

The Butte Daily Bulletin

Issued every evening, except Sunday, by THE BULLETIN PUBLISHING CO. Entered as Second-Class Matter, December 18, 1917, at the Postoffice at Butte, Montana. Under Act of March 3, 1879.

PHONES: Business Office, 52. Editorial Rooms, 292. Publication Office, 101 South Idaho (downstairs). Editorial Rooms, 103 South Idaho (downstairs).

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1919.

SIX RED MONTHS IN RUSSIA.

How powerful in its simplicity. How it uproots misinterpretation and gives the lie to those whose business it is to spread falsehood about the greatest revolution of all time, the proletarian emancipation of Russia.

"Six Red Months in Russia," by Louise Bryant, takes one by the hand and walks with you through the most critical periods of the revolution and introduces you to the simple, sacrificing peasant and worker revolutionists of the mighty country Russia.

She arrived in the land of the "Christ of Revolution," as Oscar Wilde called them, just on the eve of the bolsheviks officially taking power, and from that moment until she leaves to come to America to write her story one is in Russia.

She carries the simple, truthful soul of the revolution. For instance, the following incident speaks volumes: She was at the Winter Palace at the time of its fall and the taking of it over by the bolsheviks. There were naturally priceless treasures, and therefore every temptation to the soldiers to steal, and speaking of the case, she says:

I have always been glad that I was present that night, because so many stories have come out about the looting. It was so natural that there should have been looting and so commendable that there was none.

A young bolshevik lieutenant stood at the only unlocked door, and in front of him was a great table. Two soldiers did the searching. The lieutenant delivered a sort of sermon while this was going on. I wrote down part of his speech:

"Comrades, this is the people's palace. . . . This is our palace. Do not steal from the people. . . . Do not disgrace the people. . . ."

It was amusing to see what those great, simple soldiers had taken—the broken handle of a Chinese sword, a wax candle, a coat hanger, a blanket, a worn sofa cushion. . . . They laid them out all together, their faces red with shame. And not one thing was of the least value.

To read that clear, uncolored incident of the beautiful honesty, the child-like simplicity of those who had suffered and fought and "dug graves that they call trenches," as one of them said, and then read the outpourings of the debauched liars of the master class of this country makes one indeed indignant. And when we are told by our comrade that Lenin and Trotzky get but \$50 a month apiece, and how they have given their lives, and we compare them with the lying plunderers that revile these noble figures and brilliant minds, we do in fact feel like questioning the common relation of the human family.

Daily we are treated to the low, depraved slanders of the Whiner's editors as to how the Russian commissioners are grafting and piling up "swag," as these paid prevaricators call it, and yet, this is what Louise Bryant says of Trotzky's home:

Trotzky and his pretty little wife, who hardly ever spoke anything but French, lived in one room on the top floor. The room was partitioned off like a poor artist's attic studio. In one end were two cots and a cheap little dresser, and in the other a desk and two or three wooden chairs. There were no pictures, no comfort anywhere. Trotzky occupied this office all the time he was minister of foreign affairs, and many dignitaries found it "necessary" to call upon him there.

And Lenin, she says, lives in the most humble, quiet seclusion. How this does give the lie to those who have claimed that these men are but parasites and plunderers. Then the contrast of the lives.

The following is a description of a dinner she had with one of the same ilk that are squealing in this country against the bolsheviks. She had just described the solemn but inspiring funeral of the martyrs of the last great battle against the rulers and parasites, a picture never to be forgotten, when she goes on as follows:

I had other acquaintances in Moscow—a merchant family turned speculator since the war. They had invited me to dinner and the table groaned with food. The warmth and light of the room stunned me after the thin bitterness of the Red Square.

The three sons of this family were all fit for military service, but had bribed their way free. All three carried on illegal businesses. One somehow managed to get gold from the Lena gold mines to mysterious parties in Finland. One gambled in food. One owned a controlling interest in a chocolate factory which furnished the co-operative stores on condition that the co-operatives first supplied his family with everything he wanted. So, while people starved just around the corner, they had an abundance of everything. And they were charming and cultured, and very pleasant to their friends. One showed me a pitiful appeal sent out to the rich families by the Moscow soviet, begging for shoes and clothes for the sailors at the front. The company laughed uproariously; they said they would burn their clothes before they would give them to the proletariat.

A discussion of the Germans followed and most of the company expressed themselves in favor of a German invasion. Just for a test I asked them to vote on what they would really rather have—the soldiers' and workers' government, or the kaiser. All but one voted in favor of the kaiser.

Who were the pro-kaisers in Russia? Why the robber rulers, of course. The same as in this country. With all the efforts of the master class tools to prove to the contrary, they did not find one real labor paper or labor organization that was the least tainted with the pro-German spirit, or receivers of their blood-stained coin, but this cannot be said of the screaming flag-waving profiteers. Look at the great capitalist papers that have been shown as junker "boosters" and receivers of their money. Look at the mongrels on the top whom we know were agents for the kaiser. Yes, and we need not go out of this community to find them. And how their bolshevik-hating mouthpieces whitewashed or kept as silent as the grave. It was the plunderers of Russia who secretly supported the kaiser, and not the worker and peasant. They were interna-

Union Stock Holders in the Butte Daily Bulletin

- UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA—Locals: Sand Conlee, Stocket, Roundup, Lehigh, Klein. FEDERAL LABOR UNION—Livingston. MACHINISTS' UNION—Great Falls, Butte, Livingston. MACHINISTS' HELPERS' UNION—Great Falls, Butte. CERERAL WORKERS—Great Falls. TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION—Butte. BLACKSMITHS' UNION—Butte. ELECTRICIANS' UNION—Livingston, Butte. BAKERS' UNION—Great Falls. SHOE WORKERS—Great Falls. PLASTERERS' UNION—Great Falls. RAILWAY CAR REPAIRERS—Livingston. MUSICIANS' UNION—Butte. BREWERY WORKERS' UNION—Butte. HOD CARRIERS' UNION—Livingston and Butte. STREET CAR MEN'S UNION—Butte. BARBERS' UNION—Butte. METAL MINE WORKERS' UNION (Independent)—Butte. PRINTING PRESSMEN'S UNION—Butte. MAILERS' UNION—Butte. STEAMBOATERS AND ELECTROTYPIST UNION—Butte. BRIDGE AND STRUCTURAL IRON WORKERS—BUTTE. PIPEFITTERS' UNION—BUTTE. BROTHERHOOD BOILERMAKERS AND HELPERS—Butte. STEAM AND OPERATING ENGINEERS—Great Falls. BUTCHERS—Great Falls. BAKERS' UNION—Butte. AND THOUSANDS OF INDIVIDUALS IN BUTTE AND MONTANA

tionale and gave their lives for real democracy, whilst the parasites that are now coming over to this country to wail of the soviets were lolling in the luxury.

And now we feel we must give a few words from this splendid book and quote a little as to the suffering of Marie Spirodonova. As we know when the champion of revolutionary socialism was but 19 she killed the cruel, brutal despot Lupjenovsky, and, speaking of it, Louise Bryant says:

They arrested Spirodonova. First the cossacks beat her and threw her quite naked into a cold cell. Later they came back and commanded her to tell the names of her comrades and accomplices. Spirodonova refused to speak, so bunches of her long, beautiful hair were pulled out and she was burned all over with cigarettes. For two nights she was passed around among the cossacks and gendarmes. But there is an end to all things; Spirodonova fell violently ill. When they sentenced her to death she knew nothing at all about it, and when they changed the sentence to life imprisonment she did not know. She was deported to Siberia in a half unconscious condition.

"Six Red Months in Russia" must be read and distributed. It is clear, true, simple and unprejudiced.

Comrade Louise Bryant, you have done well, and you deserve the trust the greatest commonwealth of the world placed in you. May you return, as you desire, and live to write on the advent of the emancipation of all mankind.

Louis F. Swift, president of the Swift Packing Company, says farmers, not packers, control the United States cattle industry. Now, Mr. Farmer, you have been granted control by Mr. Swift, all you have to do is to set the price on your cattle and you will get it. Try it and see.

It is reported on reliable authority that the military intelligence bureau has evidence that the republican party is organizing for the purpose of seizing the government in 1920.

SOCIALISTS MEET IN MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee, Jan. 13. (By Mail.)—Sunday, Jan. 13, 1919, will long be remembered as one of the most memorable days in the history of the Milwaukee socialist movement. Never before had the Auditorium, with its four halls, been filled with such an army of enthusiastic people. A fifth meeting, in the Preis Gemeinde hall, was opened, but over 4,000 people could not be accommodated. It is estimated that there were 20,000 people present at the five meetings. Another meeting was held at West Side Turner hall. When Victor L. Berger, Adolf Guerner, J. Louis Engdahl and Mayor D. W. Hoan appeared on the platform the storm of applause which broke loose continued for several minutes. Baskets of flowers and bouquets were presented to Berger. The Milwaukee Herald, a capitalist daily, says a similar demonstration was never witnessed before in the city of Milwaukee. Bunches of Liberty bonds, war savings stamps, bank notes and checks, together with jewelry, were collected. The total cash collection amounted to \$2,810. Resolutions demanding the revoking of the espionage act were adopted in all the meetings.

BORAH APPEALS TO PRESIDENT WILSON

(Special United Press Wire.)—Washington, Jan. 29.—General amnesty for all men convicted during the war by court martial will be asked of President Wilson by Senator Borah. This is the second step in progressive senators' campaign to rid the United States of all traces of war. Borah will co-operate with Senator Chamberlain of the military affairs committee in hearings to show facts with respect to sentences meted out to men of the draft army. Allegations are said to be before Borah and Chamberlain that startling inequalities existed in the severity of the sentences imposed on different men for the same offenses, and that undue severity was exercised for minor infractions of military discipline. It is alleged that court martials were composed in some instances of men unqualified. The senators have been told that the total sentences imposed during the war were more than 10,000.

CONDUCTOR BURNS DIES IN CALIFORNIA

"Jack" Burns, one of the most lovable and well-known railroad men running into Butte from the last generation, died in San Diego, Cal., yesterday of heart failure, according to information received by local friends of the late passenger conductor yesterday. Burns probably carried more Butte residents as passengers over the Short Line and won a higher degree of esteem than any railroad among the popular conductors in the state. His home was in Pocatello and for 20 years he collected tickets and scattered smiles and cheerfulness along the Short Line. He left his run a few months ago because of poor health and his death occurred in southern California while he was trying to recover.

J. BARLEYCORN WINS A SKIRMISH

(Special United Press Wire.)—Washington, Jan. 29.—Restrictions on the manufacture of near beer have been removed. The food administrator announced today that it has been advised that President Wilson signed the proclamation lifting the ban Jan. 23. "The proclamation, however," the administrator warned, "cannot become effective until the seal of the United States is attached thereto by the department of state, and none can safely act on this information until the proclamation has become effective." The proclamation said nothing concerning the manufacture of beer. The manufacture of beer and near beer ceased Dec. 1 by presidential proclamation.

SALVATION ARMY TO ERECT A BUILDING

In order to rush the work of the new Salvation army building, Adjutant M. H. H. of Chicago, director of the organization of the west, arrived in Butte last night and will remain until this evening, consulting with local officers. The Butte corps planned on a new home about two years ago, but the entrance of this country into the war stopped their activities. It is the intention of the local officers to rush work so that returning soldiers and sailors may have the new building at their disposal until they find employment. The Butte corps planned on a new home about two years ago, but the entrance of this country into the war stopped their activities. It is the intention of the local officers to rush work so that returning soldiers and sailors may have the new building at their disposal until they find employment.

WAR HEROES WITHOUT JOBS

New York, Jan. 23.—"I don't know what the hell to do with you fellows," was what a clerk at the United States employment bureau in the hall of records said when he saw a long line of men from the sixth floor all the way down the street looking for jobs. All of the unemployed were discharged soldiers, sailors and marines. Most of the men had no promises their jobs when they joined the army, but during their absence their bosses forgot all about the promises.

PAW KNOWS EVERYTHING.

Willie—Paw, what is the difference between capital and labor? Paw—Well, the money you lend represents capital, and setting it back represents labor, my son.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

OPEN FORUM

This column is conducted for and written by Bulletin readers. If you have any suggestions to offer for the betterment of conditions in which the public is interested, the Bulletin offers you this opportunity for their expression and interchange of comment with your neighbors and friends. Properly to protect this Open Forum, all communications must be signed with the name and address of the writer, but anonymous signatures will be used in the column if requested. Address all communications to the editor of the Bulletin and please be brief and to the point.

WE WANT OUR RIGHTS.

We want our rights and among these is the right to earn an honest living. We want the right to work, not tomorrow or the day after, but now.

With a great part of the world left barren and waste and many people in hunger and want, what earthly excuse is there of shutting up our eyes if they now are?

If the industries are to remain shut down then we are entitled to and want our share of the limited amount of work going on. We want those who are now working to accommodate themselves to the extent that those of us who are idle can work and earn the same as they do.

What right, anyway, has one portion of the population to keep themselves going at the exclusion of another portion? Usurp to themselves the only avenue open to the means of life, then lie and laugh in our faces, saying we won't work; put us in jail as vagrants, or call us bums if we are too honest to cheat them out of their jobs; and call us "scabs" if we do? They expect us to enjoy ourselves starving while they eat and have a lovely time by the wayside, when they go on strike for more pay.

I tell you in the name of the thousands of us, we are getting good and tired of this humbug, and if those who are now in a position to do so do not soon take some action that shows that they realize that there are others in the world that have to live besides themselves, they will soon find themselves down along with the rest of us and that is where they ought to be if they are afforded an opportunity to do right and refuse to do it.

This having one part of the people riding to glory on the backs of the rest of them is and ought to be a thing of the past. From now on either "All up together," or "All down together."

"Let us have work." Tell it to the city, the state, the nation. Sbreak it out loud. Make a racket so they all will hear. Let those that do not work divide with those that do not. Put their hands against the proposition and let them act on it. If there is nothing doing and every avenue of escape is closed and we are denied the right to exist we no longer are morally bound by anything and are free to go ahead, taking any action we like.

ONE BOLSHIEV IN CITY OF WHISPERS. Anaconda, Jan. 24. To the Editor: Dear sir as I am not very busy these days will write a few lines. Of course we worked hard all summer and guess they think we need a rest it has only been three months ago when we was compelled to work five days a week or pinched so I did not get then a chance to pinch me. I only lost one shift in six months until they said they were sorry they would half to lay me off I have been off two weeks and they don't say anything about me going to work but I guess things will be alright in the future they had meeting at the montana Hotel and appointed a committee composed of Parlor house Fitters and Trench dodgers to look after the returning Soldiers & sailors when they get them placed, I am sure they will do their best, if they don't I am sure to get pinched our flour sack is getting very low I have a wife & four small children.

FUNERAL SERVICES FOR W. F. MATTHEWS

Funeral services were held for the late William F. Matthews Monday morning. A large number of soldiers in uniform escorted the body from the home to the St. Lawrence church, where high mass was celebrated. Mr. Matthews was discharged from the service Dec. 12 and shortly after his return to Butte married Miss Nonie Murphy of Walker-ville. He died after a brief illness of pneumonia. Interment was made in the Catholic cemetery.

REMOVING WAR.

So long as you have a parasitic class who claim as their right the privilege of taking a dishonest toll out of the labor and sweat of their fellowmen just so long will you have war and bloodshed on the earth. The only power that can save the present and future generations from a repetition of the ruthless struggle that has just taken place, is a united world democracy. It is not sufficient that the people shall have a clear vision of the new world in which they desire to dwell, they must organize with a unity and the strength of purpose which shall give concrete and practical expression to the spiritual and moral aspirations, social ideals and moral passions of their very being.—R. C. Henders, president, Manitoba Grain Growers' association.

THE BAPTISM OF THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

By ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG, in the Advance. The calendar of the Russian revolution is replete with dates which stand out above all in the struggle for liberation in Russia. Among such dates especially remembered by revolutionists are March 1 (14), 1881, the assassination of Czar Alexander II; Oct. 17 (30), 1905, (the successful completion of the general strike and the promulgation of a Bill of Rights); March 2 (15), 1917 (the abdication of Nicholas II and the end of monarchic rule), and Oct. 25 (Nov. 7, 1917 (the establishment of the soviet government). But the red letter day of the Russian revolution will, I believe, always remain Jan. 9 (22), 1905, known in the annals of the revolution as "Bloody Sunday." The significance of that day and the place it holds in the hearts and minds of the revolutionists can be appreciated only upon an acquaintance with what had transpired during the few years preceding it. The 20th century opened with a series of revolutionary outbreaks throughout Russia. The student movement had assumed by that time menacing proportions, leading to strikes in various parts of the country culminating with the assassination of the minister of public instruction, Bogolievov, by a student, Karpovitch, in 1901. Peasant uprisings were taking place in different village districts, and, though local and unorganized, they registered the temper of the exploited and misruled peasantry. Industrial strikes were known yet in the 80s. Side by side with political and economic feudalism, Russia was witnessing the introduction of modern capitalism, with its attendant evils. The workers, drawn in the main from among the poorest peasantry and discharged soldiers who would not return to their villages, first protested against exploitation by destroying machines, breaking of factory windows and doing physical violence to their immediate superiors, whom they held responsible for their sufferings. These unorganized, undisciplined and unintelligent forms of struggle were soon supplanted by an appreciation of the political and economic forces which the workers realized they must overcome before they could free themselves from oppression. The groups of socialists which were being formed at that time in the various industrial centers were carrying their propaganda to the laboring masses, interpreting the conditions under which they lived and worked, and pointing a way to emancipation from political and economic tyranny. The strikes which occurred in the later 90s were interpreted by the government as representing, not only economic demands made upon employers, but also of political significance. Due to socialist training, advanced groups among the workers were directing the labor struggle both against their immediate exploiters and the government, which did not permit them to organize and fight for an improvement in the conditions. Such was the great strike of the 30,000 textile workers in Petersburg in 1896, which caused the government to enact great certain remedial legislation. The growing trust among the laboring people in the leadership of the socialists caused the government a great deal of worry. They were some of the autocratic government who could force the ultimate result of such a leadership. The chief of the secret police at Moscow, Sergius Zubatov, developed a scheme whereby he planned to divert the workers from association with the socialist movement, which was growing in adherence and influence. Believing that the workers were taking a political question entirely by the neck, the socialists decided they would combine their economic with their political struggle. Zubatov proposed to help the workers obtain improvement in their working and living conditions. Such an attitude on the part of the government, he thought, would make the workers more friendly to it and would win them away from the socialists and revolutionists. Starting with the organization of the Council of Workers in the metal trades in Moscow in 1901, Zubatov helped to form similar councils in other trades and cities. Clubs were established for the workers, where questions concerning labor conditions were freely discussed, though the statutes denied the right of association and common action with regard to such matters. Zubatov even assisted the workers in his councils to formulate demands and use the power of the government in forcing recalcitrant employers to grant concessions. The extra legal status of these labor organizations led to their growth, and with the perfection of their organizations the workers grew bolder and made more stringent demands upon their employers. A series of strikes followed, which, contrary to the expectations of the promoters of these organizations, transcended pure economic demands. Somewhat of a similar nature was the experiment which a priest, George Gapon, was making in the proletarian quarters of Petersburg in 1904. Whether starting this work originally under government auspices, or going into the secret service later, Gapon succeeded in attracting a great many workers to his plan of non-partisan, non-political labor action. Gapon courted a great deal of influence among the workers because of his magnetic personality. He organized many clubs where the workers gathered to discuss the affairs in their shop and conditions of employment. All subjects, except politics, were allowed discussion there. As the country was seething with political questions and various radical topics, Gapon could not stifle all political discussion in the clubs. The war with Japan brought another disaster coming to the surface, various groups of the liberal bourgeoisie were inaugurating all sorts of reform movements and under the guise of ban-

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January 22, 1905—January 22, 1919

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quets were holding political meetings where petitions and addresses dealing with the political situation were prepared for presentation to the government. The socialist forces were feverishly preparing for an open struggle with the autocracy. The atmosphere was heavily charged and all sides were expecting something to happen any time. The assassination of Von Plehve, who, as minister of interior, inaugurated the most ruthless policy against the revolutionists, drove the government to further excesses. All this could not but affect the workers, whom even Gapon's subsidized clubs could not keep from lending, in which the futility of Gapon's scheme was laid bare, was reaching them.

In the midst of these stirring events something comparatively insignificant occurred which later led to the great drama of Jan. 9. In the latter part of December, four workers who were members of Gapon's organization were falling under the Putilov works. The workers were incensed over it. The incident was much discussed in the clubs. To the demand for the reinstatement of the discharged fellow workers were added other demands which were to be made upon the managers of the Putilov factories. The demands not being granted, several thousand workers went on strike on Jan. 3. The complete refusal of Putilov's management to accede to the demands of the workers in other factories, and soon strikes followed in the most important industries of the city. It is estimated that about 200,000 workers went on strike. Almost all industry was paralyzed by the struggle. The economic strife was threatening to become a political one as well. Like an elemental force it came upon the city, and the most optimistic among the socialists were overwhelmed by the suddenness and the potential force which the strike movement possessed. The socialists busied themselves with organizing the strikers and solidifying their ranks. Impromptu meetings were being held, where socialists were welcome speakers.

The power of Gapon was, however, very strong with the mass of workers on strike. He was laboring hard to keep them from falling under the influence of the socialists, whose hopes for a revolutionary outbreak were rising with the determination of the workers to continue the strike. Gapon then proposed the organization of a manifestation to the winter palace, and to petition the czar for redress of grievances. The revolutionists attacked this proposal and warned the strikers against a trap laid by the cunning priest. To counteract the agitation of the revolutionists, Gapon drew up a grandiloquent petition, including most of the immediate demands of the socialist platform. He made a whirlwind campaign among the strikers for the support of his plan. He exploited the myth about the czar's ignorance of political affairs, and vouched that when the czar heard the grievances of the workers he would inaugurate the reforms. Sunday, Jan. 9 (22), was set for the demonstration. The workers were told to come with their wives and children, so that the czar may see his subjects and hear their needs. The police did not prohibit the demonstration. This worried the revolutionists most. They tried to dissuade the workers from going to the winter palace, fearing a fatal ending of the errand. They were unsuccessful. The working class under the leadership of the revolutionists, Gapon drew up a grandiloquent petition, including most of the immediate demands of the socialist platform. He made a whirlwind campaign among the strikers for the support of his plan. He exploited the myth about the czar's ignorance of political affairs, and vouched that when the czar heard the grievances of the workers he would inaugurate the reforms. Sunday, Jan. 9 (22), was set for the demonstration. The workers were told to come with their wives and children, so that the czar may see his subjects and hear their needs. The police did not prohibit the demonstration. 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