

# The Voice of the People.

(Formerly "The Lumberjack.")

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AN INJURY TO ONE, AN INJURY TO ALL

Education

Organization

Emancipation



FREEDOM IN INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY.

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WHEATLAND: Send all funds for the defense of the Wheatland Victims to, Andy Barber, Sec. I. W. W. Locals, 114 First Street, Sacramento, Cal.

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## Remittance Notice

ALL ORGANIZATIONS PLEASE REMEMBER THAT REMITTANCES FOR THE PAST MONTH MUST REACH "THE VOICE" NOT LATER THAN THE 10th OF THE SUCCEEDING MONTH PLEASE ACT ACCORDINGLY.

## Wanted Immediately

100 Locals and Rebels to Put up \$1.00

Each on

## THE VOICE

MAINTENANCE FUND

"Shedding tears over spilled milk only adds more water to it."

"If mistakes were crimes, most of us would be in jail."

## "Machine Made Farms."

"Ten years or so ago, an epoch in Western development was marked by the introduction of the steam plow upon the great farms and ranches of the West. However, coal is heavy and cumbersome and in many regions water is scarce and precious. So the application of the gasoline engine to farm purposes was hailed as a triumph of inventive genius. But the great objection to the gasoline engine on the farm is that gasoline is an expensive fuel. So the American inventor perfected the oil-burning engine. Oil is the cheapest and most perfect of all fuels. The latest type of oil-burning engine is as efficient as the gasoline engine and can be operated much more economically.

It now seems reasonable to predict that the oil-burning engine will work as great a revolution in American agriculture as was worked by the automatic harvester.

One writer has stated the situation thus: "With horses, every plow needs a man but with a good engine two men can operate eighteen plows and hold controlled in their hands the power of eighty horses that never tire."

On some of the larger ranches the power plowing machine is run night and day, with only a change of men. At night a headlight like that of a locomotive shows the way. Sometimes the number of plows is reduced and grain drills and harrows are attached behind the plows. The land is thus plowed, seeded and harrowed with one passing of the engine. Then, when the grain is ripe, the same engine may be hitched behind from three to six combined harvesters. The engine threshes and winnows the grain and is sometimes used for hauling it to market, easily drawing from seven to ten heavily loaded farm wagons. If agriculture is to score the same progress that has been made in almost every other line of human endeavor and if the rise in the cost of the necessities of life is to be checked, power farming of this description must become the rule instead of the very rare exception.

The only valid objection to the general use of mechanical power on the farms is on the ground of the cost of suitable traction engines. Some of the steam traction engines now used for plowing on the great plains region cost \$2,500 each. They are similar in construction to freight locomotives and will climb steep hills with ease. None but the owners of great ranches of thousands of acres are justified in putting so large a sum of money in a traction engine, even though, unlike the horse, it "eats only when it works."

Mechanical power is employed in the West and Southwest to a greater extent for farming purposes than in any other part of the country. For several years a large ranch in Montana has dispensed with horses entirely, employing power-driven machinery for all purposes for which horses are usually considered necessary. It is truly a "horseless farm." The problem of the world's food supply for centuries to come involves no question of a scarcity of land or a shortage of fertilizer. It is solely a problem of the economical and efficient application of mechanical power."

COMMENT: By Covington Hall. The above is part of an article evidently sent out by the press agent of U. S. Government's "Department of Agriculture" and was taken from the magazine section of the New Orleans "Daily Item" of Dec. 7th, title and all, only the title ran on to assert that "Machine Made Farms" were to reduce the cost of living, a thing they most certainly will not do as long as the LANDS and the MACHINES remain the PRIVATE PROPERTY OF THE FEW, for under Capitalism the machine only "saves labor" for the Capitalists and, by so doing, throws millions of work on the breadline, where, were the "cost of living" only ten cents a day, they would starve to death, where they have starved to death and where they are doomed to starve to death by increasing millions unless they, the WORKERS, ORGANIZE and SEIZE the EARTH and the MACHINES as the COMMON PROPERTY of the entire RACE. That is the ONLY WAY OUT.

Bearing out the above article and my statements in commenting thereon I quote you the following statistics taken from a fine article by Frank Bohn in the International Socialist Review for December Says Bohn: "In the decade ending 1910 the number of farm owners increased 8 1-2 per cent, while the number of farm tenants increased 16 1-2 per cent. Meanwhile, the number of mortgaged farms increased 18 per cent. While it is perfectly true that a section of our farming population, especially those owning good land within easy transporting distance of adequate markets, are earning money it is equally true that the great mass of our farmers are in a stationary or receding position economically. The number of actual wage workers on these farms (the great ranches and plantations of the West and South) is now colossal and is growing annually. Everywhere west of the Allegheny Mountains real capitalist farming is becoming the order of things. As the gasoline engine displaces the horse, the mule and the hired hand, a great army of tenant farmers, mortgage-ridden farmers and small farmers generally, will be crushed down into the ranks of the wage workers or turned into a serf class that will rent its machines as well as its farms. In the South and Southwest this is already largely the case."

On top of this Tom Hickey, probably the greatest authority in the country on the Southern land problem, states that 100,000,000 acres of arable land is being held out of cultivation in Texas alone by land speculators and land lords and that one can witness the strange sight of whole counties of "farmers" moving from one county and state to another every year; in other words, there is already in the Southern States a vast army of men and women who can correctly be called "hobo farmers" and the whole farming system of the West and South is rapidly developing into a gigantic system of Machine Made Agriculture where the farmers are to be herded in "the quarters" and driven to the fields by the gunmen of the Farm Trust just as the Lumber and Sugar Barons now drive their peons.

The "corn patch" working farmer can no more resist the onward sweep of these great, all-conquering machines to-day that could his kinsmen, the free English weaver resist the power loom of yesterday.

Nothing but the UNITY of the entire Working Class against the Capitalist Class, a UNITY AIMING AT THE OVERTHROW OF CAPITALIST SOCIETY AND THE SEIZURE OF THE EARTH AND THE MACHINES AS THE COMMON PROPERTY OF THE RACE, can avert the absolute enslavement of the WORKERS by the alleged owners of the natural resources and machinery of production and distribution.

On which side will YOU fight? Which will YOU choose, Capitalism and Slavery, or the ONE BIG UNION AND A FREE RACE WORKING ON FREE FARMS AND IN FREE WORKSHOPS THE WORLD OVER?

THERE IS NO OTHER WAY OUT.

## Celebrate The Voice's Birthday.

ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 1st., 1914, THE VOICE WILL BE ONE YEAR OLD—IF WE GET THERE, WHICH WE WILL MOST SURELY DO IF YOU REBELS STAND BY US AS YOU HAVE IN THE YEAR GONE BY. HOWEVER WE GOT AS FAR AS WE HAVE, WE DONT KNOW, BUT WE DID ALL THE SAME, AND, IF WE CAN PULL THRU THE HARD WINTER MONTHS, THERE IS EVERY INDICATION THAT THE VOICE WILL BE SAFE AND BEGIN TO BOOM, AS ALREADY WE ARE BEGINNING TO GET SUBS AND ORDERS FROM PLACES NEVER HEARD FROM BEFORE. JUST LOOK, YOU REBELS—YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE THE "IMPOSSIBLE" WITH THE VOICE, FOR YOU HAVE KEPT AN I. W. W. PAPER GOING IN THE SOUTH, WHERE IT IS MOST BADLY NEEDED, FOR A WHOLE YEAR NOW DESPITE ALL THE GREAT ODDS AGAINST YOU. ALREADY YOU HAVE DONE A WONDERFUL WORK. LET'S CROWN OUR YEAR'S HARD TOIL WITH COMPLETE AND TRIUMPHANT SUCCESS. LET'S SHOW THE LUMBER TRUST AND ITS ALLIES THAT WE ARE HERE TO STAY AND THAT THE FIGHTING I. W. W. NEVER WAS AND NEVER WILL BE WHIPT.

THEREFORE, I APPEAL TO YOU TO HELP US CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THE VOICE IN A BEFITTING MANNER, AND TO THIS END I MAKE THE FOLLOWING SUGGESTIONS:—LET EVERY LOCAL AND REBEL WHO BELIEVES IN THE VOICE AND ITS WORK SEND IN ONE DOLLAR, EITHER AS A DONATION TO THE MAINTENANCE FUND, OR AS A RENEWAL OF THEIR SUBSCRIPTION, OR AS A FUND FROM WHICH THEY CAN ORDER PAPERS TO BE SENT TO THEM AT A LATER DATE, THIS DOLLAR TO BE MAILED SO IT WILL REACH THE VOICE ON ITS BIRTHDAY, JANUARY FIRST, 1914.

### POSTSCRIPTUM.

What do you think of this? If you can't spare a Dollar, send less or more. We could not celebrate in a more effective way and, remember, many subscriptions will begin to expire in next January, so that many of you will only be making sure that you will not miss a copy of THE VOICE, and we promise you all that it will be worth reading and worth the money during the next several weeks for we are about to spring a few sensations on the enemies of the working class that you wont want to miss.

COME! let the croakers who are saying "it can't be done" go to Kirbyville, and let us Do It. Altogether with the old-time passionate, fighting I. W. W. spirit, altogether, and we win hands down! The fight is on—on with the fight! Death to peonage! Death to tenantry! On with the One Big Union! Up with the crimson banner of Industrial Democracy! Freedom on all the Continents, on all the seven seas, Freedom for all the world's workers!

And so I appeal to you Rebels who have stood behind us in all the dark and bitter days of the year gone by to help us to fittingly celebrate the Birthday of your paper, for by you alone it exists to-day, YOUR PAPER—THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

Yours in the fight for the World and all that on it is for the Workers of the World, COVINGTON HALL.

### CASH UP QUICK.

You can't print a paper without funds. There's a lot of money owing THE VOICE for bundles. See if YOUR LOCAL has paid up, and if not, why not. We cannot pay our printers with promises.

### BLUNDERBUNDS OF THE WORLD UNITE.

Washington Press dispatches of the 14th, state that the new immigration bill to be adopted by the Congress of the United Trusts of America debars all "militant suffragettes," "anarchists," "illiterates," Asiatics and all who believe in the "destruction of private property" (this last being admittedly "aimed at the Industrial Workers of the World") from entering this glorious land of hunger and slavery. Under this law every member of the "Boston Tea Party" was an undesirable citizen and the "embattled farmers who fired the shots heard round the world" were criminals of the worst stripe. With the entire English speaking world seething with revolution, this stunt of the Allied Blunderbunds of London and Washington is enuf to kill the God of Fools, but thanks be for one thing—the Donkocracy has at last caught up with the Gooseocracy, alias the Socialist Party of America.

But we would advise the Weary Willies of Pollydom that if by the "destruction of property" clause they are aiming at the Saboteurs they have another guess coming, for the VERY WORST FORMS OF SABOTAGE INVOLVE NO DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY WHATSOEVER. Wonderful intellects! Stop a World Wide ECONOMIC REVOLUTION with ink, paper and hotair! Wonderful! Wonderful!!! Hail to Asquith and Wilson, Captain Generals of the world's greatest Blunderbund, all hail!

ON WITH THE SOCIAL REVOLUTION.

"He who cannot reason is a fool; he who will not reason is a knave; he who dare not reason is a slave."

"Workers of the World, unite! We have nothing but our lives to lose, and they aint worth a damn, anyhow!"

The tendency of the working class to adopt the methods of Direct Action in place of Parliamentary futilities is becoming more and more alarming to the capitalist class every day.

Pat: There was never a strike won, except the strike at the ballot box.

Sam: Sure Pat, but I had to build the darn thing in the factory.

When the working class organization is strong enough to raise wages on the job, THEN the working class will make the laws in Congress.

Political action is the ideal of a grafter.

We wonder what his ideal would be if he was working on the job?