

OFFICERS HANG SOLDIERS AND INSULT NURSES

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SOLDIERS HUNG AND NURSES RAPED IN "MOST JUST WAR"

Democracy Made Holy By Pets of Profiteers Who Insulted Women and Strangled Men.

By United Press.
Washington, Nov. 5. — A bitter attack on General Pershing and Secretary Weeks was made in the senate tonight by Senator Tom Watson of Georgia.

Watson repeated his charge that in "too many cases army nurses had been made the courtesans of officers," which previously had been characterized by Secretary Weeks as a statement that "no sane man would make." The Georgian read a score of letters which he said supported his charge.

Decency at Issue.

"I don't know the antecedents of the secretary of war," said Watson, "but I am willing to submit mine and his to any tribunal, and I dare say they will compare with his in decency. I have no respect for a judge who would announce his decision before taking testimony."

Watson said he wished to remind General Pershing that he was "not my superior and no longer in France." Pershing should remember that the senate had the power to reprimand him for denouncing a senator, he said.

"I will not lower myself to the level of either Weeks or Pershing by indulging in abuse," declared the senator.

Georgian Fiery.

The fiery Georgian insisted on the truth of his statements that "army nurses were forced to submit to in dignities of officers and to neglect the wounded and dying soldiers," and produced a letter from a woman in Richmond, Va., as evidence.

The writer stated that she had been an army nurse for a year, seven months being spent overseas. She declared that officers made "courtesans of nurses wherever possible," and that nurses who rejected advances were submitted to all manner of indignities.

Photograph Produced.

"Senators would burn with indignation if I related the attempted assaults of officers upon nurses," declared Watson.

The photograph of a gallows sent him by an ex-service man in Huntington, W. Va., was produced by Watson. He said it showed "an arrangement for three men to be hanged at once."

"It seems that they had as many gibbets as hospitals in France."

An affidavit from Clifford Layton, a Georgia ex-service man, swearing that 21 soldiers were hanged in France without trial was produced by Watson.

"EUROPE A CAGE WHERE WILD BEASTS FIGHT OVER GNAWED BONES"

London, Nov. 5. — "Europe today, three years since the end of the war and two since the peace treaty was signed, presents a picture of a cage in which wild beasts fight over a gnawed bone while their keepers stand by, sometimes throwing them another bone and sometimes calling them to order with a whip."

Without further rhetoric, the executive of the Third Internationale elucidates the picture in its brief "thesis" on the Washington conference, says The Daily Herald, which gives a synopsis of the Executive's thesis as follows:

New Grouping of Powers Predicted.

"The League of Nations is as dead as the German dream of Mitteleuropa. Neither Germany nor England has achieved the capitalist ideal of organizing the world in such a way as to leave the nations free to prey upon one another without the attendant inconveniences of armaments and war threats."

So now the United States (having produced the League of Nations and then disowned it) is leading a new attempt to solve the perennial problem which for the moment is centered upon the Pacific.

"The Washington conference will not result in a solution of the problem, but only in a new grouping of powers and sharpening of opposing elements. What are these elements and why are they driven to meet just now at Washington?"

"Take first America, which in 1919 saw no reason for sharing in the responsibilities of European politics, but now is ready to confer with the Allies and even to occupy herself with Silesia and Russia. Whence the change?"

"The answer is simple. During the war half the world became America's debtors, but at present these debtors are too poor to pay

their debts. During the war America seized the lion's share of the world trade, but now she finds Europe too poor to be her customer. America therefore desires the prosperity of Europe. She also desires new markets in the East.

"Why does England go to Washington? England, in order to win the war, had to call in the help of her colonies, who thereby achieved the right to a voice in her foreign policy. Their interests, however, are not always those of the mother country. England wants Japan as an ally in order to strengthen herself against America, her most respectable trade rival, but Canadian capital is linked up with American capital, while for Australia Japan is the supreme enemy, and America therefore the most desirable of friends."

"Yet England must cling to support of her colonies because with the military power of German capitalism destroyed, French capitalism is all powerful on the Continent of Europe. France is already turning Poland, Czechoslovakia and Rumania into vassal States, and threatening British interest in the East. France and America together could reduce Great Britain to utter helplessness."

Seeks to Form Anglo-Saxon Trust.

"Therefore England goes to Washington in the hope of forming a great Anglo-Saxon trust with the United States, which will do for her what she has done for the world."

"In fact if she is successful, the Washington conference will result in an English-American-Japanese alliance made at the expense of Soviet Russia and of China. If this does not happen then the present antagonism between England and America, England and Japan and England and France will re-emerge in acute form. If it does, the problems represented by France's military domination of Europe and her threats to England in the East will still be there."

"In short the Washington conference will not bring about substantial disarmament and lasting peace."

STATE BESEIGES COURTHOUSE TO PREJUDICE PUBLIC FEELING

Outrageous Plot to Railroad Sacco and Vanzetti to Electric Chair Stirs All Nations

By Eugene Lyons.

Boston, Nov. 4. — The courthouse in Dedham, Mass., and all the roads leading to it are in a state of siege, with mounted State constabulary, riot squads, and the rest of the terror brigades patrolling the neighborhood, as counsel for Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti, the two workmen whose conviction on a far-fetched charge of murder has roused the proletariat of all nations, argue for a new trial before Judge Webster Thayer.

The hysterical precautions against dangers which do not exist except in the imaginations of alarmist newspaper editors have transformed the court so that it looks like a military camp prepared for battle, rather than a

hall of justice. The presiding judge, although he has denied the fake stories of threats against his life, is heavily guarded. Among those who were searched for hidden weapons as they entered the room were many prominent New Englanders, among them John Godman, chairman of the local Civil Liberties Union, Mrs. Elizabeth Glendower Evans and Mrs. William James, the widow of the great psychologist and philosopher.

It is in such an atmosphere that the appeal for a new trial was made by attorneys Fred H. Moore and J. J. McAnarney, on the ground that the evidence introduced against their clients did not warrant the verdict. They berated the court for its refusal to grant separate trials for the two defendants, the evidence against them being of a different nature. Mr. McAnarney asserted that the jury was undoubtedly influenced by the halo of terror thrown around the prisoners. Mr. Moore analyzed in detail the testimony against the men, showing how flimsy and untenable it is.

"Do you wonder," he declared, "why the whole world stands aghast at the verdict, when a jury accepts the unsubstantial declarations of such witnesses as Splaine, Dolbear, Mrs. Andrews, and crushes aside scores of reliable witnesses on the other side?"

Mary Eva Splaine was one of the prosecution's star witnesses against Sacco, whom she claimed to identify. She had only gotten a glimpse of a speeding automobile from her vantage point in an upper story window; the car was covered over; yet she testified to such detail as the muscularity of his arm. In a

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AFTER THE STRIKE IS OVER

Chicago, Nov. 8. — Managers of the Western group of railroads met here yesterday and decided upon the immediate posting of notices of wage reductions of 10 per cent, according to an announcement today.

The First Woman of Russia

By LOUISE BRYANT.

(Note.—This is the only interview Madame Lenin has ever given to a reporter.)

Commissioners' wives, contrary to the popular legend, lead a hard life. There is, for example, Nadejda Constantinovna Krupskaya, wife of Lenin. In spite of ill health she remains an active party worker, and has given to the socialist state its remarkable plan for adult education. How well her plan works is shown in some striking statistics given me by Minister of Education Lunacharsky. In Moscow alone 80,000 people have learned to read and write—that is a fair sample. The Red Army remains only 25 per cent illiterate. The Tsar's army was 85 per cent illiterate. Communists fight illiteracy like the plague, and make class consciousness an inseparable part of all education.

I was very glad when Krupskaya invited me to visit her in her apartment. The kind of books people read, the pictures they have on their walls, the colors they like—all these things spell character, and I was curious. It was just at sunset when I walked through the Kremlin gates toward the Hall of Justice where Lenin has his office and where, in another wing, he lives. The dying sun cast gold and purple splashes over the turreted buildings, giving a fantastic, unreal appearance to the old fortress. I had no difficulty in getting by various guards. I had not only the regular pass, but a letter written by Lenin

in his own hand and stamped with the official seal.

Before Krupskaya's door I encountered a single guard standing with a fixed bayonet. He was a simple peasant with a round, good-natured face. When he read my passes he smiled and said: "The Comrade is waiting." Then he knocked gently and Krupskaya herself came out and took both my hands in warm welcome. As soon as we were in the little hallway she locked the door and put the key on a shelf near by. Then she led me into a very small but very clean bedroom. I looked about and realized that there were but two tiny rooms—this bedroom and another small room which was used for a dining and living room. The Lenins were living up to the strictest regulations for over-crowded Moscow!

The room we were in contained a bed, four or five chairs, a desk, a well-filled book-shelf and a couch. Every piece of furniture was arranged precisely, there were no papers or clothes scattered about in the usual Russian manner. Before we were seated a pretty girl of about eighteen came in and Krupskaya said: "This is my niece. She is usually with me. I love her and want you to know her."

Krupskaya spoke English, but with the hesitancy of one who has lost practice. Feeling that I noticed her groping for words, she began to apologise. "How shall we speak?" she asked. "John Reed always preferred to speak French,

but perhaps it is difficult for you."

I said that her English was excellent. At that she smiled. "Very well. We will speak English. And if I speak slowly it will not matter. I have saved the whole evening for you. But you must not compare my vocabulary with that of Kolontai or Balabanova."

With the easy air of intimacy characteristic of most Slavs she began to tell me a story of an experience she had in the summer. An English delegate came to see her and brought along an interpreter. "I must say his English was infinitely worse than mine. In fact, he made little effort to understand me at all. I heard him misquoting me as long as I could bear it, and then I excused myself in English, and began to straighten out my interview."

Soon after we were seated, a sleek, friendly cat walked across the floor and jumped up into Krupskaya's lap. I told her that I had read a story in America about Lenin's fondness for cats. He was reported as keeping seven.

The story made Krupskaya laugh. "It's a splendid example," she said, "of the way everything about Russia is exaggerated. Now the truth of the matter is this. Both my husband and I are fond of animals, but no one in Russia feels like keeping pets—it is a matter of food. A cat is a more or less independent beast. We have one cat between us. But an American reporter would not think the story

(Continued on page 3)

ARM CONFERENCE TO BRING WORLD WAR TO DIVIDE CHINA

Scott Nearing Analyses Plots of Buchers Under Guise of Peace

MILWAUKEE.—"The disarmament conference to be held in Washington, November 11, is an attempt by England to form a triple alliance with the United States and Japan for the division of the world's plunder. If this alliance fails another world war, with America fighting against England and Japan, is almost inevitable," stated Scott Nearing in an address on America's foreign policy here.

"The American imperialists have a splendid field in this—the western-hemisphere. No nations in North or South America have a navy or army, single or combined, strong enough to resist us. In Mexico, in Haiti, in Santo Domingo, in Nicaragua, in Panama we do as we please, and farther south we could if we wanted to."

"The real friction comes on the question of the 'open door' for China, the competition of the capitalists of the big nations for markets in China. Japan controls the approach to China with her empire of 447 islands."

"And with the Shantung and the German islands, she acquired when the loot of the World War was divided at Versailles, she has a new line of defense against the United States."

"The United States has stepping

stones to China through Hawaii, Guam and the Philippines, and she also has a northern route through Alaska and the Aleutian islands."

"England's interest lies with Japan, because England's most powerful rival is America, not Japan, and because England wants Japan's good will in holding India."

"The Washington conference will attempt not to disarm (that is a joke) but to arrange for the peaceful plundering of China. If this plan fails another World War will be close upon us."

"The principal force we can appeal to in order to stop the impending conflict is organized labor. In America, however, capital is practically 100 per cent organized, labor hardly 17 per cent. But there is no other force that offers any hope of averting the threatened disaster to civilization."

"When war comes, it may bring chaos for centuries. The alternative is not merely capitalism or Socialism. There is the third possibility of chaos. A new civilization cannot be built up out of the debris of the old. A revolution can destroy, but it takes a long time to build up again the complex structure of industry, once it has been overthrown. We see that now in Russia."

ROOSEVELT'S JACKASS JUDGE NEEDS "CHECK-OFF" ON EARS

(By The Federated Press)

New York.—Officials here of international labor unions, as well as industrial and labor legislation specialists, declare the injunction issued by Federal Judge Anderson in Indianapolis against the "check-off" system in the coal mines should be resisted to the limit, regardless of the immediate consequences.

"The decision of Judge Anderson is not surprising," said Joseph Schlossberg, general secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Garment Workers. "It is merely one more indication of what labor is facing today."

"Labor has failed to take the firm stand it should have taken against its enemies. The collapse of the railroad brotherhoods has encouraged the capitalists to begin a final effort to crush organized labor."

"The time has come for the mine union officials to show that they have backbone enough to take the penalty, if necessary, of fighting this injunction to a finish. The situation calls for men—not cowards."

Benjamin Schlesinger, president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, declared the reaction from the Anderson injunction must eventually be favorable to labor. "It is one of the things which must drive labor into politics," he said, "just as similar court actions in England have driven the English workers to establish their powerful labor party."

The injunction was characterized by Roger Baldwin, secretary of the American Civil Liberties Union, as the most reactionary and momentous decision affecting labor yet made.

"Every legal effort should be made to set it aside," he said, "and if that fails the miners' leaders should ignore the injunction and go to jail so that the case can be carried to the Supreme Court without delay."

Heber Blankenhorn of the Bureau of Industrial Research, declared the injunction, if enforced, means a return to the days of the jungle in the coal fields, but he added that from his observation of the mine workers it would not be obeyed. Some operators will fight it, he said, and some unions will collect dues independently, while still other unions probably will obtain opposing injunctions.

"Judge Anderson," said Blankenhorn, "has demonstrated again that he is fully entitled to the epithet bestowed upon him by Theodore Roosevelt." (Roosevelt called Anderson a jackass.)

John B. Andrews, secretary of the American Association for Labor Legislation, said: "The decision cannot result in the interest of the general public. It will tend to provoke extreme action."

Fine Educator

San Diego, Cal. — "There is altogether too much preaching of these damnable doctrines of bolshevism, anarchy, communism and socialism, in this country today."

"If I had it in my power I would not only imprison, but would expatriate all advocates of these dangerous, un-American doctrines. I would even execute every one of them — and do it joyfully."

The speaker is J. J. Tigert, national commissioner of education, addressing the public school teachers of San Diego. Tigert was making an address on "Americanism," warning the local educators against the increasing tendency of our public schools to delve into sociology and economics—all of which led to radicalism, he said.

REBELLION OF A REBELLIOUS REBEL

Sterling, Colo., Nov. 3, 1921.
J. O. Bentall, Editor Truth, Duluth Minn.

Dear Editor, Comrade and Fellow Citizen:

About a week ago I received four numbers of Truth the start of a six month subscription. I cannot express the entire agreement with which I have read them. Your Editorials are like if they were the product of my own pen. It has been a great pleasure to meet with "Truth."

How unfortunate that you should be forced to leave your most important place in the formation of the new and better world which is now in its birth struggle. Since reading of your position and realizing the great loss which the time will suffer by your imprisonment I have lost some of my faith in our Republican form of government I have in a way been strong for the foundations of our country. The Declaration of Independence seemed to me as going far towards giving the people the rights for which they have fought through the dark ages of Christian tyranny. I have treasured the Preamble to the Constitution and the first amendment and used them in my work against the church and the Christian religion in which I have been engaged quite extensively. And I think now that we need not look with any sort of doubt or contempt upon them, but how these great rights and objects have been distorted and forgotten in the light of recent persecutions is a terrible disgrace and tragedy. I have had inclinations when contemplating the awful cruelties and contempt which our legislators and courts have displayed in regard to what is termed "disloyalty" to place them on an equal with the most fanatical of religious despots. I have asked myself what is the difference between twenty years in a dirty American dungeon for opposing the American government and the rack and stake for opposing a powerful and cruel church. I can very favorably compare yourself, Debs and Townley to the burning of Bruno, the persecution of the Jews, the massacre of the Hugonots or the hanging of the Salem witches. The very same spirit is the cause of it. If Debs deserves 10 years imprisonment for opposing the American administration at Washington why did not Savonarola and Servetus deserve punishment for opposing Rome or Caligula? If American law is right when it inflicts punishment for disloyalty to Washington why was not Rome right for instituting and executing the Spanish Inquisition, and punishing people for disloyalty to the church? Where is the difference? In this respect there is not a particle of difference between the Popes, the Czars, the Kaisers and the American administration. So, I say if America is right the history of Christian dungeons, stakes and hangings for disloyalty were right also. And if we have a right to pronounce upon Christian rule the term of dark ages, it seems that we are now in an age not more brilliant. I can see now how our pretended protection by the force of a government by the people is of little or no value or meaning. Governments exist to preserve

themselves and crush every opposition with every means available. If the people elect Wilson to keep out of war and Wilson betrays the people the government which is Wilson can perpetuate itself, with the sacrifice of millions of lives and the wealth of the nation. Four years of a dictator may ruin the best nation. And if any one protests or in any way opposes the administration he is guilty of Heresy that is disloyalty and gets 20 years in a dungeon.

Of course we got rid of Wilson in the course of time. Well, so did the Russians get rid of several Czars in the course of time. But the helplessness of the people under the rule of a President after once elected, no matter into what calamity the nation is being plunged, is the same as under a Czar or Kaiser. It is not what the people want that governs the government, but what those in power want, and to get this nothing is too cruel or contemptible.

It is tear provoking to notice in connection with the "Legion" powder in Kansas City and the Disarmament talk fest, how we still went to war because the people wanted it. In spite of the fact that the war-making administration was wiped out of existence in rebuke for its betrayal of the people we still are told by the government that it is expressing the will of the people when it lauds and glorifies the war. And how the "boys" volunteered and cheered and grasped at the opportunity to go to Europe and help a bear, a lion, a tiger, a jackal and a jap-dog lick a little dash-hund. How beautiful and heroic for a big white eagle to get the little dash-hund by the throat and hold him for a lion and tiger toe at him up. What a wonderful feat for a big fresh eagle to dig his talons into a little dog weary from licking a bear, lion, tiger and jackal. But the farce will get more chadly with the years and bye and bye it will be realized that what the eagle really did was to kill the goose that laid the golden eggs, and not a buzzard.

Remembering the second Wilson Campaign with its promise of "no war" and then the war and conscription and the super-human efforts to avoid conscription by every available means — the lying and scheming to remain on the farm or in the factory, and the tears of mothers for their unhappy and unfortunate sons as they were driven at the point of feather-dusters across the sea to fight a little dash-hund that had licked the lion which George Washington once licked and became famous and we are still at it on the Rhine, where is the right to life liberty and happiness? And how mad we are that the Russians rejected the Czar and how we would cheer if a new representative of the former autocrat would suppress the revolution.

All this speaks with trumpet tongue that Christian America as far as the people's independence and voice is concerned is on an equal with papal Rome or Bull-fighting Spain. The idea that the people have a right to "throw off a cruel and selfish government and to provide new guards from their sec-

urity"—how childish when the merest protest brings 20 years in a bastille!

My heart goes out to you with mighty sorrow and compassion as you face the fate of the martyred heroes of all the despotic ages past and present. "He who believes not shall be damned," rules today as it has always and the liberty which we thought had enfolded us has taken wings. A new Revolution and one as needful and as noble as a Protestant Reformation or a Colonial Revolt or an Anti-slavery rebellion has the right of way everywhere. Not that we want to recind the principles of our government as outlined in the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble or the first Amendment, but reestablish and put into practice these great truths so that the general welfare may be achieved, Justice established and liberty secured, in reality.

There is no hope for any reform or revolution as long as the people believe in the Christian religion and its priests and ministers. Look the world over and in every instance where there was a reform or a revolt it was first of all a rejection of the prevailing religion. Luther vs. the pope, Patrick Henry vs. the parsons, Voltaire vs. the ecclesiastical despots. John Brown, Phillips, Garrison and Lincoln and Lincoln against the slavery upholding churches. The Russian Revolutionists vs. Rasputin. My dissatisfaction and coldness towards the Socialist Party was because it took the stand that a Christian could be a Socialist and that its fight was not religious but economic. I was Secretary of our county and at one time was a candidate for State Senator, but became as I said almost neutral. I have however, a new hope for Socialism and if the movement can be centered on a program as outlined by Bishop W. M. Brown in his book "Communism and Christianity" or European Communistic Socialism an extensive number of people will support the party. The Bishop has produced an excellent book which deserves to be recommended and accepted as a guiding and directing medium for American Socialism.

I feel for you and your work and want to offer and do what I can to encourage and support you. Money I have none, not even to pay my taxes which are now on the delinquent list. Have been on the army of the unemployed for nearly a year and do not know where or when I can get back to work. These poems of mine which appeared in "Truth" represent my actual present condition and feelings. I am desperately in revolt.

Pardon me for any unwarranted statement. Accept my deepest sympathy for you in your loss of your work and freedom. If the management of "Truth" is interested in a substitution of my Studies in the absence of yours I will forward the work upon notification.

With despairing hopes for your escape and in the event of your commitment to outer darkness of Christian-American mis-administration, may the knowledge of your good intentions and the sense of your innocence comfort and keep you is my affectionate and sincere wish.

J. G. SCHWALM.

Those Who Go to Russia

By JAKOB FRIS.

The distinguished Norwegian writer who contributed the following article to "Social-Demokraten," of Christiania, Norway (issue of August 3,) has paid a number of visits to Russia since the Revolution, and has just returned to Norway from the Third Congress of the Third International, as well as the Congress of Trade Unions, both of which were held at Moscow.

"For the political adventures who journey back and forth between Christiania and Moscow — the seriousness of life has not yet become apparent."—Morgenbladet, Christiania, August 1, 1921.

I.

A few days after we returned from Russia, I met one of the Norwegian printers who had been working in Russia during the Congress. He was the youngest of them. As far as I know, he had nothing to do with the Party, at least he had not been a strong party member before his departure.

"I long to go back to Russia," he said to me.

"Are you out of employment?" I asked.

"Not at all," he answered. "I have a very fine job. But all the same..."

I did not question him further as to the reasons for his desire to go back. I merely saw by his facial expression that he really meant it.

Russia is a country where everything is serious. It is a country of battle, of enthusiasm, of death, of infinite suffering. Memory upon memory of life-long value comes up when you remember this. Memories of men, either as individuals or as great masses. But it is always first and last—men. A society that is dissolved and forming itself anew, masses of men who are grouping themselves in accordance with their fundamental instincts, who have re-crystallized into new groups, after the storms of war had dispersed them. A society in which politics is not the striving for power of petty Philistines, but a struggle, soul against soul, in the people and for the people. Where membership in the dominant party means a sense of duty and labor, of will and discipline, to death—

II.

From the biggest to the smallest you deal first and foremost with—men. First take Lenin. He is Russia's ruler. He descends on the Congress like a storm. He has hardly had time to read over the speeches. He is raging against the

"super-radicals" and thunders against them. He castigates Bela Kun like an infuriated professor who has just taken a noisy class by surprise. And then, having delivered his punishment, he passes on to more important work. And on the next day he has regrets—as if we were not all young at one time! And then he turns back to the young men. Of course we must proceed energetically, he tells them now. A Revolution cannot be accomplished without an exertion of the will, without the outflow, aggressive love of battle. To be sure you have sometimes committed follies, but you are, nevertheless, the children of my heart. That is Lenin's way, the "old man's" way, and all love him. His wrath is terrible. His gentleness makes men of young creatures.

Or consider Trotsky. He is energy personified. Agile, like a young athlete, he hastens across the Red Square by the side of the well-gloved General Brusilov, while the troops stand at attention. Like a comrade to his comrades, he calls out "Zdrastvuite-Tovarishchi!" to the soldiers, he passes along their ranks. He mounts the platform. He speaks in concise sentences. It is as if Björnson and George Stang were rolled into one. At the Con-

gress a few days later, he outlines the main features of world economy with the aid of statistics and diagrams. He is now as cold and sober as any man of science could be. One of the young radicals makes the sly objection that it is good to know that the man before us is the head of the Red Army, for it is he who best of all has taught us that the Revolution is not to be gained by statistics but with the sword. Whereupon Trotsky answers that as a war minister he has had to pay just as much attention to the statistics of his soldiers' trousers, not to mention their underwear, as to the sword. Good statistics are a good sword. They are the objective factors in Revolution and are no less important than the subjective factors. Intelligence and will, both of superhuman dimensions—that is Trotsky.

III.

The Congress closes at two or three o'clock at night. All the participants pour out of the Tsar's Palace. The Russian Delegation marches at the head, singing. Through the Kremlin gate they move out on the Red Square. Under the Kremlin Wall a halt is made at the grave of Sverdlov, the first president of the Soviet Republic. A woman leads the singing. Now the moving Revolutionary funeral song, full of tears and pain. This is the Third World's Congress after the Russian Revolution—"Was this its grave-song that we have just heard?" on speaker asked. "No, a thousand times no! By the graves of the dead we swear our allegiance to Life. The Revolution lives in our will and our understanding. Long live the World Revolution!"

IV.

Harbingers of death reach us again and again. The latest overtakes us on our homeward journey. Among the dead was Sergeiev, head of the Russian Mine Workers. The brightest of mind and strongest of faith, the least theoretical of all the tradeunion men in Russia. He had come up to our room one evening, in conversation with Bull, Scheffo and me. And what knowledge he had, this man of the world of labor! He had lived a number of years in Australia, had tilled the soil and made a home there. He went back to his own country when the Revolution made Russia a home fit to live in. Again he worked

the soil, this time in the wild forest of industry. He could tell you with full detail about the situation in the mining industry all over the country, how much was being produced, how much could be produced—he was an administrator of nature's superfluity... a healthy, sound optimist, a knight of labor. Accidentally, I came upon him the day before he left, and asked him what he thought of the Trade Congress. In a few swift strokes, he indicated its historic significance to me with clarity and deliberation. We embraced each other at parting in the good old Russian manner, and hoped that we might meet again in good health. I promised to bring back a ball with me for his little boy when I should return.

V.

Although Russia has been cut off from the world it is yet the centre of the world. Many of us met and became friends there although we had come from all the corners of the earth. Many already have found their last resting place there: John Reed, Augusta Aasen, Hewlett, comrades of many nations. Many who had been sentenced to imprisonment in their home countries because of their opinions there found freedom and friendship. That is why Russia is hated by all the police officials of the bourgeois class, who feel that Russia is obstructing their manipulations. First and foremost Russia is hated by the higher servants of the bourgeois press. Poor devils, they take themselves and their dirty trade seriously—that is, the worst of them do. The best of them become cynics, who daily crush the voice of conscience in their breast. Soviet Russia does not need to be defended against these wretches. Nor do we who know and love Soviet Russia feel any need of defending ourselves. In Russia we learned the real meaning of life, in Russia we conceived a wellgrounded contempt and compassion for people of the bourgeois journalist type. They are the official of capitalist society. The worker sells his labor-power but not his soul. The capitalist pays for his liberation from work and loses the peace of his conscience. The bourgeois journalist sells both his labor power and his soul, and gains neither freedom nor an easy conscience from the transaction. Of all the exploited, he is the most pitiable.

IS BERNARD SHAW A BOLSHEVIK

By George Bernard Shaw.

They can no more make our political machine produce Socialism than they can make a sewing machine produce fried eggs. It was not made for that purpose; and those who work it, though they may stand out for better wages and treatment for the workers, and perhaps get them, are still working the capitalist machine, which will not produce anything else but capitalism. The notion that we have in the British constitution a wonderful contrivance, infinitely adaptable to every variation in the temper of the British people, is a delusion. You might as well say that the feudal system was an exquisite contrivance adaptable to the subtlest nuances of the cotton exchange of Manchester.

There was a good deal of truth in the contention of the early French Syndicalists that aggrieved sections of the people had more power of obtaining redress under the autocratic form of government, when they could interfere in politics only as a riotous mob, than under modern democratic parliamentary forms, when they interfere only as voters, mostly on the wrong side.

The capitalist system admits of so much apparent progress that superficial thinkers easily persuade themselves that it will finally progress into Socialism; but it can never do so without making a complete volte face. Slavery is always improving itself as a system. It begins by working its slaves to premature death. Then it finds out that badly treated slaves do not, except when they are so plentiful that they can be replaced very cheaply produce so much booty for their masters as well treated ones. Accordingly, much humanitarian progress is effected. Later, when modern industrial methods of exploitation are discovered and developed competitively, it is found that continuous employment under the same master cannot be provided for the slave. When this point is reached the master wants to be free to get rid of the slave when he has no work for him to do, and to pick him up again when trade revives, besides having no responsibility for him when he is old and not worth employing. Immediately a fervent enthusiasm for Liberty pervades the capitalist state, and after an agitation consecrated

by the loftiest strains of poetry and the most splendid eloquence of rhetoric, the slave is set free to hire himself out to anyone who wants him; to starve when nobody wants him; to die in the workhouse; and to be told it is all his own fault. When it is presently discovered that this triumph of progress has been, in fact, a retrogression, the progressive reformers are again set to work to mitigate its worst effects by Factory Acts, Old Age Pensions, Insurance against Unemployment ("ninepence for fourpence") Wages Boards, Whitley Councils, and what not, all producing the impression that "we live in a progressive age." But this progress is only allowed whilst the workers are gaining in efficiency as slaves, and their masters consequently gaining in riches as exploiters.

The British democrat, dazed asks whether it is cricket to exclude the Opposition from the governing bodies. The Russian Statesmen reply that they are fighting a class war, and that during a war, an Opposition is the enemy. They are asked further whether they have any right to impose new institutions on their country until they have persuaded a majority of the inhabitants to demand it. They reply that if no political measure had ever been passed until the majority of the inhabitants understood it and demanded it, no political measure would ever have been passed at all. They add that any party, however revolutionary in theory, which refuses in a high-minded manner to take any action until it is supported by a constitutional majority, is clearly led by faint hearts (not to say cowards and incapables) who are making their democratic principles an excuse for keeping out of trouble.

PROFITS OF PRODUCTION

Honolulu Star-Bulletin: Two farmers met after church as usual, and had this conversation:
"Sold your pig?"
"Yes."
"What'd ye get?"
"Thirteen dollars."
"What'd it cost ye to raise it?"
"Paid \$3 for the shoot, \$5 for the number in the pen and house, and \$5 more for the feed."
"Didn't make much, did ye?"
"No, but had the use of the pig all summer."

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STATE BESEIGES COURTHOUSE TO PREJUDICE PUBLIC FEELING

(Continued from page 1)

preliminary examination soon after the crime she had declared that she could not make a positive identification. What happened in the interval? Perhaps the answer may be found in the circumstance that during the preliminary hearing Miss Splaine was out of work, but before the final trial she was given a job by the same firm which later "sacked" at least three workers for having given testimony favorable to the defense.

Dolbear is the man who tries to identify Vanzetti. The only token by which he claims to remember him, is that he had seen a car with a "tough-looking bunch" in it. Other identification witnesses had described the bandits as "well-dressed" and "respectable-looking". Mr. McAnaney openly charged that Dolbear was a perjurer.

Mrs. Andrews is the woman who fainted in the witness box when questions bearing upon her character were put to her. Her "identification" was refuted by her own friends and neighbors, who came into court and testified that she had stated to them that she could not make an identification, but that the police were pestering her.

A dramatic incident of the hearing was when counsel for defense flatly refused to come to the judges bench for a low-toned conference such as he is in the habit of holding.

"If Your Honor please," Mr. Moore declared, "there is no reason why every phase of these proceedings should not go on in open court. The two men in the cage are not lay figures. They are men of exceptional intelligence and should listen to all the questions bearing upon their fate."

Judge Webster Thayer was visibly disturbed, and made no further calls for bench sessions that day.

In a statement to the Boston press the Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee condemned the newspapers for their "malicious fabrications" attributing imaginary plots and threats to sympathizers of the two convicted labor organizers. One of the yellowest pages in American journalism is being written today. The news of legitimate and outspoken protests against the unfair verdict is either suppressed or hidden in a corner, while lies and rumors intended to embarrass the defense are featured in big headlines. The climax of these libels was reached with the story of a "three-day reign of terror" planned by the friends of Sacco and Vanzetti. On the morning when the hearing began, the Boston Globe carried a sensational lie about Italians from New York,

armed, and disguised in American army uniforms, marching upon Boston, presumably in behalf of the two imperiled men. The Committee's statement reads in part:

"The dime-novel rumors and lies that have been swallowed by the newspapers in Boston and elsewhere, seem to us to have been 'planted' — as you reporters say — by those who want to embarrass and discredit the entirely legal and peaceable national defense. We understand that the newspapers in Boston, especially certain notoriously sensationalist sheets, are fighting hard for circulation. We can only enter a plea that in the fight they should not sacrifice all the principles of justice and a square deal to the two men awaiting death. We make the plea in the certainty that millions of supporters of clean journalism, including the greater portion of journalists themselves, are with us on this proposition. We ask that the newspapers, especially in this community, apply to rumors and far-fetched theories not alone the standard of news value, but also that of common sense and human decency. Is it too much to ask?"

Reports of further demonstrations by the workers of various countries continue to reach America. In the course of the last week, organized labor of Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay, Mexico, Cuba, Porto Rico and other countries has demanded a square deal for Sacco and Vanzetti.

At the same time resolutions continue to pour in at the office of the Committee from labor unions and individuals in this country, asserting their faith in the men's innocence and pledging their support in the fight for their vindication.

Mass demonstrations in all parts of the United States will express the indignation which American workers feel at the impending fate of the Massachusetts victims. After a conference held in New York, upon the invitation of the American Labor Alliance, plans were announced jointly by the Workers Defense Union, the Italian Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners and other organizations of that city. The plans include special invitations to co-operate to the American Federation of Labor, independent union bodies, the Italian Chamber of Labor and the Industrial Workers of the World. It is confidently expected by the group in charge that all these bodies will accept. Their expectation is based upon co-operation given by these bodies in the past for the same purpose. The campaign will have its climax in a monster mass meeting, on November 20, probably in Madison Square Garden, at which the country's greatest labor orators will speak.

Foster Defies Gary, Speaks as Planned

Gary, Ind. — The police officials of this Steel Trust city do not approve of William Z. Foster or the red army. It will be remembered that Mr. Foster played a prominent part in the great strike of the steel workers in 1919. At that time the chief of police, W. A. Forbis, ordered Foster to keep away from the city for good and all. The red army did not participate in the steel strike, but Gary does not like it.

Sunday Foster went to Gary to tell the workers about conditions in Soviet Russia and to ask their aid for the victims of the famine.

Foster described the plight of the famine victims and happened to mention the red army. The chief of police announced that the workers of Gary could not hear about the red army. Eventually Foster was permitted to finish his address and the audience contributed \$250 for Russian relief.

M. J. Loeb of the Friends of Soviet Russia then informed the people of Gary that there was a red army and that they had a constitutional right to hear about it; that they would have heard about it had the meeting not been called for a specific purpose. Chief Forbis took him to the police station and later released him.

Later the chief announced that "no more radical meetings will be permitted in Gary."

Six I. W. W. Convicted In California Court

Oakland, Cal. — The six members of the I. W. W. on trial before Superior Court Judge Samuels here were found guilty of criminal syndicalism on October 27. The men — Patrick Casey, George Ryan, John Hannon, John McLaughlin, Howard Welton and Michael J. Dun — defended themselves. The jury was out 24 hours.

The men were arrested at a meeting in Carpenters' Hall in Oakland, on June 26, at which Rev. J. Covington Coleman of Los Gatos was speaker. Charges of vagrancy placed against the men were changed to criminal syndicalism the following morning. In a letter to the American Civil Liberties Union one of the defendants writes: Only two of the men arrested had anything to do with organizing the meeting; two others sold and gave away literature and he assisted in taking up a collection to defray expenses. The sixth man was not arrested at the meeting at all, but was merely seen talking to some of them and writing on a piece of paper. He was arrested in another part of the State on a trumped-up charge and held until authorities came after him about the literature.

During the trial, which covered a period of three weeks, a new under-cover man came to light. His name is John H. Vale and he is said to be an operative of the Department of Justice. He joined the I. W. W. during the latter part of 1920 in Butte. He came to San Francisco during the early part of the year and made himself acquainted with the different members of the organization. He was elected to all committees and functioned as such until his exposure as a stool pigeon.

Painter Breaks Ankle Employer Breaks Law

New York. — Under the New York law an employer who fails to make provision for compensating employees for injuries sustained while at work and through no fault of their own, is guilty of a misdemeanor. But the law was framed by a typical New York Legislature and when a painter, Frank Keightley, employed by Elbert E. Donnelly, broke his ankle while at work, he discovered that the law wasn't all it seems to be.

Keightley complained to the Kings County district attorney. In general sessions court Donnelly was found guilty of violating the law, having admitted he failed to take out workmen's compensation insurance. But sentence was deferred until the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court could pass on the question of the penalty.

Now the Appellate Division has ruled. It declared that an employer cannot be imprisoned for violating this law.

SHOE WORKERS GET WAGE CUT

Haverhill, Mass. — Shoe workers in this section are preparing to fight wage cuts of from 12 to 20 per cent proposed by the allied manufacturers who employ them. Likewise the workers, comprising three unions, will fight any effort to lengthen their working day. Fifty thousand producers of footwear are enrolled in those unions.

Plans for the defensive fight were laid at a conference in Lynn of officers of the three unions and a call for solidarity has been sent out signed by M. J. McGurty of Lynn, president of the Allied Shoe Council; Joseph Goyette of Haverhill, business agent of the Shoe Workers' Protective Union, and Howard Blaisdell of Boston, executive board members of the United Shoe Workers of America.

The 20 per cent cut was first suggested by the Lynn Shoe Manufacturers' Association, which cited a recent reduction of 10 per cent among shoe workers in Rochester, N. Y. Lower wages or loss of trade to New England was the principal argument of the manufacturers. This was termed propaganda based on greed by the workers' officials. One Lynn man said the excessive rents paid for floor space by Lynn manufacturers were more to blame for high operating costs than were wages.

Tales of Violence In Russia Not True

Moscow, Oct. 31. — As a close observer of conditions in Russia, I can say that reports portraying life in this country as a daily series of murders, assassinations and violence are false.

It is significant that Colonel William N. Haskell, the director of the American Relief administration in Russia, has invited his wife and minor children to visit him. The colonel, who is a warrior, considers that Russia is one of the safest places in the world for his family to visit, and as soon as he has arranged the extensive famine relief program he wants to show that Moscow and Petrograd are so quiet that an occasional murder or robbery causes great excitement which otherwise is lacking. The situation is now one of quiet transition from communism to liberalism.

In dealing with crime, the police forces of London, New York and Chicago could well afford to take lessons from the authorities here. Soon after the present regime was established, the order was given that all robbers were to be shot on sight. Now there are no robbers. The streets and byways of Moscow and Petrograd are the safest in the world. There are vampire women, but that condition is almost universal. Mrs. Haskell's visit to Russia is expected to be devoid of thrills.

—Detroit Free Press.

CUT STONE CUTTERS

Stockton, California. — Stone cutters and granite workers in this district are on strike in protest against a wage cut. The large granite quarries around Sonora are completely crippled in consequence.

That Wonderful Crane

Says Dr. Frank Crane in the Globe of September 8:

"A lady Bolshevik by the name of Lunatcharsky (which is probably Russian for lunatic), the Commissioner of Education in the realm of freedom, murder, and cholera, has banned the Fairy Story from children on moral and educational grounds."

While, generally, we do not care to dispute anything Dr. Crane says, in this instance we wish to remark that the last time we saw a picture of Lunatcharsky his or her countenance was adorned with a copious crop of whiskers. And so, if Dr. Crane has either him or her right as to sex, the inference is that he or she must be one of those bearded ladies that one sometimes reads about.

A bearded lady, in charge of education in the realm of "freedom, murder, and cholera" — it makes us shudder-r-r-r! — Ex.

AT NEWPORT

Susan (age 8): Do you like your new papa?
Jack (age 5): Yes.
"So did we. We had him last year." — Life.

THE FIRST WOMAN OF RUSSIA

(Continued from page 1)

worth writing unless we had seven!"

It was very cool and restful in the little room with the quietness of twilight everywhere. The windows were open and I noticed plants in little pots on the window ledge — red geraniums and lavender and yellow primroses. There was not a single picture on the soft gray walls. I particularly like the effect of no pictures in small rooms. Krupskaya with her low voice and black dress, her pale face and white, ringless hands fitted harmoniously into the room.

She asked me why I was going to leave Russia, and I explained that I wanted to write another book and collect Jack's manuscripts for a memorial edition. A look of pain came into her face. "It was a miracle almost," she said, "that a foreigner could have written the one book which caught as by magic the real spirit of the revolution."

She leaned over and touched my hand. "How difficult it must be!" she said. "Are you quite alone?" I nodded, and there was a pause, then she got up abruptly and exclaimed: "Come, let us have tea!" How truly Russian was that remark! How many times during hard moments have I heard them make this same homely remark.

Her young niece now called us into the next room — a room as simple as the first. There was a little mahogany clock ticking cosily away in a china closet, there were plants on the window ledge, more books, half a dozen chairs and a round table covered with a black oil-cloth. There were no servants. Krupskaya herself made the tea.

She told me that she had just finished reading Upton Sinclair's "Jimmie Higgins." "It is a good book," she said: "it gives me a very definite idea of what an ordinary American Socialist is like. It is sad also and disillusioning and therefore instructive. I would like to know about Sinclair. Is he a Communist? And has he written other books?"

I told her briefly what I know of Sinclair. She was interested and said she would like to read the "Jungle" and the "Brass Check." I said: "I'm sure I would send you autographed copies of them all if he knew you were interested."

"Krupskaya was pleased but unconvinced. 'Really,' she said: 'why should he? He has probably never heard of me.' There was something very charming about her naivete."

We talked a long time about her work, and she asked me about the people I met on a long trip through the South. A number of the people we talked about were members of her educational committees. At last I asked the question I most dreaded to ask. I wanted to know if the retreat back to modified capitalism which the new decrees were putting into effect discouraged her. She spoke to me then very much as if I were a child.

"No. I am not discouraged. I have always known the great change will come. In Russia years ago change seemed impossible, just as to you, who are an American and come from the country least touched by war and thoughts of revolution, the idea that America will change appears incredible. But this change we dream of is inevitable. By that I do not imply that it is near. We will save all the fruits of the revolution we can. That is why we meet the situation face to face. The compromise is hard, but it is necessary. But no

matter how hard it is, always be sure that we are not discouraged and that our hopes do not die."

When I rose to go Krupskaya took my hands and looked into my eyes. "You will come back to us?" she asked. "Ah, yes, now you must always come back..."

How well I understood that remark! I who am bound through eternity to Russia by an honored grave on the Red Square.

At the door we shook hands again, and I heard the key turn in the lock as I walked away. When I reached the street, night had descended over the city and the air was cool and sweet. Soldiers were singing on their way to the Kremlin garrison.... — From The Liberator.

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Small wonder that the workers in other countries look upon Britain as the centre, and as the driving force, of international reaction. Britishers have made themselves notorious for their many attacks upon Soviet Russia. British armies have been used to crush every glimmering of national and racial independence in Ireland, Egypt, India, Persia, Mesopotamia, and elsewhere. British force and finance have been handed out to buttress and subsidize every reactionary and White Guard conspiracy in the world. And now that the ruling class of Spain is sore pressed by the workers on one hand and by the Moors on the other hand, it is only necessary for the Spanish authorities in London to whisper that they need soldiers, when lo and behold! thousands of Englishmen roll up to "do their bit" in a struggle which has nothing at all to do with them. So great was the anxiety shown by thousands of Britishers to sell themselves, for a few coppers per day, that many of them waited all night outside of the offices of the Spanish Consulate in order to be enrolled the following morning. The Communist Party issued a manifesto to the men who clamoured to be enrolled as Spain's "Black and Tans" — to be used for the same purpose in Morocco as Britain's "Black and Tans" are used in Ireland. The majority of the men who offered to fight for Spain were unemployed wretches who were willing to face death abroad in the service of a foreign power rather than starve at home. These men, by their eagerness to fight in Morocco, to face death for about 3s. per day, prove that the workers do not lack courage; they have exploded the lie that the unemployed do not want work and would not take jobs if any were found for them. The Communist Party manifesto called upon these men to enter a struggle, not on behalf of a foreign government attempting to enslave certain tribes seeking to attain their freedom, but to take their place in the class struggle at home and free themselves from the enslavement of their own masters who are on their own doorstep. Capitalism offers the workers two things — either to fight to enslave the masses of other lands or to fight to free themselves at home.

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Issued Weekly By The West End Labor Association.

J. O. BENTALL, Editor.

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TEARING DOWN AND KICKING

An old friend writes us that our "method and course to me appears limited in scope, too negative, and not sufficiently constructive to lead to lasting, desirable results." And also that we "register a strong, continuous kick against all manner of wrong—but where and how the remedy?"

Which we answer with a story:

Out in a Western city that was growing rapidly in population was a schoolhouse. It was built by the early settlers while the town was yet small and the children few. It had served its purpose quite well and was looked upon as a landmark to be proud of.

But now it was getting very old and quite dilapidated. It was also too small and many of the children of the town could not get an education.

To some of us this seemed a great drawback to the children and the town. We began to suggest a new schoolhouse.

But you ought to have heard the old schoolboard! A new schoolhouse! Preposterous! The old one had stood there for thirty long years and there was the sacred place where the members of the board had been "educated" and no one was going to be allowed to so much as breathe that it be taken down and another one put up in its place.

But progressive citizens kept talking and talking. They talked about a new schoolhouse. They said the old one had to come down. It stood in the way. It was too cold in the winter. They showed how the children got pneumonia and tuberculosis and deathly coughs. Some children got sick and died. Many children died from exposure in that old schoolhouse. The cost of funerals even was used as an argument against the old schoolhouse. The agitators showed that the funerals had already cost more than a new schoolhouse. They showed that the teachers had resigned from time to time and not a decent teacher could be secured to teach that school. These agitators would take hold of a loose board and tear it half off. They would kick at the rotten stills and show how the building was about to fall down. That it was not safe to have school in. That the children might get killed and that there might be more expensive funerals.

There was an awful racket about that schoolhouse. The schoolboard was angry. Its members scolded the progressive citizens and told them to say something good about the old schoolhouse. To be nice about it and not criticize it so badly.

The agitators listened and obeyed. They began to brag about the old schoolhouse. They went to prayer-meeting and thanked God for that beautiful and blessed schoolhouse. They wrote articles in the local papers and said they had nothing against the old schoolhouse. It had been good enough for their fathers and it was good enough for them.

But the children who could not get room in school became more and more numerous. More and more children got sick. More and more children died. The funerals became more and more frequent and expensive. The children of the pacified agitators began to die one after another. It had not helped to brag about the schoolhouse and to thank God for it. The children died just the same.

So the agitators got up new spunk and began to kick against the old schoolhouse once more. They stirred the whole community.

But the board would not listen. The old fossils could not be moved. Their minds were set and death could not change them. A new schoolhouse had never been tried. How did the agitators know that a new schoolhouse would work? Could they prove it? Then why didn't they go to some island and try it?

But pestilence and death became intolerable. It was decided to put up a new schoolhouse at any cost. The leaders in the movement began to tear down. They ripped the siding off and the roof off. They tore off the plastering on the inside and pried loose the lath and the rafters and the studdings and the whole skeleton. The howling members of the board were not listened to. Their cry for plans and specifications and methods of construction fell upon deaf ears. The old thing had to come down if nothing at all was to take its place. Nothing half so bad could be put up. There were ten thousand chances to one that the new schoolhouse would be a thousand times better than the old one. The new one could not be built till the old one was cleared away. It would not be cleared away till the people got it drilled into their heads that it was a bad thing to have in town. The job of getting the people to see the necessity of getting rid of the old schoolhouse was the big one. When that was done the rest was easy.

The new schoolhouse was soon up and the people were happy. The old board grumbled but no one paid attention to it. The children went to school—all the children. They were all comfortable and none of them died from attending school.

Only the undertakers felt bad about it.

That is the story of all progress. The reason we kick is that the people are dying because of the old capitalist system. The new system will take care of itself. It will be much better than we are able to plan now.

THOSE WAR LOANS

There is great rejoicing in capitalist circles over the decision made by Russia to pay the old debts of the czar prior to 1914.

Crazy as these loans were and even though there is no moral obligation on the part of the Soviet government to pay them the Bolsheviks have decided to stop the mouths of the loud howls that helped to destroy all civilization by the insane management that they are still keeping up.

Nothing has so goaded the money lenders of the capitalist countries as the refusal to recognize the blunders made by the czar. For the first time in the experiences of the loot crew has there been a question about the backing said crew could bank on.

Having destroyed the whole country and having left the people to starve the czar was mighty lucky to get out of the scrape by so easy a route as was afforded him by traitors in his own gang. No tyrant can morally tie up the people to pay debts contracted to make his own villainy more outrageous. Those who take chances on loaning money for purposes of war must re-

member that the issues of war are frequently uncertain.

Did not America loan over 15 billion dollars to France and England for war purposes? Would it not be in keeping with a bit of good sense to remember that these 15 billion dollars are still unpaid and that the interest has not been paid on them?

France and England still enjoys the unlimited prosperity that the capitalists have graciously vouchsafed these countries. From all that is implied in the logic of the capitalist ranters these two countries that won the war so gloriously and that have been so blessed with freedom from Bolshevism should by this time be enjoying that celebrated prosperity that always goes with war.

But instead of paying the 15 billion they owe, or at least the interest, they come begging that these huge debts be cancelled with interest and all. They cry that they can't pay. They whine like a sick cur. They plead poverty. They say they have no money. They cannot manufacture goods to earn the money.

And they are full-fledged capitalist countries with not a Bolshevik out of jail in all their territory.

These come and cry for pay from the workers' republic. This country that has been overrun by every rending tiger in Christendom. This country that has been set upon by all the butcher tribes of earth. This country that has suffered calamities by faults in nature itself.

And well they might. For after all is said, with all the difficulties confronting Russia, she will be the first to come out with the real goods and pay off even what the spendthrift czar and the insane plutocracy charged against the people.

But it looks rather brassy for the deadbeat flunkies among the capitalist mountebanks to cry for payment from Bolshevik Russia when they themselves cannot raise enough to pay for their own funeral but must be buried by public charity in the potters field.

TO SAVE CHINA

Last night between 1:37 and 2:05 in the dark it was discovered that China needs salvation.

This discovery was made by the capitalists of England, Japan and America.

It was discovered that the salvation is of the usually urgent kind—as urgent as the salvation of Mexico during the last ten or fifteen years. As urgent as the salvation of Cuba and the Philippines when it became known that there was a lot of graft there for the big gang that has an eye open for loot. As urgent as the salvation of Russia when the plutes realized that there was oil and coal and minerals and lumber that could be turned into huge profits by the exploiters. As urgent as the salvation of North Dakota from the tyranny of the ungodly farmers.

That salvation stunt is a pippin.

The saviors are in real earnest, too. They declare that there is a great amount of self-sacrifice in the business it must be carried on. It may mean that the urgent salvation has to draw upon millions of young men to shoulder guns and start off for foreign soil to make sure of huge killings. It may mean a lot of sacrifice to the people at home to save this admittedly heathen nation. It may mean that the appointed dollar-a-year patriots will have to serve once more.

Oh! This salvation will not be free. It will cost much—cost the people much. But it will bring great reward—reward to the dollar-a-year patriots.

The gospel of the kept press says that this salvation of China is so necessary. China has a number of wars on her hands—almost as big as our war in Mingo county, W. Virginia. Almost as big as the war started by Jackass Judge Anderson of Indianapolis.

Fact is that dispatches from China six years ago said that there were disorders—internal disorders. There were some inhabitants that didn't believe in infant damnation. There were some hardened sinners who wouldn't pick up a gun and get into the war for democracy. The dispatches have burned the wires and have arrived on the wings of the pealing light of the new notion that China needs saving. She has to have it—"perhaps even against her own will."

So now there is at least a lofty purpose behind the armament conference that meets in our own sanctified Washington on this holy day of long ago armistice.

If ever there were sincere men assembled to concoct schemes to scare up another world war you will find them in Washington on armistice day. You will find them busy mixing salvation for China from her "internal disorders" thru the international orders to raise hell once more.

ARMISTICE DAY

It is now three years since the armistice was signed. It was a day of rejoicing among the masses. The people were tired of war—as they always are—and made merry at the announcement that there was a sign of peace.

In the countries that had been licked so badly that they could hardly walk with crutches there was a tendency to speed the day of full peace. In that spirit France and Germany got together and signed their peace treaties quite soon. Both were glad it was all over with. England was not slow to follow and the rest of the nations that had been in the fight piped in with their agreements to full peace.

It remained for the United States to drag the thing out and make the rest of the world feel utterly disgusted at the babyish manner in which our great country has acted. After three years there is not a full settlement and this country is hanging around with a nasty grin on its face as much as to show how utterly silly it can be.

It must be remembered that as soon as the armistice was signed every European country let its political prisoners out. It had been the custom from time immemorial to be decent to those who had different economic and political views. Opinions have been dealt with as if there was a reason for treating it differently from crimes. The crime of having an opinion has for some time been looked upon with some tolerance. In fact our own Declaration of Independence and our own Constitution provides for tolerance. In other countries the right to opinion have not been guarded as they are here.

And still it remained for our country to show more bitterness and intolerance than can be found in any other country in the world.

The rulers of our nation have showed themselves more petty and more narrow minded than the smallest of rulers in the most backward countries. Woodrow Wilson sank the reputation of the United States as low as was possible for a mean and abnormal tyrant to sink it. Harding has not raised it to any appreciable degree.

There will be a lot of trumpeting by the upper crust to cover up as much squalidness as possible on armistice

day. There will be parades and bands and speeches, but there will be no sign of sincerity and there will be no change in the attitude of the ruling class toward the weighty problems of the nation. They will still hang to their old notions that opinions and progressive tendencies should be shackled. They will still try to keep the masses under and dwarf their minds with their slimy lies.

Armistice day means a lot in all the other countries but in our own it is only a cover for hypocrisy and tyranny.

HANGING SOLDIERS AND RAPING NURSES

Twin glories of the war have just shot out on the horizon of a proud people whose brains are still in the stage of those of the veal calf.

First Senator Watson places before Congress the report of investigators with pictures and all showing that American soldiers in France were taken out and hung or shot without so much as a trial or court martial or a word of explanation.

If a soldier happened to displease the officers in any little way, not blacking their boots or cleaning their spitons as they wished, these officers simply put a rope around the neck of the boys and hung them up. If it was more convenient to shoot them they did that.

Senator Watson has the photos of the gallows and is raising a big storm in Congress by exhibiting them.

He says a dozen of soldiers met the fate of the felon and were hung. They were hung without a hearing or a defense.

Following on the heels of this revelation of intensified democracy comes the revelation that the officers compelled the nurses to submit to their desires or be driven out or killed.

Of course when the nurses enlisted in the work to help the wounded and the dying they never dreamed that they would be called upon to be the mistresses of the army officers. They had figured on being busy with honorable work.

But the officers found it convenient to spend their lust on innocent women with sincere motives. These officers felt that they had the right to anything they asked for. Some of the nurses objected and were subjected to outrageous treatment and dismissal from the service just because they refused to give their bodies to the hoodlums of the army. And these hoodlums were not the private soldiers but the officers. It was very easy for the officers to have the right of way, as they could easily hang a private if he happened to be a lover of a true nurse and in the way for some officer.

Thus we spent our billions to debauch our women and hang our soldiers—and we also paid to have chaplains to pray for the success of the army.

It seems that the officers succeeded in the hanging and raping business.

SECRECY AT THE CONFERENCE

The one big thing that the press and the instigators of the armament conference can not fully get away with is the reason for the hushed secrecy to maintained at the armament table.

We once heard about "open covenants openly arrived at" and were elated at the very idea that it might be allowed the people to know what our rulers did to us once in a while.

There have been hints that the arms conference might be open so that people might find out the plans of the rulers for the future. But there seems to be no hope that the public may have that opportunity.

It might be logically asked why it is so dangerous to talk about world peace. Many people will be wondering what the great ones have up their sleeves. It will be hard to convince the masses that such secrecy is necessary if the bosses of the conference are sincere.

But if they are to talk and plan for bigger armaments and prepare to have more and uglier wars it is well for them that they keep those plans behind thick curtains.

In fact there is nothing else that would give reason for secrecy. The very fact that there is such secrecy is a blood give-away. The bosses might as well own up to their plots and be done with it and play in the open and not bother with curtains and doors and watchmen. The people are next anyhow and will not be fooled about the purpose of the hypocritical gathering anyhow.

THE ROAD BUILDING GRAFT

Of course everybody who had his eyes open when the huge swindle of \$100,000,000 was put over in the state of Minnesota for road building knew that it was like all other swindles—to put easy money into the pockets of the few looters who are on the inside.

Now we are beginning to see some of the results.

Only one little instance may serve as a sample of the method used.

We have before us a propaganda sheet from the Babcock educational outfit. It promises prizes to school children and to teachers for the best essays on "Highway Safety." Of course nobody can be safe unless there is a nice road and the Babcock plan provides for good roads—so the pupils and the teachers and the parents think.

Then comes another sheet offering the farmers to make bids on road work. There are 27 strips of road totaling nearly 300 miles. The money to be expended is \$1,687,000. The contracts have been awarded to the big contractors, but the farmers are invited to bid on the work. That is the funny part of it. Each piece of road is already let but not a shovel of gravel can be put on till the farmers come along and bid for the job of putting the gravel on. The circular says so.

According to the miles of road to be graveled and the amount paid it seems that about \$5,623 is to be spent on each mile. That is a little more than \$1 per foot.

Now we happen to know what the farmers generally get for hauling gravel. If the gravel pit is within four miles of the spot to be graveled he gets \$1 a load. He can haul four and sometimes five loads a day. He furnishes team and wagon and loads and unloads. For this labor he gets the princely sum of \$5 a day for team and all if he works like a slave and hustles his horses to the limit.

His load covers ten lineal feet and over. If it is single graveled he covers 50 feet and if there is to be double graveled he covers 25 feet in the day. For these 25 feet the contractor gets over \$25. The fellow who does the work gets \$5.

Of course the contractor has some expenses, but it is a minor matter. Graveled does not require a great deal of incidental expense. For the matter now under

consideration is graveled. The grading has already been done and paid for.

The money has to be raised by the farmer. He is taxed \$25 for this strip of road. He gets back \$5 for fixing the road and the other \$20 he lets go into the hands of the grafter who smokes fine cigars and never does as much as lifting a hand to do the work.

But that is not all.

If you locate the "projects" in this particular list you will find that the roads are in the summer resort regions where the farmers get no benefit of the road as a whole. These roads that the farmer have built and paid for out of their own taxes on their jitneys are built primarily for the fat idlers in the cities and the farmers get no benefit in the majority of cases.

Capitalism is a robber no matter where you turn. It has no justice and no system except to filch profits out of the worn bodies of the workers.

NELSON ATTACKS SOLDIERS

It may be that the old senator from Minnesota has a hunch that he so must retire to the rear end of the old meetin' house and be gathered to his fathers. It may therefore seem very necessary for him to keep up his wonted fight on all things decent and progressive.

Nelson was exceedingly anxious that the big war be pulled off. He was one of the praying deacons who called on god for blood. He was the chiefest of the saints who preached the gospel of murder and the best bewhiskered high priest to demand the sacrifice of our young men upon the altar of greedy profiteering.

In obedience to his divine command the boys went. They suffered all the agonies of the damned in leaving their loved ones at the station, doubtful of ever meeting them again. They submitted to the ignominy of the dogs that they were treated like by their superiors. They sweated in the camps and ate embalmed beef and fought bedbugs and cooties and disease and pestilence. They crawled in the trenches on their bellies in slime and mire. They were torn by shell and shrapnel and writhed in anguish in the graft-ridden hospital shacks. They came out with legs and arms missing. They came back ruined in body and broken in mind for life. They were thrown upon the rubbish-heap of want and hurled into the malarial swamp of unemployment.

Now Nelson—Senator Nelson—comes out on the floor of the United States Senate and tells us that the soldiers "lived here in fine barracks, had good cooking, good food, slept on cots and suffered no hardship; beyond drilling and standing guard. They had war risk insurance, they had family allowances, they had advantages of the Young Men's Christian Association, the Salvation Army, and the Knights of Columbus."

Nelson says he has a little sympathy for the fellows who fought "over there," but "I declare my heart cannot go out to the 2,000,000 soldiers who staid in America in comfortable, pleasant barracks and had nothing more to do than a little drilling and to stand camp guard occasionally."

Thus the nestor among the national fathers appreciates the loyalty of the boys who offered their all for what they believed to be their country.

While Nelson drew his fat salary and his big dividends and lived sumptuously every day in purple and fine raiment.

And now while the soldiers try to find a crumb in the form of a small bonus at the table of the well-fed profiteers the dogs of capitalism lick their sores to make the pain even more bitter.

Good and well.

But it may be that you have accused the minds of the coming generation and that the young men will remember your taunts and your scorn and that you and your class may have to enjoy the happy life of the "pleasant barracks" next time you arrange for a murderfest.

STATE AIDS THUGS

In the New York Evening Post of September 30th there appeared a remarkable interview with Mr. E. T. England who is attorney general of West Virginia. He described to the correspondent with commendable frankness the way in which the officials of that state have allowed its legal authority to be openly used and abused to prevent one class of their fellow citizens from engaging in occupations which were entirely lawful and proper. In Logan, Mercer, McDowell and Mingo Counties it is a regular custom to assess operators for the wages of gunmen who are usually furnished by the Baldwin-Felts Detective Agency and who receive a state commission as deputy sheriffs. Senator Kenyon recently asked Mr. England whether the deputy sheriffs were not used chiefly to keep the unions out of the non-union fields. "I told him 'yes,'" he said. "Everybody knows it. The coal operators over there will admit that it is one of their functions." Yet "there is a law on the statute books of West Virginia making it unlawful for a deputy sheriff to act as guard or watchman for a private firm or corporation." Is it any wonder that union leaders sometimes accuse the American state of provoking a class war by acting as the accomplice of their class opponents?

—New Republic.

BISHOP BROWN'S GREAT BOOK

Do not fail to read the new ad about Bishop Brown's great book, Communism and Christianity.

The Bishop has issued a cloth bound edition as a Christmas gift to the hungry in Russia. He has printed 2,000 copies and they sell for \$1 a copy. There will be no commission deducted on these books. When you send your dollar for this book it will be sent to you post paid and the postage will not be taken from the dollar but from the Bishop's own pocket. The whole dollar will go to buy food for the starving babies and mothers in Russia.

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There are two bindings. Paper for 25 cents a copy; 6 copies for \$1. Cloth bound \$1 a copy.

Order from TRUTH, Duluth, Minn.

When the officers in the army "over there" got lonesome they killed time by hanging soldiers and raping nurses and attend Y. M. C. A. prayermeeting.

The railroads have already lived two long weeks since the strike was called off and never called upon the labor board for anything more than a ten percent wage cut.