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**Military Efficiency**  
 The superhuman efficiency of military and naval men and, of course, of the departments that supervise and direct their all-important activities in this important field is one of the favorite themes of the publicity agents of capitalism.

Recently, however, a succession of severe shocks has been sustained by the gullible ones who swallow this bunk. To persons of a genuine disposition who like ourselves, suffer suddenly by reason of such unforeseen occurrences, it seems that since seven of our colony-grabbing destroyers tried to climb the mountain ranges lying just east of the Pacific coast, not a day has passed that does not bring similar tidings.

Just at present one of our warships—the Tacoma—sent to southern waters to convey a message of light and hope to the natives of those parts who were growing restive under the exactions of American bankers—is aground. The shore, unbeknownst to the efficient commander, was too close to the water.

The Shenandoah, built for us by German mechanics and the pride of our fleet, despite its Hunnish origin, also slipped its mooring recently and, if we are to believe Secretary of the Navy Denby, all because it was stabilized hastily and some inexperienced hands tied it up with a bow-knot which the wind blew loose.

Numerous other examples of the efficiency of military and naval experts occur to us, but space is scarce. We have not the slightest doubt that nothing like the machine-like precision of our gallant defenders of profit, interest and rent has ever been seen by man, but a little more knowledge of common things like the weather and the inertia of matter would apparently reduce the casualty list.

Seriously, we venture to say that no more incompetent and conceited gang of parasites ever lived upon the underlying population than these same exponents of an efficiency that exists only in the minds of "dream and trumpet" historians—ancient and modern.

Is there any connection between the publication of the Bok peace plan and the midnight flight of the Shenandoah?

**False Friends**

The attempt made by the industrial magnates who met in Chicago recently under the auspices of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association to pass themselves off as 'friends of the farmers'.

It was an obvious effort to throw a monkey wrench into the machinery that is now being developed with the object of bringing together politically the forces of the two great producing elements in American life, the working farmers and industrial workers. But the capitalists and financiers have false friends and the farmers with the farmers that more than soft phrases or flattery are necessary to convince the exploited farmers that their interests and those of the mortgage sharps are identical.

Benjamin W. Marsh, Managing Director of the Farmers' National Council and a conservative, saw in the Chicago manufacturers' conference "an ill-disguised effort to break up the farmer-labor combination." He goes on to say: "This is shown by the vicious attacks made by speakers upon labor and the farmer combination with labor. It will strengthen the farmer-labor combination as most of the spokesmen there for the farmer have been kicked out of farmer organizations. The resolutions and actions of the packed convention mean nothing. It is simply an alibi for the labor-batters of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association."

The alleged farmers who represented themselves as friends of labor at the plute gathering are merely dummy ducks sent out to catch the unwary. The farmers and the farmers will treat them as such. The growing spirit of solidarity between exploited farmer and industrial worker is causing the American ruling classes anxious moments and they frantically try to save the situation with bluff.

Mr. F. A. Patterson, of the Committee of Forty-eight, a political party in itself the now considerably reduced in number, sent a letter to Robert M. LaFollette, calling on the Wisconsin Senator to place himself at the head of a third party. Perhaps Mr. LaFollette is hard of hearing, but he has not replied, yet.

**Because Captain Faxon Hibben, of the Old Army, is a capitalist, he has lost his money with the standard capitalist...**

**But Hibben is guilty of a real crime in the eyes of the capitalist class whose faithful servant the United States government is.**

Unless LaFollette gets down to business pretty soon, Calvin Coolidge will have Magnus Johnson milked of all his radicalism.

**Coal, Union and Non-Union**

The growth in productive capacity of the non-union coal fields and the prospects of a strike in the bituminous coal industry beginning in the first of April are intimately related.

In the early days of the Jan. 18 issue of the Chicago Tribune, the Tea Pot scandal claimed the eight column headline. But the next morning news of the latest amorous adventures of a kidnaper hit the industry's eye and the lot of pirates' escapade crowded Daugherty, Fall and Company into a corner.

Another new record was established in the growth of democracy in Europe when King Albert of Belgium, on his way from the hunt, jumped on a street car and paid his fare. The only surprising thing about it is that he paid his fare. He generally "bumps" his ride.

The American Legion "patron" who was obviously commissioned to violate the laws of the German Republic in an endeavor to keep the healthy draft evader, Grover Cleveland Bergdall and drew a fifteen month prison sentence for his failure is now the subject of tender solitudes from the American capitalist press and the middle matrons of Chicago's Gold Coast.

It is significant that comparatively little interest was manifested in this thing's welfare until a few days ago. It is rumored that the cause of this sudden flurry of excitement is a threat on the part of Griffith to tell the whole truth of the episode which resulted in the killing of one man and the wounding of another.

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Samuel Insull, the Chicago traction magnate, can subsidize the local Civic Opera Company but he cannot afford to give the unfortunate and general policy of amalgamation for which seven cents to ride in his street car, a little heat during the zero weather.

**EMPLOYERS' RIGHTS NOT INFRINGED AS USUAL**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18. (AP)—A bill proposed by Sen. Charles McNary, of Oregon, and introduced in the Senate today, will be a law of 1100 on every employee's record or passport into the United States. The bill, which is designed to distinguish our country as one of the most democratic on earth. Any citizen knows that such a law would do nothing of the kind, as it increases the rights of the instruments of a profession must be made up by increased wages and activity therein. For will such a law just an end to the wrong form of gun, toilet, the wearing of private marks by manufacturers for the purpose of intimidating workers. The gunman is essential to the maintenance of the capitalist order and the boss' private grades will have their guns.

Copeland would change the constitutional "Bill of Rights" to read the right of the people to be informed of the interests of their employers) shall not be questioned otherwise is verboten!

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 Vivid 9-Reel Motion Picture of **SOVIET RUSSIA**  
 is coming to **Milwaukee, Wis.**  
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**King of Beggars Riding a Live Goat**  
 Under the Auspices of the Jewish Workers Relief Committee for the Benefit of the Orphan Homes in Russia  
**TICKETS 51c (We'll take even snuff)** Music by Hobo Band of H. Moss

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 "Waking Giant" depicts Soviet Russia in a favorable manner... excellent entertainment... should be shown every day for some time... very instructive... shows obsolete methods of working and urgency of industrial improvements... shares Kuzbas Colony at work, life in town and country and Berlin in all their departments... very instructive to those who know little about Russia... N. Y. Volksteitung.  
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 (14th Street and 2nd Ave., Manhattan, New York)  
 Monday, Jan. 21, at 7:30 and 9:15 P. M.  
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 FOR RECOGNITION OF SOVIET RUSSIA AND RELIEF FOR WORKERS' GERMANY  
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 Van Buren St. and Ashland Ave.  
 Sunday, January 27th, 8:15 P. M.  
**SPEAKERS**  
 Prof. Robert Morse Lovett, Max Selinsky, of the Journeymen Tailors' Union, Albert Johnson, member of the Hearst's Unofficial Congressional Commission for Investigation of Soviet Russia, Jas. P. Cannon, Chairman Workers' Party, Max Bedacht, Editor Soviet Russia Pictorial, Fredheit Singing Society and other entertaining features.  
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