

THE MONTANA NEWS.

Owned and Published by the Socialist Party of Montana.

ISSUED WEEKLY.

OFFICE 15 PARK AVE. P. O. BOX 908

Entered at the Post Office for transmission through the mail at second class rates.

Address all communications and make all money payable to the Montana News.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One Year..... 50c Six Months..... 25c One cent per copy in bundles up to 500

National Headquarters, Mahlon Barnes, Secretary, Room 300-302, Boylston Bldg., Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

State Headquarters, Jas. D. Graham, Secretary, 15 Park Avenue, Helena, Mont.

STATE CABINET.

George Ambrose - Butte John Horne - Billings J. F. Mabie - Chico George Wesleder - Great Falls T. J. Rooney - Livingston



THERE WAS A SOUND OF REVELRY BY NIGHT.

California towns are vying with each other in an insane rivalry over the entertainment of the sailors and officers of the Atlantic squadron. Balls and barbecues, official dinners and band concerts, military parades, promenades and receptions, athletic sports and a continual round of excitement have at last palled on the men until it is reported that officers and men are tired out with long continual revelry. But the program must be carried out. Showers of flowers, acres of bunting, wine, women, song and music—a mad social whirl of fair women and brave men in a frantic attempt to revive the drooping military spirit and bolster up the administration by arousing that false patriotism which is the last refuge of scoundrels.

In all this booming of cannon and wasting of money what interest have the workers? You, men and women who are toiling in store and shop, and mine and factory, how much is it going to add to your happiness to have the Connecticut boom a national salute of 21 guns, in answer to a boom from Fort Baker, as she passes through the Golden Gate? How much will it satisfy your wants to know that Secretary Metcalf and the governors of the Pacific coast states were given a breakfast in the "red room" of the hotel St. Francis? What does the "red room" mean to you who prepare the food and pressed the wine over which your masters plan your further enslavement? All this display and the advertising it is getting in the newspapers is done for a purpose, and the purpose is not the making of freemen. It is the same old game of lulling the slaves to sleep with entertainment and amusement. It may serve its purpose for a while but it never saved a nation.

PATRIOTISM WITH A PURPOSE.

We are in receipt of an invitation from the "Fleet Publicity Committee" of Tacoma "to act with the Tacoma Reception Committee in the welcome on land and water given to the officers and men," of the battleship fleet which will arrive in Commencement Bay on May 27. We are also invited to bring our family and friends—any one in fact who has a dollar to spend. As an extra inducement to arouse our patriotic zeal AND get us interested in the city by the Sound, "citizens of Tacoma have offered four prizes, viz: \$150.00, \$100.00, \$75.00, and \$50.00 for the four best series of two articles each on 'TACOMA'S PREPARATIONS FOR THE FLEET', to be written by Northwest editors, and published in their papers between now and the 25th of May."

You see if it was published AFTER the 25th of May it would be no good as an advertisement. Now, if our advertising space was not all taken up we would just win one of those prizes because they have given us the material to do it. The circular says: "It is requisite that each article be descriptive of Tacoma; and that it emphasize the points brought out in the accompanying matter as to Tacoma's peculiar fitness for holding the celebration," etc. The "accompanying matter" is a circular letter describing the blow-out and the natural advantages of the bluffs from which to see the "spectacular naval pageant" in which fifteen warships will participate, together with an article from "Success" Magazine and a neatly printed and illustrated folder both telling of the great commercial advantages of Tacoma, where we are invited TO SEE THE FLEET. We are

told that "Tacoma has more than 400 manufacturing establishments, with a capital aggregating \$20,000,000 and 15,000 employees having a monthly pay roll of nearly \$1,000,000"; that "for 1906 the output of Tacoma factories approximated in value \$45,000,000"; that "during 1906 the total ocean commerce of Tacoma aggregated \$44,744,189" and that "during the past four years 297,744 cars of pay freight were consigned to or originated in Tacoma, compared to 272,995 for Seattle and 265,867 for Portland." Don't that prove that Tacoma is a better place to invest your money than Seattle or Portland? We are also told that "Tacoma has more than 100 churches and religious societies of all denominations." What a sermon it will be to stand on the mount and see 100 churches and 15 battleships all at one sight. Surely Tacoma is a fit place to welcome a navy based on commercialism. "Twenty thousand dollars is being raised to entertain the officers and men." "For the officers, for such as come ashore, automobiles will be provided." "For the men, open house at Y. M. C. A. with some form of entertainment and street car rides." There is to be a grand excursion of school children. "One thousand youngsters will be brought to this city to see the fleet." Of course; the proper spirit must be instilled into the children—the boys will soon be old enough to enlist. With a shrewd business sense the trip of the fleet is being used as an advertisement to boom Tacoma. But why not the business men of Tacoma use the fleet to their profit as well as any one else—it is the business men the fleet exists for. Go, everybody and your friends, get drunk on patriotism and buy a corner lot. Tacoma needs the money.

A NATIONAL BOARD OF INDUSTRY.

For many years previous to 1870 the statesmen of Germany realized that a war with France was inevitable, and to make sure of success for their country a "Board of Strategy" was formed to plan every detail of this struggle before hand. So well done was the work of the board that within six weeks from the declaration of war, France was completely whipped. Since that time, practically every country of any importance has adopted the same plan for the administration of their military affairs.

Our own country has had such a board for several years, planning the work of destruction and death. In the name of common sense, isn't what we need now, a board that will plan the work of construction and life? A Board of Industry that will plan and execute a just and equitable system of production and distribution will do away with the necessity of a "Board of Strategy."

Every one who keeps up with the current literature of the day knows full well that the vast majority of the people are looking and hoping for some way out of our present fix. Most of these people, while they have not had experience enough to understand our philosophy, want exactly the same thing that we want and will join us the minute they can see that we propose to do something definite that will upbuild society.

The size of the task we have set ourselves to, and our ever increasing numbers makes it necessary for us to bestir ourselves in planning DEFINITELY our every move so that each one will count the most possible in bringing about a better society tomorrow.

To this end I suggest the adoption of a "Board of Industry" plank by our National convention, something similar to the following:

We advocate the appointing of a "National Board of Industry."

First: To plan for and aid in the further development and centralization of our industries, and

Second: To plan for and aid in the EXTENSION OF THE OWNERSHIP OF these industries TO THE WHOLE PEOPLE in the speediest and most practical way.

GEO. G. McDOWELL, Billings, Mont.

HUNTER URGES DUTY OF STATE TO FIND EMPLOYMENT.

Robert Hunter, the socialist, formerly of Hull House, Chicago, spoke before the Ethical Social League, which met at the Hotel Astor recently, to devise plans for giving aid to the unemployed.

Mr. Hunter declared that the workman had a right to a job, and that a state employment agency should be established like one he had seen in Berlin, where men out of work could spend the day, have a bath, meals and a shave, while officials kept in touch with employers and industrial centers in the effort to find jobs for them.

Mr. Hunter said women should receive equal pay with men for the same kind of work. "When women get equal pay it will mean the employment of more men," said Mr. Hunter, "and the job would go to the breadwinner."—New York Herald.

WISCONSIN NOTES.

According to the Wisconsin law, the Milwaukee Social-Democratic Party has filed a sworn account of their campaign expenses. The total expense of their spring campaign was \$5,371. Of this \$1,110 was for newspaper advertising, Socialist matter having been inserted as advertisements in the capitalist papers. \$2,491 was for printing and literature, \$893 for speakers, \$191 for hall rent, \$63 for citizens papers, \$224 for postage, \$310 for bill posting, \$17 for stationery, \$16 for car fare. Compare with these expenses just one item of the expenses of the Democratic candidate—an item of \$120 for tooth-picks!

The Social-Democratic members of the Milwaukee City Council have introduced resolutions for more playgrounds for the children in the workmen's districts, for more time off for the city firemen, for better street-car service, and for track elevation of the railways. The old party politicians for two years have pretended to work for track elevation, but have so muddled the matter as to suggest that they have blocked it purposely. Meanwhile the railway tracks through Milwaukee are a constant menace to the life of the citizens, especially in the factory districts, where workmen and school children are obliged to cross the tracks daily.

Another proof of the fear in which the old parties now hold the Social-Democrats is the fact that in the City Council and County Board committees our members have been given very poor appointments. In former years, before the old parties got together against us, our men were on some important committees where they could do good work for the movement. Now they are placed on those where their work will be least dangerous to the old parties. For instance, on the county Board, three Social-Democrats are put on the committee in charge of the burial of ex-soldiers! But the republican and democratic politicians will find that our men have some more live work to do than taking charge of funerals—except the funeral of the old parties.

The Socialists scored a big victory in the first meeting of the Milwaukee Charter convention, which met last Tuesday. They succeeded in electing Carl D. Thompson as temporary secretary and getting Comrades Berger and Welch on the committee to draw up a plan of procedure for the convention. Of course, this is only the first skirmish of the Charter convention, but it puts us in a splendid position for the fight. It will be remembered that out of a total number of 49 delegates the Social-Democrats have 16. The importance of this convention can hardly be exaggerated. On its results will depend the possibility of the Milwaukee Social-Democrats really accomplishing something along Socialist lines in this city. So this first triumph makes the Milwaukee comrades smile.

Now that the election is over, the enemy has by no means stopped the fight against the Socialists. At a big banquet given to Mayor Rose in the Hippodrome, he made a ferocious attack on our party!

SOCIALISM MUST BE CHECKED.

President Faunce of Brown University, successor to Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, utters a note of fear in his Charter Day address to the graduating class of the State University of California recently.

What do you think he fears? He sees looming up in the shadows of the near future a dread shape, a moving horror. He told the students of the dire thing that he sees. He told them also of the "only escape."

What is it that terrifies President Faunce? The same thing that startles Teddy the King like the writing on the wall at Belshazzar's feast. The specter of today—socialism.

"To save the world from socialism," says the terrified president of the capitalist university, "we must attain such mutual understanding and sympathy and social cooperation as would preserve private initiative from the forces that would throttle it. The only escape from socialism founded on despair of the individual, is such social coherency and cooperation as shall save the individual alive and give him free development."

Of course, President Faunce. What is socialism if it is not social coherency and cooperation? The only escape from Democracy, said Jefferson, a hundred years ago, is Democracy. The only escape, says Faunce, from socialism is social cooperation; in other words, the only escape from socialism is socialism. That's capitalism's latest conclusion—and it happens to be right. The only cure for the dread socialism that the cowering capitalist imagines he sees looming in the shade, is the socialism that the working class, when awakened, sees as a beacon light on the hills. The only escape from socialism is socialism.—William McDevitt in Common Sense.

IDAHO

T. J. COONROD, Secretary. Emmett, Idaho.

Local Elmira orders nine special stamps.

Local Palouse admitted six new members April 19.

Canyon county committee met at Parma April 26.

Local Pocatello enrolled four new members April 26.

Local Scherrer sends \$5.00 for ten special stamps and ten due stamps.

Local Twin Falls remits for 16 special stamps and reports 44 members on the roll.

Secretary of Local Pine writes: "Every member of our local is out of a job but we mean to stay."

Local Fairview of Heyburn applies for a change of name to that of Local Heyburn and so it is granted.

Secretary of Local Challis orders 20 due stamps and closes letter thus: "Yours for the big 'Jar' in Nov."

Comrade John M. Work reported four members-at-large at Fairview and one at Montpelier at the close of his tour in Idaho.

Local Boise comrades have secured headquarters at 232 Sonna Block and will be pleased to meet all comrades when in town.

A referendum is out for the election of four members of the State Executive committee and also to decide time and place for holding the State Nominating convention.

Local Mountain Home orders ten special stamps and reports that Comrade William Thurston Brown will lecture there May 5 under the auspices of the Library Club.

Comrade D. Burgess has kindly favored North Idaho with a number of meetings and Comrade Stache of Wallace has this to say of him: "His ways take well and he does make a lasting impression."

State Central Committeeman Florence A. Rigg went to Chicago with National Committeeman E. L. Rigg of Rupert, who is a delegate to the National convention. She will no doubt attend the Socialist Women's meetings being arranged by The Socialist Woman's League of Chicago.

Comrade George W. Murray of Tahoe sends report of four meetings held in his vicinity by Comrade Wanhope, and writes: "He is a convincing speaker. We all appreciate his kindness to visit us. Tahoe precinct is going to make a big record on the third of November."

A comrade writes: "Please send information how to proceed to organize the county," and I find it a big task to write a copy of a large part of new constitution and will hope to be able to supply them a printed copy soon. Another comrade writes: "If the constitution is not printed yet the Printer ought to be fired."

Comrade John M. Work this week reports Local Albion, 8 members, and Local Twin Falls, 38 members, for reinstatement and applications for a charter for locals American Falls, 8 members, and Burley, 10 members, and Oakley 12 members, and writes: "Everything encouraging in this region. Most places want more speakers."

Comrades of Shoshone county have elected D. H. Pfifer of Wallace, State Central Committeeman and he sends nominations for State Executive Committeemen to be elected in May. They also assessed themselves 50 cents per member each month, April and May, to raise a fund for a county organizer to take the field May first, and elected Comrade Geo. W. Harrington as the organizer.

Comrade Shimp of Bliss writes: "Were Socialism a SCHEME I might have fits of despondency; but like the eclipse of the moon it is GOING TO COME and I rejoice to know that a better day—the 'perfect day' is not so awfully far off! Capitalism, like a horse in a bog, hastens its own doom with every struggle for escape. So let the struggle continue via the injunction route as that is the most despicable, and consequently the most effective."

The Socialist Young People's League of Sweden was founded five years ago and today is composed of 400 clubs and 20,000 members. The league publishes a newspaper, called Fram, which has a circulation of 40,000.

Anton Mlekush John Gollmyer

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ALTRUISTIC SELFISHNESS.

Apropos of the coming convention some one has remarked: Give each delegate \$10,000 and they would disperse, never to be heard from again. This may not mean that all socialists can be bought, but refers rather to the natural selfishness of man. Socialists are ready to admit the existence of this trait in themselves. In fact it is, after all, the underlying incentive to all work, social or otherwise.

Setting aside the great number of whom nothing can swerve from their purpose, who go on regardless of health or personal sacrifice, wearing out their vital forces in the struggle, the remainder, the rank and file of the Socialist party, are led and held by selfish motives. I am not sure that these same heroic souls which lead every reform and revolution are not held to their purpose by their love of it and a dread of the self-condemnation they would feel should they leave it.

Show a man that by uplifting his neighbor he will be correspondingly raised and he will help you with enthusiasm.

When one sees that by creating an environment for every child born equal to that he craves for his own there will not be the danger to health and morals and that there will be a great number interested for this same reason in HIS children he is interested at once. He thinks.

We are apt to feel hatred and contempt for the capitalist and count ourselves better than they but they are the product of the system and just what we ourselves would be had the conditions of our lives been the same.

Man is the creature of environment always. It is instilled into the child's mind from the cradle that he must use every legal means to accumulate wealth. Not, possibly for the love of money itself but because it will bring the things he does love, comfort, leisure, enjoyment of the things which go to make life desirable. He works, saves, invests and at last is able to employ labor, the rest is easy. All value is produced by labor so the more he is able to employ the more of others earnings he can keep for himself. In some form or other great wealth always represents what men have had to give for the privilege of earning a mere living.

They are beginning to see, however, that by co-operation, while they may never hope to get control of their neighbor's earnings, they may enjoy together the united product of their toil.

In no other way may the great mass of humanity ever hope to have access to the things that elevate and refine. Isn't this selfishness. Yes, but its wearing a new dress, it isn't quite so hideous as the old garb of avarice and greed. It hopes in time to be considered a virtue.

Does it not seem so to you? —EVA M. WELLS.

CONVENTION NUMBER INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST REVIEW.

The May issue of the International Socialist Review is the best number Charles H. Kerr & Company have ever published. The Journal itself has been enlarged to 80 pages and every article it contains is one of immediate moment to members of the Socialist party. A new translation into English of Karl Marx's Criticism of the Gotha Platform is worthy of appearing in a more permanent form. Although the industrial world has progressed by leaps and bounds since the days of Marx, we find that his letters upon the subject of Socialist Platforms are

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in no way out of date and that we are today facing many of the problems he discussed over thirty years ago.

Comrade Cameron King, of California, in an article on Asiatic Exclusion, and Comrade H. S. Viator in the News and Views department, discuss the Immigration question from the national and the international viewpoints.

The Alcohol Question is ably handled by Comrade Wurm, of Berlin, in an article which has been used as propaganda by the party in Germany. Mrs. Jessie M. Mollie, of Kansas City, writes upon Women and the Socialist Movement and strongly opposes a separate organization for women.

There is also in this issue the first installment of a "charity" story by Mary E. Marcy, entitled Out of the Dump, which will interest and appeal to everybody.

Single copies of the Review can be obtained at the office of this paper at 10 cents each. Combination subscription price of the Review and this paper for one year, if sent to this office, \$1.00.

WOULD WOMEN STAND FOR IT?

In the economic world, we need not dread woman's competition, unless she can do the work more efficiently; and in that case, she ought to do it.

As to her fitness for the world of industry and commerce and finance, it is to be hoped that she would not take congenially to our present economic system and customs. Possibly she might not believe in our planless, hopeless and loveless cut-throat competition and selfish monopoly and stock-watering and railroad-wrecking and general frenzy of greed and gambling and graft.

Maybe she would not allow five men to so control the coal output and restrict production and advance prices, that in one year, it is said, six-thousand people were frozen to death in New York City alone.

Maybe she would not tolerate conditions under which one-tenth of the population own more than half of the national wealth. While on the one hand the very rich squander their substance in riotous living, on the other, more than one-tenth of the population of New York and one-fourth of the population of London are buried in the potter's field.

Possibly she would really believe in Brotherhood, not simply to sing about in church, but to practice in industry and commerce.—Benjamin Fay Mills.