

THE WASHINGTON SOCIALIST

Formerly THE COMMONWEALTH

Entered as second-class matter March 9, 1911, at the postoffice at Everett, Washington, under the act of March 3, 1879.

IND. PHONE 478Z

Published every Thursday by the Washington Socialist Publishing Co., 1612 California Street, Everett, Washington.

Maynard Shipley Editor and Manager
Advertising Manager: F. G. Crosby.
Mailing Force: Tillie Roeder, Martha McCormick, Gertrude Cort, Emma Spink.

Yearly subscription\$1.00
Six months50
Three months25
Single copies05

WORKERS NOT ROBBED BY HIGH COST OF LIVING.

The average wage-earner is not hurt by the high cost of living, but by the competition for jobs, there being more willing workers always than the capitalist system can employ. But the limit of competition for jobs on the basis of a living wage—and none can work long for less than the cost of self-maintenance—is set by the average cost of living. The wage scale follows approximately the curve of the cost of living. So a low-cost of living would simply mean a relatively low wage, not more "savings" for the wage slave.

We may see then that the workers are poor not because of what they SPEND, but because of what they DON'T GET. The robbery takes place in the pay-envelope, not in the stores or saloons.

With every advance in the development of machinery unemployment has increased, and the worker is year by year able to purchase less and less of the product of his own labor.

An examination of the reports of the United States Census Bureau shows that there is a glaring inequality between the average value of the workers' products and the average wages paid.

In 1850 the average wage was \$247, and the value of the product per worker was \$812. The difference between the wages paid and the value of the produce was therefore but \$565. In 1910 (or 1909) the average wage was \$518, and the value of the produce at the factory door was \$3,124 per worker, a difference of \$2,606 between the wages received and the value of the product.

Statistics showing the continual increase in the value of product per worker do not make the exact amount of this "progressive" robbery of the wage slave apparent, owing to the increasing cost of material. But there is another way by which the approximate rate of robbery can be shown.

Average wage	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890	1900	1910
Value of product per worker	\$247	\$288	\$302	\$346	\$444	\$437	\$518
Difference between average wage and value of produce	812	1438	1648	1965	2204	2450	3124
Value added to raw material by average worker in manufacture	565	1150	1346	1619	1760	2013	2606
Difference between wages paid and value added by manufacture	237	363	377	375	546	588	771

STUDY OF CRIME.

There was introduced in the house of representatives on January 7, "a bill to establish a bureau for the study of the criminal, pauper and defective classes." It was introduced by Congressman Taggart, of Kansas, apparently by request of an organization devoted to "study of man."

The bill creates some salaried offices, the incumbent of which will study criminals as though they were of a different species than the rest of us.

One feels tempted on observing suggestions of that kind to inquire whether it would not be a good idea to create a commission to study the "criminologists" and learn why they do not see that existing economic conditions have more to do with crime than any abnormal characteristics of criminals. Nine criminals out of ten are victims of circumstances. Nine men out of ten who are not criminals would be had they been placed in the environment and been subjected to the circumstances in which existing criminals have been produced.

With conditions such that all can not honestly earn their living, some will resort to dishonesty in preference to starvation or beggary. Fear of poverty will drive many to crime who are not suffering from actual need. Very few of these are abnormal creatures. Quite the contrary. A man must be abnormal who will abstain from crime in spite of necessity.

Instead of bills creating commissions to study the existing evils, what is needed is a bill to apply knowledge already acquired toward removing the cause of poverty. If our legislators could be induced to do that, crime would be reduced to a minimum if it did not actually disappear.

The average Russian day laborer is said to have only about four cents a year for spending money.

As the census report justly observes: "The number of wage earners and the value added by manufacture are, on the whole, a better measure of the relative importance of manufacturing industries than the gross value of products. In some industries the value of the materials used constitute by far the largest part of the total value of products, the manufacturing process involving the addition of only a small amount of labor cost and other expenses and of manufacturer's profit to the cost of the material." Again: "All duplications, as well as the original value of materials, are eliminated in the figures for value added by manufacture. This value covers salaries and wages which represent over one-half of the total, overhead charges, depreciation, interest, taxes and other expenses attendant upon the manufacturing operations, as well as the profits of the undertaking."

The value added by manufacture in 1850 (or 1849) was \$484 per worker and the difference between the wages paid and this added value was \$337. In 1910 (or 1909) the value added by the worker was \$1,289, and the difference between this amount and his wage was \$771—an increase of 337 per cent since 1850. This is progressive prosperity for the "progressives" and "conservatives" alike.

The fact is that the wage-worker gets merely the price of his labor power, the cost of his "keep" like any other work animal, and under progressive or conservative rule, he will derive no substantial benefit from the "unparalleled prosperity" of "the people." The wage worker can look under capitalism only for a "progressive" decrease in his share of the product of his own toil. The apparent increase in wages merely reflects the increase in the cost of the wage slave's provider. This is the bitter lesson of the thirteenth century census report on manufactures. The table below, based upon figures derivable from the government census, affords splendid campaign material for intelligent wage-workers:

Those who voted for the \$8.50 wage were: Rev. R. H. McGinnis, Tacoma; Judge E. M. Day, Bellingham; Frank Nixon of the Raymond steam Laundry, Raymond; W. J. Doust of the Cascade Laundry, Spokane, and A. Jacobsen of the Rainier Laundry, Seattle.

Those who voted against it were: Mrs. R. C. McCredie of Sunnyside, president of the State Federation of Women's clubs, and three laundry workers—Miss Johanna Hiltz and Mrs. Hilda O'Connor, of Seattle, and Mrs. Julia A. Wilson of Spokane.

Some 25 to 30 laundymen had come to Olympia to coach their representatives. They caucused till 3:30 in the morning Thursday, and with them the object of the minimum wage law was interpreted to mean: "What is the irreducible minimum upon which a girl can exist from week to week?"

A capitalist daily reported one phase of the proceedings thusly: "The girls allowed themselves 10 cents a day for car fare, or \$36 a year. Nixon went as low as \$20 on this item."

Miss Hiltz estimated \$4 a year for petticoats. Nixon wouldn't allow more than \$2. Two of the girls went as high as \$12.50 per year for hats, and Miss Hiltz came down to \$10.

Still Nixon wouldn't allow more than \$8. The girls asked \$10 a year for amusements. Nixon allowed but \$5.

And then came the question of room and board. Nixon was again low. He allowed \$2 a week for meals and \$1.50 for room.

The other two employers were more generous. They allowed 50 cents more. It was five minutes to 12, noon, Friday.

Mrs. O'Connor, who already gets more than the minimum law is expected to give the girls, was pleading, nevertheless, for her sisters slaving at the mangle.

"Do you know what it means to eat on \$2 a week?" she asked Nixon. "Three meals a day, 21 meals a week it means less than 10 cents a meal. Have you ever eaten a 10-cent meal?" Nixon said he had.

Nixon pulled his watch out of his pocket. It was noon, and it was time for the conference to recess for lunch. Nixon took a straight course to Doane's to eat.

And when Miss Hiltz and Mrs. O'Connor reached the same place, later, Nixon was having his check countersigned by the cashier. The state allowed the members of the conference their expenses.

AND NIXON'S VOUCHER FOR ONE MEAL AMOUNTED TO \$2.40

This is just 40 cents more for one meal than Mr. Nixon was willing to grant his wage-slaves for a week's board.

There will be another meeting called about June 1.

CALLS ADULT ILLITERACY OF COUNTRY DISGRACEFUL.

Washington.—American's adult illiteracy described as a national disgrace, can be wiped out by the time the next federal census is taken if the work is undertaken at once, according to Dr. P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education. This assertion is made in connection with an appeal by the commissioner for an appropriation by congress of \$10,000 with which to eradicate illiteracy in this country.

"We now have," declared Dr. Claxton, "more than 5,000,000 illiterate men and women and many millions barely able to read and write. This illiteracy is a burden and a menace to state and nation. It costs the country at least \$500,000 every year. An appropriation of \$10,000 would make it possible to begin the work of wiping out this national disgrace and the cooperation of the states, school officers and educational associations would be such that after 1920 we would be able to show practically a clean slate."

Cruel—Cholly—"When I was a boy, you know, the doctor said if I didn't stop smoking cigarettes I would become feeble-minded."

Miss Keen—"Well, why didn't you stop?"—Boston Transcript.

WANTED!

Three hundred readers to pledge themselves to purchase 50c worth of sub. cards each month for three months. This means progress for Socialism and needed support for the Washington Socialist. WHO'LL BE THE FIRST ON THIS PLEDGE?

MINIMUM WAGE OF \$8.50 NOT ENOUGH, SAY COMMISSIONERS.

Men Say Yes; Women Say No.

Last Friday evening there was a conference in Olympia of three laundry owners, three laundry girls and three representatives of the capitalist class generally, met to determine just what is the lowest cost of living of laundry girls. If the cost of living is high, then the compensation of wage-slaves must be relatively high. The five men on the conference voted for \$8.50 a week as the cost of maintaining female laundry workers. The four women of the conference said "no," and the minimum wage commission also said "no," declaring that "investigation has revealed the fact that \$8.50 is not sufficient for a woman to maintain herself in health and comfort."

Those who voted for the \$8.50 wage were: Rev. R. H. McGinnis, Tacoma; Judge E. M. Day, Bellingham; Frank Nixon of the Raymond steam Laundry, Raymond; W. J. Doust of the Cascade Laundry, Spokane, and A. Jacobsen of the Rainier Laundry, Seattle.

Those who voted against it were: Mrs. R. C. McCredie of Sunnyside, president of the State Federation of Women's clubs, and three laundry workers—Miss Johanna Hiltz and Mrs. Hilda O'Connor, of Seattle, and Mrs. Julia A. Wilson of Spokane.

Some 25 to 30 laundymen had come to Olympia to coach their representatives. They caucused till 3:30 in the morning Thursday, and with them the object of the minimum wage law was interpreted to mean: "What is the irreducible minimum upon which a girl can exist from week to week?"

A capitalist daily reported one phase of the proceedings thusly: "The girls allowed themselves 10 cents a day for car fare, or \$36 a year. Nixon went as low as \$20 on this item."

Miss Hiltz estimated \$4 a year for petticoats. Nixon wouldn't allow more than \$2. Two of the girls went as high as \$12.50 per year for hats, and Miss Hiltz came down to \$10.

Still Nixon wouldn't allow more than \$8. The girls asked \$10 a year for amusements. Nixon allowed but \$5.

And then came the question of room and board. Nixon was again low. He allowed \$2 a week for meals and \$1.50 for room.

The other two employers were more generous. They allowed 50 cents more. It was five minutes to 12, noon, Friday.

Mrs. O'Connor, who already gets more than the minimum law is expected to give the girls, was pleading, nevertheless, for her sisters slaving at the mangle.

"Do you know what it means to eat on \$2 a week?" she asked Nixon. "Three meals a day, 21 meals a week it means less than 10 cents a meal. Have you ever eaten a 10-cent meal?" Nixon said he had.

Nixon pulled his watch out of his pocket. It was noon, and it was time for the conference to recess for lunch. Nixon took a straight course to Doane's to eat.

And when Miss Hiltz and Mrs. O'Connor reached the same place, later, Nixon was having his check countersigned by the cashier. The state allowed the members of the conference their expenses.

AND NIXON'S VOUCHER FOR ONE MEAL AMOUNTED TO \$2.40

This is just 40 cents more for one meal than Mr. Nixon was willing to grant his wage-slaves for a week's board.

There will be another meeting called about June 1.

HERE WE ARE WITH A SIX-PAGE PAPER!

Now We'll Give You "All the News That's Fit to Print."

With this issue The Washington Socialist, the very active and immortal "soul" of the deceased Commonwealth, enters upon its career as a six-page weekly. We shall need more and more space to print the news of the class struggle, and to report the ever-increasing activities of our now thoroughly aroused Washington movement.

The comrades in every nook and corner of the Evergreen State are showing by their renewed interest and heightened enthusiasm that they have rested on their oars long enough, and that they are now determined to take control of the Ship of State in the interests of the working class, and guide it speedily into the haven of the Cooperative Commonwealth.

All signs point to a great awakening of the workers, not only of this state, but throughout the entire country, to the realization of the fact that none of the old parties is willing, or even able, to pass any legislation, or administer the laws already in the statutes, in the interest of the wage-earners. They begin to understand now more fully that all capitalist parties exist for the special benefit of the capitalist class. Never was there a time when sound economic teaching has been so eagerly listened to as at the present time of unemployment, government by gunmen, and general bankruptcy of the whole capitalist system.

Our answer to the effort of the capitalist class to still one mouthpiece of the exploited masses, the Commonwealth, is the present sixpage Washington Socialist!

Comrades of Washington, keep up the good work you have been doing for the past five months; even do a little aggressive campaigning for subscriptions, and then see what kind of a paper we will give you in return for your loyalty and co-operation. JUST WORK AND WATCH!

ON THE OTHER HAND!

We feel pretty good over the support that we have so far received. But, on the other hand, we confess right here and now that we must depend absolutely on our readers for the maintenance of the Washington Socialist as a six-page paper. We feel that if you did what you already have done for the paper as it WAS, that you should double your efforts for the six-page paper. And we simply can't do the full work of our party with less than six pages.

So, comrades, it's up to you.

NOTHING TO DO WITH THE LARGER EDITION.

The fact that the Washington Socialist was taken over by the comrades of Snohomish county, last Sunday at the mass meeting, has nothing to do with the enlargement of the paper. The six pages had been decided upon already. And the county committee, or the comrades as a body, have given no money aid to start us out with as a party-owned press. Nor will they be called upon to assume any debts. WE'RE NOT GOING TO INCUR ANY DEBTS. We're determined either to swim or sink on a strictly cash basis. If this paper isn't worth the support of all red-card Socialists of this state—well, let's kill it, or let it die a natural death. The paper can't be any better than the rank and file of the party wish to make it. And the only way to make it better is to support it better.

HUSTLE SUBS. SEND IN YOUR LOCAL ITEMS. Boost! Enthusie!! Work for the greater Washington Socialist!!!

Everything A Man Needs

\$1 Complete Shaving Outfit \$1 10 ARTICLES 10

To advertise our Universal Shaving Outfit and Universal Products we will for a limited time only, send this well worth \$3.00 Shaving Outfit for \$1.00. We sell our products to the consumer direct and therefore you save all agents' profits which as you know are very large.

- 1 Hollow Ground Razor.
- 1 5-inch Lather Brush.
- 1 Razor Strop, Canvas Back.
- 1 Nickel Easel Back Mirror.
- 1 33-inch Barber Towel.
- 1 Bar Shaving Soap.
- 1 Box Talcum Powder.
- 1 Decorated China Mug.
- 1 Aluminum Barber Comb.
- 1 Bristle Hair Brush.

Each outfit packed in neat box \$1.00. Coin or Money Order, postage 10c extra.

UNIVERSAL PRODUCTS CO. Dayton, Ohio

DR. K. I. KOBBERVIG DENTIST 406-8 Commerce Bldg. Phones: Ind. 163, Sun. 436

FREE! London "Tango" Necklace "Evelyn Thaw" Bracelet

These two beautiful pieces of popular jewelry are the craze among society women in New York and the largest cities. They are neat and elegant gold finished articles that will gladden the heart of every girl or woman, no matter how young or old. Very stylish and attractive.

Our Free Offer. We are advertising Spearmint Chewing Gum and desire to place a big box of this fine, healthful gum into every home. It sweetens the breath—whitens the teeth and aids digestion. It is refreshing and pleasing to all. To every one sending us but 50c and 10 cents to cover shipping costs we will ship a box of 20 regular 5c packages of the Spearmint Gum and include the elegant, "Tango necklace and "Evelyn Thaw" bracelet absolutely free.

This offer is for a short time only. Not more than 2 orders to one party. Dealers not allowed to accept this.

UNITED SALES COMPANY P. O. Box 101 Dayton, Ohio

The labor movement in the United States and Canada embraces workers in every line of human endeavor, there being enrolled no less than 2,625,000 members in the various organizations.

Wife Scores—"Why do you feed every tramp who comes along? They never do any work for you."

"No," said his wife, "but it is quite a satisfaction to me to see a man eat a meal without finding fault with the cooking.—Cincinnati Enquirer.



Men's half soles sewed or nailed, 75c. Women's half soles sewed or nailed, 50c. All rubber heels, 40c. Union shop and we use only eastern oak. Nobody uses any better. Everett Shoe Mfg. Co., 2003 Hewitt, John Goldthorp, manager.

JARVIS & JACKSON

CLEAR HAVANA CIGARS IN ALL STAPLE AND FANCY SIZES

WE BLEND TOBACCO TO SUIT YOUR TASTE

1617 HEWITT AVE.

EVERETT, WASH.

Independent 36

PASTIME

Amusement Parlors

FOR GOOD TIMES

Wetmore and Hewitt Driesslein & Becker

The New Canyon Wood Co.

And Keithly Fuel Co. Under One Management

Can now supply you with anything you want in either coal or wood.

A Trial Order Solicited

Both Phones 37

A Store for Everybody

WE ARE OFFERING AT THIS TIME THESE VERY

EXCEPTIONAL PRICES ON—LAWN MOWERS

\$5.00 12-inch Signet\$3.49
\$5.50 14-inch Signet\$3.98
\$7.00 14-inch Director, ball bearing\$5.39
\$7.50 16-inch Director, ball bearing\$5.49
\$13.25 15-inch Bartlett, ball bearing\$8.98

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY YOUR RANGE

\$50.00 Peninsular Range \$38.50

For \$10.00 down and \$10.00 per month we will place this guaranteed Peninsular Range in your home.

Remember, we give 10% discount on all Bicycles purchased for cash

Curran Hardware Co.

HEWITT AND BROADWAY

Do you buy your clothing of

Edw. Wahl

If not, why not?

1909 Hewitt

\$ PERSECUTED CLOTHING

Men's Suits, \$12 values, sale price\$5.65
Men's Suits, \$15 values, sale price\$7.89
Men's Suits, \$20 values\$10.89

And bargains, every one of them.

WHOOP

Extra special bargain in Men's Suits. Prices were \$9 and \$10 on these. Choice of the lot\$3.97

R. BRENNER & SON

1901-1903 HEWITT AVENUE

Look for Our Famous Red Sign

