TO BRING ABOUT THE CO-OPERATIVE COMMONWEALTH

The Co-operative News

CO-OPERATION— EACH FOR ALL, AND ALL FOR EACH

In Things Essential, UNITY—In Things Doubtful, LIBERTY—In All Things, FRATERNITY

5c per copy; 50c per year. EVERETT, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOV. 22, 1917 Number 356. [357]

INQUISITION IN SPAIN AGAIN

Leaders of Radical Elements Subjected to Terrible Torture—Girls Jailed

PARIS.—Though the revolution in Spain is no longer a menace to the government, the country is still writhing under the lash of the monarchists and clericals, who are determined to revenge themselves for the almost successful attempt at liberation on the part of the oppressed people.

Word has reacher Paris that Socialists are being imprisoned and tortured, merely because of their political affilations. Every worker who belongs to a union is suspected. Republicians are being forced to recant publicly or are hounded into exile.

Report Came Too Late

The Spanish Socialist submitted a report on their case to the recent French congress of the party at Bordeaux, but it arrived too late to be debated by the gathering. This is to be regretted, as a public airing of the report might have made some impresion upon the Spanish government. The following were some of the charges made:

"In the province of Biscaya prisoners have been submitted to outrages recalling the most sinister practised at Montjurich, Barmelona, at the time of the execution of Francisco Ferrer.

"Hundreds of miners have been arrested, in spite of the fact that the 20,000 who went on strike a couple of months ago followed the instructions of their leaders and refrained from acts of violence.

Tortures Resorted To

"Between September 20 and 26, a number of Socialist were thrown into prison at Bilbao. One of those seized, was Rebolleda, municipal councillor of a nearby village. He was tortured by having his fingers twisted about wooden pegs, then jerked out of joint. Rael Carbonell, of the People's House in Bilbao, was also imprisoned and tortured, but on being released to await 'trial' he used the opportunity to escape into France.

"Many of the accused, who declined to make confessions which might incriminate their comrades, were told that they had been condemned to death, led to the place of execution and loaded rifles levelled at the breasts. In nearly every case, they endured the test and their torturers were forced to take them back to prison.

"One young man, who refused to the last to give any information about the revolution, was made to turn his back to the firing squad. Several volleys were then discharged in the opposite direction. On each occasion the prisoner was told that he had escaped by a miracle, but that the next time he would be certain to fall.

Women and Girls Seized

"In order to terrorize the Socialists, their innocent wives and daughters have been seized and thrown into jail. Some of these women have been in solitary confinement for more than 40 days, without any charges having been filed against them.

"The president of the Metal Workers' union of Biscaya province, and the well-known Socialist doctor, Rufino Gastanos, are among those who are awiting trial on trumped-up accussations in connection with the revolution."

In Madrid interest centers about the cases of Besteiro, Largo Gaballero and Anguiano Saborit, all three municipal councillors, who have been sentenced to life imprisonment for their activities in the recent uprising.

Resteiro To Be Reinstated

The conservative press has been bitter in denouncing them, but in liberal bourgeois circles scarcely less horror has been shown at the severity of their sentences than among the radicals. The mayor of Madrid called upon them in jail and offered his sympathy. The president of the League to Advance the Rights of Man and the reformist leader, Melquiades Alvarez, also visited them.

When the minister of public instruction notified the University of Madrid where Besteiro was professor of logic, that the chair was vacant owing to the Socialist's conviction and sentence, the faculty voted unanimously to decline to recognize this ruling. The rector of the university declared in an interview that the chair would be reserved for Besteiro, and that he hoped the latter would be released some day and permitted to occupy it once more.

The Royalton Co-operative Society cleared $327.97 for the quarter ending August 7.

TEUTONS HERE TO DEMOCRATIZE GERMANY

CHICAGO, I.. — Designating the German Reichstag as a "debating society," with practically no authority, Americans of Teutonic descent here today issued a call for the formation of friends of German democracy. The call was addressed to "all loyal residents of the United States of German birth or descent" and was sent to 5000 Chicagoans as a starter. Germany's militaristic government was denounced. The organization has established headquarters here.

Millions of dollars are spent in making you buy Brown's syrup instead of Smith's syrup—but the syrup is just the same. You are made to pay for this waste.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

The Standpoint and Viewpoint of the Workers

(By S. T. Eddy)

In the first place, what excuse have we for demanding the money of the public or the individual to educate our children? The answer can be but one or two—either to build a better and more intelligent citizenship or the creation of a more efficient servant class.

The latter alternative is so raw that not even the capitalists themselves would openly father it. This leaves only the former to be considered.

To build a more intelligent citizenship it is not only necessary that we teach all that has been taught in the common school and teach it better but we must also teach economics and social science as well. To do this it is necessary to reduce these sciences to the vocabulary of the common school. This is the task of the economist, the sociologist, and the literary genius. When I say that we must teach all that has been taught in the common schools I do not mean to include the fake history, hero worship, and spurious patriotism that creates a false idealism, a sort of Lethean fairyland where child minds are ruined for life.

I think that this subject of working class education should be brought to the attention of every Socialist in the state, that it should be made a part of the demands of the state platform, and through the state delegates to the national convention so that the Socialists of America could be aroused.

While the capitalists are not telling us that the aim of their education is the creation of a more efficient servant class, a subject class capable of creating more surplus value, that is just what they are striving to do. They are introducing manual training and domestic science and vocational training for no other purpose. As a Socialist I am not opposed to manual training nor to any other training when it is in the interest of the working class. But Socialists have no business falling for these methods whereby the enemy hopes to fasten the chains of a more servile slavery upon the workers. It is up to the scientific Socialist to expose these frauds as they have exposed boy scouts, the civic federation, craft unionism, etc.

This is the machine age. We want to do and will do everything by machinery that can be done with less labor power than by hand. The Socialists should not oppose any useful education, but the interests of our class should be our guide at all times. Things should come in their order in such a way as to benefit the workers who are the vast majority of human society.

At the age of twenty-one males and females of a certain description are entitled to vote and thus influence society. If they have had an intelligent education their influence will be in the direction of an intelligent ordering of life.

AMERICAN SOCIALISM WINS ITS GREATEST TRIUMPH!

(By J. Louis Engdahl)

Socialism's greatest triumph in America was achieved at the election, Tuesday, November 6th.

So great was the victory won by the Socialist Party forces that "Fusion!" has become the over-night demand of the desperate old political party bosses.

We may, as a result, go into the state and national elections next year, if they are held, with the startling spectacle of a republican-democratic combination against the Socialist Party for all offices.

They will do this, as the Chicago Herald points out in the hope that the "two great parties" will beat the "one small party."

SCHOOL ELECTION IN EVERETT

The Worker Should Put Their Own Representatives on the Board

(By the Cub Reporter)

On the evening of November 18th, a meeting was held at which was nominated two Socialist members for the school board, to be voted upon at the coming election which will be the first Saturday in December. A. E. Holmerg and Peter Husby were the unamious choice of the meeting.

Comrade Holmberg is a member of the Union, a plasterer and cement worker by trade and would be a valuable acquisition to the working-class movement were he to be elected to represent the workers on the school board. It is essential that we elect one member who had a practical knowledge of all kinds of building, cement work, etc.

Peter Husby, the other nominee, has been for years connected with the law business in this city. It goes without saying that a lawyer who would represent the working-class interests of Everett would be invaluable.

Both of these candidates are in all ways fully qualified in every respect to serve efficiently on the school board, and the Socialist party calls upon the workers of Everett to see to it that they are elected.

ALLIES WILL NOT RECOGNIZE THE BOLSHEVIKI

The Operation of the Commercial Highways for Private Profit Is a Failure

WASHINGTON.—The Maximalists will not be recognized by the allies. This assurance was received at the Russian embassy here today from the Russian ambassadors in England, France and Italy, praising Ambassador Bakmetieff for his stand in refusing to recognize any government other than the Kerensky provisional rule.

They say this represents the real sentiment of Russia, as well as of the allied countries in which they are serving.

Ambassador Bakhmetieff, in a statement immediately following the outbreak said that the Maximalists were conducting a purely local revolution, and that they did not represent the will nor wish of the Russian people.

While no official statement has been given out at the state department regarding the attitude of this country, it has been asserted that the United States will not retreat with any but a stable government and one that will remain loyal to the cause of the allies.

It is assumed here that the various ambassadors in London, Rome and Paris have already been assured by those governments that the Maximalists' rule will not be recognized by them. This makes it practically unanimous among the entente and gives further assurances that only a prowar regime will be in accord with the nations fighting Germany.

It now appears to the Allied Capitalists that the Russians might now proceed to establish a real, actual, and bona fide Democracy—a government of, for and by the people—in fact, rather than in name. Of course, the allies are fighting for "democracy;" but then, they are only fighting for it, not that they really want anything real in that line.

If the people in the various countries became real insistent, the rulers might grant a little more political democracy—sops to the public; they would turn machine guns on their own people if the latter should demand industrial democracy, which is the real and only DEMOCRACY.

Political government touches the people more or less remotely, and at long intervals, usually; but industrial government touches people every day of their lives, not only touches them, but sometimes strikes down and crushes them, wrings from them their money, and blights the life of their children. Yet this industrial government is in private hands, and is used solely in the interest of private greed and exploitation.

The letter carrier plan is the Socialistic way of doing things. The mail is distributed in an orderly, non-competitive manner, with efficient results. The milkman's jog around town is the capitalistic way of "serving" you. A half dozen men, with as many wagons, cross and recross each other in serving only one city block. It's crazy, it's wasteful, it's competitive, and it makes for high prices.

FRENCH GOVERNMENT TO REQUISITION ALL CORN

PARIS.—All the corn in France will be requisitioned at an early date, Maurice Long, minister of provisions, announced in the Chamber of Deputies. All the grinding mills will be put under government control, so that bread may be supplied throughout France at the same price.

CANADIAN CENSOR BLUNDERS

Administration at Ottawa Favors Criminal Adventurer

Comrade Adolph Salmi, of Astoria, Ore., writes us a long letter about the troubles of the Finnish-American newspapers here and in Canada.

Canada had one Finnish paper before the war but it had to suspend on account of financial stringency. However, there have been several Finnish papers in the U. S. that circulated extensively north of fifty-four forty. After the war started a Finn with a criminal record from his native country started a pro-war paper in Canada with the field all to himself, except for the completion of the papers from the States. This Finnish criminal by his pro-war activity and by ingratiating himself with the Canadian censor succeeds in having all the Finnish papers published in the U. S. excluded from the mails and from every kind of circulation in Canada.

Some of the papers suppressed were even pro-war and pro-ally in their policy; yet the censor saw fit to exclude them from Canada. This could have been done only because the tho't controller of our sister country was blindly led or deceived by the aforesaid party who had an interest in having competitors excluded. Even protests to the censor calling attention to the facts seem to have been of no avail. Such dictatorial conduct on his part is sure to discredit the Canadian administration and may result in its overthrow in the coming election.

The workers can get along without the capitalists, but the capitalists can't get along without the workers. Some day the producers will learn this simple fact.

Subscribe for The Co-operative News.

WATTS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE

Comrades Who Can Help Should Do So

Peter Husby,

Dear Comrade: We are denied the newspapers that are sent us, so you had better not send me any more. We have not the least idea why we are denied them, but suspect it is another part of the administration's plan to "make the world safe for Democracy."

We have been trying to get an interview with the officials here in regard to other matters but after six days of trying, the interview has been put off on one excuse or another. Maybe the officials' time is too valuable to grant the request of a common criminal, for I guess that is what I am in their eyes.

Have contracted a bad cold and feel out of sorts, what with one thing and another, and have just decided that the best thing I can do is to raise some money and have my case thrashed out by an attorney. There is no reason in the world why I should be treated this way without making an attempt to present my case in a proper manner.

When I landed here I had decided that I would let things take their own course because I did not want to have anybody dig down into his pockets, but conditions have changed and so I have decided to issue a call for funds to place my case before the immigration officials in the way it should be.

It hurts me to have to make this appeal but after all is said and done I know the comrades will be willing to grant me a little financial aid after fighting with them in their battles during the past two and a half years in Everett.

I am not losing heart. I am willing to take my medicine with the best of them, but see no reason why I should lie down when there may be an opening for me to present my case. If I should fail in my effort, then they can keep me here or anywhere else for the period of the war and then they can send me to hell if they wish.

H. W. WATTS.

(Note)—Send all contributions to the Co-operative News, 1612 California Street, Everett, Wash.; and designate that it is for the Watts Defense Fund.—Editor.

Come and bring your friends to hear

Lena Morrow Lewis

recently returned from a five years stay in Alaska who will speak in

THE FORUM

1612 CALIFORNIA STREET

SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 25th, AT 8 O'CLOCK

SUBJECT:

"Capitalism's Contribution to Civilization"

Single Admission 15 Cents Two Admissions 25 Cents

ADVANCE OF SUFFRAGE

The Rest of the United States Is Likely to Follow

NEW YORK—New York has entered the suffrage column.

Twelve states previously had suffrage, and in these the women voted last year for President.

Nineteen states will have the women citizens voting for President at the next election.

In 1916 the suffrage states gave 91 electoral votes, and now 172 votes come from suffrage states.

The British government is pledged to give suffrage to women before the next general election.

Most of the women of Canada have the full suffrage this year as a war measure.

Women in Chicago, San Francisco, Cleveland, Providence and Little Rock can vote.

Woman suffrage carried the state.

This was hailed as one of the biggest of victories not only by the women who have battled actively for six years to get the suffrage, but to radicals of all kinds.

In means that the largest state in the union grants women the right to vote.

I means that now there are 13 states that have given women equal rights with men on election day.

It means that before long the entire country will have suffrage for women for as goes New York so goes the nation.

PRESIDENT MAY TAKE RAILROAD

WASHINGTON.—President Wilson has set the machinery of the federal government in motion to avert, if possible, the threat of a paralysis of the country's transportation systems so vital to the war.

At a conference with the heads of the "Big Four" brotherhoods at the White House on November 22, President Wilson will appeal to the labor leaders to defer action until after the country has passed through the period where its transportation systems are vital to the conduct of the war.

With the announcement of this conference, it was disclosed that President Wilson, while entertaining every hope for a complete agreement, does not intend to permit the country's transportation systems to be tied up by a strike at this time, even if it becomes necessary for the government to operate the roads.

Do you realize how near Xmas is. You should call up Main 118 and arrange with Myers Studio for a sitting.

SPANIARDS BITTER AGAINST STATE

The unions of Spain have sent an appeal for help to the unions of Great Britain and other allied countries.

The Spaniards declare that the government has killed and imprisoned many labor officials, and is endeavoring totally to disrupt the organizations of the workers. Wages throughout the war period have remained virtually stationary. When demands were made for increases to meet the higher cost of life's necessaries, they were refused; and when the workers peacefully quit their employment they were set upon by the military and police.

The Spaniards request financial aid, and also ask that the world condemn their government's brutalities.

REGULATION OF THE H. C. OF L.

At a meeting of retail grocers and sugar refiners' representatives in the office of Henry Moskowitz, commissioner of public markets, yesterday, charges were made that wholesalers and jobers were compelling retailers to purchase other groceries when they brought sugar. The retail grocers complained that in many cases abnormal prices were asked for these groceries, and, though the price fixed by the government for sugar was maintained, the jobbers realized large profits on other goods.

...."The retail grocers said they were choked up with groceries at abnormally high prices," said Moskowitz. "Many of them were forced to use the same procedure with the consuming public, namely, that they sold sugar only on condition that other groceries be bought. They also maintained that in consequence of this procedure on the part of wholesalers and jobbers, the sugar was not equitably distributed that some grocers had more sugar than others, while many had none.—The New York Call.

Nothing could more clearly show the futility of trying to regulate the exploiting activities of Business. Teddy broke several front teeth trying to regulate trusts; but the trusts continued to grow in accordance with economic and industrial evolution. Mr. God-Knows-I-Don't also tried his hand at the game (perhaps for political effect) yet it was more like a pat on the cheek of the coy maiden (Trust.)

Even if so-called regulation were immediately and extensively applied it is too slow to catch up with cute and slick devices and subterfuges that astute and cunning business men can think up over night. But regulations are slow and cumbersome. Men have agitated for years in favor of certain regulations without getting results. It is only when it is feared that people will get at the seat of the trouble that Business permits itself to be "regulated."

Control of natural monopolies and the exploitation of the workers by greedy capitalists is the seat of the trouble.

The solution is: Ownership and control of natural monopolies by the nation. ownership and democratic control of the tools of production by the workers, to the end that the necessities of life and happiness be produced for use and enjoyment instead of for the profit of the few who have secured control thereof through inheritance or chicanery.

36,000 FEEBLE MINDED IN STATE, IS REPORT

ALBANY, N. Y.—There are 36,000 feeble-minded persons in this state, according to George A. Hastings of the State Charities Association, who spoke today at the welfare session of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. The state takes care of 6,000 of these dependents and 5,500 more neede state care, he said.—New York Call.

You're wrong Henry, you're wrong. You should take into consideration and add to the above the number of working men who voted the capitalist tickets in the last election.

But what can you expect from an industrial system that demands, and generally secures, child labor, sometimes in spite of the law. A system that grinds people down into poverty, and herds them together into foul and disease-breeding tenements. A system that puts dollars above human life, and human sympathy. A system that does not give man a chane to develop into what he ought to, and can. A system that drives people to insanity, to crime, and into premature graves.

Leave the advertising slips in the movies.

NEW YORK CITY ELECTION RESULTS

Socialist Gain Eighteen State and City Offices

Mayor-elect Hylan received 297,282 votes, or, roughly, almost 70,000 more than McCall in 1913. Morris Hillquit polled 142,178 ballots, without the soldier vote, or four times as many votes as Charles Edward Russell in 1913.

With every election district in, Hillquit is only 7,129 votes behind Mayor Mitchel. The soldier vote, estimated at 65,000, has yet to be heard from, and the chances of Hillquit running second, because of that fact, remain splendid.

Straw votes taken in Camp Upton, not by Socialists, but by capitalist papers, including The World, gave Hillquit the lead time and again. And when Hillquit, on one or two occasions, ran second, his successful opponent was not Mayor Mitchel, but Judge Hylan.

Ten assemblymen, seven aldermen, one municipal court judge, and one tie for the Assembly, were the fruits of the Socialist victory on Tuesday.

Of the 10 assemblymen elected in Greater New York four were elected in Manhattan, three in Brooklyn, where a tie was also achieved, and three in the Bronx. Four of the seven Socialist aldermen were elected in Manhattan, one in the Bronx and two in Brooklyn. The municipal court judge was elected in the Second district on the East Side of Manhattan.

COOPERATIVE ORGANIATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A careful survey by the department of agriculture shows that farmers' creameries and cheese factories and farmers' elevators are the leading type of co-operative purchasing and marketing enterprises among farmers in the United States. The number of purchasing and marketing organizations of this kind in the country is placed at about 12,000. Of these, 5,424 gave reports of their activities. The creameries and cheese factories reporting numbered 1,708. They do an annual business of $83,360,648, and have an average membership of 83 farmers. The 1,637 farmers' grain elevators and warehouses reporting were located in 23 states, doing a total annual business of $234,529,716. They have an average membership of 102 farmers. The 871 fruit and produce organizations do an annual business of $140,629,918. The annual volume of business of 213 cotton organizations is $34,392,258; of 275 co-operative stores, $14,552,725; of 43 tobacco organizations, $6,746,270; of 96 live stock associations, $9,482,592. The gross volume of business for all organizations reporting was $625,940,448.

Minnesota Leads

Minnesota leads the states in the number of purchasing and marketing organizations among farmers. Of the total number reporting, 18 per cent were located in that state. Iowa stood second, Wisconsin and North Dakota next in order. Farmers' elevators, creameries and cheese factories and live stock shipping associations are the principal types of co-operative effort in these states.

Fruit and produce associations are the chief forms of co-operative activity in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. The farmers' grain companies are next in rank. In California 60 per cent of the organizations handle fruit and produce. Cotton associations lead in Texas, North Carolina, Suoth Carolina, and Georgia, fruit and produce organizations second. Tobacco associations are found chiefly in Kentucky. Creameries form the larger share of farmers' co-operative enterprises of the New England States.

Valuable Information

The report of the survey made by the department of agriculture, now published in Bulletin 547, contains much valuable information concerning the fiiancing and business practices of various types of co-operative associations. It includes a summary of state laws relating to the formation of co-operative organizations. It discusses the bearing which section 6 of the Clayton amendment to the United States anti-trust laws has on farmers' co-operative associations.

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