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MONDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1919.

Has your local union contributed to the new workmen's compensation fund? If not, take the matter up at your next meeting. All contributions should be sent to the Cascade Trades and Labor Assembly, Great Falls, Mont. See that the petitions are signed up and sent in as soon as possible.

THE SALARIES OF "LABOR LEADERS."

The modest Mr. Brindel, president of the New York Building Trades council! He receives a salary of \$18,000 per year and admits that he earns every cent of it. He is hailed by the press as the highest paid "labor leader" in the city of New York, but it would be a mistake to think that this means in the United States. True, the salaries of many "labor leaders" are much less than this, but salary—unfortunately for the membership of the organized labor bodies—does not always mean income. There are many, many ways of adding to one's salary, and it is notable that many labor officials are able to save sums out of all proportion to their salaries.

There are workers whose services to their organizations or to their class are worth much more than \$18,000 per year, but the payment of such salaries as these immediately destroys their usefulness by destroying their personal interests in the movement. With economic security guaranteed by an enormous salary, a "labor leader" loses all interest in the struggles of the rank and file; his sole desire is to keep the membership working so that there will be no disturbing interruptions in the flow of per capita tax.

The labor movement becomes to him simply a business, like selling drygoods or prunes. The industrial disputes of the rank and file become merely annoying disturbances that must be settled as quickly as possible, without regard to the workers' welfare.

He associates with the "best" people—whom everyone knows are the employing class—joins their fraternal societies, becomes one of them.

The payment of huge salaries to officers of labor unions has resulted in an aristocracy of labor being set up within the ranks of labor and the efforts of the favored ones to maintain a stranglehold on the meal ticket has made labor union politics the most corrupt in the world.

The battle for supremacy between the ins and the outs, the feeders at the trough and the hungry ones who try to reach it, is purely a question of individuals, not of policies; political machines so impregnable that the rank and file assault them in vain, have been built up. The tenure of many labor officials has been for life. Most of them have not worked at their trades for from 10 to 35 years, yet they assail their critics as "intellectuals" and say they are not "workers"!

There is nothing in common between a worker receiving \$4 to \$8 per day and a labor official drawing a salary of from \$5,000 to \$18,000 per year—and expenses—protected in his case and plenty by his court of general and special organizers who are appointed by him.

Capitalism has nothing to fear from the average labor leader, and knows it, but the worker has, and many of them do not know it. High salaries for officials and the class struggle are incompatible; most of the hostility of the officers of the trade union movement toward the radicals springs from the fact that they sense in the rise of the radical a drastic curtailment of their luxurious existence; their material interests depend upon keeping the membership a mere dues-paying machine.

The enormous salaries paid to labor officials in the United States have been the subject of but little comment in the press; it is, nevertheless, one of the most important factors that make for the perpetuation of a labor autocracy by placing a premium on unscrupulousness and cunning rather than ability and willingness to sacrifice.

A CHRISTMASTIDE SERMONETTE.

To the Princesses of Peace.

There is not a war in the world, no, nor an injustice, but you women are answerable for it; not in that you have provoked, but in that you have not hindered.

Men, by their nature, are prone to fight; they will fight for any cause, or for none. It is for you to choose their cause for them, and to forbid them when there is no cause. There is no suffering, no injustice, no misery in the earth, but the guilt of it lies with you. Men can bear the sight of it, but you should not be able to bear it. Men may tread it down without sympathy in their own struggle; but men are feeble in sympathy, and contracted in hope; it is you only who can feel the depths of pain, and conceive the way of its healing. Instead of trying to do this, you turn away from it; you shut yourselves within your park walls and garden gates; and you are content to know that there is beyond them a whole world in wilderness—a world of secrets which you dare not penetrate, and of suffering you dare not conceive.

I tell you that this is to me quite the most amazing among the phenomena of humanity. I am surprised at no depths to which, when once warped from its honor, humanity can be degraded. I do not wonder at the miser's death, with his hands, as they relax, dropping gold. I do not wonder at the sensualist's life, with the shroud wrapped about his feet. I do not wonder at the single-handed murder of a single victim, done by the assassin in the darkness of the railway, or red-shadow of the marsh. I do not even wonder at the myriad-landed murder of the multitudes, done boastfully in the daylight, by the frenzy of nations, and the immeasurable, unimag-

To Our Patrons---Friends and Others

In order that the large number of employes on the Bulletin payroll may enjoy Christmas with their families and friends, the management has decided not to issue a paper on that day. This decision is subject to modification in the event of something extraordinary happening—such as Senator Poindexter proclaiming the Constitution, the "Whiner" recognizing the Soviet, President Wilson resurrecting the 14 points, or Coniffe Kelly raising the miners' wages—in any of these events we will publish a "wuxtra."

inable guilt, heaped up from hell to heaven, of their priests and kings.

But this is wonderful to me—oh, how wonderful!—to see the tender and delicate woman among you, with her child at her breast, and a power, if she would wield it, over it, and over its father, purer than the air of heaven, and stronger than the seas of earth—nay, a magnitude of blessing which her husband would not part with for all that earth itself, though it were made of one perfect crystal:—to see her abdicate this majesty to play at precedence with her next-door neighbor! This is wonderful—oh, wonderful! to see her, with every innocent feeling fresh within her, go out in the morning into her garden to play with the fringes of its guarded flowers, and lift their heads when they are drooping, with her happy smile upon her face, and no cloud upon her brow, because there is a little wall around her place of peace; and yet she knows, in her heart, if she would only look for its knowledge, that outside of that little rose-covered wall, the wild grass to the horizon is torn up by the agony of men, and heat level by the drift of their life-blood.—Ruskin.

Fuel Administrator Garfield resigns because the president's commission may find that the coal miners are entitled to more than a 14 per cent increase by reason of the advance in the cost of living and because this may increase prices to the dear public. For two years this same fuel administrator let the operators make 15 to 2,000 per cent and never so much as hinted about running home. If consistency is indeed a jewel, Garfield is as unadorned as a crabapple tree in winter.

The unjustifiable optimism of the Butte Evening Post on its front page every night is a fine example of the namby-pamby, wishy-washy, shilly-shally, willy-nilly editorial policy of the evening mouthpiece of the A. C. M. Note the opinions of the business men who advertise in the post. All is well and the goosehungs high—very high. The Yule spirit will prevail in spite of hell and high water—Butte water.

The militarists are so anxious about the health of the youth of the nation that they want to spend about a billion and a half in giving them military training in schools and colleges. Now, now, boys, why not tell the truth and shame the devil for just once? None of the militarized nations of Europe have gone so far as to put the school boys into squads right and squads left.

According to Sunday's Whiner, the adherents of its particular brand of Americanism are in the minority in this community. We are grateful for this unexpected corroboration of our statement that the disciples of the Clark-Ryan school preserve American institutions by stealing elections.

The 100-per-cent patriot who edits the Loyal American News of Minneapolis has been found guilty of criminal libel against two labor aldermen. Now wasn't it most unpatriotic for those low-brow labor men to call a patriot that way through the courts?

As for the Cummins rail bill, with its guarantee of earnings on water and other nice features, we believe Jay Gould in his prime would have been more modest. But then Gould was just a pioneer in the art of making politics profitable.

The consensus of opinion of the army men testifying before the senate and house military affairs committees appeared to be that if we adopt every principle of Prussian militarism America cannot be Prussianized.

Many housewives of Butte have joined the drive for a "Save and Save Christmas." Some have joined through choice, while others have been driven to it.

"Investigating" Mexican Affairs

By ARTHUR THOMSON.

The foreign relations committee of the United States senate a short time ago appointed a sub-committee to investigate Mexican affairs. This sub-committee is composed of Senators Fall, Smith of Arizona, and Brandegee. Senator Fall is the chairman, and an interventionist, Smith is known as the "chum of Fall." Brandegee is a deep-dyed reactionary. Recently Senator Fall, as the chief of the interventionists, has made a great deal of noise about intervention. He has charged in the United States senate and in the press, that the Carranza government has been "deliberately stirring revolutionary troubles" in the United States, and a number of other charges which the evidence he has put forth does not sustain. And on the strength of his "evidence" this senator from New Mexico wants the United States government to withdraw its recognition of the Carranza government, which, as can be plainly seen, is the first step towards war with Mexico.

One does not have to investigate the "investigating" committee of the United States senate very deeply to come to the conclusion that this committee is mainly concerned with getting the interventionists' testimony. It "investigates" Mexican affairs so as to strengthen the intervention "cause." The interventionists press bureau of high salaried lackeys "play up" the evidence of those witnesses favoring intervention, and the evidence of any who happen to come before the committee who are opposed to intervention meets with a cold reception.

The sub-committee to investigate Mexican affairs is a one-sided affair, and as far as getting the truth about Mexican affairs to the people is concerned it is a colossal farce. The high-salaried press agents of the Association for the Protection of American Rights in Mexico eagerly seize any testimony favorable to intervention and the country is flooded with lying and misrepresenting reports of affairs below the Rio Grande. By the way, this association with the long name is composed of those interested in exploiting Mexican labor and resources—the oil producers, the mining, agricultural, security and "general interest" groups, such as the El Paso and Los Angeles chambers of commerce, known for their wonderful concern for the workers in their own communities! They don't know what justice means at home, but are much concerned about it for the people of Mexico!

This committee "investigating" Mexican affairs plans to "investigate" conditions along the border, and doubtless the press of the country will in the near future be flooded with the results of its "investigations." Having lost out in the recent desperate attempt to force intervention, an attempt will be made by the interventionists to make a new issue, or perhaps additional "evidence" will be brought forth to strengthen the recent issue.

Listen to the Mucker



The Mucker—If conditions were changed so that only the best were to survive some of our "kept press editors" would certainly have "fits" trying to adapt themselves to the business end of a muck stick.

The Students' Corner

Having completed "Shop Talks on Economics," we begin a study of "Evolution—Social and Organic," by Arthur M. Lewis. Students will find in this work the explanation for many natural phenomena, whose causes have escaped them. It deals with and explains the various philosophies and theories of existence that have arisen from time to time and contains much information not found in the ordinary textbooks. It should be carefully studied for the reason that a thorough understanding of evolution is necessary for a true knowledge of life and labor, the most important factor in life.—Editor's Note.

(Continued From Saturday.)

Chapter V.

DE VRIES' "MUTATION." Orthodoxy received the most stunning blow ever given it, at the hands of Charles Darwin, and it is ever on the lookout for an opportunity to make reprisals. It is only necessary for some fledgling to challenge Darwin's theory of the origin of corals, and offer some grotesque assumption in its place, and it is at once announced from a thousand pulpits that Darwinism—that enemy of God and man—is dead. Hugo DeVries, however, could hardly be called a fledgling, and the supporters of Darwin had real cause for apprehension, it would seem, there was of victory for DeVries, when the rumor gained ground that a less a person than the American dam professor had overthrown Darwin's theory, and substituted one of his own.

Alas, this latest "death of Darwinism" was no more fatal than its numerous predecessors, as the following quotation from DeVries himself will show: "My work claims to be in full accord with the principles laid down by Darwin." And again, "My Darwinism was reserved for the task of bringing the theory of common descent to its present high rank in scientific and social philosophy." And, "Notwithstanding all these apparently unsurmountable difficulties, (absence of experimental evidence since gathered) Darwin discovered the great principle which rules the evolution of organisms. It is the principle of natural selection. It is the sifting out of all organisms of minor worth through the struggle for life."

The greater part of the adverse criticism, aimed at Darwinism applies only to the extravagant claims put forward not to be found in the works of Darwin himself. As we shall see later, one of the greatest offenders in this respect was no less a person than the co-discoverer of the selection theory—Alfred Russell Wallace.

Of all the mischievous misconceptions of Darwin's theory none have worked so much harm as that which regards natural selection as the active and efficient cause of evolution. Although evolution is an established fact, our knowledge of its processes are incomplete and must always remain so until we have solved that most vexed of all biological problems, the "causes of variation."

As to the nature of these causes, natural selection is dumb. For its purpose, variation is simply assumed to be a fact, and Darwin's acknowledged ignorance as to how variation is brought about is expressed in the term "spontaneous variation." Until variation has played its part by producing new and various forms,

selection has no function or office to perform. Then it simply decides which forms shall survive by destroying the rest. As Wiggand has pointed out, selection does not do more than determine the survival of what is offered to it, and does not create anything new. As DeVries very strikingly puts it, "It is only a sieve, and not a force of nature, no direct cause of improvement, as many of Darwin's adversaries, and unfortunately many of his followers also, have so often asserted. It is only a sieve which decides which is to live and which is to die. . . . With the single steps of evolution it has nothing to do. Only after the step has been taken, the sieve acts, eliminating the unfit." Thus Prof. Cope's point that Darwin's theory does not explain the "origin" of the fittest, is well taken, or as Mr. Arthur Harris puts it, "Natural selection may explain the survival of the fittest, but it cannot explain the arrival of the fittest."

It was around this question of the "causes" of variation that the Neo-Lamarckians and the Weismannians fought their battle, the former insisting as we have seen, that variation was caused by the hereditary transmission of acquired characters, while Weismann maintained that variation arose solely through the combining of two portions of different individuals, and producing a new individual unlike either—a "variation" from both. While whatever there was of victory fell to Weismann, neither side has experimentally proven its case, and we are still in the dark as to the "causes of variation." Our ignorance is still cloaked in the convenient word "spontaneous;" to Darwin's "spontaneous variation" we now add DeVries' "spontaneous mutation."

It is another tribute to Darwin's caution and insight that he recognized the possibility of variations arising either suddenly, as DeVries asserts they do, or gradually as DeVries denies. Not only did Alfred Russell Wallace seek to limit the operation of natural selection in certain fields, in order to make room for his spiritualist theories—an adventure which failed dismally—but he denied the sudden appearance of new species or sub-species, thereby restricting Darwinism, as he understood it, to the origin of new species by the gradual accumulation of those almost imperceptible variations usually described as "fluctuations." Whatever conflict there may be between Darwinism and mutation must be ascribed to Wallace. As DeVries clearly recognizes, Darwin is in no way responsible. "Darwin," says DeVries, "recognized both lines of evolution."

The difference between "fluctuations" and "mutation" is illustrated by recalling Galton's simile of a pebble—an example of which is a baby on any particular face, it is in stable equilibrium. Small disturbances may make it oscillate, but it returns always to the same face. These oscillations are like fluctuating variations. A greater disturbance may cause the pebble to roll over on to a new face, where it comes to rest again, only showing the ever present fluctuations around the new center. The new position corresponds to a mutation. One of the disabilities of this illustration is that some fluctuations represent a greater disturbance from the given position than some mutations. The essential difference is that in the fluctuation it rocks back again while in the mutation it remains on a new base. Everybody has heard something of

Flour Gold

(Larded by Jim Seymour.)

THE END OF THE TRAIL. When hope with her rainbows has faded from view, And doubts our ideals assail; When all our illusions are proven untrue, We've come to the end of the trail.

100 PER CENT AMERICANISM.

That is the real issue in this country. . . . It is the eternal struggle between these two principles, right and wrong, throughout the world. They are the two principles that have stood face to face from the beginning of time. The one is the common right of humanity, the other the divine right of kings. It is the same principle in whatever shape it develops itself. It is the same spirit that says, "You toil and work and earn bread and I'll eat it!" Abraham Lincoln.

These words, with all due respect to the great roughneck libertarian who uttered them, are called to the attention of those fake Americans who wish to continue eating the bread that the other fellow has earned.

The man who himself proclaims his virtues, rather than let his acts speak for him, is at heart a rascal and a hypocrite. The loud and four-mouthed parasite, who shouts from the houseposts his 100 per cent Americanism, is in reality a 100 per cent enemy of America and a 100 per cent traitor to the human race. His purple-faced Americanism, when analyzed in the laboratory of reason, proves to be but the one-half of a per cent benzoate of soda which serves as a preservative and a safeguard against the detection of rotteness.

James J. Montague, planetoid of the Hearst solar system, who is not a female prostitute, writes the following:

"The I. W. W. college course, Learn to labor and to hate." The patrons of the "house" where Monty "works" ought also to learn to labor: the rest of it they already know.

Arthur Brisbane, writing imaginatively of a world metal-less except for gold, says: "The age of gold would be an age with nothing sharp enough to cut, nothing strong enough to endure; progress would come to an end. We need, even among the metals, 'lower classes' for hard work."

Now dope it out the other way, fellows. Do you know of another metal quite so useless as gold?

The astronomers say that space is unlimited, but the editor disagrees, so, to long.

the famous evening primrose which gave DeVries his first and most conclusive evidence of mutation. At Hilversum near Amsterdam, he discovered a large number of plants of the evening primrose, named by recalling Galton's simile of a pebble—an example of which is a baby on any particular face, it is in stable equilibrium. Small disturbances may make it oscillate, but it returns always to the same face. These oscillations are like fluctuating variations. A greater disturbance may cause the pebble to roll over on to a new face, where it comes to rest again, only showing the ever present fluctuations around the new center. The new position corresponds to a mutation. One of the disabilities of this illustration is that some fluctuations represent a greater disturbance from the given position than some mutations. The essential difference is that in the fluctuation it rocks back again while in the mutation it remains on a new base. Everybody has heard something of

(To Be Continued.)