any trouble or deductions, we decided the next day to betake ourselves to Antigo. With hope in our hearts and a few dollars in our pockets we arrived there after a wearying railroad journey.

The next day we got a job as sawyers for the Faust Lumber Co. This camp was situated about one and a half miles from Winegar and necessitated the paying of an other railroad fare—further depreciating our slender finances. This was just a small camp of about twenty men. The general conditions were somewhat worse than our former location. Upper and lower wooden bunks for two filled with old straw and hay, making an elegant breeding place for all kinds of vermin, constituted our sleeping quarters. The board here was fair and wages somewhat better. The reason being that the company wished to finish here before the roads gave out—they were already in bad condition through the mild weather.

Everything there was built on the hurry-up plan. As soon as a log was cut off, it was immediately snaked away. The close proximity of the teams and swamps instead of facilitating the work hindered efficiency as all had to be continually on the lookout for falling trees. Of course if a horse would have gotten killed or crippled for life, it would have been awful, but if a man had gotten killed it would have been just an occurrence. So many dollars are invested in the hide of a horse but nothing in that of a man. When men are killed or injured most of the time the companies get out of paying the money due him to his relatives or to those next to him.

After three and a half days work at seventy dollars per month we were let out as the camp broke up. We were again paid off with a time check which we managed to cash at a pool-hall in Winegar. All these little towns are owned by the different lumber companies operating in the neighborhood. Their sole aim seems to be to relieve the lumber-jack as quickly as possible of his hard-earned wages. The price for a tiny room for two men, furnished with a three-quarter candle-power globe, is invariably one dollar. These rooms are generally infested by vermin. Meals, so called, in the one and only restaurant are just appetite teasers and run all the

way from fifty cents to one dollar. All these little burghs boast openly of their numerous blind pigs, presumably run with the full consent of the lumber barons, the latter realizing that half-poisoned and drunken men always remain servile slaves, who will return to work under any conditions and for any old wage.

After an all night's stay in one of these louse-breeding working-men's places in Winegar, we decided the next day, to walk ten miles to Winchester where we had heard a railroad logging-camp was running. After being regaled on the same kind of fare for the same prohibitive price in the company boarding-house that night we proceeded to camp the next day, after being told we could get work there. The ten-mile ride on the logging train, sitting on ice-covered cross-pieces, hanging on for dear life was a pleasure that will not soon be forgotten.

We found the camp over-crowded to the limit, men sleeping on the floors of the bunk-cars. This company had it all doped out how to keep the supply of slaves to meet the demand. Standing orders in the employment offices in Rhynelander, Ashland and other towns kept this town well supplied. Wages were forty to forty-five dollars per month and board. Conditions were absolutely insupportable and inhuman. Forty-eight men sleeping in double bunks filled with hay or straw in a car fifty-feet long, seven feet wide and seven feet high. Two small windows and one door. The only facilities for drying clothes were the usual poles suspended from the roof near the stove. This place absolutely stank. In the morning one woke up half asphyxiated. The long hours in the open air is all that saved the crew from succumbing to some virulent disease. Any self-respecting health officer who wishes to do his duty for which he is paid cannot do other than enforce the law and compel this company to supply the men with adequate and sanitary accommodations. The food there needs no special designation—the one word “rotten”—fills the bill.

And this is not all. The worst is yet to come. Insult is added to injury. These pest-ridden and disease-breeding slavepens are regularly visited by traveling preachers, who like snakes in the grass sneak into camps, prostituting the teachings of Christ. Using religion for a cloak to enrich the lumber trust at the expense and misery of the lumberjack and incidentally have an easy living themselves, teaching the workers the fladdoodle of slimy salvation.

These despicable cattle take up no collection, pass a lot of free literature around filled with the same kind of bunk.

Now the question arises, who pay these expenses? The church of course. Who finances the church? The lumber barons and similar greater and smaller trusts, of course. The moneyed interests recognizing the church as one of their main strongholds to keep the workers in ignorance and servility. As long as the workers' mind can be instilled with the “The Pie in the Sky When You Die” and the future hell and heaven business, so long will they remain in ignorant serfdom, piling up profits for the boss, meanwhile living a life lower than the animal.

On the other hand, when a labor organizer or one suspected of being one, a workman himself, who has been thru the mill, endeavors to teach his fellowmen the truth, the intrinsic value of revolutionary economic organization as the only means toward the betterment of their condition in life, right here and now, he carries his life in his hands, is jailed and hounded from pillar to post, not alone by the powers that be, but also by ignorant workers, whose brains temporarily dulled by continuous slavery, their present mentality not comparable with that of a louse and thru whose ignorance the masters throw themselves in the saddle.

After an all-night's sleep on the floor we decided we were not going to commit slow suicide so we absolutely refused to go to work and walked back to Winchester. There we took the train back to Hurley, the moonshine center of Wisconsin and of general bad repute. After being held up in the usual fashion for meals and

rooms we managed to get a job with the Bissell Lumber Co. at Mellen. We worked there eight days, then were laid off, as this camp also closed down. The board and accommodation here was somewhat better than the average.

From there we decided to go to Ashland to continue our hunt for a job. At the government employment office we were advised to go to Drummond to work for the Rust Owen Company. After answering a lot of foolish questions as to birth and nationality we received our employment tickets.

On our arrival in camp we received a sad awakening—this was the worst yet. For dirt filth and corruption, it surpassed anything we ever saw before. Fourteen cases of small-pox had broken out and the camp was under quarantine. If the camp under quarantine was similar to the one we were in, it was not astonishing in the least. It's a wonder that all the vile diseases on the calendar had not broken out. Camp Sixteen was situated in the center of a mud-puddle, the bunk-houses

continually overcrowded, the floors filthy, the stench arising from the stagnant water under the floor overpowering—the same blankets used over and over again—month in and month out by sick and well without being cleaned. The stench from the sweaty wet clothing drying during the night was more than enough to start an epidemic. Here the same system is in vogue that is used in most other camps. One crew working—one going and one coming. Art Anderson had the pleasant diversion from his other duties as main slave-driver to fire enough men each day to make room for the number regularly shipped from the employment offices. This was done indiscriminately and all those who did not prove to be abject slaves of course went down the line first. It also had the salutary effect of making those who remained work harder, as an unorganized uneducated working-class, regardless of the fact that they are dissatisfied have no other remedy at hand but to quit.

How most of those stood for the conditions there was a mystery to us—poor deluded and exploited slaves!

We quit after a few days. We had too much self-respect left to

humiliate ourselves to such an extent. As we are lumberjacks from the Pacific Coast who took an active part in the huge strike in 1917, we naturally did our best to show these benighted lumberjacks the value of revolutionary industrial organization. But we were able to do only a little educational work. It is true we came across a few silent wobbles but on the whole it does not seem as if the lumberjacks of Wisconsin are able to help themselves and force their exploiters to come through with a shorter day, humane living conditions and wages in proportion to the necessary improvements. As long as these men blind themselves and refuse to organize their strength, so long will these rotten conditions exist to fatten their exploiters.

## SOLDIERS SUPPORT COMMUNISTS

STOCKHOLM.—Reports from Moscow say that the municipal Soviet elections in Tulsa resulted in a big victory for the Communist party. The first meeting of the new Soviet of Rostof took place

on February 7. It is made up of 557 Communists, 151 Non-Partisans and 24 Mensheviks. The voting for the Rostof Soviet was participated in by 30,000 soldiers, 2,000 soldiers' wives, 14,000 peasants and 94,000 workers and office employees.

## THE BOOT AT LAST

WASHINGTON.—The name of Boris Bakmetieff may be dropped from the Congressional Directory as “Russian Ambassador” in the first edition of that book to be issued by the Harding administration.

Word has been received at the State Department that the British Foreign Office has dropped the Russian Embassy of the Kerensky regime from its diplomatic list. At the expense of American taxpayers, the Kerensky embassy has been kept open here for three years past by the Wilson administration. All the British diplomatic list gives to the Kerensky agents is a the liquidation of matters connected with the late Russian government: M. E. Sablino, M. Gabriel Wolkoff (in M. Sablino's absence). Such a footnote is diplomatic formula for “the boot.”

# HOW DO THEY DO IT?

BY MARY HEATON VORSE

“Out, fifteen weeks? How do they do it?”

This is a question that must arise in everybody's mind who has watched this terrible silent conflict waged by the Amalgamated against the lockout in New York. Its successful duration is based on the integrity of the men, women and children who form the rank and file of the Amalgamated in New York. It is a mute protest of thousands and thousands of people who know that their very chance of all betterment and liberty is now menaced. These thousands of people are like the inhabitants of a besieged city who would rather starve than give in to the enemy who would enslave them. And although they are scattered from Harlem to Newark and over to Brooklyn, they form a single cohesive mass as though a city's wall encircled them. They are in fact encircled by a wall of relentless hatred and persecution of a group of employers.

To find out “How they do it,” how they have resisted this long siege, you have to go among the people. The story of how the Amalgamated has kept its solid front through all these weeks of trial is an inspiring story of heroism, a terrible story, a terrible indictment of the system which exacts such heroism of helpless people.

Those who know the Amalgamated know that the whole story is not told by the totals of money pouring in for the Million Dollar Lockout Defense Fund. It is the spirit behind the Fund that tells the story of “How they do it.” Money coming in from Amalgamated members at the rate of one hundred thousand dollars a week, including considerable sums from the New membership, extraordinary as the totals are they are not so remarkable as the quality of bodily and mental endurance of the rank and file. The actions of those who only stand and wait and endure in New York tell “How they do it.”

A few days ago I went with one of the Amalgamated women to see what could be done from the little Italian woman who had applied to the Union for aid. Here stood a pale woman and around her four children. Suffering and anxiety has given her that look of nondescript age which obliterates from a woman's face all traces of youth. When I first looked at her I thought her a haggard woman of thirty-five.

She was only twenty-two. At seventeen she had married, and every year she had a child. Every year she had added a new worker to the workers of this country, and there was a fifth child coming. But the long hours of bending over work had done to her husband what it does to thousands of tailors. He was now in the tubercular ward in a hospital, and here this little woman was stranded with her little brood about her.

They had no shoes on their little feet, they had no underwear. You could tell the history of that family in three words:

There was nothing. There was no coal, there was no furniture, there were no clothes—but there was a dispossession notice.

And the children were lovely. They should have been a happy, gay brood. They needed now but very little warmth to bubble over into laughter. The two oldest played quietly, abashed by the haunting spectre of eviction; puzzled by their mother's absorption in her anxiety—anxiety which hung like a pall in the base room.

This poor little valiant girl with her babies and her sick husband had turned to the Union, though even if there had not been a lockout her condition would have been almost as bad, for they had had no work for who knows how long. Then as she told her story she let drift out quite casually in a sort of a matter of course way, not at all realizing the courage that it implied, this fact.

She had sold the bed—which they had bought in the happier days when they first married—before she had applied for help.

She kept saying in a tone of apology:

“I hated to come. It is so hard now for everybody.”

When you see things like this the contrast of New York's glitter sickens you. Conditions that make such contrasts possible can be changed only by the incredible endurance of hundreds of thousands of anonymous workers, ready to stick together in a fight, women like the mother in another family I visited.

This woman was a widow. She had three children, thirteen, eleven and nine. How clean this home was, what character it bespoke! This woman in the good times made \$22.50. The two little girls kept house. When you looked at the oldest you did not wonder how it was that out of five hundred pupils she stood eighth in an essay on “Dependability.” She knew all about dependability, this little girl.

This clean, nice house was ornamented with drawings of the little boy. He drew ships, beautiful ships skimming along in a spanking gale, spirited drawings. The children are very poorly dressed. They are getting help from the organization, and they live on bread, potatoes and cereals. The mother could have gotten a scab job but she is a class-conscious worker. She shuts her mouth like a trap and says:

“I am not going to have my children go through what I went through. We must suffer now so they won't suffer later.”

On a very stormy day it happened that I went to another home. The wife was sick. She had been always ailing. There was nothing in the house. It was bare and cold. They had not been able to get two dollars for medicine and that was why finally the old man had applied for relief. Presently the man came in dripping, a man who should have been jolly, a short fat fellow with grey side whiskers. But now he was overcome with melancholy—but not at his own sufferings. He could get on with bread and coffee and an onion he said. What was eating his heart out was that he had to apply for relief.

He said: “I have been a union man for twenty-two years and I never had to do this before. If it hadn't been for my old woman

I wouldn't have done it. But I had to have medicine for her. I hate to take relief.”

If any one wants to know how the Amalgamated does it, it is through such people.

Another home. Beautiful children with flaming hair and big black eyes. These children had not been able to go to school for a week because they had had no underwear. One of the neighbors had given the woman some corduroy ripped out of a carriage, and a little dress had been made out of it. Underwear was made of sheets and rags given by neighbors. The babies had had no milk for a week and the Union gave her money for that.

“What can we do,” said this mother. “We must suffer until we won't know such troubles. We have got to make sacrifices now for that day.”

Still another home. Two rooms very, very clean, the cleanliness throwing in relief the rooms' bleakness. The husband, not long over pneumonia, three small children and the mother about to give birth to a fourth child. We were bringing baby clothes for this woman, for the Amalgamated girls in Baltimore have made outfits for the lockout babies. Here again there was the monotonous story of nothing, not a spoonful of coal in the house, nothing but courage. These people who had just been through illness, and who were expecting another baby, had sold their bedding before they applied for relief.

These people are the samples of what is going on. They are not the whole story themselves but they are samples of the spirit which

animates the whole Amalgamated. This is how they do it.

How many people who have sold beds to get food before they applied for relief no one will know. No one will ever know what sacrifices will be made. Yet each sacrifice is a stone in the edifice which will one day build a new society. No one can see this great struggle without realizing that the whole working class of America is indebted to the rank and file of the Amalgamated, who are bearing the brunt of the open shop anti-union battle and who are giving this magnificent lesson in solidarity, in ability to stick out the situation.

I don't know of any other battle like this. I don't know of so large a group of people standing out for fifteen weeks when the conflict came on the heels of a slack season. You would think that the community as a whole would rise up in protest. You would think that an ironic laughter would ring from one end of America to the other at a group of greedy employers trying to destroy the organization of the Amalgamated. There is no human being who does not oppose the sweatshop. There is no one who believes that children should work and that young mothers should leave child-bed only to go to work to keep the body and soul of their children together.

But that is what it would mean if the Amalgamated should lose. But it cannot lose. Even in reactionary America it will not be possible to turn back the hand of time and pull out from an ignoble grave the degrading sweatshop conditions. The rank and file of the Amalg. alone make it impossible.

## JUSTICE PLEADS FOR DEBS

(St. Louis Globe-Democrat.)

President Wilson has forfeited a gracious opportunity in disapproving the recommendation of the Dept. of Justice that the 10 year prison sentence of Eugene V. Debs be commuted to expire Feb. 12, the anniversary of Lincoln's birthday.

That the letter of the law sustains the President's position cannot be questioned. Debs violated the espionage act and glorified in his offense. He was justly sentenced. Public opinion approved the sentence. But it was a wartime offense, a wartime conviction and a war-time expression of public opinion. The war is over now. The time for leniency has come. Other offenders have been relieved. Why may not the rigor of the law be modified in behalf of Debs?

The case of Debs pleads for clemency with unique eloquence and pathos. He is an old man. He is hied in esteem and affection by a great body of our people, which has repeatedly honored him by naming him as its candidate for president. Mistaken as the vast majority of us believe him to be in his indictments of the present order and visionary in his solution of economic injustice, Debs, nevertheless, has battled bravely and unselfishly for his beliefs. Such courage of conviction challenges admiration, however absurd or unpalatable the remedies he proposes.

The great need of all peoples today is peace. We cannot have peace while the bitter judgments of war remain. We ought to bury our hates. What argument can be offered against clemency for Debs? Nobody imagines that Debs release would imperil society or endanger our government. As a matter of fact, Debs in prison has far greater power to promote distrust of the government's fair intention than Debs at liberty would have. But apart from that practical reason, is there not a finer reason, namely, that this fiery old crusader has been punished enough? When the American people's sense of justice asks for bread, even a president might hesitate to offer a stone.

A pardon to Debs would be an appropriate way to observe Lincoln's birthday.

This is from a Republican paper of wide circulation and influence in the Middle-West.

## DEBS FREE WOULD DO LESS HARM

(New York World)

The United States Supreme Court yesterday handed down a 6 to 3 decision reversing the Federal Court at Chicago which convicted Victor L. Berger and four other Socialists of violation of the espionage act.

The same day President Wilson denied the recommendation of the federal attorney general that the 10 year sentence of Eugene V. Debs be commuted to expire Feb. 12 next.

The President did not give his reasons for a refusal, which will be regretted by many among the most loyal of Americans.

At the present time the greater part of the country would be glad to see the courts, the President and the Department of Justice co-operating to effect the release of political prisoners with all possible speed.

The war is over. Peace, order and loyalty are overwhelmingly preponderant in the United States. There is nothing to be gained by keeping men in jail because of their professed beliefs, however—at variance those beliefs may be with the existing social order.

It is repugnant to American feeling to know that men are still held in prison for political offenses which only war made dangerous to a degree that forced the country to deal thus with them.

Debs holds views with which the great majority of Americans strongly disagree. But keeping Debs in jail only plays into the hands of the minority who share his opinions. Nothing strengthens such minorities like a martyr about whose wrongs they can rally.

Debs free would do less harm than Debs imprisoned.

The President misreads public sentiment if he thinks a majority of the people of the United States are not now for magnanimity rather than repression in the attitude of this powerful government toward handfuls of irreconcilables.

Note—The New York World is one of the leading Democratic papers of the nation.



# A STUDY OF ART AND ARTISTS

We are most fortunate in securing an article on Art and Artists by one of the foremost artists in America today. Knut Heldner has "made good" already, but he has not had time yet to get the eye of the world. His place among the famed artists of all time is assured, and we shall wait in happy anticipation for the announcement of this young man in the world's art circles.

Last Fall when the Republican committee of Minnesota was looking for a lasting and worthy token of Minnesota's respect for President Harding they came upon a painting among the exhibits at the State Fair. It was the first prize exhibit and has attracted the attention of all art lovers. It was bought and presented to President Harding, who said he had now found the most valuable adornment and inspiration for the White House. It hangs there today as a masterpiece in which all America takes pride. The painting is the work of Knut Heldner.

Mr. Heldner spent the winter in Duluth and was busy putting many of the wonderful scenes of this picturesque city on the canvas. His collection was exhibited at the city library this winter and won the admiration of all who saw his work.

Heldner will be born about two hundred years from now. He is a soul far ahead of his time—as all artists are. Or rather the rest of us live several hundred years behind the times. He lives in the new world trying to pull the old world along. Of course he is a revolutionist. There is no artist who is not a revolutionist. Others are daubers.

Save this paper and read this article often. It will give you light and inspiration.

## ART

By Knut Heldner.

Man, Nature; Nature, Man: Between those points, art in its various manifestations, like a pendulum, is ever gravitating and the apex in either direction has always marked the beginning of a new epoch in the evolution of Art.

When man has exhausted himself, and his spiritual forces are on the wane, his source of inspiration is no longer from within but is a reflex of exterior conditions: Then comes the cry BACK TO NATURE, let us be truthful, let us paint things as we see them. The result is inevitably the same; representative painting or imitation: Nude for the sake of its nakedness, take-it-as-it-is landscapes etc.

This is materialism and the Artists and the public are feasting on facts and effects.

But this kind of exotic manipulation is eventually incapable of satisfying the inner necessity, the eternal longing for order and nature, **not as it is**, but as it appears is the very opposite to Art and Order, it is chaotic; and to paint scientific truths, is only worse than lying.

Consequently man again turns back to the first principle, CREATION, for materialism has served its purpose, namely recuperation of humanity's spiritual forces.

Again the pendulum has arrived at a climax and the Artist goes in to himself and rediscovers the eternal truth: WITHIN MAN is the key to be found which will unlock every door. But thru the materialistic conception of Art the Artist has gained some scientific knowledge which in cooperation with his revived spiritual forces will serve to bring about a new virile Art when the right moment has arrived.

As the night is darkest just before dawn, so has materialism at its greatest density always signified the nearness of a coming light and in the history of Art this is particularly true.

The apparition of a Genius or spiritual benefactor, takes place only when his service is needed, or when man has evolved to the point where he is able to assimilate at least some of his teaching.

The Genius Artist is carrying the world within; he is not controlled by it, but controls it; he is not possessed by the Idea, but possess the Idea and with him Art instead of being representation or imitation is presentative creation. To him nature is no longer the foundation, but the material from which he selects or rejects according to the inner necessity of his expression.

The Genius can be constructive only thru destruction. He puts the world in an inverted position, and the old traditions and undisputed axioms tremble before the piercing thrusts of his mighty glove. But out of disorder, order emerges, for the mission of a Genius Artist is to restore to the Art-world its tranquillity and equilibrium. Thru him a new aspect of the eternal beauty is revealed.

There is perhaps nothing in all our existence more difficult to comprehend beautifully and naturally than the human body. Not because its beauty is beyond human comprehension, but rather because of prudishness in regard to morality and ethics.

With asceticism, humanity's evil Genius, came the erroneous and absurd conception that the human body, the most noble, the most perfectly beautiful creation in all nature was repulsive and immoral and should never be seen except when urgent necessity so required. And we of the twentieth century who boast of our high civilization are in fact so little advanced from these ridiculous old notions, that we look with shame and horror on our own body (some times rightfully so, thanks to this high moral standard and splendid civilization) and to contemplate on its beauty as a source of joy and inspiration is often far from our capacity.

In days of antiquity, especially in early Hellenic, naked was the symbol of heroism and truth; and the Art and Sculpture produced during that period, is per-

haps the finest representative sculpture ever created.

But with the Christian era came new standards and the human body, instead of being a subject of beauty-worship, was looked upon as something unclean and despicable. Painters, Artists, no longer found the same inspiration in the rhythm and order of the nude as before and naked was used only to express something low and evil. And during the middle ages the Artists in painting such a subject as the last judgement, shrouded their saints and angels in elaborate white robes, while everything nude was given as prize to the hellfire.

This religious prejudice in conjunction with, in many places severe climatic changes from which it became necessary to protect our-selves, has given us our present conception which perhaps will take generations to expunge and which I am sure, if not checked, will ultimately put the mark of degeneration on all humanity.

In the work to enlighten and save the public from itself, Art, painting and sculpture can be of great help.

If you feel within your soul an ardent desire to understand and appreciate art, you must first of all approach it in a friendly attitude without prejudice. Art does not bother itself with the arrogant know-it-all character. But the humble shall partake of its riches, all that his measure can hold.

If you do not immediately receive from a painting the enjoyment you expected, don't condemn it; the fault may be with you; be patient, watch: Great paintings are like great characters, you can not comprehend them immediately, but to the lover of truth they will ever reveal new characteristics and new beautitudes.

If you have come to a gallery with the intention to enjoy the refining influence of pictures, don't run around like a wild sheep from painting to painting, seeing all and nothing; be silent, avoid company; but if you see a painting which particularly appeals to you, don't try to analyze; seek to make clear to you, your feeling, or the emotion which it provokes.

Pure intellect is a destroyer of Art sentiment, and if you are not on your guard against its piercing steel, you will find, that instead of enjoying art, you are brooding over how bad artists can paint.

Even a masterpiece can be very bad painting. A painting is great, not because it is faultless, but because it has great qualities.

Only mediocrity is faultless. The difference between intentional distortion and faulty drawing is great and should be clearly understood.

A drawing is detrimental to art, no matter how accurate, if it does not conform to the general sentiment in the picture. On the contrary such drawing which expresses in the highest possible degree the artists idea, ideal and emotion is always a good drawing.

In the early masters of primitives who never, I believe, drew or painted a form or a figure for the sake of representation, but utilized form only for conveying a sentiment we find distortion to be a common practice, but with them it was unconscious distortion.

El Greco is perhaps the first Artist who consciously used distortion and subordinated drawing to rhythm and sentiment.

Few people understand art as a LIVING ART; they think they have to dig it up from the graveyard.

Some paintings popularly known as old masters would be more properly named old bastards.

Any old fool can talk about the old masters, but it takes a wise man to comprehend his own time.

In the olden days Artists were one with the people, today the people are none with the Artists.

I never saw blue like that; or, I don't see what that's meant to be, are phrases often heard in art exhibitions.

The people feel it is their duty to understand, but can not understand that to feel is to understand.

The philistine must have a handle attached to art, or else he will smear it all up with vulgar interpretations. he vulgar sees only that which is vulgar, nay, sees only vulgarity in the most refined and beautiful.

A work of art may represent life, but should never drag you down to materialistic reality.

The real artist, like art and beauty is too simple; the people scorn the simple.

The common people want a parade; the greatest detriment to art in the past has been its relationship to politics and religion; it has often had to serve as a hand-maid for both.

The object of art is not propaganda but art may propagate. Art may be a servant but acknowledge no master.

Art must be free; is free, but its freedom is dearly bought: alas, art makes you its slave, but a slave to freedom.

In this life there is only two things essential, to live an artist, to die an artist.

Don't misunderstand, you don't need to daub in order to be an artist.

Art and selfpreservation must ever be enemies.

Art is a tyrant and cares little for you; yea it consumes your soul and body, but once initiated the sacrifice seems insignificant.

Art for the sake of a reward is prostitution. The true artists do not paint in order to make pictures, but are ever seeking, ever experimenting; the result may be a picture.

Reality has very little to do with art, but art must realize.

Art may be science, but scientific painting is never art.

Art is not coldblooded calculation or system; art is spontaneous creation. Art at its best is neither moral

nor immortal, but unmoral. But artists at their best are sometimes immoral.

Art is the Swansong of culture, but also its Herald. To the initiated art has foretold every historical change of any significance, but art is partly of an occult nature and not always comprehensible.

One thing most essential to art-understanding is a friendly attitude without prejudice; and an open mind to receive is worth more than yards of theories.

There are many don'ts in art, but this one is a big one; DON'T try to say more than one thing at a time. To provoke conflicting emotions is the death to all art.

If you don't know anything about painting, it's easy to paint. But when painting becomes difficult, you may have some hope.

The Artist is not an Orator, talks little; the painter paints, the musician composes etc.

It is ridiculous for a painter to try to define his art with words, yea almost as ridiculous as it would be for the master orator to use paint as a medium instead of language.

Words at the command of a master may produce art, but words can not explain art.

Where words end, Art begins.

The painter would indeed be a useless being if language was adequate for his message.

What is the object of Art? And why Art?

Art for art's sake sounds perhaps a little egotistic, but nevertheless all truly great art has been done in that spirit.

Artists are born, not made.

A plant turns towards the light, opens its flower in the glorious Sun, for that is the nature of plants. So the Genius, his performance is compulsory, he MUST paint, he MUST model, he MUST compose.

The Genius has little adaptability, but lots of determination.

If it has taken a man especially endowed with the gift of Art in his soul, like an Artist, a life time to learn to find his expression in a particular medium, then is it much to wonder at, if the outsider who is not especially gifted and perhaps have not for five minutes seriously concentrated on art, that art to him sometimes is like a sealed book?

There is hardly anything the common people bother themselves with as little as art (except artists, perhaps). Yet they think they are perfectly capable to judge of its merits and demerits, and they seldom appeal to the artist for his opinion, or think he knows any more about the subject than they themselves do.

Some will say, I don't know much about art, but I know what I like, and ain't my taste just as good as yours? Never thinking of the fact that everybody has tastes, but some has rotten ones.

In art three is surely an even number.

A good composition is a composition which makes you forget composition.

A heavy line does not necessarily show your strength as a draughtsman except physically.

If some people lost their sense of smell they could not tell the difference between an oilpainting and an Aquatint.

The fundamental principle in all art is cooperation; every part of a picture or composition must be in perfect harmony and cooperate with every other part.

Synthetic painting or elimination is a matter of taste, but subordination is compulsory.

Order, subordination, rhythm and volume is the four cornerstones upon which all art must be founded and those qualities alone in cooperation will give to a painting that indescribable something which alone has the power to elevate it to the rank of art.

A fellow artist asked me once what I thought would

be the most essential quality to emphasise when painting a waterfall. Says I, "If you are going to paint a waterfall, it seems to me, it ought to be quite important to make the water FALL." In fact there is perhaps no other reason for painting a waterfall.

But after all, why paint waterfalls when you can see and enjoy them out in nature much better than any artist ever can paint them with a few stinky pigments. Waterfall painting is very much in the same class as realistic flower painting; those flowers make you disgusted because they have no smell.

Pictures of this order should never be executed except for practice, for instead of giving to the spectator a conception of the supremacy of art, this kind of painting only makes him conscious of the limitations of the Artist's material.

## GERMAN REVOLT "CRUSHED"

Every day the papers report the German revolt as "crushed." And every day they announce new uprisings. It is certain that serious developments are taking place in that country; and we are not getting half the real news. The German workers appear to be striving with courage and determination for the establishment of the German Workers' Republic. All power to them!

## FOR ROBBERS OR WORKERS?

Afghanistan has just concluded a treaty with Soviet Russia. She now has channels for commerce and communication in two directions: Through Russia and through British India. They are strange neighbors for Afghanistan: on one side the most powerful imperialism of the world's history, standing for "The World for the Robbers." On the other the new great state of the revolutionary working class, standing for "The World for the Workers." If one day Afghanistan has to make a choice, with which will it stand?

## LAID OFF AND CUT.

Over 200 employees of the Worcester Consolidated Street Railway Company of Worcester, Mass., will be put on a five-days-a-week schedule next week. Reason given: Business depression.

The American Brass Company, of Ansonia, Conn., announced last Wednesday, that a 10 per cent reduction would be made in wages and piece work rates. Workers employed on an hourly basis will be reduced 5c an hour.

From Philadelphia comes word that masters, mates, pilots and marine engineers employed on tugs on the Delaware River and Delaware Bay have decided that they will stop work rather than submit to a reduction of 25 per cent in their wages, which the owners' association is trying to force on them.

Building workers in Westchester County, New York, announce that they will quit work sooner than accept a cut of \$1 a day in their wages. The Employers' Association is trying to put this over. Exactly the same situation prevails among the building workers of Union County, New Jersey.

Chicago manufacturers of men's clothing have announced their desire to cut wages 25 per cent. This will affect 40,000 workers, if they can put it over.

A reduction of from 17 to 22 per cent has been effected in the wages of shop employees of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad.

Employees of the Chicago, Great Western shops, at Olweine, Iowa, have been notified that they will all be laid off this week. This affects 1,400 men. The men say they are being laid off because they refuse to accept a cut in wages of 25 per cent.

# AMNESTY

## THE WAR IS OVER! --- LET FREEDOM REIGN!

We the Workers of Duluth and Superior Demand the release of all class war prisoners. Their only crime is loyalty to the working class.

## COME TO MONSTER MASS MEETING

DULUTH, WORKERS HALL, at 8 P. M., 19th Avenue West and 1st St.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 13--1921

Local and National Speakers will Address Meeting

Come to Mass Meeting

SUPERIOR I. W. W. HLAL  
328 Tower Avenue

THURSDAY, APRIL 14--1921

ADMISSION FREE!



## IN THE REALMS OF LABOR

By SPARTACUS

Builder's exchange rip restraint of trade law.

(Continued from page 1.)

### SPECIAL BULLETIN.

DULUTH, Minn., March 11, 1921.  
Building Trades Strike.

To Our Members:

The following unions are out on strike at the present time: Bricklayers, hoisting engineers, plasterers, lathers, painters, sheet metal, electricians, stone setters and stone masons.

At a state convention of the Minnesota Building Employers Association, held at St. Paul, on Feb. 11th, the following scale of hourly wages for the above crafts was adopted:

|                    |       |        |
|--------------------|-------|--------|
| Bricklayers        | ----- | \$1.00 |
| Hoisting Engineers | ----- | .80    |
| Plasterers         | ----- | 1.00   |
| Lathers            | ----- | .80    |
| Painters           | ----- | .80    |
| Sheet Metal        | ----- | .80    |
| Electricians       | ----- | .80    |
| Stone Setters      | ----- | 1.00   |
| Stone Masons       | ----- | .80    |

The scale is a reduction of 20 per cent from the 1920 scale, and is based on figures submitted by experts, both local and national showing living costs had been reduced from 26.4 per cent to 40 per cent. The above scale has been adopted by the Duluth Builders Exchange, and the employees in the above trades refused to accept the new scale and walked out. We understand the plumbers are the only craft in Duluth working under an agreement with the union.

The Builders Exchange, by conspicuous advertisements in both daily papers, gave their old employees, until March 9th, to return to work on the new scale, on the statement that, if they did not do so, the employers would obtain workmen from any source available. But few of the old employees have returned, and the members of the Exchange are proceeding to obtain other workmen.

The members of the Builders Exchange are doing everything in their power to carry out this program, but they need and must have the aid and co-operation of the business men of Duluth. The way to co-operate is for every business

man in the city to absolutely refuse to have any building done, or alterations made, unless the scale paid is the same as that of the Builders Exchange. If you, or your neighbor, in your anxiety to have work done, immediately offer the striking workmen wages above the Exchange scale, you encourage the strikers, and aid in breaking down the whole building program.

If this latter result happens, but little building will be done, and what is done will be at high cost.

If it happens, Duluth will be at a disadvantage with its competitors, Minneapolis, St. Paul and other cities, which are proceeding to vigorously carry out their building program on the new scale.

If it happens, Duluth must remain stationary in growth, and business cannot expand. The city cannot grow, business cannot expand, until more buildings are supplied. Even if a sufficient number could be built, on the old basis of costs, we would in time be put out of the running by our competitors, who build on a lower basis of costs. Call up the contractors of the city and encourage them to hold out. Tell them they are doing the only thing that will bring growth and prosperity to Duluth.

If you have a new project in mind, don't go ahead with it, unless it can be carried out on the new plan. If you have a contract under way don't crowd your contractor, call him up and tell him to take all the time necessary to keep in line with the general program. A little temporary, personal loss will be more than offset, by the share of gain that will come to you from the permanent benefit that will accrue to the community.

Forget for once your personal interests, and make them secondary to community interests.

Until this policy is adopted, substantial growth cannot be had.

No place can become a city of commanding size and importance, where a large proportion of its business men are simply looking out for themselves.

L. C. HARRIS,

President.

Patronize the open shop.

### Labor Stands Firm.

The Bricklayers, Plasters, Electricians and Sheet Metal Workers stand firm against a reduction in wages. The organizations are decided to fight out the issue of collective bargaining which is the center of the fight in the present struggle.

The questions at issue in the present strike is wages and collective bargaining. The contractors had a trumped up conference in St. Paul last February and decided for a flat reduction in of 20 per cent. in wages of building craftsmen to take effect immediately. If our employers had been civilized men, they would have considered that it takes two parties to make a bargain, and notified the building craft unions that it is their desire to bring about a reduction in wages. The unions, if properly notified, would have selected committees to meet with the employers and a solution for a settlement might have been arrived at without a strike.

The trades unions see in this action an attempt to disregard them which they must not submit to. If they do submit to the decrees of the Minnesota Employers Association it will mean the surrender of the human right that every man and woman ought to protect. It is the right of workers to deal collectively and to be represented by committees of its own choosing and the employers, must understand that before a settlement can be arrived at that this principle will have to be recognized and strictly adhered to.

### Painters On Strike.

Two hundred and fifty painters answered the roll call last Friday morning at Trades Union Hall, 22 E 1st St. On March 29, the Painters held a special meeting at which the following communication from the employers was read: Duluth, Minn., March 29th, 1921.

Executive Committee, Painters City.

Local No. 106, 22 East 1st St., Gentlemen:—

At a meeting of our club held on March 29, 1921, I was instructed to inform your local, it was decided that your proposal of March 23, 1921 is on account of obvious reasons at this time not acceptable to our club and at the same meeting a resolution was passed by the members of our club agreeing to pay eighty cents per hour on and after April 1, 1921.

We hope that your local will accept our resolution with the same spirit in which it is sent and that the same cordial relations will prevail in the future as in the past.

Your truly,

H. A. Whittaker, Sec'y.

The members voted unanimously to reject the proposal and directed its secretary to inform the employers of the action and to notify by mail every member of the union that the strike takes effect April 1st, at 9 o'clock in the morning.

Secretary Lichten sent the following call to the members of the union:

Duluth, Minn., March 30, 1921.

Dear Sir and Mother:—

In a letter that the union received from the Master Painters it states that the wages for all journeymen Painters will be reduced to 80c per hour, beginning April 1st, 1921.

The organization at its meeting held on March 29th rejected the proposal and decided to go on strike on April 1st. You are hereby notified to report at Trade Union Hall Friday Morning April 1st at 9:00 o'clock.

Fraternalty yours,  
PAINTERS UNION NO. 106,  
Joel Lichten, Sec'y.

At the meeting picket were appointed to watch every paint shop in the city. The painters are determined to fight it out with those responsible for the strike. Officers of the union state that had the contractors been at liberty to act according their own will they would have signed with the union. But this was prevented by the Builders Exchange and the financial interests of the city.

### Sheet Metal Workers.

The Sheet Metal Workers Union has arrived at a settlement with all, but three shops. Those that are unfair are: Walker Jamar Shop, 367 South st ave. East, Coilan & Hopkins, 10 W. Michigan St.

A large number of union men are employed, and are paying part of their wages to support those on strike. At a recent meeting it was reported that they had a job done by a couple of scabs now working for Walker Jamar. The Duluth Herald supported by the workers of the community is aiding the Exchange to break the backbone of the labor movement.

### A Building Trades Council.

On March 30th, evening the following delegates representing practically every building craft in the city, met at Trades Union Hall, 22 East 1st St. for the purpose of framing a Building Trades Council.

The organizations were represented as follows:

#### Asbestos Workers.

Ben Swanson, Jas Jentoft, John Evenson.

#### Carpenters.

Alex Johnson, Abe Jappe, Nels Aspelund.

#### Hoisting Engineers.

J. H. Waigle, D. Needham, Elmer Starstead.

#### Electrical Workers.

A. C. Ritchie, E. Woollette, John Pellus.

#### Plasterers.

Theo Harrison, H. Anderson, R. Dinham.

#### Painters.

E. Munkeby, Edw. J. Soltan, Joel Lichten.

#### Elevator Constructors.

Geo. Smith, Wm. Wares, Walter Langdon.

#### Sheet Metal Workers.

Albert Young, E. Ducham, W. Hease.

#### Structural Iron Workers.

F. C. Barrett, Fred Torrance.

#### Bricklayers.

S. Ramstad, Chas. Uzzolo, H. Jahr.

Henry Perault, chairman of the Organization Committee of the Trades Assembly, who was instructed by the Assembly to bring the

## SENATOR FRANCE CHAMPIONS AMNESTY

Senator Joseph I. France of Maryland has consented to address the meeting of the Amnesty delegations on April 13, in Washington, D. C.

"The spirit of cooperation alone will lead us out of the maze of reaction which has hampered progress and denied growth during the past several years", said the Senator.

"All men and women, regardless of political affiliations have fundamental principles in common. Among these may be enumerated the rights of free speech, free expression of opinion and assemblage. I know many Democrats and Republicans who will take their stand with all righteous and intelligent people on these questions. Men who, despite their politics, consider the question of political amnesty of paramount importance and who will co-operate with the organized amnesty forces to the end that political prisoners be freed and that war time restrictions of speech and press be abolished."

Of President Harding, the Senator said, "I am sure the President will be actuated by the desire for truth, justice and good will."

Senator France then went on to express his pleasure that various labor and civic groups have already agreed to work side by side in the general movement for Amnesty.

building crafts together for that purpose presided over the gathering.

After some discussion, the delegates were unanimous that a Building Trades Council was on absolute necessity if the building crafts are to survive the present open shop movement.

The delegates from the Plasterers and Bricklayers stated that they were under instructions to report back to their respective unions. They assured the delegation that they will recommend affiliation with the Council.

The delegates of the Carpenter Union did not want to commit themselves as to what recommendation they will make.

We would suggest, that progressive trade unionists within the carpenters Union keep a close eye upon the doings of some of their delegates. It would open their eyes a little if members would make it a point to visit the Trades Assembly meetings to see whether there ought not to be a change in the delegation. What is true about the Assembly, will be true about the Building Trades Council.

The delegates representing unions who had instructions signed the charter application. It was decided to hold it in abeyance until the other unions have a chance to act on the report of their delegates.

## For General Amnesty

(Continued from page 1)

I wanted it for other women. I believe in the political method. I wanted the vote for myself and want the enfranchisement of all disfranchised classes, negroes and others, because I think the only way in which we can settle our big problems is by allowing all the people not only to think, but to think publicly, in writing and in speech.

Now there is one thing I should like to say. It seems to me there is a feeling in your mind that on the whole we are appealing for the release of people whose acts you and others may construe as having in some way been detrimental to the prosecution of the war. I think that is really an error. We feel that these people are kept in prison at this time, two years after the armistice, not because of anything that they did which might have tended to hinder the successful prosecution of the war. Most of these people continue to be kept in prison because of their social, political, and economic views. Some of these people have been prosecuted for offenses committed long after the war was over, and for offenses which had nothing whatever to do with the war. I want to cite one case, that just on its bare face seems to me one of the most extreme things that ever occurred. That is the prosecution of three men from Syracuse, New York, who, two

years after the armistice, circulated handbills, not relating to the war or the causes of the war or its prosecution or in any way touching the war, but circulated at a mass meeting circulars asking for the release of political prisoners. These men and women were doing precisely the same thing in a public hall that we in this room are doing today.

Senator STERLING: You say they were prosecuted?

Miss WITHERSPOON: They were prosecuted and convicted last January under the espionage act, and their offense consisted in circulating a handbill which contained quotations from the Constitution and quotations from President Wilson's utterances regarding freedom of speech. According to that, those who are here today, if we had not in a sense been invited here and were not therefore in a sense your guests, might also be prosecuted, since the espionage act, is still in force, and we might be convicted under that act.

Senator STERLING: Was the purpose of those handbills to create a sentiment in favor of the release of political prisoners?

Miss WITHERSPOON: Precisely that. In spite of the promises of the Attorney General, the espionage act is still enforced, persons are still being convicted, and while this is a very extreme case, there are other cases which can be matched up with it. As Mr. Lee has said, it is not a question here whether the war emergency justified the passage of this law and similar laws or not. The question before us is, Is it the proper policy for the American Nation to pursue, to continue to convict under this espionage act, to continue to hold in prison men and women whose offenses date back more than two years ago?

Senator STERLING: Let me ask you this question: Is not nearly all the discussion relating to the espionage act, and convictions and prosecutions under the espionage act?

Miss WITHERSPOON: Yes.

Senator STERLING: Some of these prosecutions and convictions have been under the selective service act. What you say as to that?

Miss WITHERSPOON: You probably know that all the conscientious objectors have been now freed. The men whose consciences would not permit them to take part in the war have been freed. The men who are not freed are men whose opinions are known to be a variance with the opinions of the majority in this country on social and political questions. But I do just want to ask you to bear in mind that some of us who are not in Congress, who are just Americans outside, who hold no political office in Washington, are very seriously concerned about the future of this country if we continue this era of suppression. And far from growing less, it seems to some of us that it is growing more intense all the time. (By National Office Press Service.)

## NEXT SUNDAY

### J. O. BENTALL

Will speak at WORKERS HALL on "The Strike of the Unemployed" Dealing with the new method adopted by the people because of the failure of the capitalist class to properly manage the business of the world.

Admission free till 8 o'clock. Thereafter 15 and 35 cents.

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A Journal of Revolutionary Industrial Unionism. Published by the Industrial Workers of the World.

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I'll further notice TRUTH will give FREE a copy of Bishop Brown's book, "Communism and Christianity" to every OLD subscriber who sends in his own yearly renewal and one new sub, and a book to the new subscriber also.

This offer holds good for every new subscriber who sends in his own and our new. Each get a book.

Every reader thus gets TRUTH for one whole year and a copy of "Communism and Christianity" for \$2.

You never get better value for your hard earned dollars in your life. It will give you inspiration and knowledge that you will never forget.

Take advantage of this offer while it lasts.

Address TRUTH, Duluth, Minn.

## To Readers of Truth

### A HEART TO HEART TALK

In these days, when the value of the dollar is only 60 cents as compared with pre-war prices, the workingmen, and especially their wives, ought to make an investigation how to get the most for their money.

"Think before you act", is our advice to our customers. We have been in business for a number of years. We know the conditions as they are today and as we are interested in the well fare of the working people of the community, we would want you to invest your 60 cent dollars in one hundred cent merchandise.

Whether you intend to buy now, later or never, we would appreciate if you would pay us a visit one of these days, and you will be sure in your own mind that at Litman's your dollar goes farther than anywhere else in the City.

Come Now!

A. Y. LITMAN

1831 W. Sup. St.,

The Store Where The Workingmen Trade



## MANY SIGN AMNESTY PETITIONS

"Among the signers of petitions are many prominent people. Famous writers, such as Booth Tarkington and Zona Gale. Scientists, such as Charles P. Steinmetz and noted individuals such as Helen Keller. Our former Assistant Attorney General, Francis Fisher Kane, has signed and Jackson R. Ralston, lawyer of Washington, D. C. says:

"I am prepared to believe that Mr. Debs was indiscreet in his utterances during the progress of the war that he was criminally traitorous, I do not believe, and would believe such a thing of extremely few American born. For his indiscretion, which has amounted to nothing more than the exercise in time of war of that freedom of speech which we are accustomed to in time of peace. — Mr. Debs has been severely punished. Our enmity toward the Germans ceased abruptly with the 11th of November, 118. For those who fought against us, if captive, prison doors were opened. Does any good reason exist for continuing at such a late day as this, punishment against an American who never assisted the Germans with intent and whose aid to them was of no demonstrated practical value, and could only be implied from the surrounding circumstances.

"So far as humanly possible every vestige remaining of war spirit and action should be done away with and to this end, the release of Debs would be an important element."

## Sweden Scenes at Shriners Auditorium April 17th, 1921

A tour of Sweden, with authentic pictures of the life of the people and the chronicle of such events as the death of Anders Zor, the great painter, and of Margaret, the crown princess, is to be given on the screen at the Shriners Auditorium Sunday afternoon and evening April 21st. The pictures are filmed by the Scandinavian Film Central of Stockholm and undertake to be an epic of Sweden's national life. The travelogue takes on added interest because of its completeness, variety and color effects. Accurate details of peasant life, tours of Karlstad, Stockholm, winter scenes taken under a midnight sun, depicting winter sports, these interwoven with the historical legends of the north make up the program.

## The Industrial Pioneer

A Journal of Revolutionary Industrial Unionism. Published by the Industrial Workers of the World. The only 64-page illustrated magazine in America with a clear-cut program of "workers' control" of industry. — Prints authentic information about the labor movement in all countries. Subscription price \$2.50 per year, 25c per single copy; bundle orders, 15c per copy, non-refundable; express charges "collect". The Industrial Pioneer, 1001 West Madison St., Chicago, Ill., or ask your newsdealer.

## FIXALL Is So Easy To Use

Just slip on an apron, open the can and start the beautifying process. Almost like magic you see the results.

Apply it to anything dingy around the home. It renews the natural color or changes the wood to any desired shade.

A 15c can will refinish a chair or small table. The 85c size holds eight times as much and will renew all the furniture in the room.

The gallon can, which costs \$3.00 is enough to go over the floor, chairs and all the woodwork in a room.

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1/2 pint 15c, up to gallons at \$3.00

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## THE NAVY STEAM ROLLER

The Navy Department will make no compromise with the "sincere fools" who are talking disarmament. When the Colorado, our newest 32,600 ton dreadnought, slid into the water recently at Camden, Assistant Secretary Theodore Roosevelt voiced his view of disarmament advocates thus: "Some of these people are perfectly sincere pacifists, some of them are perfectly sincere fools, same thing." Next day President Harding told a delegation of Philadelphia Quakers that the United States could not make naval reductions without the cooperation of other powers.

These are no words without deeds. After a session of the council of the Secretary of the Navy on March 16, Secretary Denby announced that the department would ask Congress to adopt the naval appropriation bill as amended by the Senate Committee and killed by Senators Borah and King. What this means the country does not realize. The Senate bill adds \$100,000,000 to the \$326,000,000 carried by the House bill. It provides for 12,000 men instead of 100,000. It carries \$90,000,000 for the continuation of the 1916 program and adds to it two airplane carriers at a cost of \$26,000,000 each. It makes the initial appropriations for great naval developments in the Pacific, notably a new naval base at Alameda, which will cost \$100,000,000 by the time it is done. Senator King declares that it will require a billion to complete the 1916 program and another half billion for the necessary yards and docks. His estimate for annual maintenance is at least \$500,000,000.

There is a sharp intimation that the navy is to be concentrated in the Pacific. Not only does this mean further expense; it is a definite threat to Japan. Naval officers are talking in their usual mischievous way of war with that country within three years.

The naval policy of the administration is already clear. Nothing but Congress stands between the people and the proposed orgy of spending which will surely culminate in war. Imperialistic business drives the navy steam roller steadily forward. Only a great popular movement can hurl the driver from his seat and reverse the machine. There are signs of such a movement.

## Crooks and Criminals

(Continued from page 1)

Walter Scott Perry, Kentucky. Embezzling funds of a national bank.

The \$3,000 embezzled having been restored, the sentence was commuted to giving liberty at once.

George F. McKim, Missouri.

Making false entries in books of a national bank to cover embezzlement.

Sentence, five years in the penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas.

Department says money embezzled was returned with interest. Pardon to take effect at once.

Maxwell B. Webster, Tennessee. Embezzlement of funds of a national bank.

Five years in the United States penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga.

Reduced to 18 months.

Irvin T. Piper, Michigan. Embezzling funds of national bank and making false entries.

Clemency recommended on ground of health during the first year of his sentence.

William H. Lewis, West Virginia. Embezzling funds of a national bank.

Given five years in penitentiary. Sentence commuted to expire Nov. 25, 1919.

T. W. Boone, Arkansas. Aiding and abetting the making of a false report to the comptroller of the treasury.

Seven years in the penitentiary. The petitioner's private fortune was lost in the ruin of this bank and the crime was pardoned on the ground that he had suffered sufficiently in losing his wealth.

Jefferson W. Scriber, Oregon. Misappropriating funds of a national bank.

Seven years in the penitentiary. Release on parole.

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A Travelogue Feature Motion Picture.

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Genuine Reed Carriage, Steel Wheels, Rubber Tires, Natural Regular price \$48.00 — SPECIAL \$31.50  
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WE are here to give good service. — We have a large stock of all kinds of Apples, Oranges and vegetables. We have a full line of Canned Goods. You can save 15 to 20 per cent on the Dollar by buying here.

We are selling the very best Apples at ... \$2.25 per box. We deliver. Give us a trial.

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Has written a new book

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In which he has told how and why the last war was made, and how and why

## The Next War

Is going to take place

The book is readable and convincing; packed with information, and published at a price that enables you to buy it and to give it away.

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Hall, Cor. 19th Ave.

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THE CREAM AND IS

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Making all kinds of the best

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Try this new West End Bak-

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Time Checks Cashed.



# TRUTH

Issued Weekly By The West End Labor Association.  
J. O. BENTALL, Editor.

Application made for entry in Post-office as second-class mail matter

Subscription: 1 year \$2.00. — 6 months \$1.00.



## ENGLAND GAVE HIM THREE.

William Gallacher said about all he wanted to in speeches thruout the British Empire and advised the workers to go right ahead and bring on the revolution.

Gallacher is a member of the Communist party and makes no bones of it. He does not hesitate to advocate a violent revolution if that is necessary to free the workers.

Here are some of the things he said:

"My advice to you is to get organized and get hold of the land and industry of this country. Let us march like our Russian comrades did, determined to overthrow the capitalist system and establish a similar system to that of Russia."

The speech contained these passages: "We are out for revolution. I don't care a damn for Lloyd George. I say Lloyd George is a murderer. We want Irishmen here because they can use their fists and other things if necessary." "Again I say, 'Up with Sinn Fein! Up with Rebellion! Up with Revolution!' March onwards, you workers, and take possession of all."

Gallacher's defense was that he had the legal right to preach violent revolution if he wanted to.

Don't they sizzle? How would the plutes in this country take that kind of agitation.

Our workers got from ten to twenty years for talking peace and good will and organization. No word of violence by them. Gallacher got three months.

Let's get our prisoners out. No country in the world holds prisoners for offenses such as Debs and the I. W. W. have committed. They have asked for nothing but their rights. They have asked for their rights in a peaceable way.

It would be quite immoral to take the Hamon and the stillman scandals out of the newspapers and put them into the movies.

## WILL THEY BE PROSECUTED?

We are publishing in another column the "Special Bulletin" of the Minnesota Building Employers Association.

This document is worth reading. It should be studied carefully by every worker in the state.

Then the workers should make up their minds that there is no class struggle in America. That this is a country where there is no room for any classes and that those who talk class divisions should be sent back to the country they came from.

Always be sure that you send the right man back. First of all send the bosses of the building industry back to the old country — any old place.

Now it was our intention to call your attention to the fact that the bosses have violated the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, and also the pretty Lever Act that acted so potently in the steel and coal strikes against the workers.

We would suggest to the district attorney that here is a fine chance to get after the fellows who are the real violators of the law. The judge might get into a hurry and issue a bench warrant and have the gents responsible for the "Special Bulletin" sleep on the solid beds in the jail over night.

We know well enuf that if labor had come out like that it would not have taken long for the saints of "law and order" to fill the dungeons. If labor had gone so brazen as to stop the building business there would have gone forth a mighty yelp by the patriots and the Americanized Americans of the scab importers.

"Do it for Duluth," gents. Get your scabs and fill the town with bums. Leave your workers out on the streets and starve them into submission. Do that if you can.

But remember you have to do it quick. The day is getting uncomfortably close when you will have no such past-time as you have now. You are helping to make the workers sick and tired of the treatment you are giving them.

They know well enough that you got the contracts on the basis of the high wages and that the cut you now make is slipped into your own pockets. The workers are not all asleep. They have watched you pretty close.

Now when you holler for cut in wages the workers know that you are only robbing them of what they are entitled to. You got the contracts and your price on the strength of the prevailing wages of last year. Labor helped you to get big figure in your contract, didn't it? Now you reward labor by cutting it to the marrow. Have you gone back and reduced the price of your contract to the other party? Or are you just stealing the margin that you cut out of the worker? These are pretty pertinent questions. You might as well get ready to answer them. Labor is getting ready to make its reply. It will be a reply that you don't expect.

If the district attorney or the judge should find themselves taken with a spasm of fairness and land you in jail we shall try to get you out. It would not do you any good to remain in jail. In the near future we shall put you to work doing useful work instead of advertising for scabs and importing thugs. We are going to take over the industries and run them ourselves, and we shall give you the chance to earn your bread for once. You will honor us for that, wont you; It's more than you are giving us.

## RECENT ELECTIONS.

Returns from different parts of the country show that the howlers against labor have not the easy walk-away they once had.

Here in Duluth the workers candidates won by large margins. The Lincoln Club and Chamber of Commerce candidates didn't have a peep in. Ward was unfortunate enuf to be endorsed by the Lincoln Club and big Biz. This outfit threw the usual dirt and used the American Legion to smear on the tar and feathers. The Legion isn't able to muster very many votes. Less than half as many as the workers.

Snively is a fairminded and clean man and has a fine record as a citizen. Labor backed him. He got 13,390 votes.

Ward was the big Biz man and was backed by the American Legion and the Lincoln club. He got 6,019 votes. This was about 6,000 too many.

Phillips and Merritt were also on the people's side. The American Legion fought them hard and lost.

In the Butte the workers won in the same way. The howl of Bolshevism and "red" by the plutes made votes for the workers candidates. The slimy capitalists will have to get new words to scare the workers with.

Anyhow it shows the way the wind is blowing.

Bernard Shaw says that he almires Nicolai Lenin and Winston Churchill above all others, because "they seize governments first and talk afterwards"

# WERE THE WAR OBJECTORS RIGHT?

What did they do, those workers who are in prison? What is their crime if it is a crime?

Did they oppose the war? They will admit that they did. It will be very popular in the future to have a record that shows opposition to the war. It is a popular record already. It will be very unpopular in a little while to have pushed that war. There is one very unpopular war pusher already feeling the sting of that unpopularity.

Let us look at this business a little. Let us see if that war was a benefit to this or any other country. Let us find out if it paid. Would we have been better off if we had not gone into that war? That is a very pertinent question.

Let us ask another question. Would we have been better off if we had listened to those who are now in prison?

It is settled that the war was not for humanitarian purposes. Only fools or hypocrites will insist that we entered into the war out of sympathy for the oppressed. Even the discredited tool who sank to the depth of the lowest character in all history has said so. Woodrow Wilson, at the Coliseum, St. Louis, Mo., September 5, 1919 said:

"Why, my fellow citizens, is there any man here or any woman — let me say, is there any child, who does not know that the seed of war in the modern world is industrial and commercial rivalry? . . . This war was a commercial and industrial war. It was not a political war."

That is what Wilson said. He knew better than any other man, for he had to sell himself body and soul to the industrial and commercial brigands who used him as a tool.

We were told that it was a war to help poor Belgium. Did we help Belgium?

We were told it was a war to destroy the kaiser. Did we destroy the kaiser?

We were told it was a war to do away with Prussian militarism. Did we do away with Prussian militarism? Have we not instead enlarged and expanded militarism till today it is a greater world menace than it has ever been in all history?

We were told that this war was to destroy all wars. Are we not on the volcano of war and are there not more wars now than ever before?

We were told that this war was to give liberty to the people of the earth. Has there ever been such slavery and oppression as there exists now?

Have we gotten any of the things that were promised to us? Has one pledge been kept?

We got nothing of what was promised to us. We got just the opposite.

We got 22,000 new millionaires and 5,000,000 unemployed. We got \$5,000,000,000 of debts and stagnation in our industries. We got 200,000 crippled soldiers and an empty cupboard for them. We got sky high prices for our living and hell low wages for our labor. We got profiteers and preachers. We got blue laws and the flu. We got pestilence and prohibitionless prohibition. We got hunger and poverty and taxes and closed factories and open shops. We got beaten and bunked and fooled and kicked and killed.

Did it pay?

Would we not have been better off if we had not gone into the war? Would we not? Who is so blind that he can not see that?

The crime of our fellow workers in jail is that they objected to this war. They told the people that it was a bad war — as bad as all wars. It has proven to be worse.

The judges said that no one was to speak during the war unless he boosted the war. The law said that there should be no obstruction. The judges said that speaking against the war was obstruction.

Our fellow workers saw that we were heading toward the abyss. They said so. If they had been heeded there would have been no war. We would then have avoided all the suffering and all the destruction and world ruin that we got. The whole world would have been saved a lot of woe and death. It would have been a blessing to the war lords themselves if our war objectors had been able to save off the war.

What would have happened if all the drafted men had refused to obey the draft? Would not that have been a blessing to the world? Some day when there is an attempt by the profiteers to put over another war, the boys will not respond. They have learned a lesson.

The crime of all crimes is to call upon men to die in a commercial war. This was such a war according to Wilson. The crime of killing young men to get commercial advantage will some day be properly punished. It is not right to kill young men for profit. It will dawn more and more that all our boys died for profit. Died to make 22,000 new millionaires, not to make the world safe for democracy.

It is during such times that every man should have the right to speak freely. If his speech could stop the war so much the better. A war that can be stopped by speech should be stopped. A necessary war cannot be stopped by speech. Only a bad war can be stopped by speech. Men need not be drafted into a necessary war. They will volunteer.

Looking back now upon that awful murder game it seems impossible that a whole nation could have been made to participate in it. The results are so screamingly vicious. The method used was so outrageously criminal that not even time itself can atone for it or blot out its memory.

Now the men in prison call for freedom. Now the people on the outside cry for justice. The whole world is clad in sackcloth and ashes — except the profiteers. We are all ashamed of the botch we made of the butcher job. It did not pan out the way we expected. Many of us knew it wouldn't. We raised our voices against it and were jailed.

The time is here when the war objectors must be set free. If any must linger in prison let the perpetrators of the war be put in. But those who were right should not suffer because they told the country the truth.

## HOUSE SHORTAGE.

Congress has taken up the question of housing. That is very strange. It is very strange that the private building associations have not supplied the people with houses. And again it might be a little strange to remember that when the North Dakota Legislature took up the matter of housing for the people there was a horrible howl like that of a pack of dying wolves. It was socialistic and anarchistic and bolshevistic and would destroy the family and religion and kill god and bust the government and choke the fires of the sun and nationalize the women.

It was, wasn't it?

Now the government has discovered that there must be built at least 1,000,000 houses at once. There are over 2,000,000 families without homes or a place to live — right here in big fine America. Over 10,000,000 people counting children and women, who need homes in America. The Government has taken it up. There are now ten bills submitted to the senate committee for consideration. The situation is so acute and so serious that congressional action must be taken.

Senators Edge, Calder and Kenyon have come with a report that has shocked the whole country. The report calls for a million houses. Ten bills have also come.

But no houses!

Reports and bills and laws and investigations — but no houses.

We are just contrary and stupid enuf to suggest that we never saw people live in reports and investigations. Nor have we ever seen people live in bills. In all the ten bills hastened to the senate committee there isn't room and shelter for so much as one child.

Moreover we venture another sure guess and that is that there will not be built any houses by congress. There will be no relief for the people thru the ten bills that are before the senate committee.

We read about the awful bolsheviks and their effort to build houses. They were short of houses when the czar pulled out. It is true that the people got a lot of extra rooms after the aristocracy had been made to return some of the stolen houses, but it was not enuf.

But we do not hear of ten bills coming before the sovjets to house the people in. They simply built houses and are busy yet building houses.

There are over 5,000,000 men in this country now idle and anxious to build houses. But they get no chance. They are told to keep still and remain idle. They cannot move without the consent of the masters.

Why not write out about ten bills that will give the workers a right to build houses? It is only the workers who can build anyhow. The bills do not know how to build.

Turn the workers loose and let them build. The 5,000,000 now idle can build 1,000,000 houses in twenty days. Five men can build a rattling good house in twenty days. Try it. Let them go to it. Use a little good brains. Quit fooling with us like that. Let the workers go to work and there will be no shortage in housing.

## MARY'S NEW BOOK.

Mary wrote a little book,

She jammed it full of stuff.

It caused the jobless dubs to look

And treat the bosses rough.

The new pamphlet written by Mary Marcy is entitled "Open the Factories." This booklet deals with the present crisis and the problem of unemployment in a masterly manner. The author puts the facts into simple and striking language so that the workers can understand. It is published by Chas H. Kerr & Co., 341 East Ohio St., Chicago. 10 cents a copy

## COME WITH US.

This issue of TRUTH goes in to the hands of thousands of workers for the first time. You have never seen it before. You are glad you saw it now. You will be glad to see it every week, wont you? And so will we. We hope you will be able to send us your subscription right away before you lay the paper aside and forget about it.

TRUTH fills a place in the revolutionary movement in America that is unique. TRUTH openly declares for the overthrow of the present capitalist system. It does not believe in patching it up. If you think this decaying system can be patched up you will not like TRUTH. It will bother you a great deal and give you no rest of mind if you have any.

TRUTH stands four square for the industrial form of organization on the economic field. It realizes that the workers must adopt such methods as will give them power to demand their rights, and demand them in an effective way. The workers must also be trained to take full charge of industry when the capitalist system has ceased to function.

TRUTH stands four square for Communism. It realizes that there can be no middle-of-the-road arrangement in the economic world. All the earth must belong to all the workers. All the people of the earth must be workers and not some shirkers. No loafing by any class and no advantage taken by any class over the weak and helpless.

TRUTH is in line with the Third International and supports Soviet Russia and the world revolution. It is convinced that Communism cannot thrive in any one country as long as capitalism attacks it on all sides. That Communism must be international and thus develop into its full fruition.

TRUTH declares that the working class must capture the capitalist state and establish their own state till the class antagonisms have been destroyed and till there remains no further need for the state. During this period of transition there must be the Dictatorship of the Proletariat. It is folly to think that the capitalist class will give up possession of the wrongfully owned industries without a struggle. In this struggle there must be a well disciplined working class and a clear visioned and firm leadership. The task is no sundayschool play and no lazy man's job. It will mean sacrifice and hardship and much study and much training. The workers must prepare for this.

It is to reach the workers with this message that TRUTH exists. It is the child of the loyal workers in Duluth who recognize the imperative need of the change from capitalism to the worker's Republic. Come with us. It will do you good. You will enjoy the fight and rejoice in the victory. Send in your subscription now. \$2 for one year; \$1 for six months; 25 cents for ten weeks.

Never has there been such opportunity offered the workers to spread the truth of a sane system among their fellows. The time is pushing us forward and we must act. Soon we shall celebrate, not only the release of the political and class war prisoners, but the release of all mankind from the dungeon of capitalism.

## SAYS IT IS THE BEST.

Dear TRUTH:

I am enclosing money order for \$4 to renew my subscription to TRUTH for another year and also for one new sub for J. H. F. Wenzel, Austin, Texas. Please send each of us a copy of the book "Communism and Christianity." TRUTH is the best paper I can get. Yours for the Cause, M. L. Mathews, Austin, Tex.

In a letter from comrade Gaumer, McGrew, Neb., we find the following items: We have taken TRUTH for two years and would miss it sadly. We are feeling the depression of the times but so far we have been able to keep warm and prevent the wolf of hunger from entering, but the fut-

ure is almost hopeless at the best we can do. One of our boys shipped a cow hide to market, and his son sent some skunk pelts with it. The cow hide was worth 65 cents less than the express charges, so the 65 cents were taken from the worth of the pelts.

Do you know whether Ben Salmon is still alive? saw him in Denver three years ago. He registered as per order June 5, 1917. Then he wrote to Wilson, saying: "I will not go any further. I will not kill my fellow men, I have a wife and a mother to support and could be exempted on that plea, but that I will not do."

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

It's a pity that some of the boys who went to war for what they thought was a good purpose should now be further fooled into continuous service of their own traducers and lend themselves to the ranting hypocrites among the criminal profiteers.

It appears that the plutes needed someone to do the dirty work in this country and the American Legion has been chosen to do that dirty work.

It would be unfair to believe that the soldier boys have themselves planned the mobbing and tar and feather program laid out by the Legion. It would be unfair to the boys to charge them with the insane invectives against the Constitution and all the decencies of civilization now laid at their door by the rape press.

The pirate press credits the soldier boys with the assaults upon the I. W. W., upon the Nonpartisan League, upon the Communists, upon the labor unions upon political opponents, upon the conscientious objectors, upon the political prisoners and upon all the individuals and organizations that are hated by the profiteers.

When these profiteers wanted to raid the offices of the I. W. W. they hid behind the legion boys and sacrificed them in the struggle. They were too skulky cowards to go and do that dirty work themselves and preferred to have the boys do it. The profiteering brigands of America are too lazy to stir up mobs and too cowardly to go into the tar and feather sprees and so they have fooled the Legion boys to do those things. They hated to dirty their Christian robes by persecuting the conscientious objectors and so they got the Legion boys to degrade themselves with that job.

Locally here in Duluth the plute gang did not want to come out in the open to throw filthy lies against one of the candidates for commissioner and again that gang wrote up the stuff and signed the name of the Legion to it.

Just now when the whole country is anxious to rid itself of one of the blackest crimes that has ever been committed by tyrants in all history the brigand press puts forth the Legion as a shelter against public opinion and declares that the American Legion is against the release of political prisoners.

Here is the way the Duluth News Tribune of Tuesday morning skulks behind the Legion:

The American Legion in Illinois, according to its state commander, is unalterably opposed to clemency for E. V. Debs, under sentence at Atlanta penitentiary. The Illinois Legionnaires desire that National Commander Galbraith inform President Harding that the Legion not only objects to consideration for Debs, but for any and all others "convicted of disloyalty to the government during the war."

Nothing could be more plain. Unquestionably, the attitude of the Department of Illinois is the attitude of the Department of Minnesota and of all other state organizations.

The Tribune knows that every decent or even half decent newspaper in America takes the stand for amnesty at this time. It would be too raw for the Tribune to come out and oppose that without a camouflage. So it makes a goat out of the Legion. It is slimy work. It is quite low. It is pretty dirty.

By this time the Legion has been so discredited thru the use made of it by the profiteering brigands that all self-respecting soldiers have left it and joined the World War Veterans. Only those who are willing to be the tools of the robber crew will remain in the Legion. Few will remain as soon as they get wise. It is not the organization for the boys who were honest and sincere when they went to war. Most of them have discovered very startling reasons for that war. They will never forget.

We hate to see good boys made the shields for the hold-up plutes who care nothing for the boys. Who would not as much as urge a paltry bonus for the boys. We hate to see the boys fooled into doing the dirty work for the profiteers.

## CLIP THIS OUT

Clip out the following petition and send to President Harding, Washington D. C.

President Warren G. Harding,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Believing that you are willing to listen to the voice of the people and that your aim is to serve the interests of justice and equity I hereby join with vast multitudes of other citizens in asking you to proclaim a general amnesty for all political prisoners now in prison or out on bail pending decisions of the courts. It is my feeling that only thru freedom of speech, guaranteed us by the Constitution can we hope to weather the storms and make this nation safe for its inhabitants to live in.

It is because you have already, since assuming the office of president, acted in many ways in a manner that shows you to be a justice loving and a liberty loving man that I am encouraged to write you in behalf of our incarcerated victims whose only crime is that they have stood for peace and championed the cause of suffering humanity.

The American people, with comparatively few exceptions, are in favor of a general amnesty for political offenders and it is my firm belief that you will not only serve the ends of justice by a proclamation of amnesty but endear yourself in the hearts of your countrymen.

Trusting that you may be lead to act in accordance with the overwhelming and reasonable wish of the people of this country, I am

Very Sincerely,

Date .....  
City .....  
State .....

Sign the above, date it and give address then put into an envelope addressed to the president and mail. Do it now. Get your neighbors to do it. Flood the White House with those petitions.