

# THE OHIO SOCIALIST

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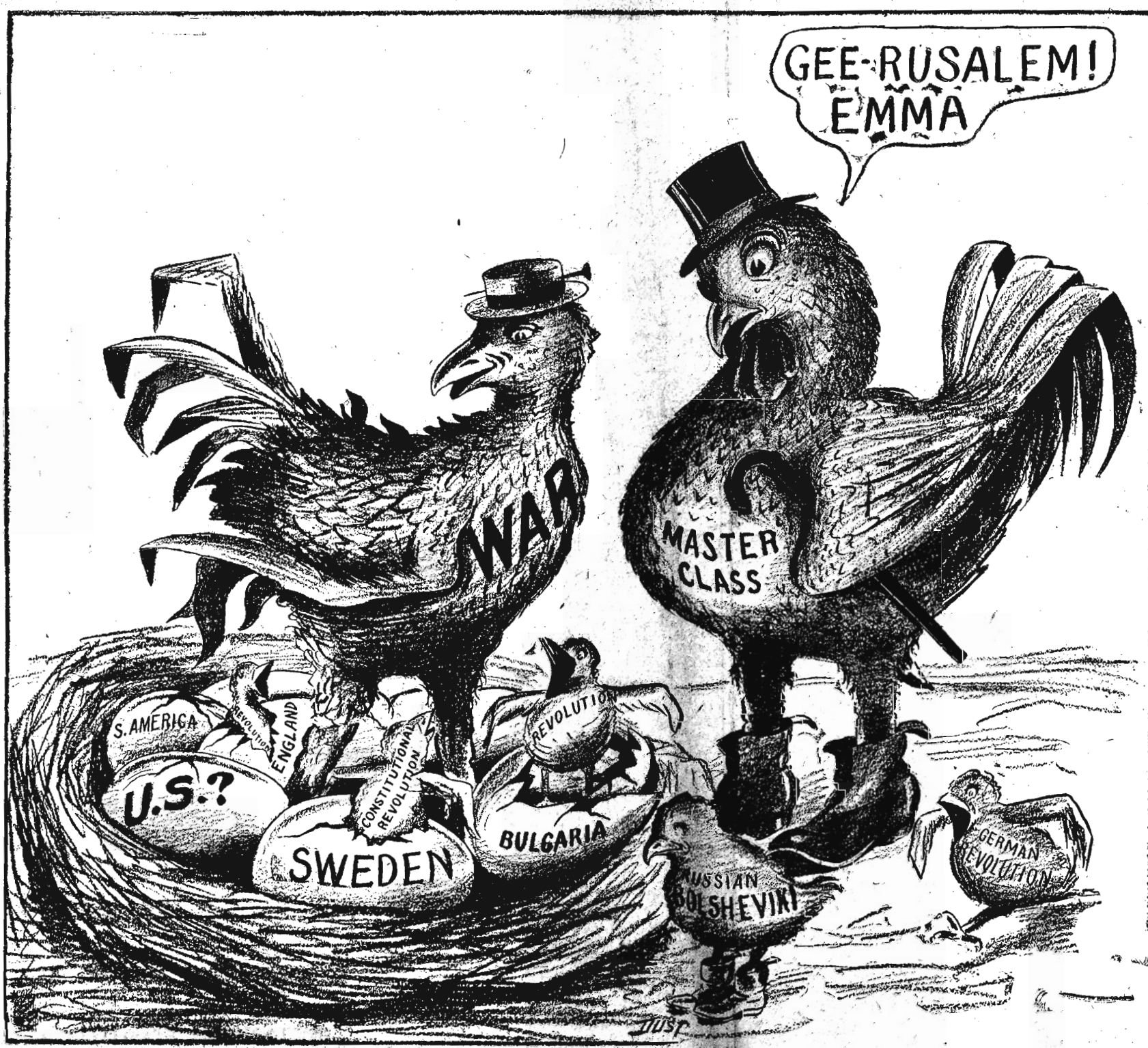
## CAPITALIST "NON-PARTISANS" WILL REDEEM PIQUA, O.

You can be a Republican, or a Democrat, or a Bull Moose in Piqua, Ohio, if you want to, but you can't vote for either in the coming city election. The political and economic bosses of the city have seen to that. If you are a Socialist you can vote the ticket. If you are not a Socialist you must vote the Non-Partisan ticket, for that is the only ticket there is. It doesn't make any difference what your convictions are. You may be a dyed in the wool Republican, or you may have voted the good old Democratic ticket all your life. Like your father before you, nevertheless you will have to lay your lifelong principles (or prejudices) upon the shelf as far as voting is concerned at the next election in Piqua. You will have to do it because the political and economic bosses of Piqua have, in the name of their wisdom (and fear of Socialism), decreed that it should be.

Piqua is one of the cities which the Socialists took control of two years ago. They elected a mayor, two councilmen and the safety director. Needless to say, the old gang who had always run city matters to suit themselves and their favorites have been exceedingly sore since that fatal day. About every dirty piece of skull duggery that could be pulled off has been tried in order to get the Socialist administration in bad not only with the voters and workers generally, but attempts were made to secure the conviction and imprisonment of the Socialist officials upon charges preferred by the government alleging interference with its war activities. All means to oust them failed, however, much to the disgrace and chagrin of the gang which were at the bottom of the persecution. Socialism is stronger in Piqua today than at the time of the election two years ago. This fact is admitted by the opponents of Socialism there.

It is for this reason that the two old parties have wedded and now masquerade under the non de plume of "Non-Partisan," which in reality means "non-worker," non-everything except the old gang methods and control of the city by the big business element of Piqua. The mouthpieces of this hybrid organization admit that even by organizing a campaign against the Socialists their chances of election are mighty slim. But this is the only method whereby they can have the smallest hope of winning, hence the throw.

At a recent meeting of this bunch of delectables which lasted a whole 25 minutes and was attended by at least that number of sponsors of the organization, a list of candidates were "nominated" for all city offices. J. Harrison Smith heads the ticket as candidate for mayor. Smith is an also ran of the vintage of several seasons back who always failed to reach the goal. Piqua workers are on to the game and while the Non-Partisans fret and fume and slander the workers' candidates, they just go ahead sawing wood and adding to the education of the wage slaves along educational lines, knowing that when the workers once learn the meaning of Socialism they will just naturally have to give it their support.



"UNEXPECTED RESULTS"

## STILL ON DECK

Like our beloved spokesman, Gene Debs, as he entered prison, the editor of the Eye Opener wishes to announce that "We are still on deck and fighting."

A very illuminating letter has just been received from William H. Lamar, solicitor for the post office department (commonly referred to as the nation's thought controller, as follows:

Postoffice Department, Office of the Solicitor,  
Washington, D. C., May 15, 1919.  
Mr. Louis Engdahl, Editor The Eye Opener, 1642 N. Halstead Street, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir: Referring to your communication of March 25, I beg to inform you that the action you request this office to take in regard to the February issue of The Eye Opener would amount to cen-

sorship, which the law does not permit. I am accordingly without authority to comply with your request. Yours very truly,  
W. H. LAMAR, Solicitor.

The February issue of The Eye Opener contained 12 pages. The issue was declared non-mailable after being held up for two weeks. A letter was thereupon addressed to Mr. Lamar urging that the post-office censorship indicate four or eight pages of the 12 that would be considered mailable. After a delay of almost two months the above reply was received. The postoffice holds that to kill an entire issue is not censorship. This is only another mystery in the mysterious censorship used here in the United States to crush a free press.

Our record for the year 1919 is as follows: January issue sent out after being held up five weeks; February issue declared non-mailable after being held up two weeks;

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## VICTORY BONDS SOLD AT THE POINT OF GUNS

When it comes to teaching by example the essential principles of democracy, the kind of democracy that the world has been made safe for, the faker patriots of Holland, Mich., take the cake from anything that has come down the pike since Wilson took the middle of the road.

During the late Victory loan drive some business men grew sore at two Socialists, Ryan Dyk and his father, because they refused to subscribe, for good and sufficient reasons to themselves. Thereupon the super-patriots gathered about them

and discharged bullets and visited the homes of the comrades.

During the search of the premises which ensued, a quantity of Socialist literature was discovered. These as well as personal letters and communications were run through by the valiant laborers in the field of democracy.

When the comrades again refused to subscribe they became the target for every kind of vile curses that could be mouthed. They were called pro-German and damned by each and all for their Socialist beliefs. So low have the defenders of this variety of democracy fallen in their zeal to spread its virtues over the earth that nothing is too vile for them to resort to.

When in spite of their curses and abuse the comrades still refused to be bulldozed, five guns in the hands of the soldiers were drawn upon the comrades. In this manner the

(Continued on fourth page.)

## WAR PLACES AMERICAN BANKER IN SUPREMACY

### Bankers Plan Imperialistic Rule Over World. Workers Not Consulted. Sphinx' Question Still Unanswered.

The United States emerges from the Great War in a position of unprecedented economic power. In 1913 America was still a borrowing nation. In 1919 she is the creditor of the world.

The property of other nations is heavily mortgaged by war debts. The debt of Great Britain equals 44.4 per cent of her total wealth. The debt of Italy is 50.4 per cent; the debt of France 54.6 per cent; the debt of Germany 50 per cent; and that of Austria-Hungary 96 per cent of the total national wealth. The entire present national debt of the United States is only 9.6 per cent of her total wealth.

The United States has loaned the Allies a total of nine and a quarter billions. She holds a mortgage on almost ten per cent of their net wealth. The net wealth of Great Britain (wealth minus debt) is 50 billions; of France 30 billions; of Italy 12 billions; of Japan 27 billions. The net wealth of the United States is 225 billions. The United States has been forced to bond less than 10 per cent of her total wealth. Her net wealth is greater—nearly 100 per cent greater—than the combined net wealth of her principal allies.

The value of exports over imports (the trade balance) for the calendar year 1918 amounted to over three billions of dollars in favor of the United States. The indications are that for 1919 there will be a trade balance almost as heavy.

Before the war billions of American securities were owned in Europe. Of these securities two and a half billions have been brought back to the United States.

There is in the United States over three billions in gold money. Compare this amount with the 400 million stock of gold in the Bank of England, and the one billion, one hundred million stock of gold in the Bank of France. The United States has vastly more than her share of the world's gold supply.

The United States is the greatest manufacturing nation on earth. She produces, through high industrial efficiency, a huge annual surplus of wealth, which must seek investment somewhere. Prior to the war, the foreign investments of Great Britain, Germany and France totaled nearly forty billion dollars. The foreign investments of the United States were a mere nothing compared with this amount.

Now the tables are turned. German foreign investments are wiped out. Her surplus is gone. Great Britain and France will be busy restoring the economic life at home. The United States today is prepared to invest more money in foreign enterprises than any nation in the world. From this time forward, she will be in a position of unquestioned superiority as a lending nation. The United States is on the verge of a period of financial imperialism that

will eclipse anything that modern society has known. Resources, efficiency, investable surplus, freedom from heavy debt, equipment with adequate man-power—in all of these directions, the United States far outdistances her nearest competitor.

Competition for trade and for investment opportunities will be very bitter during the next few years. It is little wonder that France and Great Britain are seeking protection in a Triple Alliance with the huge reservoirs of American credit. Will this Triple Alliance hold when these reservoirs, filled to overflowing, threatens to submerge the capitalism in less favored lands?

Manifest destiny is calling the United States to take her position as the greatest financial imperialist nation on earth. Her economic future possesses all of the allurement that vast wealth and unchallengeable power can command. In a few—very few years—there will be, not a "Big Five," not a "Big Three," but a "Big One," and that one will be the United States.

The bankers already have recognized this fact. They have accepted it in the person of Thomas W. Lamont, member of the firm of J. P. Morgan & Co., financial advisor to the American peace delegation in Paris; and leader of the group of international bankers that is to be responsible for the Chinese loans.

The economic supremacy of the United States is not a theory. It is a fact. Manifest destiny is directing the Ship of State. Isolation has been abandoned. The theory that American diplomacy could not be expected to back American investments has been forgotten. Administrative officials and financiers agree on the principle and on the practice. The United States is to be the money-lender of the world!

Thus far, it is the bankers who have spoken. These plans are bankers' plans. The people are still to be heard from.

What do the American people think of imperialism? Are they content to pay the price? Are they willing to support a huge navy; equip and maintain a large standing army; bind themselves in alliances with foreign powers; engage in petty quarrels; participate in devastating wars; give their fathers, husbands and sons for cannon fodder; labor, sweat, produce the immense surplus of wealth that will be needed to supply the demand for American capital? Are they satisfied—the masses of the people—to live narrow lives in narrow houses, while the owners of wealth and the holders of power wallow in luxury? Are the American people ready to pay this price?

Others have been willing to pay. The Roman workers paid. So did the workers of France. The British workers have been paying for more

(Continued on Second page.)

## It's High Time We Socialists Quit Trying To Build Our House With Borrowed Tools

Raise your eyes half an inch. Read the headline once again. Does it mean anything to you? We hope it does. It should, because as socialists we have been most criminally guilty of the "borrowing habit." Fact of the matter is, we, as socialists, have about depended entirely upon the good will of our neighbors (capitalists) for about every thing we needed in the building of our house.

We never thought it was necessary to own anything with which we worked. It was so much easier to borrow of our friend the enemy.

Let us draw a parallel.

You are starting to build a house. The ground is before you and you have a grand blue print of your future dwelling from cellar to garret. All the material is to hand ready for assembling. You pull off your coat ready for the big job.

But you have no tools to build with. Not a spade, nor a pick to dig the basement; not a hammer nor saw, nor square nor plane. All the material with which to erect a dwelling for the comfort of your old age, for the happy childhood of your children and their children, plenty of labor power just aching to get busy at the work of construction; but not a tool in your possession.

Then it dawns upon your mind that your house will be a long time unoccupied un-

less you get some tools on the job. You feel in your pockets only to discover that you haven't even a jackknife. Some how it doesn't occur to you to invest a few dollars in shovels, picks, saws, hammers and other essential implements of the building trade. Not at all. But you have a most brilliant idea. You think, "sure, I can't build this house (and Lord knows I need it bad enough) without tools and though I haven't any, friend capitalist has a full chest of the very best. True, enough, he and I don't agree as a general thing, and quite often we have considerable trouble and come to mortal blows; but maybe he will lend them to me." It's a great idea, so absorbing you go.

Well, you get the tools and you start to excavate for the foundation that is to be laid beneath your house. And just about the time you have made a good start and are beginning to take pride in your achievements, and faith in the development of your work, along comes your friend the owner of the tools. He has a bad look on his face which proves that he and you have had another "difference." And he wants his tools returned. It doesn't cut any ice with him that your house is unfinished, that the roof is but half on and the interior exposed. It isn't his house. But the tools ARE his and whether you like it or not you have to return them for they are HIS. He just

owns these tools or borrows them, whether loaned them as long as it suited HIS convenience. Your house can rot in the rain for all he cares.

This is an example of what we socialists have been doing all along. We have started to build the house of the New Society. But we have neglected to get possession of the tools to build with. We have depended upon securing the use of the tools owned by our capitalist enemies with which to do the building. And man's the time we have paid dearly for our folly. Often we have had to suspend operations because he refused to longer lend to us. Many times our house has been left open to the winds and storms on account of our neglect in so providing ourselves against the day of adversity.

Yes, we have paid dearly enough for it would seem. We have seen our propaganda obstructed, our papers and magazines destroyed. The work and sacrifice of many hard working comrades utterly thrown away as a result of our dependence upon our enemies. We had the borrowing habit and we used it to the limit. We became experts in the use of it and as a result we learned to our sorrow that we borrowed more trouble than anything else.

That is the lesson we have learned of the past. That's what the result of our building with borrowed tools has taught us. And that is why we are going to quit. We refuse to see the work of the Socialist

movement disrupted, disorganized by some owner of the tools with which we must work which by all the rules of common sense should be our own. We refuse to see our papers that have been built up by the hardest of hard work, worry and effort destroyed by some owner of a print shop which is no better and often not half so well equipped as one we could outfit ourselves if we only would think so. We refuse to see the progress of our movement hampered because of the fact that we refuse to do the obviously necessary thing—own the tools with which we work. We refuse to longer tolerate such an impossible condition of affairs.

We are going to quit trying to build our house with our enemies in possession of the tools we must use, and likely at any moment to withdraw them. Comrades we are going to get those necessary tools. We can get them just as soon as we realize the foolishness of doing without them. We know there are thousands upon thousands of socialists and near socialists who agree that borrowing of our sworn enemies is the most foolish thing possible. We know they will help us to quit the evil habit of borrowing and establish our own PRINTING PLANT just as soon as they learn we wish to. Perhaps you are one of these comrades who realize that the future of the Socialist movement depends a great deal upon whether the Socialist Party we are to control our own printing plant

or have it controlled by our capitalist enemies.

In possession of a modern printing press and equipment the Socialist Party can accomplish wonders in the way of propaganda. Without such equipment, our enemies hold the handle of the whip.

It is for these reasons that the Socialist Party of Ohio is carrying on this campaign for a party-owned printing plant and making a drive for \$10,000 dollars to pay for it. And while you read these lines comrade, ask yourself if it isn't possible for you to help a bit in getting that ten thousand together for this purpose. We are sure that you can boost a bit—perhaps a good deal more than you thing at first until the NECESSITY of it dawns upon you.

The campaign has just opened, but already the response has been most generous. Comrades from many parts of the country have proved by their financial response to this call that they are ready to subscribe the needed funds to make it possible to quit building with borrowed tools. Below are the names of comrades who have subscribed to the Ohio Socialist Party Press Fund during the last week. They have subscribed the amount at the head of the column in which their name appears. Next week we shall have a larger number of names to report and we want to see YOURS among them. Let us hear from you this week.

### \$1.00 Column

V. Bower, Creston, O.  
J. Bower, Creston, O.  
E. P. McDevitt, Steubenville, O.  
Chas. Litz, Sandusky, O.  
B. M. Dutton, Abingdon, Va.  
J. Putney, Shelby, Mich.  
H. O. Davis (\$1.50), Nortonville, Ky.  
E. D. Orr, Marion, O.  
Chas. Baker, Hamilton, O.  
W. M. Reider, Niles, Mich.

### \$2.00 Column

A Comrade, Niles, Mich.  
A Comrade, Niles, Mich.  
Leopold Hoffman, Grafton, O.  
Jeff Smett, Glencoe, Okla.  
D. M. Greathouse, Akron, O.  
P. H. Rubin, Barberton, O.  
Chas. Dearolf, Barberton, O.  
John Phaus, Barberton, O.

### \$5.00 Column

Wm. J. Ake, Cincinnati, O.  
Dr. W. Van Nette, Clyde, O.  
Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Rickey, Akron, Ohio.

### \$10.00 Column

Mary A. Bundy, Warren, O.  
George Bundy, Warren, O.  
Bishop and Mrs. Wm. M. Brown, Gallion, O. (\$12.50.)

### \$25.00 Column

Local Battle Creek, Michigan.  
Walter Bronstrup, Cleveland, O.  
T. H. Robertson, Canton, O.  
Local Barberton, Ohio.

### \$50.00 Column

Local Warren, Warren, Ohio.

### \$100.00 Column

This column is watchfully waiting—for whom?

### Pledge Column

Bishop and Mrs. Wm. M. Brown, Gallion, O., \$200.

HERE'S THE WAY WE ARE GROWING

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Contributed to June 1.....            | \$129.00 |
| Received since .....                  | 171.00   |
| Total to date, June 8.....            | \$300.00 |
| Balance needed to make \$10,000 ..... | \$9,700  |





