

# MONTANA LEADER

A CONTINUATION OF THE INVERNESS NEWS

## Big Business Furnishes Anti-Farmer Candidates With Punk Dope

### LEAGUE LECTURER IS ARMY INSTRUCTOR IN WESTERN ARMY CAMP

PERSECUTED BY AGENTS OF BIG BUSINESS AND PRIVATEERS, HE IS GIVEN RESPONSIBLE POSITION BY ARMY OFFICERS AT VANCOUVER.

Leo S. Horst, formerly Nonpartisan league lecturer in North Dakota, has been advanced to the rank of sergeant in the United States army and has been assigned to detached duty as a teacher at the casual cantonment at Vancouver, where he teaches two classes in English and classes in democracy, loyalty and patriotism. There is nothing unusual in the above statement at first glance. Many of the young men, in fact most of them, who have been in the employ of the League, are now in the service of their country. But Horst's case is a little different.

AFTER HE HAD MADE 11 ATTEMPTS TO JOIN DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY SERVICE HE WAS ARRESTED FOR SEDITIOUS UTTERANCES DURING AN ADDRESS HE MADE AT A LEAGUE MEETING.

There is nothing particularly unusual about that either, for the Kept Press and Big Business have made it their business to see that men who have been engaged in the work of organizing the farmers of the nation into the Nonpartisan league have been harassed in every way possible. EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF BRINGING UNBASED AND UNPROVABLE CHARGES AGAINST THEM IN THIS TIME OF WAR. THIS WAS THE CASE WITH THE HORST CHARGES.

The matter was brought to the attention of the federal grand jury at Fargo and an indictment was returned against Horst. When the case was brought into court, however, it was immediately dismissed and Horst was given a clean bill of health. The papers fighting the Nonpartisan league and all farmers' movements made a great spread about the arrest and the indictment, but THE FACT THAT HORST HAD BEEN CLEARED OF THE CHARGES WAS CARRIED IN EVERY INSTANCE, UPON AN OBSCURE PAGE OF THE PAPERS AND UNDER SMALL HEAD LINES.

Thus far the Horst case followed about the usual lines of the persecution which, for a time, followed Nonpartisan league speakers and organizers. But right here it changed.

The attention of the State Council of Defense of North Dakota was called to the case and they decided to investigate. They never got very far with the investigation, however.

THEY COULDN'T FIND THE MAN WHO HAD MADE THE CHARGES.

Letters addressed to the postoffice address given at the time of the complaint were returned to the State Council of Defense with the notation that no such man was known there, nor had he ever lived there.

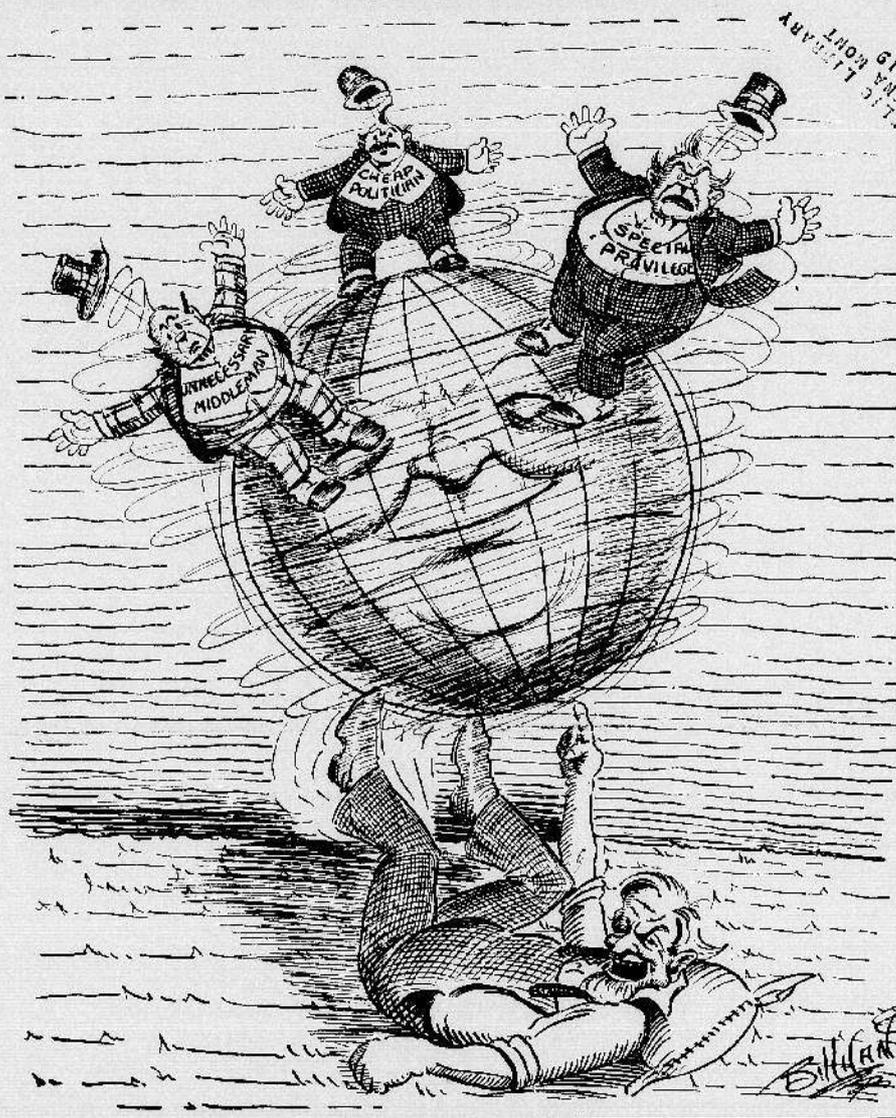
It made the case look as tho it was a purely trumped up affair. There was no proof, there was no witness and there was no justification for the arrest, according to the later developments.

Then, when it was all over, Leo Horst made another application for enlistment, and, in spite of his eyesight, which had caused his rejection before, he was accepted and taken into the spruce production service.

The United States army officers thought enough of him to advance him, in the space of a few months, from private to sergeant, and then had confidence enough in his loyalty

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### HE'S GOT 'EM GOING-WATCH THE F



### WORN OUT JUNK TO BE SHIPPED HERE, IS CLAIM

OLD TACTICS WHICH FAILED IN MINNESOTA MAY BE TRIED ON MONTANANS IN EFFORT TO DEFEAT FARMER LABOR TICKET

There are indications that the entire strength of Big Business is to be thrown into the political ring in Montana during the next two months in an effort to prevent the farmers and laboring men of the state from obtaining any very material representation in the next legislature.

The first inkling of this supposed plan was found at a meeting recently held at Conrad, in Teton county, where a "debate" on the principles of the Nonpartisan league was advertised to be held between C. C. Davis, candidate from that county for senator on the Democratic ticket, and T. O. Larson, candidate for the same office on the republican ticket.

The arrangements for the meeting were made by a local committee and it was determined that an admission of 50 cents should be charged, the proceeds to be donated to the Red Cross. There were over 400 people in attendance and the Red Cross was therefore enriched to the tune of a little better than \$200.

#### DAVIS EXPLAINS PROGRAM.

With the mayor of the city presiding and introducing the speakers, the meeting was called to order at 8:30. Mr. Davis was the first speaker and devoted a major portion of the three-quarters of an hour that he spoke to explaining the planks in the platform of the Nonpartisan league. He took up each part separately and showed what it would do in the way of bringing better conditions to the farmer and the laboring man. It is unnecessary to go into the details of his remarks here, as the platform is thoroughly explained in another article in this issue of the Montana Leader. It only remains to be said that he presented his arguments in a clear and forceful manner and had the entire attention of his audience for the time he was talking. There were numerous outbursts of applause as he brot the more important points home and when he concluded his talk with an earnest appeal for the support of the president and the government in the successful prosecution of the war he was greeted with generous applause.

#### TELLS OF LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Davis legislated from his talk on the platform of the farmers' organization to some extent when he told of a number of things which had transpired while he was a member of the house of representatives in the Montana legislature and told of some of the changes that are needed which are not included in the platform of the Nonpartisan league.

The Democratic candidate's only reference to the loyalty of the people of the state of Montana in general and the county of Teton in particular was made when he said:

#### ALL AMERICANS ARE LOYAL.

"I do not believe that it will be necessary to go into detail in the matter of loyalty. I am sure that I am safe in stating that no one here, either in the audience or upon the platform, doubts the loyalty of any resident of Teton county. There is no argument about that. We know our people and that they are ready to fight to the last ditch."

T. O. Larson, republican candidate for the senate, and an avowed enemy

## LIBERTY BOND CAMPAIGN WILL BRING GREAT FLOOD OF MONEY

MONTANA TO BE AMONG THE STATES TO MAKE NEW RECORDS— FIGHTING LOAN PROMISES TO BE BIGGEST IN HISTORY OF WAR—SUPPORT OF MEN FIGHTING IN FRANCE IS NECESSARY IF WAR IS TO BE WON

September 28 is the date selected for the opening of the Fourth Liberty Loan drive in the state of Montana and various communities are already beginning to make the preparations that will put over the effort in the shortest space of time and with the greatest results. State, county, municipal and rural committees are working out their schedules, the allotment will soon be made known and everyone who in any way possible can subscribe their bit are getting ready for the call of the solicitor.

This is the first time the government of the United States has asked for subscriptions to the Liberty Bond

issues since our boys have been fighting in the front line of battle in any considerable numbers. The news which has come across in the last few days will tend to freshen the enthusiasm of the people for the loan and they will go into the campaign with a determination to show the soldiers of the country that we are standing behind them to the limit of our ability.

There are sections of the country and of this state in particular where it is going to take real sacrifice to buy bonds. There are some places where there is doubt in the minds of

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**A FEW WAR PROFITS**

Packers, \$83,000,000 excess for the three war years over the three pre-war years.

Millers, 45 cents profit per barrel in 1917-18—20 cents in excess of profit fixed by the government.

United States Steel, 1917 net income, \$478,204,843.

Salmon canneries, 52.8 per cent on investment in 1917. Some canneries affiliated with packers made as high as 200 per cent.

Copper companies, 24.46 to 108 per cent on investment in 1917.

Leather manufacturers, 1916 profits, 30 to 100 per cent over 1914. Meat packers are large owners of leather shares.

Sulphur companies—two companies, with monopoly of product, made 236 per cent on investment in 1917.

Owners of gold mines are complaining that the stuff is not worth mining now that a dollar will buy so little. They think that taking the excess profits tax off their industry would help!