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THE NORTHWEST WORKER

SPOKESMAN FOR THE ONLY USEFUL CLASS IN SOCIETY—THE WORKING CLASS

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GREATEST SCANDAL IN THE HISTORY OF THIS REPUBLIC

The people will be confronted at the end of the war, justly or unjustly, with the greatest scandal in the history of this republic.

This declaration in the House of Representatives came as the climax to a bitter debate of an hour over profits to which rifle makers are entitled. Representative Meyer London, New York Socialist, made the prediction, after he had sat through a Republican-Democrat wrangle over the rifle makers' 6 per cent on investment, 10 per cent profit and an allowance for depreciation.

Chairman Fitzgerald of the appropriations committee, in charge of the $7,775,000,00 urgent deficiency bill, tried to shut off debate and push the bill to passage. He complained that the House should pay no attention to scandal mongers unless the scandal mongers could makes a case. Idle rumors should not affect the House, he said.

"These idle rumors," declared London, "of which the distinguished chairman has complained will come back again and again to pester and annoy the administration."

Uncle Joe Cannon interrupted: "Many persons in this country are engaged in striking for better wages; many of them are engaged in striking for recognition of the union. Does the gentleman call these persons businessmen or patriotic men?"

London answered that the man who strikes for a living wage cannot be compared wich the men who, making a million dollars profit, strikes for two million. He then went on to predict that the government will be forced to seize and operate the munitions plants.

Would Seize Factories

"If there are but three factories in the entire country that can manufacture rifles," he said, "the only solution is to seize those three factories and to put their superintendents and every member of their board of directors and their foremen and very worker upon the same basis on which you put an army in the field. Seize those factories, take possession of them, squeeze out hte element of profit. But this is a solution that the businessmen, chairmen of the advisory committees, will never suggest, you may rest assured."

Sherley of Kentucky engaged London in a tilt over commandeering labor when commandeering property. London replied he would not commandeer human beings until inspiration and other means has failed. Sherley retorted that it was possible to inspire and persuade organizations into doing work for the government in the same manner, as economically and as cheaply as ever. To this London demurred.

"The people and we who represent them here," he declared, "will be confronted at the end of the war justly or unjustly, with the greatest scandal in the history of this republic."

The three munitions plants referred to by London are the only ones in the United States capable of manufacturing the 1,000,000,000 modified form of Enfield rifles which the government must have to equip the army which it is about to send to France.

The three concerns are the Remington Arms company of Delaware, the Remington Arms Union Metallic company of Ilion, N. Y., and the Winchester Repeating Arms company of New Haven, Conn.

Demanded $44 a Rifle

Taking advantage of the necessities of the government, the three concerns hold out for a contract which amounts to about $44 a rifle.

The same concerns made 1,000,000 Enfield rifles for the British government for $27 each.

The government, in its own arsenals, has manufactured the Springfield rifle, which is equally expensive to make, for $17 as a maximum figure.

The contracts were signed for the government by Brig. Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordinance, upon the advice of the munitions board of which Frank A. Scott is chairman.

Representative Sission of Mississippi, a member of the committee on appropriations charged that the three concerns would make 46 per cent on their investment. In view of the fact that the government has equipped the plants with $18,000,000 worth of rifle making machniery bought from the British government for $9,000,000. Sison thought that 46 per cent was excessive.

"LABOR UNREST AND STRIKES CAUSED BY WAR PROFITEERING"

ATLANTIC CITY—Direct responsibility for strikes and the spirit of unrest in the ranks of labor since the war began was placed on the shoulders of unpatriotic profiteering American business men by Secretary of Labor Wilson, addressing the war convention of American business with the United States chamber of commerce.

"I now tell you American business men that this is no time to stand upon your prejudices, nor to insist upon profiteering, as many of your members have been doing. If you couldn't collect abnormal profits in normal times you should not take advantage of the necessities of your country in this time of crisis."

Admits Huge Profits

Labor has been restless, Wilson said, because word has gone forth that the iron and steel manufacturers are making 200 to 400 per cent profit, and that shipping, mining and men of other industries are making enormous profits.

"This feeling has been justified," Wilson continued. "My investigation of the coal industry in the eastern states proved it in one of many instances because we found producers were extorting a $5 and $6 margin on coal. You should welcome price fixing on your products, because it means a logical standard of pay for labor."

RUSSIAN SOCIALIST IS PICKET PRISONER

WASHINGTON.—Miss Nona Samaradin, trade unionist and Socialist, who helped last fall to re-elect Meyer London to Congress, is one of the six White House pickets sent to the American bastile at Occoquan. She began last Friday to serve a 30-day sentence.

She came to this country three years ago from Kiev, Russia. Her family were revolutionists.

Miss Anne Martin, vice-chairman of the National Woman's party, explained the suffragists' case to Representative London and asked him to visit Miss Samaradin at the workhouse. He agreed to go, and to make a report of what he learned there to the House immediately upon his return.

BRESHKOVSKAYA LIVES IN PALACE

PETROGRAD.—In the winter palace, directly over Malachite hall, in which the provisional cabinet daily debates Russia's fate, is lodged the "grandmother of the Russian revolution." Catherine Breshkovskaya, who has spent fifty years of her life of 74 in prison or as an exile in convict settlements under police supervision. Mme. Breshkovskaya recently declared: "My chief food is optimism."

HANDS OFF THE WORKERS!

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The Trades and Labor council at its last weekly meeting voted to support the action of the B. C. Federation of Labor in calling a strike if an attempt is made to enforce the conscription act. The Vancouver labor position is, "If you touch a single man of us, we will touch your industries."

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SOCIALISTS IN SWEDEN WIN IN ELECTIONS BY CAPTURING 48 SEATS

STOCKHOLM—Results of the elections up to the present show that the Socialist group has 48 seats, the Liberal group 37 and the Conservative group 30.

Prior to the elections these seats were represented by 43 of the Socialist group, 20 Librals and 43 Conservatives. The Socialists, therefore, have won five votes, while the Conservatives have lost 13.

SOCIALIST GETS TOP VOTE IN NEW CASTLE PRIMARY

NEW CASTLE, Pa. — Socialist Councilman Candidate Walter V. Tyler ran highest in the primary election here, with a vote of 1,895; 216 ahead of his nearest opponent.

Socialists here expect that the official count may also nominate Socialist Councilman McKee.

SOCIALIST NOMINATED FOR ERIE CITY COUNCIL

ERIE—Ralph Tilletson, Socialist leader and local head of the People's Council, was nominated for the city council.

ANTI-WAR SOCIALISTS PROBABLY NOMINATED

PITTSBURG.—Early returns from the primaries indicate that John W. Slayton and William Prosser, Socialist candidates for the Council on the non-partisan ticket, will receive the nomniation. Their strength is entirely due to their unflinching stand on the war. Local Socialists feel confident that both will be nominated and elected.

READING SOCIALISTS ALL GET ON BALLOT

The Socialists, of Reading, Pa., had a field day and verified their pre-election predictions, winning hands down, with J. Henry Stump, Socialist, leading candidates of all parties by 1,000.

All Candidates Placed

All party candidates won a place on the final ballot. They are: L. Birch Wilson, Jr., a news writer and president of the local People's council; Charles F. Sands, machinist; and George W. Snyder, president of the Musicians' union. Stump is president of the Federated Trades council. Reading is a city of over 100,000 inhabitants.

The old party politicians were in fear of the growing Socialist strength and resorted to every trick the accumulated experience of practical politics could suggest to beat the workingman's party. The press aided this, being particularly anxious to hit the People's Council.

B. C. LABOR TO SUPPORT SOCIALIST CANDIDATES

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The B. C. Federation of Labor is going to concentrate in the coming election in choosing candidates opposed to conscription. Where the Socialist party of Canada is running candidates, labor will not contest, but in districts where Socialists are not running, labor anti-conscription candidates will be run. There is to be a convention in Vancouver to nominate candidates for two city constitutiencies where the S. P. of C. is not running candidates on October 9.

Turn in your subscriptions bigger paper next week.....

CONGRESS LEAVES BERNSTORFF $50.000 MYSTERY UNSOLVED

After starting the jingo press out on a hue and cry for the organization that is supposed too have got part of the German "slush fund," congress suddenly drops the whole thing.

We are of the opinion that the people of this country ought to know who received that "slush fund" for the simple reason that there are dozens or organizations that have been, and are still, working for peace and against war. If any organization is willing to accept money from the Prussian military machine for peace propaganda purposes we want to be in a position to know who they are because in our opinion they are worse traitors to the people than are the gang of plutocratic plunderers who are hollering for war because they profit by war.

The Everett Daily Herald does not like Senator Norris' innuendo that Bernstorff sent the note at the time President Wilson was working for peace, but can the Herald give a good reason why this "slush fund" business should not be sifted to the bottom right away? We do not insinuate that President Wilson received some of the German swag neither do we wish the Herald nor the rest of the dirty capitalist press to insinuate that any other peace party received part of it, unless it follows o with a demand for a full investigation.

The capitalist press just glorifies in building up "straw men" and the government and its secret service agents are quite capable of building up cases to further their own ends. The Democratic National campaign committee had more reasons for keeping out of war during the last election than we could print in this paper in six weeks but we would not insinuate that the Democratic party would stoop so low for a measly $50.000. That party has always had a slush fund given it for its political campaigns but it would not think of taking German gold even though it was opposed to war and had a candidate who had "kept us out of war." The party never has given much concern as to where its campaign funds came from, all it wanted was the funds and it always got it.

Secret service men are apt to make mistakes and run across something that they were not supposd to unearth. News papers are apt to get hold of these "scoops" before the authorities and there's the devil to pay. But—well—you see—Oh go to hell! The government does not HAVE TO INVESTIGATE.

ROCKEFELLER TO DRAW 9½ PER CENT INTEREST ON LIBERTY LOAN BONDS

WASHINGTON—Senator La Follette demanded that the senate limit the power of Secretary McAdoo and say when the new issue of 4 per cent Liberty bonds shall mature. The $11,538,000,000 bond bill allows McAdoo to set his own limits for payment, as he did in the first Liberty bond issue.

"As a result of congress' mistake in that case," said La Follette, "John D. Rockefeller, who invested $15,000,000 in Liberty bonds, will draw 9½ per cent interest on that fund for 15 years before the government can pay him off."

La Follette said the exemption of the first bonds from taxation amounted to an added 6 per cent interest payment to such large investors as Rockefeller.

"All the people of the country are taxed to pay Rockefeller," he said.

FORD'S SON EXEMPT; WORKERS MUST SERVE

DETROIT, Mich.—That the draft will spare no rich man's son was amply demonstrated here when Edzel Ford, an athlete, son of Henry Ford, was granted exemption from service.

Edzel Ford had no difficulty in passing the physical test but filed an industrial exemption claim, stating that he was engaged in an industry which was vital for the successful prosecution of the war. Edzel is the head of a recently incorporated Ford Farm Tractor concern, for which he is building a large factory. The Highland Park exemption board, saw the justice of his claim and readily granted exemption.

On the other hand hundreds of common workingmen who filed dependency claims were turned down. Scores of conscientious objectors were treated similarly. One board told a Socialist, who claimed exemption on the ground that his conscience forbids killing to "go and drown himself."

FED ON WAR MANIA

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Chancellor Day took a fling at pacifists at the opening exercises of Syracuse university. He told the students that "hell itself is too good for pacifists. Let them go where they can fight for Germany. God bless them and help them to be shot as soon as possible."

Turn in your sub cards.

CANADIAN DRAFT WILL START NEXT MONTH

OTTAWA, Ontario. — Unmarried men and children widowers from 20 to 34 years of age will be called to the colors, under the military service act, during the first week of October.

One hundred thousand will be selected from those reporting, and of these 25,000 will go into training immediately, and the remaining 75,000 will be called upon in groups of from 10,000 to 15,000 as they may be needed.

WEALTHY MINE OWNER'S SONS IGNORE DRAFT

DOUGLAS, Ariz. — Henry Shattauch, registered under the draft act in Yuma county, son of L. C. Shattuck, millionaire mine owner of Bisbee, failed to report for transportation to the training camp and has been reported to the department of justice at Washington.

Warner Shattuck, another son of the millionaire, faces a similar charge in this county.

JOINT CELEBRATION

ALEXANDRA, Minn.—A monster Labor Day celebration was held here, participated in by 5,000 farmers from five surrounding counties and the representatives of the labor unions, the first joint observance of the day ever indulged in in this section. Addresses were made by President A. C. Towney of the National Non-Partisan League and Lynn Thompson, a Minneapolis labor official. The Non-Partisan League recently elected a congressman, defeating both old party candidates.

WAR CAUSES TENFOLD JUMP IN COSTS PEOPLE MUST BEAR

WASHINGTON—The United States this year is spending money almost ten times as fast as last year.

Since July 1, 1917, the government has paid $2,121,279,960, as against $219,730,211 for a corresponding period in the previous fiscal year.

Receipts in this period jumped from $167,000,000 to $1,554,000,000. The excess of disbursements over receipts increased from $52,000,000 to $667,000,000.

The Question Box — By Frank Eastwood ..... 10¢
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