



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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A Tree Is Known by Its Fruits: The Fruits of Capitalism Are Work, Worry, Want and War! Socialism Means Abundant Production, Peace, Plenty and Protection for All Who Labor It Means More Abundant Life! Join the Socialist Party, NOW! Give Its Press Your Support!

LIZZIE JONES TAKES BIT IN TEETH A-LA-CLAY

WHAT'S THE LAW BETWEEN FRIENDS?

CAPITALIST POLITICS IN MALTYBY SCHOOL AFFAIRS

When the city ordinance stood between the Shull Mill Co. and what they wanted of the city council, commissioner Clay suggested that he and the other capitalist-class commissioner "take the bit in the teeth" and ignore the law. And they did. You know it! That's what they were put in office for.

Now comes Mrs. Lizzie Jones, county superintendent of schools, and shows what she can do toward lawlessness in high places. Also "taking the bit in the teeth," Mrs. Jones set out to oust the Socialist school teacher, R. M. Wolfe, at Maltby by fair or lawless means. She preferred the latter, however, as becomes a "law and order" patriot.

In our issue of March 18th, we called attention to the fact that the pay check of comrade Wolfe had been arbitrarily held up, much to the inconvenience of comrade Wolfe's family. Busy Lizzie had been butting in on Wolfe's province in divers ways for some time, performing such petty-persecution stunts as visiting the school and promoting ill-prepared pupils over the teacher's decision, and in other ways trying to discredit and humiliate Wolfe in the eyes of parents and pupils.

She also demanded of the Socialist teacher that he employ certain books as pupils' text books, when, as a matter of fact, the school laws require that the teacher should own the said text books, which are to be used as the basis for discussion in class work. It was never intended that these books should be placed in the hands of pupils, nor does busy Lizzie make any such ruling in the other schools under her control. Under no circumstances would it fall within the legal powers of the county superintendent to penalize a teacher by holding up his warrant for his failure to carry out the provisions of the law regarding course of study, etc. In such cases it is the local school board which is empowered by law to act, not the county superintendent (R. and B. Code, 4407; 4546 and 4550).

Despite these express provisions of the code, and notwithstanding the fact that comrade Wolfe had actually violated none of its requirements, busy Lizzie lawlessly held up his January and February teacher's warrant, through the county auditor. She also ordered (!) the county treasurer to hold up the district money. Such holding up of funds can be legally done only with reference to a teacher's last month's salary of the school term, pending the receipt of his annual report. Also warrants for globes, maps and charts may be held up for the county superintendent's approval. But power to penalize a teacher for failure, or alleged failure, to follow the prescribed course of study is nowhere vested by law in the county superintendent. Such action can be taken only against the school board, not against the teacher.

WHAT'S THE PURPOSE?

It may well be asked, "Why this persecution of R. M. Wolfe?" As already stated, Wolfe is a Socialist. And Lizzie Jones is determined that nothing but capitalist politics shall be taught in the public schools. Democrats and republicans are never molested.

There is reason to believe that the hand of the church, also, is in this persecution. A certain member of the school board was heard to ask Mrs. Jones this question: "How are you making out?" Lizzie replied, "I will get him out as soon as I can."

This illuminating dialogue was overheard by some children, at Maltby, March 24th.

This is how the bosses keep religion and politics out of the public schools. Comrade Carl Melmgren, of Everett, brought in a dollar for the Henry Dubb list. We need another \$99.00. Who'll be next?

JITNEY ATTACK ON CAPITALISM

Hit Them at the Psychological Moment

THAT'S RIGHT NOW!

If ever there was a time in the history of the United States when the masses were more willing to consider the Socialist route out of the present industrial wilderness than RIGHT NOW, the annals failed to record it. A few words right now, "the psychological moment," have more weight with the non-Socialist than a pamphlet had a few months ago. The terrible devastation in Europe, obviously all to no purpose, so far as the working-class is concerned, the failure of the democratic administration to pass any laws calculated to reduce unemployment or to increase wages or shorten the work-day, together with the chronic industrial depression, with no relief in sight at the hands of the capitalist class, all these conditions make it apparent, even to the most perverse and stubborn, that **The Remedy Is To Be Found In Socialism Or Is Not To Be Found At All!** Anyone who is not deaf, dumb and blind can and does apprehend this fact now upon presentation of the facts.

IT'S UP TO US!

It's up to us Socialists to see to it that the message of Socialism is brought to each and every man and woman in Washington while the need is greatest and the moment opportune.

A JITNEY ATTACK

Now what we propose is this: Each reader of these words send five one-cent stamps to The Washington Socialist, with, or without, the name of some Henry Dubb; we will then put the name you send in, or one from our own list of hundreds of them, on our mailing list for three weeks, beginning with the second issue in April. This issue will contain a few columns of matter prepared especially for the purpose in view, making a deep impression in three issues, and urging the new readers to subscribe for a period of three months. If they do this, we'll have them. A five cent jitney attack on capitalism! Will you, reader, help us carry out this plan? Of course you will. Now sit right down and sign the form below and put in your five one-cent stamps. We'll do the rest.

Washington Socialist,
1612 California Street.
Here are my 5 one-cent stamps for the Jitney Attack on Capitalism.
Yours for a speedy revolution.
Name _____
Address _____
Send to _____

THE REAL HEROES

No Socialist minds helping the cause when it doesn't cost either time or labor. Some are anxious to do their share of the work at no matter what cost of time or money, within their power or means. Often one finds a comrade who will do quite a hard task or undergo much physical discomfort for the cause if the ordeal is sufficiently spectacular and well advertised.

But the real heroes of the movement are the unassuming, noiseless comrades who habitually peg away at the little things that help the paper and the organization immensely, but don't get much space in the news columns.

These are the kind of Socialists that lay the sound basis of a clear-cut revolutionary working-class party.

Now there is no good reason why every reader of this paper should not join this silent, tireless, persistent brigade of foundation builders.

And a good way to begin this epoch-making service will be to join our Jitney Attack on Capitalism. BEGIN NOW!

GET THIS!

Comrade Katherine H. Hodgins is competing with a number of others for an automobile that is being given away by the Grand and Princess Theatres to the person who is given the highest number of votes. Boost for Kate Hodgins.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS

By ROBERT HUNTER

Have you ever thought of the power of the press? This thing you have in your hands has cost many a precious life.

Battles have been fought that you might read it tonight peacefully by your fireside.

It is one of the "rights" won by blood and sacrifice. It and the ballot are the two most important rights that mankind has wrung from tyranny.

Think of it! This thing you have in your hands—this Socialist paper—is one of the greatest powers in the world.

And now ask yourself what use you are making of it.

With it you can do anything; without it you can do nothing. Mark that! This is no poetry or fine writing. This is "a terrible God's fact."

"The interests" have great newspapers—some one or more in every city, town and hamlet in this great country—but have the working-class newspapers?

The thing you have in your hand is something of that kind. It is anaemic, underfed, half starved. It is ragged and out at the toes. It shuffles along but, my stone-blind friend, it is the promise of everything. Give nourishment, it may yet split rails; it may yet become the great emancipator.

It was born of Labor in a dirty basement, mothered and fathered by hungry parents. It was at birth little more than a shriek, ungainly and hideous, yet Luther in his hovel or Lincoln in his cabin was no more.

If anything in this world is great, this thing in your hand is great!

It is the beginning of a new world power that will one day shape the destiny of man.

Its eyes and ears are social eyes and ears. Its voice is a social voice. The eyes and ears search throughout the world for what you want to know, and the voice carries to every part of the world the news.

Through this thing, and only through this thing, can you know the truth about politics and business, about science, industry and art, about freedom, justice and democracy, about Colorado, West Virginia and every great strike. And it is the truth, my friend, and the truth alone shall make you free.

You are now fed on lies. You know only what the enemy want you to know or what escapes from them when they quarrel among themselves.

By controlling the press the capitalists control the sources of our information, as John D. Rockefeller controls the sources of oil, and we must buy the kind of product they want to sell and at their price.

Think of this thing, more precious, more powerful, more enlightening than all else, owned by the enemy—at least, all but owned by the enemy!

You have this poor thing, this Socialist paper, in your hands. It depends upon you whether it will live or die, whether it is to reach one million or ten million. It depends upon you whether it will become a great instrument for fighting our battles. Poor as it is, it is a symbol of that which is our sole security as a sovereign people.

It must be on guard. It must watch out for us. It must report the truth to us. It must warn us of danger and, when need be, call us to action.

WILL IT FAIL? THAT IS INCONCEIVABLE, FOR IF THIS THING FAILS, THEN ALL ELSE FAILS.

Charles H. Maurer, Socialist member of the Pennsylvania legislature, has presented bills for mothers' pensions, one day rest in seven, and also to prohibit operations of any factory of mercantile establishment more than six days a week, unless a schedule is filed with the state labor bureau. The bill is aimed principally at the iron and steel barons who operate on Sundays while they sit in front pews of the churches.

In ten years over 50,000 trespassers upon railway rights of way were killed in the United States.

THE EXTERMINATOR

By LEE ROY HENRY

War is still playing its terrible act upon the stage in Europe and its attributes death, disease, poverty and crime are still ravaging humanity. The red spray of working-class blood still darkens the sun of civilization and liberty has been sacrificed to the might of ignorance.

The jaws of the exterminator, war, are grinding relentlessly and this whirlpool of manhood continues to be drawn to the center, being swallowed up in destruction. The man made volcanoes, flashing forth in the hideous spectral gloom a wild lava-like lightning, deal death to the human walls of cannon-flesh. These wild lightnings, throwing their terrible projectiles are accomplishing the hope of the master-class, they are agents of the exterminator.

In a maddening rush thousands charge through pools of life-blood in a slow, spattering it in a thousand directions. The gore so prized by the loved ones at home has become a scarlet mist making momentary hideous rainbows in the flashings of man's chained lightning and falling in the crash that follows.

In the night the machinery of murder (operated with the blessings of the clergy) belches forth its death dealing fire. The flashes light the woods; each twig bearing for a moment the crimson of blood on one side while the other side remains a death-like black. War the exterminator has taken into its fold every possible means of murder and butchery. The men with good capitalistic zeal hear their masters' voice and face machinery of murder, and its counterpart, always expecting the poor working-men on the other side will be the ones slain instead of themselves. Then with the mental picture of few pieces of bronzed tin, to be awarded them for their heroic bravery, they plunge forward baring their breast for the enemy's bayonet.

The winter has come and gone, and the producers are at the front; the parasites remain at home to consume all that remains. Women and children will face the exterminator with hungry mouths and chilled, half clothed limbs.

Poverty will give their lives to the fierce savage fiend, war. Oh! Sacrifices so unnecessary; so useless; so cold blooded and so terrible! But in the meanwhile the capitalists in Berlin, Paris, St. Petersburg, Constantinople, Vienna and London are battling their passions in the wine glass and the silken rustle of pleasure. They have regained the absolute powers they were losing; the workers are dead, or dying!

BARZEE-BOSTROM CONTROVERSY WILL BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

For several good reasons the discussion being carried on through these columns between comrades Barzee and Bostrom will appear every other week, instead of weekly. By this arrangement the two articles will appear side by side. It is well that we give these questions of party tactics our most thoughtful and impartial consideration.

"THE COLLAPSE OF CAPITALISM"

Subject of Talk by Commissioner Salter Sunday, April 4
Next Sunday evening, at 8:15, comrade J. M. Salter, commissioner of public works, will speak at Socialist hall, 1612 California street, his subject being "The Collapse of Capitalism."

Perhaps no question is more frequently asked at this time than this: "When will normal business conditions be restored?" Or, as many are beginning to ask, "Has the capitalist system collapsed for good?"

In discussing this very live issue Sunday evening, comrade Salter will attempt to give an unbiased statement of the known facts in the case, and will give a Socialist answer to the absorbing question, "Has the Capitalist System Collapsed?"

Admission will be free, no collection. Everybody is invited!

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THE QUESTION THAT WILL NOT REST UNSETTLED

Socialism and Nationalism

CAN A SOCIALIST BE A PATRIOT?

By H. W. WATTS

The time is drawing near when "American Socialism" will be given the acid test as has the German, French, English, Russian and Belgian, and we are of the opinion that unless we throw overboard the peddlers of adulterated Socialism we will receive the same thrashing at the hands of the capitalist henchmen as is now being served out to the European Socialists (?).

We have a bunch of Socialist (?) politicians in our midst that corrupt the movement with the 57 varieties of Socialism and at the same time tell the wage slaves that their Socialism is the pure brand, yet almost every speech they make or article they write is of the sloppy, sentimental, reform guff that simply gets the hearers or readers into a mass of entanglements.

If some of them attempted to teach revolutionary Socialism they would break a blood vessel and if they hear of anyone teaching it they do their best to throttle them.

Yet today European Socialists (?) are being used as pawns at the behest of the capitalist class and the time is not far off when our same Socialists will be used as the pawns of the John D.'s, J. P. Morgan's et al. and we fully agree with the writer of the following, that, had the revolutionary Socialism of Marx and Engels been taught in Germany the present war could hardly have happened, and we will go further and say that, if Marxian Socialism is not taught on a greater scale in this country our movement will be used by the capitalist class to back them up in a similar slaughter.

Austin Harrison, editor of the "English Review," a monthly magazine, who has had a sound German education and is well equipped to write upon matters Teutonic, pointed out in an article in the November issue that Socialism had collapsed, referring to the German S. D. P.

Messrs. Hyndman and Bax, two have-been Socialists (?) who are now working hand and glove with the British government for the "crushing of Germany," replied to him in the December issue, wherein the Marxian theory was "remolded" to suit the Jingoistic spirit of both these gentlemen. They made just as good a defense of Socialism as would a Catholic priest or some of our Chicago officials, and naturally gave the editor all the show that he needed for a comeback which he did in the January issue in an interesting article on "Marx and Materialism."

He says that his object in writing of the collapse of German Socialism was to show:

1. "That the rigid doctrinaire theory of Marx, with its laws of class warfare and automatic necessity, had, in Germany, degenerated into a mere parliamentary party of opposition and opportunism characterized by the very national and imperialistic tendencies that Marx sought to destroy in his philosophy of revolution which was to bring about a Collectivist State. (Emphasis mine.)"

2. "That the moment social democracy had so broken away, Socialism as the implacable antagonist of bourgeois civilization in whatever form—military, capitalistic, liberal, commercial or monarchical—was inherent truth and purpose, the sole concern of which lay in the freedom of the wage earning classes."

He then expresses quite a refreshing sentence. He refers to what he did write and says Mr. Hyndman did not answer it. Our Chicago politicians would do the same. This is the quotation:

"The words I wrote were: 'German Socialism has drifted away from Marx into a slough of German Imperialism, as far from the ideal it had set itself to win as Ecclesiasticism has drifted away from Christianity.'"

JUDGE LINDSEY'S EYES OPENED

By EUGENE V. DEBS

When Judge Ben Lindsey went to Washington to see President Wilson in behalf of the striking miners of Colorado, he innocently believed that as soon as the president knew the facts he would promptly set the powerful machinery of state in operation to bring Rockefeller and the rest of the buccaneers to time. But alas! President Wilson dared not offend King Rockefeller, and when the king sat down on him he looked sad and said he hadn't the "legal" right to do a thing.

Now Judge Lindsey says that we're ruled from Wall street, and that King John is a good deal bigger than President Woodrow, all of which is an old story with every one not as deficient in gray matter as a shellfish. Judge Lindsey also says that "Our civilization is a conspiracy against nature as well as against justice." Right again, judge! But what are you going to do about it?

Capitalism is the thing Judge Lindsey so fiercely denounces and if he is opposed to it, then what reason has he for not being a Socialist? The Socialists are the only ones who have a definite program for the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of industrial democracy.

AN IMPORTANT RULING

CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES MAY JOIN S. P.

After hundreds of United States civil service employees have given up their membership in the Socialist party, fearing that if they did not do so they would lose their jobs under the anti-political proclamation of the civil service commission, a ruling has been secured from the commission declaring that government employees may be dues paying Socialist party members.

This is the first victory in the campaign to secure political justice for the government employees who are now intimidated by the democratic administration under Wilson, as they were previously oppressed by the republican administrations of Taft and Roosevelt.

The next step will be to prevent the persecution and discharging of civil service employees who happen to take active part in the work of the Socialist movement, men and women who are the candidates of the Socialist party in campaigns, or hold official positions within the party organization, for, as The American Socialist has shown, there are numbers of cases where Socialists have been discriminated against, and old party politicians favored under the civil service rules.

In the age when Socialism is admittedly shaking the foundation of politics the world over and penetrating our science and literature, I am unable to appreciate the moral and intellectual outlook of any person who does not take an intelligent interest in Socialism."—Prof. C. A. Beard, of Columbia University.

Henry Stolz, Jr., Socialist mayor of Manitowoc, Wis., has been re-elected to that office.

CAPITALIST CONTROL OF COUNTRY SCHOOL

By SETH CROSBY

In the last school election at Greenbank, Island county, there was considerable excitement felt among the retainers of the capitalist class as represented by the Calvin-Phillips real estate firm; or, more strictly speaking, by their lackey, Mr. Guy Richards, who is their farm superintendent and all around slave-driver and political boss.

And the reason is easily seen, when the fact that Mr. Richards is clerk of the school board, and had as running mates previous to election Mr. Barton (foreman under Richards), and Mr. Jackson, a mechanic in the employ of the same company. Mr. Richards, by virtue of his office, was enabled to employ his daughter as teacher in that district, though this is in direct violation of the school laws.

Previous to election there was a rumor circulated that the horrible Socialists were going to run a man for school director to take the place of Mr. Barton, who had moved away. Now to lose the control of that seat on the school board might cause complications, and, worse yet, to have a Socialist on the board would be gall and worm-wood to the capitalistically-minded set; so a campaign was launched to keep the control of the school board safely in their hands.

One of the old time hands of the company, at least, was solicited to stay there until after the election; the company team, with the foreman as coachman, was put into service to haul the adherents of the capitalist system to the school house.

The meeting was called to order promptly at 1 o'clock, or possibly a little before by correct time. The judges appointed Mrs. Guy Richards and Mrs. Jackson (wives of the two directors). The meeting was then thrown open to balloting, in spite of the fact that it is customary to have nominations made previous to balloting.

On the question being raised, the names of Wm. Day, the company's choice, and Lillian Marshal were put on the black board, and the balloting carried on; incidentally the count showed Wm. Day receiving 28, and Mrs. Marshal 16 votes.

The question as to the district furnishing the school books was raised, and Mr. Richards was asked as to the means to be employed to secure them. He stated that he, personally, did not believe in it, and therefore he did not consider that it was up to him to give out the information unless directly asked; but, in his opinion, a petition for a special election would be necessary; this petition was started and signed by 38 legal voters of the district, including the two directors. This was forwarded to the county superintendent of schools and returned by her with the statement that it was up to the school board to settle this book question. Mr. Richards in an interview stated that they would fight it. Now as two of the board have signified their approval of the measure, it remains to be seen what means Mr. Richards will use to guard his master's interests.

Over 700,000 miners are expected to go on strike in Great Britain unless they receive a raise in wages to offset the increased cost of living.

REMEMBER, ITS FRIDAY EVE.

April 2nd, at 8 P. M.

THE BIG CONCERT AND SOCIAL

AT HEADQUARTERS, 1612 California

ADMISSION 10c PUBLIC IS INVITED