

"The cause combatted for is yours; the efforts and sacrifices made to win it ought, therefore, to be yours"--Mazzini

The Northwest Worker

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A Step Forward

Let's take a step forward! Right here in Everett! The human race, through blood and tears and travail, is marching forward to a sublime goal!

We people of Everett are all in the procession, some hopefully and joyously in the lead, some falteringly groping their way, as if in the dark; others holding back, stubborn, pessimistic, stumbling blocks in the path of progress.

Some of us have glimpsed from afar Humanity's high goal, and are consciously acting in harmony with the laws of social progress to help speed the day of Man's emancipation from poverty, anxiety, over-work, no-work, inebriety, disease, crime and prostitution.

But what has all this to do with municipal politics? EVERYTHING! A city is known by the officials it elects.

A community which is lagging behind in the general march of progress, will elect for high office men without energy, without ideals, without knowledge of the forces playing about them, and who, having no clear understanding of the great economic and political problems of the day, flounder about aimlessly and helplessly, taking no permanent step forward, knowing not where they are being driven.

Citizens of Everett, those of you, at least, who live by the sweat of your own brows, make use of your advance guard, encourage and support your pioneers of today. Let the dead vote for the dead!

You men and women of Everett who are alive to the great issues and opportunities of today, give your support to the history-makers of your own time—those to whom monuments will be reared by the conservatives of the future, when a new breed of pioneers will, in their turn, be blazing new paths to yet newer and worthier goals!

Whitman speaks for us today as he did for the pioneers of long ago: All the past we leave behind; We debouch upon a newer, mightier world, varied world; Fresh and strong the world we seize, world of labor and the march.

See, my children resolute children, By those swarms upon our rear, we must never yield or falter, Ages back in ghostly millions, frowning there behind us urging, Pioneers! O pioneers!

1773-1915

Compare industrial conditions as found to be in this country today by the Commission on Industrial Relations, with what an impartial observer noted one hundred and forty-two years ago. That observer was Adam Smith, the political economist. In his "Wealth of Nations" occurs this passage: "England is certainly in the present times (1773) a much richer country than any part of North America. The wages of labor, however, are much higher in North America than in any part of England."

The Reason Why

Because the giant machinery of today is not owned by the operators thereof, but by a small group of capitalist-exploiters, who grow rich on the labor of hundreds of thousands of machine users, the average working man, with his \$518 a year, is less able to provide adequately for a family now than in 1773, despite the wonderful progress of the arts and sciences.

WHY THE WORKERS ARE POOR

The few who profit by the prevailing order of society assure us that the workers are poor because they are extravagant, or lazy, or good-for-nothing in general. Many of their victims swallow this bunk whole, gulping it down in large, choking morsels.

DON'T TOLERATE EVIL

Tolerance corrodes the noblest hearts; it eats away their pride, destroys the active principle of great exploits and makes of mental cowardice a sacred thing. By exacting this pliability of conscience from everybody, certain people seek to obtain absolutism from their own treachery and backsliding.—Balzac.

And all is well, though faith and form Be sundered in the night of fear; Well roars the storm to those that hear A deeper voice across the storm." —Tennyson.

"I PROTEST"

(By Ella Wheeler Wilcox) To sit in silence when we should protest. Makes cowards out of men. The human race Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been raised Against injustice, ignorance and lust, The inquisition yet would serve the law, And guillotines decide our least disputes.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get "wised up." The workers are poor because they receive no benefit from the continually increasing productivity of modern machinery.

As a matter of fact, the "betters" know that the workers, as a class, are poor because of what they don't get, not because of what they spend, foolishly or otherwise.

MUST FIGHT LOCALLY

Each community of this nation must be placed in charge of its own local experts, who will work in harmony with the curative principles which apply to the welfare of the body politic as a whole.

A WORD TO VOTERS

Voters of Everett, men and women, it is high time that all of you who have the intelligence to apply serious thought and scientific principles to present-day evils,—and there are enough of you to constitute a majority—mass your votes and your influence and place at the head of this municipality officials to whom this campaign means far more than a mere scramble for jobs, or empty "honor."

Table with columns for years (1850-1910) and rows for Average wage, Value of product per worker, and Difference between average wage and value of product.

Average Wages: \$518 A Year

From these eloquent figures the bourgeois spellbinders can derive no "thunder" for the 1916 campaign. They prove conclusively that the wage workers are being robbed year by year of a greater and greater portion of the wealth they produce, leaving them poorer relatively to their productive powers, than at any other time in the history of the world.

What can Salter, Hodgins and Carr do about it? The intelligent reader who has read the preceding analysis of "what's the matter" with the United States (and the entire capitalist world, for that matter), will naturally ask, if he be not already a Socialist—"But, granted that what you have stated is true, how will it help matters by putting three Socialists into office in this municipal election?"

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There is nothing foolish in the question as above presented. The connection between a nation-wide industrial crisis, war, crime, prostitution, and wide-spread poverty, and the election to office of three Socialist commissioners in Everett is by no means self-evident to those voters who have not made a special study of political economy.

We all know that the wise physician begins his curative work in whatever part of the body he can operate to advantage, and we all realize that the first step toward health is to put a diseased body in charge of medical experts as quickly as possible.

THE REAL CONTEST

Thus the contest in Everett really has no significance, no importance, to the majority of our citizens excepting from the following considerations: The efforts of the Socialists of Everett to place their three nominees in the city hall is part and parcel of their plan to capture for the working class of the United States all political powers, to the end that legislation, and the administration of laws in this country, shall be placed in the hands of the workers themselves, through representatives of their own class, imbued with working-class ideals, inspired and informed by a working-class philosophy and political economy; as representatives of a party which has for its ultimate aim the complete conquest by the workers of all political and economic powers, to the end that wage-slavery and economic servitude be forever abolished from the face of the earth, and a genuine industrial democracy established, by the workers and for the workers. This is the Socialist program.

STEP AT A TIME

The practical program of Socialism cannot be carried out piece-meal; but the attainment of political power by the workers for the workers can be and will be accomplished first here and then there, a city, county or state at a time, piece-meal, to the end that eventually all the links of the great chain will be welded into an intercommunicating mesh, city to city, county to county, state to state, and, finally, nation to nation!

Socialism is a grave menace—to the present economic order, which gives to an idle few, the capitalist class, that which is produced by the brawn and brain of an overwhelming majority, the working class.

KATHERINE H. HODGINS (For Commissioner of Finance) A SELF-MADE WOMAN

The gift for composing music, writing poetry, or for invention, is born with one, is part of one's natural inheritance. No one denies this. But organizing ability, executive ability, are no less gifts that are born with some persons. Business ability is also often an inherited faculty. In many cases the struggle for existence in this our competitive world develops these very useful capacities to a high degree of efficiency.

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