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The Milwaukee Leader

The Milwaukee Leader---By Victor L. Berger

Gas Records Reveal Extortion for Benefit of Wall Street

BEEF BARONS IN HANDS OF FARMER JURY
BID McNAMARA TELL OF JOBS IN MAGAZINE?
ARRIVED!
OUT OF EVERY DOLLAR YOU PAY, 29 CENTS GOES EAST TO BENEFIT MONOPOLISTS
52 Cent Gas Not for You!
LEADING SOCIALISTS CONGRATULATE MILWAUKEANS
No. 1—Missing!
WORKERS MUST SUPPORT THE LEADER
Closer to the Big Victory



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The rank and file of the Milwaukee Social Democracy got tired of the hateful misrepresentations of the Socialist administration, and of Socialism generally, made by the capitalist press and particularly by The Milwaukee Journal.

The rank and file thereupon issued the mandate that the weekly Social-Democratic Herald be turned into a daily. And the leadership of the party and the management of the paper obeyed the real leader, the rank and file—and the result is THE MILWAUKEE LEADER.

And a leader it will be, THE MILWAUKEE LEADER—undoubtedly the best equipped and foremost labor paper in the English-speaking world. There is nothing like it in the country, and there is nothing like it in Canada, England or Australia.

It was a gigantic task to obtain the necessary money—I shall not speak of that now. I shall speak of the movement whose mouthpiece this paper is to be.

And it is a remarkable movement indeed.

Because the most important fact in Milwaukee at the present time is not the Socialist administration, it is not the work the comrades are doing in the county, in the municipality and in the school board.

The most important fact in Milwaukee is the resolute men and women who are determined to lead the world into new channels.

The most precious product of our time in this country is that practical and energetic band which, having fewer dreamers among its numbers than any other group hitherto concerned in a great movement, is yet fired with an ideal which enables it to forget even its national antipathies.

The pledge of success of the Milwaukee movement is, therefore, not the honest administration of Emil Seidel—not the quality of the pavements of Supt. Mullien—not the good work of the Socialist aldermen.

The pledge of success is precisely these men and women who act as if the fortunes of the world depended upon their personal endeavors—because they are proudly conscious that the fortunes of the world in the past have depended upon the struggles of just such men and women as they.

One such man—a man with faith in his cause and the enthusiasm and backbone to stand up for his faith—is a social power equal to 999 who have only "interests" or political jobs at heart.

The distinguishing trait of Socialists is that they understand the class struggle—that they have the social conscience—and that they boldly aim at the revolution because they want a radical change from the present system.

I know some good people nowadays that shudder at the word "revolution." This was not always so. There was a time when the eyes of the patriots sparkled whenever the American revolution was spoken of.

To many the term revolution seems to suggest blood and destruction and violence. And yet it means nothing of the kind. The Social Revolution simply denotes the complete change, the adaptation of all social elements to new conditions. It means an orderly, but effective, permanent alteration of our economic system.

This is what scientific Socialists mean by revolution. It is a part of evolution—as evolution is a part of revolution.

The reformers only touch the surf ace. Their remedies are usually just as unscientific and stupid as bleeding for a fever was in olden times—both being simply crude methods of suppressing symptoms.

THE SOCIALISTS ARE THE ONLY PEOPLE ON EARTH WHO ARE FURPOSEFUL. THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD WHO CAN DISPENSE WITH COMMONPLACE PHRASES AND SLIPPERY WORDS. THE SOCIALISTS ARE THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO PRESENT A CLEAR-CUT, DEFINITE SOLUTION.

While we know that the world cannot be changed in a day or in a year, we also know that the trend of the time is toward Socialism, and we are willing to work for our ideals every day in the year.

It is, of course, mainly to the discontented that THE MILWAUKEE LEADER will address itself. THE LEADER expects nothing from such as think that the capitalist system is good enough for them and should not be changed.

[The Above is the Full Text of Victor L. Berger's Opening Editorial in the First Issue of the Milwaukee Leader]

But to the discontented and heavy laden THE LEADER will say: "Look the future confidently in the face. The golden age which poets have sung was an illusion for your class; it was an iron age, because the workers bore the iron shackles of the slave.

"But you now stand at the threshold of a real golden age, if you will only fight for it.

"And even if you do not enter, your children surely shall enter—if you will only fight for it.

"Fight not with dynamite, not even with your fists, but with every ethical weapon fight off ignorance, fight off superstition and fight off oppression."

And the working class understands, because it is to the wage workers that the greatest injustice is being done under the present system. Because it is the wage workers that are most heavily laden and are the most discontented.

THE MILWAUKEE LEADER will tell daily of their troubles and their cares, but also of their ambitions and hopes.

And to the thoughtful among the middle class, THE MILWAUKEE LEADER will also bring a message. It will be easy enough to prove to the middlemen that Socialist society is their safe refuge from the endless cares and troubles that now beset them.

Capitalism in America is giving the middle class little or nothing. Capitalist America has surpassed the world in one thing only—in its speculations.

Capitalist America has found its highest aspirations in the sky-scrapers. The register of the capitalist's ideas is the cash register.

And a cruel and ruthless competition is eating the heart out of the middle class. What is left is just food for the trusts.

As to the professional class, THE LEADER can appeal to them with special propriety.

Most of our intellectuals, physicians, journalists and last but not least, teachers, are among the disinherited. Only those on top, most of whom are in one way or another the retainers of money bags, have any motive to side with the capitalist system.

Of course, all aspiring young professional men start with great expectations, but very soon they consider themselves lucky if they can simply secure a livelihood. THE LEADER will plead their case also.

No nation has ever entered into such an inheritance, as far as national wealth is concerned, as has our nation. And no people has ever behaved so badly with it.

We have been made the joint trustees of the richest continent on earth. And we know nothing better to do with this continent than to turn it over to the multi-millionaires. And they have it and intend to keep it.

BUT THE SOCIALISTS KNOW THAT WHENEVER THE TIME COMES TO DECIDE WHETHER THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES SHALL OWN OUR COUNTRY, OR A FEW MEN SHALL OWN IT, THE VERDICT OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE—INCLUDING THE MIDDLE CLASS AND THE INTELLECTUALS—WILL BE FOR THEMSELVES, THAT IS, FOR SOCIALISM.

And yet, THE MILWAUKEE LEADER is not to scare even the capitalist class, any more than scientific Socialism should scare them.

We shall preach no class hatred. But we will preach class consciousness and class conscience six days in the week. We know that the capitalist is just as much a product of the present system as is the proletarian.

We shall reach out the brotherly hand to all who want to work with us to free our people from mental, moral and economic bondage, no matter to what class any man may belong.

THE MILWAUKEE LEADER is to be serious and aimful, but at the same time sunny and cheerful. As I said before, of all the people in the world, the Socialists have the best right to be hopeful and cheerful.

THE LEADER is to enter the house of the proletarian like a ray of sunshine, like the greeting of a coming generation.

But, at the same time, and above all, THE LEADER will also tell the news of the day.

[The Above is the Full Text of Victor L. Berger's Opening Editorial in the First Issue of the Milwaukee Leader]

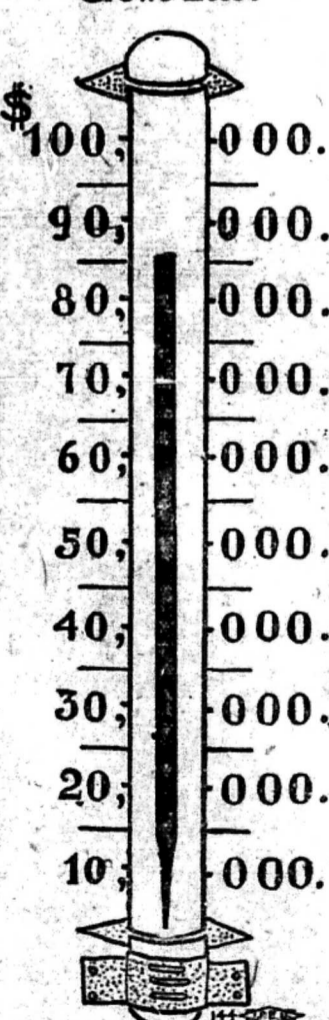
DO NEWSPAPERS TELL THE TRUTH?

This important question is answered by America's greatest living magazine writer, CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL, in an article, "These Days in American Journalism," in The Milwaukee Leader, tomorrow.

Milwaukee's new Social-Democratic daily newspaper, The Milwaukee Leader, made its appearance on scheduled time last Thursday and we present herewith for the benefit of our readers at a distance who have not yet seen it, a reduced fac-simile (by photographic engraving process) of the first page of the first day's issue. There was more than the usual excitement attending the birth of the new daily paper, because of the wide diffusion of ownership and the fact that it will strike for the great cause of humanity.



Your Chance to Get in Grows Less!



The Leader, an Example of Working Class Solidarity—Fighting the Enemy at Close Range With a Modern Weapon—Show Your Appreciation by Buying One or More of the Remaining Bonds.

If anything ever happened that shook Milwaukee from center to circumference it was last Thursday when The Leader our fighting daily, first appeared. If the powers that be ever felt the electric hand of Socialism in this state and nation it was in the yesterday of December 7th. The city went red with enthusiasm. The paper sold rapidly. A new voice, a new hope sprang skyward.

The Milwaukee Leader is the fruit of the combined efforts of hundreds and hundreds of workingmen and women, striving for a better social system, wherein life will be more than a vulgar struggle for daily bread, raiment and shelter, to end up with an unmanufactured premature death. The Socialist and labor unions who are in back of the new daily are the incarnation of that intent and desire to throw off the chains of wage slavery. If ideals are the diamonds in a person's character, Socialists, while not angels, are a superior people. If intents and purposes, are the load stones with which we judge the actions of our fellowmen, Socialists deserve the greatest credit for their endeavors and achievements, and the Socialists are entitled to the greatest allowances when making mistakes. Mired with such ideals and intentions the hands of labor

guiding the Milwaukee Leader will be true and steady, making the paper an avowed success.

On the day before its appearance it took the entire time of two persons to open the letters alone, coming in with subscriptions from all over the country.

Comment on Passing Events
By Frederic Heath
Before Lincoln's Steffens gets through he will have a little clearer notion of the class interests of capitalism. It is likely.

The Socialists swept practically everything before them in the election at Grand Junction, Colo., last week, also greatly increasing their vote.

MORE SOCIALISTS ELECTED

A "NON-PARTISAN" FIASCO!
EDMONDS, Wash., Dec. 6.—With Republicans and Democrats combined against the Socialists, the Socialists today elected the mayor, clerk, attorney, treasurer and four councilmen. The poor Citizens' ticket elected only one councilman.

HARRIMAN'S BIG VOTE!
LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 11.—A dispatch sent out by the Associated Press places the Socialist vote at 52,293.

PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS
The following is a list of officials elected in West Brownsville borough, Pennsylvania:

The Daily Bonds
This Week . . . \$35,690
Last Week . . . \$85,490
GAIN . . . \$ 200

Socialism and Law, Again

By Morris Hillquit

(Written for The Herald.)

UNDER the heading "Socialism and Law" I recently took occasion to criticize a certain statement by Comrades Haywood and Bohn...

Christmas Notice

To stimulate the sale of Socialist and near Socialist literature, we will make a reduction of 50 per cent on all books named below.

THE TITLES!

- THE CHASM—Geo. Cram Cook—A strong Socialist novel (postage 12c extra)... \$1.25
WOMAN AND LABOR—Olive Schreiner—justly famous. Cloth (postage 12c extra)... 1.25
THE SPIRITUAL UNREST—Ray Stannard Baker. Cloth (postage 12c extra)... 1.35
THE CITY FOR THE PEOPLE—Prof. Parson. Paper (postage 17c extra)... .50
GOD IN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY—Kutter. Cloth (postage 8c extra)... 1.00
BEYOND THE SKYLINE—Aiken—Short Stories. Cloth (postage 12c extra)... 1.50
THE DRAGNET—Detective Story. Barnett (postage 12c extra)... 1.50
CONFESSIONS OF A CONMAN—Will Irwin. Cloth (postage 8c extra)... 1.00
THE VISIONING—A Socialist Novel. Susan Glaspell. Cloth (postage 12c extra)... 1.35
STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE—Walter T. Mills. Cloth (postage 22c extra)... 2.50
SOCIALISM MADE PLAIN—Allen L. Benson. Cloth (postage 8c extra)... .50
CHANGES IN THE THEORY AND TACTICS OF THE GERMAN SOCIAL-DEMOCRACY—Paul Kampffmeyer. Cloth (postage 6c extra)... .50
SOCIALIST READINGS FOR CHILDREN—Sparrow. Paper (postage 8c extra)... .50
THE RAILWAYS, THE TRUSTS AND THE PEOPLE—Prof. Parson. Cloth... 1.50
Paper... .50
(Postage, paper ed. 18c extra) (Postage, cloth ed. 22c extra)

Here is the list; these prices prevail everywhere! Just half of these prices and the postage will buy these books while the supply lasts...

Milwaukee Social-Democratic Publ. Co., Book Department BRISBANE HALL, MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

Important The Rev. Father Thomas J. Gasson, president of Boston College, the leading Roman Catholic College in New England, delivered a lecture in Ford Hall on The Dangers of Socialism, Boston, February 5. On February 27, ex-Representative James F. Carey of Haverhill, a member of the National Executive Committee, and State Secretary of the Massachusetts Socialist Party, replied to Father Gasson.

This is a most timely and important publication. Price to cents per copy; 75 cents per dozen, post paid \$5.00 per hundred.

"Every violation of the penal law is a crime. When it is done for individual gain, the act is anti-social. But when one violates the law for the good of the majority of the people his act is pro-social."

Do you mean that, Comrade Flobohin, or did you only say it? Let us see where this theory leads us to. Since a contemplated act of law-breaking cannot conveniently be submitted to referendum of the people, the lawbreaker himself must thus necessarily be the sole judge as to whether his crime will be for the good of the majority of the people...

Brutal Heathens

It is natural that the Western world should be shocked, or pretended to be, at the evidence of the Oriental depravity and callousness as shown by Bishop Sellow, of the Free Methodist church, who has returned to Seattle from the famine district in China. Though hundreds of thousands have died of the pestilence brought on by hunger, there is no real shortage of food, but the food is in the hands of a few men. Every true occidental heart probably swelled with indignation when Bishop Sellow said: "There is food in plenty within reach of the famine area, but it is just as impossible for a starving people to obtain a handful of rice as it would for a pauper to borrow money without security. In the famine area there is rice in plenty. BUT THE UPPER CLASSES HAVE IT FOR SALE."

THE HARLOT'S HOUSE We caught the tread of dancing feet. We loitered down the moonlit street. And stopped beneath the Harlot's house. Inside, above the din and fray. We heard the loud music play. The "Trous Liebes Herz" of Strauss. Like strange mechanical grotesques. Making fantastic arabesques. The shadows raced across the blind. We watched the ghostly dancers spin. To sound of horn and violin. Like black leaves whirling in the wind.

BIRDS OF FEATHER—In the early days in Oregon, as elsewhere in the West, money was scarce and high rates of interest were demanded and paid. Over in Eastern Oregon lenders were frequently able to get as much as five per cent a month interest. A citizen of Pendleton, who was dying was worried about this. He had a lot of money with a banker who was lending it at five per cent a month. Still, he knew others were doing it, and among the number his minister, who had a few thousands placed with the banker for the same advantageous disposal.

NEBRASKA FOR SOCIALISM

The Lincoln (Neb.) Star, in an article bearing the caption, "Remarkable Gain in Socialist Vote," discusses the rise of Socialism in Bryan's state during the last two years, and predicts that the vote next fall in Nebraska will be more than 10,000, or double the vote polled by the Socialists in 1910. Socialism has more than doubled its strength in Nebraska during the last two years, as shown by the returns from 46 counties officially made to the secretary of state. In an off-year election, when the vote of other parties exhibits the usual slump, the Socialists have gained 31 per cent in their following at the polls. Taken in connection with many local victories won by the Socialists throughout the country at the late election, this growth in Nebraska foreshadows the entrance of a new and vigorous political force into state politics. The strong showing made by the Socialists this year permanently places the Prohibition party as the third political organization of Nebraska.—Ex.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS

HALF THE PROFIT! Many years ago a nobleman who resided in a castle many miles from the sea-shore, was about to celebrate his marriage feast. There was an abundance of costly dishes, game and fruits, for the important occasion, but no fish as the sea had been very boisterous. On the very morning of the great feast, however, a poor fisherman made his appearance with a large ocean fish. Joy was in the castle, and the fisherman was brought with his prize into the hall where the nobleman stood in the presence of his visitors.

THE BIGGEST OFFER I EVER MADE

Advertisement for a big offer of 38 pieces absolutely free. Includes items like Doll, Doll House, Go-Cars, Barber Set, Picnic Toilet Set, 12 Piece Dinner Set, and Dining Room Set. Text: "Never before in the 11 years that my company has been in existence have I ever made such a big offer as this one."

THE HARLOT'S HOUSE (continued) Sometimes a clock-work puppet pressed A phantom lover to her breast. Sometimes they seemed to try and sing. Sometimes a horrible marionette Came out, and smoked its cigarette Upon the steps like a live thing.

THE DYING MAN SENT POST-HASTE FOR THIS PARTICULAR MINISTER. "Parson," he said, "there's one thing worries me. Do you think my chances of going to heaven will be damaged because I have been charging five per cent a month for my money?" The minister didn't answer for a minute or two. Then he said: "No, brother; I think not!" Little Brother—Where's my fishin' pole gone? Bigger Brother—Sister's usin' it for a hatpin.—Puck.

OUR YOUNG FOLKS

He will be as popular with the kiddies as ever! The nobleman exclaimed, "bring him up instantly; he shall receive his half with the strictest justice." The luckless porter was accordingly brought in and had to submit to his share of the bargain. He was then discharged from the nobleman's service and the fisherman was amply rewarded.

ACROSS THE POND

In answer to the circular from the International Bureau of the Social-Democrats of Finland convened protest meetings against the war and the atrocities in Tripoli throughout the whole country. These meetings, which were held not only in the towns but also in small country places wherever there are labor organizations, were very well attended and aroused great interest. The same resolution was carried at them all, pointing out the general causes of colonial expansion on the part of modern states, and of the present acute war period.

PERSONAL Raymond, urgently needed at home. Telegraph c. o. d. at once. d18-16

THE THREE WINNERS

History—Logic—Laughter Every Socialist literature agent in the country, and every Socialist worker should have a stock of these three pamphlets to sell, give or lend to the unconverted. These pamphlets are now selling very fast where they are known. They are all new and deal with the latest phase of the raging class struggle for control of government and the means of life. The titles are: HISTORY "The United States Constitution and Socialism," by Silas Hood. LOGIC "The Menace of Socialism," by Father Gasson, and a Reply by J. F. Carey. LAUGHTER "Socialism, What It is, and How to Get It," illustrated, or Laughed Out of Court, by Oscar Ameringer.

Advertisement for "The Biggest Offer I Ever Made" featuring 38 pieces absolutely free. Includes items like Doll, Doll House, Go-Cars, Barber Set, Picnic Toilet Set, 12 Piece Dinner Set, and Dining Room Set. Text: "Never before in the 11 years that my company has been in existence have I ever made such a big offer as this one."

Every Saturday

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Published by the
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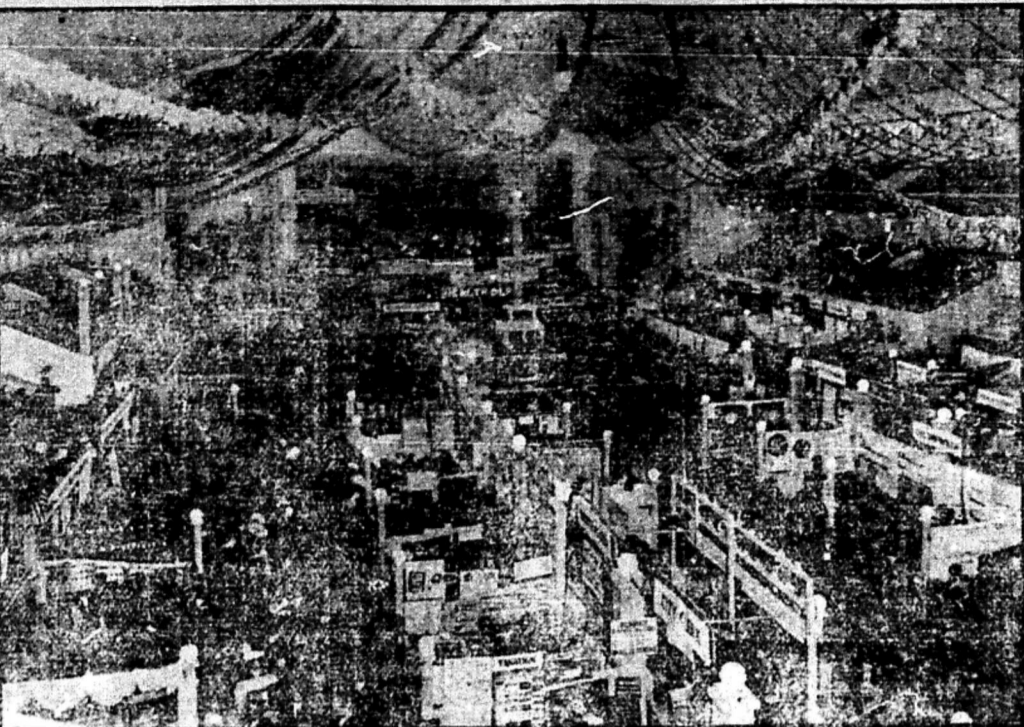
BRISBANE HALL, 112 & 114
Milwaukee, Wis.

FREDERIC HEATH VICTOR L. BERGER
Editors

Associate

See The Herald is Not Responsible for Opinions of Its Contributors

Entered at the Milwaukee Postoffice as Second-Class Matter August 20, 1910



Milwaukee's Municipal Budget Show That the Capitalist Dailies Ignored This picture gives you some idea of the Magnitude of the Undertaking, and of how the Crowds turned out in spite of a virtual Daily Newspaper Boycott.

SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC HERALD

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If, without having subscribed, you receive it, than it has been subscribed and paid for by a friend. Foreign subscriptions, including Canada, \$1.00 per year.

ADVERTISING RATES furnished on application. We reserve the right to terminate advertising contract without notice.
Receipt for advertisements received from outside the city of Milwaukee are acknowledged by the NUMBER ON THE WRAPPER. To these separate receipts are never sent.

SOCIALISM AND THE FARMERS

Announcement.—The editor has now in hand and will begin next week to publish a series of live, practical talks for farmers, by

OSCAR AMERINGER

the author of several of the most popular books on Socialism ever written. He is variously known as the Oklahoma Farmer and the Flying Dutchman. He is witty and yet downright serious. He never writes a dead line. He spurs his writings with an appealing humor, but there is no joke about the facts and arguments he presents. Watch for the articles. Interest your rural acquaintances.

Recent Herald Callers.—B. N. Vladeck, New York City; S. R. Driscoll, Sheboygan, Wis.; Oscar H. Blane, Wichita, Kan.; L. Climmeron, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Henry Stolze, Sr., Manitowish, Wis.; A. B. Van Horn, John C. Kennedy, Chicago, Ill.

Indiana will hold one of the first state conventions of the national campaign, the date being set for the last Saturday in January.

San Francisco Socialist party, upon motion of the woman's committee, S. P., has repudiated and denounced the weekly sheet called Revolt, published by a bunch of impossibilists in that city who call themselves Socialists, but are in reality anarchists. Revolt has been posing as the semi-pure authority on Socialism and condemned everybody who declined to accept its gospel. Its editor was the S. P. candidate for mayor at the recent city election.—Cleveland Citizen.

With Our Readers

EDUCATIONAL COMPELSION.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

The big Philadelphia item of December 3 gave some timely extracts from you in antagonism to the growing medical tyranny of the times. It is becoming unbearable. But it is taken its cue from compulsion in education. As the educators say education makes good citizens, so the doctors say medicine makes healthy ones. In like manner there are those who want compulsory church attendance to save souls, and there are those wanting compulsory military service to save the country, and there are those wanting compulsory voting to save our political institutions. All have some great professed good.

It is time that all these and other forms of compulsion were abandoned and that people were left to do as they choose until they infringe on the liberties of others. So long as we have compulsory education standing as precedent, so long will we have apologists for all other forms of compulsion. It is the stepping stone leading to them all. The doctors are now confessing, after my showing, that compulsory medical service derives its root from compulsory education.

FRANCIS BUCK LIVESEY, Maryland.

SAYS THEY AREN'T ANGELS.
(TO THE EDITOR.)

A common remark often expressed by workmen is "If those oppressive conditions don't soon cease the great mass of toilers will rise up and cause a bloody revolution." That idea might be so, providing we could bring back our forefathers and put them under the present conditions of our up to date

How Big Capitalism Turned the Trick in the Los Angeles Election!

What Lincoln Steffens Wrote the Capitalist Papers About It from Los Angeles—His Pathetic Awakening!

The following is the substance of Lincoln Steffens' account of the securing of the McNamara confessions. It makes interesting reading. But what the Socialists are still interested in hearing is why the matter of which he writes was "pulled off" just on the eve of election, at just the time when it would unjustly prove a blow to the Socialists in that election. The bonny good faith he so cheerfully concedes to the big business interests, probably, with many of them, amounted to an uncanny willingness to forego a little of the advantage over the prisoners for the much more valuable political asset it would produce in a campaign livid on their side with class hate and personal grafting business interest. It was clearly the election that THEY had in mind.

LABOR AND capital both stand convicted here today—the one of direct crime, the other of inciting labor to crime.

Innocent working men and innocent business men may protest this interpretation of the conclusion of the McNamara trial and all other labor propositions in this country yesterday afternoon. But I was a participant from the beginning (nearly two weeks ago) in the negotiations which led up to that result and I know not only the facts and considerations which weighed with both parties, but I caught also the spirit of it all. And that was fine.

Los Angeles has done something which if the people here and in the country at large will understand it might mean the end of the control by the bourgeoisie over labor and the beginning of a new and clearer basis forever. This city had labor down; it could have wreaked vengeance on its agents, and the leaders and (excepting Job Harriman) the attorneys of labor know it.

"But the commanding men in this community didn't do that. They let labor up. And one reason why these capitalists did that was BECAUSE THEY KNEW THAT THEY ALSO WERE AT FAULT."

Crossing of Class Line

And having done this thing in this spirit, they propose now to go on and do more. They will cross the class line. They promised me, some twenty of them, that they would meet with some of the labor leaders here and consider afresh the problem of labor. Nothing may come of it; neither side expects too much. But each side has promised not only to listen, but to try to understand the other.

In other words, the war between capital and labor is recognized as a war. The compromise of the murder case in court is to be understood as an acknowledgment that J. E. and J. J. McNamara were, as District Attorney Fredericks said a few days ago, "not criminals but fanatics."

I would use other words. I have talked with these men in the jail and I think I know them and something of what they think. They think they are serving a cause, that they are fighters in a war. And they are. And the state's action toward them is, in effect, as I am trying to show, the first step toward a treaty of peace.

Coming in the midst of a hot political campaign and without any explanation, the first news was a shock, especially to the working people and the friends of the Socialist candidates. It is amazing how many of them there were who really believed that these men were innocent. Some of these people lost their heads; the reporters who went around the town said many men wept, and wild rumors were flying everywhere.

It is wrong to put out a piece of news as unexpected as this without an explanation. It looked for a while as if Los Angeles had gone mad, and certainly some of the good effect which was expected from this event was lost by the way it was thrown to the public.

Beginning of the Story

Nothing but all the facts about the negotiations and the agreement can clear this matter now and make it do its right work, and both sides of the controversy have left it to me to present those facts. The beginning of the story was at Miramar, the ranch of E. W. Scripps, near San Diego, on Sunday, November 19.

I went down there with Clarence S. Darrow, chief counsel for the defense, to visit for a day, and we talked all three of us, about everything under the sun, and finally about the McNamara case. We all three regretted that it couldn't be tried out on its merits, that it would be good for the world to know that there was a group of labor

As Seen by a Travelling Agitator

(Written for The Herald.)

More Capitalist Wastes.

MOLSON, Wash., Dec. 5.—In this zero weather district the people are burning up millions of feet of timber every winter. Yellow pine, tamarack and fir logs are cut into fire wood instead of lumber. There is not a coal stove or range in any part of this state. Not even the country bankers afford the luxury of anything better than a "wood stove." This is just one more evidence of the waste of the capitalist system. Socialism can come none too soon. The capitalist masters will make a desert of the nation if they remain at the helm much longer.

Timber Thieves and Land Sharks.

At Deer Park and Colville I learned at first hand how the railroad and timber thieves have been robbing the people and that the crime is still going on. Years ago the Republican and Democratic grafters, whom the workers elected to congress, passed a law, granting the railroads the privilege of owning many millions of acres of land in this state. The railroads didn't pay a cent for the millions of acres of timber—that is there is no record that they paid anything. The owners of the road may have given the grafting Republicans and Democrats in congress a few blocks of railroad stock, but there is no record of that either. At any rate the railroad owners got the millions of acres of land as a gift from an obsequious Democratic Republican Uncle Sam and since the date of the land grants the people have been buying this property at a price ranging from \$10 to \$45 an acre. The railroad thieves at first sold the land direct to the home-seeker, but that game was too raw so they organized land companies and "sold" the millions of acres to "themselves" for \$1.50 an acre, and they are now disposing of their illegal holdings at profits that would make Shylock's usury look like a kindergarten or charity game.

One of these land robbing and profit making institutions is the Phoenix Land company, with headquarters in Spokane, Wash., and headquarters all over the Northwest. The concern on paper paid \$1.50 an acre for millions of acres of some of the finest timber land in the world and after skinning the forests of millions of dollars worth of lumber by the operation of sawmills built in the district—in Stevens county principally—they are now selling this

land to home-seekers at prices that range from \$15 to \$45 an acre. And the land didn't cost these "leading citizens" as much as the value of a plugged nickel.

Another of these land grabbing concerns is the Musser Land company and the Musser Saw Mill company, which owns millions of acres of timber and ranch land in Echo valley in eastern Washington. Formerly these millions were owned by the people, but the valuable holdings were stolen from Uncle Sam by methods not as honorable as a horse-thief will recognize.

And the timber thieves not only rob the farmer and home-seeker in this bandit style, but they have opened up banks and have loaned the working class newcomers money on the property they sold them. And now after the pioneers have improved the districts, built shacks and stables, removed the stumps, and established new towns and markets the former illegal owners are foreclosing on the mortgages, and soon they will again have "legal" possession of the land with the privilege of reselling it to new victims.

Are the farmers waking up to the truth of this monstrous wrong? They are. How do I know? Because after one of my meetings at Cheasaw, Wash., December 2, I called on the seventy present to organize a Socialist local and Cheasaw started in with a charter membership of twenty-nine—five of whom were women. No wonder T. B. Walker and his timber thieves associates don't like Socialism. And the local will soon be seventy strong.

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The Builders' Column

By A. W. Menon

Christmas is Coming

You want to send those friends of yours some Christmas token. Why not send them the Social-Democratic Herald for a year. Remember, you can send four for a whole year for \$1.25. What else can you send that will be of such lasting and beneficial good both for your friends and the cause you love?

The Milwaukee Leader

made its bow to the public for the first time last Thursday afternoon. The reception it received, both in Milwaukee and the nation, was beyond the expectation and wildest dreams of its most hopeful promoters. All Herald subscribers are urged to do their utmost to sell the five four months' Leader cards sent them recently.

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