

The Washington Socialist

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR CHAINS. YOU HAVE A WORLD TO WIN.

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EVERETT, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1914.

No. 203

"Unemployed" Mass Meeting at 1612 California, Friday Evening November 27--Be There, Everybody!!!

EVERETT CITIZENS TO AID UNEMPLOYED

Mass Meeting Will Be Held Friday Evening

TO DISCUSS WAYS AND MEANS

City Commissioners to Take Up Question

At the council meeting Tuesday morning Commissioner Salter said the time had come for the commissioners to take steps to meet the unemployed problem in this city.

He further stated that hardly a day passed without from four to ten applicants coming to his office seeking employment. This is in addition to the innumerable daily applicants at the regular municipal free employment bureau.

Each of the applicants whose desperate needs drive him to Salter for special consideration, tells a story whose main points are identical with others who make application. First, that they have been residents of Everett for a long period. Secondly, that they are now laid off from work for a period of a month or more, and that the grocer had refused to extend further credit. So now it was a question of either stealing or quietly let wife and children starve, as they had left no stone unturned in a search for employment.

Mr. Salter called his colleague's attention to the fact that this was an international problem, and that municipalities the world over were attempting to meet the issue; and inasmuch as cities in the war zone of Europe could care for their unemployed, surely cities in a nation as rich as ours will not let children starve in the midst of plenty.

Commissioners Clay and Kelly agreed with Salter that a meeting should be called in the near future to consider the problem of the unemployed.

The first meeting will be held Friday evening at 1612 California, and plans will probably then be laid for a great mass meeting in the High school auditorium next week.

"GROSS MATERIALISM"

National Municipal League Endorses Principle of Economic Determinism.

At the annual conference of the National Municipal League, held in Baltimore last week, it was candidly confessed that the only consideration given any civil problem by American business men and their underlings is that which centers on "the main chance"—\$\$\$. Men and women who entertain high ideals of civic welfare must be relegated to the rear, declared, in substance the principal speaker of Friday's session, Mr. A. Leo Waller, president of the Voters' league of Pittsburgh.

The report of the committee on political methods declared that political reform organizations must "come down to earth" and remove "the sign of the 'highbrow' and substitute the 'dollar mark,' which alone apparently, is sufficiently potent to be effective."

It was further declared that "too much stress is laid upon patriotism, civic pride and the like, and too little upon what the continuance of poor government or institution of good means to the purse and the person of the individual citizen."

Just so. But when the Socialist lays this down as a guiding principle in the philosophy of history he is charged by this same class of dollar worshippers with advocating "gross materialism."

The fact remains, however, that the Socialist party alone, of all organizations now influential in political affairs, is inspired by ideals that appeal at once to individual self-interest and the progress of the race. None but the ignorant or the prejudiced deny this. Read up on the subject, Mr. Non-socialist, and see for yourself.

POOR EXCUSE BETTER THAN NONE

Because both sides in a controversy were not explained to members, a St. Louis judge has restrained the trainmen from calling a strike there.

COL. McCURE ON THE CURE FOR CRIME

Sensational Statistics Wrongly Interpreted by Noted Editor

WHY AND WHEN CRIME INCREASES

Attributing nearly all the ills to which society is heir to the election of city and state officials by direct vote of the people, Col. S. S. McClure, the noted magazine editor and owner, made some startling declarations at the Everett theatre last Friday evening. His talk was valuable in that if it accomplishes nothing else, it at least called attention to the fact that the cities and states of this spread-eagle country are about the worst governed in the world.

We have space here to discuss but one phase of Mr. McClure's argument,—that pertaining to the extent, increase and cause of crime in the United States.

After declaring that murder is increasing in the United States six times faster than the growth of population, the lecturer gave as the cause of this increasing lawlessness this simple explanation: "The safety laws are administered by men either ignorant or corrupt."

That the average chief of police, mine inspector, etc., is both ignorant and corrupt is a matter of judicial record. But this is not why crimes of violence increase, especially the crime of murder. Nor, as a matter of fact, has homicide increased in this country anywhere near as much, in proportion to population, as the colonel asserts.

Murder in this country, Mr. McClure asserted, increased six times as rapidly as population from 1881 to 1896, going from one in 40,000 in 1881 to one in 6,500 in 1896, the United States now having ten times the number of murders per million population of any other civilized country. Washington, the "most criminal capital in the world," is such, said McClure, because its policing is done by amateurs under the political rewards system.

SOME VERBAL JUGGLERY

In the above statement, the reforming colonel neglects to tell us anything about the murder record since 1896, though he does not hesitate to use the present tense concerning the number of murders "now" committed annually in this country.

PANIC CAUSED HIGH MURDER RECORD

While it is true that there was an annual average of ten thousand or more murders or homicides during the panic years 1894-1897, in no single year since 1896 has the ten thousand mark been reached, though there has been an increase in our population from about seventy million in 1896 to about ninety millions in 1910. The annual average of homicides during the decade 1898-1907, according to the Chicago Tribune's records, which were the only figures available to Col. McClure, was 8,375; and the ratio fell from an annual average of 109.0 per one million of inhabitants for the three years 1902-1904, to 106.7 for the three years 1905-1907.

In 1909 the number of homicides recorded was 8,075, which still further reduces the ratio per 1,000,000 of inhabitants.

If poverty is the cause of crime, as the Socialists contend, it is important that we know for a certainty as to whether or not the crime wave rises and falls with varying economic conditions.

U. S. HAS NO OFFICIAL RECORDS OF MURDER

In estimating the value of Editor McClure's remarks on the increase of murder in the United States, the fact should be borne in mind that this country shares with China and Switzerland the reproach of having no JUDICIAL statistics covering the entire

"MERCHANT PRINCE" FOUND GUILTY OF ROBBERING PEOPLE

Must Serve Ten Months in Jail

FINE OF \$1,000 ALSO IMPOSED—PROSECUTOR ARRAIGES HIM SEVERELY

GENESE, N. Y., Nov. 23.—Shortly before midnight tonight Henry G. Siegel, the New York merchant charged with grand larceny, was found guilty of a misdemeanor. The case went to the jury at 7:30 tonight.

"If Siegel had been an honorable man," Assistant District Attorney Arthur Train said, in closing for the state, "he would have gone into bankruptcy long ago. But he didn't. Instead, with his dirty enterprises in mind he allowed the 'middle class people' to put their money into his bank that he might flood it into his stores. Within eight days of his failure there was no shop girl's penny too insignificant to be placed in his hands."

Siegel was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment and \$1,000 fine.

There you have the "class struggle" again.

Had Siegel been a wage earner, one of the clerks he mercilessly robbed, and had stolen 50 cents from the master's till, or a loaf of bread from a rich man's pantry, he would have been "sent across" for 20 years.

country, on which to base studies on the extent, cause and cure of homicide or murder. The distinguished gentleman's figures, which purport to do so beyond the year 1896, are based merely upon the homicide compilations of the Chicago Tribune, upon reports of homicides (not necessarily murders) published in the daily papers. The term murder cannot therefore properly be used in connection with the statistics quoted by the colonel for the reason that they include deaths due to criminal negligence, self-defense, etc. Nor do we know how much of the reputed "increase of murder" since 1882 was due to better news service, rather than to greater lawlessness. As an old-time newspaper man, Mr. McClure must be aware of this very important factor in such a discussion.

COMPLETING THE COLONEL'S STATISTICS

The reason the colonel purposely omitted the homicide record since his chosen year of 1896, is because the panic years of 1895, '96, and '97, were also the years of maximum number of crimes of violence in the United States, the ratio of murders to total population rapidly declining with the return of "prosperity" for the bosses and steady work for the wage slaves. The number of homicides in each 1,000,000 of the population in 1895 and 1896 was 152. By 1907, when men did not have to rob and murder in order to live, the number of homicides had fallen to 100 in each one million of the population. As Editor McClure does not know the annual average ratio of deaths by homicide and murder in other "countries of the world," his assertion that the United States "has ten times the number of murders per million population of any civilized country" is pure bunk. Such statistics as are available for purposes of comparison afford no basis for such a conclusion. Much less do they lead us to infer that our deplorable record of murders is due to our policing being "done by amateurs under the political rewards system."

The crime statistics of Europe and South America show that the causes of grave criminality in those countries, as in this, are POVERTY AND ITS CONCOMITANT EVILS, namely, want and opulence, hunger and glut, over-work and idleness, worry and ennui, ignorance and false culture.

As an upholder of capitalism, as a Bull Moose, Colonel McClure must raise a sand-storm of petty political reforms and this can only succeed in blinding the unthinking populace to the real problem, THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY!

AS TO WASHINGTON AND CRIME

Mr. McClure alleged that Washington is the "most criminal capital in the world, because its policing is done

AS THE LAW WORKS WHEN WAGE SLAVES ARE THE VICTIMS

Insurgent Miners Are Given Long Prison Terms.

MAN WHO AIDED IN LOOTING MINERS' UNION HALL SAFE CONVICTED OF BURGLARY

BOZEMAN, Mont., Nov. 23.—John Foley, a Butte mine worker, was found guilty here today of burglary in that he assisted at dynamiting and looting a safe in the rioting at Butte last June. Four hours after the case was called Foley had been tried, convicted and sentenced to 20 months in the state penitentiary. He will be taken to Deer Lodge to join Michael McDonald and Joseph Badley, two mine workers sentenced Saturday night at Boulder to three and five years respectively for kidnaping and deporting three miners from Butte.

PILCHUCK WENT RED

Hurrah for little old Pilchuck! Red? You know it.

When the mill boys and the farmers of Pilchuck precinct went to the polls November 3, they forgot all about voting for capitalist-class candidates, and when the ballots were extracted from the box they were of a color that would start a bull-moose, or any other bull, on the rampage. Comrade Mike Kronholm sent in the glad news days ago, but the comrades who completed the returns failed to get them into the list of Red precincts. Anyhow, the bosses were not permitted to forget to count the Red majority. Bravi Pilchuck workers!

MUKILTEO ALSO WON

Our neighbor, Mukilteo, was inadvertently omitted from particular mention, but the workers there proved themselves to be thoroughly alive to their class interests, and piled up a good Red majority in the little old ballot box.

Comrade F. J. Haynes was elected justice of peace hands down. Good for you fellows! Let the good work go on, until precinct by precinct we win the state, and then the nation.

OKLAHOMA GAINS 11,116

The Oklahoma Socialists made a great gain in votes. The vote for governor was: Dem., 100,773; Rep., 95,744; Socialist, 52,570; being a gain of 11,116 for the Socialists over 1912. The Socialists carried six counties: Beckman, Dewey, Harper, Major, Roger Mills, and Kiowa.

by amateurs under the political rewards system."

This statement is not only misleading in inference, but absolutely false in point of fact.

First of all, Washington can boast of having for chief of police one of the most experienced and efficient officers in the United States, Major Richard Sylvester. Secondly, we need only mention the fact that whereas the annual average ratio of homicides per 100,000 in Washington, D. C., is 5.56, in Rome, Italy,—the home of religion and culture,—the ratio of homicides is 14 per 100,000 of the population. We could mention at least a dozen other capitals of "civilized countries" whose crime record is still greater than Washington's. (Some of the large Italian cities have very low homicide records.)

One more point.

If Washington's record is due to "amateur police service," consequent upon political favoritism (in this case it could not be due to popular suffrage, since the Washingtonians do not vote for their administrative officials), how does the colonel account for the fact that the varying crime records of American cities bear no relationship to the method of choosing officials? Cities having the same form of political government exhibit a homicide record varying from 1.47 per 100,000 of population as in Milwaukee, to 19.69 per 100,000 as in San Francisco.

MORAL: The capitalist class and their apologists will find any excuse for the evils of present-day society, but the true cause, Robbery of the workers at the point of production!

ONE MAY BEG FOR JUSTICE IN WHITE HOUSE BUT NOT DEMAND IT

President Exercises Regal Powers

GET ON YOUR KNEES OR GET OUT

In a contribution to The New York Call, comrade Joseph E. Cohen makes some timely observation on the incident mentioned in this paper last week, relative to the president getting huffy with Mr. W. M. Trotter, a delegate to the White House representing the negro race. Trotter, it will be recalled, dared to demand his rights, after a courteous petition had been denied, or evaded.

As comrade Cohen views the incident from an angle not treated in The Washington Socialist last week, we quote from his article a few paragraphs.

NEITHER FAWNED UPON NOR OFFENDED

It has happened twice now that some one calling on the president of the United States, to present a petition for a redress of grievances, has acted in a way that seemed discourteous to him.

The first instance was that of a committee of women, when the spokesman proceeded to quiz the chief magistrate of the United States with regard to his opposition to equal suffrage. Since the president was dropped into a hole from which he could not lift himself by argument, he abruptly adjourned the meeting.

Similarly in the recent instance, when a committee of colored people called to protest against the segregation of their race in the offices of the federal departments. Once again the president was in an uncomfortable position and he dismissed his callers. There are cases when a little emotion, even passion, serves to emphasize a proposition. In fact, outside of hypocritical diplomatic circles, people are accustomed to adding color to their ideas by robust expression.

Two circumstances when committees might be pardoned for using some heat before the president of the United States are in the presentation of women's rights and the rights of the negro race. Both are disfranchised, not in merit, but because of a practice that shames our nation and is a disgrace to the president's party as being, in a great measure, responsible for it.

To be sure, the other dominant party, the republican party, is equally culpable. It has played the same game as the democratic party. It has never raised its voice to enfranchise the negro of the South, although it has been trading for more than half a century on its reputation of emancipating the chattel slave. Likewise has the republican party, when in power, ignored the right of woman to self-expression and self-rule.

SEGREGATION IN SEATTLE

New Fire House May Be Manned by Negroes.

WHITE FIREMEN WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO WORK WITH BLACK

Sixty Seattle negroes are prepared to take the civil service examination for city firemen, according to I. F. Norris, transfer man, and one of the leaders of the people of his race.

"The negroes have no desire to mix with the white firemen," declared Norris, "but we are American citizens and taxpayers, and are entitled to representation in the city's service. Fire Chief Stetson has assured me he will do what he can to have the new fire house manned by a company of negroes, and Mayor Gill says he will call the civil service board to hold examinations of negroes to see if 16 men are available to take charge of the new house, under a white captain."

WORK OF SUPPLYING EVERETT WITH WATER FIT TO DRINK BEGUN

Kansas City Engineers to Be Employed

SULTAN BASIN CONSIDERED BY COMMISSIONERS AS BEST OBTAINABLE SOURCE

The firm of Burns & McDonnell, of Kansas City, will supervise the construction of Everett's new municipal water system. The big eastern firm was the unanimous choice of the commissioners at the council last Monday morning. The vote was, happily, unanimous. Though Commissioner Kelly had desired to delay matters until he saw there was no use for further bucking.

The company guaranteed to undertake the work within 10 days after the contract was awarded. Their representatives will confer with the commissioners regarding terms, and after that is agreed to actual work will start on the preparation of estimates and reports on available water supplies and appraisal of the present water system which the city will either purchase or obtain by condemnation proceedings in court.

Though the commissioners have not formally agreed it is known that they have practically decided on the Sultan basin system.

FOR THE HOUSEHOLD — A TIMELY RECEIPE

Now that the winter days have set in, and the supply of Stone & Webster's celebrated health waters is abundant at a reasonable price per gallon, the following simple recipe for preparing these nutritious waters for table use is sympathetically submitted:

To an ordinary faucet attach the family flour sieve, turn on the water and allow it to flow through the wire netting into a pitcher, and place upon the table, ready for use. The animal and vegetable matter left in the flour sieve may then be placed in an iron kettle and used as a base for multigrain soup. If no flour sieve is available, an ordinary gravel sieve will help some. Try it and be convinced.

UTAH SOCIALISTS MAKE GREAT ELECTION SWEEP

By MORTON ALEXANDER.

MYTON, Utah, Nov. 17.—Socialists of the new county of Duchere, at the first election held in this county last Tuesday, won a tremendous victory over both old parties by electing two commissioners, a county attorney and sheriff and coming within about 100 votes of electing their entire county ticket, including a representative in the legislature.

SOCIALISTS IN PORTO RICO ELECT MAYOR

Porto Rico, the little tobacco-growing, sugar-growing, island off Cuba, has elected two Socialist candidates to office out of three nominated. This is the first general election the Socialists have participated in and the result is a Socialist mayor of the city of Arecibo, one of the seven largest cities on the island, and one Socialist to the house of representatives.

FARMERS RALLY TO CAUSE

Although the Socialists put almost all their money and energy to work in the industrial centers, the election results show that the Socialist gains were mostly made amongst the farmers. What would have happened if the Socialists of the county had concentrated their propaganda efforts on the farmers can easily be surmised. It might be a good policy to change our tactics and put our energy to work in the rural districts, and leave Mr. Wage Worker in the hands of Mr. Policeman and his club.

CAPITALIST POLITICS IN EVERETT

Socialist Commissioner's Loyalty to Workers Meets Rebuke

BRIDGE TENDER INCIDENT REVEALS "CLASS STRUGGLE" IN A NUT SHELL

The numerous working-class boneheads who vote on the "good man" theory, instead of along class lines, have had the Socialist principle of the "class struggle" illustrated fully and put into a nut shell by the acts of comrade J. M. Salter on the wage earner's side, and Clay and Kelly on the employer's, or taxpayer's side of the struggle.

Every effort made by the Socialist commissioner of public works to better the working conditions of labor in Everett, or to meet the prevailing union wage scale, has been hampered by the two taxpayers' commissioners, Clay and Kelly.

AN EXAMPLE IN POINT

No sooner had comrade Salter established an eight-hour work day for the drawbridge tenders, when the two capitalists' representatives put their heads together to see how they could kill the proposition. Result (in a nut shell): The bridge will hereafter be worked on the contract system.

The highest bid is \$180 per month, and the lowest \$55.

There were only eighty-two jobless patriots bidding on the job.

Sure, "any man can get work who really wants it."

KING COUNTY COMRADES WILL HOLD COUNTY FAIR DEC. 7 TO 12

WILL WIPE OUT CAMPAIGN DEFICIT AND HELP ON SCHOOL ELECTION EXPENSES

As a means of wiping out a deficit of \$75 incurred during the recent election campaign, and to cover any school election debts that may have been incurred, the comrades of King county are going to hold a regular old-time fair, at the Socialist temple, 711 Olive street, Seattle, beginning Monday evening, December 7, and closing Saturday evening, December 12.

Cider, big pumpkins, squashes, prize apples, and all the other time-honored ickts and muck-a-muck that go to the making of a real county fair will be in evidence. Socialists from adjacent territory or from afar will be welcome guests during the carnival of farm products and good fellowship.

The Washington Socialist wishes the Seattle comrades a good time and a full treasury as the result of their enterprise.

GET A MONTH FREE

All yearly subscriptions received during the month of December will be given the expiration number of Jan. 1st, 1915. Send in your \$ \$ \$ and get one month free.