

Our Washington News Letter

By Paul W. Hanna.

WASHINGTON — This city will echo very promptly the decision respecting Russia which allied ambassadors are expected to reach in London. The senate sub-committee which is taking testimony on Russian propaganda in America is now marking time until the announcement for or against friendly relations with Russia has been made.

The situation here is very simple. Our official policy toward Russia is in the hands of the Democratic state department. But the investigation of Russian propaganda is controlled by the Republican senate. Between those two branches of the government there is no love lost.

It is confessed that the state department, by following the wobbly course marked out in London and Paris, has got nowhere at all with respect to Russia. It has sent a number of American boys to be buried under the Arctic Circle at Archangel and in the snows of Siberia, and congress, which has declared no war against the Russian people, is full of men who condemn the adventure. Nobody defends it any more.

The Republicans think there may be a lot of political capital to be made out of the Russian muddle, but they are not sure of their ground. They suspect, with good reason, that the allies led by Italy and England, are about to make formal peace with the soviet government. If that happens our Democratic state department will be left high and dry with its anti-Bolshevik program.

And that would give the Republicans their chance. The senate sub-committee would proceed to take testimony that will expose the administration's incompetence, especially with respect to its lending of more than \$100,000,000 of American money to the irresponsible "ambassador," Baklanoff, envoy of the fugitive Kolchak.

If the London cat jumps toward friendship with Russia, the senate will probably call ex-Secretary Lansing as a witness to explain many awkward things. And Secretary Baker, who has confessed on the witness stand that he turned over many millions of dollars' worth of war materials to Kolchak, without any security except the personal note of a man in the Baklanoff "embassy" here, George Creel, Col. Raymond Robins, Edgar Sisson and others have also been listed for subpoena.

On the other hand, if the ambassadors at London should issue a statement hostile to the Russian government, and indicating the possibility of further war against it, the senate committee will direct its animosity against Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, the soviet representative who is now its star witness. The notorious Lusk committee, New York, can supply enough sensational innuendo to "justify" the deportation of Martens. It will be seen that the Republican senate, in a position to win a lot of political publicity no matter whether the Russian penny turns up heads or tails.

Good judges are of the opinion that further war against Russia is impossible for the allied powers. As every newspaper proclaims, the big crisis facing western civilization is that of diminished production and impending financial collapse. A war against Russia or any other nation would certainly postpone a cure of the major evil, and might hasten the feared disaster.

And Japan is obviously not going to play alone with the Russian fire. Recent news is that an uprising of patriots has wrested the northern half of Korea from Jap control. China is bitterly hostile to the Mikado and will take advantage of the first opening to adjust the Asiatic balance in her favor.

Soviet Russia has returned all the territory stolen by the czars from Persia, Afghanistan, and Mongolia, whose peoples for the first time in two centuries, are free to concentrate their energies against encroachment from the west, south and east — against the imperialists of Europe and Japan.

GENOSSEN!

Ich kaufe und zahle die hochsten Preise fuer alte Briefmarken und Briefmarken-Sammlungen. Im Falle Sie etwas zu offerieren haben, kommen oder schreiben Sie zur Redaktion dieser Zeitung, oder rufen Sie Harvard 3638.

COMRADES ATTENTION!

Old Postage Stamps or original envelopes or entire stamp collections bought at highest prices, if you have anything to offer, call at the office of the Toller or phone Harvard 3639.

SIX "RIGHTEOUS" REASONS WHY AMERICAN AND MEXICAN WORKERS SHOULD SPILL EACH OTHER'S BLOOD

—By Arthur Thomson—

There is an organization of property interests and labor exploiters, with headquarters in New York City, known as the National Association for the Protection of American Rights in Mexico. This association with the long name is composed of agricultural, mining, oil, security and banking, and "general interest" groups of American capitalists having property interests in Mexico. The House of Morgan, Standard Oil Co., Anaconda Copper Co., Doheny oil interests, and other big concerns are represented on the association's board of directors.

The association maintains a high-salaried press bureau, the director, according to his own testimony before the United States sub-committee investigating Mexican affairs, receiving a salary of \$20,000. This press bureau floods the country at opportune times with misrepresenting reports about Mexico, and conducts an insidious intervention propaganda. Knowing that war is an unpopular subject with the people since the European war and "intervention means war" these intervention propagandists camouflage it so as it will not be thought that they are advocating intervention, or war.

None of the association directors advocate intervention, to hear them tell it, but though not advocating intervention their organization is engaged in propaganda for the purpose of pulling the wool over the people's eyes, and making them believe it is necessary to intervene in Mexico in the interests of "law and order" and protection of lives. Of course, they are not interventionists! They say they are not! E. L. Doheny, the oil millionaire of Los Angeles and a leader of the association with the long name, who has large oil interests in the Tampico district of Mexico, says he is not an interventionist. But at the same time he paints such a picture—a false picture—of

Mexican affairs that the person who reasons superficially and reading Doheny's testimony comes to the conclusion that intervention is necessary. That is the purpose of all this insidious intervention propaganda—the lying stories of atrocities, the anarchy and bandit stories, the murder maps, etc.

Denounces Committee.

A San Francisco paper has evidently become so disgusted with the "investigation" conducted by the senate sub-committee "investigating" Mexican affairs that it says editorially of the evidence offered at the hearings:

"Newspapers are being

flooded with reports or partisan opinions by unknown and irresponsible persons rescued from obscurity solely for the purpose of stirring up strife between the two countries. No man so insignificant he is not being taken to San Antonio to testify before senate sub-committee if it is thought that he has some grievance against Mexico.

"The very nature of most of the evidence is such as would be thrown out of court in a trial for stealing a dog. When documentary, it is usually trivial and sometimes farcical, but

more often it consists of no more than hearsay.

"If America is to go to war on some of the evidence tendered at San Antonio it will be a crime aggravated by the appearance of a damnable conspiracy.

There is one thing very conspicuous about these interventionists and insidious propagandists against Mexico and that is they are invariably either, holders of Mexican properties or are actuated by property considerations. Senator Fall, for instance, chairman of the senate committee investigating Mexican affairs, is "engaged in

mining in Mexico." Some bold, bad people in Texas had the daring audacity to adversely criticize Fall and his committee recently, and the senator from New Mexico felt it his duty to get on the witness stand and answer his critics. He said in answer to charges that he was financially interested in Mexico, that the extent of his property interests was stock in a mining company valued at \$75,000.

Of course if the United States was to intervene in Mexico and set up a government acceptable to Wall Street, Senator Fall's mining stock would probably in a short time increase in value many times over. But then don't think for a moment that Mr. Fall wants intervention! He says he is not an interventionist. Of course you must not go looking up the record of these belligerent senators, as it may spoil things. In 1916 Senator Fall called for 500,000 soldiers to police Mexico!

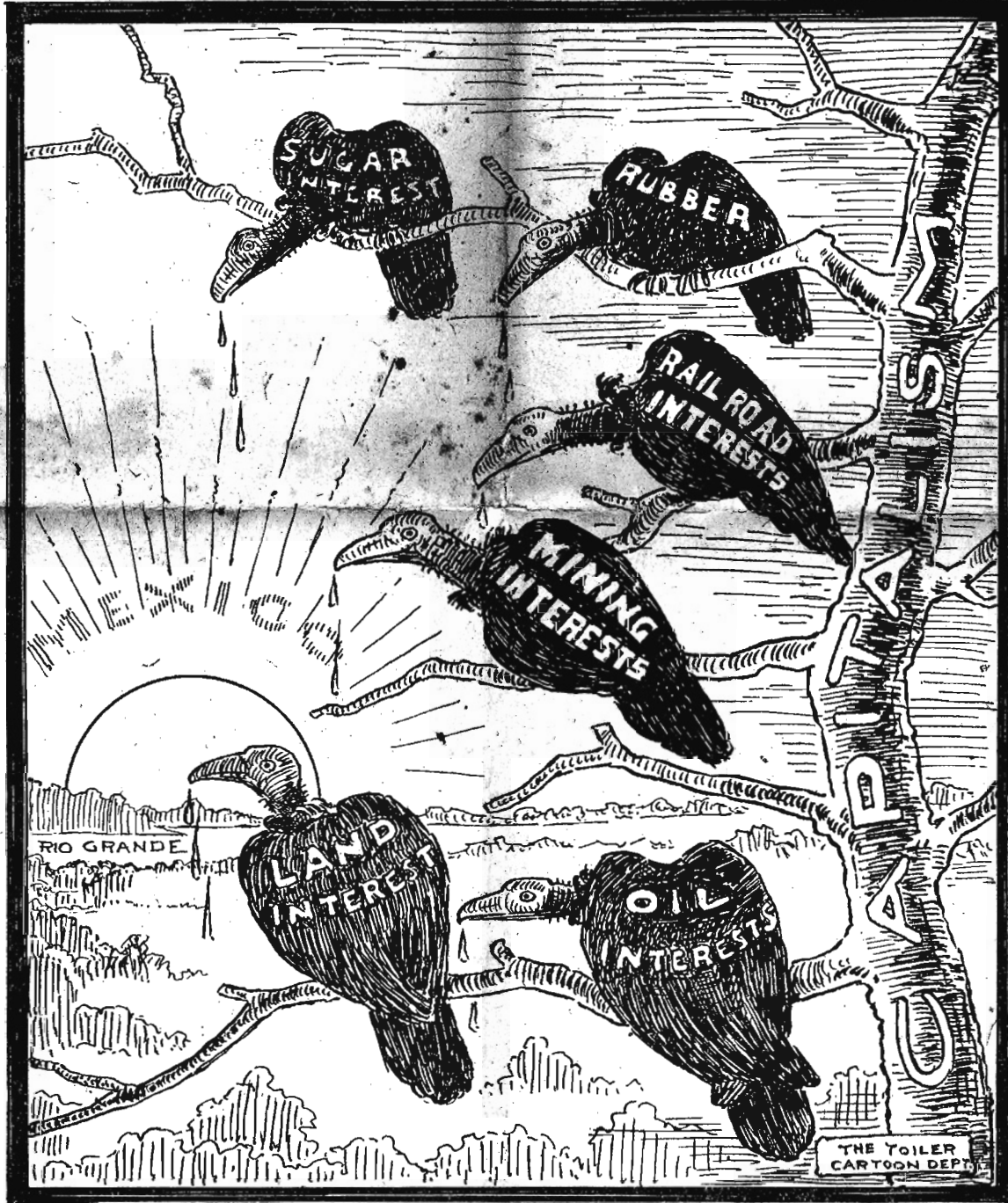
Then there is William Randolph Hearst. This jingo journalist with his string of metropolitan newspapers openly advocates intervention in Mexico. No story is too wild or fantastic for the Hearst journals. Anything of propaganda value, play it up, seems to be the rule.

Heart's Big Holdings

The Mexican Herald, August 24, 1908, published the following information, which throws an interesting light on the Hearst eagle screeching for intervention.

"With over a million acres of the finest agricultural and grazing land, with large herds of blooded cattle, horses and sheep, roaming over this vast domain, the big Hearst cattle ranch and farm in Chihuahua is the peer of any such estate in the world whether it lies in the green corn belt of Illinois or Kansas, or stretches for miles across the wind-swept prairies of Texas and Oklahoma. Two hundred and fifty miles of barbed wire fence enclose a portion of this vast

Continued on page 4th.



"Watchful Waiting"

APPEAL OF FIVE SOCIALISTS WILL BE HEARD

CHICAGO—Argument of the appeal before the United States circuit court of appeals for the reversal of the verdict of "guilty" in the cases of Victor L. Berger, T. Louis Fngdall, Irwin St. John Tucker, Adolph Germer and William F. Kruse has been set for March 11.

Attorney for the five Socialists, Seymour Stedman, filed the appeal, to which the government has just answered in a brief of 308 pages in length. The bulk of the brief is occupied with the published writings of the five. "Free speech is a matter of time and place," says the document.

The fact that most of the alleged offenses were committed before the passage of the espionage law is dismissed by the statement that the papers and leaflets complained of were distributed after the passage of that law.

The story that appeared in the Hearst papers to the effect that the government asked in the brief for the immediate cancelling of the bail bonds and the jailing of the five men is pure fiction, with absolutely no basis of fact, according to an official statement at Socialist party headquarters.

GOOD NEWS FOR OUR READERS

The Toller has succeeded in contracting for the serial rights of a new book, never before published, on "Proletarian Science, An Economic Interpretation of History". This work is especially arranged for study class use. Likewise adapted for home study.

You will find this just the thing you have been wishing for. It is not a dry, brainracking work, but an intensely interesting, lively written book that appeals to every reader. We can think of nothing which we could publish that would give our readers more pleasure and instruction than this treatise on social facts and their interpretation.

Organize a Study Class Now

We want our readers to get the full benefit of this series of chapters which have not and will not appear in any other periodical. And the best way to do that is to organize a study class. Whether the class be large or small, a greater benefit can be secured by this method. Talk this over with your friends, arrange a place and time to meet each week and take up these chapters as they appear, you will be immensely benefitted by them.

As soon as you have formed a class please write and tell us, for we want to know how many comrades are taking up this study course. Don't delay. The introductory chapter will appear in the next issue. There are fourteen chapters in the book.

Arrange YOUR studyclass now!

JURY IS HEARING WINNIPEG STRIKE EVIDENCE

WINNIPEG—Seven leaders of the Winnipeg general strike of 1919 are now on trial in the law courts here charged with "sedition conspiracy." The men are William Ivens, Richard J. Johns, George Armstrong, Roger E. Bray, Ald. A. A. Heaps, Ald. John Queen, of Winnipeg, and William A. Pritchard, of Vancouver, B. C.

Before the selection of the jury the defense committee attempted to defer the trial until the next assizes because of popular prejudice. This was refused, as was the request to prevent Justice Metcalfe from judging the case on the ground that he was prejudiced. The committee claimed that the crown counsel of four, members were the spokesmen of the Citizen's committee of 1,000 during the strike; and that the jury panel had been returned in an irregular fashion. These objections were ruled out. A change of venue was denied. The jury chosen is composed of 12 farmers, most of them over 50, and therefore not apt to be in touch with the economic ideas of the city wage worker.

The evidence has for the most part consisted in the reading of sentences abstracted from labor resolutions and platforms.

The trials of F. J. Dixon, member

of the Manitoba provincial legislature, and J. S. Woodsworth for alleged seditious libel growing out of the strike, are proceeding simultaneously with the other trials.

Soviet Peace Policies Summed Up

DORPAT—The policy of the soviet republic upon the conclusion of peace with Estonia was thus summed up by Secretary Kilshko of the soviet delegation to a representative of The London Daily Herald:

"First, we do not disguise our desire for a similar peace with all the border states," he said. "Our creed—the creed which we are fighting for—is self-determination. But it must be applied to ourselves also.

"The border states and their backers—France, England, and America—should have learned by this time that great wars cannot be won by money and munitions alone. They require men. Ours are fighting for the vision of the new world which already has begun to exist in Russia. Therefore, every army fighting us is overgeneralled and undermanned.

"We have known that for a long time; our enemies are beginning to understand it. So we expect before long peace offers, beginning with the

What it Costs to Live Decently

—By Scott Nearing—

Health and decency cost money in these United States — just how much is indicated in a recent report of the United States department of labor. This report "presents the results of a study made to determine the cost of maintaining a family of a government employe in Washington at a level of health and decency." "Health and decency" are thus defined:

1. A sufficiency of nourishing food for the maintenance of health, particularly the children's health.
2. Housing in low rent neighborhoods and within the smallest possible number of rooms consistent with decency, but with sufficient light, heat and toilet facilities for the maintenance of health and decency.
3. The upkeep of household equipment, such as kitchen utensils, bedding, and linen, necessary for health, but with no provision for the purchase of additional furniture.
4. Clothing sufficient for warmth, of a sufficiently good quality to be economical, but with no further regard for appearance and style than is necessary to permit the family members to appear in public and within their rather narrow social circle without slovenliness or loss of self-respect.
5. A surplus over the above expenditures which would permit of only a minimum outlay for such necessary demands as (a) street car fares to and from work and necessary rides to stores and markets; (b) the keeping up of a modest amount of insurance; (c) medical and dental care; (d) contributions to churches and labor or benefit organizations; (e) simple amusements, such as the moving pictures once in a while, occasional street car riders for pleasure, some Christmas gifts for the children, etc.; (f) daily newspaper.

This modest "health and decency" standard, for a family consisting of a man, wife and three children — a boy of 11, a girl of 5 and a boy of 2 years of age — cost, in the city of Washington, during October, 1919, \$2,285.25.

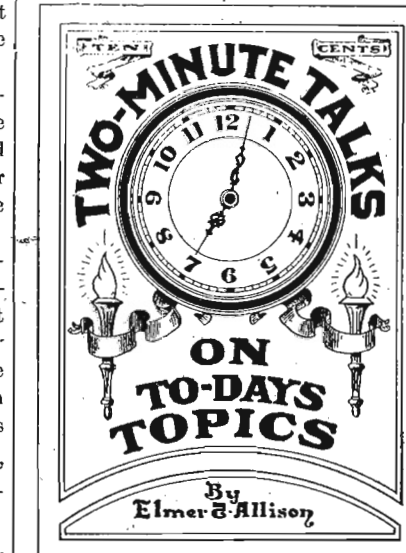
Two thousand, two hundred eighty-eight dollars and twentyfive cents! Any man, with a young family of three, whose income was less than that amount during October, 1919, could not live in Washington on a standard of health and decency. Two thousand, two hundred eighty-eight dollars a year is between \$7 and \$8 per working day. If these working days are of eight hours, that means about \$1 per hour.

Manufacturers journals please copy.

Baltic states. On that point it would be well for the allied people to study the agreement with Estonia which we have issued for world-wide publication. We want the peoples to understand it.

"As for any desire on our part to spread Bolshevism by the sword throughout Europe, I believe this horrid fear is the real reason of the existing governments keeping alive this hopeless and suicidal war. Our obvious efforts to release regiments on the Estonian front during the recent negotiations, so that the men shall return to work, is one little proof of our real intention.

"It is absurd for sane people to suppose that a workers' and peasants' government has any place in it for militarism. Imagine what a chance such a policy would have for existence in a country as war-weary as Russia, even if the soviet leaders will it. When we deal with the entente we shall be willing for more, insist on—provisions making possible the demobilization of the 2,500,000 men in the Red army."



A booklet for the non-socialist. Order it—distribute it. Address—The Toller.

Skygac's Column

"Blessed are the meek" says the Book, "for they shall inherit the Earth." Mehbe so. Mehbe so. At any rate those who are class conscious and belligerent DO inhabit the jails and penitentiaries.

According to the proposed new legislation, about the only excuse accepted for allowing a crowd to congregate will be to praise Jesus and sing the Star Spangled Banner.

When the bourgeoisie spellbinder draws a crowd, that isn't a crowd. It is a distinguished audience.

It is hard to pour oil on the troubled waters of the Mexican situation for the reason that oil causes most of the trouble.

If you are economically orthodox, animated by the desire to get rich, (no matter how questionable) and sanction the present code of things you are thoroly patriotic and may be classed as a hundred per center.

If you are economically unorthodox if you place the man above the dollar, no matter how self sacrificing or loyal your Americanism has been, or how disinterested your motives, you will be classed as an anarchist or bolshevist and hounded as an enemy of society.

Confronted with the necessity of making a choice between those two classifications, where does a real mandemostic business what will happen to belong?

It was Bobbie Burns who wished some power the gift to gie us, to see ourselves as others see us. The Journal of Paris commenting on the "Autocratic Action" of Wilson in "firing" Lansing calls the event, "a striking example of the autocratic regime the facade of which is democratic."

"President Wilson," the paper continues, "returns after his mysterious illness and comes to the conclusion that Secretary Lansing during his absence has been ruling as Lansing wishes and dismisses him. National representation and popular sentiment are not even consulted in reaching a decision in which Louis XIV would have used more formality."

In its editorial on the incident the Libre Parole remarks:

"Mr. Wilson, who has governed his country seven years without the least regard for national representation, who threw America into the war after winning the election on a peace program, and who domineered over the peace negotiations, returns from a mysterious illness to accuse his foreign minister of governing autocratically during his absence. Isn't that laughable?"

Newspaper account of a recent raid in New Jersey said that about 26 of the reddest reds were busy printing a leaflet entitled "The Truth About Centralia".

Let Us Congratulate Ourselves

We wish to congratulate our readers and ourselves too, upon the coming series of lessons in Proletarian Science which begin in the next issue of The Toller. This work, by W. E. Reynolds will prove to be the greatest series of educational lessons which ever appeared in any Socialist publication. Comrade Reynolds is well known in Ohio, having lectured for many of our Locals in the past and he is recognized not only as one of the best platform lecturers, but his writings in the socialist press have for years gained him a most enviable reputation. Whether comrade Reynolds speaks or writes his work is characterized by originality, true scientific conception and deep erudition. That "Reynolds knows" socialist economic from A to Z and can present his subject in the most entertaining manner is known to thousands of socialists in all states of the Union.

The Toller has published many good things, in fact, we take pride in giving our readers the best obtainable. In publishing the series of study lessons, we feel that we are adding to the value of The Toller as an educational organ. That this series will prove to be of intense interest and value to our readers goes without saying. Every reader should interest himself in organizing a study class and thus reap the full benefit of this course. Local Secretaries should at once line up the members for study class work. Nothing will add interest to your Local work more than this. Organize a study class now.

Good work, Watson, good work! We must not allow the truth about anything to be circulated in America!

A popular rhymester was right to the point when he has a character suggest that Mr. Palmer get busy and deport the whole administration! It sure would go a long ways toward making America safe for Democracy!

The supremacy of Rome was localized but at the present rate of speed it begins to look as tho the supremacy of the rule of the proletariat was to be world-wide.

Meat is to be cheaper according to the reports of the packers. Now that it has been decided to let Europe shift for itself no more meat is to be exported. They decided to let Europe shift for itself right after the bottom dropped out of Foreign Exchange. No longer are we sorry for poor bleeding Europe as it is no longer profitable to be sorry! With the bottom dropped out of Foreign Exchange what will happen to the export trade?

With the bottom dropped out of the Export trade what will happen to domestic business?

With the bottom dropped out of the bourgeoisie?

Yea, Verely Congress has SOME problems to solve!

These are the days when it behooves the budding young seion of bourgeoisie stock to learn to do something useful so he may have some excuse for being allowed to stick around in the New Society.

Cook County Jail Prisoners Will See Another Execution.

Chicago, Feb. 17.—Prisoners in the Cook county jail will be permitted to witness executions despite protest by women's organizations, public officials and others, Sheriff Peters announced Tuesday.

"The mere hanging of a particular subject is not meant to punish that subject alone," said the sheriff, "but the real object is to punish the criminal class. If capital punishment means anything at all, it is a deterrent to further crime and an example to others. The very class it is intended to reach is that confined in the jail."

Wouldn't this Antidivulsiun sheriff have taken an unholy joy in the operation of the ducking stool and the burning of witches?

Notice that last statement of his. Here he is judge and jury as well as executioner!

What a splendid example of the brutal, stupid, ignorant officialdom of America today!

An atavistic hangover from the dark ages in full power in the twentieth century.

To Remind You

That you like our cartoons. Of course we know you do. You like them because they are so good you can't help it. And because they are good you want to see more of them. You want to see one in each issue of The Toller—and you will—if you will just help finance the cost of having the drawings cast. Our cartoonist donates his work, but the engraving company is a profit institution. Send a little to make sure of a cartoon each week just as good as the one on the front page.

Here's how cartoon account looks.

Receipts to date:
Leon Vetta, Homestead, Pa. \$1.00
M. Slavik, Warren, O. .50
A Comrade 1.00
Previously acknowledged . . . 9.00
Total \$11.60
Expenses \$25.14

HERE IS ONE ANSWER TO "ARE CARTOONS WORTH WHILE?"

And last but not least, \$1.00 to keep up the cartoons, for the cartoons will impress a person's mind more than a whole book, as some haven't time to read much, others cannot read, in either event a good cartoon will tell its story in a jiffy and it may even attract persons who are absolutely against socialism, make them see a truth that volumes of reading could not do. The last cartoon is a hot one and one of the best ones yet, so keep it up. If cartoons aren't of any benefit, why do all the capitalist papers use them so freely?

With best wishes to you and the movement, I am

Cordially yours,
Wood O. Maxwell.

THE I. W. W. CASE AT MONTESANO

The trial of the 11 members of the I. W. W. growing out of the Armistice Day parade tragedy at Centralia, Wash., is on in full swing at Montesano, a nearby city. After two weeks spent in selecting a jury, the prosecution began its presentation of witnesses and evidence on Feb. 9th. Guns, shells, bullets and other materials used by the defendants were identified by the Sheriff, John Berry. Other witnesses were E. C. Dohm, state engineer, Sidney Gallagher, city engineer and C. M. Bevans, photographer. A small plat of that section of the city in which the shooting occurred is a part of the exhibit of the prosecution. All of the buildings in which the defendants are alleged to have stationed themselves in order to fire on the parade, as well as Seminary Ridge, where the prosecution will attempt to prove I. W. Ws. were stationed and from which point shots are claimed to have been fired into the parade, was also shown.



George F. Vanderveer, the fighting attorney who is defending the I. W. Ws. at Montesano. Attorney Vanderveer has handled many notable cases for the I. W. W. The defense of the organization at the Everett, Wash., trials a few years was in his hands. The I. W. W. were acquitted. He was also counsel in the big Chicago cases in which Wm. D. Haywood and many other well known leaders were implicated. Vanderveer was at one time prosecuting attorney of King County (Seattle), Wash.

Rumors that a large delegation of I. W. W. members were to flood the town has failed to materialize. Scores of American Legion members and special deputies swarm the streets and keep watchful tab on all strangers.

The strong point of the prosecution up to this time has been the submission of the "confessions" of Loren Roberts, a member of the I. W. W., who it is claimed by the prosecution made a complete confession to the police a few days after the shooting occurred. It was only after a hard day's fighting that the prosecution succeeded in getting Robert's alleged confession into the court records. Attorney Geo. F. Vanderveer sought to get permission to prove that Roberts was insane at the time the confession were made, but this he was denied.

Then when the prosecution succeeded in getting the alleged confession of Loren Roberts into the court record, that confession arose to damage their case by emphasizing certain points invaluable to the defense. No denial has been made by the defendants that some of them fired on the Centralia parade; nor that some of them doubtless killed Warren O. Grimm.

Admission that these things are true, interlocks with Attorney Vanderveer's contention of self-defense. Roberts' alleged confession, which the jury is instructed to weigh on whatever merits it may appear to have, contains these declarations:

"That the Industrial Workers had been warned at least two days in advance of Armistice Day that their hall was to be attacked, and because of this prepared to defend it."

"That one of their members and the woman who owned the building in which they were quartered had notified the city authorities of their fears of a raid, had asked for police protection, and had failed to get it."

"That Roberts and two companions who the alleged confession says went with him to a hilltop with guns shortly before the parade, were instructed to fire on anybody who might attack the I. W. W. hall as threatened, but were not to fire until the hall was attacked."

"That one of those three men declared that day that he 'hoped to Jesus there wouldn't be any trouble.'"

Turn in Case Favors Defense. The case took a sudden turn in favor of the defense late last week. It was a dramatic development, the breaking down of testimony by one of the state's chief witnesses.

The story of Tom Morgan, former I. W. W., who had turned state's evidence to save himself at the expense of the 11 other defendants, had been told.

Finally Elsie Hornbeck was put on the stand. She is a slim, dark girl of Semitic features, bookkeeper in the North End garage, across the street from the Avalon hotel, from which the state contends some of the firing on the parade was done.

Before the parade came along, she declared, she saw a man leaning out of the south window of the Avalon. He had dark hair and a thin face, but wore no hat, she said.

"Could you identify him if you saw him now?" asked Special Prosecutor Abel.

"I might," the girl answered.

"Look at these defendants, and then tell me."

She scanned the defendants briefly, and said: "It was the first one."

That was Eugene Barnett, who the prosecution has contended stood in that window and fired.

At that moment, Vanderveer began a counterfire against the state that



Judge John M. Wilson, who is presiding in the trial at Montesano. Judge Wilson presents a subject for study by all interested in the big labor trial. Practically unknown, this trial has lifted him into the limelight where he is being subjected to a merciless scrutiny.

was crushing its significance.

"That was three months ago," said Vanderveer. "Have you ever seen Barnett since?"

"No," said the girl.

"How did you know he was in this line of men?" demanded Vanderveer.

"How were you able to pick him out so quickly? You never looked at the other end of the line at all. How did you know he was in here at all?" Vanderveer hurled all this at her at once. The girl was nervous, hesitant in her replies, as indeed she was throughout the whole cross-examination by the counsel for the defense, and she had to think long and hard before she answered various questions.

Now she answered: "I was told he was in here."

"Who told you?"

"A man outside in the hall."

"Who was he?"

"I don't know. He was waiting there."

"Waiting for what?"

"I don't know."

"How did you happen to talk with him?"

"I don't know. We were just talking."

"What did he say?"

"I don't know exactly. He was talking about the defendants in general."

At this point Vanderveer scored a master stroke. It was like a big moment in a tense drama. He demanded that the girl go out into the hall and point out the man. She looked quizzically at Special Prosecutor Abel. The attorneys for the state growled at "the utility of this stage play."

But meanwhile the girl had left the stand under Vanderveer's insistent glare, went out into the hall with him, and came back a moment later—to say her informant was not out there.

The prosecution had neglected to voice an objection.

"I would have granted it if you had made one," said Judge Wilson.

"Will you say under oath that Barnett is the man you saw in the window of the Avalon?" demanded Vanderveer.

Elsie Hornbeck looked helplessly at Special Prosecutor Abel.

"He looks more like the man I saw in that window than any of the rest," she said, in answer to Vanderveer's question.

"Knowing that it is a matter of a man's life or his death," said Vanderveer, "will you say under oath that Eugene Barnett is the man you saw in the Avalon window?"

Elsie Hornbeck lowered her eyes. She was breathing heavily, and was a pitiful figure. Her eyes lifted and turned toward Abel.

"Look at me!" thundered Vanderveer. "Answer my question. Will you

swear that Barnett is the man?"

"Yes."

Then Vanderveer, by questioning her, brought out the fact that she had been visited several times by persons in behalf of the defense—once it was an American Legion man.

"Were you ever shown a photograph of Barnett?" Vanderveer demanded.

"Yes." Presently she admitted she had seen two photographs.

"And when I asked you if you had ever seen Barnett since three months ago, you answered no," said Vanderveer. "Look at Barnett," he commanded. She obeyed. "Is he thin faced?"

"Well, his face isn't fat," she said.

Actually Barnett's face is full. No one with good eyesight would ever describe him as thin-faced. Elsie Hornbeck said that the first photograph of Barnett was brought to her by the American Legion man; the second, apparently a duplicate of the first, was shown to her by Frank Christensen, one of the special prosecutors.

The girl left the stand shaken.

THOUGHT WAVES

By C. A. Moseley.

The statesmen at Washington do not rise to the occasion; they rise to points of order.

"I am inclined to think," said the congressman, beginning his speech. And then remembering that thought sometimes induces brain fever, he asked permission to print it in The Record.

"It is obviously impossible," as the member of the New York assembly said of the yarn that a man had stood on the curb and spit on a flag carried in a parade. Only an artilleryman, if anyone, could hold such a record for long distance and high range expectation. It makes a good headline, though.

There seems to be an impression that the attorney general is suffering from the unusual combination of a hot head and cold feet.

Mr. Charles H. Grasty, who is described as "a veteran newspaper man and friend of the president," eulogizes Wilson in The Atlantic Monthly, and says of him: "In a large executive position, like, say, the presidency of the Steel corporation, I confidently believe that he would make an unprecedented success." Well, that is one estimate of Mr. Wilson with which we can perhaps agree.

Our Elysian correspondent asked Frederick the Great what he thought of senate bill No. 2715. He replied: "Voltaire, the old rascal ought to have put it into my head to organize a National Security League and convince the peasant boys that compulsory military service was the greatest democratizer since Pharaoh made the fellahs built the pyramids."

Hearst thinks that the Democratic party is slated to lose enormously in the next election, but that the Republican party will not profit thereby. Possibly where the Republicans have appraised the legacy, they will, like the disappointed heir down south, exclaim: "Durned if I ain't sorry the old man died!"

Over in England, when they get tired of a cabinet and show it the door, they speak of it as the fall of the government, and no one gets excited about it. Over here, if you even criticize the administration, they say you want to overthrow the government, and pretend to mean it. Which shows that the king's English—even now does not always mean what it says.

He Said It.

Rabi Judah Magnes in a speech delivered at the Chicago Coliseum 2/8—20 is reported by the Chicago Tribune of 2/9—20 to have said:

"We wish the American workers to understand, as the British and Italian and German and Russian workers NOW understand that economic power CAN and MUST be used to achieve political ends."

"Economic dictatorship must be taken out of the hands of the small oligarchy of big business men and their satellites, lawyers, teachers and lergymen and the power put in the hands of those to whom rightfully it belongs—the masses who work with hand and brain."

The Black Sheep.

CHAPT. XIX

The girl listened to the exhortation of the preacher in a quiet and dignified manner. She was fully aware of the inconsistencies of his argument. She had always considered herself to be a christian; she had read the Bible, that is, those passages of it which are generally referred to by preachers and pious laity. She had conceived christianity to be the expression of the golden rule in every day affairs; a power that sweetened the life and ennobled the ideals of mankind; a force that purified and exalted their educational, social and political institutions. It was her real, the unexpressed ideal, so to live, that the good people should love her and the bad respect her for her sincerity. In that she was an anomaly among her kind. Religious tenets are used for social purposes; they flourish on Sunday; they are hung upon the clothes rack on the Sabbath evening and taken down again when the church bells ring the next Sunday.

Olive wanted her christianity to be applicable to the problems of life; to be for the good of the living, and not to deal with the problems of the dead alone. As was it existed for the benefit of the dying. The church had long forgotten the communal table; the holding of all things in common. Modern christianity in contradistinction to the primitive locks instead of opens prison doors. She could not understand why God should want to put us in this world to fight sin and unrighteousness and then command his preachers who are to make his will known to the world to keep themselves unspotted from its contamination. In short she did not know where she was at and she told her parson so. She told him that she was blind and that it was quite evident that his reverence could not see. She told him, that it was dangerous for blind people to follow men who could not see. That in the wilderness of injustice and cruelty with which man was surrounded we were in need of men who could rise to duty inspite of loins.

While she spoke the preacher sat limp in his chair. To him it was a voice that came from out of the abyss of reality. It was a soul's cry for the real and only salvation. The preacher realized it but as his stomach was greater than his heart he dared not respond. She opened the door slowly and the while pouring her indignation into the parson's ear. They were not calmly spoken but with a divine earnestness, with an abandon that makes martyrdom possible.

The preacher answered her no more. He only looked at her in horror and amazement and remained in that attitude until she had left his home. Then he walked over toward the little looking glass on the wall and stood before it. "She tells the truth," said he to himself, "but what am I to do. I have preached for thirty years. I have never done any harm. But where and when have I ever done any good? I have caused men to say 'I believe'. I have attacked men as individuals for their immorality, but how am I to fight institutions? It is institutions which make or break a man. It's an awful crime that is going on in this place, when even a child can see it, but what am I to do? Preach the forgiveness of sins, which is simply a licence for more sinning. Then justifying himself, he turned away, saying, "I leave it to the Lord. I can't risk my salary."

In her room that night Olive went over the entire jail scene. She wrote down in a little note book all that Jack had said and beside it what the parson had said. She read it over time and again, but could come to but one conclusion, and that was, the boy had spoken the truth. He would be justified if he hated her, and all the people like her. It did not occur to her that Jack was but recently emerged into the working class; that he was hardly weaned away from the bourgeoisie. So profoundly had he impressed himself upon her imagination that she had not been aware of Collin's contemptuous attitude or of Rudolph's antagonistic spirit. To her, right and wrong were definite things. They were absolute standards. Her people were doing wrong. It was wrong now, had been wrong in the past and would be wrong in the future. It was a double sin, a sin of omission on the part of the officials and of omission on the part of the people. It had always been her idea that if wrong were pointed out people were willing to do right. Now she found that such men as her father, Duffy, Cranston and Goodman justified crime upon the ground of expedience. She had even caught herself excusing the robbery of the Indians upon the self same ground. While the idea of giving the land back to the Indians, now that it had been improved and bought by innocent white men, also seemed impossible. She came to the conclusion that a wrong once committed could not be righted except thru another and possibly greater wrong.

Her interview with the two men, the convict and the preacher had rent the veil of her temple, and revealed to her what she called the soul of the world. The more she thought of what Jack had said, the clearer she could see the cross of exploitation lying upon the shoulders of Labor; the clearer did she behold the sad and tortured face of Christ in the toiling masses of mankind. It caused her to wrestle with two great concepts of duty, one of which was to her parents and the people to whose class she belonged, in which case she had to make herself content with the world and its ways, or she had to defy the laws and rules of that world and dedicate her life to a struggle such as Jack was waging to make the world what she thought it to be. Of course this desire was utopian. She did not realize that the very mob for which she would sacrifice herself, in the hour of her bitterest need, might turn upon her and rend her limb from limb, as they did at Hypatia. That they might burn her at the stake as they did Joan of Arc. These things did not occur to her. She knew that she had to make a choice between the worshippers of the cross, and the followers of the Christ. And she desired to choose the latter believing sincerely that her god man, Jesus, was the incarnation of the good and the useful in human kind. And she was right. Early christianity was a labor movement or rather was planted in the labor movement already in existence. She did not know these things. She only felt them.

Olive Anderson was laboring under a delusion. She thought that she was choosing the side of labor, in reality she was choosing Jack. She looked at the world thru him. She measured labor and its problems by the big blonde boy, she had seen in an iron cage. All she knew of the vast mechanism of production were steel grey eyes and roughish smile. His logic appealed to her brain; but he appealed to her sex. Olive, the thinker, really wanted justice done for justice sake, but Olive the woman, saw the boy first and as a back ground to him the masses of mankind.

Thus she wrestled all night. In the morning she came down stairs with heavy eyes, her father greeted her with the information that he had heard of her activity in the boys' behalf. He told her that she had acted very indiscreetly, that she didn't know the boy, that there was a good chance that he was nothing but a common criminal. He further told her that he would call up the preacher and tell him that he would "knock his block off" if he ever sent his daughter again, "to peddle church junk to bums in the can." At this his wife took violent issue. It was Olive's duty to visit those in prison and preach the word to them and if her husband wanted to live the life of a heathen that was his affair, but her daughter was going to be a christian and preach the word.

But when Olive asked her to go with her to the Judge and to Smallhead and get this boy out, then the mother immediately changed her tune. "Evil doers have to be punished" but while they are punished we must preach to them. To which the girl replied, that mother seemed to be glad that there was some one in jail to preach to. She told her that christian actions were better than christian words. That it was her idea that the best way in which she could show her christianity was to tell the people of the wrongs they were committing and to restore the boy to liberty.

Of all this the mother would have nothing. She would go and pray with an innocent man condemned to death by a corrupt judge, but would not do a thing to stay the hangman's hand. Her creed was not to concern oneself with the affairs of this world except to get what was necessary to eat and wear by legally approved methods. That is the reason she had taken an infidel for a husband. She had never agreed with this views on theology but was thoroly agreed with his methods of "bringing home the bacon." The truth was she only ate the bacon and did not concern herself about its origin. The origin of things were a mystery to her. She was only concerned with their destiny, and the destiny of the things Gus Anderson brot home, was his wife's back, her stomach or her church. She concerned herself much about the heathen in China. She could tell long tales of their poverty, their ignorance and their superstition, caused by a bad government and a worse religion. But she knew nothing of the poverty on alkali flat, caused by the machinations of her husband in the real estate business. When it came to misery her philosophy was, that distance lends enchantment to the view.

During the altercation between the girl and her mother the father took a hand. "Well, Olive can be a christian," he roared "without going hob nobbing with jail birds. Her sympathies get the best of her, and the first thing you

Continued on page 4th.

The Toiler

ONE YEAR \$1.00 BUNDLE RATES \$1.00 Per Hundred SIX MONTHS 50c

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3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.

Entered as Second Class Matter, under the name of The Ohio Socialist, February 21, 1917, at the Post Office at Cleveland, O., Under Act of March 3, 1879.

EDITOR Elmer T. Allison

Published Weekly by The Communist Labor Party of Ohio at Cleveland, Ohio.

Telephone: Harvard 3639.

CLEVELAND, O., FRIDAY, FEBR. 27th 1920.

OSTRICHES!

Attorney Sharts, editor of the Miami Valley Socialist, states this in the issue of February 13th, in answer to Tom Clifford in The Toiler. "When men declare the ballot a snare and pin their faith to a vague phrase called 'mass action', they leave an opening thru which the capitalists, alarmed, furious, ready for an unprincipled and ferocious method of suppression, can hale the unwary revolutionists before their courts and with sufficient plausibility accuse them of whatever a diseased capitalist imagination chooses to regard as 'mass action'."

"Unwary revolutionists" is good. When we desire to become "wary" and to overthrow the capitalist system without arousing the suspicion of the capitalist State, we shall go to school to attorney Sharts and the Socialist Party. Both are past masters in the art of wariness; they are so wary that capitalism has become wary of their wariness and at Albany has called their little ballot game to task.

"It is not for advocating force but for playing into the clutching paws of the enemy we criticize the Communists and the Communist Laborites", says comrade Sharts.

When will socialists be done with such self-delusion? When will they pull their heads out of the sand and look capitalism in the face? Can capitalism be overthrown without the revolutionists laying themselves open to vicious onslaughts of capitalism? By what method can it be overthrown without arousing the watch dogs of capitalism? By what milk and water applications of social reconstruction can we accomplish the dispossession of capitalism without arousing bitter class-conflict? Are not Albany and Berger enough of a lesson to our comrades of the Right Wing?

Russia and America

The capitalist class domination of all our concepts of life is mirrored in the following news item.

Frayed Cuffs Mean Jail

ST. PAUL, Feb. 18.—Because his cuffs were frayed and his coat faded Tony Vondre couldn't cash a \$358 check here. Instead they locked him up while the police investigate him and the check.

To be poor or to have the appearance of poverty is to be dishonored. No virtues of the mind or heart, no service to humanity, however great and noble, can overbalance the odium of lack of wealth under our debauched, caste system of society. Wealth, or the show of wealth is what we are judged by. The dollar is King and God and the source from which all that is held of value is derived.

But a new concept is spreading across the earth the basis of which is service to society. Not wealth, not appearance, not a life of uselessness are of value, but a rendering of service, a paying of one's way thru life by productive labor of hand or brain are made the conditions of honor under this new social concept.

This is the concept of value and honor under the rule of the Soviets of Russia. Needless to state, the rule of the profit taker and social parasite ended there forever. The workers rule and they have made their rule spell work for all and for all a just return upon their labor. There is no room in Russia for the loafer whether rich or poor. No parasite thrives upon the unpaid labor of others. No parasite class can establish a system of ethics upon the enslaved, riveting upon their minds chains of mental bondage. The new concept extends a challenge to the old, the battle is on and we are witnessing the crumbling of the latter into the dust of what has been.

Moving the Mass Forward

It is interesting to note the manner in which masses of humans step in this or that direction—against all former convictions, as the economic urge induces them to do so. In the be-puzzled state of mind in which the average man finds himself in these days he is ready clay in the hands of that great Potter, Economic Determinism.

That the mass is being moved out of old accustomed tracks is apparent in the loosening and rending of the political strings with which they have hitherto been more or less tightly anchored to one or other of the old parties. This breaking away from the old beliefs is not an arbitrary severance, but betokens a social ferment whose causes lie in the shifting economic foundations of society. In response to economic pressure new ideals are permeating the mass mind and this breaking of faith with the old political ties are its first manifestation.

The mass is ripe for new social concepts. It is subjecting present social questions to a rigid examination, it no longer accepts unquestioningly the convictions which are freely ladled out to it. While it has reached no settled convictions upon any of the questions of the day and doubtless will take its own time in formulating its new ideals, it is assuming an independence of action that augurs well for its future.

Of course there is a great conservative mass whose reluctant steps indicate the force of the law of statics as applied to mass movements and this slow moving contingent of the advancing army clogs the steps of the freer spirits and even-

EDITORIAL & PARTY NEWS PAGE.

SPARKS.

Organize that study class now. Then write us and say you have done it. Prepare to get all the good out of this course in Proletarian Science.

Ten copies of the Bullitt Report were ordered by comrade England, of Moline.

Another sub card order from comrade Branson of Joliet this week.

Comrade Perry Hinkle is on the job of sub getting at Yorkville, O. A \$5.00 order for cards indicates the start he has made.

A little pamphlet for the non-socialist—"Two Minute Talks," that's it.

Comrade Wood O. Maxwell, of Canton, likes our cartoons. The dollar he remits proves his liking. Now, we just wonder if you have a dollar that will say any thing along that line?

If you don't like this week's cartoon—don't send us a cent!

Among the comrades who got a copy of Lenin, The Man and his Work, as a premium, we note that of comrade M. A. Teti of Wyatt, W. Va.

Forty dollars was remitted this past week by comrade Cunningham, of Akron for Bullitt Reports.

And we have to repeat once more—that the number of three month subscriptions which the comrades send in with their renewals is becoming larger each week. It is just a little opportunity which they seem to delight in taking to educate their fellow slaves. Keep it up is the motto.

A "vote of confidence" is what we would call the 2 year renewal of comrade Jack Harrison of Pawnee, Ill. Yes, and the extra sub and the hook order and the two sub cards which he will sell.

Local Niles seems to be carrying out its plan to get all members paid up for the year. A recent dues stamp order shows which way the wind is blowing.

Comrade M. Slavik, of Warren, O., writes that our cartoons are good, that being so, he remits 50c to guarantee more of them.

Two dollars for the defense of comrade Chas. Baker is to hand from Frank Stidd, of Bellaire. "We can't afford to let capitalism put our fighters in jail", he writes.

A five spot will still do a bit of good in several ways. Comrade Joe Pamre of Zanesville, proves that it will. He sends a dollar for his renewal to The Toiler, subscribes for a year for a friend and the other three go to the defense fund.

Among the faraway boosters of The Toiler, we note comrade Helen Ashby of Morton, Wash., is on the job with a bunch of three.

Seven yearlies and three half yearlies constitute the gleanings of John Rehm, of Springfield, O., in the subscription field.

Six yearlies, comrade J. Meek, of Yarrow, Mo., sends us. This puts Yarrow on our map. Good work, thanks comrade Meek.

Every day we receive orders for the Debs picture. The reason is easily found. They are good pictures of our greatest and best loved comrade. Send for one—25c each.

Just \$11.00, that's all—all this time. They come from comrade Perry Shipman, of Rock Island and each one stands for a years subscription. Some boost, we admit.

When I can't get any more subs, writes comrade Fosse Evans, of Girard, Kans., "I will sell literature". But it doesn't look to us as tho he intended to stop. This week he sends us \$8.50 worth and that totals about \$60.00 in the past month which he has sent us in subscriptions. Some record.

You will want as many workers as possible to benefit by the study class

draws them to an apparent full stop at times. But human inertia must at last give way to the law of self interest and when the pressure from behind begins to become again unbearable upon the rear ranks, the mass again sets in motion and new stretches are covered.

This element of the working class, however conservative it may be, and how-wor desirous it may be to stop the agitated march of the ranks of labor, is thus thrust forward, without choice, without desire even, yet ever pushed along the road of progress by the force of economic pressure. It does not take a stand for progress but progress is forced upon it. It is forced along this way by the pull of the militant element in front and the force of events in the rear. It marches without enthusiasm—but march it must.

The Question of Unity of the Communist Labor Party and the Communist Party

About December 16, 1919 a communication was received by the executive secretary of the Communist Labor Party, signed by Fritz Friedmann, who at that time was the organizer for the German branches who had joined the C. P. This communication asked for an unofficial and non-binding conference upon the question of unity, between the national executive committee of the C. L. P. and "influential members" of the C. P.

To this communication was received by the executive secretary of the C. L. P. gave answer, i. e., that such a conference would be greatly expedited if the names of the influential members of the C. P., who desired this conference, were made known to the N. E. C. of the C. L. P. No answer to this inquiry was ever received from Friedmann.

The communication from Friedmann came before the N. E. C. of the C. L. P. in an official manner on January 3, 1920. It was decided at this meeting to elect a committee of two, consisting of Edward Lindgren and A. Wagenknecht, to interview the executive secretary of the C. P.; to carry this invitation for an informal conference issued by Friedmann, an official of the C. P., officially to the C. P., the desire being to have an official conference, if the C. P. now desired unity.

The following week the C. L. P. sub-committee interviewed I. E. Ferguson, of the N. E. C. of the C. P. Ferguson was told of the Friedmann letter and also informed that if the C. P. desired unity, the steps toward that end should be considered officially by the N. E. C. of both parties. Ferguson and the sub-committee of the C. L. P. subsequently arranged for a meeting between this sub-committee and C. E. Ruthenberg and himself.

This meeting took place January 17th. Ferguson could not be present. The secretary of the C. P. Lettish Federation and C. E. Ruthenberg were present for the C. P., and L. E. Katterfeld, Edward Lindgren and A. Wagenknecht were present for the C. L. P. Ruthenberg suggested that unity might be arrived at if the C. L. P. would agree to adopt the C. P. manifesto, program and constitution, and a merging of the two national executive committees. The C. L. P. sub-committee suggested as a counter proposal that the C. L. P. platform be the platform of both parties, as well as the C. P. manifesto and program; that new government rules were necessary to meet the new situation; that a resolution be adopted which admitted that unity was being effected between two parties, the same in principle. It was understood, mutually, that this meeting not official. Upon adjournment of this conference, the C. L. P. sub-committee was given to understand that word would be sent it as soon as the N. E. C. of the C. P. considered the question of unity officially at its meeting.

Word was received from the N. E. C. of the C. P. about January 22, that a committee had been elected to confer with the C. L. P. sub-committee and that the C. P. sub-committee had a definite proposition to make regarding unity. A meeting between the two committees was arranged for January 24th.

At this meeting there were present, three committeemen representing the C. P. Ferguson and Ruthenberg were present in an unofficial capacity. The C. L. P. was represented by Bilan, Katterfeld and Lindgren. Wagenknecht was present unofficially.

The C. P. sub-committee placed the following proposition before the C. L. P. representatives:

course which starts in next issue. Therefore—get subs.

If you enjoy the best, you will like "Man or the State". It costs one dollar.

Two dollars, one for subscription and one "for the good cartoons you are publishing, comes from comrade Leon Vetta.

"Keep up our good fight," writes comrade C. A. Reider, of Apple Creek, O., and he helps us to do it with two yearly subscriptions.

Comrade Frank Renko, of Lovington, Ill., is with us again. Of course he sends in \$5.00 for subs. He's gotten the habit.

Three yearlies arrived this week from comrade Thos. Carmedy, of Akron.

An order for eight copies of "Socialism for Students from comrade H. A. Wise of Davenport, indicates that there is going to be some investigations of socialism made there.

Some recent good literature orders have been filled for C. H. Winton, Akron; L. E. Eblen, Robards, Ky.; J. W. Walker, Battle Creek; Ed. Pohl, Cloverdale, Ind.

Organization and defense contributions to the value of \$4.00 is to hand from Frank Renko, of Livington, Ill.

"Russia in 1919", is the premium chosen by comrade Branson of Joliet, for his \$5.00 worth of sub cards. He'll soon have a library, we are thinking.

Local Toledo remits nearly \$30.00 for literature and sub cards.

Comrade Wm. Rowles, of Cleveland, remits \$3.50 for organization work and defense which he has collected from comrades.

"I'd be lost without it", writes comrade Mrs. Karbosky, of Battle

Creek, and she renews her subscription and promises some more soon.

Another new booster is comrade Hrs. E. Markizon, of Wilmington, Del. She orders \$5.00 worth of sub cards and requests a copy of Russia in 1919 as a premium.

Comrade Betty Blumenberg remits \$1.00 for organization and defense.

Local Tiffin is selling dues stamps, so writes comrade Steekel. An order for more stamps indicates the demand for them.

Have YOU paid February dues yet? Don't delay. Delay means sabotage practiced toward the movement. If you want to sabotage something you know what to pick out for practice.

Comrade L. A. Rospert has taken another fling at old man capitalism. This time he hits him hard—twice as hard as before, for his letter contains \$10.00 worth of new subs. When it comes to hitting, comrade Rospert is there.

A COMMUNIST ANSWER TO JOHN SPARGO

will be the subject of a lecture by TOM CLIFFORD

at North Congregational Church 72nd and St. Clair Ave., Cleveland, O. SUNDAY, FEB. 29, 7:30 P. M. Questions and 3 minute talks invited.

APPRECIATION

"Just a word about the Toiler cartoons. I don't think Walker, Miner, Becker or Robinson have anything on the Toiler cartoonist. The work of this unknown cartoonist is proof that there lies dormant in our movement much excellent talent of various natures that might be utilized in the interest of the Revolution with little or no expense to the Party." Fred Walchli.

Buy Literature.

Pay Dues.

Get Subscriptions

Get Busy.

"That in response to the request from the N. E. C. of the C. L. P. we inform this committee that if it is ready to accept our manifesto, program and constitution and form of organization as the basis for a call for joint convention, we agree to hold a joint convention, and for this purpose, upon receipt of its agreement, we are prepared to elect a joint convention committee (our manifesto, program and constitution to be effective for the C. L. P. only as a basis for a joint call, the form of organization, in-so-far as it means new methods to meet the new circumstances, and the basis for admitting members to go into effect at once)."

Debate proceeded upon this proposition. It was shown by the C. L. P. representatives that even consideration of a convention at this time was useless; that it was criminal to postpone unity in face of the present reaction; that the C. L. P. was in favor of immediate unity and that it fully believed that the membership in both parties favored immediate unity.

The C. L. P. sub-committee then proposed the following counter proposition:

"1. We recognize that there is no fundamental difference of principle between the Communist Labor Party and the Communist Party and we agree to send out a call for a joint convention on the basis of the Communist Party manifesto and program and to elect a convention committee for this purpose.

2. We realize that the constitutions of both parties are impossible of application under present conditions and agree to new organization forms adapted to the circumstances.

WE FAVOR IMMEDIATE WORKING UNITY as far as this can be effected pending the convention. For this purpose the two national executive committees and the two national offices shall be merged, and propaganda and organization work, as well as defense activities shall be conducted in common, but the language federations of both parties shall be allowed to continue upon their old basis until the convention.

The C. P. sub-committee agreed to report this counter proposition to the N. E. C. of the C. P., which was to take place soon, it was claimed.

Upon February 14th the N. E. C. of the C. L. P. held a meeting. In view of the fact that no answer had been received from the N. E. C. of the C. P. a motion was passed to request an answer by March 1st. The N. E. C. of the C. P. was written to this effect.

Subsequently a copy of the C. P. official paper reached us. Thru this we were informed that the N. E. C. of the C. P. had considered the counter-proposal of the C. L. P. The action taken by the N. E. C. of the C. P. follows: "A motion to accept the counter-proposal of the C. L. P. as to point 3 was lost and the following motion adopted: That we reaffirm our previous position with instructions to our committee to make such modifications in regard to the constitution as were indicated in the discussion."

What the modifications referred to are, we do not know. We do know, and we restate firmly, that the C. L. P. stands for immediate unity. We believe that the membership of both parties are for immediate unity. We know that a large minority of the N. E. C. of the C. P. are for immediate unity. But it so happens that those who opposed unity at the convention and since that time, have a majority upon the N. E. C. of the C. P. This majority, consisting of five or six officials, members of the N. E. C. of the C. P., is the only barrier to IMMEDIATE UNITY.

LET THE COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS SPEAK!

Can You Answer these Questions Correctly?

What INTERPRETATION of history were you taught? Do you know how many interpretations of history there are being taught?

What is Evolution? Is it a fact or a fancy? What is the Law of Recurrence? Are you an Atavism, a type or a sportive variation?

What is the "Road to Happiness"? Is man a "Free Moral Agent" or is he RULED by environment, heredity, social and economic?

What was the Solonic Law? Where did the Alphabet come from?

What effect does a change in the tools of production have upon man?

What is Static Mindfulness?

What was the social effect of the invention of the "flivver"?

What discovery marked the end of barbarism?

What is meant by the Materialist Conception of History?

What really determines wages?

These and a thousand other questions are answered in the text of W. E. Reynolds unpublished new book on Proletarian Science.

This book is specially arranged for use in Study-class work or home study. The Toiler has arranged to print this book serially one lesson a week. Each lesson followed by 20 or more questions specially arranged to bring out all the points in the text.

It is as easy to read as a novel, yet contains JUST THE INFORMATION NEEDED most of all by the workers.

Get busy NOW and organize a study class in your community. Study work will be easy—Just follow the text and then discuss it.

Organize a class if at all possible. If you can not get a class, get as many as you can to follow the lessons each week and then discuss them whenever you get the opportunity and see how easy it will become for you to refute your enemies and make converts of your friends.

WATCH FOR THE OPENING CHAPTER IN OUR NEXT ISSUE.

Use the blank below. Call the attention of your comrades and fellow-workers to this course. They will want to subscribe to The Toiler, too, so as not to miss a lesson. Do your part. Help spread the very Best Propaganda.

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Man or the State

A book of essays by Krupotkin, Buckle, Thoreau, Spencer, Tolstoy and Oscar Wilde.

"Should the State be the master or the servant of mankind?"

This book provides the best possible approach to the problem of the State. The essays, written by some of the greatest thinkers of our time, describe the historical evolution of the State, point out its failures, defects and dangers, and outline a nobler State—order built upon the corner stones of human brotherhood, industrial association, and individual freedom. A rare book of delightful literature, stimulating and of great interest.

\$1.00 A VOLUME.

Address: The Toiler, 3207 Clark Ave., Cleveland, O.

Low Exchange Rate Killing Trade

SIDNEY, N. S. W.—America cannot save herself from the world financial ruin caused by the great war. Even the relatively high value of the dollar has proved the death knell of her trade in Australia. The commercial priority built up by 50 years of American effort is crumbling because in bankrupt Europe the pound sterling can purchase more than in America.

The documentary evidence of hundreds of cancelled orders, involving many millions of dollars, shows that the bulk of Australia's trade is now flocking back into Europe, where the pound note contains more shillings than it does in the United States.

Smith & Major of Sydney, representing a number of big firms in the states, say they are about ready to give up American connections unless something is done at once to relieve the money situation.

As an illustration it can be stated that heretofore all the glass business belonged to Europe, especially to Belgium. During the past few years the Americans were annexing the bulk of it. A. J. Stutterd, with the Smith & Major Co., is authority for the information that he was obliged to cancel one order for \$100,000 worth of glass and that he had stopped orders during the past three months reaching over \$1,500,000. All these orders were given to Belgium and Italian firms.

The Kelknap Glass Co. of Seattle had an order for \$100,000 worth of glass and it had to be cancelled. E. Townsend & Co. of New York, who have 20 textile mills, had one order for 20,000 dozen ladies' hose cancelled along with other orders. This is merely a drop in the bucket.

The auto trade has been given a jolt. One agent in Melbourne had orders for 700 cars while another in Sydney had orders for 2,000, which were stopped on account of the money exchange. To aid a 25 per cent premium to the already high cost makes trade impossible.

Six Reasons

(Continued from 1st page.)

ranch and within the enclosure graze 60,000 thorough-bred. Herefords, 125,000 fine sheep and many thousand head of horses and hogs." This land Hearst, is "generally credited with securing from the Mexican government (Diaz's) for nothing or practically nothing."

Besides this land Hearst is believed to be interested in oil and other Mexican property which would probably be enhanced in value by intervention.

American rights in Mexico—that means capitalist or property rights. All this noise about "restore law and order" and "protect American lives" in Mexico is merely a scheme to hide the real issue—that of property.

BLACK SHEEP

Continued from page 2.

for a son-in-law. I have heard of that kind. They tell me he is smart. And I'll tell you right now smart bums are dangerous. She is not going to that can agin' or I'll mop main street from the railroad to the bill with your precious Bible pounding sky pilot. She is my daughter by God, and I'll protect her from sky pilots, and all other s— who try to get her into trouble." Then turning to Olive he said, "Now papa's little girl is going to stay away from that awful place, ain't you?"

And Olive put her arms about his neck and whispered softly in the old man's ear—"and papa is going to help me get that boy out of jail, won't you papa?" And at that Anderson shook his head and protested that it was not in his province to interfere with the course of justice, and that wrong had to be punished. And Olive reminded him that he himself had said that these men were arrested in order to get their money.

"Well", said Anderson, "being that it's you I will go and see Judge Duffy about it, but you must promise me never to interest yourself in such a case again." Then in a thunderous voice, "Keep out of that jail."

Olive did not promise to fulfill the last request but cuddled up on her father's lap and hugged him tightly, saying, "You'll go right away won't you Daddy? Now don't go to the office and forget. I won't ask you for a thing for the longest time if you'll only do this."

"Yes, I'll do it, I suppose you want me to bring him home, too. How about it Ma?" To which the mother replied, that one infidel in the house was enough.

Continued next week.

The Watchdogs

In our town we are getting on splendidly with the peace. Consider, for instance, the way in which we have stamped out profiteering. Week in, week out, our watch-dogs have been on guard, superb, unbroken. Yesterday I attended the town hall to see them at their work. The Tribunal has been formed according to the time-honored principle of British justice that a man should only be tried by his peers. It consists entirely of shopkeepers.

The first case dealt with apricot jam. A woman complained that she had been charged 2s. for a pound of that conserve. The grocer produced his books, and the chairman looked grave.

"You must hear in mind", he said to the plaintiff, "the terrible cost of raw materials. Considering the rise in turnips and carrots, I consider the jam was cheap at the price."

Equally just was his comment on a girl's plea that three and a half guineas was excessive for a pair of boots. Said boots she observed, bitterly, had come in pieces when she laced them up.

"You have undoubtedly", said the chairman, after consulting his colleagues, "been rough with the boots. The higher the quality of the goods the more delicate handling they demand. And, considering the price of paper, I hold the price was reasonable. However, to show our deep sympathy with the public and to make an example,"

— here his voice trembled, and one could almost see his fingers fumbling with the black cap — "we order a refund of threepence to the plaintiff."

Case followed case, all treated with the same insight into our commercial system. Sausages at 2s. a pound were justified on account of the price of bread, and an umbrella at two guineas was found not guilty by reason of the vast overhead charges in that industry. Last came a housewife with a grievance about milk. The Tribunal examined in just detail the establishment charges of the dairyman. "You have no idea," said the chairman at last, "what burdens the farmer has to bear. Why, the defendant has actually been compelled to pay one full-time worker to empty away surplus milk down the drains and another to

keep the drains from clogging. Four pounds a week to each. And you expect cheap milk!"

The woman, who had no spark of logic, demanded that the man should be dismissed. But the chairman, very properly, dismissed the case. — I. B.

Barabbas or the Christ

And these the evil spirits, dressed in human garb,
Devising schemes to rob mankind
And plunder both the cradle and the grave;
Barking like Satan's dogs within the halls of Hell
When Charon's ship arrives

With cargo loads of human Souls.
Advised by legal lights upon illegal ways
By which, like hungry wolves,
They might evade the laws of God and man,
And kill without committing murder;
And wallow in the blood of those they crucified
Without indictment for their crimes.

Advised on ways to rob and plunder all mankind
To steal the things the laborer's hands had made,
And take the lands the farmers hands had tilled;
To claim the milk in mothers breasts
And food that fed the orphan's mouths.
Advised, by Doctors of the law, how to take and keep
And still evade their crimes,
And stand within their stalls in dedicated church
And sing their solemn hymns and psalms;
And in their prayers tell God how much they loved Him,

And how they hated mammon, selfishness and wrong.
And how, if some benighted fool,
Unable to discern their autocratic right,
To take and hold the things they pleased.
Should cry aloud against these things they did;
They still had recourse, when the clamor came,
To call upon the courts, their bulwark of defense,
For did they not own these laws?
Had not their shekels made the laws
From legislative halls and tribunals,
And placed the judges on the bench
To make interpretation of them.

What mockery to say
They were not masters of the world.
And laid the ways
By which the "trouble makers" of the world,
The Agitators, who did claim these things
Were made by God for all mankind,
Should meet their just reward;
And be placed within the prison cells.
Or else be crucified
As Christ in earlier days,
When He did agitate against the thing
That He did call injustice.
And so to day, as in the days of Pilot,
You still may choose between Barabbas and the Christ.

Alfred Pomeroy

Says Bill Lloyd: "I injured my eyesight hunting for the cooties that were in my underwear and the 14 points that were not in the treaty, but I can still figure the proportion of my check to the butcher's bill."

That "We" Stuff

— By ANISE. —

He wrote to me: "I
Am an EX-SOLDIER,
And I see by the papers
The GOVERNOR
Of one of the border states
Wants US
To intervene
In Mexico!
I wonder where he gets
That US stuff?
I never heard of HIM
In the Spanish war
When I was there!
I never met HIM
In the Philippines
When I was there!
When I went with Pershing
Into Mexican deserts
HE wasn't along!
When I was HOPPING
Over the top in France
I didn't see HIM!
How many miles
Did he HIKE
Through heat and cold?
How many nights

Did he sleep
In the RAIN?
How much HARD-TACK
Has he ever eaten?
And how many times
Did he turn in
On an EMPTY stomach?
Now, I volunteered
In ALL those wars,
And I don't want to see
ANY MORE!
None of us men
Who have to do the fighting
Are so keen about this here
INTERVENTION.
The thing I hate
Even worse
Than hiking in the heat
Or sleeping in the rain
Is coming home
And seeing these BIRDS
Who were living in luxury
And piling up the coin,
Get up on a platform
Before all the people
To brag about how
We licked 'em!"

NO MORE SOVIET ARKS FOR DEPORTING REDS

Undesirable Aliens Will Be Sent Away in Small Groups

WASHINGTON. — Explaining that the Bureau of Immigration had under consideration plans for sending undesirable out of the country in the future in small detachments, Commissioner General Caminetti said today it was probable that no more "Soviet arks" similar to the Buford would leave the United States.

Aliens ordered deported, the Commissioner explained, must be sent to the countries from which they came to the United States. If it is found less expensive to send the many radicals recently arrested out of the country in small groups aboard regular passenger ships, Mr. Caminetti said, such a course would be followed.

Deportation by the small group method is going on constantly, the Commissioner asserted, and since last June

NOTES.

CHICAGO—The wage raise of \$24,000,000 won by the recent strike is only the beginning, declared John Fitzpatrick, chairman of the committee for organizing the steel industry. The eight-hour day will be the next gain, and the men will not have to wait long for it, he said.

Fitzpatrick said that previous to the conference of the steel workers' committee in Chicago, August 2, 1919, the United States Steel corporation had made an announcement of a ten per cent wage increase to satisfy the demands of their employees who were considering the strike, which took place later. That the recent press announcement of voluntary wage increases is intended as a counter attack against the steel committee's new organization drive, is the belief of Fitzpatrick.

SIDNEY, N. S. W.—Like the Moon-eys case, all efforts up to date to secure the release of the 12 imprisoned men in Australia who are serving sentences of from 5 to 15 years has failed.

Recently two of the detectives connected with the arrest and trial of bribery. This has strengthened the hand of the defenders of the I. W. W. The Labor party is morally committed to investigate their case in case it comes into power in New South Wales next year, and the general opinion is that once the case is free of all political bias, they will be adjudged innocent.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—Officers of the state federation of labor warn workers not to be lured to this state by claims of anti-union employers, who would establish non-union conditions.

In Tulsa a few multi-millionaire oil men have organized "Chapter No. 1, Patriotic Friends of Labor," which declares for the so-called "open shop" and seeks to transfer the power of trade unions to a movement dominated by them.

The anti-unionists are appealing to the patriotic instinct of the people to aid them in their union-smashing campaign.

WINNIPEG — A housing commission has been appointed by the municipal government which is authorized to lend prospective builders 85 per cent of the total cost of their homes. Citizens may choose any site and style of house they please. A monthly payment of \$7.13 on every \$1,000 borrowed is charged, which includes the interests on the mortgage. The whole amount is paid off in 20 years at this rate, or it may be met sooner.

a total of 1,400 aliens have been sent from the United States.

PARANA, Argentina — In spite of repeated efforts during more than a year, laborers on the public works here have not been able to obtain the enforcement of the minimum wage provided by law.

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